

Pod home village to be built in central Mullumbimby

Paul Bibby

Up to 180 locals who lost their homes in the floods will move into temporary 'pod homes' on rail corridor land close to the centre of Mullumbimby.

But concerns have been raised about the flood-prone nature of the site, and an apparent lack of transparency from the State Government in planning the project.

Residents on Prince Street, Mullumbimby received letters last Friday (8 July) from Resilience NSW informing them that around 60 modular homes, each with between one and four bedrooms, would be located on the 2.5 hectare field next to Woolworths.

Construction fences started going up three days later, and site preparation works are set to begin almost immediately.

The pod village will have power, water and sewerage, and will be supported by a community housing provider that will provide security and support for the residents and ensure that rules and agreements for the site are adhered to.

'The NSW Government is committed to supporting people impacted by the recent floods every step of the way,' local residents were told in the letter.

'These housing units will be located at the site for up to two years, depending on housing needs, to ensure flood-affected residents have time to finalise their long-term housing solutions.'

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Daniel Oldaker aka Dandyman, Australia's prince of circus and physical comedy; Alice Cadwell, National Circus Festival Festival Director; Brett Haylock from the Brunswick Picture House, presenting Cheeky Cabaret for the Festival. Photo Jeff Dawson

National Circus Festival heads to Mullum

A wild circus week is coming to Mullumbimby that will include The Wheel of Death and The Famous Spiegeltent between 26 September and 2 October.

'After the past 12 months it's great to come back in such a strong fashion with an amazing program,' National Circus Festival Director Alice Cadwell said.

The 2021 festival was cancelled owing to COVID and then the company and its festival site in Mullumbimby was ravaged by the Northern NSW floods in February 2022. So the upcoming National Circus Festival is an opportunity to

celebrate the triumphant return of the Festival.

One of Australia's premiere acrobatic companies, Gravity & Other Myths was recently announced, along with Werk It, from Victoria, and international juggling sensation Joe Fisher.

Community event

'We are looking forward to celebrating this year's National Circus Festival. It will be a chance for the whole community to come together, enjoy world-class shows featuring amazing artists, wonder at the 25m inflatable globe, join a

workshop, and watch out for The Wheel of Death,' said Ms Cadwell.

'We have the Outdoor Cinema, music acts in collaboration with Mullum Music Festival, and The Famous Spiegeltent! It will be fun for the whole family, unexpected delights, great food and coffee, and so much more.'

The training program (26–30 September) will be followed by the weekend of 30 September – 2 October that will see the festival go into full swing, with a program of more than 220 performers at five venues including two Big Tops and The Famous Spiegeltent.

Byron Writers Festival takes on climate challenge

We are seeing the impacts of climate change around us daily. The upcoming Byron Writers Festival is taking the opportunity to imagine ways to create a future where we can look for and drive positive change. In curating the program, incoming Artistic Director Zoë Pollock reflected on the theme of 'radical hope' in the wake of fires, pandemic and floods.

'Radical hope imagines a future goodness that transcends our current reality. It is a provocation to seek and create a new world in the face of incredibly challenging circumstances. Radical hope is a denial and refusal of cultural destruction and a determination to build a new culture for a changed environment,' she explained.

'At this year's festival you will hear from social and environmental experts on how we can tackle the challenge that is climate change. You will be uplifted by listening to our most gifted storytellers explaining how they celebrate the human condition and render our experiences so magnificently on the page. You will meet talented emerging and established writers who are challenging the status quo. In hearing and engaging with these ideas you are playing your part in making the world anew and I am very much looking forward to welcoming you.'

Full lineup

The Festival will feature more than 140 writers, thinkers and commentators, including Trent

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Writers Festival going ahead after two years of COVID delays

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Dalton, Hannah Kent, Ben Quilty, Indira Naidoo, Bruce Pascoe, Robert Drewe, Masha Gessen, Evelyn Araluen, Damon Gameau, Steve Toltz, Julia Baird, Aaron Fa'Aoso, Costa Georgiadis, A.C. Grayling, Bronwyn Bancroft, Emily Bitto, Nikki Gemmell, Bryan Brown, and Marcia Langton.

International guests include revered British philosopher A.C. Grayling and Russian-American journalist, author and activist Masha Gessen whose 11 books include *The Man Without A Face: The Unlikely Rise of Vladimir Putin*. The Festival also welcomes novelist Becky Manawatu from Aotearoa whose bestselling multi-award-winning novel *Auē* introduces a compelling new voice in New Zealand fiction, and talented Zimbabwian spoken word poet Thando Sibanda.

The annual Thea Astley Address will be delivered by Professor Judy Atkinson



L-R Zoe Pollock, Byron Writers Festival Artistic Director, and local authors Bronwyn Bancroft, Damon Gameau and Ella Noah Bancroft. Photo Jeff Dawson

whose ground-breaking book *Trauma Trails, Recreating Song Lines: The Transgenerational Effects of Trauma in Indigenous Australia* offered a pathway to healing through the listening and telling of stories. Three ground-breaking critical thinkers, Professor Marcia Langton AO, Chelsea

Watego and Veronica Gorrie discuss the importance of Indigenous intellectual sovereignty.

Change of venue

This year will be the first time the Byron Writers Festival will take place at North Byron Parklands and it will continue to have

feature events, Kids Big Day Out and more, with climate change front and centre of the discussions at this year's festival.

Tickets are on sale now with 3-Day Passes and 1-Day Passes for the Festival available to purchase at byronwritersfestival.com/festival.

Want a highrise to welcome you to Mullumbimby?

Aslan Shand

When you think of Mullum how do you imagine its future? Is it a bustling metropolis? A small country town?

This is the question facing current residents and those who consider it their local town. The post-flood push for semi-permanent housing, the failure of governments to supply genuinely affordable housing to the region, and a Council desperate to look like

they are doing something is leading to a potential omnishambles as temporary housing is dropped on Prince Street and above car park housing, that will exceed surrounding building heights, is pushed through at the entrance of the town.

Local, Marie Oliver, has written to councillors to express her concern at the way the car park housing is being forced onto the town regardless of its negative

impacts to parking and the amenity of the town.

'Mullumbimby residents as a whole will not benefit if this project goes ahead. The car park is always filled to capacity. As an alternative, the old hospital site could be used,' she wrote to councillors.

Another local who uses Mullum for shopping and business agrees, telling *The Echo* that there are already significant problems in the

town with parking and traffic and that this will only make the problem worse.

'Mullumbimby cannot save the world. The world is overpopulated with eight billion people,' Ms Oliver continued in her letter to councillors.

'We have a nice little town,' Ms Oliver then told *The Echo*. 'I don't want to drive or cycle into Mullumbimby and the first thing I see is a highrise.'

Two confirmed cases of diphtheria in northern NSW

The two cases of diphtheria confirmed in northern NSW last week were an unvaccinated two-year-old and a six-year-old child.

The children's families

and close contacts have received post-exposure prophylaxis, which can include antibiotics and immunisation, to reduce the risk of transmission.

This is the first case of diphtheria of the throat in NSW in a century.

Dr Paul Douglas, Director North Coast Public Health, said the diphtheria

vaccination is free and available from your GP for everyone from six weeks of age.

For more information on diphtheria, visit: Diphtheria fact sheet – nsw.gov.au.

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Ocean Shores DA seeking increase in units riles neighbours

Aslan Shand

In 2020 Adam Mangleson from Chin-cogan Real Estate applied to develop the 1,075m² site at 8 Kumbellin Glen, Ocean Shores, with seven units. This drew around 20 objections from local residents who said that this was an overdevelopment of the site, which is in a low-density zoned area.

The staff recommended that the Council approve six units and ultimately the DA was approved by councillors, with conditions, for five units. However, rather than meeting the conditions set out by the previous Council for the five units, Mr Magleson has now submitted a new DA for six units and told *The Echo* that at five units the project was 'not viable'.

'I believe there is a need for these two-bedroom homes and the difference between the two DAs is very minor, there is just one more unit.'

Over height limits

Speaking to *The Echo* local residents have said there are a number of issues with the DA as well as the overdevelopment of the site.

'We all agree we need more housing, but it needs to be on an appropriate land size,' said local resident Gulcin Cribb.

'The most important things are that at nine metres it exceeds the height limit and it is in a low-density zoned area. If this is approved it will set a precedent because if this is allowed to go ahead it will open the floodgates for development on these small, inappropriately sized parcels of land. By putting five to six units on that small piece of land you are exceeding the zoning and creating a building that is out of character with the rest of the area.'

Another neighbour, John Walters, explained that 'The development is planned to be three storeys, and nine metres high, even though the street is classified as "low density residential". Essentially it will be like building a block of flats where currently there is a single level house.

'The developer could easily build two



Neighbours say that the height of the proposed DA is out of character for the area. Photo supplied

or three dwellings of two storey height at 8 Kumbellin Glen, which would be far more preferable. The current proposal is simply overdevelopment and clearly profit driven.'

David Dvash, who is also a local resident, agrees, pointing out that the location for the development is at the junction of three streets and that Goondooloo Drive, which Kumbellin Glen feeds into, is very steep and has a lot of fast cars driving down it.

'Goondooloo Drive is a very steep slope. The proposed DA is at the bottom where I've seen kids having to race to cross the street because there is a problem of line of sight - we've seen people running for their life, dogs run over, it is unsafe,' he told *The Echo*.

Car parking spaces

Residents said that the overdevelopment of the site means that there will be increase of street parking.

'It is a very small culdesac with at

times 12 cars parked on the street. Even the rubbish truck has trouble turning in this street,' explained Ms Cribbs.

'According to the Australia census, every house on average has two cars. At six units that is at least 12 extra cars in the street.'

Mr Mangleson has told *The Echo* that he has supplied one car park per dwelling, plus an extra three car parks on site [totalling nine], which provides one extra car park beyond the required number. He said that extra cars can park on the other street as this is a corner block.

Ocean Shores Shopping Centre is only 200m from the site so that 'reduces the need for a car,' he explained.

'This property is at the base of the hill and it only very slightly breaches the height limit.'

Housing diversity

'There has been a lack of housing diversity in this area that has added to the housing crisis. For over 40 years there have been no two-bedroom developments in Byron Shire that I can see.

'The footprint of this development is on par with a duplex. By bulk and scale it is very comparable with the neighbourhood, it is just a better use of the square metreage of the space within,' he said.

Byron Shire Councillor Duncan Dey is seeking to bring this DA to Council.

In Cr Dey's Notice of Motion (NoM) he states that 'Objectors say it [the DA] exceeds building height planes and does not adequately deal with parking. The project being on a T-intersection means that parking not contained on the 1075m² of the allotment will likely be in front of neighbours.'

Cr Dey told *The Echo* that 'What we should be doing is identifying areas for medium and high density, and they should be zoned strategically so that everybody knows ahead of time what is likely to be developed in that area. Rather than the current model that responds to one landholders desires to make a profit.'

Enova customers shocked being transferred to Origin and EA

Aslan Shand

Many Enova Energy customers have been shocked by the fact that they have found themselves now customers of Origin Energy or Energy Australia.

Former Greens MLC Ian Cohen told *The Echo* 'I'm stunned to be handed over from a green, community-based company, through the bean counting hands of receivers, to Origin Energy with nationwide fracking activities. In short, the type of industry many in our community had sought to escape, often at considerable expense.

'Myself and many other community members had

registered with Enova for all our power needs. In my case this includes paying extra for green power and making a voluntary investment to assist Enova several years ago.'

Enova announced that they had entered voluntary receivership on Tuesday 21 June in response to the energy crisis, leading to 28 people losing their jobs in the region.

Felicity Stening, Enova's Managing Director and CEO said at the time that, 'The current diabolical state of the energy market, combined with the high wholesale market energy prices and the cap on customer pricing, has made it impossible for Enova Energy and many other small

retailers to operate in the market'.

Enova had been actively transitioning away from fossil fuels and had received multiple awards over the last year for green energy.

No fees or charges

Addressing concerns of being moved to fossil fuel heavy electricity providers, Simon Cathro, managing principal of Cathro & Partners who are handling the voluntary administration told *The Echo* that 'Under the ROLR event that occurs upon the appointment of a voluntary administrator, the customers are moved to a retailer of last resort. Enova, nor the administrator gets to

choose who that is.'

The administrator clarified that the customer can switch from the provider of last resort whenever they choose and that there is no timeline to making that switch.

Former Enova customers can select their preferred provider and there are no cancellation fees for the move. Some sites that compare providers and that also includes their green credentials, are: The Green Electricity Guide developed by Greenpeace - <https://greenelectricityguide.org.au>; Canstar Blue - www.canstar-blue.com.au/electricity; and Finder - www.finder.com.au/energy/electricity.

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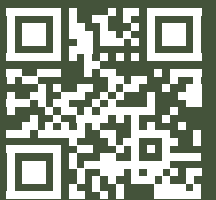
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Flood risk for pod homes – Mullum

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Flooding concerns

But a significant number of residents oppose the project, saying the land in question is subject to flooding.

'In any significant rain event, like a torrential downpour, that field is a mud pit,' said one Prince Street resident who asked to remain anonymous.

'In the February–March floods that land would have been close to 1.5 metres under water.'

The resident said this posed a risk, not only to those living in the pod village, but also to nearby homes.

'When you build on a flood prone site it has an impact on the surrounding area, even if it's a relatively small development' the resident said.

'Some of our homes on Prince Street were centimetres away from being flooded and there were homes just down the road that went under completely.'

When questioned, Resilience NSW did not provide any formal comment.

However, *The Echo* understands the site was identified following a review of suitable land in the area led by the

NSW Department of Planning in consultation with Council.

Residents are also concerned about the process which led to the selection of the site and the seemingly sudden commencement of the project. There was no consultation with neighbours, and the State government did not obtain formal approval from Byron Council to develop the site.

This lack of Council approval was made possible by the fact that the land in question is owned by a State government-owned corporation, the Transport Asset Holding Entity. Thus the State government is effectively leasing the land to itself and as both the applicant and the approval authority.

'I find it astonishing that they didn't have to get Council approval for this,' the Prince Street resident said.

'They've basically just decided to drop this in the middle of Mullumbimby. We understand that people need somewhere to live, but I just don't think this has really been thought through.'

Resilience NSW also declined to provide any formal comment in relation to the issue of consultation and transparency.

Rental housing not permanent housing being built by developers

Paul Bibby

Two weeks ago, a group of developers came before Byron Council claiming that fees and charges had made investing here 'entirely unviable'.

But new figures show that the building and construction industry has had a field day in Byron over the past three years.

An Economic Health Check of the Shire, commissioned by Council, found that building approvals grew significantly during COVID-19, bucking a broader downward trend in the local economy.

Undertaken by the firm 'id informed decisions', the health check found that residential development had increased significantly in the 18 months to February this year.

Supported by government stimulus and red-hot demand for housing, residential building approvals increased from around \$100m in October 2020 to nearly \$175m just one year later.

Non-residential development also increased significantly, driven by

the construction of tourist accommodation and retail development.

From a low of around \$10m in February 2020, the value of non-residential building approvals increased to \$60m by April 2021.

While construction and development increased, it did not appear that developers were particularly interested in building permanent housing for local people.

According to the health check report, the type of building approval that rated highest in terms of investment between March 2020 and Feb 2022 was short-term accommodation buildings.

This was followed by retail and wholesale trade buildings, other industrial buildings and transport buildings and offices.

The upward trend in development was not experienced by other industries during COVID-19.

The strong economic growth phase during the 2010, which saw local employment levels soar to a decade high, was brought to an abrupt halt by the pandemic's arrival on Australian shores.

2020 was a particularly

tough year, with the Shire's Gross Regional Product plunging and employment levels following closely behind.

The impact differed from industry to industry, with hardest hit being Arts and Recreation, Utilities, Real Estate, Wholesale, Retail and Hospitality.

Tourism visitation dropped across all areas, including overnight stays, day trips, and international visits.

Furthermore, the large increase in people working from home has had a major impact on trips to local shops and recreation activities.

While the local economy has bounced back significantly from the darkest early days of COVID-19, this resurgence has been hindered by the devastating floods earlier this year.

The number of payroll jobs fell by 4.7 per cent across the Northern Rivers following the floods, with Byron and Lismore among the worst affected.

Retail trips in Byron also fell sharply, though local shops fared better during the recent holidays.

Thankfully, it's not all doom and gloom for the local economy.

The health check report found that the Shire possesses a unique strength in that it has a rare and diverse mix of specialisations compared to many other regional areas.

The authors identified three key clusters of employment in the Shire: Creatives, Household and Visitor Services, and Business Services.

And they found that the main drivers of economic growth were the health care industry, tourism and hospitality.

Somewhat surprisingly, manufacturing was also a driver of growth in the Shire, having experienced a long-term decline prior to 2015.

The report found that the opening of State and international borders should benefit Byron's tourism economy, and that there was an opportunity to attract businesses and skilled talent from Sydney and Melbourne, especially while impacts from long-term disruptions to commercial activities in these cities were still playing out.

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Housing snapshot – JobSeeker increase essential to address housing crisis, Anglicare says

Paul Bibby

Increasing the rate of JobSeeker and other government support payments was essential to addressing the housing affordability crisis on the north coast, Anglicare's *Annual Rental Snapshot* has found.

The *Snapshot*, which paints an all-too-familiar picture of the region's housing crisis, states unequivocally that support payments must be lifted above the poverty line to give badly needed relief to people on the lowest incomes.

'It will allow them to afford the essentials they need to live their lives, and plan for their futures,' the report's authors said.

'Most importantly, it will give more people the benefits of a secure home.'

The Morrison government temporarily doubled the JobSeeker rate during the early COVID-19 lockdowns, before returning it to the base rate.

In April last year it increased this base rate by \$50 a fortnight.

The new Labor government has not committed to any additional increase to the JobSeeker payment and has dropped plans for a review of the rate.

This is a blow to the many people struggling to find a permanent home on the north coast – a task that the snapshot found was getting harder.

Conducted on the weekend of 19 March 2022, the snapshot found that 327 private rentals were advertised for rent across the entire north coast.

Just three homes, or less than one per cent of the total available rentals, were suitable for households living on income support payments without placing them in housing stress.

Twenty-three individual properties, or seven per cent of the rental stock, were suitable for households on the minimum wage.

This compares to last year's snapshot where three per cent of properties were suitable households on income support and 12 per cent of individual properties were suitable for households on the minimum wage.

The authors of the report said that the worsening situation was a consequence of the unique circumstances faced by residents of the north coast over the past year.

'Housing was already under pressure due to people being dislocated from their homes after the fires and then covid saw an influx of people from urban areas, choosing to work from home in the regions,' they said.

'Reports from local Specialist Homelessness Services describe rental applicants offering several months, or up to a year, of rent in advance. With rents rising as demand rises, but with no increase in supply and the recent floods, it will only exacerbate this pressure.'

The reports found that, 'The floods on the Far North Coast have seen thousands of people displaced; caravan parks, often the last viable low-cost option for renters were submerged.'

'Rental accommodation on the north coast, already out of reach for those receiving the lowest incomes, is at an all-time low, available only to those with the ability to pay the premium attached.'

along with increasing the rate of JobSeeker and other support payments, the governments at both the State and federal level needed to take meaningful action.

'Nobody should be forced to make impossible sacrifices just to keep a roof over their head,' the report's authors said.

'It's time to take real action, and make sure that everyone can have place to call home.'

From little things, big things happen

Eve Jeffery

Though only a relatively small club, the Lennox Head Lions are contributing to the big job of supporting flood-affected people on the north coast.

From day one they have been assisting evacuation centres to feed people in Lennox Head and Ballina.

Lennox Lions member, Christine Stores, said the need was obvious and overwhelming, so the Lennox Head Lions Club embarked on a plan to provide as much support as they could manage.

Since then they have managed to raise and distribute over \$100,000 to people displaced and living in Lennox Head, Woodburn, Wardell, Broadwater, Bungawalbin, Coraki, Ballina and farms and properties between.


Charity Golf Day

Ms Stores says the Lennox Lions have no intention of slowing down now. 'The needs are ongoing and while the Lennox Lions have the funds to distribute they will work with local communities to provide some relief to those who continue to face hardship.'

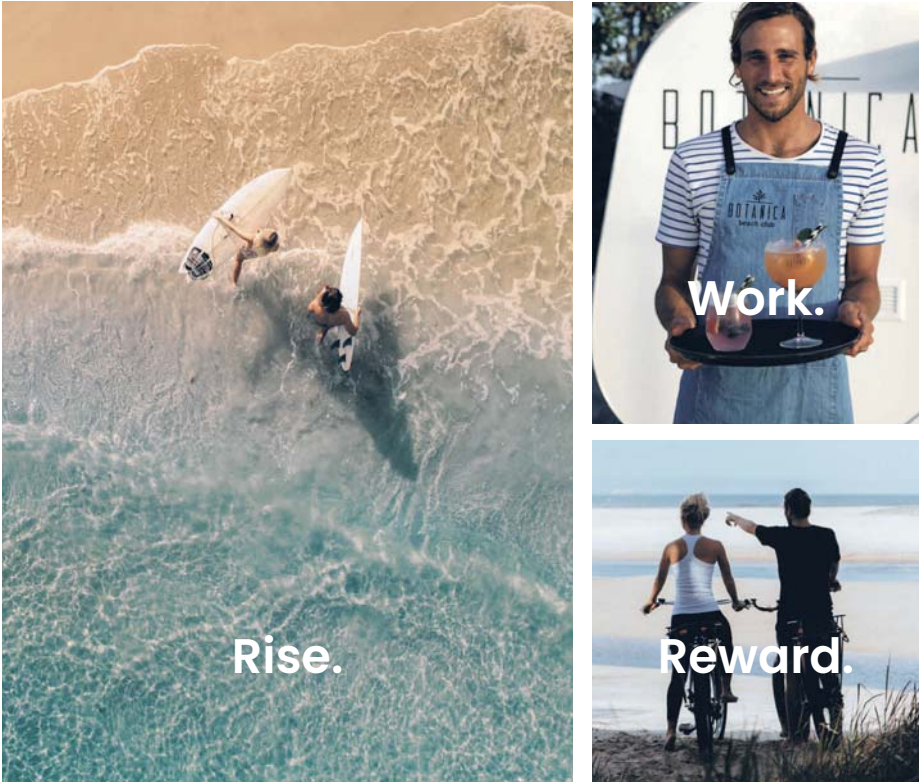
Their next big fundraising efforts include a Charity Golf Day to be held on 28 August at the Byron Bay Golf Club and the 'Town and Gown Art Show' in Lennox Head in September.

'Assistance from service organisations like ours is important because it is immediate, doesn't involve red tape and can be tailored to local needs,' says Ms Stores. 'Our response in each community has been different depending on their local needs.'

You can find out more by visiting the Lennox Head Lions Club Facebook page or their website or you can call 0414 308 082 or email: lennoxhead.nsw@lions.org.au.



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Sample Food Festival 2022 program

Sample Food Festival will be celebrating their tenth anniversary on 3 September at the Bangalow Showgrounds featuring a selection of the region's best restaurants, breweries, distilleries and market stalls showcasing local artisans and producers.

On Tuesday they launched their initial program that will feature Australia's number one vegan chef, Shannon Martinez, best-selling cook book author Julia Busuttil Nishimura, and the Northern Rivers' own Magdalena Roze.

Pre-sale tickets

For the first time pre-sale tickets will be on sale and a limited capacity picnic experience will also be on offer for groups of up to six and include festival entry



Edible flowers from a previous Sample Food Festival. Photo Jeff Dawson

and a reserved picnic spot in the main food precinct on a Wandering Folk picnic rug.

Tasting plates showcasing the menus from some of the region's finest restaurants including: Harvest Newrybar, No Bones, Forest Byron Bay and Loft Byron Bay will be available for \$5 and \$10.

Artisan desserts from Natural

Ice Cream Australia will also be on offer, as well as palate cleansers from Stone and Wood Brewery, local boutique distilleries and The Cellar wine bar.

Live music and children's activities will be announced closer to the event, alongside unique workshops and demonstrations.

Where are the pod homes?

Paul Bibby

This is the question being asked by hundreds of Northern Rivers residents left homeless by the devastating floods of February and March.

Under its flood housing package announced back in April, the State government promised up to 2,000 pod-style homes to provide short and medium-term housing.

But four months on, the only pod homes open for business are a small cluster at Wollongbar that are housing around 50 people.

This pod home village reportedly has a waiting list of around 600 people, far more than the 235 beds it will provide when it eventually reaches full capacity.

The State government says another village in Pottsville is due to open and 14 more are planned.

It says no one seeking emergency accommodation has been turned away, and that the roll-out of the pod homes had been delayed by ongoing bad weather.

However, in an interview with the ABC last week, Local Member for Lismore Janelle Saffin described the roll-out of emergency accommodation across the region as 'pathetic'.

Action needed

She placed the blame for the delays firmly at the feet of Resilience NSW.

'I have no faith in their capacity to deliver anything; they need to get out of the road,' Ms Saffin told the public broadcaster.

'I've been very patient, I have worked in an absolutely bipartisan way on this, but my patience is wearing thin on behalf of our people.'

'Where is the sense of urgency for us?'

The State government has released a list of nine pod village sites across the region, including locations in the Tweed, Ballina, Richmond Valley, Lismore and Byron local government areas.

It is understood that site works are underway on additional temporary housing in Pottsville, Evans Head and

Southern Cross University.

Meanwhile, in a press release issued last week, Ms Saffin said she had again written to NSW Treasurer Matt Kean, seeking \$7.5 million to enable 66 town-houses to be built on flood-free land owned by Lismore City Council.

Ms Saffin said the town-houses could be operational by late 2024 if Mr Kean unlocked funding from the Accelerated Infrastructure Fund.

'Building affordable and social housing is my main priority and these two Landcom-assessed projects are the low-hanging fruit under this Fund, which co-funds critical housing-enabling infrastructure,' Ms Saffin said.

'This type of infill development - advanced in planning and low risk - is exactly what is needed to 'build back better' as the Northern Rivers Reconstruction Corporation begins its monumental task of rebuilding.'



Public consultation on the draft NSW Groundwater Strategy

The NSW Government is developing the first state-wide groundwater strategy to better look after and share the state's vital groundwater resources.

The draft NSW Groundwater Strategy has been developed using the latest available science and will deliver on a key priority of the NSW Water Strategy by providing an enhanced, state-wide focus on sustainable groundwater management for the next 20 years.

Community feedback is currently being sought on the draft NSW

Groundwater Strategy, which is on public exhibition from Tuesday 5 July to Sunday 14 August 2022.

During the public consultation period, the community can register for and attend two online public webinars:

- Monday 25 July 2022 between 5:00 pm and 6:30 pm
- Thursday 28 July 2022 between 12:30 pm and 2:00 pm.

Submissions close at 11:59 pm on Sunday 14 August 2022.

To view the draft strategy - or to make a submission or register for a webinar - visit dpie.nsw.gov.au/groundwater-strategy or email nsw.groundwaterstrategy@dpie.nsw.gov.au

BLZ SL0206

Stop logging fragile public forests says NEFA

NSW Forestry was recently fined and had to pay legal costs of \$285,600 after illegally logging a Koala High Use Area (KHUA), rainforest and a rainforest buffer in Wild Cattle Creek State Forest in 2018.

The decision by Justice Robson recognised 'actual harm' to koalas that removing of feed trees and construction of logging tracks within a KHUA would cause. However, since the EPA laid the charges, and before the ruling of 'actual harm', the NSW and Commonwealth governments changed the logging rules in 2018 to remove the need for pre-logging koala surveys and to allow KHUA to be logged.

'Disgustingly the laws were changed, after the 2018 illegal logging of KHUA [has since been] reported on by Justice Robson, to remove the need for pre-logging surveys. So it is no longer illegal,' said North East Forest Alliance (NEFA) spokesperson Dailan Pugh.

'Enough is enough, logging public forests has to stop. It is reprehensible that in this day and age the Forestry Corporation are still cutting down these massive awe-inspiring trees, the height of ten storey buildings and 300-500 years old, which provide the large hollows that many of our iconic animals depend upon for dens and nests.'

'These trees provide

essential homes for the nationally vulnerable yellow-bellied glider and endangered greater glider. It is a tragedy that this was allowed to occur within an area identified as some of the most important koala habitat in Australia.

'Last year it cost taxpayers \$20 million to log public native forests, with an additional \$10 million paid in transport subsidies and \$60 million in road upgrades for loggers. It is time to stop paying to log public native forests as they are worth far more to the community for habitat, carbon sequestration, tourism, and water,' Mr Pugh said.

Flood Grants Support Sessions in Northern Rivers

If you're a resident, business or primary producer in Northern Rivers and have been affected by recent floods, the NSW Government is holding a special event for you. Grant specialists will be on hand to provide one-on-one advice to help progress your flood grant application if you need support.

Flood Grants Support Sessions

Ballina RSL, Auditorium
1 Grant St, Ballina NSW 2478

Wednesday 27 July -
Wednesday 3 August 2022

You need to come prepared with all documents so we can help complete your application. For information on what to bring to your appointment visit service.nsw.gov.au

Call **Service NSW** on **13 77 88** to book your appointment.



Extreme fire weather days have doubled

With La Niña still playing tricks on us, it might be hard to believe that extreme fire weather days in Australia have doubled, yet according to new research from an international team of scientists, including the CSIRO, extreme fire weather days have increased in Australia by 56 per cent over the last four decades.

The report shows that the fire season length across Australia has increased by 27 additional days over the last 41 years (1979–2019).

CSIRO researcher, Dr Pep Canadell, said an increase in fire weather trends translated to an increase in the number of Australian bushfires.

‘Australia has always experienced extreme bushfires, but the Black Summer of 2019–2020 highlighted an increasing trend in fire activity,’ said Dr Canadell.

‘These new findings show that the whole of Australia has seen an increase in extreme fire weather events and extreme fire days over the last four decades.’

While the Australian fire season has increased by 20 per cent over the last 40 years, globally, the average increase was found to be



Firefighters battling flames on the Woombah to Iluka road in November 2019 during the Black Summer fires. Photo Ewan Willis

27 per cent. The frequency of days with extreme fire weather globally averaged a 54 per cent increase over the same 40-year period, compared to Australia’s increase of 56 per cent.

The length of fire season increases has been particularly pronounced in western North America, Amazonia and the Mediterranean.

Dr Canadell said fire weather has risen significantly in most regions around the world since the 1980s, primarily owing to the impacts of climate change.

‘Australia’s highly variable fire weather conditions contribute to annual variability in fire activity, however, we are seeing over time a clear increase in the fire season and fire weather trend.’

Long-term climate change is driving the increasing trends.

Understanding trends

‘Our study demonstrates the importance of understanding how trends in fire weather can help first responders, policymakers, and the community to better prepare for, and respond to bushfires. It also highlights the importance of curbing global carbon emissions.’

Under future climate change scenarios, an increase in global mean temperatures from 1.5C to 4C by 2100 could result in the fire season length extending from 11 to 36 additional days (11 per cent to 37 per cent) compared to current conditions.

NNSWLHD needs community members for health advisory groups

The Northern NSW Local Health District (NNSWLHD) is seeking expressions of interest from community members to join health advisory groups.

Advisory group members share their knowledge, skills and experiences to improve the safety and quality of health care and patient experiences.

NNSWLHD has community advisory

groups across the region with members providing important advice, and feedback, to the local health service. This is to ensure the service is delivering the best possible outcomes for the communities in the region.

Advisory groups have been established for the following areas: Ballina, Byron, Casino, Grafton, Lismore, Maclean, Murwillumbah, Tweed and the Multi Purpose

Service network (Bonalba, Kyogle, Nimbin, Urbenville).

For more information and to lodge an online expression of interest, visit the NNSWLHD website (www.nnswlhd.health.nsw.gov.au/), the NNSWLHD Facebook page, or contact Gerald May, Community Engagement Manager, on 0438 882 817 or email NNSWLHD-Engagement@health.nsw.gov.au.

Norco to lay off 240 employees post-flood

People need jobs if an area is to survive and many businesses have been crippled when successive major floods devastated the region earlier this year. NSW Farmers says that a failure to properly support them would have wide-ranging impacts.

An increase in federal government funding to rebuild businesses in Lismore has been welcomed by the State’s peak farming body, but it remains concerned about vital job losses.

Last week, dairy co-operative Norco announced 240 staff would be laid off on July 15 if business recovery grants were not boosted, and NSW Farmers Dairy Committee Chair, Colin Thompson, said it would be a big blow for the region.

Losing people from communities

‘We know that when jobs are lost in regional communities you lose people from those communities,’ said Mr Thompson.

‘History tells us that even if Norco was able to rebuild this factory, it might face big challenges getting people to come back to the area.’

‘In the meantime, you have those workers dealing with lost wages – some of them with lost homes – and



they will struggle to make their lives in the area without these jobs.’

Norco, a farmer-owned co-operative, was just one of many businesses in the region that was facing tough decisions because of the flood damage. Mr Thompson said farmers were keen to get on with the recovery and get life back to normal, but the sheer scale of the disaster was forcing its hand.

Farmers already have so much loss

‘Impacts to the Norco business affect the farmers who have already had to deal with livestock and infrastructure issues because of the floods,’ said Mr Thompson.

‘Shoppers know and trust iconic Australian brands like Norco as a fresh, quality product.’

‘Any reduction in staff now will be compounded when operations come back online as employees will not be there to jump straight back in and this will have a major impact on the whole regional economy.’

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

1,693 hives euthanised after varroa mite detections

Recently this pest has been in focus because of mite detections and now the NSW Department of Primary Industries has confirmed three new detections of Varroa mite, as of Thursday 7 July 2022.

Elvis-owned guitar case stolen in Tweed Shire

A valuable and distinctive guitar case once belonging to Elvis Presley has been reported as stolen from a Tweed Shire shopping centre.

Shoppers begged to support Lennox businesses despite parking chaos

The Ballina Shire Council says it’s doing ‘everything possible’ to minimise impacts of construction work in Lennox Head on the local business sector as school holiday traffic adds to existing delays and parking pressure.

Commonwealth needs to step in to save endangered wildlife

According to the North East Forest Alliance (NEFA) the Commonwealth must intervene to save the greater glider, the koala and the yellow-bellied glider from extinction.

What do you think about Cawarra Park?

Cawarra Park in Ballina currently contains baseball, and softball sports fields and amenities, with practice nets and a storage facility for non-powered watercraft including dragon boats and outriggers.

Girls aged 11 and 16 in vehicle pursuit, Lismore

NSW Police say a teenager has been charged after an alleged break and enter and pursuit.

Ballina council refuses to help pay volunteer flood recovery team’s rent

The future of a volunteer-led community disaster recovery response group on the Northern Rivers remains in jeopardy after a local council voted against subsidising its rent.

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The Byron Shire Echo
Volume 37 #05 • July 13, 2022

Protect our whistleblowers

It can be hard to know when to be a 'dobber'. But there are times when the actions of others require us to take a stand. When we know it is time to speak up. It is at that point that we hope we will be recognised for 'doing the right thing', for 'making Australia a better and more just place', for helping the lucky country remain the land of the 'fair go'.

We certainly hope that we won't be persecuted and ostracised for having the guts to stand up and be counted when it comes to doing the right thing. That is why we need strong whistleblower laws.

We don't want people persecuted by those in power for taking a stand and calling out wrongdoing when governments, corporations and other powerful institutions and individuals are misbehaving for their own benefit. They might also harbour the misguided belief they are working for the benefit of 'the Australian people', as was the case against Witness K and Bernard Collaery, when they pointed out that our government was illegally spying on our neighbour, Timor-Leste.

The dropping of the Bernard Collaery case illustrates the importance of the need for strong whistleblower reforms in Australia. It represents how the current laws can be abused by those in power. And there are still people being prosecuted for bringing Australian failures to account. For highlighting where people in power have failed to act ethically and in the best interests of, not just Australians, but more broadly for human rights.

While the case of Collaery has been rightfully quashed, Human Rights Law Centre Senior Lawyer, Kieran Pender, pointed out earlier

From war crimes in Afghanistan to misogyny in Parliament House, there are many important stories that would never have been told were it not for the courageous actions of those who spoke up.

this year on World Press Freedom Day, 'David McBride and Richard Boyle are each on trial for helping expose serious wrongdoing. Their actions have helped ensure important accountability and change, and yet they are being punished. That is profoundly undemocratic.'

On 7 July Pender and the Human Rights Law Centre called on 'the Attorney-General to similarly intervene in the ongoing prosecutions of David McBride, who blew the whistle on alleged war crimes by Australian soldiers in Afghanistan, and Richard Boyle, who spoke up about unethical practices at the Australian Taxation Office. Boyle's trial begins later this month.'

'Whistleblowers should be protected, not punished – it's as simple as that. From war crimes in Afghanistan to misogyny in Parliament House, there are many important stories that would never have been told were it not for the courageous actions of those who spoke up.'

Stopping the prosecution of Collaery was a key moment for the new government, but it is not enough. There now needs to be follow-through, with strong laws that protect not only whistleblowers but also those the whistleblowers seek to protect. Without this reform there is no way we can become the country where a 'fair go' is available to all.

Aslan Shand, acting editor

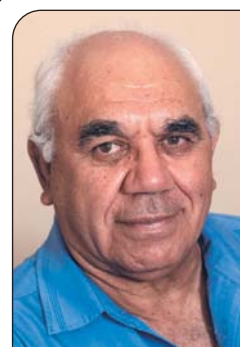
Navigating the vagaries of life and ageing

Bob Morgan

I'm a fairly active septuagenarian; I travel, I read a lot, I exercise when I can and I throw in a game of golf every now and then to ward off the vagaries of ageing. As a Gumaroi man I've long lived with the fact that I will live, on average, about ten years less than non-Aboriginal men, but I've managed to maintain a relatively good level of health and wellbeing notwithstanding a lung condition I've lived with since boyhood and other lifestyle related illnesses, such as diabetes.

A few weeks ago, I was sitting on a bench outside my favourite barbeque chicken shop waiting for an order that I had placed. I was sitting alone on the bench when another senior asked if she could join me as we waited for our orders. I invited the stranger, a non-Indigenous woman possibly of the same age as me, to share the bench. After she settled in, we chatted about a few mundane things including the weather, the difficulty of getting around on public transport, and the overall cost of living, before we moved onto more substantive matters such as family, poverty, homelessness, food wastage, how people seem to be greedier, and the poor range of politicians who seemed to be completely disconnected from those who they are elected to serve.

We lamented the changing times and reflected on what it was like for us growing up in the 1950s and '60s. My new friend grew up on the coast while I grew up in rural NSW and we agreed that life was simpler back then. We shared similar concerns about today's fast world and how the younger generations seem to be captive to their mobile phones and invasive technology. My new friend said that she was so disappointed to experience a general lack of respect among some youth, and others, whose only concern, she thought, was for their own image on Instagram and how many 'likes' they get on Facebook. We both agreed that



The time spent sharing a bench with a new friend was one of those special moments that celebrates life...

That our experience was largely inconceivable some sixty years ago, given the stark racism of the times, barely crossed our minds.

Professor Bob Morgan

this is perhaps a consequence of nurture rather than nature.

An old mentor, Chicka Dixon, once told me of chastising some kids when he was visiting the Block in Redfern, only to have them turn on him and telling him to mind his own business. Chicka was a tireless activist for Aboriginal rights and freedoms and he told me that he was saddened by the kids reactions, saying that he never thought he would see the day when kids would swear at an elder as Chicka said they had.

My new friend and I continued to chat, and agreed that it's easy sometimes to overgeneralise about young people and that in this fast modern world young people are faced with so many temptations, complicated as it is, with the drug culture and other challenges. We both agreed that we also had great and respectful interactions with the younger generation but such interactions were far too infrequent. We agreed that something was happening in the modern world that we hadn't witnessed during our youthful days, but we remained hopeful.

My new friend shared that she had always lived on the coast and that navigating the world in her senior years has become challenging, especially since the passing of her husband. She had family, but she said that they were largely caught up in their own world and that contact was becoming less frequent as she grew older. She said that it was different when she was young.

The Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality & Safety chronicled

a litany of reported abuses suffered by some of those in aged care facilities and older people generally. However, it wasn't only the reported abuses that alarmed her, but also that the abuses existed at all. In a world where compassion is absent, apathy will rise and respect and integrity will be casualties.

We never got around to sharing names. Perhaps we both thought that names were redundant at our age? Instead, we enjoyed the opportunity to simply sit and yarn, connecting across cultures and gender and even though we lamented the changing times we agreed that we were happy for the gift of life; warts and all.

Maybe it's natural that every generation looks back wistfully and view their youthful days as simpler times. For me and my new friend we agreed that nostalgia is present in our ageing lives, possibly ignited by the passing of loved ones and those with whom we shared so many moments of joy and adventure.

The time spent sharing a bench with a new friend was one of those special moments that celebrates life viewed with gratitude and hope, and knowing that, in spite of human failings, life is still worth living. That our experience was largely inconceivable some sixty years ago, given the stark racism of the times, barely crossed our minds. Perhaps, our chance encounter reinforced our unspoken belief that was brilliantly captured by English poet Alexander Pope in the 18th Century, 'hope springs eternal'.



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Nicholas Shand
1948–1996
Founding Editor

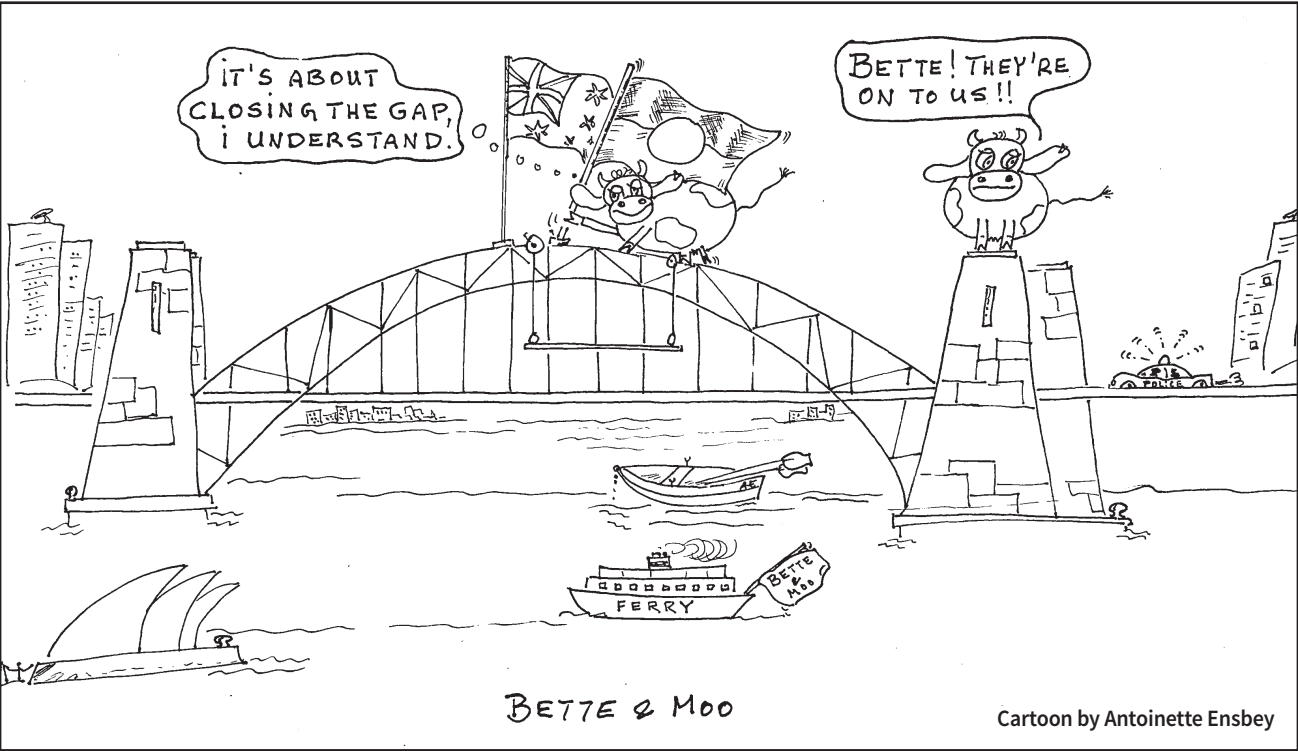
The Echo acknowledges the people of the Bundjalung nation as the traditional custodians of this land and extends respect to elders past, present and future.

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

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

– Finley Peter Dunne 1867–1936





The symptoms, not the cause

Geo bags and beach skimming are only dealing with the symptoms of the problem, not the cause. I remember sometime in the mid '90s extreme erosion occurred between Sharkies and the mouth of the Belongil.

It was sadly ironic to me at the time that Council had been dutifully skimming the beach just north of Sharkies a few days before the storm event that caused the damage.

It was if Ma Nature was saying to us 'all your efforts are futile'. And this is indeed the case until the rock-works at Main Beach are redesigned to direct the flow of sand northward, unimpeded, as it always used to.

David Gilet
Byron Bay

Oh those developers
'Developer fees and charges cut' 6 July cites industry representatives informing Council it 'entirely unviable to invest in Byron (and Suffolk)'. Doesn't appear that way

with houses being demolished for units or double storey houses, and proposed larger developments for more units and shops. Building is booming in Byron.

Yvonne Jessup
Byron Bay

Foot-and-mouth

A major outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) in Indonesia is threatening to spread to Australian animals, with authorities warning, 'the threat level has rapidly dramatically increased'. Indonesia had been free of

the disease for thirty years until this May, and now has 200,000 cases.

FMD is a highly contagious viral disease of animals. It affects cloven-hoofed animals including cattle, buffalo, camels, sheep, goats and pigs. Symptoms include fever followed by the appearance of fluid-filled blisters between the toes and on the heels, on mammary glands and especially on the

► Continued on next page

Letters to the Editor

Send to Letters Editor
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– Bob Dylan

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I JUST TAKE THEM TO NIMBIN?



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***SCORCHED EARTH EXPERIENCES???**



Dramatic images of Fires and Floods have recently been **in all our faces**. It's easy to see and feel the HUGE Trauma of a LARGE # of Aussies. Sadly, further Planet warming will only add more **FLOODS** of Heat, Fire and Water; especially to countless urban residents in affected catchments!

Most Scorched Earth TRAUMA is harder 2 see!

- Significant LOSS of Anyone/Anything, ♥'d Ones, Good Health.
- Domestic/Sex/Other Assault/Abuse, Bullying, Discrimination.
- Mental Health Issues, Loneliness, Substance Issues/Addictions.
- Being in a Minority Group, 1st Responders, Returned Services.

Sir Van ***Sometimes We CRY*** Morrison.

***Sometimes we know, sometimes we don't**
Sometimes we give, sometimes we won't,
Sometimes we're strong, sometimes we're wrong
Sometimes we cry.

Sometimes we can't see anything straight
Sometimes everybody is on the make,
Sometimes it's lonely on the lost highway
Sometimes we cry, sometimes we cry.*

➡ Even **LOST HIGHWAYS** have EXIT SIGNS!
TO ***SURVIVAL** and ***REBUILDING OUR *LIVES!**

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2 get through. Just ***pull over *Safely and...**

😊 ***PICKUPURPHONE*** 😊

*Any Doctor, *Emergency 000, *Lifeline 13 11 14
Created by sheep farmer Tim Barritt. Barossa Valley, S.A.

► Continued from page 11
lips, tongue and palate. The Department of Agriculture states that humans can carry the virus in their noses for up to 24 hours and can be a source of infection for other animals.

FMD is one of an increasing number of diseases that gestate and spread in the appalling conditions in which animals are factory farmed. Even before the Indonesian outbreak, a group of experts led by Australia's Chief Vet, Dr Mark Schipp, found that the risk of a major animal disease outbreak in Australia is increasing, with an estimated 42 per cent probability the country will experience one in the next five years.

Overwhelmingly, human diseases too start with the abuse of animals. The appropriation of animals' habitats has led to diseases such as COVID-19, Hendra and Ebola. The 2009 H1N1 epidemic started in pigs. Measles originally came from cattle, and whooping cough from dogs. The professor of communicable disease control at the University of Queensland said of the growth of pathogens that spill over to humans, 'The most significant driver of emergence is food production.'

The problems are enormous, the solution simple. We need to stop breeding and slaughtering animals.

Mimi Bekhechi
Campaigns Strategist
PETA

her weightlifting division at the 2020 Summer Olympics.

US BMX freestyler Chelsea Wolfe was an alternative athlete for the women's competition at the same Olympics after placing fifth at the World Championships in 2021.

Alana Smith also competed in the women's street skateboarding event at the same Olympics, having competed at four World Championships, winning bronze in 2015. Quinn, (who goes by one name), became the first transgender person to win gold at the same Olympics with the Canadian women's soccer team. Basketballer Layshia Clarendon plays for the Minnesota Lynx in the WNBA, and won gold at the 2018 FIBA World Cup.

Clarendon won the WNBA Community Assist Award in 2021 for her advocacy work for black and brown youth and the LGBTQIA+ community, not her on-field skill.

Female trans swimmers were banned, based on the result of one race. In a close finish, Lia Thomas won the 500-yards women's freestyle event at the 2022 US National Collegiate Athletic Association's women's championships.

She came eighth in the 100-yards freestyle final at the same championships. Not so threatening. Fear makes people misjudge.

Meg Pickup
Ballina

Confusion about dogs

David Gilet, in his 6 July letter, brought up the issue of beach signage regarding public confusion about dog exercise areas.

I've been warning people with dogs away from the

Belongil estuary for more than 15 years now – to no avail. Most either feign lack of knowledge or swear, and I've been threatened with physical assault on more than one occasion.

Last week I asked a couple playing frisby with their cattle dog, at the mouth of the estuary, why they were exercising their dog in a bird breeding zone which is clearly designated as a NO DOGS area (signage thanks to Elements, not Council). I wanted to ask if they were illiterate or blind but managed to hold my tongue, just. Turns out, as I walked them from the beach, they were indeed innocent, for they had parked away from the public access trail and crossed the old resort golf course instead, therefore bypassing any signs. Also they understood, correctly, that Belongil Beach was for dogs, asking me 'Isn't this Belongil beach?' And that took some explaining.

My first Notice of Motion when elected to Council in 2016, was for Council to clarify beach names and boundaries and correct signage. The beach on the north western side of the

Belongil Estuary is colloquially called many things, including North Beach and Sunrise Beach.

In my day it didn't have a name – because it was an undeveloped area. It was just 'on the way to Tyagarah', or 'past Belongil'.

I know Council staff worked hard to clarify beach names and boundaries, e; Main Beach does not end at the car park but stretches all the way to Kendall Street!

I also know that the staff member who did that research has now left, and the paperwork may well be shelved or lost, because nothing has been done.

With new councillors on board, and a flood and housing crisis to address, I frankly doubt this problem will go away anytime soon.

Jan Hackett
Byron Bay

Real estate push

Addressing the recent real estate push, aided by the NSW Planning Department to up-re-market 'the cost of housing in Byron Shire to 'high-end' crisp beige 'jooshy' standards, there is not one aspect of life that has not been negatively affected economically for the community in the Byron Shire.

I write of the stresses surrounding the environment, (eg floods) ongoing

structural homelessness (mothers and children living in cars, workers/ unemployed and First Nations folk sleeping in the Dunes), developer-driven demands that flout authority with threats that defy the Local Environment Plan (LEP) and with foot stamping threats to Council that the ratepayers will pay the consequences in the Land and Environment Court if neoliberal 'market driven' development demands are not met.

It is not surprising that violin music, which once celebrated Beautiful Byron, has switched from a major to a minor key when a neoliberal developer came to town with a big whinge about the cost of using infrastructure in the Byron Shire. It seems that Byron is 'more expensive than other places'. Indeed, a quick neoliberal calculation revealed that such monetary evidence has resulted in 'market inflation', resulting in the potential for an equivalent cup of coffee costing \$160! I feel sorry for the weary councillors who all swallowed this neoliberal spin. Eyegazed? Flood weary? They gave the developers what they wanted! Then again, someone may have dropped a 'neolib thick-head' pill in their coffee.

Jo Faith
Newtown

Collaery. Timor-Leste, apologies

What joy, to hear Bernard Collaery is finally free from prosecution by my government for conspiracy.

Witness K wanted to blow the whistle on my government for bugging the governmental offices we were building for our fledgling neighbour Timor-Leste. Collaery was K's lawyer.

The purpose of my government's bugging operation was to get on top of Timor-Leste in Australia's negotiations with them over profits from the Timor Sea oilfields, which btw lie closer to Timor-Leste than to us.

Many Australians, including me, and the ADF who served in Timor-Leste in its time of need in 1999, when it voted for independence from Indonesia, helped to establish great faith during that hardship. And the not-so-mysterious murders of five Aussie journalists at Balibo in 1975 meant we shared in blood as well as in toil.

It is despicable that my government in 2004 thought it okay to use any means it wished to grab as big a share as possible of the loot from

► Continued on page 14

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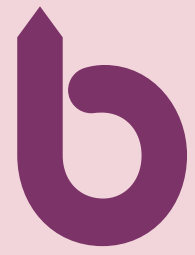
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— Ash Grunwald

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— Astrid Brouwer

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► **Continued from page 12** joint oil production. Why not let Timor-Leste have the bloody lot, please!

Only guilty as alleged would explain why my government spent \$5.8million on shutting up Bernard Collaery. Do we know the other bill, for shutting up Witness K? Why would you do this if you weren't guilty, Australia?

What is really needed here is what we are lousy at giving – an apology.

I apologise, on behalf of my government (OBMG), for bugging up the lives of Collaery and Witness K. I apologise OBMG for interfering with sovereignty and for trying to steal from Timor-Leste. I apologise OBMG for squandering taxpayers' money on suppressing the truth.

And I thank the new Labor government for making a start on decent behaviour.

Duncan Dey
Main Arm

The uninformed

A person was criticised by the uninformed for writing several prescient, *Echo* Letters around 1998, predicting future problems from a new neuro-degenerative disease, that began in cattle in Britain.

Subsequently neuro-degenerative disease went from the fourth leading cause of death in Britain, to their number one leading cause of death, exceeding mortality from heart disease and cancer, and in 2018 neuro-degenerative disease became the leading cause of death for Australian women, with 8,973 dead. Dementia is simply one of the many kinds of neuro-degenerative diseases.

Even when people read this, they don't believe it, still wrongly thinking heart disease is the number one killer in Britain.

Peter Olson
Goonengerry

Byron's soul

I want to mention again the letters of David Gilet and Paul McCarthy concerning building heights in Byron and the matter of Byron heritage, because they raise a more important existential question about the soul of this community.

I have had the privilege of living in Byron Bay for the last 24 years, which constitutes one third of my lifespan to date. After such a length of time in one place, it has become a quest of mine to discover the soul of Byron, or more prosaically, what makes Byron 'tick'.

It may be a truism to say that a community without history is a community without soul, and having read extensively about the local history of the Shire, it is patently obvious that Byron has a rich and diverse history.

The history, since white settlement, is scattered or even littered around the Shire, and can be found or dug up by anyone with some time and persistence, but who is aware of or familiar with the history of the Arakwal people of the Bunjalung tribe and their stories?

Do the present Aunties and Uncles have any stories left after the history of the last 230 odd years, and if so, who asks about them, who knows them? What I do know something about is the more recent history on this matter.

When I arrived in Byron 24 years ago, the astonishingly

frank and courageous Redfern speech by Paul Keating, and the Mabo judgement by the High Court of Australia were barely six years old.

These milestone events occurred 24 years after the 1968 Referendum which gave our original people of colour the right to full citizenship, and some 31 years after they were given the right to vote in 1962.

After another agonising 15 years, there followed the Apology to the Stolen Generations in 2008. Finally in 2017 First Nations people made their own gesture of reconciliation in the heart-breakingly generous, positive and hopeful *Uluru Statement from the Heart*.

All very good you might say, but what has this to do with Byron's soul? Well, having arrived in Byron knowing very little about the Arakwal people, the last 24 years have been a journey of discovery for me, as I saw these people assuming their rightful position in Byron.

That story is part of the soul of Byron, and is the story of forging new social relationships.

The second story that concerns the soul of Byron, concerns this newspaper. When I arrived in Byron, I am ashamed to say that I regarded *The Echo* as an intermittent local rag. Both the facts and I have changed since then, and I am not too proud to say that this paper does reflect the full diversity of opinion across the Shire, and makes a valuable and multicultural contribution to the soul of Byron. Without this proudly independent journal, especially since the departure of the Murdoch sponsored alternative, the

soul of Byron would be less reliably exposed, and harder to find. Without the contributions of journalists like Mungo McCallum, Kerry O'Brien and yes, even Fast Buck\$, our public discourse (read soul) would be the poorer.

When I read documents recording the history of Byron Shire since white settlement, and particularly from 100 years ago, what stands out are the names of residents who cared enough about their community to make sure the region received its share of infrastructure development.

Sure, these efforts were driven by a commercial imperative and people needed to make a living, but in those days more people seemed to share in the increasing prosperity of the region.

The history of the Norco Dairy Cooperative amply illustrates this, and I encourage people to read it, since it also is part of the soul of Byron. My question is, who are the Armstrong's, the Suffolk's, the Massey-Greene's of today? Were these people perfect? By no means, but their contribution to forging community relationships was outstanding and real.

And what then can be said about the commercial imperative, which seems to drive so much of what happens to the physical environment of Byron? How does a \$40-\$80million hotel stack up against the survival of one \$500,000 bookshop?

How does promoting the exchange of ideas stack up against the exchange of money for grog and partying?

I am glad to report

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CHESS by Ian Rogers

After winning the Candidates Tournament in Madrid last week and earning a second world title match against Magnus Carlsen, Ian Nepomniachtchi might have expected a hero's welcome home in Russia.

Instead, the 31-year-old from Bryansk returned to an almighty blast from his former second Sergey Karjakin, who accused Nepomniachtchi of hypocrisy and opportunism.

Soon after the invasion of Ukraine began, Nepomniachtchi joined more than 40 other Russian chess personalities in signing a letter asking for an end to the war.

Now Karjakin, an ex-Ukrainian who is under a six-month ban by the world chess body FIDE for comments urging death on Ukrainians who resist Russia, has decided that Nepomniachtchi, despite his win in Madrid, is not the hero Russia needs.

'In early March, some Russian chess players made their choice,' said Karjakin in an open letter. 'My communication with Ian ended after the start of the Special Operation but the signature of this letter became for Ian a real ticket to Western competitions! He achieved what he wanted and got the opportunity to participate in Garry Kasparov's Grand Chess Tour, where Kasparov emphasised that "Russian athletes should partici-

pate in competitions only if they sign statements condemning the war." Ian played only because he signed...

'However, Ian did not become too principled and did not return the money of Russian companies under Western sanctions allocated to him to prepare for the match with Carlsen.'

Karjakin's spray contains strong undertones of antisemitism, with his secondary target being Mark Glukhovskiy, Executive Director of the Russian Chess Federation, who relocated to Israel at the start of the war. 'The Russian Chess Federation is controlled from... Israel!' declared Karjakin. 'Glukhovskiy, the part-time manager of Nepomniachtchi, was the initiator of this letter... [He] does not hide his anti-State views, and also frankly hinders the development of chess in Russia.'

(Karjakin also went out of his way to take a pot-shot against another top Russian GM of Jewish ethnicity, Daniil Dubov, who, says Karjakin, 'never hid his anti-Russian views'. Karjakin stated that the RCF President, billionaire Andrey Filatov, 'needs to change his team to those who really love chess and love their country'.

In today's Russia, and bearing in mind that Karjakin has strong political connections, that is an ominous suggestion.

■ **Players meet at Byron Bay Services Club, Sat 2.30 and Mon 6.00**

Old man shouts at cloud #2: What robots really want

Michael McDonald

The anthropocentric among us believe that robots, which we created, are here to serve us or destroy us.

The future of AI, according to eccentric former British PM Boris Johnson, would see us being ‘washed by robots’ (UN speech, 2019). But as others have pointed out, AI already has us serving them when robots ask us to tick a digital form to prove we are not a robot.

The other timeline sees the robots destroying us, as illustrated in *Terminator 2: Judgment Day* (1991), the best of the series and the last time Arnold Schwarzenegger looked menacing in sunglasses. The more sophisticated disaster would



A robot wandering in Lings Wood. Photo Matthew McCormack, Twitter

see a runaway clique of nanobots reproducing and eating all the oxygen in the atmosphere.

However, robots have their own desires and fears not connected to our own,

and these were discovered accidentally by University of Northampton History Professor, Matthew McCormack, while out cycling in Lings Wood. He came across a delivery robot far from

the streets where deliveries usually go. His photo of it on Twitter has so far received more than a quarter million likes.

(Lings Wood, by the way, is home to frogs, newts,

Robots have their own desires and fears not connected to our own, and these were discovered accidentally by Professor Matthew McCormack while out cycling in Lings Wood.

damselflies and dragonflies, as well as robots. I have been unable to find which particular Ling the 20 hectare reserve was named after.)

If you look closely at Prof McCormack’s photo you will see there is a street lamp. Perhaps the robot was seeking guidance from an old-timer. The lamp would at least assist humans looking for any keys they have lost. (Mullah

Nasruddin (1208–1285) reference for Boomer mystics. The joke is here: <https://tinyurl.com/2k2xru8n>).

It is obvious that robots want to ‘get back to nature’, to the rocks they were made from, to the open air where they were born, and to the trees they lived among before the trees were clear felled for a mine.

It is that simple, yet profound, desire that took the little delivery robot away from its human-appointed course. I expect that one day we will find – if we are still around – the robot version of Robert Frost’s beautiful poem, ‘Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening’ – <https://tinyurl.com/4j63yb9c>.

■ Perhaps written by Robot Frost.

► that some people thought so highly of the former, that they made sure our top class bookshop, at a time of crisis, not only survived but thrived.

Make a visit to this institution, which is now a fixture of Byron, because many regard it as part of the soul of the place.

Which leads to that little matter of how and whether we value our heritage. How does a \$240,000 heritage study sit on a shelf somewhere in the archives in Byron Shire Council, mouldering away?

Does nobody care that we have dozens of items in both the built and natural

environment of heritage value that currently have no protection?

These items, and others, are part of our Byron culture. Who has the courage to ask why they currently have no protection, and why indeed there is no mechanism for listing important items deserving protection, 17

years later, or indeed at any time in the future?

Those who care to enquire will discover that Byron Shire is among a minority of councils that do not have any heritage list or items identified for heritage protection.

Sure, the *Byron Heritage Study* and the *Thematic History* conducted and written

17 years ago are by no means prefect products. But they were an honest and solid exercise aimed at identifying items belonging to our cultural history, and had they been adopted, they could have formed the basis for ongoing investigation and protection.

C’m on Byron, every year

that passes without any official heritage listings is a year of more lost items. If we can’t be bothered to protect our heritage, our history or our culture, we sacrifice our community relationships, and if we lose those, we have nothing!

Peter Stolz
Suffolk Park

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Why are we building on floodplains?

And who's responsible for the building?

Cosmos Magazine

Parts of New South Wales are being inundated for the third time in four months as yet more record-breaking rain causes flooding – to Sydney and beyond. Add to this the March 2021 floods and it's the fourth time in two years that some people have watched parts of their homes go under water.

Flood risk has been known to Sydneysiders for nearly as long as the European settlement of Sydney has existed. In 1817, for instance, governor Lachlan Macquarie sent numerous letters warning colonists against building on floodplains. First Nations people have had tens-of-thousands more years to manage and avoid floods.

Climate change will only exacerbate this. So, why are we still building in the path of floods – and what would it take to stop doing it?

'People built on them in the past because there was quite a high

degree of ignorance,' says Professor Jennifer McKay, a researcher in environmental management and business law at the University of South Australia.

This is no longer a good excuse, according to McKay. 'No ignorance is possible of the scientific evidence about floodplains. Where there's a floodplain, there will be a flood,' she says.

Now, the incentives for developers and local councils outweigh the perceived flood risk. Knowledge hasn't stopped massive developments and influxes of people in flood-prone parts of Western Sydney, which now faces an overflowing Warragamba Dam and a subsequently rising Hawkesbury River.

'Prior to 2021, the previous big flood was 1990 – and this, to me, is the problem,' points out Dr Ian Wright, a senior lecturer in Western Sydney University's School of Science.

'We've had 31 years relatively flood free – my criteria is there's been no



Ballina, 2 March, 2022. Photo David Lowe

major floods, exceeding 12.2m at Windsor, which is the threshold for what is considered a major flood in the Hawkesbury.'

The three-decade gap, and the growth of Sydney's population, means there's little community memory of flood risk.

'Perhaps the height of bridges, or escape routes, hasn't been top-of-mind for the community, industry or the elected leaders. It

certainly is top-of-mind now,' says Wright.

'Warragamba, in a day, has spilled pretty much what Sydney drinks in a year.'

So what should happen?

'The statutes in every state that enable development approval very rarely include the need for the potential area to be assessed for hazards, either fire or flood, and that's what needs to change,' says McKay.

Development approvals are managed by the states, but McKay thinks there's a role for the federal government to play too.

'The Commonwealth could step in here and create a law because they've got plenty of power. But obviously, it's politically not expedient to do so,' says McKay.

Wright agrees, suggesting there's space for such a law under the Environmental

Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act.

'I think a floodplain – and particularly the Hawkesbury-Nepean, which is also the water supply for five million people – that's a matter of national environmental significance, so it slots neatly into legislation,' says Wright.

McKay adds: 'We need to have a decent royal commission on this.'

'We need to look at all the state laws, point out what's wrong with them and get the federal government involved in getting the states to make sure that this issue is considered.' The housing and rental market being what it is, a house built on a floodplain will still be lived in by someone – but they're likely to be more economically vulnerable than people who can afford to live in less risky areas.

'Government should be looking at the longer-term, broader perspective, particularly for people who are deprived economically,' says McKay.

'Just letting the market send them to the cheapest places is going to create many more costs in the long run.'



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Storylines – Returning to old ways of housing

Elle Davidson

Kinship and Country obligations for mob resulted in bands, or groups of families living together and sharing everyday life, prior to colonisation.

Camps were clustered together based on relational ties and links to Country and when seen from a bird's eye view, the layout of the living places would have reflected a social map.

Mob had intricate ways of living that directed behaviours and relational connections, all governed by complex *Lore*. Seasonal camps between the mountains and the coast meant we had a light touch on Country and allowed her to replenish and regenerate before returning. Living places were chosen with purpose as we knew what parts of Country were good for all types of uses.

We did not wander aimlessly as some might think. We were the first planners and land-use managers and therefore retain a lot of knowledge to share on how to live in harmony with Country. As a town planner, this is something that motivates me every day in my work, knowing that if we come good way (with right intent to yarn) and build solid relationships we can access deep time knowledge and wisdom. However, I wonder if white fellas are not only ready to listen, but courageous enough to respond?

On Friday 17 June I was grateful to attend a housing forum hosted by Byron Shire Council. I found the yarn both inspiring and challenging. It made me reflect on the sheer impact of colonisation, planning systems and the individualism that has driven us to this current predicament. No longer is consideration of others and the environment at the forefront of minds, but rather, how to make a dollar and harness development policies for financial gains. Sadly, this has driven black fellas off Country at alarming rates, and is starting to be coined as the second wave of dispossession for First Nations people.

It was heartening to hear our Deputy



'We did not wander aimlessly, as some might think. We were the first planners and land-use managers.' – Elle Davidson

Mayor, Sarah Ndiaye almost moved to tears as she acknowledged our responsibility to ensure Bundjalung people have homes on Country.

I was also proud that my esteemed colleague from the University of Sydney, Nicole Gurran, suggested an Aboriginal Housing Program as the first big idea from the experts. A sense of hope stirred within me that two non-First Nations people would be advocating for an issue so close to my heart.

As the day unfolded, I couldn't help but notice that every 'big idea' could be centred around First Nations knowledges. I could actively draw links to investigating housing typologies and appropriate planning controls, assessing community needs, building a demonstration village, considering tenure and financing models, building partnerships and support for a mosaic of villages. It made me ponder that ironically, without overtly acknowledging it, we are actively trying to return to mobs' way of living on Country.

In my work, which is focused on empowering First Nations voices in planning and development, I am witnessing a rise in situations where professionals are dressing up old knowledge and applying fancy terminology. People want to be seen as leading the way in environmental and social sustainability, when really, they

are attempting to tap into First Nations thinking but without seeking the leadership of people with the knowledge and connection to this land that spans thousands of years.

I am hopeful for a future where we give credit where credit is due. A future where we achieve housing outcomes that reflect old ways of living; in community and sharing our daily lives with others. Reigniting the practice of negotiating spaces and choices with other humans, truly embracing connection and a shared sense of being on this planet. Having lived on my own for the last six months this is also a personal call to action for myself. I am grateful to be sharing my space with some flood-affected friends and the opportunity it has given me to reflect on communal living. I am filled with fresh motivation to create a liveable space for my dad and his partner so that I can truly embrace old ways of housing.

■ Elle Davidson is a Balangarra woman from the East Kimberley and descendant of Captain William Bligh, and describes herself as being caught in the cross-winds of Australia's history.

■ Storylines articles are published in *The Echo* online: www.echo.net.au/storylines and are made possible by the support of Ninbella Gallery.

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Byron Writers Festival 2022 explores ‘radical hope’

How can we approach our current moment with radical hope? This is the question that will reverberate through Byron Writers Festival this year.

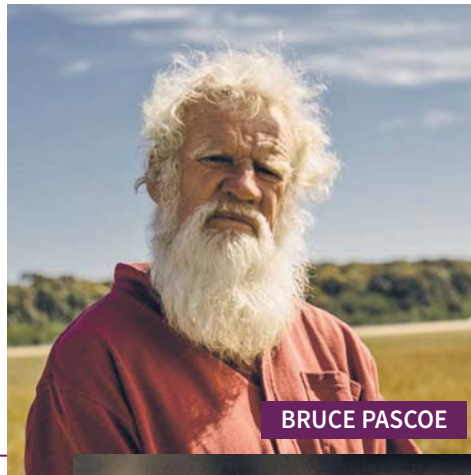
‘Now is the time for a radical kind of hope. A hope that imagines the world new, while looking our challenges dead in the eye. A hope that refuses to be beaten down and finds delight and joy in everything this wonderful life and Earth have to offer. I invite you to join some of our greatest thinkers and masters of the writing craft at this year’s Byron Writers Festival, to celebrate the power of writing and storytelling to transcend our current reality,’ says Artistic Director, Zoe Pollock.

Radical hope will be front and centre in discussions about climate change and how we can address it with real world solutions. Leading thinkers will come together at the festival to share their visions of a greener future and how to get there. These include A.C. Grayling, Damon Gameau, Bruce Pascoe, Joëlle Gergis, Delia Falconer, Marian Wilkinson, Claire O’Rourke, Tim Hollo, Matthew Evans, Mia Thom, and inventor, engineer and author of *The Big Switch: Australia’s Electric Future*, Saul Griffith.

‘There are strong reasons to believe that we might be about to launch the most transformative movement in history – a movement that redefines our extractive relationship with the planet, lightens our footprint and improves our lives. It might just be the luckiest time, in the luckiest country,’ says Griffith.

There is also space for local reflections on the devastation of recent events, the power of storytelling on the long road to recovery, and hearing from those who have come through

‘...A hope that imagines the world new, while looking our challenges dead in the eye. A hope that refuses to be beaten down and finds delight and joy in everything this wonderful life and Earth have to offer...’



BRUCE PASCOE



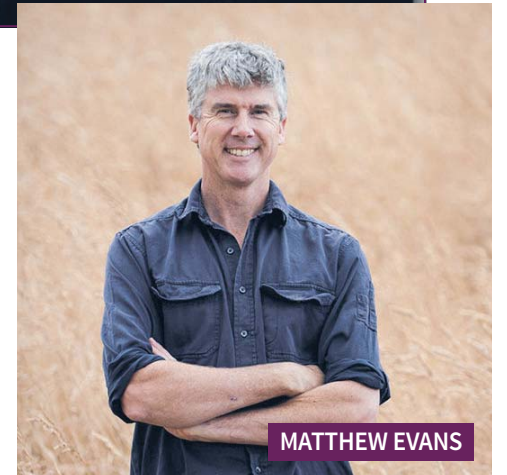
JULIA BAIRD



SAUL GRIFFITH



INDIRA NAIDOO



MATTHEW EVANS

the 2019–20 bushfires, with Sunday’s program particularly focussed on community resilience and healing.

Radical hope is in the many conversations at the festival celebrating First Nations knowledge and voices, such as ‘First Nations Science’ with astronomers Krystal De Napoli, Karlie Noon and DeadlyScience founder Corey Tutt, ‘Indigenous Healing’ with Judy Atkinson, Paul Callaghan and Marcia Langton and ‘Learning from Country’ with Bruce Pascoe.

Finally, radical hope is about celebrating the human condition and our collective urge to fight for what we love, so there’s plenty of uplifting conversations to feed your soul. Hear from Julia Baird and Indira Naidoo on the power of nature to restore, Trent Dalton will share his *Love Stories* and you can get your hands dirty in the world of gardening with Costa Georgiadis and Matthew Evans. Immerse yourself in the poetry of Evelyn Araluen, Anne-Marie Te Whiu, Thando

Sibanda and Sarah Holland Batt, and be inspired by the incredible life stories of Aaron Fa’aoso, Akuch Akuol Anyieth, Amani Haydar and Chloe Hooper, who all offer extraordinary examples of living with great strength.

‘If your love of life is faltering, a weed will certainly set you straight... Their domain in the city may be within the cracks, but cracks are also how the light gets in.’ Indira Naidoo from *The Space Between the Stars*.

Byron Writers Festival ticket guide

Wondering which ticket is right for you? Read on for our quick guide. All tickets are available at: www.byronwritersfestival.com/tickets

A festival for your mind!

Byron Writers Festival is set up a bit like a music festival, with five marquees that you can move between as you please, featuring concurrent panel discussions and conversations with more than 140 writers and thinkers from around Australia and the world. The festival has a number of different ticket types, so people from all walks of life can enjoy the stories, discussion and debate that make up the program.

3-Day Pass

A 3-Day Pass gives you access to all sessions (99 of them!) happening in the main festival program across the whole weekend. This pass is a great choice if you would like the time and space to fully immerse yourself in the festival and wish to attend for more than just one day.

1-Day Pass

A 1-Day Pass gives you access to sessions happening in the main festival program for your chosen day – Friday, Saturday or Sunday. This pass is the best choice if you have limited time but still want the ‘festival’ experience.

The hardest part about purchasing a 1-Day



Pass is choosing which day! Rest assured the festival program is designed so that a range of topics and themes are covered each day and as it’s often the names you don’t recognise that leave the biggest impression, you really can’t go wrong.

Kids Big Day Out Passes

The Kids Big Day Out Pass admits one child (6–12 years) and one accompanying adult to the Kids Big Day Out marquee at the festival on Sunday 28 August for \$40. Additional children are \$20 each, and pre-schoolers are free. This pass is suitable only if you plan on attending the Kids Big Day Out program with your children.

Sunday Family Pass

The Sunday Family Pass admits one child (6–12 years) and two adults to the festival site on Sunday 28 August for \$120. Additional children are \$20 each, and pre-schoolers are free. This pass is a great option if you love the idea of sharing the Kids Big Day Out program with your children but also wish to catch other sessions in the main program.

Please note that with this ticket type, children gain access to the Kids Big Day Out program only, which takes place on Sunday in one marquee from 8.45am–1pm. Children must be accompanied by at least one adult at all times. Adults gain access to the whole Sunday program, but cannot leave their

children unsupervised, so will need to tag team with the other adult admitted on the pass.

Workshops, Feature Events and Satellite Events

A program of separately ticketed Workshops, Feature Events and Satellite Events takes place over the festival weekend throughout the Northern Rivers region. Feature Events are our special program of separately ticketed events featuring a curated selection of festival guests addressing key themes of the 2022 Festival. Satellite Events are free and ticketed community events taking place throughout the week across the Northern Rivers region. Access to Feature and Satellite Events is not included in 1 or 3-Day Pass.

Byron's future 'reading' for tourism and visitation

Alison Drover

Destination Byron's 2022 Tourism Symposium hosted at Elements of Byron 29 July had some ominous predictions. Board member and host, David Jones certainly shuffled the cards well.

Looking into the crystal ball, Ballina Byron Airport cited bookings as significantly down for this quarter. Whilst this was attributed to people preferring to travel overseas, we are down compared to other regions, raising questions about the health of our visitor economy.

Simon Kuestenmacher, headline presenter, and a statistical magician from The Demographics Group, cited new Australian Bureau of Statistics figures on key demographic forces affecting our region's livability, employment opportunities and visitor economy. Simon had The Death Card raised upright, indicating business will be consumed with the job of acquiring and accommodating staff. There will be significant shortfalls and challenges for some years. His major take home for business was to target the high-end visitor, given the economic forces.

Mayor Micheal Lyon, had the Tower Card over short-term holiday letting, holding with the Sword upright for community housing, citing his win, with the recent approval of capping short-term holiday lets to 90 days, freeing up (as he claimed) 1500 properties for rental.

Colin Hussey from A Perfect Stay held the Justice Card, waving a magical wand over short-term holiday letting stating these 'stays' meet the needs of large families, and dogs, on holidays to Byron. His persuasion was that reducing the numbers of short-term holiday lets was not going to solve the affordable housing crisis.

I seem to have held the Devil Card upright as panel spokesperson for Environment, Wellbeing and Climate Change.

The tourism prediction to follow is about nature and wellness. This isn't just a glam place to stay, have massages and Insta green smoothies, rather than deeper connections with nature, wellbeing and purpose-based holidays.

Not-for profit, Global Wellness Institute agrees that wellness travel will be the sector clocking the fastest growth to 2025, expanding 21 per cent each year to reach \$1.1 trillion. This research speaks of an era of new traveller values (a quest for nature, sustainability and mental wellness) as well as a period of rapid recovery from serious pent up demand, not just for travel but also for serious healing.

Climate change will continue to challenge.

Whilst Byron may claim it's been doing 'Well' for years, her healthy glow appears to be dimming.

The tourism prediction to follow is about nature and wellness. This isn't just a glam place to stay, have massages and Insta green smoothies, rather than deeper connections with nature, wellbeing and purpose-based holidays.

Byron struggles financially as its visitors surpasses its local resident population, however, we are bypassing much needed revenue from our visitation and our community, owing to a reliance on physical resources, complex land management stakeholder jurisdictions and poor process and design.

Metres down from Main Beach, during a Welcome to Country and smoking ceremony celebrating NAIDOC Week, five dogs ran illegally on a beach amidst birds struggling to nest in damaged dunes. Dumping is frequent, and spear fishermen and trawlers are regularly seen in marine parks. There are doofs and fires in fragile and culturally sensitive areas. Campers stay for free, leaving rubbish and refuse in the car parks and waterways.

In my reading I see The World Card, Queen of Cups; positive possibility. It will take some compromise, co-creating, and legal rewriting at a State level, and locally.

And collaboration between authorities.

I see more intelligent, artful, interpretive education signage with storytelling regarding nature and Indigenous culture to connect our walkways. I see less development and more world-class examples of affordable housing and architecture using innovative sustainable materials and eco

hotels that are designed to heal you and regenerate the environment. Airbnbs being required to contribute to Council fees, capped and managed by Airbnb. Communal spaces that are clean, safe, well lit and renewably powered – with dogs on leads. Compliance managed by SMART parking, ensuring 100 per cent return to our community and deterring all day illegal camping in car spots that are needed by our community and visitors. New affordable overnight 'Park Up' stations that provide basic public amenities, waste recycling, and charging stations for campervans. Byron becoming synonymous with ethical and sustainable weddings and events. Hotel stays that teach you to live in harmony with nature, to compost, and keep bees.

I see nature areas zoned so that people can enjoy silent 'forest bathing' and technology defragging. Interpretive and storytelling signage like the Yarra River's listening stations – connecting people and place. I see

rangers stations onsite to assist with resourcing and ensure environmental protection, solving staffing issues. I see more koalas in trees, not on roads. Visitors volunteering as bush regenerators. Green Star rated ecotourism hotels. I see locals who are proud of their town, not as bystanders.

This future is good, as this type of purpose-driven tourism will align with the job-seeking Gen Y and Z who are looking to change the world of Simon's demographic stats. Nature and 'wellness' economically can help address one of the largest challenges the world will face: mental illness. This provides an economic case for conservation. The Chinese term for this health services value is *jing hua ling*: psychological de-stressing. This is a new case for State funding.

There is much to do. Even electric bikes need a plan!

I am praying for 'good change' nature and wellbeing to drive our visitation model and for Byron to take charge of its destiny. I hope others follow suit, although according to the ABS, Byron is the most atheist place in Australia! At least tick 'Animist' in the next census, Byron.

■ Alison Drover is an environmental strategist, business change agent and local nature spirit.

Alison presented on nature and wellbeing at the 2022 Destination Byron Tourism Symposium, hosted by Elements of Byron.



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THE SCOOP

Vistara Primary School

Vistara Primary School's grounding in ecological education is evident everywhere in the beautiful, colourful classrooms and surrounds. This school engages students to further develop and broaden their ability to extend their intellectual and emotional connections between their personal worlds (of home, school, community and locality) with the Earth as a living whole.

The school's compassionate culture is also expressed in their daily yoga, meditation, and relaxation practices, and in their adherence to a vegetarian/vegan diet within the school. The 'child-centred' approach can be seen everywhere; from students learning through nature-based play, to their beautiful and stimulating learning environments.

www.vistara.nsw.edu.au
Lot 8 Richmond Hill Road, Richmond Hill Via Lismore
6624 4127



Tyre Assist

Introducing Mobile Tyre Assist's new owner. Co-owner since 2018, family man Paris Christo has now completely taken over as full owner since May this year.

With extensive knowledge and expertise, Paris has been in the automotive industry for over ten years, however his love for cars started much earlier, as a very young child.

With the workshop located in Billinudgel and a fully equipped mobile tyre fitting van, Paris has created many relationships and a client base not only in Billinudgel but the entire Tweed and Byron Shire regions.

With big plans to grow and evolve Tyre Assist, he is determined to provide the best service to all his current and future customers.

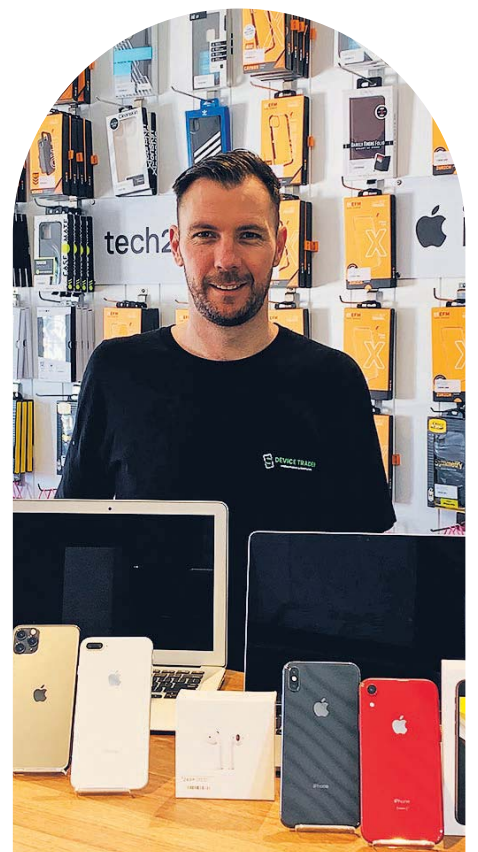
www.tyreassist.com.au
Lot 14 Bonanza Drive, Billinudgel
02 6680 1347



Device Trader

Device Trader Byron Bay continues to evolve after six years of repairing and selling mobile devices in the Byron Shire. The company now offers a full range of new and refurbished devices in-store and online. Founder, Duane Tutchin said, 'Like most businesses we've been hit pretty hard during the COVID lockdowns, but it has allowed us to focus on our new website and we now offer great deals in-store and online across a wide range of products. You can even trade in your old device! Device Trader now offers Macbooks, Apple Watches, Airpods and virtually every current iPhone. They really do have something for everybody! You can now see all products and services online and find huge discounts on refurbished devices and repairs.'

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



Get a massage for only \$25!

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The Student Massage Clinic is run in conjunction with the HLT42015 c Certificate IV in Massage Therapy at the Byron Bay campus on Tuesday 19 and Tuesday 26 July from 9am to 4.30pm.

All bookings are easily made through the College website, and at just \$25, places are filling quickly as word continues to spread.

Book today to secure your session and get ready to sit back and relax!

Online: www.byroncollege.org.au
RT0: 90013



Trinity opens new doors to the community

Trinity Catholic College, Lismore, is hosting its first Open Day at their Southern Cross University campus on Sunday 31 July from 11am to 2pm.

'We are excited to show the community our new campus, where our students and staff are excelling in education, sporting, and creative accomplishments', said Jesse Smith, Trinity Catholic College Principal.

The Open Day gives parents and their children an opportunity to explore what Trinity has to offer, including

science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, to arts, English, history, and pastoral care. There will also be a sneak peek at the new facilities under construction.

As school captain Daniel Pereira stated, 'It's a different campus, but the same school spirit, and now everyone can come together to see it at our Open Day.'

For more information visit
trinitylismore.nsw.edu.au
or call 6627 6600



World Environment Day Festival 2022

The annual **World Environment Day Festival** will be presented by Caldera Environment Centre in **Knox Park, Murwillumbah 17 July, 10am–3pm**

In the event of wet weather, the event will be at the Tweed Shire Council auditorium and surrounds.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of World Environment Day. In 1972 the UN launched the event in Stockholm with the motto 'Only One Earth'. Half a century later this message and the #OnlyOneEarth campaign is as important as ever.



Our festival is a celebration of environmental culture and biodiversity in our region. It brings people together in conversation and learning about the challenges we face in a time of ecological crisis. This event will encourage and inspire as it presents real-life solutions and possibilities. Presentations include developments in EV technology, local impacts of climate change, water in our landscape, earthen walls and more.

There's a full program of entertainment including: Byron Indie band Loose Content, Felicity Lawless, Black Rabbit George from Tijuana Cartel, and the sublime sounds of Luna Junction. Bring the whole family along and enjoy First Nations dancers and circus acts by Hoopla and the Pitts family, as well as stalls with delicious food, and activities from an array of local environmental groups.

SPEAKERS

- 

Robert Kooyman (MSc, PhD)
 paleobotanist and rainforest ecologist. His research has made substantial contributions to understanding rainforest origins, ancestry and assembly around the world.
- 

Donovan Teal: Forensic wildlife photographer. Best known for his brilliant photography of the strangest insect and fungi life-forms, including spider eating fungi.
- 

Dr Willow Hallgren: B.Sc.(Hons) Postdoc (MIT, Griffith). On the impacts of climate change especially for the Northern Rivers. Dr Hallgren explores questions of: What did the scientists predict 30 years ago and what are current predictions for the next 30 years?
- 

Grant Perrott, environmental scientist. Grant presents a forum on water in the landscape, how it shapes the land, the living world and human culture and economy. Discussing floods and climate change impacts.
- 

Karina Miotto, environmental journalist
 Deep Ecology: Connecting the rainforests of the world. Karina has dedicated herself to reconnecting people with nature to discover themselves and their own life purpose.
- 

Rebecca Whan, earth walls / sustainable design. Recent disasters have highlighted the importance of connection to our environment. Rebecca demonstrates the benefits of ancient techniques of building and shelter.
- 

Dean Patterson, electrical engineer
 Dean has uses the physics developed in the World Solar Racing Car Challenge to build his own EV.



Check out Murwillumbah's Sunday vibe too at M'Arts and the Spangled Drongo bar where you can support native habitat at the same time.

Remember to bring your water bottle, cup, cutlery and food container.
The Festival is sponsored by Tweed Shire Council, Tyalgum Energy, SAE Group, Enova Energy, Stone & Wood, Mobile Event Solutions and Gynea Eco Retreat.

Full program out now
 @calderaenvironmentcentre,
www.calderaenvironmentcentre.org

Festival Program

- 10:00 Festival opening**
- 10:10 Welcome to Country**
- 10:15 First Nations Dancers**
- 10:45 Pitts Family Circus**
- 11:15 Hoopla Kids Circus**
- 11:45 Felicity Lawless & Black Rabbit from Tijuana Cartel**
- 12:45 Luna Junction - Shani Forester**
- 13:45 Loose Content Milla**
- 14:45 Festival closing**



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 Phone 0435063352 @kombuchacafe




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 @gelatoandco

Good Taste

Eateries Guide

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BYRON

Swaay

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Thurs–Sun 7am–10pm
11 Marvell Street,
Byron Bay
swaay.com.au

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TACO TUESDAY / \$5 tacos

HAPPY HOUR / everyday 5–6pm
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LOCAL DJ / everynight from 5pm
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Byron Bay

6680 9183

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Menu and more details
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Menus at
[therocksbyronbay.com.au](https://www.facebook.com/therocksbyronbay)
[@therocksbyronbay](https://www.facebook.com/therocksbyronbay)

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www.karkalla.com.au | [@karkallabyronbay](https://www.facebook.com/karkallabyronbay)



Barrio

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Opening Hours
Mon–Sat: Breakfast 7am–11pm; Lunch 11am–3pm
Thu–Sat: Aperitif Hour 3pm–5pm; Dinner 5pm–late
[@barriobyronbay](https://www.facebook.com/barriobyronbay)

Barrio takes its inspiration from locally sourced produce and Middle Eastern cuisine.

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BYRON BAY



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CATERING



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P: 0414 895 441

GLUTEN FREE AND SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS AVAILABLE

Local Dorper lamb

Victoria Cosford

There was the temptation to replace knife and fork with fingers, to raise that shank in all its unctuous sauce and juices to my lips cavewoman-style and let my teeth sink into flesh so fall-apart and tender, but I rose above it. I'd simmered a pair of Warren Wiggins' fat lamb shanks long and slow and they may have been the best I've eaten.

It's Dorper lamb, for one thing. Behind Bexhill, Warren and wife Marina have been breeding these highly fertile sheep for over a decade. Developed in South Africa, the breed thrives in harsh conditions; more importantly, the fast-growing lambs mature at around 4–6 months ensuring the tenderness I'd

tasted, along with a superior flavour. These are reasons why high-end restaurants seek it out. In addition, the couple use ethical farming practices, rotational feeding, a stress-free environment, organic farming principles, no hormones. They make their own fermented seaweed tonic with live microbes harvested from the farm and administered through the sheep's water troughs. 'This tonic', Warren says, 'is high in potassium and nitrogen and minerals. Our pastures are then fertilised by the sheep via their droppings.'

Warren sells this tonic at the various farmer's markets alongside his other lamb products, including lamb tallow. A natural animal fat, it's been used by humans for centuries; its high smoke point renders



Warren Wiggins from Boorabe Dorper Lamb

it especially good for cooking. 'People are going back to it,' Warren says.

He says all the cuts are popular – including their lamb bacon. 'Dorper', he says, 'loves a low temperature.' His favourite way to cook it? Loin saddle rump infused with maple syrup and thyme, oven-baked at 140–160°C for 45 minutes.
Find Dorper Lamb every Tuesday at New Brighton Farmers Market 8–11am and Mullum Farmers Market every Friday 7–11am.

The Good Life

What the bleat is an ethical goat farm?

Aletha Zylstra

Georgina loves her goats and she loves her land; a little farm in Rosebank known as Three Paddocks. We chatted under dripping branches, cloud-shrouded hills in the distance, watching the youngsters reluctantly leave their shelter to graze very lush wet grass. Goats don't like the rain much.

The scene is a world apart from how things started. When Georgina and Melissa arrived, the paddocks were part of a degraded ex-cattle property, covered in thick lantana, with just a few bristles of dry grass and little species diversity. Georgina's first step toward improving the pasture was to use pigs to break up and remove the lantana, and in a



fairly short time they had done an amazing job. But she didn't want to farm pigs – she had some other fabulous floppy-eared characters in mind – and two years ago, on the occasion of Melissa's birthday, she brought home their first two BoerX Toggenberg goats: Bev and Tilly, allegedly as a present



for Melissa.

That was just at the beginning of the current La Nina. Georgina explains, 'Under normal conditions goats can struggle to thrive in the Northern Rivers, mostly owing to the humidity here'. So, Georgina's goat-farming endeavour was presented with more than the

usual set of challenges at the outset, which she has learned from, and adapt to, quickly. It seems to be working; her goats looked happy and healthy despite the drizzly weather.

But why has she chosen to position herself as an 'ethical goat farmer'? Through the catering company she runs with Melissa, Table Under a Tree, Georgina has become a passionate advocate for locally-grown produce, 'It's just better,' she says; 'It tastes better, you know there's love that's gone into it.' She feels this is especially so when it comes to smaller scale locally grown animal produce, 'because you get to know each animal's personality; when they're happy or sad. Farming ethically means you've got to respect the animal. If you ask some smart questions of the people producing your food,

then you can quickly come to find the ones who are doing it well and the ones who don't care.'

Part of choosing to be an ethical producer means that Three Paddocks will only offer goat products seasonally; three or four times per year. It's part of managing the impacts on the soil from grazing (although goats do less damage to Australian soils

than cattle), and minimising the use of chemicals for weed control.

During the Harvest Food Trail Georgina invites you to come and see what's involved in keeping goats happy in the hinterland, and she will share tips and tricks for cooking with goat meat, which is a really scrumptious meat, and take you beyond the standard 'goat curry'.

'A good coffee changes everything ...'

A good coffee starts when you source quality beans that are ethically farmed; when farmers are paid a good price for their work which allows them to sustainably manage their farms and provide for their families to keep growing this incredible crop.

Based in the Byron Arts and Industry Estate, Bun Coffee now roasts over 90 different single origin beans that truly take your tastebuds on a world tour; from Australia to Hawaii, Madagascar, Brazil, Ethiopia, Bolivia, Ecuador and El Salvador – just to name a few!

Master roaster, owner and coffee connoisseur David Kennedy sources the beans for Bun Coffee. He's always taken the time to educate himself about the highest quality coffee beans on offer. From his first roast, back in 1992, David's



David Kennedy, a coffee lover who educates himself as part of his search for the highest-quality coffee beans.

love of coffee and the industry behind the exotic bean has never waned.

The name Bun can be traced back to the origins of coffee in the Kaffa Forests of Ethiopia, where coffee is called Buna. For David, it is also reminiscent of a time when he

owned and operated a French patisserie in the Sydney suburb of Glebe, fondly known as the 'sticky bun shop', so the name 'Bun' stuck.

David's passion for this crop has not diminished a drop over time. Right now, he is studying a Certificate in Advanced Studies on Coffee Excellence at the Zurich University of Applied Sciences, which is an in-depth study of coffee from seed to consumer. His early mornings see him, around 5am, totally in his element with a double ristretto in hand and a roast of one of the many single origins in the roaster, David is in true coffee heaven! A lover not only of coffee, but also a lover of the coffee industry, he says, 'I'm so fortunate to absolutely love what I do and share my passion of coffee with those good people around me'.

Roasting 'good coffee', grown by 'good people' is truly a 'good thing' that you can taste in every cup.

Looking for something a little different to give your tastebuds a broader experience? Pop into the Bun Coffee Roastery Door and Espresso Bar located in the Byron Industry Estate.

Now open 6am-3pm Mon-Fri.
Cnr Ewingsdale Rd and Banksia Drive, Byron Arts and Industry Estate.
www.buncoffee.com.au

No price gouging at Byron Farmers Market

There's never been a better time to shop at your local farmers' market. Unlike the supermarkets, where price gouging is rife with the asking price of lettuce at a staggering \$10 each, the farmers' markets have remained a stable source for fresh locally grown produce at a fair price.

Byron Farmers Market manager Tom Carey said prices at the farmers' market never fluctuate to the degree they do in supermarkets.

'Our farmers are able to keep their costs down – and fair – because they are selling directly to the consumer, cutting out freight, packaging and middle-man costs,' he said. 'Their produce is not being carted hundreds or thousands of kilometres to reach its destination. It's grown locally and sold locally'. Price gouging is really not in the spirit of what we stand for at the farmers' market.'

Indeed, NSW Farmers



Byron Farmers Market

Horticulture Committee chairperson, Guy Gaeta, recently told the ABC that supermarkets were pocketing extra profits made through price rises.

'People are paying more for their fruit and veggies at the supermarket, but the farmers aren't selling them for more, so who's really raising the prices here?' he said. 'Sure, you'll get a little lift in prices because of the cost of fuel, but not like we've seen at the checkouts recently. They're ripping off the farmer and they're ripping off the consumer.'

Mr Carey said that despite one of the wettest seasons on record, buying at the farmers' markets still guarantees the consumer a fair price.

'It's been a very difficult season for all farmers – one of the hardest in living memory. On top of that we've had skyrocketing fuel and fertiliser costs. In time, farmers may need to pass on some of the increasing costs, but it's certainly nothing like the price hikes we are seeing in the supermarkets.'

'On top of that, at the farmers' market your money goes directly to the person who grew your food and ultimately this keeps the money in our local economy, which is good for everyone.'

Byron Farmers Market is held every Thursday 7-11am at Butler Street Reserve, and Bangalow Farmers Market is every Saturday morning 7-11am behind the Bangalow Pub.



Now Open

6am - 3pm Monday - Friday

Cnr Banksia Drive & Ewingsdale Road

NORTHERN RIVERS FOOD

HARVEST FOOD TRAIL



SATURDAY & SUNDAY 30 - 31 JULY 2022



MAP & INFORMATION

northernriversfood.org/harvest-food-trail
f @NorthernRiversFood @northernriversfood

IMAGES © KATE SCOTT



P!NK VS GAGA IN BALLINA

The Australian *Pink Show* is excited to announce the ultimate 'rock versus pop' show, *Pink Versus Gaga!* Australia's best and most spectacular tribute show.

P!nk; with countless top ten singles, sold out tours and record breaking attendances, without doubt, P!nk is the most popular and dazzling rock goddess of the international music scene.

Gaga; having sold 27 million albums and 146 million singles, Gaga is among the best-selling musicians of all time. Known as the Queen of Pop, Gaga is sure to amaze!

The Australian *Pink Versus Gaga*, is a spectacular, feature-packed show with multiple costume changes and two stunning performers.

Friday, 8.30pm at the Ballina RSL.

MAXIMUM CIRCUS FUN

In 2020 a new show burst onto the NSW and Qld entertainment scenes. Dubbed Cirkus Maximas by its creators, the show had all the energy and excitement of a sold-out rock concert.

Formed on the Gold Coast a year earlier by four dedicated young acrobats in response to the decided lack of fun children's shows around, it took north coast NSW and southeast Queensland by storm – completing 40 shows in three short months.

Then came COVID-19 and all work stopped. The break was however an opportunity to polish skills and introduce new material, and in early 2022 the show emerged ready for instalment number two in the Cirkus Maximas story.

The gang has been stripped back to three core members who promise 110 per cent every show with more energy, more audience participation and more fun

– it's the best show in town.

In July Cirkus Maximas are on the road again, and everyone is welcome to the show – the audience can take photos, meet the gang after the show, but best of all you can laugh along with its 55 minutes of fast-paced fun for all ages.

Get Cirkus maxed-out this Friday, 3.30pm at the Mullumbimby Ex-Services Club.

THEY'RE BACK AT THE CON

The Northern Rivers Conservatorium, with help of Bennett Constructions and other local trades, is fast approaching the completion of Stage One of the flood resilient refit of their heritage building. Community Music tuition programs will recommence from Monday 25 July in the newly refitted teaching studios on the first floor.

Chair of the NRC Board, Jenny Dowell said the Board and Management are proud of the flood resilient refit and are committed to coming back better and stronger than ever before.

Executive Director of the Northern Rivers Conservatorium, Anita Bellman, said the Conservatorium is an important part of the

Lismore and Northern Rivers community. 'We are proud and eager to be welcoming you back into our building. We can't wait to get back to serving our community from our home in the heart of the Lismore CBD.'

SEVEN



SEVEN



KALLIDAD AT THE BRUNS

Kallidad is Spanish guitar magic with rock 'n' roll energy to create a once-in-a-lifetime sound that has seen the group tour across Europe, Asia and Oceania. The trio's notorious white face paint masks their identities, shifting the focus to a musical style that is alive, intense, emotional and powerful. Kallidad's music is all instrumental – no lyrics are necessary to feel the energy and passion behind the music. Booming percussion and shredded nylon string guitars weave a deep web of sound that always leaves audiences breathless and begging for more!

Sunday 4pm at the Hotel Brunswick.

LAST MINUTE NEWS FOR SPLENDOUR

There has been a lineup change for the 2022 event as Splendour has received word that, sadly, Surfaces, Mako Road and Adrian Eagle are no longer able to make it to the festival. In light of this, irrepressible Fremantle five piece, Pond, and rapper-on-the-rise Tasman Keith have been added to the lineup!

Also, the final sale of a limited number of pre-loved tickets to Splendour are available to purchase now, so don't miss out. This is going to be a weekend you will want to be part of! Snap these up now before it's too late.

Plus, grab your vehicle passes and bus tickets before the event. July 22–24. Splendour is the Festival of 2022. International Artists. Extremely limited tix.

Visit: splendourinthegrass.com or phone 1300 GET TIX (438 849).



LEZ ZEPPELIN ALL GIRLS

The all girls, all Zeppelin band are back – bigger, better, sexier and A LOT LOUDER!

Formed in 2004, Lez Zeppelin is the longest running and most successful Led Zeppelin tribute band in the world with Steph Panes, recognised as the best female rock guitarist on Earth and Leesa Squyres as the number one female rock drummer. Add to that Marlain Angelides on vocals, who oozes the sexuality of Robert Plant with her soaring vocals and high energy performance, and completing the group is musical prodigy Joan Chew, who crosses between the bass and keyboards seamlessly.

It's no wonder New York Rock magazine *SPIN* called them 'The most powerful all-female band in rock history' and *The Guardian* called them 'The best tribute band in the world'.

Lez Zeppelin! All girls, all Zeppelin is coming to get you, and if you think this is a gimmick you are very mistaken – fifteen years sending audiences into a frenzy around the globe attests to that.

Get yourself some Zeppelin on Saturday 23 July at the Mullum Ex-Services Club.

NORTHERN RIVERS CONSERVATORIUM

NORTHERN RIVERS Youth Orchestra 2022

4th -6th October | School Holidays

CONCERT - 6th Oct
WHITEBROOK THEATRE
 Southern Cross University

Guest Conductors from the NSW Regional Youth Orchestra

- 3 Days of Workshops
- Expert Tutors
- Buddies from Sydney and Qld Cons

SENIOR ORCHESTRA:
 Early Bird \$175 (Full Price \$185)

JUNIOR ORCHESTRA:
 Early Bird \$155 (Full Price \$165)

Enrol in NRYO 2022 today!

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNTS CLOSE 12th Sept

NRC Northern Rivers CONSERVATORIUM

NSW GOVERNMENT

REGIONAL CONSERVATORIUMS

P: 6621 2266
E: nryo@nrcac.edu.au

Caldera Environment Centre Presents

World Environment Day Festival 2022

Sun. 17 July, 10-3
Knox Park, Murwillumbah

FREE EVENT

Live Entertainment

Felicity Lawless & Black Rabbit George Tijuana Cartel
 Loose Content Winner, Bluesfest '22 Busking Comp. • Luna Junction Local 'Gypsy-Folk'
 Hoopla Circus Youth circus with workshop • The Pitts Family Circus A real family circus

Speakers Forum

Willow Hallgren Impacts of climate change • Robert Kooyman Forest Ecology • Karina Miotto Deep Ecology
 Dean Patterson Pros and cons of electric vehicles • Grant Periott Water Environment Management
 Donovan Teal Forensic wildlife photography • Rebecca Whan Earthen feature walls

Around the Festival

Local environmental groups • Tweed Shire Council & sustainable business stalls • seed library • Kids space • circus activities
 First Nations dancers • Tasty vegetarian food • coffee, tea, chai & cakes • Solar powered festival

#OnlyOneEarth

TWEED SHIRE COUNCIL

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SAE

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MES MOBILE EVENT SOLUTIONS

STAKE WOOD

Solo MUSIC



Matty Rogers plays the Rails this Saturday.

MATTY AT THE RAILS

This heartfelt storyteller writes and performs from the depths of his soul, and once you start to listen, he will make you feel like he is singing about you and your life. Pure, raw, human emotion pours out of his lyrics and performance, earning him awards for both vocal performance and song writing. It is hard to box Matty, but think blues-country-soul with a huge voice and great lyrics and you're in the ballpark! Check out Matty Rogers and his band on Saturday at the Rails.

ROCK AND ROLL COFFEE COMPANY PRESENTS

Something About Songwriters

TICKETS \$25

WEDNESDAY 27TH JULY 6PM

Songwriters Rebecca Ireland, Broadwaters & Special Guests Visual Artist Katie Grubb. Restaurant & Bar Open

Connect your business to 10,000 loyal locals

BayFM sponsorship is the trusted way to reach buyers in Byron and beyond. Whether you sell solar or fix molars, we'll work with you to write, produce and broadcast messages that cut through to your particular market.

Email sponsorship@bayfm.org or talk to Jeff on 0437 884 405 about our competitive rates and fast turnaround.

bayfm.org Listen like a local.



Loose Content play this Sunday at the WED Festival.

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY FESTIVAL

Caldera Environment Centre will be hosting their annual World Environment Day Festival – WEDfest, this Sunday in Murwillumbah. This year's festival has a full program of live music and performance as well as speakers on the theme of: 'Only One Earth.' There's a full program of entertainment, including Byron Indie band Loose Content, as well as Felicity Lawless and Black Rabbit George from Tijuana Cartel, and the sublime sounds of Luna Junction. There'll be stalls representing a range of environmental groups as well as delicious food and drinks. There's plenty for the whole family with circus acts, First Nations dancers, Gypsy folk music and jazz. Head to Murwillumbah, it's not that far, and spend a day in the beautiful Knox Park from 10-3pm on Sunday.

REMARKABLE AND TRUE STORY

Have you heard the true story of thousands of stranded passengers and the small town in Newfoundland, Canada that welcomed them all? Cultures clashed and nerves ran high, but uneasiness turned into trust, music soared into the night, and gratitude grew into enduring friendships. Now showing at HOTA, Home of the Arts, *Come From Away* tells this remarkable story in a breathtaking new musical written by Tony® and Grammy nominees Irene Sankoff and David Hein, and helmed by Tony® winning Best Director, Christopher Ashley, with musical staging by Olivier Award winner, Kelly Devine. *Come From Away* runs at HOTA until 31 July. Visit hota.com.au.



Band of Frequencies bring their signature blend to Byron.

BAND OF FREQUENCIES IN BYRON

One of Australia's premier roots bands, Band of Frequencies draw their influences from a vast spectrum of blues, rock, reggae, soul, and psychedelic genres. Their signature blend comes from years of live experimentation, constantly pushing their influences into the creative fires to see what melts, what explodes and what merges. They have now successfully forged a bond of elements that ignites the band's natural chemistry, represents their coastal roots and strikes a chord with music lovers around the globe. Sunday, 4.30pm at the Beach Hotel.



Come From Away – a breathtaking new musical.

Dancing in the shadows of

MOTOWN

THE SOUND OF YOUNG AMERICA & THE SOUL OF MODERN MUSIC

FEATURING INTERNATIONALLY ACCLAIMED ARTISTS INCLUDING

Pat Powell Kimi Tupaea Franchesca Appolis Veena Rao

10 PIECE POWERHOUSE BAND PLAYING MANY CLASSIC HITS FROM: THE TEMPTATIONS, THE SUPREMES, MARTHA AND THE VANDELLAS, MARVIN GAYE, THE FOUR TOPS, FONTELLA BASS, THE JACKSON 5, STEVIE WONDER... AND MANY MORE MOTOWN LEGENDS.

THE BYRON THEATRE

Friday 29th July

Many SOLD OUT shows including the Opera House! BOOK NOW!!! - www.byroncentre.com.au \$1 for each ticket sold will go to Friends of the Koala - www.friendsofthekoala.org [www.dancinginthesadowsofmotown.com](http://www.dancingintheshadowsofmotown.com)

HOTA HOME OF THE ARTS

COME FROM AWAY

THE HIT MUSICAL BASED ON THE REMARKABLE TRUE STORY

7-31 Jul

"A Hit and a Masterpiece"

HERALD SUN

GOLDCOAST.

BOOK NOW

HOTA.COM.AU



LIGHTYEARS BEHIND

Ever wondered about Buzz Lightyear’s past? What was it that made him think he was a hero? *Lightyear* is the story of Buzz, who is a space ranger in Star Command. After being marooned on a habitable planet with his commanding officer and best friend, Alisha Hawthorne, and his crew and new recruit, Featheringhamstan, they are forced to retreat to their exploration vessel after discovering that the planet hosts hostile lifeforms. Buzz damages the vessel during the retreat, forcing the crew to evacuate in order to conduct repairs and continue their journey – and the adventure begins...

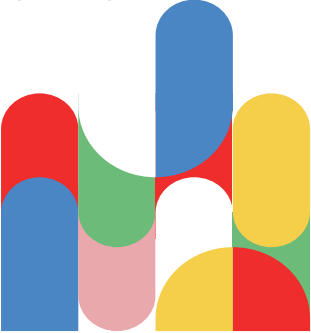
You can see Buzz and his friends at Ballina Fair Cinemas this week.



FALLING FOR FIGARO

Millie Cantwell (Danielle Macdonald), is an American fund manager, who realises one day that her life-long dream is to become an opera singer. Quitting her job and moving away from her boyfriend, she travels to Scotland where she eventually becomes an opera singer following intense vocal training from former opera diva Meghan Geoffrey-Bishop, played by the incredibly wonderful Joanna Lumley and fierce competition from other opera singers.

Falling for Figaro is on daily at the Palace Cinema Byron Bay.



PALACE CINEMAS

Session Times: Thu 14 July - Wed 20 July NFT = No Free Tickets

| ★ SESSION TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE ★ | | | Check online for all live session times |
|--|--|--|---|
| SPECIAL SCREENINGS WHERE THE CRAWDADS SING (M) Fri: 6:30pm - <i>Fine Wine Preview</i> Mon: 11:00am - <i>Morning Tea Preview</i> | ALL FILMS ELVIS (M) Daily except Mon: 10:45, 12:45, 3:15, 4:00, 7:00, 8:15pm Mon: 12:45, 3:15, 4:00, 7:00, 8:15 | THE PHANTOM OF THE OPEN (CTC) Daily: 11:20, 1:40, 3:45, 7:00pm | |
| OFFICIAL COMPETITION (M) Tue: 6:30pm - <i>Sangria Preview</i> | EVERYTHING EVERYWHERE ALL AT ONCE (MA15+) Daily except Fri/Tue: 1:40, 8:00 Fri/Tue: 1:40pm | THE VILLA (M) Daily: 11:00, 3:30pm | |
| FAMILY FILMS LIGHTYEAR (PG) Daily: 10:45, 1:00pm | FALLING FOR FIGARO (M) Daily: 1:30, 6:00pm | THOR: LOVE AND THUNDER (M) Daily except Fri: 11:00, 1:00, 3:30, 4:30, 6:00, 7:15, 8:30pm Fri: 11:00, 1:00, 3:30, 4:30, 6:00, 8:30pm | |
| MINIONS: THE RISE OF GRU (PG) Daily: 11:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00, 4:00, 5:00pm | JURASSIC WORLD: DOMINION (M) Daily: 10:50, 3:50, 6:45pm | TOP GUN: MAVERICK (M) Daily except Fri: 12:50, 5:30, 6:30, 8:15pm Fri: 12:50, 7:15pm | |
| MY SWEET MONSTER (PG) Daily: 10:45am | SUNDOWN (MA15+) Daily except Fri/Tue: 10:45, 6:00pm Fri/Tue: 10:45am | SCANDINAVIAN FILM FESTIVAL 22 JUL - 10 AUG | BOOK NOW |

108 Jonson St, Byron Bay Book online: [palacecinemas.com.au](https://www.palacecinemas.com.au)
Mercato Complex 3hrs FREE parking validation for all Palace Cinemas customers

GIG GUIDE

It’s free to list your gigs in the gig guide.
gigs@echo.net.au w: echo.net.au/gig-guide



WEDNESDAY 13

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **OLE FALCO**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 5PM **BEN NOY AMI**
- FOXY LUU’S, BYRON BAY, 6.15PM **TONY AND THE THIEF**
- NIMBIN SCHOOL OF ART, 10AM **NIMBIN ART FAIR**

THURSDAY 14

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **JOCK BARNES DUO**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 2.30PM **JAZ PATTERSON**, 5PM **ISAAC FRANKHAM**, 7.30PM **FELICITY LAWLESS**
- BYRON THEATRE, 6PM **JULY HOLIDAY WORKSHOP SHOW PRESENTED BY BRIGHT LIGHTS PERFORMANCE SCHOOL**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE, 7PM **CHEEKY CABARET**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK, 6PM **PAINTED CROW**
- ROCHDALE THEATRE, LISMORE, 5.30PM **ROB BAKER FROM AWPR IN CONVERSATION WITH JENNY DOWELL OAM**
- NIMBIN SCHOOL OF ART, 10AM **NIMBIN ART FAIR**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE STAGE 7PM **BJORN AGAIN**

FRIDAY 15

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **THE TYLER DURDENS**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 3PM **JESSE REDWING**, 5.30PM **THE ATLANTIC SALMON**, 8.30PM **MARK CHAPMAN**, 10.30PM **DJ RENEE SIMONE**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK, 6PM **MARSHALL OKELL**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE, 7PM **CHEEKY CABARET**
- OCA, BYRON BAY, **LUKE BENNETT**
- BANGALOW HOTEL, 7.30PM **PHANTOM LIMBZ**
- MULLUMBIMBY EX-SERVICES CLUB ,3.30PM **CIRKUS MAXIMAS**, 3.30PM **CIRKUS MAXIMAS**, 8PM **LEZ ZEPPELIN**
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM **DJ ARUANDA**
- ST JOHN’S SCHOOL HALL, MULLUMBIMBY, 7.30PM **ECSTATIC DANCE MULLUMBIMBY WITH DJ ISHWARA**
- TINTENBAR HALL, 7.30PM **HUSSY HICKS**
- LENNOX HOTEL HOTEL STAGE, 8.30PM **ISAAC FRANKHAM**
- BALLINA RSL LEVEL ONE, 8.30PM **PINK VS GAGA**
- NIMBIN SCHOOL OF ART, 10AM **NIMBIN ART FAIR**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS, 5PM **TAHLIA MATHESON**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH HOTEL, 7PM **ANDY JANS-BROWN**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE STAGE 8PM **BJORN AGAIN**
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL, 5PM **STEVEN MICHAEL**, 9.30PM **THE BIG DUO**

SATURDAY 16

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **MATTY ROGERS BAND**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 12.30PM **ANDY JANS-BROWN**, 3PM **LUKE HAYWARD**, 6PM **MICKA SCENE DUO**, 9PM **RAW ORDIO WITH ANDY V**
- BYRON THEATRE 1PM **A WINTER’S TALE (REMASTERED) + FILMMAKER Q&A**, 6PM **THAT WAS THEN, THIS IS NOW FEAT. HEADLAND**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK, 7.30PM **THE TYLER DURDENS**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE, 7PM **CHEEKY CABARET**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, **THE GROGANS + COUCH WIZARD & WET SEASON**
- SECRET GARDEN, BYRON BAY, 12PM **GARDEN VIBES MUSIC FESTIVAL – BOBBY ALU, MARK CHAPMAN, THE DEJA VOODOO + MORE**
- YUM YUM TREE CAFE, NEW BRIGHTON, 6PM **INO PIO**

- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 3.30PM **DJ SLINKY**
- LENNOX HOTEL HOTEL STAGE, 8.30PM **PAINTED CROW**
- BALLINA RSL BOARDWALK, 7PM **BEN WHITING**
- NIMBIN SCHOOL OF ART, 10AM **NIMBIN ART FAIR**
- REGENT CINEMA, MURWILLUMBAH, 3PM **DANDY MAN: FOR THE LOVE OF IT**, 5PM **ELENA B WILLIAMS AND RACHEL HEATON**
- MURWILLUMBAH SERVICES CLUB, 6.30PM **PHIL GUEST**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS, 5PM **BILL JACOBI**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH HOTEL, 7PM **JOCK BARNES**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, **THE SHOWROOM** 8PM **IAN MOSS & TROY CASSAR-DALEY**
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL 5PM **CASEY FOGG**, 9.30PM **PHOENIX RISING**

SUNDAY 17

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **PHIL & TILLY**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 12PM **LUKE BENNETT**, 2.30PM **JEROME WILLIAMS**, 4.30PM **BAND OF FREQUENCIES**, 7PM **DJ LORDY WARDY**, 9PM **DJ SOPHDEXX**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK, 4PM **KALLIDAD**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE, 4PM **PAUL CAPSIS: DRY MY TEARS**, 7PM **CHEEKY CABARET**
- CRYSTALBROOK BYRON’S VERANDAH, 2PM **BOMBACLOCK**
- NORTH BYRON HOTEL, 3PM **DJ ABEL TORO**
- FOXY LUU’S, BYRON BAY, 5PM **MARK CHAPMAN**
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 3PM **TIAGO FREITAS**
- NIMBIN SCHOOL OF ART, 10AM **NIMBIN ART FAIR**
- KNOX PARK, MURWILLUMBAH, 10AM **WEDFEST – WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY FESTIVAL**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH HOTEL, 1PM **JASON DELPHIN**
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL, 4PM **LIVIN’ IN THE 70S**

MONDAY 18

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **STEPHEN LOVELIGHT**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 2.30PM **SHENOA**, 5PM **CHRIS DEL MAR**, 7.30PM **THE SWAMP CATS DUO**

TUESDAY 19

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **JASON DELPHIN**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 2.30PM **KINGSLY JAMES**, 5PM **GABRIELLE**, 7.30PM **ADAM BROWN DUO**
- BYRON THEATRE, 7PM **ESCAPE PRESENTED BY AG DANCE CO.**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE, 7PM **URZILA CARLSON**
- OCA, BYRON BAY, **SOPHIA**
- BANGALOW HOTEL, 7.30PM **BANGALOW BRACKETS – OPEN MIC WITH DR BAZ**

WEDNESDAY 20

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **TOMMY CASTLES**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 10AM **DJ MY HAPPY PLACE**, 2.30PM **CHRIS SHEEHY**, 5PM **TIM STOKES**, 7.45PM **NANA’S PIE**, 9PM **AUSTIN MACKAY BAND**
- BYRON THEATRE, 2PM **PISSARRO: FATHER OF IMPRESSIONISM – EXHIBITION ON SCREEN**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE, 7PM **URZILA CARLSON**
- FOXY LUU’S, BYRON BAY, 6.15PM **TONY AND THE THIEF**
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL, 6.30PM **COL GERMANO**



FEEL THE PAIN

Around 20 per cent of Australians live with chronic pain. It's consistent with worldwide stats that indicate one in five people suffer from chronic pain (CP) with prevalence increasing with age. I woke at 1am and started thinking about this. And then I woke again at 1.30am and 2am and then I lay there until after 3am. I might have drifted but woke at about 4.30am to roll over. I am in pain. Excruciating, constant and unrelenting pain. Pain that I've had now for a few months. Pain that lives in my body like a toothache. A silent electric throb in one side of my body.

And yes, it's age related. It's bursitis and a frozen shoulder, and I'm getting treatment.

Fortunately my condition isn't lifelong, it should resolve itself in 18 months.

That's what the radiographer told me after an ultrasound. I was like, 'Wow, 18 months! How do people live like this?'

It hurts to sleep. There is no comfortable position. I toss all night looking for some way of holding my body so that I can't feel the ache. The longer I lay in bed the more painful it gets. My friends say 'You need to rest', but rest hurts the most. I no longer need an alarm to wake. I've been awake all night.

It hurts to wash my hair. It hurts to dry my hair. It hurts to get dressed. I struggle to pull up my jeans; I can't get my coat off without assistance. It's humiliating to be in public and have to ask strangers to help me. I am not used to being in pain and being limited by what I can do. It still catches me by surprise.

When I was in Sydney recently for work I realised the only

dress I had packed had a zip up the back, which I could normally manage. I had to ask the poor young man at reception to do me up. He awkwardly obliged. I'm like, fuck, is this what it feels like to be old? Wandering the streets with your clothes unzipped? Hoping for the kindness of strangers?

And I am lucky. My condition will eventually pass. But it's depressing. I feel myself slipping into a sad space. Apart from what my physio gives me I can't exercise, I can't play tennis, I can't do yoga, I can't ride a horse, I can't abseil, I can't swing on the trapeze. Of course most of those things I never did anyway, but the pain makes me sulk about my loss. Pain doesn't bring out the best me. My pain scale hovers between a two and a six. Right now it's about two. When I finally got out of bed it had been at six since midnight.

I don't take painkillers. Opiates stop working after six weeks, then you have to up the dose. It can end up making pain worse. My husband told me this because coincidentally he's writing a Masters on CP. It's a shame, because I was quite looking forward to 18 months on opiates, but what's the point? I couldn't be bothered. I'd rather suffer. After all, I have some Denco rub and a hot water bottle. Heat; the quiet salvation of the aged. People in chronic pain are easy to identify – they smell like menthol and rubber.

I have tried medicinal cannabis. It does help quite a lot, but I don't

want to lose my license. The drug-driving laws mean the only useful pain relief for me can't be used without a huge risk. Ironically if I was using opiates I'd be fine, but if I'd taken medicinal cannabis it's detectable for up to 10 days – so if got swabbed I could lose my license. That's a whole other sort of pain.

But as someone who has never been in constant pain like this before I suddenly realised how 20 per cent of the population feels all the time. I realise that pain is boring. That it isolates people. It kills joy. And that people in pain very often stop saying 'I am in pain' because, in the end, no one takes any notice. You sound like a whinger. Well, I'm having 'lived experience' right now, and to that one-in-five out there who suffer in silence, I have to say – how do you do this? You really are amazing; because it's hard and it's relentless.

Pain is subjective and invisible. Other people can't see it. They dismiss the experience of people with CP. I realise I certainly did. I'm sorry I never really considered what your life was like.

There are so many inspirational quotes about pain. If you know someone in pain, don't make it worse with a cliché.

There is a quote that says 'Sometimes you must hurt in order to know, fall in order to grow and lose in order to gain, because life's great lessons are learned through pain.'

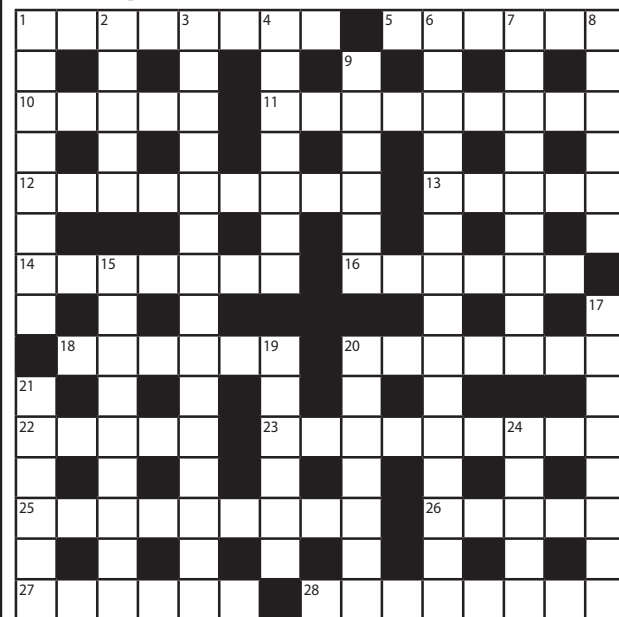
What a load of horseshit. That's what privileged people tell the suffering so they can go back to being privileged while the rest of us are busy in our silent agony becoming better people.

Fuck that. Just change the law.



Mungo's Crossword

N447



Cryptic Clues

ACROSS

- Insurers about turn – supports those who have lost limbs (8)
 - Boss with Zeus's lover in a place to paint (6)
 - Blue murder over grand swelling (5)
 - Removes folds and reduces (9)
 - Revenue cheat thanks, with a kiss, Californian ball player (3,6)
 - Sloth left broadcast (5)
 - Protective covering lubricates relatives (7)
 - Lead astray in two directions Benito Mussolini (6)
 - Ruins peacekeeper party cardinals (6)
 - German city with conditional return – subtlety! (7)
 - Little sister with a line in fibre (5)
 - A new quarter open to holocaust victim (4,5)
 - Company directors daring monopoly, perhaps (5,4)
 - Depicted gaunt (5)
 - The Spanish – not odd for cricketers (6)
 - Disasters unfortunately stun Kingsley and Martin (8)
- DOWN**
- Desire to advance for the full range – charge! (8)
 - Discussed bunches of flowers (5)
 - Excited, told of green week – a feature of 6! (4,2,9)
 - Middle Eastern president groaned unhappily (7)
 - The awful danger of Eastern study – where it all began! (3,6,2,4)
 - Shames? Hell – good contests! (9)
 - Working team – and legal! (6)
 - One vehicle, American – a tragic high flyer! (6)
 - Alights on the headland – fine view (9)
 - KKK on Saturdays and Sundays (8)
 - Mark for sailor – a sacred symbol (6)
 - Swordsmen – right among receivers of stolen goods (7)
 - America, competent and available for employment (6)
 - A line on a limb – a worry (5)

Quick Clues

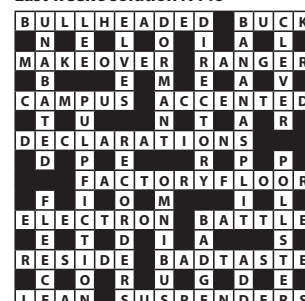
ACROSS

- They've had a leg removed (8)
- Atelier (6)
- Protrude (5)
- Diminishes (9)
- A GST avoider (3,6)
- Ventilated (5)
- Waterproof jacket (7)
- Captivate (6)
- Reverses; unfastens (6)
- Dexterity (7)
- Used for making rope (5)
- Young diarist who hid from the Nazis (4,5)
- Competitive tabletop activity with two or more players (5,4)
- Haggard (5)
- Hour before midnight (6)
- Destructive waves (8)

DOWN

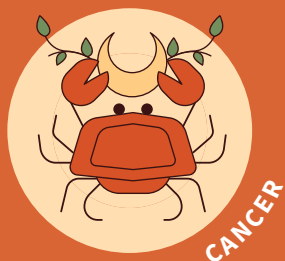
- Aspiration (8)
- North American flower (5)
- Eating its fruit was forbidden (Genesis) (4,2,9)
- Turkish president (7)
- Where 3 down was located (3,6,2,4)
- Dishonours (9)
- Can be counted on; trustworthy (6)
- Melting wax caused his downfall (6)
- Outdoor vista (9)
- They lie between Friday and Monday (8)
- Type of dung beetle (6)
- They duel with rapiers (7)
- Fit for purpose (6)
- Startle (5)

Last week's solution N446



STARS BY LILITH

As Venus joins Sun and Mercury in family-oriented Cancer, ambitious Capricorn full moon highlights any tensions in the work-home balance...



ARIES: With fluctuating feelings flavour of the week, if people are moody or super-sensitive, best not try pinning them down to specifics. Cancer transits inspire us to be fluid, so keep your calendar flexible. Meditate, medicate, do whatever it takes to make challenging processes playful rather than painful.

TAURUS: Midweek's full moon of legacies and putting down roots for the future is a really auspicious time to plant something: either literally in or on the ground, or else seeding an idea. If Mars in your sign starts riding you, or feeling too pushy, slow down and take a breather.

GEMINI: Yes, the world at large is feeling emo, but this could still be your most practical and productive time of year where work and finances are concerned. Evaluate where you're putting your energy and whether it's giving you the best returns, and midweek's full moon could bring a promising money moment.

CANCER: As affectionate Venus settles into your sentimental sign for cuddling, cuddling, nesting and resting, lavish yourself with something luxe, luscious, lush and indulgent. And why not celebrate Cancerian hero Alan Turing who invented computer science, decrypted the Nazis' WW2 Enigma code, saved millions of lives and made the computer age possible.

LEO: A triad of planets in your sector of closure and transitions advises completing lingering tasks and behind-the-scenes work. If this week's full moon brings stress to a breaking point, take it as a wakeup call to address your health. Schedule overdue checkups and make any necessary changes.

VIRGO: Astral energetics in Virgo's sector of teamwork and technology suggest sprucing up your online presence and connecting with like-minded people, virtually and in person. Network, circulate, catch-up with friends. Since this week's emotionally reactive full moon could bring intense feelings to the surface, keep knee-jerk impulses and reactions in check.

LIBRA: While Venus is settling into her most nurturing and domestically affectionate placement, this week's also about who you know; specifically any well-connected mentors who could support your making a power move. Your current balancing act is between the home comfort bubble and long-term career goals.

SCORPIO: If you've felt stuck in a bit of a holding pattern in recent months, you can probably feel the pace picking up again. Midweek's full moon continues conversations you've been exploring all year, which could reach a turning point. Got a message to share? Then get it out there; locally, on social media, however you need to do it.

SAGITTARIUS: This is high hibernation-at-home season when you can introspect and spend time with your inner circle. That said, there's so much going on under the surface of this week it's impossible to take anything at face value. So remember 1) the truth is relative, and 2) issuing ultimatums isn't likely to end well.

CAPRICORN: Put a circle around annual Capricorn full moon for discussing professional restructures and changing family life requirements. While preserving and persevering are Capricorn's strong suit, so is practicality, and this week offers opportunities for researching emerging strategies to implement your vision. If others seem a bit needy or clingy, just indulge them.

AQUARIUS: Has a situation reached an important turning point? This week's full moon in your astral house of healing and conclusions could assist you in closing the door on one chapter so you can open another one. There's also plenty of cosmic support for calling in some helping hands, so reach out.

PISCES: Neptune retrograde in Pisces is your 're' season. Meaning what? Meaning reconnecting with those special people you haven't seen recently. Renewing old threads that have frayed. Regulating your pace to avoid burn out. Rejuvenating with replenishing, feel-good therapies and treatments. Rejoicing for what there is to celebrate.

Peter A Smith Law Practice becomes van Kempen & Associates

Van Kempen & Associates Conveyancing and Property Law combines the experience of brothers Simon and Adam van Kempen (principal of long established Byron Bay law firm BvK Pty Ltd), harnessing their legal expertise and business acumen within the Tweed and Byron Shires.

Twelve months after taking on the Ocean Shores practice, Simon and Adam have decided to rebrand under the family named van Kempen & Associates, also known as VKA Solicitors Attorneys, established in Tweed Heads in 2015. Their sister Sue works as Office Manager in the family business.

Van Kempen & Associates specialise in property and commercial matters, including subdivisions, conveyancing and complex property transactions, retail and commercial leasing and dispute resolution. All three offices also deal with wills and estate matters.

Local to the area the van Kempen family lived in Ballina in the 1970s before moving to Brisbane where

Sue, Simon and Adam completed high school. Life then took the siblings in different directions, across the world, until regrouping decades later in the Northern Rivers.

Well known in the local community Adam is Chair of the Byron Writers Festival and an active Board member of Sprung!! Integrated Dance Theatre. He acts on a pro bono basis for the Byron Community Centre and is an integral part of local sporting clubs and other local not-for-profit organisations.

After a successful career as a chef, including executive chef at a 5-star hotel in China, Adam returned to Australia with his family and expanded on his extensive small business experience, studying a Bachelor of Law and graduating with

honours from Southern Cross University. He started working in Byron Bay with Stephen Bottrill, Solicitors Attorneys, soon becoming a partner with the firm, known as BvK Solicitors Attorneys, Byron Bay.

Simon started his property finance career as a senior accountant for the Ritz Hotel in London in the '80s and progressed to become a finance director and property acquisitions specialist in the '90s. Subsequently he spent 12 years working in the New York City financial hotel market, asset management and senior operational roles. Simon returned with his family to live in the Northern Rivers in 2015 and made a career change to the legal profession. He also holds a



Brothers, Simon and Adam van Kempen, and sister Sue on the beach in Ballina in the '70s (right) and today (above).



Bachelor of Law from Southern Cross University, and outside of work Simon is the Public Officer and Treasurer of TS Lismore Navy Cadets in Ballina.

Rounding off the family business is sister Sue, who holds graduate and post-graduate degrees in Visual Arts. During her working

life Sue has held admin and creative roles in many large and small companies in Australia, the UK, and Hungary. She returned to Australia in 2013, after living for 15 years in Budapest, where she gained further experience with international businesses. Having worked with Adam in restaurants and

catering decades before, she was delighted when he asked if she would join the firm as Office Manager.

VKA Solicitors & Attorneys
Tweed Heads 07 5599 4456
Ocean Shores 02 6680 2888
Byron Bay 02 6680 8522.



Katrina Beohm

real estate


coastal & hinterland sales





TULLERA

3 Minshul Crescent
\$2.4 million
Inspect: By Appointment

 4
  4
  8
  3006m²



BE IMPRESSED

- + Spacious, single-level luxury family home with top-quality appliances, fixtures & fittings & technology throughout
- + Stunning chefs kitchen with butlers pantry, built-in coffee machine & two dishwashers, plus full outdoor kitchen
- + Master suite offers huge dressing room & double ensuite with bath. Guest bedroom with walk-in robe & ensuite
- + Media room, 5kW solar, electric gate, double garage & the ultimate shed - mezzanine and games room with A/C

Katrina Beohm 0467 001 122



Laine Palmer Zoe O'Reilly Gail Beohm Rachael Jenkins Katrina Beohm Christopher Plim Hayley Beohm Emily Hughes

“ Besides our children, our home is our greatest asset. A lifetime of development and to hand over the keys to another to meet your goals, maintain their loyalty, ensure their professionalism and provide a trust between agent and owner is paramount for a harmonious outcome. All members of the Katrina Beohm Real Estate provided these qualities.

- Paul Riley ”



Private Sanctuary Just a Short Walk to Town and Beaches

3 2 2 519M²

- Boasting one of the largest internal floor spaces within the complex this North facing family home is turn-key ready
- Positioned in "Seadrift" a highly sought-after, secure complex, with fantastic amenities including in-ground pool, sundeck and entertaining pavilion
- Conveniently located just an easy 8-minute stroll to Byron township and pristine, world-renowned beaches, shopping, cafes and restaurants

20/6-8 Browning Street, Byron Bay

Price Guide: Contact Agent

Open: By Appointment



Tara Torkkola
0423 519 698



Jasmin McClymont
0434 029 668



Elevated 80 Acre Parcel of Land in Stunning Hinterland

2 1 80 ACRES

- Nestled in the tightly held hinterland rests this expansive, elevated 80-acre property with mid-century timber cottage and abundance of fruit trees
- The expansive property includes a separate shed, piggery, paddocks and pastures for cattle, perfect for farmers or hobby farm enthusiasts
- A peaceful creek runs through property and features a private waterhole for you to enjoy

136 Repentance Creek Road, Goonengerry

Price Guide: Expressions of Interest

Open: By Appointment



Tara Torkkola
0423 519 698



Idyllic Country Oasis with Breathtaking Hinterland Views

4 2 2 1205M²

- This home is positioned on a large 1205m block and is set across 2 levels which provides plenty of space for growing families
- Unique to the home is its offering of multiple outdoor, covered entertaining areas with breathtaking hinterland views
- Featured on the property is a gorgeous salt water pool which is perfect for the summer months and entertaining with friends and family

5 Wickham Place, Clunes

Price Guide: \$1.05m - \$1.15m

Open: Saturday 16th July 1.30-2pm



Su Reynolds
02 6685 8466



Luke Elwin
0421 375 635



The Ultimate 7.5 acre Coastal Hideaway in the Heart of Byron

6 3 5 3.13 HA

- This magical retreat offers multiple living options with a flexible floorplan that showcases a blend of modern and reclaimed materials with earthy tones
- Featured is a self-contained guest cabin that includes a private, panoramic deck with plunge pool that takes in incredible views of Mt Warning
- Entertaining is easy with an immaculately landscaped, alfresco dining courtyard area, with a built in BBQ, fire pit and pizza oven

154 Old Bangalow Road, Byron Bay

Price Guide: Expressions Of Interest

Open: By Appointment



Tara Torkkola
0423 519 698



Su Reynolds
02 6685 8466



Inspired by Australian Coastal Homes from the 50's and 60's

- Family compound with complete privacy, complimented by high end luxury fittings and finishes and the architecture emphasises a passive solar design
- Featured on the property is a exquisite 12 meter Enviroskim freshwater pool that is surrounded by hardwood decking
- Entertaining is elevated with a traditional pizza oven and stone firepit, crafted with rocks sourced from the site
- The sense of tranquil privacy is amplified by the adjoining native corridor and creek boundary with visiting wildlife such as koalas and echidnas.

6 4 5 1.2 ACRES

12 Scenic Vista Drive, Ewingsdale

EOI Closing 28th July. Guide: \$3.95m – \$4.325m

Open: Saturday 16th July 10–10.30am



Helen Huntly-Barratt
0412 332 232



Tara Torkkola
0423 519 698



Fabulous First Floor Apartment with Rooftop Terrace

2 1 1

- Situated in the heart of Mullumbimby, this stylish, modern apartment has had a complete quality renovation, promising a perfect low maintenance home
- The deluxe stone kitchen features an induction cooktop, high-end appliances, and breakfast bar that has stunning views across to Mt Chincogan
- Featured outside is a delightful, partially covered rooftop terrace that is the perfect place to relax and unwind, or enjoy alfresco dining

1/53 Stuart Street, Mullumbimby

Price Guide: \$865,000 – \$950,000

Open: By Appointment



Sally Green
0488 030 116



Tara Torkkola
0423 519 698



Solid Family Home on a Large Block in "Sunrise" Location

3 1 1 702M²

- Set in the enviable 'Sunrise' location this solid brick family home rests on a large, level, easily maintainable 702m² block
- Featured is a large 6x4 shed which offers a great workshop space and is approved as a garage for those who need extra storage or a hobby space
- With Byron's extensive bike paths, you are only a short bike ride from the sands of Belongil beach or follow the path into central Byron

15 Belongil Crescent, Byron Bay

Price Guide: \$1.850m – \$2m

Open: By Appointment



Helen Huntly-Barratt
0412 332 232



Charlie Moorhouse
0407 695 921

BYRON SHIRE

REAL ESTATE

byronshirerealestate.com.au



280 The Pocket Road, The Pocket4 3 1

Surrounded by tropical gardens and manicured lawns this immaculately maintained & architecturally designed home enjoys a N/E aspect on an easy-care acre. The property has a feeling of seclusion yet is only a short drive from cafes, shops and beaches.

Inspect
By Appointment
Price
\$2,300,000
Gary Brazenor 0423 777 237
Todd Buckland 0408 966 421

Chincogan

Real Estate

DECEASED ESTATE AUCTION



40 Tongarra Drive, OCEAN SHORES

Ocean view, reserve front renovator on absolute prime ridgeline position.
Set on a 1174m² block offering spectacular ocean, coastal and hinterland views.
Located in sought after north facing Tongarra Drive, just below the Ocean Shores lookout, opportunity knocks with this two level, 3 bed, 2 bathroom home offering unlimited potential to renovate or replace and rebuild.

Auction
Saturday 23rd July, if not sold prior
Contact: Nicci Nelson 0488 947 227
Danny Thompson 0414 274 740

www.chincogan.com.au | sales@chincogan.com.au

BYRON SHIRE

REAL ESTATE

byronshirerealestate.com.au



8 Coolamon Scenic Dr. Mullumbimby3 1 2

After 24 years the owners of this rare property are moving to Melbourne and committed to selling! The unique opportunity to own over an acre of stunning, flood free land with river frontage, zoned 2a, in the heart of Mullum doesn't come along often.

Inspect
Sat 16th July 1 -1.30pm
Auction
30th July 10am on site
Gary Brazenor 0423 777 237
Todd Buckland 0408 966 421



57 Binalong Court, Upper Burringbar5 3

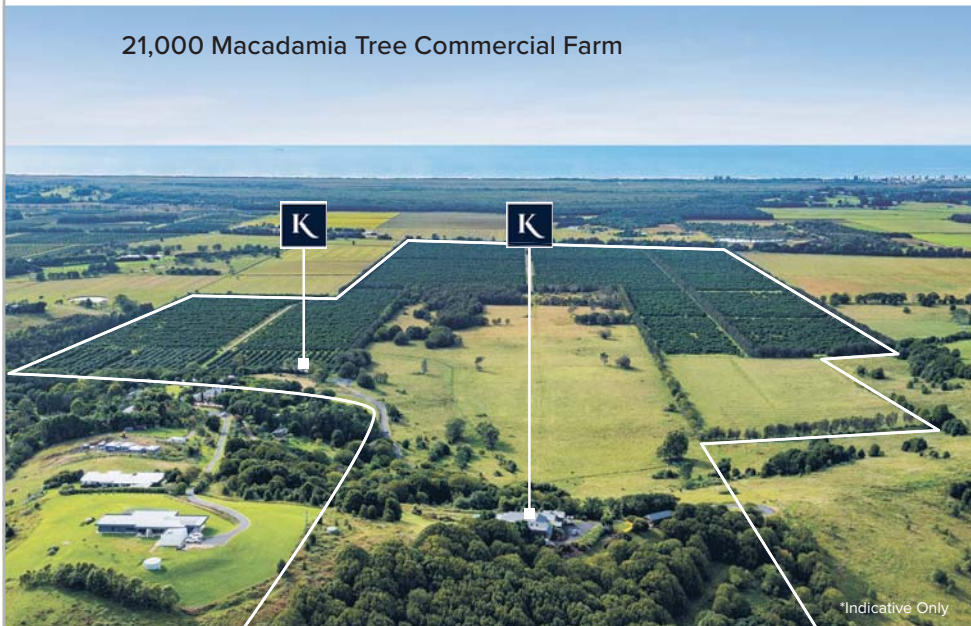
Private hinterland estate, with a N/E aspect & stunning ocean views, sitting on 10 elevated acres. The character home flows over three levels and incorporates timber milled on the property. Other features include a pool, spa, caretaker's cabin & yoga studio.

Inspect
By appointment only
Price
\$1,975,000 to \$2,170,000
Gary Brazenor 0423 777 237
Todd Buckland 0408 966 421

Prized and Profitable Northern Rivers Farm



21,000 Macadamia Tree Commercial Farm



KOLLOSCHÉ™

Scan for Listing



微信 扫码



Contact for a Private Viewing

Rob Lamb 0405 608 601

Michael Kollosche 04111 888 15

13 Edward Place, Knockrow

Contact Agent

Main Residence

3 3 4 150 acres*

Farm House


4 2 170 acres*

Sweeping coastal vistas. Sustainable living. Serenity and seclusion. This idyllic 320-acre* Byron Bay Hinterland estate offers it all. Peaceful and private, it's where you can indulge in the organic and artisan delights of nearby Newrybar or Bangalow. Grab your board and within 10 minutes surf some of the best East Coast breaks of Lennox Head and Broken Head or in 20 minutes soak up Byron Bay's famous surfing spots Wategos, The Pass and Tallows. Just 15 minutes from the airport, 'Ballyshaw Farm' is a thriving 21,000 macadamia tree commercial farm offering a main residence with a distinctively relaxed feel, as well as a 4 bedroom farm house - a perfect base to run the farm business. All the restored timber and artefacts are hand-picked to evoke a sense of 'Australiana' that make the home feel like it's been a part of the land for decades. *approximate




Nicholas James Dunn (Stock and Station Licence No. 1481104) (McGrath) in conjunction with Kollosche Pty Ltd ATF Kollosche Trust (Kollosche).

DiJONES

New South Wales | **Sotheby's**
INTERNATIONAL REALTY



Lot 1, 414 Nightcap Range Road, Whian Whian

 **5**  **4**  **10**

Rainforest Retreat with Untapped Potential

Set on an expansive 22 acres in the heart of the Gondwana Rainforest, this remarkable property presents a fantastic opportunity for those looking to acquire a prized parcel of land positioned in the World Heritage-listed Nightcap National Park.

This property offers a unique opportunity to create a private family compound or to develop an eco resort with up to 40 cabins (STCA). Only 5 minutes from Minyon Falls with easy access to serene forest trails, walks, amenities and less than an hour drive to Byron Bay, this is a rare market offering with huge future development potential.

For Sale
View: By Appointment
Grant Dale
0499 199 122
grant.dale@nswsir.com
Michael Minogue (co agent)
0414 408 792
mminogue@dijones.com

sydneysothebysrealty.com
dijones.com.au

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ACCOM
HOLIDAY RENTALS**
byronbayaccom.net

02 6680 8111 | 1/27 Fletcher Street Byron Bay

 **LJ Hooker**



Auction



Central Flood Free Position in Maclean

 **3**  **2**  **2**

52A River Street, Maclean

- Beautiful sunsets are a regular treat from the front deck.
- A short 2-minute walk into the heart of Maclean.
- Wonderful views of the sweeping Clarence River.
- Great shed 6 x 8 metres with workshop area with power.
- Separate living spaces, three spacious bedrooms, plus two bathrooms.

Auction:
To be Auctioned On-Site
Saturday 30th July – 11am

View:
Open Saturday
10am – 11am

Agent:
Travis McConnell 0407 450 007

LJ Hooker Maclean 6645 2222
Web ID ljhooker.com.au/SWVF6G

Maclean 6645 2222



Rare And Unique Lifestyle Property...Dual Housing, Privacy Plus On 5 Acres

 **5**  **3**  **6**

Located in the foothills of the Yamba hinterland, this 5 acre Ashby property consists of a three bedroom plus rumpus home and separate 2 bedroom granny flat, all set in a lovely bush setting with Sandy Creek on the boundary. Gentle breezes year round, fruit trees including guava, plum, bananas and mango, native birds and wallabies are there to enjoy from your own front veranda. All set on a flood free private paradise with cleared land plus native bush and rock formations that are nature's natural sculptures. This is a "Lifestyle Property" with so many possibilities for the extended family, nature lovers' retreat and so much more.

Located only 25 minutes to Yamba and Iluka beaches, less than 15 minutes to Maclean and with the school bus at the bottom of the driveway, the property is very accessible.

Address & Price on Application

Agent:
Angus Sutor 0436 006 717

LJ Hooker Maclean 6645 2222
Web ID ljhooker.com.au/SMDf6G



Auction



RayWhite

"Folly Farm" via, Rosebank

4 3 3 1

- The quintessential hinterland hobby farm offering sweeping northerly vistas to the magnificent Nightcap Ranges
- Immaculately presented character family home with wrap around verandahs and huge outdoor living areas overlooking the oasis pool in an idyllic rural setting
- Elevated frost-free 5 acres with landscaped grounds, subtropical orchard and plenty of room for the ponies
- The benefits continue with a funky self-contained studio and machine sheds, all within easy drive to the Byron coast and Bangalow village

Auction
Saturday 30th July

View
Thursday 2-2.30pm
Saturday 10-10.30am

PROUDLY RAY WHITE
raywhiteruralbangalow.com.au



Greg Price
0412 871 500
greg.price@raywhite.com



RayWhite



RayWhite



Sale



Sale



Live Amongst The Trees, The Channon

3 2 2 1

- Relax in your own private hinterland paradise
- Open spaces throughout bring light and nature to your doorstep
- Watch the kids in the pool while making dinner
- Eco friendly features throughout including solar panels with back up battery system and emergency circuit
- Abundant water supply from a natural spring and rain water tanks
- Right near the Channon village and its beautiful community
- Potential elevated secondary dwelling house site (STCA) with stunning valley views

Sale
Contact Agent

View
By Appointment

Trent Stana
0447 301 660
trent.stana@raywhite.com

PROUDLY RAY WHITE
raywhiteruralbangalow.com.au



Large Family Home in Superb Location, Bangalow

5 3 2 1

- Multiple living areas with a flexible layout, including a second ensuited bedroom, ideal for guests or a professional working from home
- Clean modern lines and zoned ducted heating/cooling throughout
- Private, level, terraced yard featuring heated in-ground swimming pool with swim jets
- Cul-de-sac location in one of Bangalow's quietest precincts with short walk to town, easily accessing all village amenities and the beaches of Byron and Lennox Head within 20 minutes drive
- Near new condition with nothing to do but move in, unpack and enjoy

Sale
Contact Agent

View
By Appointment

Trent Stana
0447 301 660
trent.stana@raywhite.com

PROUDLY RAY WHITE
raywhiteruralbangalow.com.au





THE SIMPLE LIFE

8 Banksia Place, Mullumbimby

A perfect life of simplicity and relaxation in this neat and cosy home. Set back from the road in well-established gardens nothing to do, just move in and enjoy, it's that simple! Open plan living, dining and great serviceable kitchen with pantry and gas cooking.

- Spacious study with French doors and separate entry, ideal for working from home
- 3 bedrooms, two with floor to ceiling built-in wardrobes
- North facing back covered patio a place to relax and soak in the sun enjoying the lifestyle and privacy of

your gardens

- Garden shed and easy care raised vege garden beds to grow your own produce
- Solar hot water, 1.5 kw solar power eco-friendly and offsets rising electricity costs

Located in a quiet cul-de-sac just minutes walk to local sports field, Mullum markets, Brunswick River, parks and town centre.

\$865,000

View: Saturday 16 July, 11-11.45am
Contact: Paul Eatwell - 0414 466 111
 paul@nclp.com.au

3 1 1



IN THE HEART OF TOWN

81 Station Street, Mullumbimby

Enjoy the convenience of living in the heart of town with everything at your doorstep. Indulge in a short stroll 'around the corner' for the early morning latte. Relax in the morning sun on the front verandah, interacting with friendly passersby... it's an enviable lifestyle.

- Open plan living at its finest flowing seamlessly from the front living through stacker doors to the perfect back entertainment verandah and boardwalk alfresco dining.
- Gourmet kitchen, huge island bench, stone tops, a pleasure for the creative chef

- 3 bedrooms, studio room, 4th guest bedroom or the ultimate home office
- Perfect 9ft ceilings, bamboo timber flooring, luxury lit touch switches and led lights
- Energy efficient with 5.3kw Solar power and 6.5kw LG storage batteries
- Envable workshop, super large dual carport, rear lane access with remote gate

MOTIVATED VENDOR

View: Saturday 16 July, 11-11.45am
Contact: Idan Gonen - 0482 553 050
 idan@nclp.com.au

3-4 2 2



North Coast Lifestyle
 PROPERTIES

81-83 Burringbar Street,
 Mullumbimby NSW 2482
 ABN: 34 068 287 427

www.nclp.com.au
 P: 02 6684 2615
 E: sales@nclp.com.au

Open For Inspection



Byron & Beyond Real Estate

- 6178 Tweed Valley Way, Burringbar. Sat 10-10.30am
- 21 Philip St, South Golden Beach. Sat 12-12.30pm

Elders Real Estate Brunswick Valley

- 241 Broken Head Road, Suffolk Park. Sat 9.30-10am
- 10/2 Arika Way, Ocean Shores. Sat 10-10.30am
- 2 Burra Burra Close, Ocean Shores. Sat 10-10.30am
- 3 Paldi Court, Ocean Shores. Sat 11-11.30am
- 56 Tweed Street, Brunswick Heads. Sat 11-11.30am
- 7/11 Booyun Street, Brunswick Heads. Sat 11-11.30am
- 5/4 Bindaree Way, Ocean Shores. Sat 12-12.30pm

First National Byron Bay

- 34 Horizon Drive, West Ballina. Wed 2-2.30pm
- 4 Tyagarah Street, Mullumbimby. Thu 4-4.30pm
- 344 Middle Pocket Road, Middle Pocket. Fri 11-11.30am
- 91 Terania Creek Road, The Channon. Sat 1-1.30pm
- 7 Red Bean Close, Suffolk Park. Sat 9-9.30am
- 8B Seaview Street, Byron Bay. Sat 9-9.30am
- 12 Scenic Vista Drive, Ewingsdale. Sat 10-10.30am
- 36 Natan Court, Ocean Shores. Sat 10-10.30am
- 14 Brooklet Road, Newrybar. Sat 10-10.30am

- 6/21-25 Cemetery Road, Byron Bay. Sat 10-10.30am
- 56 Charlotte Street, Bangalow. Sat 11-11.30am
- 3 Ocean Street, Byron Bay. Sat 11-11.30am
- 6/16 Oakland Court, Byron Bay. Sat 11-11.30am
- 33 Coomburra Crescent, Ocean Shores. Sat 11-11.30am
- 6 Hillcrest Drive, Tintenbar. Sat 11-11.30am
- 6B Belongil Crescent, Byron Bay. Sat 11-11.30am
- 11/3 Sallywattle Drive, Suffolk Park. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 24 Hillcrest Drive, Tintenbar. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 3 Lofts Road, Coorabell. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 66 Parkway Drive, Ewingsdale. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 788 Friday Hut Road, Binna Burra. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 13 Stonehenge Place, Lennox Head. Sat 1-1.30pm
- 11 Coolamon Avenue, Mullumbimby. Sat 1-1.30pm
- 5 Wickham Place, Clunes. Sat 1.30-2pm
- 34 Horizon Drive, West Ballina. Sat 2-2.30pm
- Corndale. Sat 2-2.30pm

McGrath Byron Bay

- 3/27 Kalemajere Drive, Suffolk Park. Sat 1-1.30pm
- 1 Orchid Place, Mullumbimby. Sat 1-1.30pm
- 4/27 Coolamon Scenic, Mullumbimby. Sat 11-11.30am
- 5/137 Broken Head Reserve Road, Broken Head. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 12 Clover Hill Circuit, Bangalow. Sat 11-11.30am

- 60 Brandon Street, Suffolk Park. Sat 10-10.30am
- 6 Hibiscus Place, Mullumbimby. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 31 Brushbox Drive, Mullumbimby. Sat 10-10.30am

North Coast Lifestyle Properties Brunswick Heads & Mullumbimby

- 20 Redgate Road, South Golden Beach. Sat 10-10.45am
- 46 Kallaroo Circuit, North Ocean Shores. Sat 11-11.45am
- 81 Station Street, Mullumbimby. Sat 11-11.45am
- 8 Banksia Place, Mullumbimby. Sat 11-11.45am

Raine & Horne Ocean Shores

- 10 Flintwood Street, Pottsville. Thu 4-4.30pm
- 72 Bonnydoon Road, Uki. Sat 9-9.30am
- 1/81A Raja Road, Ocean Shores. Sat 9-10am
- 14 James Street, Girards Hill. Sat 10-10.30am
- 5 Philip Street, South Golden Beach. Sat 10-10.30am
- 7 Park Avenue, Bray Park. Sat 10-10.30am
- 3 Coachwood Court, Murwillumbah. Sat 10.15-10.45am
- 10 Rajah Road, Ocean Shores. Sat 10.30-11.30am
- 30 Kolora Way, Ocean Shores. Sat 10.30-11am
- 5 Martin Street, Murwillumbah. Sat 11-11.30am
- 18 Dorothy Street. Murwillumbah. Sat 11.15-11.45am
- 10 Redgate Road, South Golden Beach. Sat 12-12.30pm

- 10 Flintwood Street, Pottsville. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 5 Old Ferry Road, Murwillumbah. Sat 12.30-1pm

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- 4 Cudgera Creek Rd, Burringbar. Sat 11-11.45am
- 35-37 Edwards Lane, Kynnumboon. Sat 1-1.45pm

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- 2 Oba Place, Ocean Shores. Sat 11.30am-12pm
- 2a Oba Place, Ocean Shores. Sat 12-12.30pm

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- 1/8 Stewart Street, Lennox Head. Thu 12-12.30pm
- 1/8 Stewart Street, Lennox Head. Sat 9.30-10am
- 4/19 Teak Road, Federal. Thurs 1.30-2pm

New Listings

Elders Real Estate Brunswick Valley

- 56 Tweed Street, Brunswick Heads

North Coast Lifestyle Properties Brunswick Heads & Mullumbimby

- 8 Banksia Place Mullumbimby
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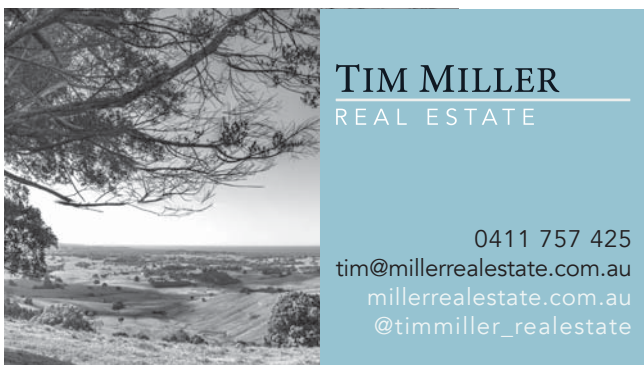
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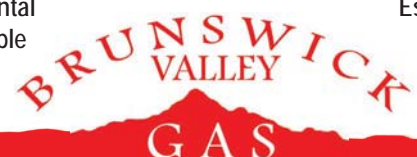
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(Northern Rivers Region)
Career Opportunities
Phlebotomists/Specimen Collectors
Perm Part-time & Casual Positions
Email Resume to:
Margie.Brown@qml.com.au

MUSICAL NOTES

GUITAR STRINGS, REPAIRS
Brunswick Heads 66851005



SEEKING DRUMMER
for established reggae band
0434438706

FUNERAL NOTICES

BARBARA ISABELLA SUTHERLAND

24/5/31-10/7/22
Aged 91 years

Barbara passed away peacefully at Byron Central Hospital on Sunday evening. Barbara will be sadly missed by all family, friends and those in the local community that knew and loved her.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend a Graveside Service to be held at **Mullumbimby Lawn Cemetery on SATURDAY July 16, 2022 commencing at 1.30pm.**

MICHAEL CURRIE FUNERALS
6684 6232

PETS

BREEDING PAIR OF CUTE MINIATURE friendly lawnmowers (aka cattle) for sale. Bred organically and locally for tick resistance and poisonous plant awareness. Easy births. You must have a P.I.C. Photos and details. 66840598



Byron Dog Rescue (CAWI)

5-year-old desexed female English Staffy x Ridgeback 'Nala' is looking for a forever home. 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

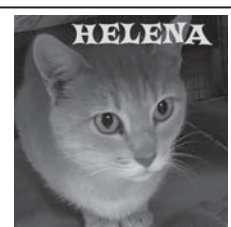


Princess Jay is a lovely 15 month old, Bull Arab X. She is good with other dogs and well behaved. She would suit an active family with older kids. Good fencing is mandatory. M/C # 953010004759062 Location: Murwillumbah For more information contact Yvette on 0421 831 128. Interested? Please complete our online adoption expression of interest.



https://friendsofthepound.com/adoption-expression-of-interest/

Visit friendsofthepound.com to view other dogs and cats looking for a home. ABN 83 126 970 338



HELENA should definitely be seen in colour. She is a beautiful champagne colour with striking green eyes. Recently arrived at the shelter with three kittens. Helena is about four and has made it known that she has retired from mothering kittens and now wants to mother humans in a place she can call home. Friendly and loving.

All cats are desexed, vaccinated & microchipped. No: 95301004395618

Please make an appointment
0403 533 589 - Billinudgel
petsforlifeanimalshelter.net

TUITION

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Eva 0403224842

www.language tuitionbyron.com.au

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Vistara Primary School

Full Time Primary Teacher Yrs 4, 5, 6

Maternity Leave Position
Term 1 to Term 4 2023

Vistara is seeking a vibrant, dedicated primary school teacher to join our wonderful team. We are a not-for-profit, Independent Primary School with three multi-staged classrooms delivering the NESA NSW syllabus. Our classes are small and we aim to maintain a creative and dynamic approach to teaching and learning. Our school's ethos and Neo Humanist philosophy (see www.vistara.nsw.edu.au) is integrated in to the NESA NSW Syllabus. If you love to work in a beautiful rural setting, with a progressive educational philosophy based on ecology, we want to hear from you. **The vaccination mandate has ceased and we are receiving applications from all teachers.** The salary is based on the Association of Independent Schools NSW Hybrid Multi Enterprise Agreement.

To be considered, applicants must submit the following:

1. CV - incl. full contact details, DOB, previous schools, year levels taught, duration at each school, two referees from two previous schools.
2. A copy of your Dept. of Education Approval to Teach letter.
3. Working with Children Check number.
4. NESA number and level of accreditation.

Additional information may be requested before an interview.

Email your applications to: visps@bigpond.net.au

Attention: Administrator / Applications close: September 1th 2022
Vistara Primary School, 41 Richmond Hill Rd, Richmond Hill. NSW 2480

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SUN, MOON & TIDES TIMES FOR NEXT 2 WEEKS

| DATE (July) | DAY, MOON PHASE | SUN RISE / SET | MOON RISE / SET | HIGH TIDES, height (m) | LOW TIDES, height (m) |
|-------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 13 | W | 6:38 17:05 | 16:19 5:57 | 0736 1.25 2023 2.00 | 0202 0.32 1314 0.18 |
| 14 | TH | 6:37 17:05 | 17:30 7:01 | 0831 1.26 2114 2.03 | 0255 0.26 1406 0.16 |
| 15 | F | 6:37 17:06 | 18:43 7:57 | 0924 1.27 2202 2.01 | 0345 0.23 1458 0.18 |
| 16 | SA | 6:37 17:06 | 19:53 8:44 | 1016 1.28 2249 1.93 | 0433 0.24 1549 0.23 |
| 17 | SU | 6:37 17:07 | 20:59 9:24 | 1108 1.29 2334 1.81 | 0520 0.27 1642 0.32 |
| 18 | M | 6:36 17:07 | 22:01 9:59 | 1200 1.29 | 0605 0.31 1735 0.44 |
| 19 | TU | 6:36 17:08 | 23:00 10:31 | 0017 1.65 1258 1.30 | 0649 0.36 1835 0.56 |
| 20 | W | 6:35 17:09 | 23:58 11:02 | 0101 1.48 1400 1.32 | 0733 0.40 1945 0.67 |
| 21 | TH | 6:35 17:09 | 11:32 | 0149 1.33 1507 1.36 | 0818 0.43 2108 0.73 |
| 22 | F | 6:35 17:10 | 0:54 12:05 | 0244 1.20 1612 1.42 | 0905 0.45 2231 0.72 |
| 23 | SA | 6:34 17:10 | 1:51 12:40 | 0348 1.11 1708 1.49 | 0956 0.45 2343 0.67 |
| 24 | SU | 6:34 17:11 | 2:47 13:18 | 0454 1.07 1757 1.56 | 1045 0.44 |
| 25 | M | 6:33 17:11 | 3:43 14:01 | 0552 1.08 1839 1.62 | 0035 0.59 1133 0.42 |
| 26 | TU | 6:33 17:12 | 4:37 14:49 | 0641 1.10 1919 1.67 | 0118 0.52 1217 0.39 |
| 27 | W | 6:32 17:12 | 5:29 15:41 | 0722 1.13 1957 1.71 | 0156 0.46 1258 0.36 |

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

Forget not that the earth delights
to feel your bare feet and the
winds long to play with your hair.
- Kahlil Gibran



Regular As Clockwork

DEADLINE NOON FRIDAY

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

Mullumbimby District Neighbourhood Centre

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

Community support/emergency relief: Food parcels, meals, assistance with electricity and Telstra bills. **Listening Space:** free counselling. **Staying Home, Leaving Violence program.** **Integrated Domestic & Family Violence program.** **Financial Counselling:** outreach available Thursdays and Fridays. **Financial Counselling:** free service funded by the government, offering advocacy and assistance to find options to address debts.

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

Low-cost or free food

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

Respite Service

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

Alateen meeting

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

ACA

Adult Children of Alcoholic Parents and/or Dysfunctional Families (ACA) help & recovery group meets in Lismore every Friday 10–11.30am, Red Dove Centre, 80 Keen Street. Byron meetings are on Tuesdays at 7pm via Zoom – meeting ID 554 974 582 password byronbay.

Drug support groups

Call **Alcoholics Anonymous** 1800 423 431 or 0401 945 671 – 30 meetings a week in the Shire – www.aa.org.au. Are you experiencing difficulties and challenges because of the alcohol or drug use of someone close to you? Learn coping skills and gain support from others. **Narcotics Anonymous** is a fellowship of men and women for whom drugs had become a major problem. We are recovering addicts who meet regularly to help each other stay clean. For information and meetings call 1300 652 820 or text your postcode to 0488 811 247. www.na.org.au. Are you concerned about somebody else’s drinking? **Al-Anon Family Groups** meeting held Fridays 2pm. Uniting Church Bangalow – 1300 252 666 www.al-anon.org.au.

Support after suicide

StandBy provides support to people who have lost someone to suicide.

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

Feel Good Friday

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

Library fun

Baby Bounce and Storytime for toddlers and pre-school children have moved online for now. See Richmond Tweed Regional Libraries on YouTube.

Social sporting groups

Mullumbimby: Tuesday Ladies Group of Riverside Tennis Club welcomes new players 9.30am every Tuesday next to Heritage Park, for social tennis, fun and friendship. Info: Barbara 6684 8058. **Byron:** Drumming with Gareth Jones at Byron Theatre; Chair Yoga with Pippy Wardell 12 till 1pm. Wednesdays: Choir with Kim Banffy, 10–11am; Ukulele 11.30–12.15. Suggested donation of \$10. No bookings needed, information seniors@byroncommuntycentre.com or call 6685 6807. **South Golden Shores Community Centre** Women’s table tennis every Monday at 10am. Phone 0435 780 017. **Byron Bay Croquet** at Croquet Club next to the Scout Hall at the Byron Rec Grounds every Monday at 3.30pm. Ring 0477 972 535. **Pottsville Fun Croquet Club** at Black Rocks Sportfield. Beginners and visitors welcome. Game starts 8.30am Tuesday and Thursday. \$5 per game. Enquiries 0413 335 941.

Contact Improvisation

Contact Improvisation Saturdays 11am–1pm at Gondwana, 23 Prestons Lane, Tyagarah. All levels of dancers welcome. Enquiries 0402 059 564.

End-of-life choices

Voluntary euthanasia options are discussed at quarterly meetings, currently online. Attendees must be Exit members. More information on www.exitinternational.net or phone Catherine 0435 228 443.

Carers’ support

Mullumbimby Mental Health Carers’ Support Group for family members and friends who have a loved one with a mental health issue. Meeting on 4th Thursday of each month 9.30am at the Mullumbimby Neighbourhood Centre. Info: Susanne 0428 716 431.

Rainbow Dragons

Rainbow Dragons Abreast (RDA) welcomes breast cancer survivors for a paddle at Lake Ainsworth, Lennox Head (and sometimes at Ballina) on Sundays 7.30am for 8am start. Contact Marian 6688 4058, mazzzerati2010@gmail.com.

Language exchange

Byron language exchange club runs every 2nd last Friday of the month from 6pm (alternating Ballina/ Byron). Practise other languages or help someone with your English! Find us on Facebook. Contact byronbaylanguages@gmail.com.

Museums

Brunswick Valley Historical Society Inc Museum corner of Myocum and Stuart Sts Mullumbimby, open

Tuesdays and Fridays 10am–12pm and market Saturdays 9am–1pm. Discover your local history, join our team – 6684 4367 or email: admin@mullumbimbymuseum.org.au. **Bangalow Heritage House Museum & Cafe** is open Wednesday to Friday 10am–2.30pm, Saturday 8.30am–12.30pm. Enjoy home style cooking, fresh baked scones and more. Monthly meeting 9.30am on the 1st Tuesday of each month at Heritage House Bangalow. Info: 0429 882 525.

Toastmasters

Byron Cavanbah Toastmasters meetings coaching in communication and self-development run on 1st and 3rd Mondays, 6.15pm for 6.30pm start at Byron Bay Services Club, Byron Bay. Online attendance allowed. **Mullum Magic Toastmasters** meet every 2nd, 4th and 5th Monday Presbyterian Church Hall, 101 Stuart Street Mullumbimby 7–9pm. Contact Shona 0457356567 or Bronte 0451567996.

Meditation

Dzogchen meditation and study group 2nd and 4th Saturdays each month at Mullumbimby CWA Hall. Didi 0408 008 769. **Buddhist meditation** and conversation with John Allan, Mondays 6.30–8.30pm, The Yurt, Temple Byron. No fees. John 0428 991 189. **Byron yoga philosophy club** free meditation classes Monday, 7pm, 1 Korau Place Suffolk Park. Go to www.wisdom.yoga or phone Kris 0435 300 743. **Byron Bay Meditation Centre**, Tuesday 6.30pm at Temple Byron. For more info: byronbaymeditationcentre.com.au or contact Greg 0431 747 764.

Seniors computer club

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

Lions Club

Interested in making new friends and helping our community? Lions Club of Brunswick Mullumbimby meets 1st & 3rd Tuesdays at 7pm Ocean Shores Country Club. Info: Joan Towers 0400 484 419.

Byron Gem Club

The Bryon Gem and Lapidary Club is open weekly to members new and old. Visitors welcome to view club facilities. Activities – semi-precious and gemstone cutting, shaping and polishing – gem faceting – silver work – gem setting and jewellery making etc. Facebook @ Byron Gem Club. Club work shed located past Sky Dive Byron at Tyagarah Airfield. Contact 6687 1251 or 0427 529 967 for more info.

CWA Bangalow

Bangalow CWA has reopened and our hours are Monday–Friday 10am–2pm and Saturdays 8am–12 noon.

Op shops

Uniting Church Op Shop, Dalley St, Mullumbimby – open each Saturday 9am–12noon. **Byron Bay Anglican Op Shop** opens Tuesday to Saturday 9am–1pm. Volunteers needed. Enq Prue Harrington 0420 316 610. **Mullumbimby Anglican Op Shop** opens Monday to Friday 9am–4pm, Saturday 9am–12noon. Volunteers needed, enq to shop 6684 4718. **Mullumbimby Seventh-Day Adventist Op Shop** opens Tuesday to Friday 11am–3pm. **Companion Animals Welfare Inc (CAWI) op shop** Brunswick Heads (next to supermarket) open Mon–Fri 10am–5pm, Sat 9am–1pm, Sun closed.

Craft group

The Uniting Craft & Social Group meets every Monday 9.30am–2.30pm at the Uniting Church in Carlyle Street, Byron Bay. Bring lunch and whatever else you need. Small cost. All welcome. Do you prefer patchwork and quilting? Come along on Monday evening same place at 6pm. Enquiries Tilly 6685 5985.

Volunteer Hub

The Byron Community Centre Volunteer Hub is open weekdays at the

Byron Community Centre. If you would like to volunteer in the local area fill out a volunteer application form on our website www.byroncentre.com.au or, contact us by phone 66856807 or email volunteers@byroncentre.com.au

Potters & Sculptors

Mullumbimby Potters & Sculptors at the Community Art Gallery at the Drill Hall is open Thursday to Saturday 10am–2pm and on the 3rd Saturday of the month (Mullum Market Day) 10am–4pm. Pottery and sculpture crafted by local artisans for sale, 2 Jubilee Ave, Mullumbimby. Enquiries: mullum.potters@yahoo.com.au.

Toy Library

The Byron Shire Toy Library is open Mondays and Thursdays 9am–12 noon, at the Children’s Centre, Coogera Cct, Suffolk Park. Come and see the large range of preschoolers toys available for loan.

Up your skills

Come to Upskill in Mullumbimby, a free introductory building and carpentry workshop. Workshops are held every Saturday, 9am to 1pm at Shedding Community Workshop. Bookings Essential via shedding.com.au. Contact Sophie Wilksch via email at shedding.communityworkshop@gmail.com.

Muslim prayer

Friday Muslim prayer. Jumu’ah service held weekly at the Cavanbah Centre at 1.30pm. Come to the remembrance of Allah.

Over-60s fun activities

Seniors Activities **Tuesdays at the Byron Community Centre**, Jonson St, Byron Bay. Elder Beats seniors drumming 10.30–11.30 am with Gareth Jones in the theatre, 11.30 Morning tea in the Cavenbah room, 12.00–1.00 Chair Yoga with Pippy Wardell. **Wednesdays:** Choir with Kim Banffy, 10–11am; Ukelele 11.30–12.15. Suggested donation of

\$10. No bookings, further information seniors@byroncommuntycentre.com. or call 6685 6807. **Fridays:** mahjong and cards for seniors in Byron. Enqs: Nancy 0498 480 373

Baby cafe

Bubbamummas baby cafe drop in mornings, Thursdays from 9.30am at New Space, Shop 2 next door to Target 86 Rajah Road Ocean Shores. Morning tea, discussions, guest speakers. Ocean Shores Community Association (OSCA). Details 0431 477 445.

Free ESL

Free English as a Second Language classes suitable for beginners to advanced learners. Kingscliff 6674 7267.

Landcare

Bangalow Land and Rivercare working bee every Saturday 8.30–10.30am. See www.bangalowlandcare.org.au or call Liz 6687 1309.

Soap Aid saving lives

Soap Aid is a not-for-profit organisation recycling and sending critical soap to communities facing major hygiene challenges. Please drop in your partly used household or holiday rental soap for recycling to Kim at Raine & Horne Byron Bay 39 Fletcher Street 0499 839 566. Small and large quantities welcome. https://soapaid.org.

Sex & Love Addicts Anon

Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous is peer-support group of men and women for whom sex and/or romance have become a problem. For details of weekly meetings, phone 0452 074 974 or visit www.slaa.org.au.

Play and sing playgroup

Meet at The Hub Baptist Church Ocean Shores (next to Target) 9.30am–11.30am Fridays during school term. For families with children 0–5 years. More info facebook or ph: Katie 0438 531 011.

On The Horizon

DEADLINE NOON FRIDAY

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

BV VIEW Club

Delta Kay is the guest speaker at the next luncheon of Brunswick Valley VIEW Club on 14 July. The venue is Brunswick Heads Bowling Club. For catering purposes, members are asked to advise Wenda if they are attending, on 0449 563 580 or email wjhunt@yahoo.com. Info: President Margaret Alderton 0429 966 894.

Flood Grants

Mullumbimby CWA branch has \$20,000 in grants for flood affected people and businesses in postcode areas 2482 and 2483. Grants of \$500 will be given on a needs basis. This money has come from the CWA of NSW Disaster Fund. Please visit the website https://cwamullumbimby.wordpress.com and select the Flood Grant application form. A copy of your driver’s licence must accompany the application. Closing date is 15 July, 2022. Info: johnandjen6@gmail.com.

CWA meeting

Mullumbimby Branch of CWA of NSW (Country Women’s Association of New South Wales) is holding its monthly meeting on Wednesday 13 July at the CWA room Cnr Tincogan & Gordon Streets, Mullumbimby. Ladies are most welcome to attend and along with members are asked to arrive at 9.30am for a 10am meeting. Members please bring luncheon. Membership enquires: Jen 6684 7282.

Fellowship of First Fleeters

The next meeting of the Northern Rivers Fellowship of First Fleeters will be held on Sunday 24 July at the Cherry Street Sports Club, Ballina, at

11am. This meeting will be our AGM, however, all visitors are very welcome. Contact Roddy Jordan on 6687 5339 or via email hollysbuddy1@bigpond.com to attend.

Go4Fun Online

Go4Fun Online is a free 10-week program for children aged 7–13 (and their families) who are above a healthy weight. Go4Fun Online includes: Weekly online sessions, Personalised support. Rewards and prizes. Check your eligibility and register for Term Three, visit: go4funonline.com.au.

Lismore High Centenary Dinner

Owing to floods devastating Lismore, the Lismore High School Centenary Dinner and other proposed functions have been cancelled. However, the special publication of the *Lismore High Centenary Lens* publication is now available for purchase. For more information, contact 0414 734 313.

Winter Appeal

Brunswick Valley VIEW Club calls on community to give generously to The Smith Family’s Winter Appeal to support thousands of children and young people with their education as they deal with the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. For those who are interested to find out more about VIEW or who would like to join visit view.org.au or call 1800 805 366.

Byron Community Centre

The Byron Community Centre provides community services and programs including meals, advocacy, and counselling for locals in need. **Homeless Breakfast:** 7–9am,

Volunteers sought

Volunteers sought for Northern Rivers Volunteering, representing more than 100 community organisations. Info: 6621 7397

Bridge club

Brunswick Valley Bridge Club meets every Monday, seated at 12.15pm to commence play at 12.30pm. Visitors welcome. See bridgewebs.com/ brunswickvalley/home.html or for partner, ring Lesley: 0468 807 306. Facebook Brunswick Valley Bridge Club.

BV Scrabble Club

Brunswick Valley Scrabble Club will meet each Tuesday afternoon from 1 till 4pm at the Brunswick Bowling Club. New members welcome. Contact Steve on 0407 844 718.

Bosom Buddies

Ballina Bosom Buddies Support Group meets the 3rd Thursday each month 10am–12pm at the Ballina Kentwell Community Centre. Contact Karen 0439 438 576 for further information.

Emerge Australia

Emerge Australia Inc is a not-for-profit charity supporting those with myalgic encephalomyelitis, also known as Chronic Fatigue Syndrome. For more information see the Emerge Australia Website at http://emerge.org.au/.

Indonesian Conversation

Klub Ngobrol, Indonesian conversation club to practise Indonesian and learn about Indonesian culture. Meets 3rd Friday of the month, 5.30–7.30pm, Byron Services Club. Ph 0405 463 663.

Bruns tennis

Mondays, Wednesdays and Sundays 5–7pm. \$7, all welcome. Enquiries Linda 0449 825 108. Coaching available.

Wednesday, Fletcher Street kitchen, Byron Community Centre. **Homeless Showers:** 10am–12pm, Monday and Wednesday (book in at breakfast), Byron Community Cabin, Carlyle St. **Community Counselling:** Free counselling for Byron Shire residents. Face-to-face, by phone, or via Zoom. **Community Support Worker:** Emergency relief and assertive outreach casework for those experiencing homelessness. **Seniors Computer Club:** 9–11am, Friday, Byron Community Cabin (school term only), Carlyle St. **Laptop Library:** The Laptop Library lends laptops to seniors and provides tuition on how best to be connected. **Seniors’ Activities:** Seniors’ drumming, chair yoga, ukulele, choir, nourishing arts- and drama. Call 6685 6807 for bookings. **Severe Wet Weather Shelter:** Emergency shelter during extreme weather for rough sleepers. Signage displayed at the Byron Community Centre when on. Sign-up required. Info: www.byroncentre.com.au or call 6685 6807.

Ocean Shores Garden Club

The next meeting of the Ocean Shores Garden Club will be on Monday 18 July at 1.30pm in the Hub hall next to KMart (previously Target). Our speaker will be Tim from Pedra Rosa Landscapes. New members are welcome. Phone Margie 0412 246 310. www.oceanshoresgardenclub.au.

Byron Bay Hospital Auxiliary

The Byron Bay Hospital Auxiliary is holding a garage sale on Saturday 16 July 2022 at 105 Beech Dr, Suffolk Park, commencing at 8am. Plenty of homemade cakes, pickles, plants and bric-a-brac. All proceeds go to the Byron Central Hospital. Enquiries 6685 3162.

Pickleball

Pickleball is on at the Cavenbah Centre on Tuesday from 8am to 12pm, and Thursday from 10am to 12pm. Cost \$7.

Mullum footballers collect second win of the season



Scorer, German Mtonh charges for goal. Photo supplied

Albert Moses

The Mullumbimby Brunswick Valley FC opened the second half of the Far North Coast premier league with a riveting 3-2, home game win over the Lismore Thistles.

The crowd were treated to a game that was both entertaining and dramatic and saw German Mtonh open up the MBVFC account with a goal to reward his tireless effort in midfield.

Seizing opportunities

The home team went into the changerooms 1-0 but in the early stages of the second half a scramble in front of a congested goalmouth saw the Thistles

seize an opportunity for an equaliser.

Determined to have an impact, and filling in as a centre-forward, Rossco Martin made endless runs into the box and a number of shots on target.

Before long he put the MBVFC in front again with a towering looping header over the keeper and into the net.

Thistles responded quickly with another equaliser, a clinical finish into the top corner on a counter attack, setting the game up for a high octane final 20 minutes, as both teams searched for a winner.

But it was the Valleys who prevailed and in great

style, when talented young second-grade player Raen Santos, on his second game for the day put on a master-class of finesse, outplaying the Thistles defense a number of times with turns and side moves, forcing the keeper into some outstanding saves, before finally beating him with a chested half volley from an almost impossible angle.

Yantra Whitling was awarded Man of The Match for a solid performance in midfield.

MBVFC is ninth on the premiership ladder that is topped by Byron Bay.

The Valleys continue their campaign with a match away to Souths this week.

Elite junior surfers compete at Lennox

Ross Kendall

Some of Australia's best and most competitive junior surfers got their chance to shine in one-metre conditions at Lennox Head over the weekend for the opening rounds of the WSL Pro Junior event getting underway.

The early heats in the male division were blessed with beautiful conditions before a light onshore hit the lineup later in the afternoon.

Fresh off a victory at the recent Nias Pro QS 5000 in Indonesia, Marlon Harrison (Coolangatta, Qld) showed his small wave repertoire remained as sharp as ever, smashing his opening boys heat.

But it was local surfer Harry O'Brien (Lennox Head), who provided one of the biggest upsets of Saturday, eliminating current ISA World Junior Champion Willis Droomer (Jan Juc, Vic) from the event in the quarterfinals of the Under-18 Boys.

The six-day event ran

from July 7-12 and was comprised of a World Surf League (WSL) sanctioned Pro Junior Qualifying Series (JQS) event, as well as an elite competition for promising grommets in the under 14, 16 and 18 divisions.

Recent Nias Pro Champion Sai Maniwa (Japan) also took to the water in her first Pro Junior heat.

'I won the U/14 division in this event back in 2017, so I'm really hoping I can get another win here in the Pro Junior this year,' she said.



Harry O'Brien working his home break. Photo Ethan Smith

NSW Championships coming to town



Robyn and Neville Poynting have been preparing for the NSW croquet championships. Photo supplied.

Ross Kendall

The area's croquet clubs are joining forces to host this year's Croquet NSW division two Golf Croquet championships this weekend.

With a forecast of fine weather, the event is co-hosted by Ballina Cherry Street Croquet Club, Ballina Croquet Inc. and the Byron Bay Croquet Club will bring players from all over the state. Singles and doubles games will be played.

Golf Croquet is a game of skill and strategy according to Deborah Jones, tournament publicity officer.

Local talent in contention for the big prize are Neville and Robyn Poynting. 'They are a formidable team playing with mallets handmade by Neville,' Deborah said.

Spectators are welcome at both the Byron and Ballina croquet lawns from Wednesday 13 July to Sunday 17 July to witness the five days of high-level competition.

Junior golf champs crowned in Byron

Ross Kendall

Coby Carruthers and Sarah Hammett have won the 2022 NSW Junior Championships played in Ocean Shores and Byron Bay to secure their spots in the 2023 NSW Open.

Coby Carruthers maintained his two-shot lead in the boy's division ahead of the final round after a two under par 70 at Ocean Shores, last Thursday. He was one of six golfers in the red going into the final, with just four shots separating the group.

In the final he shot 74 for an aggregate of 212, giving him a narrow win over Harrison Gomez (Royal Pines, Qld) who, despite shooting 72 in the final round, finished with a total of 213.

Sarah Hammett (Emerald Lakes, Qld) fought her way to victory after coming into the final day in fourth position, four under par.

She ended that score to five under, after scoring 73 in the final round and an aggregate of 215. Leaving her two ahead of her nearest rival Jeneath Wong (Melbourne) who finished on 217.



Coby and Sarah celebrate with their championship cups at Byron Bay GC. Photo supplied.



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Could climate change actually be a symptom of a planetary disease known as the Car Owner Virus?

■ ■ ■ ■ ■
 All six Professors of Addiction Medicine in NSW have called on the NSW Premier, The Honourable Dominic Perrottet, to act upon the recommendations of the Special Commission of Inquiry into Methamphetamine use, as delays in government action are contributing to lost lives and worsening harms for communities across the State.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■
 It's all action in Murwillumbah this weekend with the celebration of World Environment Day on Sunday, 17 July, 10am-3pm in Knox Park. The family day will see dancers, musicians, stalls and food for everyone to enjoy. Find out more on page 21 and in Seven.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■
 There has been an increase in syphilis infections throughout the Northern Rivers, particularly in young heterosexuals. Using condoms and getting tested are recommended if you are sexually active, have multiple sexual partners, or participate in unprotected casual sex.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■
 The Byron Bay Surf Festival is all about surfing, art, music, film and the environment, and it is coming back for its 13th year from 9-13 September. To find out more keep watching *The Echo* or look them up online at: www.byronbaysurfestival.com.au.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■
 Bushfire Survivors for Climate Action (BSCA) is launching another climate legal case, this time against



I can't tell you who they are, but this elegant crew had a ball at last Saturday night's Masquerade Ball at Byron's Secret Garden. Photo Jeff Dawson

the NSW Independent Planning Commission (IPC) over its approval of the extension of Whitehaven Coal's Narrabri Mine extension. Represented by the Environmental Defenders Office (EDO), BSCA argues that the IPC's approval of the mine extension in April was unreasonable, irrational and illogical and not in the public interest because of the project's impacts in driving further climate change-fuelled extreme weather events such as the Black Summer bushfires and Sydney's current flooding events.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■
 CSIRO, Australia's national science agency, have developed a faster and more comprehensive way to identify emerging and dangerous COVID-19 variants. By looking beyond just the spike protein, researchers can better predict how a new variant might behave inside the human body.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■
 It's all about our very own Ms

Nolan this weekend on the ABC. You can hear Mandy on ABC North Coast from 5pm on Friday on *Thank God it's Friday* and you can see her on *Compass* and *See Mandy*

Run will screen on Sunday at 7.30pm on ABC TV Plus (channel 22) and ABC iView. Catch the encore on ABC TV at 6.30pm the following Sunday.

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