

# Echo

I LOST MY IMPATIENCE IN THE FLOODS

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## 'Locals' West Byron DA approved

Aslan Shand

As the region, and the east coast of Australia, reels from the impacts of the recent flooding that has left thousands of people homeless, the development application (DA) by the 'local' group, Site R&D, for West Byron has been approved by the Land and Environment Court (L&EC). This approval allows for extensive filling and development on the flood prone site and has left locals 'disappointed' with Byron Shire Council.

The application was rejected by the Northern Rivers Planning Panel (NRPP) in 2019 following over 2,000 submissions against the DA. The Panel stated that 'the site is not considered to be suitable for the proposed development in view of the identified constraints (acid sulfate soils, bushfire vegetation, flood prone land, high environmental value vegetation, koala habitat and threatened flora and fauna)'. They further concluded 'the proposed development is not considered in the public interest'.

The West Byron site was split into two DAs; one from Villaworld/Tower Holdings and the other a group of 'local landowners' called Site R&D.

The Villaworld/Tower Holdings had responded to Byron Residents Group (BRG) request to 'work with the community for a better outcome' while the Site R&D group took the DA to court with a 'minimally altered development'.

The court approved the 'locals' DA on 2 March claiming that it was in the public interest.

The Byron Residents' Group told *The Echo* that they and the

community of Byron, are deeply disappointed that Site R&D's (local landholders) subdivision at West Byron has been approved by the Land and Environment Court.

'It is hard to fathom why the local landowners would do this,' said Cate Coorey, Byron councillor and founder of Byron Residents Group.

'Belongil estuary, koalas and wallum frogs have lost out, and we are likely to see these habitats collapse from the impacts of this overdevelopment.'

Site R&D intend to subdivide into 162 lots, which includes 25 'super-lots' intended for further subdivision. Three super-lots do not identify what further subdivision is intended, two are proposed for flats, and 20 show an indicative subdivision into 208 smaller lots. Many larger lots are capable of further subdivision and shop-top housing is also intended and there will be a four metre high wall adjacent to Ewingsdale Road.

'I am glad we managed to convince Tower Holdings to make meaningful changes to the "Harvest Estate" development by halving the size of their development, setting their development back 30m from Ewingsdale Road, excluding the habitat of the wallum frogs and removing development from the eastern koala area. It is ironic that we managed to only achieve minor concessions from Site R&D given that they are primarily local landholders,' said BRG spokesperson Dailan Pugh.

'What disappoints me the most is the fragmentation of this vital link for maintaining the viability of Byron's koala population.'

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## Gold standard in community resilience



Hundreds of locals gathered at Kohinur Hall in Main Arm with police, SES, ADF and Resilience NSW to look at the community response to the recent devastating flooding of the area. See report page 3. Photo Jeff Dawson

## How to house people who have lost their homes?

Paul Bibby

Every day for the past fortnight Esme\* has driven to a Lismore flood evacuation centre with the same goal in mind.

'I've set myself the target of finding one house for someone, or for a family, every day,' she says.

'It takes four to six hours of calling, messaging and admin to find somewhere. Each person is a completely different puzzle.'

'One older lady comes up to me each day and says, "have I reached the top of the list yet?"'

Finding housing for those displaced by the floods has unquestionably become the greatest challenge of the flood recovery effort in the Northern Rivers.

According to NSW Premier Dominic Perrottet there are 1,500 people across the State in temporary and crisis accommodation, including hundreds who remain in flood evacuation centres.

Thousands more are sharing a home with friends or relatives.

Government figures indicate that, of the 9,200 homes assessed so far in the Northern Rivers, 5,500 are damaged and 2,834 are uninhabitable.

'It's a mammoth task,' Mr Perrottet said of the rehousing effort.

Last week the Premier announced a \$551m State and federally funded housing package, including 16 weeks of rental support for single person households (\$6,000) and larger families (\$18,000).

The package also includes \$20m to give those whose homes have been damaged 'pods' to live in while repairs and rebuilding takes place, and \$10m for temporary housing in motorhomes and at local campgrounds.

As has been the case since the start of the crisis, the government response will join a major community effort that is already underway.

Hundreds of locals across the region have already offered the use of their spare rooms, granny flats and cabins to help those displaced by the floods via an informal mycelium-like network of support.

Among those offering free, temporary accommodation are a

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Community organisations rise to meet the crisis ► p39

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# Byron Mayor gives ScoMo 'the benefit of the doubt' on disaster relief

Paul Bibby

It's the \$2,000 question. Will the Byron, Ballina and Tweed Shires share in the extra government disaster payments offered to our neighbours in Lismore, Richmond Valley, and Clarence Valley?

Last Wednesday Prime Minister Scott Morrison announced that adults affected by the floods in these Shires would be offered two additional payments of \$1,000 owing to

been declared disaster zones by the Federal Government.

The issue caused great anger amongst locals trying to rebuild their lives, and become a source of heated political debate across the region and at a national level.

As the outrage grew last week, Mr Morrison said he was 'looking at' extending eligibility for the extra payments.

'We're looking at other impacted areas in those districts to see how we might extend some of that

But the Labor Member for Richmond, Justine Elliot said the decision to leave Byron, Ballina and Tweed out was 'disgusting' and 'astounding'.

'It's really insulting we don't get that [extra money], we definitely need... much more than what they've put forward, it is really dire and it's been a complete failure of the state and federal government,' Mrs Elliot said.

Others have suggested that the decision was a political one, stemming from the fact that the LGAs where residents will be given extra payments are in the electorate of Page, which is held by the Nationals, while Ballina, Byron and Tweed are in the neighbouring Labor seat of Richmond.

This claim was hotly denied by Deputy Prime Minister Barnaby Joyce, who described it as 'insulting'.

Speaking at last week's Byron Council meeting, the first since the floods, Byron Mayor Michael Lyon said the Federal Government deserved 'the benefit of the doubt'.

'We lobbied very profusely this morning to try and get some kind of understanding around why we were excluded,' Cr Lyon said.

'We've been advised by the national resilience and recovery agency that it's not a case of us being excluded but that currently they've only done the assessments for those three LGA's that were included and that additional funding for residents and that assessments were ongoing, and that when those assessments were completed there would be



Richmond Valley Council Mayor Robert Mustow, Lismore Mayor Steve Krieg and PM Scott Morrison not announcing any extra support for people who didn't vote for them. Photo Jeff Dawson

additional announcements from other LGAs that would be included.'

'In our own community there's been just as much loss. Perhaps not in terms of the numbers, but the scale of loss on an individual level has been just as severe as anywhere else.'

'And so we'll be expecting that funding to come our way and we'll be lobbying hard for us to be included.'

Independent councillor, Mark Swivel said that the government deserved the benefit of the doubt 'to a degree'.

'Let's look at what the extra funding would actually represent,' he said.

'When you stand in homes that are now uninhabitable, the idea that you would provide such a paltry sum of money in such circumstances is just

unimaginable to me.

'The Federal Government has funded various programs in a lavish way over the years.'

'The level of support being provided to people whose lives have been destroyed, their houses uninhabitable, their

businesses destroyed. I mean what use is \$3,000 for even only your car. It's kind of ridiculous.'

The Echo is awaiting a response from the National Recovery and Resilience Agency about its process for assessing eligibility for funding payments.

## Still no road access for many

'There are still quite a few people who are trapped in Huonbrook and Wanganui and it could be weeks before they get out of there,' Detective Chief Inspector Matt Kehoe told The Echo.

However, he said that the local community are looking after one another and food drops are being done to areas without access.

'Most evacuations took place in the early days of the

floods. Many without road access are staying behind to take care of properties and animals,' resident and Byron Shire Councillor Sama Balson told The Echo.

'The community has been working together to get supplies across to those without access and also setting up drop off points, clearing debris and working together during these times.'

## Housing people who have lost their homes

► Continued from page 1 growing number of Airbnb hosts – a group that accounts for nearly 2,500 properties across the region.

### Donate a stay

A number of co-ordinated efforts to mobilise this resource have emerged, including the Habitat housing development in the Byron industrial estate which has launched the #Donateastay project, matching those who need a home with Airbnbs, granny flats and motel rooms.

'The response has been incredible,' one of the project's organisers posted over the weekend.

'As the week unfolds we're getting more requests on the ground for short stays of one month or more. Please get in touch if you have any availability.'

John Gudgeon, from the Holiday Letting Organisation said the response was heartening, particularly given that short-term holiday letting had become a battleground issue in the region and beyond.

'These are just normal people and even those who don't currently live here consider themselves part of the community,' he said.

'They're normal people who will stick their oar in the water when they can.'

However, Mr Gudgeon rejected the suggestion, made by some in the community, that all Airbnbs should become temporary accommodation for those made homeless by the floods.

'For a start that's impractical, but it would also destroy our visitor economy,' he said.

'But there definitely people who are going the extra mile to help and I expect they will continue to do so.'

Meanwhile, pressure is mounting on Airbnb and the other platforms to switch its model and offer long-term rentals at market prices for homeless people.

Last week Airbnb said it was 'working' to provide free accommodation on a temporary basis, but so far no details have been forthcoming.

'We are currently working with a partner on an initiative to offer up free, temporary housing via our Host network and hope to have more to share shortly,' an Airbnb spokesperson said.


'In the meantime, Airbnb is encouraging its community to donate to the Australian Red Cross Floods Appeal.'

\*Esme's name has been changed to provide anonymity.

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**Nicholas Shand**  
1948–1996  
Founding Editor

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REGULAR ONLINE COLUMN FROM THE INDIGENOUS PERSPECTIVE

But the offer was not extended to Byron, Ballina and Tweed, despite the fact that these areas had also damage assessments come in, you will add others to that list when you go through the proper process.

**STORYLINES**  
**BUDGERAM**  
— ALWAYS WAS, ALWAYS WILL BE

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**Echo**

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

## Gold standard for community resilience

Aslan Shand

The Main Arm community came together on Sunday, along with emergency services, to reflect on what has happened, how the community responded and the way forward. For some this was the first time they had been able to get out, on foot, from their homes.

The community team, headed by Wendy Brown and Zali Spinner, were able to respond to the community needs as the floods devastated the area cutting off roads and access.

The organisers of the community response praised the Rural Fire Service (RFS) who had 'been with us every step of the way' and Byron Council engineers for their unwavering support and commitment to getting access back for



Excellent parking conditions at the community resilience meeting at Kohinur Hall for those who braved the recently reopened roads. Photo Jeff Dawson

the Upper Main Arm and Palmwoods communities in record time. The team of volunteers were clear that they are now transitioning from the emergency response to the recovery phase and highlighted the excellent way the police, Australian Defence Force (ADF) and State Emergency Services (SES) had worked with them to support

the community led team. Steve Patterson the NSW SES Commander for the Northern Zone said 'I cannot put into words how truly sensational you are as a resilient community. From what I've seen in my career this is gold standard, this is it. Rarely do we get a chance to see a resilient community in action and it is truly sensational. This is a

really unprecedented event.'

There have been numerous landslips in Main Arm and Wilsons Creek and ADF are currently assisting with geotech services to assess landslip areas and risks of further slips. Community organisers are asking locals not to give them extra tasks and direction as it 'needs to be coordinated through them and the relevant agencies.'

### What do you need?

Resilience NSW's Myles O'Reilly who has been setting up the Ballina and Mullumbimby Recovery Centres told the community that 'What I need from you is to tell us what you need. We are here for the long haul of recovery. We intend to come in and provide wrap-around structures that you tell us you need.'

## Do you think we need a united hinterland voice?

Melissa Begg

A group of concerned hinterland residents are wanting to create a network of people/communities to give voice to the unique needs of their communities during and following natural disasters such as the recent flooding.

Experience of this and earlier events demonstrate that without a strong, united hinterland voice, communities outside the more urban population centres are impacted by unreasonably lengthy delays during response and recovery, especially when it comes to restoring access, infrastructure such as roads, bridges, transport and

community facilities.

### Key principles

Key principles for hinterland life: Cherish, support and strengthen the community spirit and practicality that came to the fore during the floods as the most effective response when communities become isolated during a natural disaster.

Defend the ongoing legitimacy of hinterland communities in their own right and their importance as tributary contributors to the urban centres of our area, particularly in food production and general well-being.

Recognise that infrastructure has to be built back

better (not merely replaced) to achieve a higher level of resilience during all phases of natural disasters, and that this should be structured around the specific needs of each hinterland community.

Ensure that hinterland communities can express their needs for safer and robust infrastructure renewal through direct inclusion of hinterland voices in the planning, design and allocation of funding during the recovery and reconstruction phase.

### Next steps

These concerned hinterland residents acknowledge that the single most important thing hinterland

communities can do immediately is to help build networks and capacity within their communities to get through the recovery phase and draw strength to better respond to future events. At the same time, they recognise the value of combining and linking hinterland voices from the various hinterland communities now as the funding to support local resilience and planning for rebuilding community infrastructure begins to roll out.

If you think this is a worthwhile idea and would like to find out more, or work in this hinterland network building project please email: info@thehalo.com.au or call/text: 0411 268 039

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## Premier Dominic Perrottet visits Mullumbimby

Simon Haslam

NSW Premier, Dominic Perrottet, visited the Mullumbimby District and Neighbourhood Centre in Mullumbimby on 9 March with local member, Tamara Smith.

The premier, who was visiting the area without his usual media contingent, came to find out firsthand about the situation, also spoke to Byron Shire Mayor Michael Lyon.

Mayor Lyon said that he had relayed to the Premier the importance of the clean-up effort, which he said must progress in order for the healing process to being. 'This has been a traumatic event for the community,' said Mayor Lyon.

### Short-term housing needed

'I told the premier that we have been impressed with the response so far, in terms of financial commitment and the resources on the ground. But there is much more to do, in terms of emergency housing, which was already a big problem.



Local member Tamara Smith and Premier Dominic Perrottet in Mullumbimby last week. Photo Simon Haslam

'We talked also about the need for planning reform so that we have short term housing in place, and therefore have time to work on the long-term solutions. I also reminded the premier of how our businesses have suffered.

'The premier recognised that the clean up was very important and that we needed more resources at the moment,' said the mayor.

Ms Tamara Smith, Greens member for the local seat of Ballina, said that the major point she made to the premier was that, 'Our community has suffered

unnecessary additional trauma because of the time lag it took for rescue and recovery support to get in. Outside agencies simply could not, or did not, get in when we needed them most.'

'I told the premier that we need to resource and empower our local rescue agencies and local support networks to do exactly what they did do so well - but with training, formal recognition, governance structures, financial support, and the mandate to enact those roles when outside agencies can't get in during a disaster,' she said.

## Getting immediate support out to locals

The Mullumbimby Chamber of Commerce, the Ex-Services CLILley Historical Society (BVHS) are providing \$100 vouchers to people in Mullumbimby who have been impacted severely by the flooding.

'We are going to walk the flood affected streets and provide \$100 credit cards to flood affected locals,' Jenelle Stanford, president of the Mullum Chamber, told *The Echo*.

'It is about giving direct relief to people who are just needing money to get those basics like bread and milk. It is about our businesses supporting our community, who support our businesses. It creates some immediate cash funds for people, no questions asked.'

If you would like to support this initiative you can donate money to the project via the BVHS and receive a tax deduction for donations of \$2 and over. You can make direct donations at the Southern Cross Credit Union or



Andrew Spice, general manager of the Ex-Services Club; Jenelle Stanford, president of the Mullumbimby Chamber of Commerce; and Byron Shire Mayor, Michael Lyon, are all supporting community. Photo Jeff Dawson

Mullum Newsagency where cash donations can be received.

**Account Name:** Chamber of Commerce; **Account Number:** 100140411; BSB: 722744; **Reference:** Your

name. If you require a receipt email: susan@mullumbimby.org.au with your name, amount donated, and your address or email.

Find out more online at: [www.mullumbimby.org.au](http://www.mullumbimby.org.au).

## Floods – even small cuts need quick treatment

Emergency departments across Northern NSW have seen an increase in presentations of flood-related wounds or people requiring medication and assistance with other care needs.

'There are steps you can take to reduce the risks of injury, sickness or infection if you come into contact with floodwater,' Paul Douglas, Director North Coast Public Health Unit told *The Echo*.

'Residents should treat all floodwater as contaminated, as it can contain hazardous

substances, including raw sewage, chemicals and other contaminants, which can easily make you sick or lead to infections such as leptospirosis.

'When cleaning up, remember to wear safety equipment including boots, gloves and eye protection. Wash your hands thoroughly before eating or drinking.

'If you do get a cut or a graze, apply first aid immediately.

'Clean the wound with sterile or bottled water,

apply antiseptic and cover immediately.

'If you have a deep cut or wound, if a wound has had contact with floodwaters or if a wound develops redness, swelling or discharge, seek immediate medical attention.'

The Healthy North Coast GP Telehealth Service is available to provide free GP consultations 24 hours, seven days a week in flood affected areas and includes prescriptions. Phone the service on 1800 931 158.

## Locals disappointed at West Byron approval

► Continued from page 1

'The Commissioner of the Court agreed with the proponent's proposals to rectify inconsistencies and change access to the industrial area, accepted the proponent's claims that there is no core koala habitat and therefore the Koala SEPP does not apply, and accepted the proponent's claims that the proposed offsets would be beneficial for the frogs.

'I have been disappointed with Council's poor performance and multitude of concessions throughout this process, particularly their promotion of the wall along Ewingsdale Road and failure to address some key issues in their DCP. I can only hope

they have a hard look at their underperformance on this development and learn from it.'

Local Councillor and hydrologist Duncan Dey told *The Echo* that 'It's sad that 'swamp-style' development can still get a guernsey in 2022.

'West Byron's destructive impacts on water cannot be overcome - the areas to be filled will shed stormwater onto surrounding areas, doubling their water load and destroying the water balance in those surrounds as well as under the fill.

'The development is designed to State regulations, to house people above flood levels till the end of

the century. The hapless residents next century will be living in a flood zone, like the one in which Mullumbimby now knows it lives. When there is abundant dry land, we don't need to fill wetlands.'

Reflecting on the current flood disaster Councillor Coorey summed up the community response telling *The Echo* that 'Given what our community is going through with the floods, the news of this court approval is really so dispiriting. We have all fought so hard against this over-development. It is a sad day for our community and for our beautiful wildlife. It will change Byron irredeemably.'

**Thank you  
Byron Shire**

**LOVE**

We are so grateful to all the community organisations, businesses and every member of the Byron Shire community who has stepped up to offer their skills, their help and their kindness during the flood emergency and the recovery.

We are proud to be part of this generous and compassionate community.

[www.byron.nsw.gov.au](http://www.byron.nsw.gov.au)

**BYRON SHIRE COUNCIL**

# Now is the time to get a helping hand

Aslan Shand

It is called reciprocity and it means that there is a time to give and a time to receive – while there are always those who will be worse off than you, there is also help and assistance for everyone in the community who has been affected by the recent flooding Belle Arnold from the Mullumbimby and District Neighbourhood Centre (MDNC) explained.

‘The quicker people are able to accept help and get back on their feet the better it is for the whole community,’ she explained.

‘People from outside our community are giving to us at the moment so the community can get back up on its feet and everyone in the community deserves support. The longer it takes individuals and family groups to recover the longer the trauma is extended.’

‘The whole community is in a state of shock,’ said Leweena Williams, CEO of the Tweed Byron Aboriginal Land Council.

‘We are encouraging people to come forward to the MDNC and the Mullumbimby Recovery Centre to collect items they or their friends or family might need or get help with the aftermath of the flooding.’

Donations have poured into the MDNC for the Shire including food, nappies, medicines, bedding, hygiene items, clothes and other essentials. In fact, they have also been able to send items on to other flood affected communities.

‘There is help for everyone from essential items to counselling to assistance following the floods at the Mullumbimby Recovery Centre,’ said Belle.

If you need direct emergency relief you can call Kim Shelly on 0491 227 306.

## Mullumbimby Recovery Centre

Anyone who has been affected by the flooding can access face-to-face support from a range of different agencies at the Mullumbimby Recovery Centre and the centre is open seven days, with hours this weekend from 9am until 4pm.



Aislinn Smyth, Leweena Williams, CEO of the Tweed Byron Aboriginal Land Council (TBLC), Larissa Smyth board member TBLC and Belle Arnold from the Mullumbimby and District Neighbourhood Centre sorting donations. Photo Aslan Shand

Assistance with accommodation advice, replacing lost documents, clean-up services, financial help, insurance and legal support, business support, mental health and well-being support are all available, as well as access to government services including Resilience NSW, Services Australia (Centrelink), Red Cross, North Coast Community Housing, Legal Aid, Service NSW, Communities and Justice (DCJ), Housing, Social Futures NDIS, Salvation Army, Social workers and counsellor, Auto & General Insurance, Suncorp Insurance, and Chaplain.

## Catch the bus

Byron Shire Council is putting on a bus service to help affected residents to access the Recovery Centre.

‘This is a free service available daily (<https://community-transport.org.au/>) for flood effected community members in the Byron Shire as needed. Please call Community Transport on 1300 875 895 between 8.30am and 4.30pm to book transport to and from the Recovery Centre,’ said a BSC spokesperson.

There are also Recovery Centres at Evans Head, Ballina, Murwillumbah, Kyogle, Lismore. You can find out more at: [www.service.nsw.gov.au/floods/recovery-centres](http://www.service.nsw.gov.au/floods/recovery-centres).

## ADF

The Australian Defence Force (ADF) is on the ground in the region assisting with a range of recovery activities from rubbish and road clearing, bridge building and assessing landslip sites. If you would like to seek assistance from the ADF you can access application forms at: <https://bit.ly/3KIV6lA> or go to ‘Flood Recovery’ on the Byron Shire Council website and scroll down to the ‘request for ADF support’ or head into the flood recovery centre for assistance.

## #heartofthematter

Heart of the matter is a campaign that has been started by a Kate Constantine, a local Aboriginal community member who has worked with an ad agency to create a campaign ‘encourage our community to come in and ask for help’.

‘There is a lot of shame in coming forwards for “charity” and it’s this silence that ends up truly hurting our community. The idea is simple. Have people recognised within the community and create their own selfie or video with the hashtags #heartofmatter and #lovenorthernrivers. It is as though this is our love letter to our community.’

Find out more online <https://bit.ly/3CA1AR3>.

# Resilient Byron part of creating community

Luke Jaaniste

One of the most striking aspects of ongoing flood recovery efforts has been the central place of community-led action.

With the heroic but severely under-resourced local services of SES – along with Rural Fire Service and NSW Fire and Rescue – doing all they could, it was the community that stepped up: people with kayaks and boats rescued others in the immediate hours of the flood peak. Giving homeless people a room to sleep in and a warm soup in their hands. Creating social media groups to track missing persons. Cleaning out

homes and clearing roads.

All of this activity is massively needed and continues to be ongoing, two weeks after the deluge.

In Mullumbimby, the community energy gravitated to the Mullumbimby Civic Hall and several community coordinators from Resilient Byron, Renew Fest and other not-for-profit community groups rapidly formed into a hub of operations that is as sophisticated as it is heart-centered.

The Resilient Byron Community-Led Crisis Operations supported operations that included deep recon trekking and life-saving private helicopter evacuations, food

drops, medicine supply runs, setting up dozens of donated Starlink Satellite Wifi units, managing a huge donations depot and developing a bulk order logistic dispatch network in the wider region.

Resilient Byron has also coordinated hundreds of volunteers to clean hundreds of homes, and are running a free shop for desperately needed personal and home supplies.

‘It’s been such an incredible outpouring of effort, passion, care and skills,’ says Ella Rose Goninan, founder of Resilient Byron.

‘The army, police and government services are vital, but can only do so

much.

‘We are here to stay for the long haul, and encourage everyone to give how they can, and get the help they need. Everyone is welcome and we all need each other.’

‘In order to keep this operation going at full capacity we need financial support from the greater community.’

‘You can donate funds and goods, volunteer, or join the community-led efforts by visiting the Mullum Headquarters at the CWA Hall (behind the Mullumbimby Civic Hall), or go to [www.resilientbyron.org](http://www.resilientbyron.org).’

■ Luke Jaaniste is a coordinator of Resilient Byron

# Safety for everyone

Aslan Shand

Disasters are stressful, challenging and exhausting and one of the grim realities is that following any disaster event there is an increase in domestic violence (DV) in the affected communities.

‘Because of stress, accommodation problems, and disadvantage that is compounded by what’s happened and what we’ve lost there will be a rise in conflict,’ says Michelle Lyons who has worked in victim support for 12 years, and also Men & Family Support over the last two years, in the Northern Rivers.

‘The Gender and Disaster organisation released a report after the Victorian bushfires confirming something we know about disasters – that they impact women and children disproportionately, in areas from mortality to homelessness, economic insecurity and conflict in the home. One study after the Victorian bushfires identified that more than half of the women affected were experiencing domestic and family violence.’

‘The lesson we have learnt during this disaster is that community safety is everyone’s responsibility and everyone’s safety in the community still lies with us after the main disaster event.’

‘If you see someone in

stress or responding inappropriately ask them if they are okay? Do they need support? When this is going to happen is where there are patterns of behaviour like coercive control in a relationship, and that can be exacerbated in stressful situations,’ she explained.

## Check in with people

These patterns of violence don’t just exist within partnered relationships but can also be seen in the broader community.

‘Look after each other, don’t hesitate to ask both men and women if they are okay, or, if they are struggling seek support where it is needed,’ says Michelle.

There are a range of services for men and women across the region. The Mullumbimby District and Neighbourhood Centre call 6684 1286 or fill out an online enquiry form at [www.mdnc.org.au](http://www.mdnc.org.au); call 1800 RESPECT (1800 737 732) a 24-hour support service for Women; The Men and Family referral service at [www.menandfamily.org.au](http://www.menandfamily.org.au), or call Lismore: 6622 6116 or Tweed: 0422 195 003; or MensLine on 1300 78 99 78 or find information online at: [www.mensline.org.au](http://www.mensline.org.au).

Both the Men and Family referral service and Mensline are currently operating 24/7 phone support services.

**Echo**News from across the  
North Coast online ►  
[www.echo.net.au](http://www.echo.net.au)**Far North Coast surf clubs drive buses for flood kids**

Weeks of heavy rain on the Tweed River did little to wash away the community spirit, with the four surf life saving clubs in the area combining to bring relief to affected families – by lending their resources to a devastated school in need of student transport.

**Nearly 3,200 houses officially 'damaged' after NR floods**

State Emergency Services reported nearly 3,200 homes as damaged by flood impacts across the Northern Rivers late Wednesday afternoon.

**Supertradies to the rescue!**

While politicians posture, Ballina tiler Ben Hamilton and a few tradie mates have been getting on with the job of helping flood-ravaged communities across the Northern Rivers, free of charge.

**Housing 'pods', rent support, mental health, mass cleanups**

A trio of the state's top ministers issued a media release on Sunday highlighting the NSW government's response to the Northern Rivers flood disaster.

**Lismore community comes together to look ahead**

On Sunday over 200 people gathered in the recently underwater Quad at Lismore to begin planning for what might come next for Lismore.

[www.echo.net.au](http://www.echo.net.au)**COVID-19 outbreak in Lismore evac centre**

Paul Bibby

A flood evacuation centre in Lismore suffered a COVID outbreak that resulted in a significant number of flood victims becoming infected, local volunteers say.

But the centre was reportedly forced to stay open even as COVID case numbers grew, because there was nowhere else for people to go.

The outbreak is said to have occurred at the Goonelabah Sports & Aquatic Centre (GSAC), which at one point housed more than 500 people who could not return home after the flood.

The GSAC was finally closed on March 11, with all those who remained there being moved to a larger evacuation centre at Southern Cross University.

The volunteers told *The Echo* that the outbreak appeared to have started not long after the GSAC started

being used as an evacuation centre.

With few options for alternative accommodation, staff were said to have put those with the virus in a roped off corner of the gym until they could be taken to a facility with greater capacity for quarantining.

**Nowhere to go**

'They were just so bombarded with everything – hundreds and hundreds of people coming through who had nowhere else to go,' one volunteer said.

'I think it came down to the fact that the majority of people staying at the GSAC were in the gym. There was just so much potential for cross-contamination – it was huge.

'There was just such a crisis in Lismore, I think it just came down to having no alternative. It was organised chaos in there.'

Another volunteer said that a system of wristbands was also reportedly introduced to differentiate those who had tested positive from those who had not.

All visitors to the centre were also required to be tested before entering, and the wearing of masks was implemented more fastidiously.

Despite these measures a number of volunteers were also reported to have been infected with the virus.

'It was all running out of a bit of desperation – everyone was doing their best,' another volunteer said.

'The whole COVID thing just added another element of disaster to it.'

*The Echo* is awaiting a response from the Northern NSW Local Health District, which had responsibility for dealing with COVID cases within the region's evacuation centres.

**Tweed update from Chris Cherry**

David Lowe

Responding to the Tweed Shire being left out of the National Disaster Declaration, in terms of secondary assistance for residents along with Byron and Ballina shires, Tweed Shire Mayor, Chris Cherry, told *The Echo* 'That has been met with shock and disbelief. But I do feel very confident that those declarations were made on the assessments that have been done to date, and the whole focus has been on Lismore.

'I do believe that as they

shift their resources to do the assessments for Tweed and Byron and Ballina, that our areas will also be included in that extra funding. That's certainly my hope and my belief, and I just hope that we get that announcement as soon as possible.'

*Could you tell us how the recovery is going so far in the Tweed?*

'We've probably collected about a fifth of the rubbish, from the flood debris that's out there. We've got 150 ADF personnel on the ground, and dedicated crews from

Council working out there every day,' she said.

'We understand that the sooner we can remove that, the better it is for people to be able to take stock and look at where they are.

'Obviously, our biggest issue is accommodation for all those people that are displaced from the floods. So that's what we're focusing on right now, and we're also trying to focus attention of the State and federal governments on that.

■ Read more on *The Echo* online at: [www.echo.net.au](http://www.echo.net.au).

**Ballina Rotary getting stuck into flood recovery**

David Lowe

Col Lee, President of Ballina-Richmond Rotary, spoke to *The Echo* about his club's recovery work across the region in the wake of the flood emergency.

Ballina Rotary is one of the recipients of *The Echo's* flood relief fundraiser, which is going directly to community groups, that has now raised over \$44,000.

Col Lee's busy weekend started in Wardell, where his group was up early preparing all-day hot meals to be supplied to this community, which was cut off and hit hard by flooding. He

explained that he and his club have not stopped since the floods hit.

Their initial work was in Ballina, assisting with evacuations. 'Yes, we did a couple of evacuations in the river around West Ballina,' he said.

'Initially, we worked on demand, just by word of mouth.'

The next few days were mostly spent assisting people in West Ballina which had been flooded, with six teams of 2-3 members. 'Every day we've had at least 20 to 25 people on the ground,' he said.

Local Rotary teams then diversified into catering

roles as well as cleaning out flooded homes.

'So we did catering for the Evacuation Centre at Southern Cross School. And for the Ballina Indoor Sports Centre, we were cooking up meals for that and also doing takeaways.'

More cooking was happening at the nearby Hot Meal Centre, which didn't quite go underwater, although surrounding streets did.

'I've got a fairly high truck so I managed to get through! It's salt water, but we had no option,' said Mr Lee.

The following week was mainly devoted to cleaning houses and caravan parks.

**Logging costs taxpayers \$20m**

Aslan Shand

Hard evidence that logging native Australian forests does not add up economically and that it will have risk of 'serious or irreversible harm' to native forests appears to hold no water with the current Liberal-National party NSW state government.

According to the NSW Forestry Corporation's annual report logging native forests is not only driving species to extinction it is also costing taxpayers millions of dollars.

'In 2020-21, the native forestry arm of the NSW Government's logging company lost \$20 million and prospects of it turning a profit any time soon are dim. This result should be good news for our native forests because there is now no rational economic argument for propping up that part of the industry,' Nature Conservation Council Chief Executive Chris Gambian said.

'The latest annual report shows NSW taxpayers are

unwittingly paying to cut down forests the people want protected. It's not just ecologically and economically unsustainable, it is morally indefensible.'

Nonetheless NSW Forestry Minister, Dugald Saunders, has confirmed negotiations to extend north coast logging contracts for five years, despite a government report warning that existing logging cannot continue post fire as it presents a risk of 'serious or irreversible harm' to native forests.

Independent NSW MLC, Justin Field, said 'It's totally unacceptable that the minister would even consider extending contracts when the government hasn't responded to the impact of the 2019/20 fires on forests.'

'I'm calling on the minister to halt all contract negotiations. The government must explain how they will sustainably manage our forests into the future before any new contracts are signed.'

**Greens to amend gov-backed insurance scheme**

Kashmir Salmon Miller, Mandy Nolan and NSW Greens MLC-elect Sue Higginson waiting with the public in Lismore for Scott Morrison this week. Photo supplied

Greens Leader, Adam Bandt MP, and Greens candidate for the flood-affected electorate of Richmond, Mandy Nolan, have announced the Greens will move when Parliament resumes in March to extend government-backed insurance to all flood victims.

Adam Bandt MP said, 'Thousands of homes and businesses will be uninsured without the Greens' plan to extend reinsurance to flood victims.

'The increased severity of climate related floods is pushing the cost of insurance out of reach of many homeowners and businesses, so nationalising cyclone reinsurance is critical but it must cover all flood victims.'

**What is proposed**

The Treasury Laws Amendment (Cyclone and Flood Damage Reinsurance Pool) Bill 2022, which is due

to be debated in Budget Week later this month, establishes a mandatory scheme for insurers to reinsure with the government-owned Australian Reinsurance Pool Corporation (ARPC) when providing cover against cyclone related damage.

As the current floods are not cyclone related they are excluded from the scheme.

The Greens say they will move amendments to the bill in the Senate to extend coverage to all floods and require coal and gas corporations to fund the scheme.

'This is the front line of the climate emergency. Thousands of homes have been destroyed, many more damaged and people's premiums are going to go through the roof unless they are covered by the Greens plan,' said Ms Nolan.

■ Read more on *The Echo* online: [www.echo.net.au](http://www.echo.net.au).

# Flood ravaged Mullum 'paradise' for some

Eve Jeffery

Being in post-flood Mullum at the moment is no walk in the park, but for recent Ukrainian arrival Igor Zorkin, Mullumbimby has been, for the last week, 'a paradise'.

Even a Ukrainian local would need a degree in history to work out the political and border changes in Igor's home town of Luhansk, known in Russian as Lugansk, and formerly known as Voroshilovgrad, which is a city in eastern Ukraine, in the disputed Donbas region.

Luhansk is currently the capital and administrative centre of the Luhansk People's Republic, a breakaway State established in 2014 by pro-Russian separatists. Yet it's not part of Russia and it sits in a kind of no man's land between Russia, and Ukraine - a Johnny-in-the-middle.

Igor's daughter Alina has been living in Australia for 15 years and says the English-speaking world knew more of what was coming than the people at ground zero,



Igor is happy to be in Mullumbimby, and his daughter Alina is happier. Photo Tree Faerrie

and she was really scared for dad's safety. 'The whole world outside Russia and the Ukraine knew war was starting any day, so I quickly applied for his visa. I was crying on the phone to him every day - trying to convince him to leave his town and be ready as soon as we got a visa and tickets.'

Alina says Igor had to go to Kyiv (Kiev) to get a medical check up. Not only did he have to cross the border from the republic to Ukraine, a passage that is only allowed once a month, he also had to fly out of Russia to get to Australia - which he

did the day before the war began.

Once in Melbourne he spent a week in COVID quarantine before arriving in Mullum on March 7, a week after the deluge.

Though locally we are sad for Mullum, Igor thinks it's wonderful. 'Back home the roads are terrible, there's no running hot water - in Kyiv yes, but not in our little town. I get paid \$10 for the whole day. It's a hard life for people. This is better for me here.'

Igor says that Mullum is also more friendly. 'I'm really surprised that everyone on the streets says hello. It

doesn't happen in my country. If people don't know each other, they don't say hello.'

Igor says it is terribly difficult to see what is happening in Ukraine now - he has no family left there, but it is his home and it's hard for him to witness what is going on.

Alina says she is not sure what will happen to her dad. He is currently on a parent visa for a year, but she hopes that he can stay. 'It would have broken my heart if he didn't leave in time and had stayed in Ukraine when the war started. I feel blessed that he is here with us now but my heart is bleeding for people in Ukraine - for mothers who have lost their kids, for families who leave their fathers and husbands behind and run away to save the children.'

'I hope and pray for the people in this war. In my eyes there is no such a thing as winning a war, as at the end of it all a lot of people will die, mothers whose sons will die fighting the war will never find peace in their lives and will never see their boys again.'

# Labor MPs visit Mullumbimby

Eve Jeffery

With many in the Northern Rivers coming to terms with how much worse the already desperate housing crisis is after the floods, today the Shadow Minister for Housing and Homelessness, Jason Clare, and Member for Richmond, Justine Elliot, were in Mullumbimby to speak to Byron Shire Councillors about finding a way forward.

Ms Elliot said that 'Yesterday we were in Chinderah talking to people in caravan parks whose lives have been destroyed. Today in Mullumbimby we've been out in the community and talking to locals, hearing firsthand how their lives, their homes, and

their livelihoods have been destroyed by this flood. And we've been calling on the government to do more.'

Ms Elliot said the Far North Coast community had been amazing during this flood crisis, 'but we're facing a humanitarian crisis. People have nowhere to live. They have been offered no food, they have no cash.'

'And of course, just last week, we heard Scott Morrison announcing an extension or those disaster relief payments for areas down south. It was an extension of two weeks of those \$1,000 payments. He didn't do it for people in those local government areas of Tweed, Byron or Ballina, or Kyogle.'

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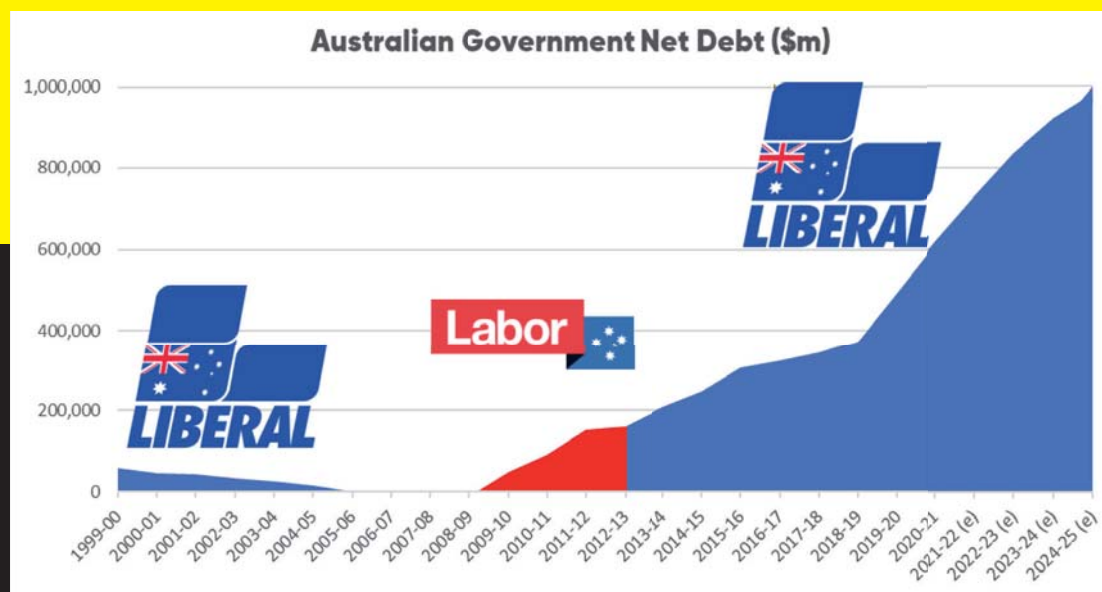
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The Byron Shire Echo  
Volume 36 #40 • March 16, 2022

## Responding to disaster

Our local communities are becoming old hands at responding effectively to natural disasters. This was shown dramatically in the widescale flooding of the Northern Rivers, when small towns, and the city of Lismore, were isolated from any outside help.

Those who come forward selflessly to help are often themselves victims of the disaster. However, we see people giving to the community at the expense of their own clean-up and their own jobs, happy to help their friends and neighbours – and complete strangers – back on their feet.

While their motives are nothing to do with monetary reward, it is important to find a way to recognise these people financially, so that in the short term they are not doubly disadvantaged for taking leadership and active roles in rebuilding their communities.

It may be years before another emergency like this occurs. But it will occur. Climate change and increasing population will ensure that human life and lifestyle is once again in nature's firing line.

The next time the people who step forward to lead a recovery will not necessarily be the same ones that stepped forward now. This will change depending on the event, flood or fire, the timing and individual capacity to respond.

The question is how do we create a model of assistance that is flexible enough to recognise these often selfless actions? How do we support these people just as they have supported their community?

'It is very clear that the community is the only one who can respond immediately and they provided the response,' said one local.

'Communities need resourcing so that they can do it properly in the future.'

During the Black Summer fires the Rural Fire Service (RFS) volunteers gave up their time to be out there saving homes, lives, farms and our native forests and animals. Retrospectively the government was able to recognise the amazing work of these volunteers, the time and work they had given up to support others, and provided financial support to members who had done more than five days on the fireground to supplement their loss of earnings.

The challenge to engage with local communities, provide assistance and professional services while empowering communities to build resilience, is something we all need to face together.

**Aslan Shand, acting editor**

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

## Residential tenancies and the flood

I reckon there are some lovely landlords out there, working well with their tenants in a cooperative fashion – waiving the rent during non-occupation, writing references for alternatives, and speedily launching into repairs to get everything back to square one ASAP. I know this is happening, and the spirit of sharing loss as equitably as possible permeates even into property matters.

As is the nature of practising law, I'm just not seeing them. I'm dealing with the landlord in Murwillumbah who gets to the house while the water is still high and throws all the tenant's possession into the raging torrent just so he can get to the floor coverings and dry the place out. Shame about the photos, jewellery, clothes and special toys that could have been saved. I'm seeing the landlord in Lismore who terminated the lease, before the peak had even occurred, by sms and email at 4.17am, adding to the woes of the person literally sitting on the roof. I'm seeing the landlord in Ocean Shores who insists on rent still being paid even though the premises are unusable – as a 'holding deposit' or 'you're not getting back in and there's plenty of others looking'. And I'm seeing the landlord near Federal who still wants rent even though you can no longer drive to the house because the internal private road has dissolved into a cliff and canyon.

And sadly, generally the landlords hold all the cards. Because there are now around 15,000 warm wet bodies (my guesstimate) who are looking for accommodation on the north coast who were not looking for housing just days ago. 'Don't piss off the landlord' is the common mantra.

The most common question I get asked is 'can the landlord terminate the lease if my house is flooded?' The answer is that they can – if a property is 'uninhabitable' – either party can terminate the lease without any notice period in these circumstances. This means that the tenant no longer has to pay rent, and will get advanced rent back, but of course they no longer have a place to live. If a property has no power, functioning kitchen or bathroom, needs to be stripped bare, gurneyed, rewired and re-plastered then it is likely uninhabitable. There



*'There are now around 15,000 warm wet bodies (my guesstimate) who are looking for accommodation on the north coast who were not looking for housing just days ago.'*

– David Heilpern

are some cases where the water went across a tiled floor and was uninhabitable for a day or two and needed minor repairs. Or a house where the downstairs flooded but the upstairs is fine. Arguably, that is not sufficient. There will be shades of grey. But many of the houses I have seen in Mullumbimby, South Golden Beach and Lismore are uninhabitable, and are likely to be so for weeks or months, until the tradies magically appear from their vastly depleted ranks. A termination notice itself does not give the landlord the right to take possession. Unless there is agreement, the matter first has to go to NCAT.

My guess is that many of these properties will be available in a few months' time. And the rent may well be higher.

The next common question is: 'Do I have to keep paying rent?' If you cannot live in the house, you do not have to keep paying rent. If you can only use part of the house you can pay less rent. If agreement cannot be reached with the landlord, you can go to NCAT and get an order that reflects the legal concept of 'abatement'.

The third common question is 'What about my stuff?'. The landlord has to give you a reasonable opportunity to get your possessions out of the premises, even if they serve you with a termination notice. If they dispose of them without that opportunity, you can take action in NCAT for compensation up to \$15,000. If you abandon goods in the house, then they can dispose of them after a reasonable time. However, many landlords are understandably keen to get into the house so that they can effect urgent repairs. In those cases, of course a cooperative approach is sensible, but sometimes it's not possible. If a landlord has to move your gear to effect urgent repairs, then they have to look after the stuff. This could mean taking it

to a safe storage facility, or a dry part of the house. They can move it from room to room while they fix things. But they cannot throw them out.

Finally, will I get my bond back? We all know that you are meant to leave a property as you found it, less fair wear and tear. But what if there is a layer of knee-deep mud in it when you leave after being evacuated? There is precious little reported law on this. The lovely people at the Tenants Union and some ultra-experienced local agents tell me that NCAT would order the return of a disputed bond where there is a flood and the landlord trying that on would be hosed out\* of court. I have witnessed the bonding\* of tenants and landlords the last few weeks as they muck out\* together which is ideal. A torrent\* of Kumbaya.

The area is ripe for law reform. Tenants flooded out should have first dibs to re-lease after the clean-up and repairs. Landlords should return bonds after floods because the mess is not the tenant's fault and they can usually insure and that should be clearly specified. There should be an exact time for removal of goods. Airbnbs could be opened for the flood ravaged by decree.

Finally, mostly these problems are resolved with good communication and kindness. My experience is that real estate agents have been exceptionally reasonable. I overheard a conversation where the agent told the landlord to stop being a 'mean dickhead' (they forgot to put it on mute!). The Northern Rivers Tenancy Advice and Advocacy Service is a great place to start and Barefoot Law and other law firms are rolling out advice sessions.

Of course, at the moment, everyone is inundated\* with questions and flooded\* with enquiries.

■ \*Poor taste, too soon, Dad joke alert.



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Cartoon by Gary Cavanagh. Instagram: @gary\_cavanagh

**We femmes**

All through human history the feminine gender has been relegated to a secondary position.

I thought we femmes should find an independent identity for ourselves, but then had the notion that both genders are homo sapiens and it might be better, if with absolute equality, we all became happy homos?

Hannah Grace  
Ocean Shores

**Mask**

Thanks David Lovejoy... Great words.

Paul Taylor  
Murwillumbah

**Against their will**

I refer to opinion of Eve Sinton, Main Arm - 'NOBODY is being held down and vaccinated against their will'.

There is more than one way of holding a person down and more than one way of vaccinating a person against their will.

If a person gets vaccinated as a consequence of being threatened with 'no vax - no job' / 'no vax - no entry' / 'no vax - no travel' / 'no vax - no live music for you' or 'no vax = deprivation of anything', then the person has been vaccinated against their will.

If a person is unable to find employment, attend

pubs, clubs, nightclubs, theatres, restaurants, cafes, sporting venues etc etc, owing to being unvaccinated - that will hold the person down; including socially.

It was not just health workers and aged care workers who were given the ultimatum 'no job - no job'. Police officer, teachers, public servants, construction workers, clubs, pubs, nightclubs, restaurants, cafes and retail all demanded that staff 'get vaxxed or get out' - even the garbage collectors in Sydney had to be vaccinated. There was barely a job to be had in Sydney for an unvaccinated human being.

Whilst not having a job may not be a big issue when you live in Main Arm, when you reside in a city - as most Australians do, not having a job means not being able to pay the mortgage or the rent - thus homelessness; and everything that comes with being homeless in a city.

Practically everyone I know who is vaccinated was vaccinated against their will - to keep their job/s; and to be able to travel; and to go out and socialise in the 'real' world where producing proof of double vaccination was a condition of entry (until last Saturday).

Fortunately, I am not financially dependent upon having a 'real' job for income. However, as a person who has exercised the legal right to refuse to be vaccinated (not an anti-vaxxer, just a personal choice about my body), I was banned from clubs, pubs, nightclubs, theatres: thus banned from live music. Last Saturday was the first time I had been to see a live band since the beginning of the covert mandate: no job - no live music for you!

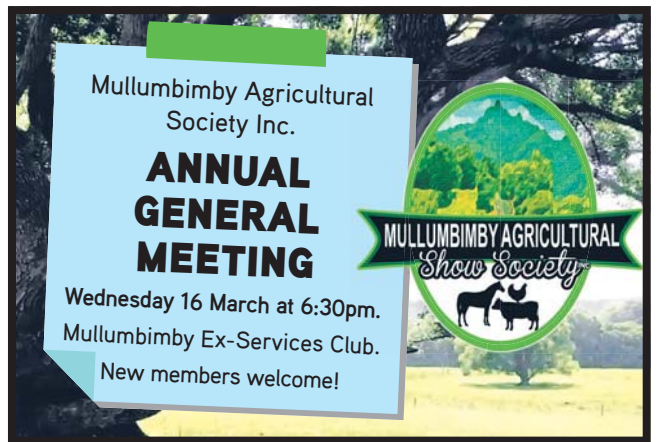
Morgan Howard  
Newtown

**Darren is awesome**

I'd like to acknowledge and sincerely thank Darren from Mullum Woolies for offering some of the residents of Station St refuge from rising flood water on Monday 28 Feb. He offered us shelter and throughout the day, refreshments to the crews performing rescues in kayaks, canoes and dinghies, as well as supplies to the

evacuation centre, which was low on food. Unable to get home himself, he remained calm under a lot of pressure and took excellent care of the site (including makeshift sandbagging of the loading dock with kitty litter! Genius!) and the people stranded there. Darren, you're an absolute champion.

► Continued on next page



**Consultation prior to DA lodgement**

The site at 29 Shirley Street in Byron Bay, which has been home to the Backpackers Inn since the 1970s, sold last year. The Backpackers Inn houses 46 rooms with 198 beds, a managers' residence, a pool, administration and recreation areas.

The new owners, together with their architect Hayball, are ready to share draft plans for the 4328m<sup>2</sup> site.

The proposal is for 21 three bedroom permanent residential apartments. These would be focused at the Shirley Street and rail corridor ends of the site, across three building forms. This layout provides some relief for neighbours and the opportunity to have a large central recreation area for nature and outdoor living.

This central area would be home to a communal pool, decking, yoga space and barbeque all designed around a century old Moreton Bay fig tree.

One level of underground parking, accessed off Milton Street with onsite queuing space, would provide for 63 car parking spaces, a minimum of 42 bicycle spaces and electric charging.

There is further information at [www.29shirleystreet.com.au](http://www.29shirleystreet.com.au) Please contact us with any questions and feedback by 31st March. We will be holding community information sessions on Saturday 26th March in the Byron Town Centre. Bookings are essential and can be made through the website or by contacting us directly. Thank you.

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**Letters to the Editor**

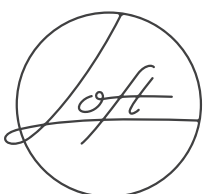
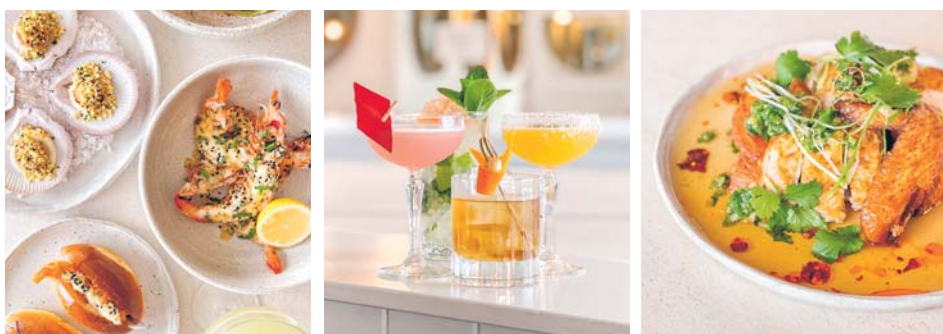
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► **Continued from page 9**  
And shout outs to Jo, who made it in to work at Woolies that day, the community members who fetched food from Woolies for evacuees, the rescue crews who helped us out in Station St, and the guys who brought me and my neighbour, Helen, home when it was safe to do so. You're champions too.

**Angelique Gellert**  
Mullumbimby

**A new virus**  
A new threat is looming – Japanese encephalitis is spreading south and has claimed its first human life in Victoria. The current severe flooding and rains makes it even more likely to spread, and those in rain-affected areas are particularly vulnerable. The virus can cause inflammation of the brain and symptoms include fever, headache, vomiting, seizures and disorientation.

How do we stop these diseases? Like many others, including COVID, viruses thrive in the appalling conditions in which we keep animals used for food. Pigs are 'amplifying hosts' of the Japanese encephalitis virus, catching the disease and then spreading it, via mosquito bites, to humans. Pigs in Australia are

mostly kept on factory farms, where they spend their entire lives in cramped, filthy warehouses under the constant stress of intensive confinement. Sows are kept in metal-barred cages too small to even turn around. The piglets are torn away from their distraught mother, who is repeatedly impregnated by artificial insemination until her body gives out and she's sent to slaughter. The piglets' tails and teeth are cut and the males are castrated, without any pain relief.

The stress and trauma of their short, wretched lives makes pigs the ideal host for these viruses, and it is not surprising that mosquitoes then spread the disease to humans. The best way to eliminate such diseases is to stop eating meat, so farmers stop breeding animals and instead turn to sustainable plant-based foods.

**Desmond Bellamy**  
Special Projects Coordinator  
PETA Australia  
Byron Bay

**New ambo station**  
If you have driven to/from Byron Bay via Ewingsdale Road, you will have seen the ambulances parked beside the road, instead of within the new station.

Did the State government

ignore Council's requirements re minimum floor levels in flood prone areas?

What instructions did the government give to its 'design consultant' regarding the determination of floor levels/driveway levels?

What damage has been done to the station?

What are the estimated costs of restoration/remedy?

**Roger Seccombe**  
Retired MIE Aust  
Bangalow

**The war I never signed up for, or did I?**  
From now on, we are under siege.

Our 'leaders' have declared war on us, yet somehow, we've been conscripted to fight for the enemy.

Our neighbours have been killed in battle.

The Earth has become a stranger, even an enemy.

'The ocean sounds wrong' my friend said.

There's also a war in the Ukraine.

They know their enemy's face – Putin, the new Adolf.

Our enemies' faces are blurred.

We pay them via our superannuation funds.

We pay them via our taxes.

We ensure their power by voting for them.

Yet the face of our prime minister is very clear.

He just gave \$millions of Australia's public money to profitable corporations, to frack the fuck out of Northern Territory Country.

On Country where Sovereignty has never been ceded.

First Nations voices ignored yet again. Discarded. Disrespected.

Our precious history annihilated. Sacred places: disposable.

Our political 'leaders' have no conscience.

They are Earth vandals.

They are Earth rapists.

They have not earned any loyalty from people because they've treated us treacherously.

They steal from our future with a smile and a smirk.

They have chosen to be useless bystanders in this war.

They simply refuse to unline their pockets.

They'd rather see us burn.

They'd rather see us drown inside our homes.

Too early to say such raw things?

Actually, it's too late.

The invasion started some time ago.

They've breached the border.

They're killing innocent civilians in our street. ►

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If you've ever dreamed of kayaking down the beautiful Brunswick River, the Mullum2Brunspaddle is a perfect excuse. Back for another year, this family-friendly event sees locals and visitors don their colourful best for the 10km paddle in non-motorised craft.



Photo by Michelle Begg

This annual event is organised by Marine Rescue Brunswick, Brunswick Surf Lifesaving Club and Brunswick Heads Visitor Centre, as a major fundraiser for each of these key community groups.



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► If you want them to hear your voice or cry of anguish

I only have one piece of advice:

Please vote Green, (and tell them to stop the mandates).

Don't let those bastards kill us and steal the futures of us great Aussie Spirits.

Those bastards include Clive Palmer's UAP, Craig Kelly, Pauline Hanson, etc, who promise freedom – but will deliver Morrison via preferences.

**Jairn Lavis**  
East Ballina

## Religious freedom?

Religious freedom allows Sikhs to wear a turban (pagri), Jews to wear a skull cap (kippala), Christians to wear vestments (a liturgical dress or gown), gay teachers to be blacklisted from teaching in school and students experiencing gender dysphoria to be expelled. WHOOPS. How did those last two examples slip in? Not much 'freedom' there: a heavy punishment for a select group of people going about their daily life.

**Neil Buhrich AM**  
Suffolk Park

## Locals doing it for themselves

So now we know where we stand, when the chips are down the only thing we can rely on is our community. We cannot rely on the government, the internet or the mobile phone network. As monolithic as these entities seemed, they failed. Whereas our community has been magnificent.

Our local response was rapid and effective. The clear message from this is for our community to remain united long after this disaster has passed. There is power and purpose in action and it must begin here in the hearts of all of our people. We must determine our own future. The work goes on, each of us finding where we can help most effectively. For me, it is delivering supplies with my boat along the river from Coraki.

**David Warth**  
Byron Bay

## Not sexy

Raw sewage is far from sexy, but dealing with it is critical to public and environmental

health. If in doubt imagine the impact of raw sewage pouring into the Brunswick River.

The Brunswick Valley Sewerage Treatment Plant (BVSTP) was designed for an Average Dry Weather Flow (ADWF) of 3,800kL/day. Any inflows above the design capacity has consequences on the quality of treated effluent discharging into the Brunswick River.

The recent 'rain bomb' saw inflows into the STP rising to 20,546.70, or 5.41 times above design.

The sewage collection system is a totally separate system to the stormwater system and the stormwater should not be able to infiltrate the gravity mains. Neither should surface water be able to infiltrate the gravity mains to the STP. No matter what the weather conditions, the collection system to the STP should be a closed system. Consequently, these recent inflows are clear evidence of the scale of the inflow/infiltration problems into the sewer mains, and their poor condition.

Years ago, contractors abandoned any notion of relining the worst parts of the business area of Mullumbimby because the gravity mains were in such poor condition they couldn't be relined.

Council is currently contracting to 'reline damaged gravity sewer mains' in seven sections in the business area. Council states, 'Rectification works on the gravity sewer network are currently underway in Mullumbimby's CBD area. The highest risk assets, as identified by the assessments that were undertaken in mid-2019 are being prioritised'. However, each of the seven areas appears to be on the fringes of and on higher ground relative to where the worse sections of the mains are located!

**Patricia Warren**  
Brunswick Heads

## Civil society

Throughout the current tragedies of war and floods it is remarkable how civil society has demonstrated extraordinary humane qualities that have aided survival of many humans and animals. We all ask, 'Where are the politicians and help [that our taxes pay for]?'.

Yesterday's visit to Lismore by Prime Minister Morrison was galling and totally insensitive to victims and rural townships deserving of positive help, both

emotional and financial. Every moment of his interviews revealed the arrogance of 'them and us' narratives that avoid addressing and executing the realistic role of humane representative democracy.

Aid the communities in a holistic manner please Mr. Morrison.

But this seems a hollow request as there is 'nobody home'; [he lacks the] ability to hear and truly see. [His approach to] communication leaves the scars of abuse deep on the soul of the suffering citizens.

Repeated media grabs have displayed deep suffering, humanity and care [around the world].

'Civil society' will lead the way to the future as we collectively sing 'WE SHALL OVERCOME'.

**Jo Faith**  
Newtown

## The May election

Can I point out that a federal election is coming in May? In Lismore there is the Nationals Party MP Kevin Hogan, a member of the Commonwealth House of Representatives, and thus Lismore has been awarded extra funding to help get us back to normal. If that's possible. However, Mullumbimby, Byron and the Tweed have been offered zero extra funding. Could this be because the MP for that seat is Labor and the NSW State MP is a Green? Are we seeing politics and indeed pork barrelling first hand at the expense of these poor people who have lost everything?

I did hear a business owner from Lismore saying that to be eligible for the \$50,000 flood support grant the federal government is offering to businesses, you must first spend \$50,000 – then apply for reimbursement! This surely is only okay if you have sufficient funds, but this business owner said we (the wider Lismore business community) don't have that kind of money spare, they have lost everything and cannot now find \$50,000. It would seem to me that this is just another form of welfare for the wealthy (like the HomeBuilder grants whereby you had to have committed to a renovation costing around \$25,000 to be eligible for the grant – just an example of welfare only for the wealthy). Surely this current coalition government is morally bankrupt?

**Maggie Borger**  
Byron Bay

► Continued on page 12



## ONE SEEKER & THE SONG & DANCEMAN

Seeker - Keith Potger & Mike McClellan  
Friday 18 March Doors: 7.30pm Show: 8pm 18+  
Free Entry - Celebrating our incredible community



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Free Entry - Celebrating our incredible community



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**CHESS Ian Rogers**

The first event in Magnus Carlsen's 2022 online circuit, the Meltwater Tour, resulted in one of the least publicised victories in the World Champion's career.

Just after the preliminary section of the Airthings Masters concluded, with Carlsen plus three Russians as qualifiers for the semifinals, the Russian invasion of Ukraine began.

Rather than grapple with the question of banning the Russian players, which was already becoming a live question in many sports, the Airthings organisers decided to stay under the radar and continue as if nothing had happened. The strategy succeeded: two days later Carlsen had won the \$A45,000 first prize beating his world title challenger Ian Nepomniachtchi in the final.

More problematic for the Meltwater Tour is that Nepomniachtchi, plus Vladislav Artemiev and Andrey Esipenko, have now qualified for the second event, which begins next weekend.

Inviting Russian players will be fraught, if for no other reason than transferring their prizemoney to Russia may be both logistically and legally difficult given the current sanctions against Russia.

Nepomniachtchi and Esipenko were among 40 leading chess personalities in Russia who signed an open letter saying that Ukrainians are their friends and rivals and calling for the war to end.

To sign such a letter takes courage, as Belarus athletes found out after their plea to respect the voters' choice at the 2020 presidential election was ignored and Alexander Lukashenko retained power in Belarus. One by one the 700+ signatories, who included former Australian Olympian Anastasia Sorokina, have been picked off for interrogation and punishment. Sorokina, the chief of the Belarus Chess Federation, was relieved of all her positions and, after a lengthy police interview, forced to flee the country for a short period.

Only one played aged over 50, Alexander Khalifman, signed the open letter. It is likely that the older generation, including veterans such as Boris Spassky and Yuri Averbach, well remember the perils of speaking out from their life in the Soviet era and are more inclined to keep their heads down. Indeed Averbach would be old enough to remember a colleague, Vladimir Petrov dying within a year after being sent to a gulag in 1942. (He had been sentenced to 10 years in a labour camp for criticising living standards in Latvia.)

**Storylines: Return of the ginibii**

Eli Cook

**I** sat in curiosity some weeks ago as I watched several black swans making themselves at home in a temporary wetland outside of Ballina. Whilst it was not uncommon to see the swan in Nyangbal country, particularly during this time of year, what stood out for me was the sheer number of swans that were seemingly aware of something that the rest of us certainly were not.

The black swan, or 'ginibii' in our language, travels to our part of the Bundjalung nation during the wet season. This season takes in the period from roughly mid-January to late March. It is the time of year when the pink bloodwood is in flower, frogs are in full song, and of course, those pesky mosquitos are causing us problems.

I'd seen the swans visit in recent years since the drought-breaking wet season of 2020. First one came, then two. No one could have predicted the massive amount of water our region was soon to endure, but perhaps the ginibii did. Five of them, now, happily swimming up and down Burns Point Ferry Road.

The swans look at home, while some of us no longer have one. You see, this is their home. It has been for many thousands of years. Prior to the development of West Ballina, it was a vast floodplain. As were many other areas within the Northern Rivers.

In our efforts to change and dominate our landscape we have altered the

very fabric of how our ecosystems and geography manage in times of severe weather. Severe weather that is becoming more frequent, more devastating.

Tuckean Swamp to the south west of Ballina was another, once vast and abundant wetland area. Home to a diverse array of species and a prominent fish hatchery. In the 1880s, we began to drain this pristine ecosystem; with thoughts that it would eliminate the problem of water inundating precious agricultural areas. In this process we permanently changed the way in which our catchment deals with floodwaters.

These floodwaters no longer disperse themselves within the Tuckean Swamp. They are forcefully diverted back into the Richmond River, making their way into what are now residential and commercial areas. And consequently, businesses, livelihoods, homes – are lost.

Coraki, or 'Gurragai' in our language, is the meeting of waters where the Richmond and Wilsons River become one. Another area that was once a spillway for floodwaters now drained for farmland, permanently altered, but being reclaimed by the unstoppable forces of nature.

Further examples of once prominent wetland areas that helped mitigate floodwaters include Swan Bay just west of Woodburn, South Ballina, and of course, Lismore.

Our people knew the seasons and the landscape intimately. They knew which regions would be plentiful, at

what time of year, and during which cycle. We had successfully learned to live with the land. It was not plausible for us to make camp in an area such as Lismore during the wet season.

However, today, this is where we build our homes: So confident are we in our ability to divert our waterways and so consumed by our lust to develop areas that are simply uninhabitable.

Proposals such as the Iron Gates development in Evans Head are now under water, both literally and figuratively. Our region needs a rethink. We cannot continue in this current fashion of unbridled and ill-informed development. Whilst some people will make themselves a quick dollar, others will see their lives washed down the river.

Our modern way of life is unsustainable. That much is clear. Climate change is here. It is not something for us to consider in 30-50 years. It is here now. We must adapt. The people of the Bundjalung nation adapted by seeing themselves as forever part of the environment.

Now, we are all part of this country. This is evidenced by the level of support and help we have provided to each other during this difficult period.

This is the Bundjalung way, 'Nguymaa'. We must continue to come together. We must stop the old stale arguments that lead us down the same hole. It is time to sit, time to talk, time to come up with genuine solutions to a problem that will not be going anywhere.

**A note of disgust**

I note with disgust the attitude of the current governments with regard to flood defences. It is typical Lib/Nats 'laissez-faire' garbage. 'Leave it to the volunteers, government should not interfere with the freedom of individuals'. It is, as usual, just an excuse to sit on their hands and make wholesome motherhood speeches about personal responsibility without actually doing anything, apart from looking deeply concerned for the benefit of the press photo opportunity.

There is an alternative. Here is a plan to help the community cope with the next emergency, a plan to prevent my grandson and his partner sitting on their roof waiting for a non-existent SES boat to rescue them, a plan to prevent Blake, their heroic friend, having to pilot the family boat all the way from Tweed Heads against the flood current to pluck them from their peril.

The floods will come again, that is certain. The polities in Sydney and Canberra will again blame it (by implication) on those silly people who continue to live in the flood zone. We can do it better, and these are the

simple steps to prepare for the next disaster.

- Within the next two weeks put on a barbecue to say thank you to all the blokes (Blakes) who volunteered to fill the void (both drivers and crewmen) left by an undermanned and financially starved SES. (Nothing will change, volunteers will still be needed next time.)
- Have the Prime Minister and Premier come along to thank them properly for their service. They could show real appreciation for the volunteers' bravery and the expertise made so generously available to their community in its hour of need.
- Appoint a full time SES controller for the valley. Put his office in Murwillumbah where the crisis is first experienced. Give him some FM broadcast equipment (or a direct line to Lismore ABC) so we can be kept abreast of developments. (The ABC in Lismore is badly placed to observe and report on the Tweed.)
- Recruit a core of permanent volunteers to assist the SES controller. ('a la' the fire brigade.)
- Train the permanent volunteers properly. Give them uniforms and respect.
- Use the barbecue as an

opportunity to register the boats and drivers in order to make it possible to call them out next time. The permanent SES captain could maintain the register.

• Purchase fifty first-aid kits and store them at SES headquarters for distribution to participating boats next flood.

• Purchase fifty life-jackets, storing and maintaining them at SES headquarters for distribution in the next flood.

• Have on-hand an adequate supply of appreciation medals for distribution to drivers at the de-briefing following the next flood. Design them to be affixed to the boats for all to see.

• In general give our volunteers the respect and appreciation their service deserves.

This is a minimum cost no frills model, it accepts that people will not be moved around like chess pieces, it accepts the fact that polities will not make sensible (only expensive) decisions. It makes use of our most powerful and plentiful resource: our community, and it's typically Australian willingness to muck in when needed.

**Vince Kean**  
Murwillumbah

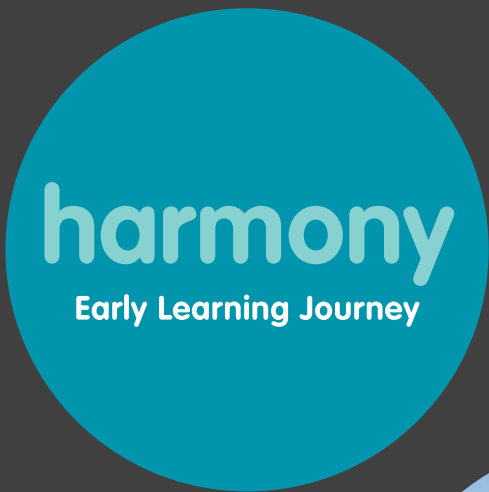
**Unnatural disaster**

Let's cease this obsolete 'natural disaster' talk and out-dated probability ratings for floods and fires. This is the climate crisis acting out, just as predicted. Unless immediate global action is taken, we can expect more of the same and worse. The science tells us that there may still be a short window of opportunity to act, but it has to be swift and effective. Yet still so many leaders (and people) seek to deny or evade it, thinking they know better, but without science or experience to back them up.

Life-changing action is required by everyone. On the urgent list – transport, fossil fuel energy, land clearing, deforestation, water wastage, intensive agriculture and mass consumption of animal products.

Individual greed, excessive consumption and the relentless drive for 'growth' and wealth needs to transition to simpler, ethical and sustainable lifestyles, community values and personal responsibility. It was recently found through 'happiness research' that whilst the standard of living has skyrocketed for many in developed nations,

▶ **Continued on page 17**



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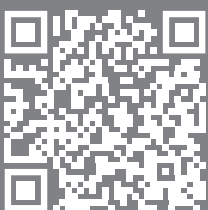
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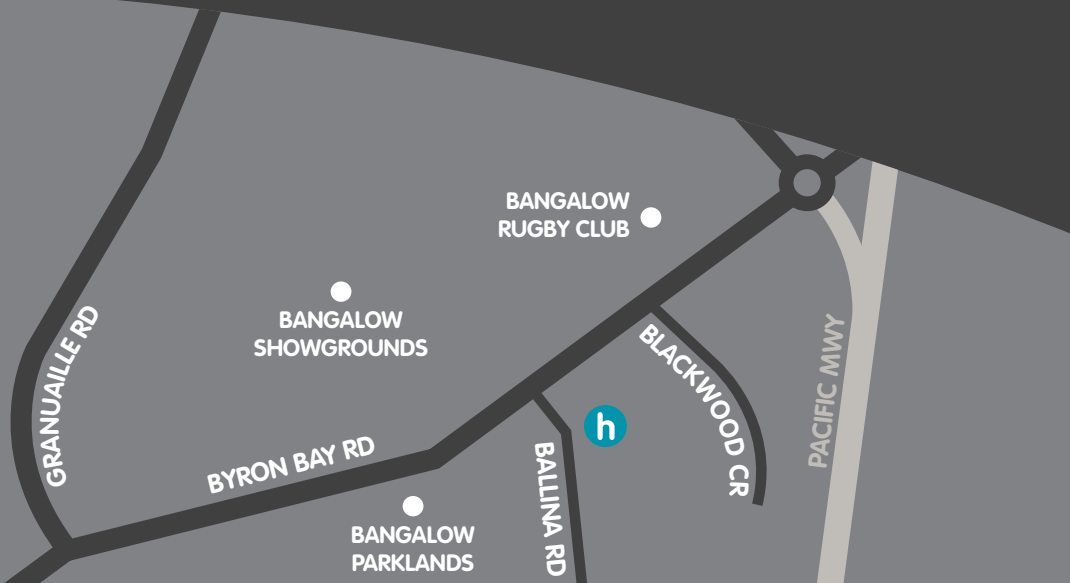
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# Lucy in the sky with rainfall – a flood rescue

Eve Jeffery

The catastrophic rain event that hit the Northern Rivers on 28 February, and the subsequent floods that lasted for many days, will not be forgotten in this lifetime.

Fine artist, Lucy Vader, lives on the outskirts of North Lismore as you head toward Nimbin. If you are a person who likes privacy, this is a wonderful haven. If you are alone on a roof in the rain waiting for a hero, not so much.

Lucy says the flood map states that her floor level is 12m. 'I had the house re-stumped and it was raised slightly and the local knowledge is that the worst flood in history still sat below my floor level.'

She was confident that with the information she'd been provided, the upstairs of her house would not flood.

Lucy bought the house in November 2020, then spent 13 months painstakingly renovating what was basically a condemnable dump into a home, crafted with detail and love and fantastic design. 'Huge physical labour

went into it, not to mention money,' she said.

'But that's all gone now.'

## The warnings

Lucy said the warnings she got were 'life threateningly inaccurate and reassuring'. On Sunday, 27 February in the afternoon, the Lismore Council-advice text said there would be a flood of 9.7m. She knew her road was safe and so was her house.

'The next warning I got was at 8.30pm, just before I went to bed. It said that the flood could reach 10.6m by 6am the next day, a very "manageable" flood. It meant a bit of knee deep water under my house.'

'My valuables were raised high off the ground. They are obviously gone now...'

'Sadly the Council text message system was fatally incorrect – there were two midnight text messages that I received from Council after I woke up (at 2am) and discovered I was in deep shit – the messages were too late. Also, the stated levels were well below what was happening, and I was now on my own, facing an existential battle.'

Lucy put some of her large



*I have to admit that I've had better days, possibly every single day of my life has been better than this. 'And yet, it's quite pretty.'*

– Lucy Vader, 28 February, 2022

works on the dining table and left medium sized works 'safely' on the wall.

Lucy says she had no idea of the amount of water that was on the way. 'The water and banging woke me up at 2am – I just didn't think it was possible, but as I looked out the window, and my entire free standing studio had disappeared underwater – well, I knew that was unprecedented. And I knew I couldn't get out, and I couldn't get away.'

'The water was deep around the house, and visibility meant if I swam I had no idea where I'd be swimming to. My house was

at that stage – and continued to be – the safest place, yet in spite of its relative safety I knew it held the potential to kill me and my dog.'

## BoM's rain radar

Lucy said she looked at the rain radar and she couldn't see any end to it. That's when she started to get on the phone and felt the slow dread of drowning start to become a reality.

Lucy says the water entered her house at around 4am. 'I'd been awake for two hours watching the water outside and I was on the phone – I was frightened. I was trying to find out about a boat.'

From 4–6am the water rose one-and-a-half metres. Lucy was able to speak to the SES at some point while it was still dark.

'They said "sit on the kitchen bench, or, if the water keeps rising, sit on the roof," and, to "stay safe". This phrase, as well-meaning as it is, is somewhat irritating in an ordeal lasting hours where one slip of concentration means death.'

'They said they couldn't get into Lismore while it was dark and that they were waiting for daylight, and were sending helicopters. I knew a helicopter had Buckley's of coming to my place – surrounded by trees, powerlines, and now nearly five metres of water.'

Once the water got to about 1.5m depth inside the house, and was still rising, Lucy knew she was going to have to try to get onto the roof. 'My roof is very high, and has no footholds to get up, and I tried five times to get up, and failed each time.'

As daylight came, she had no choice left but to stand on the balustrade and grip the sharp steel edge of the steeply pitched roof. 'I looked about. I don't know how I did it, and I remember when I was halfway up and it seemed impossible that

I just gripped and refused to fall back, and just surged more survival strength – and there – I got up on that roof. This was just before 7am.'

Lucy then faced unknown hours, with her dog Dotty still trapped on a floating mattress inside. 'The last time I saw her, the mattress was almost touching the ceiling fan blades. From the roof, there was not another human in sight and just a blessed third of a phone battery left to keep trying to get help. My phone died just after noon.'

Lucy was on the roof for nearly seven hours. It was very physically draining because the roof pitch was quite steep and it was slimy, which meant her muscles were tense the entire time, poising and flexing to avoid slipping into the flood.

'I tried not to think "positively" at any point on the roof. And not negatively. I kept a neutral position, trying not to be selfishly needing to be saved before people who were drowning and in worse situations than myself, yet at the same time, I had some growing concerns.'

Lucy says she had no indication that any rescue boats knew where she was. Her friends on Facebook knew, but it appeared to Lucy that she must be low on the list of people to be saved. 'I don't think the rescuers knew quite how precarious my position was. Or maybe they did, and their abilities were stretched beyond capacity. In any case, my thoughts took a concerning turn after many hours on the roof.'

'As fate would have it, at around the time that I thought I may be worse off than I realised, a man in a single person orange kayak appeared. He looked like heaven. Like gold. Like goodness. I said, "Are you the army?!" (I had been told the army was on their way.) He laughed and said, "I'm 'nobody'. And I'm going to get you off this roof!'

'I asked if he could save my dog – the windows to the house were now submerged – and he did! He swam underwater, and under the

door into my bedroom where the ceilings were higher, into the air pocket where Dotty was floating, and dragged her underwater and back out the window and onto the roof to safety. He risked his life to save Dotty.'

## Rescued at last

All three, two humans and a dog, squeezed onto the wobbly one-man kayak and made their way up the street to safety. 'We paddled past huge gas bottles and floating debris, and the boat was so finely balanced we were almost tipping upside down every few seconds. He said he'd already fallen in a few times that day saving other people.'

'I didn't say it, but I'm an ex-rower, I know how hard it is to balance, and I'm here to tell you I was not going to let us all fall into that deep brown water and potentially lose Dotty. So using every ounce of concentration and muscle tension, I kept the kayak upright.'

Lucy says she has nothing but love for her rescuer. 'People like him should not just be recognised, not just handsomely rewarded, but also be the wise community members who might like to form an advisory committee to the way forward.'

'My rescuer saved my life, my dog's life, and had already saved other people's lives, and after he deposited Dotty and me on solid ground, he got back in his kayak and paddled straight back to save others. And all the while, he had told me, that he urgently needed to get to his livestock who he believed were drowning. But he felt he had to save people first.'

'I want to say thank you to him, but the words don't express the level of gratitude I have for him. I don't even know his name – he's "nobody" – because nobody is perfect.'

Lucy has her eyes on a hopeful future. 'I will rebuild my house. I have a background in building design. I have the capacity for invention and transformation. The challenge I accept is to design smarter. Suitable to the conditions and to observe science more closely, and have more potent home systems and response systems in place for rare catastrophes.'

'Lismore is a beautiful place with very beautiful people. It is a very special place.'

## The SCOOP

### Time for healing – Byron Community College temporarily closed

While the College is temporarily closed, they are as busy as ever behind the construction tape, cleaning and rebuilding after the most devastating flood our region has seen.

The ground floor of their Mullumbimby campus was inundated, including the office, classrooms and courtyard. They have made steady progress in the clean-up with the support from an amazing group of staff and volunteers, though they still have a long way to go.

Unfortunately, almost every course for the remainder of Term One has had to be



cancelled and refunds will be underway very soon. They are working hard to restore their communications systems and will be in contact with you as soon as possible.

However you have been affected by these floods, they dearly hope you are receiving the support you need and that recovery is underway.

**Byroncollege.org.au**  
**6/8 Burringbar St, Mullumbimby**  
**02 6684 3374**



### Free data recovery for flood victims



Device Trader Byron Bay has been repairing and selling mobile devices in the Byron Shire for six years and continues to evolve. They specialise in data recovery for Apple and Samsung devices and they are currently offering free data recovery for flood victims.

With a wide range of devices in stock at a great range of price points, they have something for everyone. You can also see all of their products and services online and find huge discounts on refurbished devices and repairs.

**1/ 130 Jonson Street Byron Bay**  
**www.devicetrader.com.au**  
**02 6685 5585**

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# When Nobody came to Lucy Vader's Rescue

Eve Jeffery

**M**r Nobody, let's call him Jason\* to save confusion, had heard about the impending flooding and had spent the evening of 27 February securing his Lismore business.

'I've got a business in North Lismore and it does flood. I listened to what they said - it was going to be a moderate to major flood. I have a flood plan and I followed that plan. I got everything up, well above the highest flood level ever known.'

'Absolutely everything got inundated - destroyed.'

Jason knew when he woke up on the morning of the 28th that the flood was bad, even before he got out of bed. 'In the 2017 flood, I woke up to trillions of cars driving backwards and forwards on our street, all rubbernecking. When this flood came along: absolute silence. I knew instantly it was a bad one because no one was even able to get in to rubberneck.'

## Three donkeys

Jason grew up in Lismore so he knows what floods can do, and what he knew,



was that there were three donkeys in a paddock on the other side of town that would be struggling if they weren't taken to higher ground - they weren't his donkeys - but he knew they would drown without him, so he got into his kayak and he began to paddle toward them.

Jason couldn't see Lucy Vader, but he was paddling in her direction when she saw him and yelled out.

'I had just crossed the river over near the South Lismore Bowling Club. There's a big vacant plot behind her place. I had been yelling out whenever I got near a house and that's when she started

hollering back. I couldn't see her through the bushes - I couldn't see her house.'

## Nobody came to rescue Lucy

Lucy said that, at the time, she had just realised she was worse off than she had first thought. And then... 'A man in a single person orange kayak appeared. He looked like heaven. Like gold. Like goodness. I said, "Are you the army?!" (I had been told the army was on their way.) He laughed and said, "I'm 'nobody'. And I'm going to get you off this roof!"'

Lucy said she felt that there wasn't any way a

helicopter could have gotten to her, and Jason says that there were hundreds of gas bottles floating in the water and trees over the top of everything. 'To be honest, she wasn't going to get picked up for a little bit.'

## Rescuing Dotty

Once Jason got to the house he helped Lucy get off the roof and made sure she was safe in the kayak. Then he went into the house to look for Lucy's dog Dotty. 'I went to the side window but I could not smash the glass no matter how hard I tried. She said I could get in through the door.' This is where things got tricky. The top of the door was entirely submerged and from the roof perspective, Jason, who had never been in the house before, didn't know which room Dotty was in, only that she was in a bedroom.

Jason got out of the kayak, dove under the door frame into the house, and eventually located the right room. 'The dog was sitting on top of a mattress that had pinned itself underneath a fan, so she was dry, but with the water coming up higher, soon she would be swimming.'

But how to get Dotty out?

Jason's epic effort to save the dog was only halfway home and he had to work out how to get Dotty out the way he came in - under the water. 'I had to convince the dog to get off the dry mattress and come with me. I'm lucky she didn't bite me.'

'I just had to grab her, and once I dragged her off the mattress and into the water and past all the floating lounges and furniture and stuff, she swam quite nicely. When we got back into the front room with the (submerged) door, I just had to grab her and duck dive underneath the door to get out - she didn't think much of that either!'

*I said, "Are you the army?!" (I had been told the army was on their way.) He laughed and said, "I'm 'nobody'. And I'm going to get you off this roof!"*

Jason says Lucy was very emotional at seeing her friend. 'Oh, she was crying. I think she was pretty happy.'

'I had tried to save three or four dogs already but they were all too big - there were heaps of them swimming around. Dozens of them.'

We know the story of the rest of this rescue. Jason took Lucy to higher ground and he paddled off into the sunless, pouring rain. But there is so much more to this story.

## Over a dozen people rescued

Jason rescued over a dozen people that day. None of them knows who he is. As he launched himself into the water at 8am he was told in 'colourful' language by the SES that he was to 'get home'.

'I told them I was heading to the donkeys and if I didn't go, would they? They said they wouldn't, so I told them that I was going.'

Jason says he understands the SES have an important job to do and they have to warn people off dangerous conditions, but he says there were just too many people needing help for him to stay put.

He believes that some of the people he rescued wouldn't have made it if he hadn't paddled by. He says that because - at one point out there in the kayak - he could hear people calling for help, and he wouldn't have heard them if there was engine noise to drown out their calls. He said the small kayak's manoeuvrability allowed him to avoid power lines more easily and get close to houses to carry out rescues.

He says that, during the day, the SES passed him several times as they all searched for people and told him to 'get home'. They told him that they didn't want to have to come and rescue *him*, but their protests grew weaker throughout the day, and in the end they gave him a lifejacket and let him be.

Jason said Lucy was in

a bad way when he got to her - she was suffering from hypothermia after many hours in water and rain - but sadly she was better off than many others. 'I pulled an 80-year-old out of the water who had been there for eight hours with floodwater up to their chin.'

## When the boats stopped

Jason says one of the most chilling parts of the day was late in the afternoon when the sound of boats traversing the water stopped. He worried about those who hadn't been saved.

After about nine hours with no food and only a few sips of water Jason was exhausted and he paddled home to his family. Halfway through the day he had lost his VHF radio 'in the drink' and he knew his wife and family would be worried.

Like many people who do heroic things, he doesn't feel like a hero. 'People were dying. I did as much as I possibly could to help, then I got to a point where I couldn't do any more and that's when I went home - and I only just got home. That was it.'

'I did the best I could. No more, no less. I couldn't have done any more if I'd tried and I wasn't going to do less than I possibly could. Everybody would do the same thing.'

## And the donkeys?

Jason did, in the end, make it across town to where the three little donkeys were. 'By the time I got to the donkeys, two of them were dead. The last one was still alive but only just - I reckon in another five minutes he would have been dead too. He was floating, his feet were at the side of him and his nose was in the water. I actually thought he was dead when I first saw him but I heard him snort.'

'I grabbed him and put his nose on the side of the kayak - he actually kept it there and we "swam" down to the showgrounds about half a kilometre away...yeah...he's alive.'

■ These are just two of more than a dozen of Jason's rescue stories. Like everyone else affected by this catastrophe, Jason is looking forward and will rebuild his life.

■ Jason\* would prefer to keep his identity private.

Time is of the essence...



The time to speak up, act up and protest is now.  
We are in a climate crisis!

# Coordinating search and rescues in Lismore from a kitchen table in Lennox

Claire Sowden isn't a member of the SES, the police, nor any government department. She isn't on the Council, she isn't an activist and she doesn't represent a charity. The Lennox Head mother of three isn't even an influencer, although she does do marketing.



Yet somehow, like so many otherwise ordinary civilians, Ms Sowden found herself responding to relentless calls for urgent help as the Northern Rivers flood emergency took over on Monday 28 February 2022.

By early afternoon, Ms Sowden was helping

coordinate search and rescue efforts in Lismore from her kitchen table in Lennox Head, with social media her primary tool. 'My kids go to school in Lismore,' Ms Sowden said a few days

later, 'and we all know that Lismore floods. At the school, we were prepared, as most of town were prepared.'

But browsing social media from her home high up on the coast in Lennox Head,

Ms Sowden quickly saw that not only was Lismore rapidly inundated like never before, so was one of the Facebook groups she'd 'jumped on': with urgent requests for help.

'The problem, for a lot of those posts, they were being held for moderation,' Ms Sowden said, 'so I just reached out to the moderator, and I said, "hey mate, do you want a hand?"'

'Long story short, I ended up a temporary moderator on a Facebook group.

'We had people who were posting, saying, for example, "Hey, my older relative, or a friend, has called me and he

or she is standing in water up to their neck or their chest", or "they're sitting on their kitchen bench, they can't get into their cavity, there's no way this person can climb into their roof cavity"; Ms Sowden recounted.

'And they knew that the water was still obviously

rising,' Ms Sowden said.

'I had seen the videos of how much it had risen, I think it took something like half an hour for it to go two metres in the main street,' Ms Sowden said.

'No one expected it to rise so fast, so a lot of people were caught out.'

► **Continued from page 12** quality of life (happiness) has plummeted!

We need to relearn how to live with less and share what we have. We have just learnt that clean drinking water, food, fuel, housing, communications and essentials can no longer be taken for granted and we need to learn again how to maintain, share and conserve supplies in the future.

Voting for leaders who have a heavily vested interest in maintaining and promoting this destructive and unsustainable status

quo has to stop. Elections are coming; you may only get one more chance! Don't just vote for yourself this time – this time vote for change, for the next generations, the environment, the planet and your ability to live well on it. Change your own life and vote this time to change everyone else's!

**Daniel Matthews**  
Ocean Shores

### A big shout out

Have to give a big shout out to whoever is delivering *The Echo* to North Ocean Shores

these days. My heart swelled and the tears welled when I collected my copy off the lawn this morning. There, on the plastic cover was a hand drawn heart. A small gesture, but it means so much. My sincere thanks and good on you.

**Pam Mackellar**  
North Ocean Shores

### A little double green

My little green covered papers Vol 36 #38 and #39 arrived! I had an immediate and rather misty eyed outpouring of love for *The*

*Echo*. 'High and dry, but mostly high since 1986.' and 'Apocalypse Consolatoria'. Worth repeating. Hilarious. Spot on. Acknowledging the courageous, generous, relevant, connected and connecting, community focussed, invaluable and witty Hans Lovejoy (who gets blessed with such a nominally determinant name?!) and the luminosity of talents at the *Echo Echo Echo*.

**Colleen DaRosa**  
(high and dry but mostly dry)  
Ocean Shores

**I OF RA**

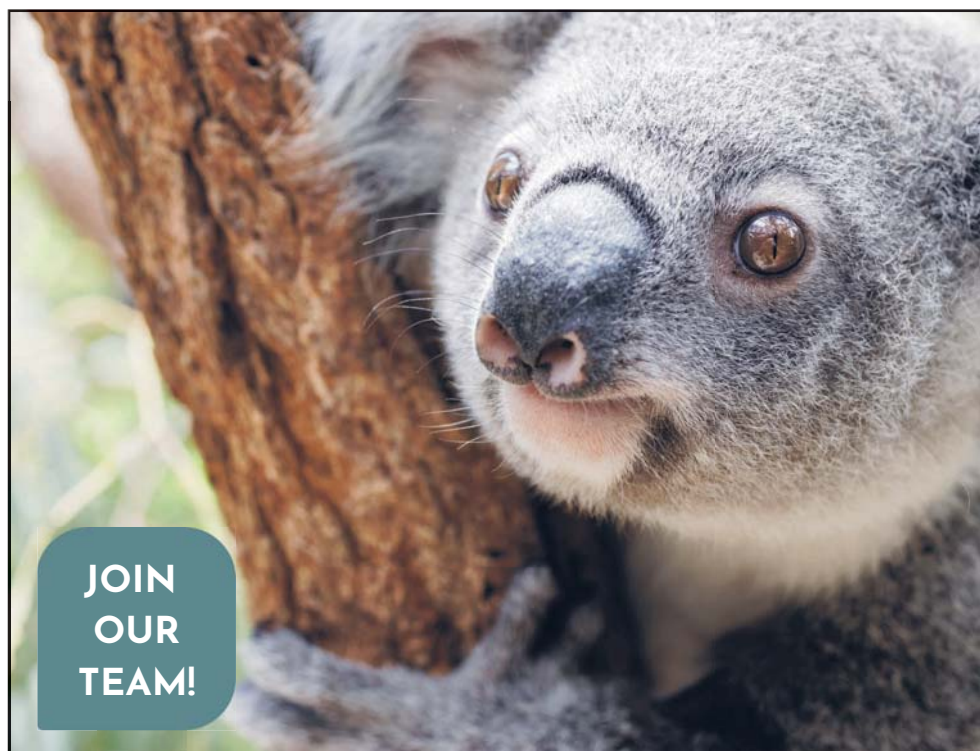
FOR VISCERAL CHANGE,  
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HEALING AND CONSCIOUSNESS  
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**JOIN  
OUR  
TEAM!**

Friends of the Koala, the leading koala conservation group in the Northern Rivers is calling for committed, passionate volunteers to join their team in East Lismore.

If you are over the age of 18 and believe in a future for this iconic species, we'd love to hear from you.

**Apply Now!**

[www.friendsofthekoala.org/volunteer/](http://www.friendsofthekoala.org/volunteer/)



**WE NEED HELP WITH:**

- Caring for sick, injured and orphaned koalas
- Harvesting leaf for koalas in care
- Maintaining koala food tree plantations
- Rescuing koalas

## Echo Northern Rivers 2022 Flood Donation Appeal

**The Echo has set up a GoFundMe appeal to collect financial donations.**

We are not charging an administrative fee, so all donations will go directly to grassroots organisations who are helping flood-affected people in the hardest-hit towns in our area: Mullumbimby (including surrounding areas in the north of the shire), Ballina, Lismore and Murwillumbah.

Due entirely to the generosity of our donors, \$44,000 of the \$44,001 in donations received by 10am on Tuesday 15 March have been distributed to the bank accounts of grassroots organisations in Mullum, Lismore, Murwillumbah, and Ballina which are helping flood-affected people.

**To donate, go to GoFundMe and search for echo-northern-rivers-2022-flood-donation-appeal**



# Health & Healing

## Acupuncture & Massage in Billinudgel with Caroline Ralph

Billi Health is an acupuncture and wellness clinic located in the heart of Billinudgel, offering acupuncture, massage and traditional medicine.

Billi Health provides comprehensive health care with affordable treatment options and private health rebates available.

Acupuncture has been shown to work by realigning and regulating the function of your body and nervous system. This can provide relief from a wide variety of physical health concerns and emotional stress.

Caroline treats a wide range of conditions, including women's health and fertility, mental health, fatigue and immune support, as well as musculoskeletal conditions and pain.

**Contact Caroline to discuss how acupuncture could be beneficial for you, or book online at [billihealth.com.au](http://billihealth.com.au).**



**Mention this ad for 20 per cent off.  
1/6 Wilfred Street, Billinudgel  
0415 062 819**

## Bangalow Headache Clinic

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

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

At Bangalow Headache Clinic they quite often find an overlap between headache

and dizziness and/ or headache and jaw problems.

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

**72 Byron Street, Bangalow  
[bangalowheadacheclinic.com.au](http://bangalowheadacheclinic.com.au)**



## Double bubble?

For visceral change, upgrades in experience and physical wellbeing integrating left and right brain healing and consciousness, come see Dr Jon and Vicki Veranese.

Let him work with context on the physical side of things using his Whole Health modality, developed from years of teaching and working with Kinesiology and metaphysical principles.

Let her open you to right brain cognisance, taking you to Essence (you, your consciousness all the way back to Source, all your experience wisdom, gifts and talents) as she identifies and works with anything in the way of or affecting the body mind spirit embodying its optimum functioning blueprint and most conscious, authentic Self.

The results are potent, immediate, and exponential.

**Book now: 0412 400 085**

**Dr Jon and Vicki Veranese  
[i-of-ra.com/double-bubble](http://i-of-ra.com/double-bubble)**



## Red Dot Rescue

RED DOT RESCUE is an extremely useful, ethically-sourced herbal formula, TGA approved for both internal and external application.

Utilising the synergistic combination of centuries-old healing herbs, Marigold, Echinacea and Myrrh, this effective, multi-purpose medicine combats infection, lowers blood pressure, fights colds and influenza, and is indeed a relevant remedy for our modern times.

Taken internally, RED DOT RESCUE stimulates the immune system, boosts white blood cells, improves circulation and reduces inflammation.

Externally used, it relieves insect bites, stings, burns and sunburn. Its rapid repairing action clears fungal infections, and heals wounds, abrasions, gingivitis and mouth ulcers.



The powerful properties of these potent plants ensure RED DOT RESCUE is a first aid kit in a bottle... a magical medical gift from Mother Nature.

**[rdrescue.com.au](http://rdrescue.com.au)**

The Community-Led Crisis Operations hosted and coordinated by Resilient Byron has so far included:

### 1. ISOLATED COMMUNITIES SPECIAL OPERATIONS

Caring for communities in the hills and valleys near Mullumbimby and elsewhere including Uki, Nimbin, Tunttable and The Channon.

Teams of professional climbers, riggers, arborists, paramedics and more have gone on dozens of day-long expeditions.

Coordinating exploratory reconnaissance, welfare checks, organising and coordinating with life-saving private helicopter evacuations, setting up climbing lines and pulley system supply lines, sending up food, medicines, donated Starlink Satellites, WIFI and other telecommunications devices.

### 2. IN-TOWN CLEANING AND CARE TEAMS

Caring for communities in Mullumbimby township.

Members of the public have been and continue to be coordinated into care groups for door knocking welfare checks, clean up teams, delivery of essential items and friendly smiles and warm hearts.

### 3. PUBLIC WELCOME AND GENERAL INFORMATION.

Meeting, greeting, listening, informing and directing members of the public coming to offer help, and get help, within the "Recovery Precinct" Mullum Civic Hall area.

Come say hello to our team of high vis, high vibes, deep care people who are here to give you the information and support you and your love ones need.

### 4. DONATIONS DEPOT

Servicing Mullumbimby and also the wider region of villages, cut-off hinterland communities, Indigenous communities and other rural areas of the Northern Rivers.

Receiving carloads and truck loads and armfuls of vital household goods, farming goods, basic first aid medicines and more.

### 5. FREE SHOP FOR HOME AND HEART

A special, quiet, trauma-informed space to find what you need, including clothing, bedding, toiletries, and some moments of respite and calm.

### 6. GATHERING SPACES FOR BODY WORKERS, LISTENING EARS, MASSAGE TABLES AND MORE

Many of the local body workers and healers of the wider Mullumbimby area have gathered to give body work and care to all who are hurting and/or exhausted.

### 7. BACK END SYSTEMS SUPPORT

Setting up the organisational, digital, communications, strategic relations and coordination systems to support all of the frontline and logistical operations of so many amazing community coordinators, crew members and volunteers of the public near and far.

### 8. COORDINATING WITH OTHER COMMUNITY-LED ORGANISATIONS ACROSS THE NORTHERN RIVERS

Developing coordinated lines of communication, logistics, information and support.

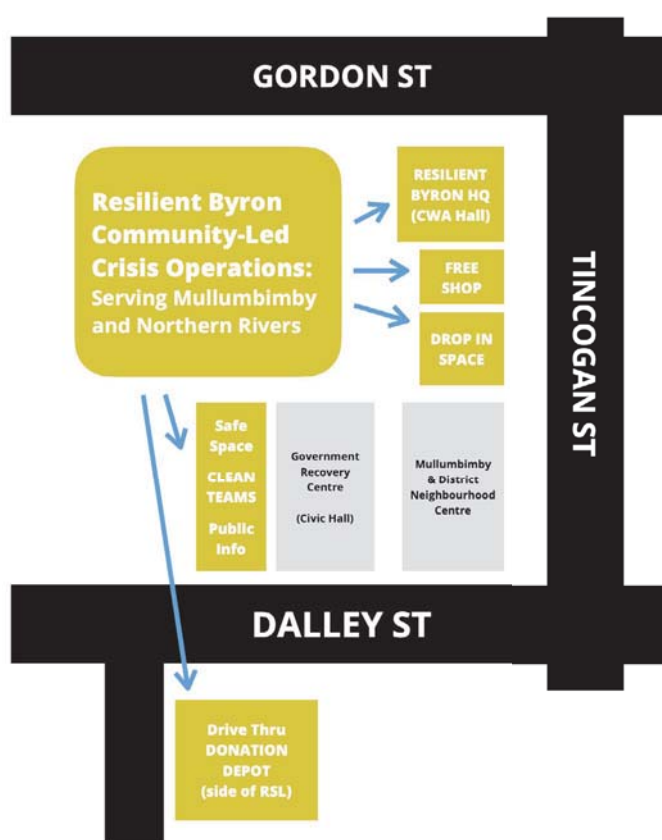
### 9. COORDINATING WITH ARMY, POLICE, SES, FIRE & RESCUE, LOCAL COUNCIL AND OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Seeking to compliment and coordinate with the work of many other NGOs, and government agencies including the Army, Police, SES, FRNSW, Resilience NSW, the Mullumbimby Neighbourhood Centre, The Repair Cafe, Library of Stuff, and many many more.

# Mullum loves you. You matter to all of us.

## Resilient Byron Community-Led Crisis Operations: Mullumbimby and Northern Rivers

We were here on day one.  
We are here right now.  
We are here for the long haul.



[resilientbyron.org](http://resilientbyron.org)

donate:  
[chuffed.org/project/northern-rivers-flood-relief](http://chuffed.org/project/northern-rivers-flood-relief)

This message from Resilient Byron is sponsored by a local business, who invited us to express whatever we needed to share, with you and our amazing community.

All of this much-needed and much-loved community-led activity we are coordinating in Mullumbimby evolved from the efforts and energies of many heroic individuals taking immediate action in the first hours of the floods.

Deepest thanks and humble admiration to all of you. Your leadership, action and bravery spurred so many more to join in.

Each day since Monday 28 February, our crisis operations have doubled in size, scale, scope, strength and sophistication.

Our aim is to provide, coordinate and distribute the care people need here in our beloved Mullum and the Northern Rivers.

Our growing team of community coordinators and core crew are a dedicated mix of professions, skills, passion, expertise and experience.

At Mullum HQ, support operations are led by Renew Fest director Ella Rose Goninan, founder of Resilient Byron Dr Jean Renouf, and director of the Northern Rivers Bushfire, Flood and Disaster Convergence project, Dr Luke Jaaniste.

Added to this team are a core group of over three dozen community coordinators, project managers, digital systems experts, trauma aware frontline carers, professional climbers, paramedics, admin assistants, HR and legal specialists, rescue tacticians, and more.

**Deepest thanks and consideration to our incredible community that is enduring and giving so much.**

**We look forward to working with and standing alongside our incredible community in the months ahead.**

**Based within and around the Mullumbimby Civic Hall precinct.**

**Serving our town, our isolated communities in surrounding ridges and valleys, and our wider Northern Rivers region.**

We wish to thank the **Byron Shire Council** and particular staff members who have worked with us to accommodate and support all our activities which have grown and expanded in the last fortnight.

We also thank the local **Mullumbimby CWA** who have generously provided their Hall for multiple weeks so that we have a secure physical location to run these multi-faceted operations from.

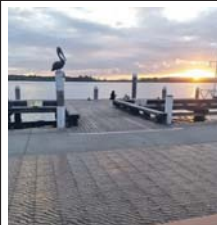
Massive thanks to the **Mullumbimby Ex-Services Club (RSL)** for generously giving us their event space to convert into our Donations Depot. Big gratitude for also being the spontaneous evacuation centre on the first few nights of the flood disaster.

We acknowledge and highly commend the tireless great work of the **Mullumbimby & District Neighbourhood Centre** during this disaster and always.

We also thank **Resilience NSW** for helping open doors between government, agencies and community-led work. We are all needed, all valuable and all here to support you.

And we wish to **thank and acknowledge everyone** in the massive devastation, the collective grief, the beauty and necessary connection and the collaboration brought by this epic climate event.

## BALLINA



### Wharf Bar & Restaurant

Ballina  
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6686 5259  
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www.wharfbarballina.com.au

## BYRON BAY



### The Italian Byron Bay

21, 108 Jonson St, Byron Bay  
Open Monday to Saturday 5.30pm to late  
5633 1216  
www.theitalianbyronbay.com

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

**OPEN MONDAY TO SATURDAY. BOOKINGS CAN BE MADE BY PHONING OR THROUGH OUR WEBSITE. WALK-INS VERY WELCOME.**



### Loft Byron Bay

4 Jonson Street, Byron Bay  
6680 9183  
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Incredible cocktails, locals beers & all-day snacks and food to share, with ocean views.

**Happy Hour** | Every day 4-5pm  
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**Espresso Martini Nights** | Every day 9-11pm  
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**Open every day from 4pm till late.**



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



### Legend Pizza

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### Byron's Freshest Pizza

Order online and join our loyalty program.  
Catering for up to 100 people lunch and dinner.  
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18 Jonson Street  
6680 8832

Open for takeaway daily, 12 midday until dinner.

Menu and more details  
@mainstreet\_burgerbar

**'Make a meal of it'**  
Add chips and a drink, just \$5.



### Success Thai

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

All your favourites, every lunch and dinner. Experienced Thai chefs cooking fresh, delicious Thai food for you.

BYO only.  
Welcome for lunch, dinner and takeaway.  
Menus available on Facebook.



### The Rocks

Brunch  
7am-12 noon, Mon-Sun.  
16 Lawson St, Byron Bay  
6685 7663  
Menus at  
therocksbyronbay.com.au  
@therocksbyronbay

**The Rocks is back in business!**  
Brand new summer menu! We have a range of freshly sourced dishes, Byron Bay coffee, and hand-made juices and smoothies at locals prices. Fully licensed, and offering \$7 mimosa's all day, and \$6 schooners during happy hour! Check out our new dishes on Instagram!  
We are registered as COVID Safe, and complying with all NSW health legislation.



### KARKALLA Byron Bay

Native Indigenous Restaurant  
Cnr of Bay Lane & Fletcher St, Byron Bay  
5614 8656

**Food with history, story & connection**  
DINNER, THURSDAY-MONDAY  
Early sitting from 5pm  
Second sitting from 7.30pm  
**Bookings highly recommended, via our website www.karkalla.com.au | @karkallabyronbay**  
Team Karkalla thank you for your support and kindness during this challenging time.



### Fishheads

Restaurant & Takeaway  
Byron Bay  
1 Jonson Street, Byron Bay  
6680 7632  
f @FISHHEADSBYRON

**Enjoy some delicious local seafood on a beachfront table**  
Enjoy our fresh, local Seafood and our region's best beers and liquors at a beachfront table on Byron's famous Main Beach.  
Extensive takeaway menu available.  
Accepting Dine & Discover Vouchers.  
www.fishheadsbyron.com.au

## BYRON BAY continued



### Barrio

1 Porter St, North Byron  
**Opening Hours**  
Mon-Sat: Breakfast 7am-11pm; Lunch 11am-3pm  
Thu-Sat: Aperitif Hour 3pm-5pm; Dinner 5pm-late  
@barriobyronbay

Barrio takes its inspiration from locally sourced produce and Middle Eastern cuisine.  
Offering daily bakes, breakfast cakes, classic sandwiches, vibrant salads, smoked fish, wood-fired meats and cocktails.  
Keep an eye on our socials for daily specials.



### The Coop Rosterie and Larder

91 Jonson Street, Byron Bay.  
Ph 5628 7021  
Open Sunday to Friday, 11am to 7pm.

Serving succulent local free range chicken, salads and hot vegetables to go.  
Catering available.



### SWAAY

Open 7 days  
Mon-Wed 7am-2.30pm  
Thurs-Sun 7am-10pm  
11 Marvell Street, Byron Bay  
swaay.com.au

SWAAY is a new cafe / bar / restaurant offering an experience of great food & drinks, quality service and good music. Come dine inside on one of our leather banquettes, hang amongst the plants at the bar, or chill outside and enjoy afternoon happy hours with one of our signature cocktails. Our ever evolving menu is focused on modern cuisine using only the best seasonal local produce.



### No Bones

Vegan Bar and Kitchen.  
11 Fletcher Street  
0481 148 007  
Book online:  
www.nobonesbyronbay.com.au

OPEN 7 NIGHTS FROM 5PM  
**Happy Hour from 5-6pm**  
**\$12 cocktails / \$5 beers / \$7 wines**  
Live music every Friday, Saturday and Sunday.  
Changing the Earth one Brussels sprout at a time.  
#BRUSSELSNOTBEEF

## MULLUMBIMBY



### Yaman Mullumbimby

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

Coffee, malawach rolls, pita pockets, falafel, traditional Yemenite spices and all your favourites, always freshly made.

**Drop in for an authentic atmosphere. Dine in or takeaway.**



### Sneaky Eats Co

5/15 Towers Drive, Mullum Industrial Estate  
admin@sneakeats.co  
www.sneakeats.co

**Healthy, nutritious and delicious, vegetarian/vegan pre-prepared meals & sides. Made with market fresh local and organic produce. We provide curries, dhals, patties, salads, sauces, dips and GF sourdough breads, treats & sweets.**

Order by Monday 8pm for Wednesday collection, order by Thursday 8pm for Sunday collection.  
**We offer a safe click & collect service.**

## NASHUA



### Frida's Field

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

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

## NEWRYBAR



### Harvest

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

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

## CATERING



### Celebrations Cakes by Liz Jackson

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

GLUTEN FREE AND SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS AVAILABLE



# The Good Life

## Unicorn Seafood is one of a kind

If you heard rumours of a restaurant that started during the height of a pandemic in 2020, and that had endured through all the lockdowns and disruptions to be probably the busiest restaurant in a seaside town in the Northern Rivers, employing around 25 locals, you might think the restaurant is mythical, but Unicorn Seafood in Kingscliff is one of a kind.

In fact, it's one of two-of-a-kind; because, in February 2022, a week before the record-breaking floods ravaged both SE Queensland and Northern NSW, owner Sushil Sharma opened a second Unicorn Seafood in Broadbeach. At least his timing is unique!

Unicorn Seafood Kingscliff is right opposite the ocean on the southern side of Marine Parade in a beautiful blue and white building in a quiet part of town. But the restaurant itself is very busy; Sushil says the restaurant's winning combination of the freshest, locally-sourced seafood along with polite, skilled table service is what's proving a hit. Patrons are coming not only from Kingscliff itself but from all around the Tweed region to sample dishes such as their famous Whole Lobster Mornay (\$60), the Whole Grilled Sole in butter lemon sauce or even the legendary (rather than mythical) Seafood Platter for Two (\$250).

The choice of Kingscliff, and the winning combination, was no accident. Sushil himself has, for 18 years, studied and



worked in hospitality in India, the UK and now in Australia. 'I've worked in upper class

restaurants and five-star hotels,' he says. 'I decided to open my restaurant in Kingscliff because we were near the sea. I looked for what's missing in the town, and I thought the town needed something that was not only about seafood, but also old-school fine dining with table service, which is the sort of background that I came from.'

'Although Unicorn is a seafood restaurant, we have plenty of quality red meat, poultry and pasta options as well. We're the busiest restaurant in town, and I think what makes us successful, apart from the excellent service, is that we're right on the ocean with a peaceful vibe – our blue and white theme colours are refreshing and relaxing.

'We use local ingredients, including locally-sourced seafood, primarily from butchers in Tweed Heads, who have been established for 20 or 30 years. I have a customer who owns an avocado farm, and when he has avocados he supplies me – it's the local community helping each other.'

Unicorn Seafood is a family-owned business, it's Sushil and his wife, but now they have two restaurants they're going to be even busier!

For bookings go to [unicornseafoodrestaurant.com](http://unicornseafoodrestaurant.com)  
36 Marine Pde, Kingscliff Ph (02) 6674 4494  
or for Broadbeach call (07) 5530 8809

### CLUB BYRON WANTS CATERERS!

Club Byron are looking for new caterers to take over our kitchen full time from 11 April 2022. Trading hours will be lunch 12–2pm, and dinner 5–8pm.

Work with us and help both businesses grow. Negotiable rent.

Email expressions of interest to [info@clubbyron.com.au](mailto:info@clubbyron.com.au)



## FLOOD DISASTER FUNDRAISER

SATURDAY 19TH MARCH 2022

COME DOWN, DONATE, ENJOY A BEER AND DO YOUR PART TO HELP THOSE WHO NEED IT MOST.



EARTH BREWERY  
592 CUDGEN ROAD  
CUDGEN NSW

11-8PM WE WILL BE PUTTING ON COMMUNITY KEGS WHERE ALL THE PROFITS GO TO FLOOD DISASTER VICTIMS. RAFFLES FOR PRIZES DONATED BY LOCAL BUSINESSES, GAMES ON THE LAWN, SOME GREAT TUNES AND A SHOULDER TO LEAN ON IF YOU NEED IT.

## Harvest at Newrybar

I went up to Harvest for a special family birthday lunch on Sunday. Not only was the food terrific, with lots of new dishes I'd never tried before on the menu, but I also had the chance to try some new wines. It's always a treat

to have lunch up there.

Newrybar has been quite active lately; because of its fortunate elevated position the town hall has a great place for the MUD ARMY to coordinate help for flood-affected people – donated clothing, cleaning materials and supplies, dehumidifiers, water, petrol etc have been donated, and those goods have been distributed to those in need. The Harvest crew have helped out, making bread and donating meals to contribute to the effort.



### NOT YOUR AVERAGE JOE

BREWED IN BYRON BAY • AUS

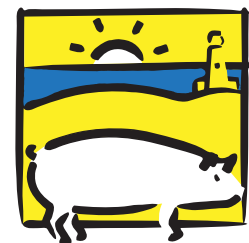


HOLY JOE

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SCAN TO FIND YOUR NEAREST STOCKIST...



## BYRON BAY PORK & MEATS BUTCHERY



BYRON BAY PORK

Come in and see our friendly staff for a choice of local, grassfed, organic and free-range meats.

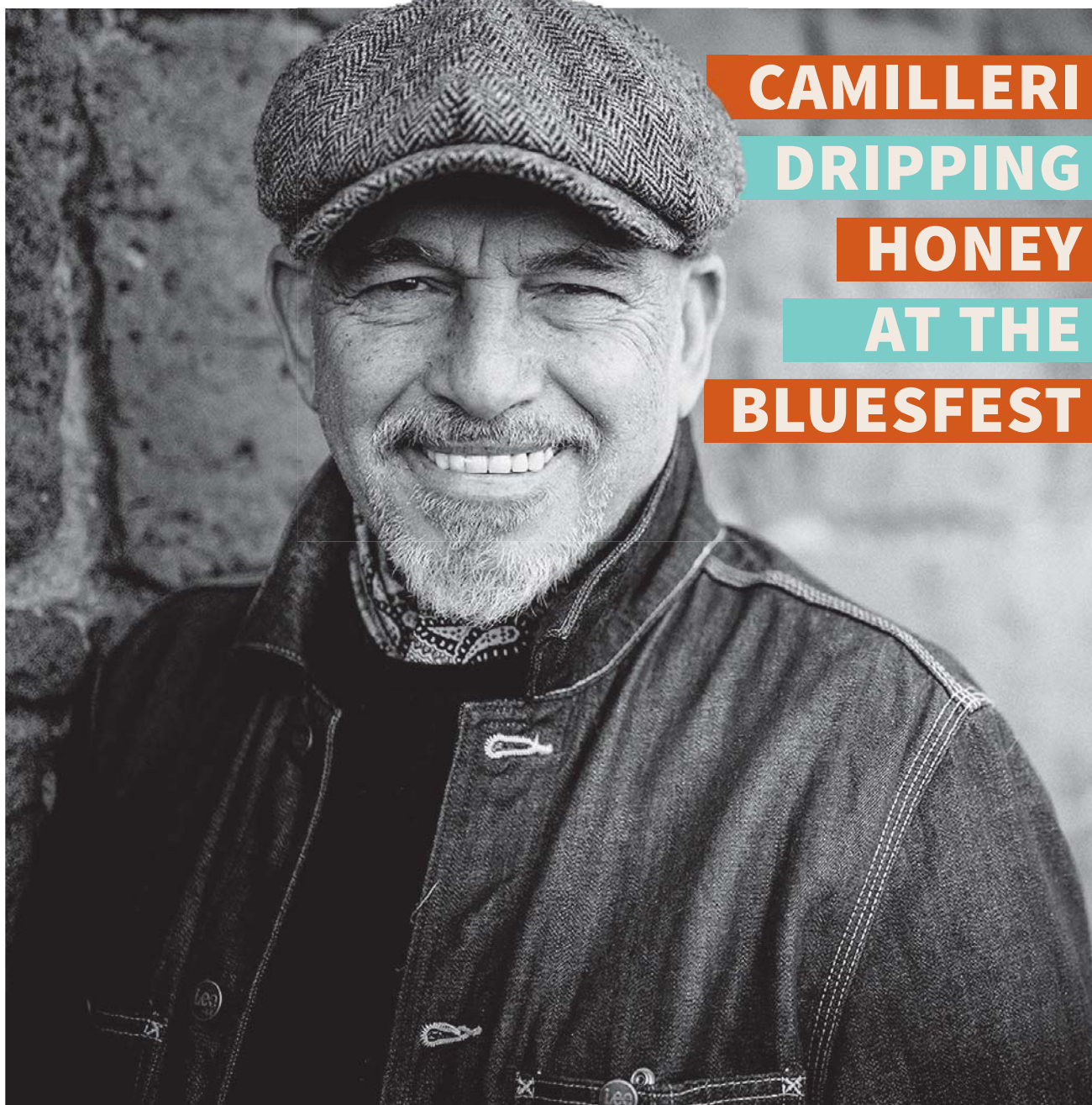
All organic, antibiotic and hormone free.

NOW OPEN IN BYRON BAY

130 Jonson St, Byron | 6685 6261  
Mon-Fri 6am to 5pm / Sat 6am to 1pm

70 Dalley St, Mullumbimby | 6684 2137  
Mon-Fri 6am to 5pm / Sat 6am to midday

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**CAMILLERI  
 DRIPPING  
 HONEY  
 AT THE  
 BLUESFEST**

Joe Camilleri is bringing The Black Sorrows goods to Bluesfest 2022 and for all those fans of the constantly evolving Camilleri – Jo Jo Zep, the Sorrows, The Revelators, Bakelite Radio, The Voodoo Sheiks and Here Comes The Night, you will get a bit of everything on Good Friday and Easter Saturday...

But hold up! Just for something completely different (and awesome), Camilleri has curated an incredible line-up for a special Honeydripper's Dylan Party, a one-of-a-kind tribute to Bob Dylan, now in his 80th year – featuring Camilleri's handpicked special guests who will be many of Bluesfest's favourite artists.

Last week *Seven* spoke to Joe from his home at Kyneton near Melbourne. Happy to take a break from sax practice, Camilleri says his 'new' album *Saint Georges Road* was recorded nearly two-and-a-half years ago but only came out last September. 'It's been incredibly well received. I'm really pleased with the outcome. I wasn't going to release it – we finished it a week before our first lockdown and everyone was releasing their music, almost like the end of the world.

'Then it got pushed aside, and I thought, maybe I'll let this one go – the one that got away, and go on to the next one – but I released it and I'm glad.'

Camilleri has been considering his Bluesfest set list. 'When you play these shows, some people do want to hear what you've got. But the majority is saying secretly, "Don't bore us, get to the chorus". They like the old stuff, they just want fun. They just want to dance and they want to feel good. Sometimes it's the difference between being an entertainer, or not giving a rat's arse about the audience's wants and just doing what you want to do. I'm more interested in the entertainment.'

And the Bob Dylan event? Camilleri was asked by Bluesfest to curate a show for opening night and he's pretty excited about it.

'We've got 13 guests, including myself, to the Bob Dylan Honeydripper Birthday Bash. There's just so much material! Fabulous material. It's a joy to do – hard work – a little bit harder than I thought. I'm a little bit like a cattle dog, so I'll try and put a whole bunch of sheep in the yard.

'But, I love it – it makes me feel like I want to get up tomorrow.'

To see the whole Bluesfest line-up, visit: [bluesfest.com.au](http://bluesfest.com.au).

**BYRON THEATRE**  
 THE BEATING HEART of BYRON

<p><b>Shaku ~ Shakti</b>                  ~ 2022 Flood Relief Fundraiser ~</p> <p><b>Shaku Shakti ~ Soul Sangeet Flood Relief Fundraiser</b>                  Friday 18 March                  7:00pm</p>	<p><b>Harry James Angus Great Southern Nights</b>                  Saturday 19 March                  8:30pm</p>
<p><b>An Evening with ThornBird</b>                  Sunday 20 March                  7:30pm</p>	<p><b>Napoleon: In The Name of Art Art On Screen</b>                  Wednesday 23 March                  2:00pm</p>

BOOK NOW [byrontheatre.com](http://byrontheatre.com)

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A KALEIDOSCOPIC CARNIVAL OF SHORT FILMS

31ST INTERNATIONAL SHORT FILM FESTIVAL 2022

**FLICKERFEST**

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**BANGALOW - A&I HALL**  
 "FLOOD RECOVERY FUNDRAISER"

THU 31 MAR: 7PM - OPENING DRINKS & 8PM - BEST OF INTERNATIONAL SHORTS  
 FRI 1 APR: 8PM - BEST OF AUSTRALIAN SHORTS  
 SAT 2 APR: 4PM - BYRON ALL SHORTS | 8PM - SHORT LAUGHS COMEDY

**MURWILLUMBAH - REGENT CINEMA**  
 SUN 3 APR: 4PM - BEST OF AUSTRALIAN SHORTS  
 SUN 3 APR: 7PM - BEST OF INTERNATIONAL SHORTS

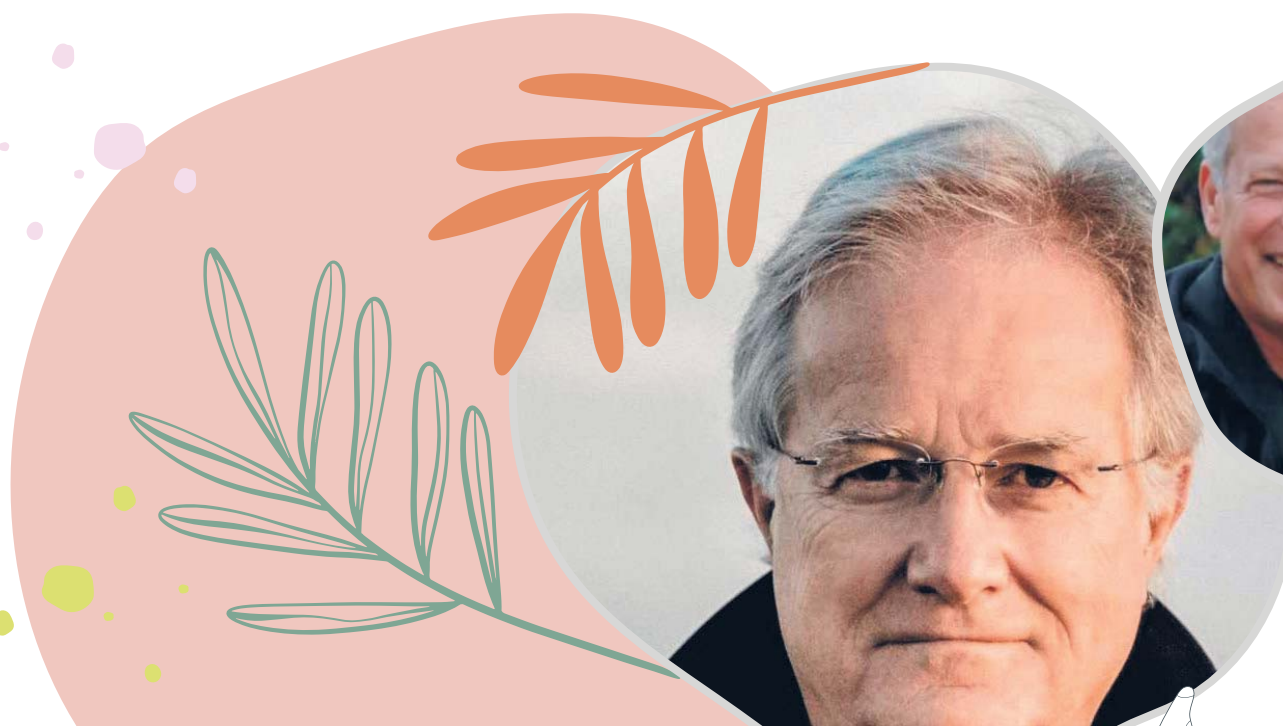
**THE SEEKER and the SONG & DANCEMAN**

I'll Never Find Another You      The One I Love

*Keith POTGER*      *Mike McCLELLAN*

**BALLINA RSL CLUB**  
 Friday 18 March 8pm

[www.ballinarsl.com.au](http://www.ballinarsl.com.au) Ph: 6681 9500 **BOOK NOW!!!**



**ONE SEEKER AND THE SONG & DANCEMAN**

Mike McClellan says he and Keith Polger have known each other for quite some time, but just recently they joined forces as **One Seeker and The Song & Danceman**. This show is going to the Ballina RSL on Friday. Celebrating the folk-pop music of the '60s and '70s – which inspired them to forge lasting careers both in Australia and internationally – they will showcase the music they have continued to create for decades. This will be a memorable concert from two of Australia's most-loved acoustic writer/performers. **Join them on Friday, 18 March at 8pm at the Ballina RSL. Visit: ballinarsl.com.au.**

**GIG GUIDE**



**WEDNESDAY 16**

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **SIMON MEOLA**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 5.30PM **LUKE HAYWARD**, 8PM **BEN JANZ**
- FOXY LUU'S, BYRON BAY, 6.30PM **FOXY LUU'S WEDNESDAY REGGAE AND RAINBOW FEAT. BOMBACLOCK**
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY, 6.30PM **MUSICAL BINGO**
- CABARITA BEACH SPORTS CLUB 6.30PM **MUSICAL BINGO**
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL 6PM **STEVEN MICHAEL**

- TINTENBAR HALL 7.30PM **KARMA COUNTY**
- BALLINA RSL LEVEL ONE 10AM **DEAN DOYLE WITH SOPHISTICATION MORNING MELODIES**, 8PM **KEITH POTGER & MIKE MCCLELLAN**
- MURWILLUMBAH SERVICES CLUB 6.30PM **CHERILEE HALL**
- TWEED HEADS CIVIC CENTRE 7.30PM **THE OLD PEOPLE ARE REVOLTING**
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL 5PM **RICK BARRON**, 10PM **NO RIGHT TURN**

- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE SHOWROOM 8PM **SHORROCK & CADD**
- SOUNDLOUNGE, CURRUMBIN, 7.30PM **KARMA COUNTY**
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL 5PM **PAUL KERIN**, 9.30PM **CHICK FLICK**
- LENNOX HOTEL HOTEL STAGE 8PM **GREAT SOUTHERN NIGHTS MISTER BENNETTS**

- REGENT CINEMA, MURWILLUMBAH, 7PM **MANDY NOLAN'S GREEN CAMPAIGN LAUNCH. PETER BERNER HOSTING A Q&A WITH MANDY NOLAN AND ADAM BANDT**
- CABARITA BEACH SPORTS CLUB 6.30PM **TRIVIA**

**THURSDAY 17**

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **MUDSLIDE**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 2.30PM **RICHIE WILLIAMS**, 5.30PM **THE PACIFIC NATIONALS**, 7.30PM **SARAH GRANT DUO**
- ELTHAM HOTEL 7PM **ST PATRICK'S DAY IRISH FOLK MUSIC**

**SATURDAY 19**

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **SOUTHWALL**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **SLY WITHERS**
- BYRON THEATRE 8.30PM **HARRY JAMES ANGUS – PRESENTED BY GREAT SOUTHERN NIGHTS**
- BYRON TWILIGHT MARKET 4PM **HAYLEY GRACE**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 7.30PM **DIRTY CHANNEL DUO**
- OCEAN SHORES COMMUNITY CENTRE 5PM **BYRON KIRTAN CHANT FUNDRAISER FOR FLOOD RELIEF**

**SUNDAY 20**

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **MATT ARMATAGE DUO**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 12.30PM **JOCK BARNES**, 3PM **PABLO LAVERDE**, 5.30PM **HAPPY AFRICA**, 9PM **MAGESTIC NIGHTS**
- BYRON THEATRE 7.30PM **AN EVENING WITH THORNBIRD**
- FOXY LUU'S, BYRON BAY, 4PM **THE NEW LANGUAGE**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 4PM **FELIPE BALDOMIR**
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 4.30PM **TIAGO FREITAS**
- UKI MARKET 9.30AM **AFTER THE RAIN BIG BASH**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE SHOWROOM 2PM **MURPHY'S PIGS**
- TWEED HEADS CIVIC CENTRE 2PM **THE OLD PEOPLE ARE REVOLTING**
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL 5PM **DAVE RITTER**

**WEDNESDAY 23**

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **OOZ**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 3PM **SIMON MEOLA**, 5.30PM **RICHIE WILLIAMS**, 8PM **JORDAN MAC**
- BYRON THEATRE 2PM **NAPOLEON: IN THE NAME OF ART – ART ON SCREEN**
- FOXY LUU'S, BYRON BAY, 6.30PM **FOXY LUU'S WEDNESDAY REGGAE AND RAINBOW FEAT. BOMBACLOCK**
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY, 6.30PM **MUSICAL BINGO**
- CABARITA BEACH SPORTS CLUB 6.30PM **MUSICAL BINGO**
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL 6PM **CASEY FOGG**

**FRIDAY 18**

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **RAGGA JUMP**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 12.30PM **MARK RIDOUT**, 6PM **SKY EATER**, 8.15PM **KURILPA REACH**, 10PM **ANDY V**
- BYRON THEATRE 7PM **SHAKU SHAKTI – 2022 FLOOD RELIEF FUNDRAISER CONCERT**
- BANGALOW BOWLO 5PM **LIFE BOAT – FLOOD FUNDRAISER**
- BANGALOW HOTEL 8PM **SHY BABY**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 6PM **MINNIE MARKS**
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 4.30PM **DJ MONSIEUR DIOP**
- ST JOHN'S SCHOOL HALL, MULLUMBIMBY, 7.30PM **ECSTATIC DANCE BYRON BAY WITH DJ DANCING TIGER**

- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM **DJ ROBIN SYDNEY**
- BILLINUDGEL HOTEL 4PM **NUDGE NUDGE WINK WINK – FLOOD FUNDRAISER**
- BALLINA RSL BOARDWALK 7.30PM **ISAAC FRANKHAM**, LEVEL ONE 8PM **GREAT SOUTHERN NIGHTS SWEET FELICIA**
- ELTHAM HOTEL 7PM **THE HARD ONS**
- REGENT CINEMA, MURWILLUMBAH, 6PM **SUNSET SOIRES WITH PARISSA BOUAS**
- MURWILLUMBAH SERVICES CLUB 6.30PM **DISTRACTION**
- SHEOAK SHACK, FINGAL HEAD, **FELICITY LAWLESS**
- TWEED HEADS CIVIC CENTRE 7.30PM **THE OLD PEOPLE ARE REVOLTING**

**MONDAY 21**

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **STEPHEN LOVELIGHT**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 12.30PM **JOCK BARNES**, 5.30PM **HAPPY AFRICA**
- FOXY LUU'S, BYRON BAY, 6.30PM **SOCIAL LATIN DANCING + FREE SASSY SALSA CLASS**

**TUESDAY 22**

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **JOCK BARNES DUO**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 3PM **JOSH LEE HAMILTON**, 5.30PM **GUY KACHEL**, 8PM **JASON DELPHIN**



**Get the latest on flood recovery**

As we all work through the latest round of damage and distress to our region, keep in touch with the latest local news at BayFM.

If you have info to share you can text us on 0437 341 119 and we can let our listeners know.

Tune to 99.9FM or go to bayfm.org for the info you need and the music you love.



bayfm.org  
Listen like a local.

BEAUTIFUL FUTURE - CRYSTAL GRID - COCO REPUBLIK & XIII COLLECTIVE BRING YOU

**LIFE BOAT**  
FLOOD FUND & SPIRITS RAISER

XUANXUE  
RDMX  
AL ROYALE  
HALO  
NICK TAYLOR  
HUGO

FUNKTION ONE / DANLEY SOUND  
CRYSTAL GRID LIGHTZ & VIZ  
QUEEN OF HEARTS DECOR  
INDOOR & OUTDOOR ZONES  
FIRE - FRIENDS - WIGGLES  
RESTUARANT & BARS

FULL MOON - EQUINOX TRIBE CONNECT

**FRI MAR 18** 5 - 11 PM  
**BANGALOW BOWLO**

TIX @ HUMANITIX - ALL PROCEEDS TO NORTHERN RIVERS FLOOD RELIEF

# seven

CONTINUED

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

## MANDY NOLAN'S SOAPBOX

### IT TAKES A VILLAGE

They say 'it takes a village', but you don't know what kind of village you are until disaster hits. We have just found out that our villages are amazing. For years in our region, as the housing crisis hit, people started to say 'this community is gone'. And sometimes I believed it. I've been here over 30 years so I have seen the region transform. I've seen the gap between rich and poor grow as real estate prices soar. I've seen the emptiness of affluence. I've despaired over homelessness, and at times I've felt like I've been shouting into a vacuum. 'Does anyone care?'. Sometimes I thought 'No'. But I was wrong.

This loss has given us hope. It is what we have found in the mud. It is what cannot be lost. It is what remains when all else is gone.

So many have lost so much. Photos, precious memorabilia, the painting your mother gave you, the box of the kid's best drawings, favourite chairs, well tuned pianos, the very bed on which you lay your head. Gone. For many it's more than that, it's loss of home, of school, of the assurance of what comes next. The loss is profound, and it's painful to witness. It's a loss that has reached out into the comfortable lounge rooms around our country, a loss that implores people to feel responsible. To give. To come together. To be that thing they can be when they stop being a society of disconnected competing consumers: community.

So community has turned up. Community has stood in the muddy waters. They've climbed impassable roads to deliver food and supplies. They've rescued babies from mudslides. They've held an old woman in embrace as she wept. In one queue I met a

couple from Melbourne who had come here on holidays but became part of our mud army instead. I worked alongside a builder from Brisbane. I met young people from Byron who had taken the day off work to come help.

Community is remarkable. They have been the quiet heroes of this disaster. They rose up as quickly as the waters. Some risked their lives to save strangers. Others have given hundreds of hours to clean or co-ordinate or innovate. They have stood strong where government faltered.

Unlike government, community is not paternalistic. It doesn't reach down, it reaches across. It lifts. Community in action is a profound act of love. It is humbling to witness. To see people you thought you knew just step so easily into the service of others reminds you never to judge who you think a person is. It shows that we have capacity for something beautiful. After two years of arguing about vaccination we stopped arguing. We came together as one.

People who work together are powerful. Let's not forget that.

We have put aside our personal values or beliefs, our identities, and worked for the common good. We became better than we thought we were. So let's stay that way.

Let's not need a crisis to be a community of action. Let's see this through.

Let's harness this moment to create stronger, better and more resilient communities.

Let's not leave anyone behind.

The Flood height of 2022 that you will see on poles and buildings, that will become a reminder of how good people are. A

reminder of how we can collaborate; how we are moved by the suffering of others. How we can transform disaster into hope.

So, to all of you who have turned up – whether in body, in heart, in intention – however you have given, you have become enmeshed in this giant organic pulsing heart of our bigger, broader, inclusive community.

It really does take a village. Not just to raise a child, but to raise a future for all; the future is the child who belongs to all of us.

Thank You.



You And Me, Before And After

### 'FLICKERFEST – A KALEIDOSCOPIC CARNIVAL OF SHORT FILMS AND A FUNDRAISER

The Flickerfest crew have announced that the 2022 event with **Byron All Shorts** will be a fundraiser for local flood recovery for the *Koori Mail* to rebuild, for Indigenous families throughout the Bundjalung Nation and for the Mullumbimby Neighbourhood Centre's local rebuild and recovery initiatives. One hundred per cent of profits from ticket sales across the weekend will be shared between these organisations. Flickerfest and Byron All Shorts has moved to the **Bangalow A&I Hall**, because its usual home of the Mullum Civic Hall is being used as the Resilience NSW Recovery centre. Fresh from its ten day Bondi event in late January, Flickerfest, Australia's largest short film festival returns to The Northern Rivers for its 25th year. The Island Quarry and Flickerfest will present their satellite event at the A&I Hall Bangalow, sharing a

smorgasbord of over 40 incredible short films from its Academy and BAFTA Qualifying short film festival. Including recent Academy® nominees, much loved festival award winners and exciting local talent.

The Flickerfest 2022 programme was selected from 3,200 entries, from over 100 countries, giving Northern Rivers' audiences a first look at the hottest short films from at home and the world, over three big cinema packed days.

**Mullum Flickerfest – 31st International Short Film Festival and Byron All Shorts – Northern Rivers Film Competition. Bangalow A&I Hall from Thursday 31 March to Saturday 2 April.**

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

### A LIFE BOAT FOR FLOOD FUNDS

In a rare alignment, **Beautiful Future, Crystal Grid, Coco Republik and XIII. Collective** are joining forces to bring you **Life Boat** – fund and spirit raiser – full moon tribe connect, this Friday. There will be indoor and outdoor zones; **Funktion One / Danley Sound Labs** sound, **Crystal Grid** lights and visuals and **Queen of Hearts** décor. Every drink from the bar will contribute to donations, with sponsorship from the Bangalow Bowlo, local suppliers and all artists and crew giving their time and energy to make a super special night for you. Music flavours are predominantly house and techno with DJs, **Xuanxue, RDMX, AI Royale, Halo, Nick Taylor and Hugo**. One hundred per cent of money generated will be donated through **Resilient Byron**.

Donation / ticket price is \$25 + bf at Humanitix and there's a 'pay it forward' ticket option to buy a friend a ticket so you can help out someone in need. Give as much as you can, or simply come and receive free entry if you can't. A much needed chance to catch up with friends around the fire, shake it off, and dance it out together, and remember how great life is, even in times of great adversity. **Ticket link: <https://events.humanitix.com/life-boat-fund-and-spirit-raiser-all-proceeds-to-northern-rivers-flood-relief>.**

**Life Boat is on this Friday 18 March at the Bangalow Bowlo 5–11pm.**



## PALACE CINEMAS

Session Times: Thu 17 Mar - Wed 23 Mar    NFT = No Free Tickets

<p><b>SPECIAL SCREENINGS</b></p> <p><b>THE DUKE (M)</b> <i>Morning Tea</i> Fri: 11:00am</p> <p><b>X (CTC)</b> <i>Fright Night</i> Fri: 8:30pm</p> <p><b>FAMILY FILMS</b></p> <p><b>CLIFFORD THE BIG RED DOG (PG)</b> Daily: 11:30am</p> <p><b>MONSTER FAMILY 2 (PG)</b> Daily: 11:30, 1:45pm</p> <p><b>SING 2 (PG)</b></p> <p><b>ALL FILMS</b></p> <p><b>ANONYMOUS CLUB (M)</b> Daily: 2:20, 4:15, 6:15pm</p>	<p><b>BELFAST (M)</b> Daily except Fri: 11:40, 1:50, 4:00, 6:10, 8:20pm Fri: 1:50, 4:00, 6:10, 8:20pm</p> <p><b>BLIND AMBITION (M)</b> Daily: 1:40pm</p> <p><b>DEATH ON THE NILE (M)</b> Daily: 11:20am</p> <p><b>DOG (M)</b> Daily: 1:45, 4:00, 6:15, 8:20pm</p> <p><b>DRIVE MY CAR (MA15+)</b> Daily: 7:00pm</p> <p><b>DUNE (M)</b> Daily: 8:00pm</p> <p><b>HOUSE OF GUCCI (MA15+)</b> Daily except Fri: 8:00pm</p>	<p><b>JACKASS FOREVER (MA15+)</b> Daily: 1:10, 8:30pm</p> <p><b>KING RICHARD (M)</b> Daily: 4:00pm</p> <p><b>OFF THE RAILS (M)</b> Daily: 3:50, 6:00pm</p> <p><b>QUO VADIS, AIDA (M)</b> Daily: 11:20am</p> <p><b>SPIDER-MAN: NO WAY HOME (M)</b> Daily: 11:15am</p> <p><b>THE BATMAN (M)</b> Daily: 11:00, 12:00, 2:30, 3:30, 6:00, 7:00pm</p> <p><b>UNCHARTED (M)</b> Daily: 11:00, 1:30, 6:10, 8:30pm</p>
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**108 Jonson St, Byron Bay** Book online: [palacecinemas.com.au](http://palacecinemas.com.au)  
Session times are subject to change. Please check online for all live session times  
Mercato Complex 3hrs FREE parking validation for all Palace Cinemas customers

**Admission Prices:**

Adults: \$14  
Stud/Conc: \$12  
Senior: \$11  
Child: \$10

Wednesday All tickets \$10

## BALLINA FAIR CINEMAS

Thursday Mar 17<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday Mar 23<sup>rd</sup>

Tel: (02) 6686 9600  
[ballinafaircinemas.com.au](http://ballinafaircinemas.com.au)  
We accept the Dine and Discover \$25 vouchers

MARCH	THU 17 <sup>TH</sup>	FRI 18 <sup>TH</sup>	SAT 19 <sup>TH</sup>	SUN 20 <sup>TH</sup>	MON 21 <sup>ST</sup>	TUE 22 <sup>ND</sup>	WED 23 <sup>RD</sup>
<b>BELFAST</b> M 98 MIN	10:10 AM 2:15 PM	10:10 AM 2:15 PM	10:10 AM	10:10 AM	10:10 AM 2:15 PM	10:10 AM 2:15 PM	10:10 AM 2:15 PM
<b>DOG</b> M 101 MIN	12:20 PM 4:10 PM 6:05 PM	12:20 PM 4:10 PM 6:05 PM	12:20 PM 4:10 PM 6:05 PM	12:20 PM 4:10 PM 6:05 PM	12:20 PM 4:10 PM 6:05 PM	12:20 PM 4:10 PM 6:05 PM	12:20 PM 4:10 PM 6:05 PM
<b>MONSTER FAMILY 2</b> PG 103 MIN	10:20 AM	10:20 AM	10:20 AM 2:15 PM	10:20 AM 2:15 PM	10:20 AM	10:20 AM	10:20 AM
<b>OFF THE RAILS</b> M 94 MIN	10:00 AM	10:00 AM			10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM
<b>THE ADDAMS FAMILY 2</b> PG 93 MIN			10:00 AM	10:00 AM			
<b>THE BATMAN</b> M 176 MIN	12:00 PM 1:55 PM 3:15 PM 6:30 PM 7:25 PM	12:00 PM 1:55 PM 3:15 PM 6:30 PM 7:25 PM	12:00 PM 1:55 PM 3:15 PM 6:30 PM 7:25 PM	12:00 PM 1:55 PM 3:15 PM 6:30 PM 7:25 PM	12:00 PM 1:55 PM 3:15 PM 6:30 PM 7:25 PM	12:00 PM 1:55 PM 3:15 PM 6:30 PM 7:25 PM	12:00 PM 1:55 PM 3:15 PM 6:30 PM 7:25 PM
<b>UNCHARTED</b> M 116 MIN	11:45 AM 5:10 PM 8:00 PM	11:45 AM 5:10 PM 8:00 PM	11:45 AM 5:10 PM 8:00 PM	11:45 AM 5:10 PM 8:00 PM	11:45 AM 5:10 PM 8:00 PM	11:45 AM 5:10 PM 8:00 PM	11:45 AM 5:10 PM 8:00 PM



# Property Insider

propertyinsider@echo.net.au

## Byron Bay's only vacant land selling quickly

After responding to community concerns and buyer demand, Harvest Estate, being developed by Terry Agnew's Tower Holdings, is now selling vacant land lots, rather than house and land packages. This will now enable purchasers to work with local architects to design homes that complement the truly unique attributes of all that Byron Bay has to offer.

The project sits on a site area of around 150 acres at the intersection of Ewingsdale Road and Bayshore Drive, within walking distance from the beach and town and across the road from the new Stone & Wood Brewery Cellar Door and the thriving Byron Bay Arts and

Industry Estate.

The move to offer vacant land lots has been extremely popular with buyers, with 27 of 54 lots, which range in size from 450sqm to 750sqm, having sold within five weeks of their release.

Prices for the land lots in the master-planned community start at \$1.55 million.

Designed to minimise environmental impact, Harvest Estate offers more than 50,000sqm of recreational open space, bike paths, walking tracks and has its very own community centre and gardens.

Local agent, William Phillips, of McGrath Estate Agents is marketing the release in conjunction with Knight Frank. Demand for



Sandra Kimler. Happy with her purchase.

property in Byron has never been stronger, with many buyers looking for a home or investment close to the beach or in the hinterland,' he said.

'Unfortunately for local buyers, finding a vacant parcel of land to build a new home on within Byron Bay is extremely difficult, and

really the only available vacant land for sale in Byron is at the Harvest Estate.

### Harvest Estate selling quickly

'Byron Bay still represents excellent value when moving from Sydney or Melbourne, which is why the demand is so strong. A four-bedroom

house on 500sqm with double garage and pool will still cost less than a three-bedroom terrace with no parking in Surry Hills on 80sqm of land. For many buyers, it is a no brainer.'

According to the agents around half the lots have sold to locals, while the other half has been to buyers from outside Byron, including those from Brisbane, interstate and even overseas.

The development is expected to be sold out by Easter. It started with one lady ringing up and transferring a deposit immediately for a block of land, and sales have continued from there, with a large number of lots selling between Christmas and the first week of January, a time when it's highly unusual to have that level of sales activity.

Byron Bay local Sandra Kimler was the first person

to purchase a block in Harvest, purchasing a 567sqm parcel of land with plans to build a two-storey home.

She said she had had her eye on the development for some time and jumped at the chance to purchase a vacant lot, with drawcards being the planned community centre and garden, as well as walking and bike paths right throughout the estate.

'I live in the hinterland of Byron Bay and even though it is very beautiful where I live, it is still a 25 minute drive to Byron. This is a great opportunity to immerse oneself in a healthy lifestyle with the best that Byron has to offer. What is so wonderful about Harvest is that I can leave the busyness of Byron and drive five minutes out and be in a beautiful estate.

'I feel so lucky to have bought there.'



coastal & hinterland sales

# Katrina Beohm real estate



### NORTH LISMORE

3 Pagottos Ridge Road

\$1.65 million

Inspect: By Appointment

5 2 4 1.01 ha



### QUALITY MASTER-BUILT FAMILY HOME

- + Single level Del Casa home. 9 ft ceilings & 4 separate living rooms including a kids retreat & media room
- + Stunning views from the spacious deck. Your very own private orchard & forest with 150+ fruiting trees & plants
- + Town water plus 4 tanks with 2 pumps, 10kW solar power & solar hot water, 2 large greenhouses & potting bench
- + Cul-de-sac location only 7 minutes from the CBD & school bus past the front door. Your new lifestyle awaits

Katrina Beohm 0467 001 122



Gail Beohm

Rachael Jenkins

Katrina Beohm

Christopher Plim

Hayley Beohm

Emily Hughes



*Katrina's happy, friendly and professional nature made our time whilst our property was on the market pleasant and enjoyable. When you list your home for sale the last thing you need is stress and Katrina gave us that confidence that she was more than capable of handling our sale.*

*Congratulations to you Katrina and your team.*

*Jan & George, vendors - Goolmangar*



0459 066 087

BALLINA | BYRON BAY | LISMORE

kbrealstate.com.au



**Beachside Coastal Cottage in the Heart of Byron Bay**

5 beds 2 bathrooms 3 cars 582M<sup>2</sup>

- Tucked behind a white picket fence stands the circa 1900s Victorian cottage that oozes warmth and charm with open plan living, kitchen and dining
- Only a 2-minute walk to the centre of town and 5-minutes to iconic Main Beach
- Featuring both a main residence and brand-new fully self-contained one-bedroom secondary dwelling offering potential for exceptional rental returns
- Period design accents including hardwood floors, high ceilings & unique fireplace

**60 Butler Street, Byron Bay**

Price Guide: \$2.5m to \$2.75m

Open: Saturday 19th March 11-11.30am



Tara Torkkola  
0423 519 698



**Live the Dream Rural Escape, Only Minutes to Bangalow**

4 beds 2 bathrooms 2 cars 6.13 HA

- Main residence offers split-level design with huge covered wraparound timber deck and gorgeous pitched roof with exposed gable
- Open plan kitchen, living and dining plus wood burning fireplace
- Lovingly maintained gardens with established trees and colourful tropical flowers
- Self-contained ground floor studio with every room opening out to gorgeous patio
- Large 4 car garage with endless potential for equipment storage or artist studio
- Lovingly maintained gardens with established trees and colourful tropical flowers

**802 Friday Hut Road, Binna Burra**

Price: Contact Agent

Open: Friday 18th March 2-2.30pm  
Saturday 19th March 11-11.30am



Lee Grimes  
0400 462 312



Oliver Aldridge  
0421 171 499



**Entertainers delight! Featuring Two Separate Homes**

4 beds 3 bathrooms 2 cars 4771M<sup>2</sup>

- With panoramic views and set on a generous 1 acre, this property features both a family-sized main residence plus a fully approved, self-contained 1-bedroom studio
- Approved dual occupancy creates endless versatility to best suit you and your family
- The main residence enjoys open plan living and covered outdoor dining which encourages an alfresco lifestyle whilst the children play in the saltwater pool
- Centrally located with the major suburbs of Byron Bay, Mullumbimby, Brunswick Heads and Bangalow only a 10-minute drive away

**29 Pinegroves Road, Myocum**

Price: Contact Agent

Open: By Appointment



Tara Torkkola  
0423 519 698



**Rare Development Opportunity in Central Byron Bay**

3 beds 2 bathrooms 1 car 878M<sup>2</sup>

- Sought-after area just a short walk or easy bike ride to Tallow Beach or town centre
- Perfect location to build your dream home or develop site - block has endless potential
- Multiple plans for a large house and pool with smaller secondary dwelling and there is potential for two homes/duplexes that could be strata subdivided (all STCA)
- Neat original home features 3 bedrooms, the main with ensuite; good sized lounge and dining area, tidy kitchen, lock up garage, laundry and rear patio
- The centre of Byron CBD and Main Beach are only minutes drive away

**12 Walker Street, Byron Bay**

Price: Contact Agent

Open: Saturday 19th March 12-12.30pm



Su Reynolds  
0428 888 660



Luke Elwin  
0421 375 635



**Super Neat Townhouse in 'Golden-Grid' Location**

3 1 2 322M<sup>2</sup>

- Within a moments walk to Byron Bay CBD, Main Beach, Clarkes Beach, tennis courts and sports fields - the location doesn't get any better than this!
- Solid and well-built residence offers a great package, designed over two levels and is conveniently positioned in the old part of Byron Bay
- Large open plan kitchen living and dining spaces with blond timber tiled floors
- Sunny north facing back yard with established gardens and an outdoor shower

**1/25 Carlyle Lane, Byron Bay**

Price: Contact Agent

Open: Thursday 17th March 12-12.30pm  
Saturday 19th March 10-10.30am



Helen Huntly-Barratt  
0412 332 232



**The Perfect Home or Investment Opportunity**

4 2 2 731M<sup>2</sup>

- Large family home offering great space, privacy and an easy walk to local parks, shops and beaches
- Recently updated home with a spacious open plan living area featuring a modern kitchen and engineered oak floorboards
- Covered outdoor area leads onto the huge yard that backs on to a local reserve
- Great investment with strong rental returns being achieved across the Baywood Chase area and just 5km from the centre of Byron Bay

**93 Beech Drive, Suffolk Park**

Price: Contact Agent

Open: Saturday 19th March 10-10.30am



Su Reynolds  
0428 888 660



Luke Elwin  
0421 375 635



**Modern Quality Family Home with Separate Studio**

6 4 5 721M<sup>2</sup>

- This unique block with dual street frontage boasts a renovated family home, plus a stylish modern 2-bedroom studio creating a fantastic property with flexible floorplan
- Plenty of scope for multi-generational living options, fabulous guest quarters or potential income, there is also DLUG and DA for a pool!
- Wide wraparound verandas with elevated views take advantage of cool sea breezes
- All within a 5-min walk to Baz and Shaz's and just a short distance to the beach

**5 Hakea Crescent, Suffolk Park**

Price Guide: \$2.6m - \$2.86m

Open: By Appointment



Denzil Lloyd  
0481 864 049



**'Hoopla' Stylish Architecturally-Designed Home Totally Off-grid**

5 5 2 7.8 AC

- Stunning estate set on 7.8 acres of sub-tropical and native gardens - secluded, yet a mere 3km from the vibrant hub of Byron Bay
- Quality appliances, fittings & craftsmanship throughout - including a separate hoop-ply, lined, utterly self-contained cabin
- Bi-fold doors open to the covered, wide, wraparound deck with 13.5m solar-ionised pool, pavilion and ensuite - enjoy quintessential Australian living
- Approx. 2/3 of Hoopla is zoned Wildlife Habitat which requires no maintenance

**43 Raywards Lane, Skinners Shoot**

Price: Contact Agent

Open: By Appointment



Helen Huntly-Barratt  
0412 332 232



RayWhite



Rural



RayWhite



Rural



## Perfect Lifestyle Property

**'Acropolewis', Tenterfield, NSW**

Situated south of Tenterfield & featuring 32.37ha\* (80ac\*) with extensive frontage to Bluff River.

- One of a kind log cabin — simple but comfortable living
- North facing with commanding views over the block
- Off grid 4.6kW solar system, 30,000L rainwater storage
- Set on 2 titles with easy access from Bald Rock Road

**Auction**

Friday 22 April 10:30am  
139 Logan St, Tenterfield

**Libby Sharpe**  
0429 362 080

**Ray White Rural**  
Tenterfield

[raywhitetenterfield.com.au](http://raywhitetenterfield.com.au)

\*approx.

## Ideal Country Living — Peaceful, Stunning Views & Rich History

Old Ballandean Road, **Tenterfield, NSW**

Get away from the bustle, enjoy the garden, keep a few cows or horses & work from home in peace & quiet.

- 7.7ha\* (19ac\*), 4 small paddocks & 2 larger paddocks
- Dams, troughs & Tenterfield Creek, fences & cattle yards, 6x 5,000gal rainwater tanks & 2 sheds
- 3 bdm cosy home with lovely views of the mountains

**Auction**

Friday 22 April 10:30am  
139 Logan St, Tenterfield

**Libby Sharpe**  
0429 362 080

**Ray White Rural**  
Tenterfield

[raywhitetenterfield.com.au](http://raywhitetenterfield.com.au)

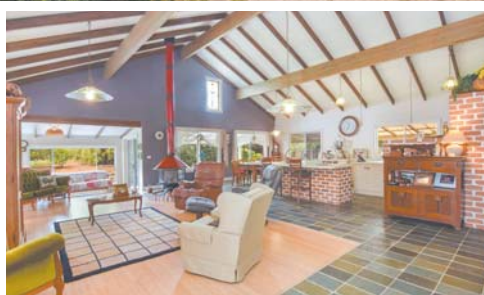
\*approx.



RayWhite



Rural



## Top Shelf Acreage on Tenterfield's Doorstep

**'Galna', Tenterfield, NSW**

- 6.7ha\* (16.5ac\*) of productive blue granite acreage in an elevated & secluded position minutes\* from Tenterfield
- Ranch style brick home, open plan living, dining & kitchen
- 3 generous bedrooms & wraparound verandahs
- Spring fed dam, bore & tanks
- 10 paddocks with yards, machinery shed & workshop

**Auction**

Friday 22 April 10:30am  
139 Logan St, Tenterfield

**Libby Sharpe**  
0429 362 080

**Ray White Rural**  
Tenterfield

[raywhitetenterfield.com.au](http://raywhitetenterfield.com.au)

\*approx.





3 2 2

View Scan QR Code  
Sale Just Listed



**Adrian Hoferek**  
0477 112 640

adrian.hoferek@oceanshores.rh.com.au

### 2/20 Suffolk Parade, Pottsville Delightful Freestanding Duplex, Coastal Lifestyle

Nestled in a peaceful corner of the popular "Seabreeze Estate", this stunning freestanding duplex presents a coveted low maintenance lifestyle with ample space to relax, entertain and enjoy life.

- Large covered alfresco entertaining space set amongst leafy surrounds
- Freshly renovated kitchen with corner pantry, new Electrolux self-cleaning oven and dishwasher
- Fully fenced yard with beautifully manicured gardens and additional storage space.



4 3 2

View Scan QR Code  
Sale Expressions Of Interest



**Adrian Howe**  
0477 222 457

adrian.howe@oceanshores.rh.com.au

### 20 Narooma Drive, Ocean Shores Coastal Family Lifestyle Home Adjoining Golf Course

Perfectly positioned in the peaceful coastal enclave of Ocean Shores, this stylish and substantial family home overlooks the rolling greens of Ocean Shores Country Club's championship golf course.

- Ensuite and walk-in robe to master
- Spacious open plan living/dining areas
- Expansive verandah with lovely golf course views



4 3 4

View Scan QR Code  
Sale Guide \$2.2m - \$2.3m



**Tania Sheppard**  
0436 033 636

tania.sheppard@oceanshores.rh.com.au

### 22 Palmer Avenue, Ocean Shores Elevated Ocean Views in this showstopping Architect Designed Family Home

Featuring beautiful ocean views, this architect-designed home completed in 2008 is nothing short of a showstopper for families looking for the quintessential coastal lifestyle in beautiful Ocean Shores.

- Views to the ocean and over Billinudgel Wetland Reserve
- Gleaming timber floors in the living areas and kitchen
- Three sparkling bathrooms



4 2 1

View Scan QR Code  
Sale Contact Agent



**Adrian Howe**  
0477 222 457

adrian.howe@oceanshores.rh.com.au

### 39 Yalla Kool Drive, Ocean Shores Contemporary Coastal Lifestyle Home with Ocean Views

From its desirable elevated position, this stylish, contemporary family residence showcases stunning ocean views which stretch to Cape Byron and its iconic lighthouse.

- Three further spacious bedrooms, two with built-in robes
- Terraced yard with established low maintenance gardens and room for a pool
- Elevated 949 square metre block in great street

## Stress free lifestyle

South of Tenterfield

Rural Property

Forthcoming Auction



Situated south of Tenterfield and featuring extensive frontage to Bluff River this 32.37Ha (80acre) property is the perfect lifestyle.

The first time offered to the open market in 48 years. The solar powered log cabin offers a simple but very comfortable style of living. Slow combustion heating with feature stone chimney, exposed log walls and beams, quirky tile flooring and leadlights to windows, make this cabin unique and filled with character. The main bedroom opens onto a sunroom facing the north, bathroom with shower over bath, and a separate loo with a hell of a view! Off grid 4.6Kw solar system installed 2021 and 30,000 litres rainwater storage. Set on two titles with easy access from Bald Rock Road "Acropolewis" offers the stress free lifestyle seeker the opportunity to spend happy hours exploring some of the region's most beautiful country.

**Open:** Inspection Recommended

**Auction:** 22 April 2022, 10.30am

**Contact:** Libby Sharpe - 0429 362 080  
Ray White Tenterfield



## This property is iconic Australia

315B Old Ballandean Road, Tenterfield

Rural Property

Forthcoming Auction



Originally the Tenterfield Station's stables, converted to a dwelling, it retains some of the stable's features and charm.

This property has lots to offer. The home has 3 bedrooms and a modern kitchen and bathroom. There is a wood heater and lovely views to the mountains. It is a cosy, comfortable home only 3 klms from town. There are mature trees in the garden, birds galore, a vegetable patch and spaciousness. 30,000 gallons rainwater storage, 2 sheds and a chicken run.

The 19 acre property is divided into 4 small paddocks and two larger paddocks. Well watered with Tenterfield Creek, dam and troughs.

Getaway from the bustle, enjoy the garden, keep a few cows or horses. Work from home in peace and quiet....so much to offer within easy driving distance to major centres.

**Auction:** 22 April 2022, 10.30am

**Contact:** Libby Sharpe - 0429 362 080  
Ray White Tenterfield



## 'Galna', quality acreage property

Tenterfield

Rural Property

Forthcoming Auction



6.7HA (16.5acres) elevated and secluded position minutes from Tenterfield. The ranch style brick home includes 18ft cathedral ceilings and unique spinner fire in the large open plan living dining and kitchen. Kitchen with island bench, loads of storage, slow combustion stove and electric oven and cooktop.

Three bedrooms are carpeted, builtin robes and open onto the verandahs, the north eastern corner of the verandah is enclosed. Enjoy entertaining in the paved conservatory area while overlooking the established gardens with fruit and nut trees. Bathroom, separate toilet, large laundry and sewing room complete the home. Spring fed dam and a bore fitted with a solar pump to 2 x 5000 gal header tanks which then supply 3 x 5000 gal tanks. New 18m x 18m barn style machinery shed, 16m x 6m workshop, chicken and dog runs, fenced into 10 paddocks with cattle and sheep yards.

**Auction:** 22 April 2022, 10.30am

**Contact:** Libby Sharpe - 0429 362 080  
Ray White Tenterfield



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

Falling like dew, upon a thought, produces

That which makes thousands, perhaps millions, think...

- Lord Byron

**Echo**

LIBERALLY SPILLING THE INK SINCE 1986

## AGENTS



*We felt fully supported through out the whole process. Tara and her excellent team went the extra mile, helping & guiding us right from the start and continued right through settlement. Tara is a joy to work with yielding formidable results.*

### TARA TORKKOLA

SALES | SALES MANAGER

0423 519 698 | tara@byronbayfn.com

@taratorkkolafirstnational @taratorkkola\_realestate

Contact Tara to discuss your property or career at First National Byron

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tim@millerrealestate.com.au  
millerrealestate.com.au  
@timmiller\_realestate



## Open For Inspection

### Carefree Coastal Lifestyle

37 Catherine Crescent, Ballina

4 2 3

Price: \$1.25 million



Backing onto the beautiful North Creek Canal and only minutes from the river, beaches and popular shops, this lovely, spacious home in a quiet neighbourhood has generously sized rooms and abundant storage throughout.



Designed for a family, the house has a large separate lounge room and open plan living with a spacious kitchen, walk-in pantry, study nook and dining that flows out to the covered BBQ area.

The spacious and bright bedrooms have built-in wardrobes and ceiling fans. The main bedroom ensuite has direct access to the garden and the fourth bedroom has double pocket doors allowing it to convert easily into another sitting room, home office or games room.

Just a few doors down, access the Ballina Loop pathway for cycling or walking. Contact Katrina to arrange your private inspection.

Contact: Katrina Boehm - 0467 001 122  
Katrina Boehm Real Estate

www.echo.net.au

#### Byron and Beyond RE

- 6178 Tweed Valley Way, Burringbar. Sat 10-10.30am
- 21 Philip St, South Golden Beach. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 23 McPherson Court, Murwillumbah. Sat 2-2.30pm

#### First National Byron Bay

- 3/54 Lawson Street, Byron Bay. Thu 12-12.30pm
- 1/25 Carlyle Lane, Byron Bay. Thu 12-12.30pm
- 96 Sunrise Boulevard, Byron Bay. Thu 3-3.30pm
- 1-5/14 Seaview Street, Byron Bay. Fri 12-12.30pm
- 802 Friday Hut Road, Binna Burra. Fri 2-2.30pm
- 13/1-3 Sunrise Boulevard, Byron Bay. Sat 9-9.30am
- 10 Muli Place, Suffolk Park. Sat 9-9.30am
- 1/25 Carlyle Lane, Byron Bay. Sat 10-10.30am
- 39 Balemo Drive, Ocean Shores. Sat 10-10.30am
- 93 Beech Drive, Suffolk Park. Sat 10-10.30am
- 2/16 Oodgeroo Gardens, Byron Bay. Sat 10-10.30am
- 10 Ballina Road, Bangalow. Sat 10.30-11am
- 48/12 Hazelwood Close, Suffolk Park. Sat 11-11.30am
- 60 Butler Street, Byron Bay. Sat 11-11.30am
- 3/54 Lawson Street, Byron Bay. Sat 11-11.30am
- 802 Friday Hut Road, Binna Burra. Sat 11-11.30am
- 118 Lagoon Drive, Myocum. Sat 11.30am-12pm
- 24 Hillcrest Drive, Tintenbar. Sat 11.30am-12pm
- 12 Walker Street, Byron Bay. Sat 12-12pm
- 1-5/14 Seaview Street, Byron Bay. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 96 Sunrise Boulevard, Byron Bay. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 1-2/41 Martin Street, Ballina. Sat 12.30-1pm
- 140 Phoenix Drive, Tintenbar. Sat 10-10.30am

#### Harcourts Northern Rivers

- 2/188 Winton Lane, Ballina. Sat 10-10.30am
- 41 Liffey Avenue, Cumbalum. Sat 10-10.30am
- 49 Tanamera Drive, Alstonville. Sat 10-10.30am
- 2 Higgins Place, Cumbalum. Sat 11-11.30am
- 8/2 Rajah Road, Ocean Shores. Sat 11-11.30am
- 19 Rosella Chase, Goonellabah. Sat 11.30am-12pm
- 14 Bath Street, Wardell. Sat 11.30am-12pm
- 2/24-26 Linderman Street, West Ballina. Sat 12.30-1pm
- 53 Bentinck Street, Ballina. Sat 1-1.30pm

- 288 River Street, Ballina. Sat 1.30-2pm
- 37 Bentinck Street, Ballina. Sat 2-2.30pm

#### LJ Hooker Brunswick Heads

- 40 Kolora Way, Brunswick Heads. Sat 10-10.30am
- 5 Gira Place, Ocean Shores. Sat 11-11.30am
- 10/10 Balemo Drive, Ocean Shores. Sat 11-11.30am
- 14 Terrara Court, Ocean Shores. Sat 12-12.30pm

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

- 27 Manuka Road, Banora Point. Sat 9-9.30am
- 2/20 Suffolk Parade, Pottsville. Sat 9-10am
- 6B Binya Place, Ocean Shores. Agent on site. Sat 10-11am
- 37 Hall Drive, Murwillumbah. Sat 10-10.30am
- 27 Helen Street, South Golden Beach. Sat 10-10.30am
- 1/77A Balemo Drive, Ocean Shores. Sat 11-11.30am
- 9 Binya Place, Ocean Shores. Sat 11am-12pm
- 27 Rangal Road, Ocean Shores. Sat 11-11.30am
- 9 Gaggan Street, New Brighton. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 22 Palmer Avenue, Ocean Shores. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 40 Yalla Kool Drive, Ocean Shores. Sat 12.30-1pm
- 404 Middle Pocket Road, Middle Pocket. Sat 12.30-1.30pm
- 3 North Head Road, New Brighton. Sat 1.30-2pm
- 16 Clifford Street, South Golden Beach. Sat 1.30-2pm

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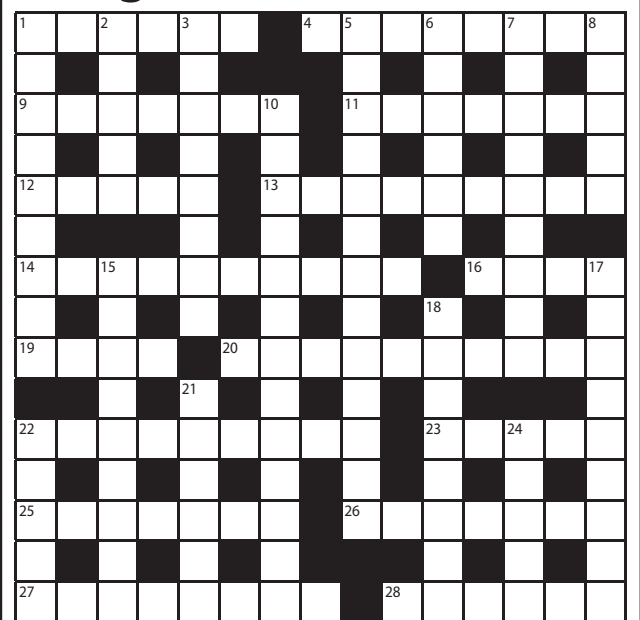
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## Mungo's Crossword N430



### Cryptic Clues

#### ACROSS

- Regurgitate rubbish fish - and get a medico (6)
- Payback for unfortunate rare slip (8)
- Good man with superior comedy style (5,2)
- Sounds like sneezes, and what you need for them (7)
- Run Australian 500 with two individuals - they run from the centre to the circumference! (5)
- Terriers found in the atmosphere of English valleys (9)
- Police chief - a snake! (10)
- Pelt small family (4)
- Belt small remains (4)
- 1000 rise in the pavilion (10)
- Three directions to the actors with the French port city (9)
- Radical sounding touring schedule (5)
- Warning: support needed for the front of the beast (7)
- Wrecked vessel, small amount, then zero - an insidious drug (7)
- Spot drunks (8)
- Publicity opening on the way (6)

#### DOWN

- Hell around tough regions (9)
- Vegetable singed, we hear (5)
- A sundial for the veteran? (3-5)
- Internet meant trouble - but it provides amusement (13)
- Dwell about the team (6)
- Old money, five - fifty with a small car or a Greek feed! (9)
- Leans and rolls (5)
- Resist seduction - drama incomprehensible! (4,4,2,3)
- Father's weapons used for identification (9)
- Dug end - just beat the opposition (6,3)
- Cites a source, like about writer (8)
- Run fast, work past impudence (6)
- Note found in the middle of lifting a heavy weight - Jack Sprat's diet (2,3)
- One French, 150 English - it's relative! (5)

### Quick Clues

#### ACROSS

- Physician (6)
- Retribution (8)
- Get to your feet (5,2)
- Napkins (7)
- Forearm bones (plural) (5)
- Wiry, black-and-tan dogs (9)
- Reddish-brown Australian snake (10)
- Epidermis (4)
- Cummerbund (4)
- Large spectator viewing structure (10)
- Home of the novocastrians (9)
- Course; way (5)
- Front limb of quadruped (7)
- Plant used for cigarettes (7)
- Heavy drinkers (8)
- Arrival (6)

#### DOWN

- Localities (9)
- Silver beet (5)
- Senior citizen (3-5)
- Diversion (13)
- Inhabit (6)
- Meat grilled on a skewer (plural) (9)
- Catalogues (5)
- Pretend not to be romantically interested (4,4,2,3)
- Security codes (9)
- Gently elbowed away (6,3)
- Attributed (8)
- Horse's fastest gait (6)
- Lite (2,3)
- Mother's brother (5)

### Last week's solution N429

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

## STARS BY LILITH

The majority of planets staying put this week gives Virgo full moon free rein to clarify complicated narratives and reconnect citizens to their own basic common sense...



**ARIES:** With everything all over the shop in recent weeks and nobody able to make a coherent plan owing to cancellations and changing arrangements, this week's full moon in the sign of organisation sparks the much-needed impetus to shape-up and start attending to those upcoming Aries birthday parties you have to plan.

**TAURUS:** Artists usually find Mercury in Pisces stimulating, while for people with strong Earth or Air elements in their astral personalities it can be confusing. Life mightn't be factual and concise right now, so if you need clarity, wait till Mercury moves into Aries next week. But if you love magic and metaphor, then just enjoy.

**GEMINI:** The glyph of fluid Pisces is two fish swimming in different directions: something you as the Twin sign might relate to. The annual balance to oceanic Pisces energy is this week's full moon in the opposite sign of down-to-earth Virgo, recalling us all to the practical realities of everyday life.

**CANCER:** As we embark on the last half of this intense month, the Sun, Mercury, Jupiter and Neptune are all in tidal Pisces - sign of endings. Being the zodiac's cardinal water sign you'll empathise with the tsunami of change affecting Shire lives by assisting others into their new life cycles.

**LEO:** This week's stellium in the zodiac's final sign offers deeper insights into the psyche of society and humanity's destiny. As you're called to make important decisions during the new abnormal of 2022, consider Saturn's stern reminder that it's not someone else's responsibility to take care of the world - it's ours.

**VIRGO:** Late week Virgo full moon is your signal to down devices and sink into your senses, with your favourite music, food and people, to discuss where we go from here. Or if it feels better, take solo time to tune into your annual lunar portal for the year's most important download.

**LIBRA:** Monday 21 March marks the autumn equinox in the southern hemisphere, although everywhere on Earth, daylight hours are equal to night. Coinciding with the Sun's ingress into Aries celebrating the beginning of a new astrological year, it's a particularly auspicious time to press the restart or reset button on The Life Of Libra.

**SCORPIO:** This week's Sun-Neptune conjunction helps us understand something about ourselves that's otherwise difficult to see; the parts we don't pay attention to, that we overlook or ignore, including our blind spots and unrecognised brilliance. And full moon shines its practical, compassionate light on a way forward for us all.

**SAGITTARIUS:** Fuses could be short this week, and agitation extensive. What starts as a harmless discussion can go nuclear in a nanosecond while you're still wondering 'What the-?' If your energy feels like a bullet fired underwater, be patient. Because less speed right now will achieve more lasting and worthwhile results.

**CAPRICORN:** This week's exquisitely executive full moon is 2002's most auspicious astrological portal for composing the Capricorn master list. So, how can you start working smarter not harder? Less stressfully and expensively, and more efficiently and economically? With less angst, acrimony and arguments, and more joy, generosity and satisfaction?

**AQUARIUS:** Venus embodies the energy of what we want, and Mars the way we go after it. This week's Venus-Mars conjunction in Aquarius brings extra determination to pursue your goals. And for the community, Venus and Mars in your Make Love, Not War sign are about how we, as individuals, decide to shape the collective.

**PISCES:** To equalize this week's powerful planetary quartet of motivating Sun, communicating Mercury, generous Jupiter and solvent Neptune in your deepwater sign, annual Virgo full moon insists you have a very level-headed convo with yourself, your invisible guides, and/or a mentor or trusted friend, before making any life-changing decisions.

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## THANK YOU

The family of the late JOSEPH PATRICK FLYNN 26/09/1933-28/02/2022 would like to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to those people whose acts of kindness and sympathy continue to be a great comfort to us in our time of sorrow. In particular, thanks go to the kind staff at Byron Central Hospital, and to Dr Michael Busby, Dr Myron Binns, Michael Lewis and Phil Chapman. Forever in our hearts and memories. The Flynn family.

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

(02) 6685 5185  
9 Fletcher St, Byron Bay

## Yoga Pilates Yogalates Award winning fusion

### BANGALOW

Mon 6-7pm Hatha slow flow  
Sat 8.15-9.30am Yogalates  
Wed 6-7.15pm Yin Rejuv Yoga

### SUFFOLK PARK

Mon & Fri 10-11.30am Yogalates  
Wed 6-7pm Hatha Slow Flow  
Sat 8.15-9.30pm Yogalates

SPECIAL: Book in for a month @ \$95, try as many classes as you like. See website for additional classes. 0432 047 221 [yogalates.com.au](http://yogalates.com.au)

## HALLS FOR HIRE

COORABELL HALL WEDDINGS, GIGS, CLASSES 66871307 [www.coorabellhall.net](http://www.coorabellhall.net)

## TREE SERVICES

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

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Mobile 0417 698 227

**CARAVANS**

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

**2004 ABBEY AVENTURA** 15 foot caravan, registered, brand new annex, full stove, toilet, shower + TV, light to tow. \$10,000 ono. Ph 0418754225

**Seachange caravan (22ft) and 100 series Landcruiser (twin cab) for sale with all the goods and chattels.**

This is a walk out walk in deal, all you will need is food.  
Genuine enquiries to John 0400 707 428.



**CABINS FOR SALE**

**RELOCATABLE CABIN/STUDIO** 9m x 3.6m + 6m x 2.1m deck. Lock-up stage. \$65,000. Inspect: 566 Main Arm Rd Mullumbimby Ph 66845352 /0447789022

**BILLI LIDS LONG DAY CARE CENTRE**, 2 Educator positions. 1 part-time & 1 full-time. Forward resume and enquiries to billilidsldcc@bigpond.com or 0266804025

**GARDENER / HANDYMAN** Bangalow area. 1 day per week. Ph 0402061110

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

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

**ADMIN ASSISTANT** Experience in Xero, scheduling, excellent customer service, able to work unsupervised. 20+ hours p/w. Ocean Shores. Ph Ruth 0448649150

**SWIM TEACHER** Fully qualified. Regular, ongoing work starting asap. Est. business in Ocean Shores. Ph 0448649150.

**TUTOR WANTED**

for year 8 student, Maths and English. Year 11 or 12 student desirable. \$50 p/h. David 0437966457



**HAS MULTIPLE POSITIONS AVAILABLE.**  
SEE AD IN GOOD LIFE FOR DETAILS.

**TUTOR WANTED**

for year 8 student, Maths and English. Year 11 or 12 student desirable. \$50 p/hour.  
**Call David 0437 966 457**

**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 66872833

**TO LEASE**

**STORAGE SPACE** Byron Ind Est 35sqm access to bthrm \$200pw Ph 0421990785

**WANTED TO LEASE**

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

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**LONG-TERM JOB** Experienced gardener 5 days p/w for local gardening & mowing business. Must have experience with hedging and detailed brushcutting. TEXT ONLY 7am-6pm 0402487213 or kascha@leafittous.com.au

**Dental Receptionist**

- experienced receptionist with DA skills.
- casual with potential to move to full time.
- located in Byron Bay.
- small, close knit, fun, supportive team.

We are looking for a motivated, highly organised, reliable, hardworking dental receptionist to join our exceptional team. Must be experienced, have excellent communication skills and a positive, friendly, bubbly personality. Great remuneration, with the possibility of permanent long-term position for the right candidate.


If this is you, please send your resume to **omdbyronbay@gmail.com**

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**Echo**  
**SALES MANAGER POSITION**  
See back page for full details

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• Indesign  
• Illustrator  
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www.thinkblinkdesign.com

**MEMORIAL SERVICES**

Memorial **Craig McGregor**  
1933 - 2022  
  
Join us to remember and celebrate Craig.  
**Sat 19 March, 2pm.**  
Moller Pavilion, Bangalow (enter from Market Street).  
Everyone who knew Craig is welcome.

**WORK WANTED**

**JOCKO'S LABOURING** Civil, roadworks, pipelaying, construction, brushcutting, plant operation from \$35/hr. 0434576922

**MUSICAL NOTES**

**GUITAR STRINGS, REPAIRS**  
Brunswick Heads 66851005

**DEATH NOTICES**

**BEATRICE (BETTY) EVANS**  
Loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother passed away peacefully at St. Vincent's Hospital Lismore on Saturday 5 March.  
Sincere thanks to all Betty's doctors, carers, and wonderful friends.  
Funeral information to follow.  
May She Rest in Peace.

**LOST & FOUND**

**VERY SENTIMENTAL DIAMOND RING**  
Byron area. Call Margie 0427874751

**LOST BY INDIA**

Nuclear capable cruise missile accidentally fired during routine maintenance.

**FOUND BY PAKISTAN**

Crashed cruise missile near the eastern city of Mian Channu.

**ONLY ADULTS**

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

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34 Piper Dr. Open 7 days 10am till late. In & Out Calls. 66816038. Ladies wanted  
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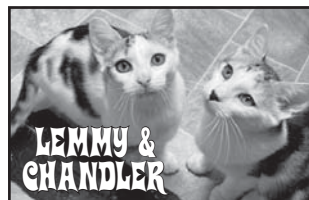
**LOTS OF GORGEOUS LADIES** available for your pleasure nearby. Spoil yourself. In & out. 7 days. Ladies always wanted. 0266816038. COVID SAFE

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

DATE (Mar)	DAY, MOON PHASE	SUN RISE / SET	MOON RISE / SET	HIGH TIDES, height (m)	LOW TIDES, height (m)
16	W	6:46 / 18:06	4:21 / 20:36	1.68 / 1.33	0.42 / 0.39
17	TH	6:47 / 18:40	5:21 / 21:13	1.73 / 1.42	0.34 / 0.33
18	F	6:48 / 19:13	6:21 / 21:50	1.75 / 1.50	0.29 / 0.28
19	SA	6:48 / 18:58	7:21 / 22:29	1.73 / 1.57	0.25 / 0.25
20	SU	6:49 / 18:57	8:22 / 23:09	1.67 / 1.62	0.29 / 0.25
21	M	6:49 / 18:56	9:25 / 23:51	1.57 / 1.65	0.33 / 0.27
22	TU	6:50 / 18:55	10:30 / 24:30	1.44 / 1.44	0.41 / 0.32
23	W	6:50 / 18:54	11:37 / 25:13	1.64 / 1.29	0.50 / 0.40
24	TH	6:51 / 18:53	12:45 / 26:01	1.61 / 1.15	0.58 / 0.48
25	F	6:52 / 18:52	13:51 / 26:51	1.58 / 1.06	0.61 / 0.55
26	SA	6:52 / 18:50	14:52 / 27:42	1.58 / 1.05	0.58 / 0.57
27	SU	6:53 / 18:49	1:15 / 28:36	1.62 / 1.13	0.49 / 0.53
28	M	6:53 / 18:48	2:22 / 29:33	1.69 / 1.24	0.41 / 0.41
29	TU	6:54 / 18:47	3:28 / 30:30	1.74 / 1.36	0.44 / 0.34
30	W	6:54 / 18:46	4:32 / 31:26	1.76 / 1.46	0.37 / 0.30


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

**PETS**



**Lemmy & Chandler** are gorgeous looking brothers. They are still full of kitten fun but are a little less crazy! They have such sweet personalities & love human affection. Why not come along & let them squeeze themselves into your heart? To meet Lemmy & Chandler, please visit the Cat Adoption Centre at 124 Dalley Street, Mullumbimby.  
**OPEN: Tues 2.30-4.30pm**  
**Thurs 3-5pm, Sat 10am-12noon.**  
**Call AWL 0436 845 542.**  
Like us on Facebook!  
AWL NSW Rehoming Organisation  
Number: R251000222

**Byron Dog Rescue (CAWI)**

5-year-old desexed female English Staffy x Ridgeback 'Nala' is looking for a forever home.  
  
**NALA**  
Strong, loving, playful, big-beautiful-eyed Nala needs patience & stability due to past trauma and resulting mistrust.  
She's good with children, cats and cows. She gets very excited around other big dogs and suffers fear aggression.  
Nala needs a loving but firm handler who can provide her with further training and socialisation.  
**Please contact Shell on 0458 461 935.**  
MC: 991001000924234



**JEDA** is a 7 month old, Bull Arab X. She is a big playful, happy pup that needs a firm hand. She loves playing with her other puppy friends. She would suit an active family with room to run. M/C # 991003001704195  
**For more information contact Yvette on 0421 831 128.**  
Interested? Please complete our online adoption expression of interest. [friendsofthepound.com/adoption-expression-of-interest](http://friendsofthepound.com/adoption-expression-of-interest)  
Visit [friendsofthepound.com](http://friendsofthepound.com) to view other dogs and cats looking for a home.  
ABN 83 126 970 338



Well they do say "raining cats and dogs"... Don't know about dogs, but the shelter is full of home hungry kittens... boat loads of them. It is cute wonderland. Mix of colours and coat styles; all are just super gorgeous, and they all have individual personalities that you can enjoy as they slowly develop. Weather is cooling down now and kitten season will soon tail off. So rush right over - while stocks last!  
**All cats are desexed, vaccinated and microchipped.**  
No: 953010100073639  
**Please make an appointment 0403 533 589 - Billinudgel petsforlifeanimalshelter.net**

**MONTHLY MARKETS**

1st SAT Brunswick Heads	0406 724 323	4th SUN Bangalow	6687 1911
1st SAT Alstonville	0429 019 407	4th SUN Nimbin	0475 135 764
1st SUN Byron Bay	6685 6807	4th SUN Murwillumbah	0413 804 024
1st SUN Lismore Car Boot	6628 7333	4th SUN (in a 5 Sunday month) Coolangatta	
2nd SAT Flea Market, Bangalow	0490 335 498	5th SAT Flea Market, Bangalow	0490 335 498
2nd SAT Woodburn	0439 489 631	5th SUN Lennox Head	6685 6807
2nd SUN The Channon	6688 6433	5th SUN Nimbin	0458 506 007
2nd SUN Tabulam Hall	0490 329 159	<b>FARMERS/WEEKLY MARKETS</b>	
2nd SUN Lennox Head	6685 6807	Each TUE New Brighton	6677 1345
2nd SUN Coolangatta		Each TUE Organic Lismore	6628 1084
3rd SAT Mullumbimby	6684 3370	Each WED 7-11am M'bah	6684 7834
3rd SAT Murwillumbah	0413 804 024	Each WED 3-6pm Nimbin	0475 135 764
3rd SAT Salt Village Market, Casuarina		Each WED 4-7pm Newrybar Hall	
3rd SUN Federal	0433 002 757	Each THU 8-11am Byron	6687 1137
3rd SUN Uki	0487 329 150	Each THU 2.30-6.30pm Lismore	0450 688 900
3rd SUN Lismore Car Boot	6628 7333	Each FRI 7-11am Mullum	6677 1345
3rd SUN Ballina	0422 094 338	Each SAT 8-11am Bangalow	6687 1137
4th SAT Evans Head	0439 489 631	Each SAT 8-11am Durambah Rd (Tropical Fruit World)	
4th SAT Wilsons Creek	6684 0299	Each SAT 8am-1pm Uki	6679 5530
4th SAT Kyogle Bazaar	kyogletogogether.org.au	Each SAT 8.30-11am Lismore	0466 415 172
		Each SAT 8.30-12am Blue Knob	
		Each SUN 7-11am Ballina	0493 102 137

**EMERGENCY NUMBERS**

Please stick this by your phone

AMBULANCE, FIRE, POLICE	.....000
AMBULANCE Mullumbimby & Byron Bay	.....131 233
BRUNSWICK VALLEY RESCUE Primary rescue	.....6685 1999
BRUNSWICK MARINE RADIO TOWER	.....6685 0148
BYRON CENTRAL HOSPITAL	.....6639 9400
POLICE Brunswick Heads	.....6685 1277
Mullumbimby	.....6684 2144
Byron Bay	.....6685 9499
Bangalow	.....6687 1404
STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE Storm & tempest damage, flooding	.....132 500
AIDS Confidential testing & information (ACON)	.....6622 1555
AL-ANON Help for family & friends of alcoholics	.....1300 ALANON
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS 24 hours	.....1800 423 431
ANIMAL RESCUE (DOGS & CATS)	.....6622 1881
BYRON COUNCIL: EMERGENCY AFTER HOURS	.....6622 7022
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE 24 hour crisis line	.....1800 656 463
LIFELINE 131 114	
MENSLINE 7pm-11pm nightly (phone counselling & referral for men)	.....6622 2240
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS Meets daily	.....6680 7280
NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE	.....6684 1286
NORTHERN RIVERS GAMBLING SERVICE	.....6687 2520
NORTHERN RIVERS WILDLIFE CARERS	.....6628 1866
KOALA HOTLINE	.....6622 1233
WIRES - NSW Wildlife Information & Rescue Service	.....6628 1898

**COBBERS**  
  
**CHILD CARE EDUCATOR/ TRAINEE**  
Cobbers Child Care Centre in Mullumbimby is seeking an educator/trainee to commence in March 2022.  
The position is for either a candidate who has completed their Certificate III and would like to work and study for a Diploma or, for a candidate who would like to enter the industry by working and studying for a Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care. The position involves working 3-4 rostered shifts per week and studying via distance learning online.  
Wages and conditions are in accordance with the Children's Services Award 2010. The successful applicant will be subject to a Working with Children Check and must be fully vaccinated for COVID-19. For further information please contact Tim or Sharon Wearne on 6684 2164.  
To apply for this position, please email your Resume with covering letter to: [admin@cobberschildcare.com.au](mailto:admin@cobberschildcare.com.au) by 5pm Tuesday 22nd March 2022.

## Funraising givers and receivers



Mullum Printworks have sponsored a print of the *Love Mullum* sign by photographer Warren J Fox, in moody black and white. These are for sale from Wandana Brewery. Proceeds from the sale of the \$10 A4 prints and the sale of a large framed version, will go to the Mullum & District Neighbourhood Centre. You can see one of the two flooded framed prints including Sharpie line of the floodline on the print, at Wandana.

### Stone & Wood and inGrained donate \$150k

Stone & Wood and the inGrained Foundation are donating \$150,000 for immediate and ongoing disaster relief throughout the Northern Rivers. Divided among grassroots organisations, the funds will be forwarded to those who are working directly with the community in highly affected areas.

Stone & Wood staff have spent the week helping to protect, salvage and recover as much as possible amongst their families, friends and the wider community.

### Beer and pizza!

Wandana held a beer and pizza fundraiser last Friday night. Byron Bay Pizza Co had a lot of damaged stock that they couldn't sell, and Wandana had a lot of beer that they could sell – together they hosted a big night that raised \$13,000 for the Mullum & District Community Centre – locals raised a huge \$3,000, as well as an anonymous donor who contributed a whopping \$10,000.

Wandana have also donated a lot of beers to the SGB Hub, and to the Coorabell fundraiser this weekend. Head brewer Rupert Brown says the Wandana Brewery itself was full of mud on Monday. 'We had a crew of at least ten from rival brewer Stone & Wood come and help us, which was very touching. We also had fires, and another 20-30

volunteers per day who toiled for days to help us. After that we really wanted to give back to the community, and we're going to do our first brew tomorrow, a Mullum Madness, of course!'

### Foodie Fund from Sydney

Jo McGowan lives in Sydney and is the author of *I Love You Food*. She has started her own fundraising appeal at [go.rallyup.com](http://go.rallyup.com) called 'foodiesforthefloodvictims'. All funds raised will be donated to *The Echo's* GoFundMe appeal, to help flood victims in our area. If you donate \$100 or more you may get a copy of her cookbook, and if you bid on the auction item you could win a foodie lunch with Jo and five of your friends in Sydney

### Practical support from R&H

In response to the recent flood crisis and resulting hardship within our beloved Far North Coast community, Julie-Ann Manahan from R&H Ocean Shores and Murwillumbah, is donating 40 x \$100 Mitre 10 Hardware Store gift cards to those that have been impacted by the floods.

'The cards will be issued on a first come, first served basis. All you need to do is pop into either our Ocean Shores or Murwillumbah office with your ID during office hours – 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday.'

Ms Manahan says that because this event has affected so many of us, R&H

think it's important now, more than ever, to support our local businesses, such as Mitre 10. 'These businesses employ local people who, in turn, support local families. We're proud to be part of this wonderful, resilient community who've helped each other in so many ways over the past few weeks.

'This donation is just one small way we are supporting our local community members in their time of need.'

For further information, call the R&H Ocean Shores office on 6680 5000.

### Community kegs and epic prizes

Earth Beer Company is putting on a fundraiser for the local community affected by the floods this Saturday at the brewery. There will be community kegs and a bunch of epic prizes donated by like-minded businesses throughout the Northern Rivers. Prizes will be drawn at 4pm and all proceeds will be divided between Revive the Northern Rivers Flood Appeal, Echo Northern Rivers Flood Donation Appeal GoFundMe, Charmaine Gilchrist's Lismore GoFundMe and a few independent businesses that are desperate for support. Join Earth Beer Company and raise a beer for those who lost theirs. Saturday 19 March at Earth Beer Company, 592 Cudgen Road, Cudgen.

### Coco Republik on The Lawn

Coco Republik held an event last weekend on The Lawn,

## On The Horizon

**DEADLINE NOON FRIDAY** Email copy marked 'On The Horizon' to [editor@echo.net.au](mailto:editor@echo.net.au).

### Murwillumbah help

Bray Park SDA Church is open for those in need. FREE clothes, kids clothes, shoes, blankets, towels and toiletries. We have a shower and washing machine for use. We also have a single bed and bassinet to donate. Please come, take and use what you need. We are here to help! If you can't get here, but are in need: please message or call 0404 363 342 or 0409426149.

### Support for flood impacted businesses

Business NSW, is making access to its Workplace Advice Line free to all business owners in NSW impacted by the current flood disaster. The Advice Line is to help employers with workplace and employment issues during this difficult time. The service will be available for the next two weeks at no charge to all businesses in impacted areas. Call 13 29 59 between 8.30am and 5pm.

### Byron's free trailer

Byron Resource Recovery Centre (BRRC) at Myocum are offering a free trailer so people can drop-off bulky waste to the BRRC, or it can be used to take home a purchase. Book it by calling the Resource Recovery Hotline on 1300 652 625. Hirers will need to provide proof of residency, a current driver's licence, and have a vehicle that can tow a trailer. More details are available on Council's website – [www.byron.nsw.gov.au](http://www.byron.nsw.gov.au).

### Byron Shire libraries

**Tech Savvy Technology Support Workshops**  
Byron Bay Library presents a series of free technology sessions designed to introduce you to technology and its many functions. No experience

with technology required! If you are a beginner or need to brush up on your tech skills then we hope you will join us for these fun and practical small group sessions. Light morning tea will be provided. Sessions held fortnightly on a Tuesday, 9.30am–1.30am. For essential bookings or further topic information please phone the Byron Bay Library staff 6685 8540

**Ongoing Children's programs**  
**Brunswick Heads Library** Monday Story Time 10.30am–1.30am. Friday–Baby Time 10.30am–11am.  
**Mullumbimby Library** Monday – Story Time 10am–11am. Tuesday – Baby Time 10am–10.30am  
**Byron Bay Library** Tuesday Story Time 10.30am–11.30am. Wednesday – Baby Time 10.30am–11am.

### Seniors Festival

'Byron Shire Seniors Festival 28/03/2022 – 01/04/2022 at the Byron Community Centre. A week of interactive workshops for all seniors free of charge. [www.byroncentre.com.au/seniors](http://www.byroncentre.com.au/seniors). Phone 66856807 email: [seniors@byroncentre.com.au](mailto:seniors@byroncentre.com.au).

### Dunecare Day

The Green and Clean Awareness Team's monthly Dunecare Day is on Sunday 20 March from 9am to 12 noon, meeting in front of the Beach Cafe at Clarkes Beach. We plant in the sand dunes from Clarkes Beach to Main Beach. From 12 noon to 1pm, enjoy a delicious free barbeque and be in the draw to win one of four excellent prizes. It's good fun. Inquiries to Veda 66857991 or Miles 0403206190

### Voluntary euthanasia

End-of-Life Choices are discussed at Exit International meetings held quarterly. The next meeting is on Thursday 31 March, 10am to midday, at the South Tweed Sports Club. Attendees must be Exit Members.

For further information [www.exitinternational.net](http://www.exitinternational.net) or phone Catherine 0435 228 443.

### Caring for someone with dementia?

Social Futures invite you to join some fun activities to celebrate Seniors Week theme: "Reconnecting"  
When: Monday 21 and 28 March 2022 from 10am–12 Midday at Brunswick Heads Community Centre  
Join two free workshops to share in some art therapy. Bring some photos, fabric, small mementos to create a collage about reconnecting. Local artist Bonny Shore will bring some joy to your day. Share morning tea, some laughs and fun, you'll be surprised at what we create. To register and find out more contact: Heather Tannock Ph: 0408 132 838 or Email: [heather.tannock1@socialfutures.org.au](mailto:heather.tannock1@socialfutures.org.au)

### Trauma and Tensions Release

Free group Trauma and Tension Release and Recovery with Karen. These sessions are for those who have been affected by the flooding, directly or indirectly and have an interest in experiencing a powerful recovery practice from a body based perspective. It is especially beneficial for those people who work in a teaching, caring, wellbeing, counselling role.  
The sessions will be held from 10-11.15am and 1-2.15pm on Sunday 20 March at the Mullum Scout Hall, Sunday 27 March at the Byron Community Centre and Sunday 3 April at a venue to be announced in Lismore  
Bookings are essential: For more information email Karen: [karenausten@gmail.com](mailto:karenausten@gmail.com).

### GoFundMe

Many people in the community are fundraising to get themselves or their community back on track. Some of those are listed here:  
**Eddie and Vicky's** home, which they have lovingly built by hand over the last 40 years, was struck by a landslide, demolishing the house. They were forced to crawl out of the ruins of their home and were lucky to escape with their lives.  
**Search for:** help-eddie-vicky-flood-recovery  
**Dione** is a single mum on the disability pension in Mullumbimby. She and her son Axel lost their car, computer, beds, furniture, appliances, garden tools and much more in the recent floods.  
**Search for:** help-dion-and-axel-recover-from-flood-damage  
**Upper Main Arm** and surrounding areas need to access urgent satellite communications equipment where there is still no mainstream communications for emergency services. Desperate residents cannot communicate at all.  
**Search for:** devastated-upper-main-arm-flood-relief.

the rooftop cocktail bar at the Aquarius Backpackers in Byron Bay with all of their donations going to the Echo Northern Rivers 2022 Flood Donation Appeal GoFundMe. Thanks to everyone who came and supported the event, especially the team and artists who donated their time and talent, namely DJs Shamus, Lunar Disco, Ria Listic and Al Royale; Pablo for his help and lights, Tam with his amazing projections and The Lawn and Aquarius Byron Bay providing delicious burgers for everyone and Alexia for holding down the door. They raised a fantastic \$3,446. Coco Republik thank everyone for their generosity and also good vibes!"

### Mullum PS with love from the P&C

Mullumbimby Public School lost its books, library, uniform shop, a Kindergarten classroom, canteen, admin block and offices to the flood. Whilst the ADF and fires have helped start the process of getting the school back up and running, students are dispersed around neighbouring public

schools at present. The Mullumbimby Public School P&C Association had just donated \$12,000 worth of books to the school, all of which were destroyed, so they are looking for financial donations. The bank account is **BSB 722-744 Account No:** 100115375 if you'd like to donate, mark your donation 'Kids'.

### Want to help?

Many people are not sure when, where or how to help. People will need support for months to come. Here are some ideas:

**The Byron School of Art** have received many requests asking to donate to the school and they are very humbled by the gesture. The school is okay, however, they do have students and staff who have lost their homes and studios. In response to this they have set up a fund where you can make a donation which they will distribute to support those restarting their lives. If you would like to make a donation, you can transfer funds to: Byron School of Art BSB: 722 - 744 ACC: 100 099 309 REF: Flood Relief

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1/130 Jonson Street Byron Bay  
02 6685 5585 [devicetrader.com.au](http://devicetrader.com.au)

Owing entirely to the generosity of our donors, \$44,000 of the \$44,001 in donations to *The Echo* GofundMe received by 10am on Tuesday 15 March have been distributed to the bank accounts of grassroots organisations in Mullum, Lismore, Murwillumbah and Ballina which are helping flood-affected people.

There are flood Recovery Centres at Mullumbimby, Ballina, Lismore, and Murwillumbah so if you need help with clean up, applying for disaster relief, or getting back on your feet drop in and get some assistance. You can find out more at: [www.service.nsw.gov.au/floods/recovery-centres](http://www.service.nsw.gov.au/floods/recovery-centres).

The public memorial gathering for Sharon Curry will now be on Sunday 20 March at the Cumbebin Boardwalk, next to the Butler St Reserve market ground loos. We'll start at 9am with some memorial tree plantings, from 11am play instruments and tell your stories. We'll remember Sharon and play in the wetlands she loved. If you knew her, please come.

So, what do you think a 1 in 100 year flood is? Well it is not a flood that is so extreme it is only going to occur every 100 years. A 100-year flood is a flood event that has a 1 in 100 chance (1 per cent probability) of being equaled or exceeded in any given year. A common misunderstanding is that a 100-year flood is likely to occur only once in a 100-year period. In fact, there is approximately a 63.4 per cent chance of one or more 100-year floods occurring in any 100-year period.



While carrying out a mission on the Brunswick Bakery pie cabinet, ADF crews parked personnel carriers outside the Bruns Public School at dropoff time. A thrill for some, a little daunting for others. Photo Jeff Dawson

The Byron Bay Chamber of Commerce is seeking input from our business community in order to best support and represent our Byron Shire Businesses to local, State, and national government agencies as we navigate the clean-up and recovery phase of this disaster. You can take the survey here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CN7NQFW>.

The state-owned Forestry Corporation suffered a \$20 million loss last year, with NSW taxpayers forced to pay \$441 per hectare to log critical native forests. The net cost of destroying more than 13,500 hectares of red gum, ironbark and cypress trees – largely for woodchip exports and firewood – was \$6 million, while one-off recovery costs following the Black Summer bushfires soared to \$14 million. See story p.6.

Byron Council have been working hard to clear roads into the devastated

hinterland and they are asking everyone to report damaged roads and infrastructure at: Report it to

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