



Earthenware on the map

Animals, and especially birds, feature heavily in Catherine Lane's ceramics. Her North Ocean Shores studio was one of more than a dozen around the Shire to open their doors to the public during last weekend's North Coast Mud Trail. Photo Jeff 'Bustard Pots' Dawson

Planning Dept investigates festival site

Paul Bibby

The company which owns and manages North Byron Parklands is being investigated by the NSW Department of Planning over traffic safety breaches that occurred during last month's Splendour in the Grass festival.

As the mud dries following the troubled event, a spokesperson for the Department said that it was investigating whether the organisers had met their conditions of consent.

This investigation would determine whether the Department needed to take 'enforcement action'.

General Manager of North Byron Parklands, Mat Morris, told *The Echo* that the investigation was in

relation to breaches of traffic rules that occurred on Thursday July 21 as patrons poured into the site for the start of the festival.

'On the Thursday when we had traffic entering into Tweed Valley Way and the highway there was a breach,' Mr Morris said.

'We had traffic queuing back onto the Pacific Highway and that was clearly a breach.'

Self-reported

Mr Morris said that, in accordance with planning rules, North Byron Parklands had self-reported the breaches to the Department.

'Under our consent conditions, when we identify that we haven't met a condition it's on us to put our

hand up for that, and that's what we've done,' he said.

Mr Morris said that the 'predominant reason' for the breaches was the weather conditions, but that it was 'not appropriate' for him to comment further.

He said that, following a meeting with the Department, North Byron Parklands had agreed to provide a peer-reviewed traffic assessment that Departmental officers would use as part of their investigation.

The investigation is the latest chapter in the troubled story of Splendour in the Grass 2022.

The festival suffered significant flooding on July 21 and 22, which caused major delays for those

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Mayor Lyon defends Mullum pod fiasco

Hans Lovejoy

Mayor Michael Lyon has defended Council's handling of the ongoing Mullum pod accommodation debacle, telling *The Echo* that councillors requested, through a Council resolution, that Resilience NSW conduct consultation with neighbouring residents regarding the rail corridor works on Prince Street.

It comes as around 40 to 50 locals gathered outside the Byron Shire Council chambers last Thursday to highlight the risks of, and lack of due process around, the selection of the flood accommodation pod site in Mullum.

The reply from the mayor was sought after Mullum resident, Louise Gordon, expressed frustration to councillors at their Thursday meeting. Ms Gordon said her questions remain unanswered by Council.

She told councillors, 'If passing the buck was an Olympic sport, it would be Gold, Gold, Gold for Byron Shire Council'.

'People in Mullumbimby are still flood-traumatised and weary from the huge effort it's taken to put their lives back together. This thoughtless development has added a whole new level of anxiety.'

'Why isn't Council advocating for our concerns to Resilience NSW or NRRC? And where is the famous "engaged community consultation" that Byron Shire Council touts as part of their culture and masterplan?'

'You have literally sold this community down the river. Who exactly is it that you represent? Not me, nor the hundreds of people that will bear the serious consequences

of this extremely ill-considered decision.

'Be adults: admit you have made a grave mistake, apologise, and start finding ways of rectifying the dangerous situation that you have negligently dumped this community in. You really owe this to the community who elected you, and pays your wages'.

When Ms Gordon had finished her speech, all councillors sat in silence and did not ask any questions.

Very forthright mayor

Cr Lyon later told *The Echo*, 'What Louise is saying is simply not true, and we have been very forthright about our role, what we are looking to achieve, the sites that have been preferred and where we are in the process with them'.

'We have been advocating directly on behalf of concerned residents to Resilience NSW and requested through Council resolution that they conduct consultation regarding the rail corridor site in Prince St with neighbouring residents. We also facilitated a meeting between the head of the NRRC and the MRA.'

'The hospital site was put forward but ruled out due to it not being ready. There is still remediation work to complete relating to asbestos contamination and an audit required before it can be used, thus it is not suitable as a site for immediate emergency use.'

Many of the proposed sites have issues, and finding suitable land is a massive challenge across the region. This is not a challenge that

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Govt flood report released

While the NSW Liberal-Nationals government sits on the Independent Flood Report that it received over two weeks ago, another flood report was released last week.

The Select Committee handed down their report, *The Response to Major Flooding Across NSW in 2022*, which found agencies unprepared and lacked planning.

Chair, Walt Secord (Labor), said the Committee made 21 findings and 37 recommendations, and said that the Perrottet government and Resilience NSW, ‘let down the families on the North Coast in their greatest time of need’.

The report is available at www.parliament.nsw.gov.au.

Sublime music fills Bangalow



Third time’s a charm! Last week, the Bangalow Music Festival returned, after two years of covid cancellations, and presented a sensational 14-event lineup across four days. Pictured are violinist Eric Avery, didge player Chris Williams, actress Paula Nazarski, opera singer Suzanne Compass, and composer/musician Sean O’Boyle. Nimbella Gallery director, Grant Rasheed, is pictured at the back. Photo Jeff ‘Instrumental’ Dawson

Community angst over leadership vacuum around temp pods

► Continued from page 1

can be shirked because there are hundreds of displaced Byron Shire households relying on us to provide temporary accommodation while the huge job of rebuilding continues.

Cr Lyon continued, ‘The Prince Street site, because it is owned by the State government (specifically, TAHE), was already flagged as a potential site by the State’s Housing Recovery Taskforce. We included it in our list because we would like it to be used long-term for affordable accommodation, and want to ensure this conversation continues as part of the process.’

‘As stated above, Council is advocating on behalf of residents, specifically in relation to the question around the potential impacts of flood levels to neighbouring

properties. We are yet to receive an answer regarding this issue. It is certainly likely, in my view, that there would be some impact from the works should we again be faced with the sort of extreme, never before seen flooding of earlier this year. And while it is a real risk, this must be balanced with the needs of those displaced and the necessity for them to remain connected to their community’.

Louise Gordon subsequently wrote to Cr Lyon, and said in part, ‘I am writing on behalf of the people who turned up [to Thursday’s protest], those who couldn’t due to other commitments and those that couldn’t as they are still too traumatised from the floods’.

‘We expect you to be transparent and to provide us with all the information

and documentation of your negotiations with Resilience (what a misnomer), and for you to provide true and comprehensive answers to the questions I have posed’.

Meanwhile, Mullum residents Association (MRA) have released Resilience NSW correspondence from August 15, where the government corporation claims the site was assessed for flood risk.

Under their FAQ sheet, Resilience NSW say, ‘The site was reviewed with consideration to flood risk and flood planning, including under the *North Byron Floodplain Risk Management Plan*’.

‘Design amendments to mitigate the flood risk and other construction restrictions at the site include: A reduction in the number of modular homes proposed for the site, including no residential

building on areas of the site worst affected in a one per cent flood; Raising of modular home bearing level to one per cent flood levels, with an overall cap at 1m. This will ensure all pods are raised above the one per cent flood mark; Stormwater and overland flow construction planning’.

Those and other documents are yet to be made public.

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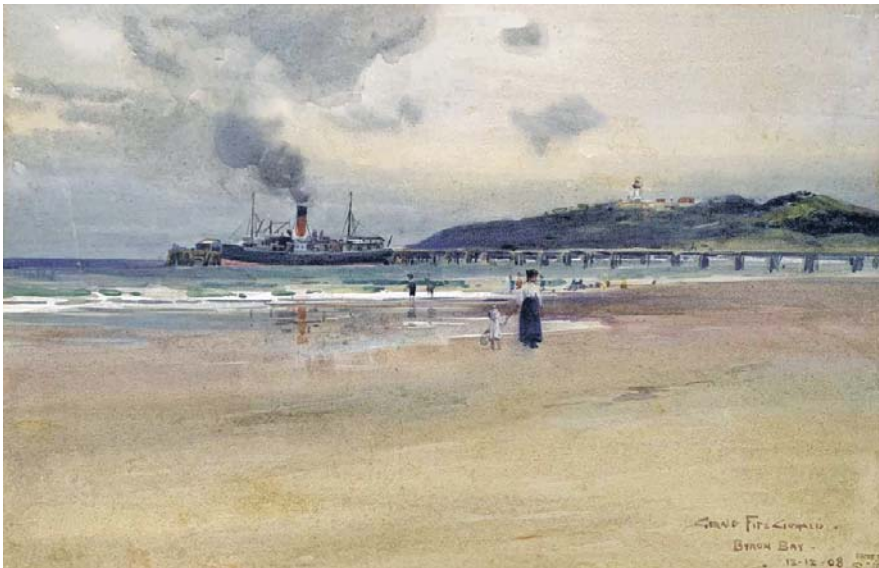
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Fletcher St welcomes new members

Paul Bibby

Fletcher Street Cottage has welcomed the arrival of three new community support workers to help the growing number of locals facing the challenges of homelessness.

As the Shire’s community of rough sleepers struggles through a colder-than-average winter, Omar, Anna and Frankie (not pictured) have provided a much-needed boost to the team at the Cottage.

They will be helping to run the community breakfast, which takes place at the Cottage every weekday morning, and helping people to access washing and shower services.

They will also have a key role in connecting rough sleepers and others experiencing, or at risk of homelessness with a range of other supports and services.

Inundated

‘It’s great getting to know the community,’ Frankie told *The Echo* on her first day in the job on Monday.

‘This is a much-needed and highly-utilised service, especially after the floods.’ Fletcher Street Cottage



Anna Jones and Omar Amin are two of the new casual Community Support Workers at Fletcher Street Cottage. Photo Byron Community Centre

has been inundated with requests for help since opening in April, receiving 570 visits from locals seeking assistance in its first 21 days of operation alone.

Those coming to the centre have a wide range of needs from rough sleepers needing a bed, to those who lost their homes in the floods who are still awaiting insurance payouts and the completion of renovation and reconstruction work.

The Byron Community Centre, responsible for the overall management of the Cottage, is hoping that the community will continue

to dig deep and donate so that the new staff can be employed well into the future.

Neither the Cottage nor the Centre receive any government funding, and so rely on the generosity and support of the community.

Fletcher Street Cottage is open Monday to Friday, with a breakfast service from 7am to 9am, access to showers and laundry from 7am to 12pm, and additional office support from 9am to 12pm.

Individual support appointments are available with community workers and a range of visiting services.

Flood Grant Support Sessions



The specialised team of flood recovery grant assessors will be in the Byron Shire from Tuesday 23 to Thursday 25 August, offering support to individuals, families, farmers and business owners with new or existing applications.

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Large Bruns DA ushered through

Paul Bibby

Brunswick Heads will get its first underground car park, after an attempt to overturn the approval of a mixed-use development in the town was voted down by a majority of Byron councillors.

The development on 7 Tweed Street has drawn the ire of many in the local community, who say that the inclusion of a two-space basement car park is neither flood-safe, nor in keeping with the character of the town.

1,000 strong petition

More than 1,000 locals signed a petition calling on Byron Council to refuse the proposal and to amend the planning rules for Brunswick Heads to prohibit such car parks from being built in the future.

But this was not enough to convince a majority of councillors to overturn the decision they made back in June to approve the development.

At last Thursday's Council planning meeting,



An artist's impression of the proposed development at 7 Tweed Street, Brunswick Heads. Image from DA

a rescission motion moved by Greens councillor Duncan Dey, and Independent Peter Westheimer, was voted down by six votes to two.

Fear of legal action

Two councillors who had previously voted against the development, Greens Deputy Mayor, Sarah Ndiaye and Independent, Cr Sama Balson, changed their positions from opposition to support.

This proved crucial to the outcome of the vote.

Earlier in the meeting, Cr Westheimer called on

councillors to act in accordance with the wishes of the Brunswick Heads community, rather than basing their decision on the fear of legal action by the developer should he not get his way.

'When it comes to overdevelopment, the buck stops with us as councillors, not with Mr James [Council's lawyer] or Council staff,' Cr Westheimer said.

Among the key arguments put forward in opposition to the development was that underground car parking was not permissible under the planning rules for that part of Brunswick Heads, a position that was disputed by Council's lawyer Ralph James.

It was also asserted that the car park would not be flood-safe, because the floor level proposed was roughly equal to the current king tide level, and well below both the 10-year and 100-year flood level.

The flood mitigation measures included in the development, particularly an electronic flood barrier, were also called into question.

Other reasons put forward for refusal included a lack of appropriate vehicle access to the site, and the extra strain it would put on the town's already strained parking resources.

But Mayor Michael Lyon described these arguments as 'grasping at straws'.

'If we keep knocking back developments because we don't like them, we're doing a disservice to ratepayers, because they're the ones who ultimately have to foot the legal bill,' Cr Lyon said.

'Whether you like this development or not really isn't relevant. It's compliant.'

Cr Ndiaye said the Council could not afford a hefty legal bill because it had 'nothing' in its reserves.

'We need to be prudent and to make decisions on the basis of the facts that are before us,' Cr Ndiaye said.

The key question now facing councillors is whether they will use their powers to amend planning laws in Brunswick Heads to prevent underground car parks being built there in future.

A majority of councillors have argued in favour of this action during the debate over the Tweed Street development, including Cr Balson, and Labor Councillor Asren Pugh.

Those in favour of the DA were Crs Lyon, Balson, Pugh, Swivel, Ndiaye and Hunter.

Cr Coorey, an opponent of the plan, was not present for the vote. However, Cr Lyon promised to use his casting vote to support Cr Coorey's wishes in the event of a deadlock.

Fed Sheds proposal put on hold by Council

A contentious proposal to build eight light industrial tenancies opposite Federal Hall/Jaspers Corner was deferred at Council's meeting last Thursday.

Councillors remarkably voted against the staff recommendation for approval, and instead have asked the developer 'to consider social impact and specific queries raised with the proposal'.

If successful, 'Fed Sheds' (DA 10.2021.114.1) would see the land rezoned and a two-storey development, parking spaces for 26 vehicles, two loading docks and its own storm water and sewerage treatment facilities.

The proposal lies within the Federal Village Heritage Conservation Area, and the DA attracted 216 submissions while on public exhibition, including 64 submissions in favour and 152 against.

During morning public access, Cr Mark Swivel asked, proponent Gavin Elterman if he was 'open to community engagement if this was deferred'. Elterman replied that while supportive of engagement, he believed 'nothing productive could come from mediation'.

During debate, Cr Mark Swivel was told by staff that deferring the DA before a village masterplan was established was not reason for deferral or refusal.

Planning Director, Shannon Burt, explained that master plans are not statutory documents, like the Local Environment Plan (LEP), for example.

Another planning staff member told Cr Sama Balson that the blocked road to Federal was not a reason for refusal, given it was Council's responsibility to fix the roads. That is expected to take 18 months.

After debate, councillors voted for Cr Pugh's amendment, which requests that Elterman 'conduct a workshop with invited representatives from the Federal community, and the Federal Village Masterplan Committee'.

Infrastructure Services staff have been asked to assess the drainage system in Coachwood Court.

Crs Hunter, Lyon, Swivel, Westheimer, Balson and Pugh voted in favour of the motion. Crs Ndiaye and Dey voted against the motion. Cr Coorey was not present for the vote.

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Splendour: where was the oversight?

► Continued from page 1 entering the site, flooded out hundreds of those camped inside, and forced the cancellation of all but a handful of shows on the opening day and night.

The issues from this year's event have led some locals to question whether there was a lack of effective, independent oversight for the event.

In particular, questions have been raised about the effectiveness of the North Byron Parklands Regulatory Working Group (RWG), a committee that, according to its terms of reference, is supposed to 'oversee the environmental performance and community relations for outdoor events' held at the site.

The creation of the RWG was a condition imposed by the Independent Planning Commission (IPC) when it granted consent for festivals to take place on the site following a long, hard-fought campaign against this by environmental advocates and the local community.

It is made up of representatives from North Byron Parklands, NSW Police, local



Splendour 2022. Photo Jeff Dawson

councils, the State government, and two representatives from the community.

Members of the community, including some who have served on the Working Group, have for some time raised questions about whether it has been allowed to effectively provide independent advice and recommendations.

A key concern relates to the fact that, under the legally-enforceable terms of reference for the group, the Chair is meant to be 'independent'.

However, the same terms of reference stipulate that this independent Chair is to be appointed by, and receive payment from, North Byron Parklands, the very company that the Working Group is

meant to be overseeing.

The current Chair of the Working Group was contacted by *The Echo*, but has not responded.

A former community representative of the Working Group, Denise Nessel, also said that the terms of reference (ToR) were repeatedly changed by the management of the Parklands in what she regarded as an apparent attempt to sideline those members who wished to criticise its operations.

Advisory role only

'The ToRs were changed, and it appeared [to me] as if those changes were to gain more control over the committee, making it less possible to present criticisms and concerns,' Ms Nessel said.

'They were doing everything to maintain control over their operations.'

But Mr Morris defended the RWG, which he says had an advisory role rather than one charged with oversight or compliance.

He said that since its inception, the RWG had been responsible for around 60 recommendations and suggestions for improvements to Parklands events.

Mr Morris further stated that all Regulatory Working Groups in NSW were chaired by an independent chair, who was paid by the project operator. Claims that the ToRs for the RWG had been modified were incorrect, Mr Morris said.

'The terms were proposed by the Chairperson, and adopted by the RWG, as a mechanism to facilitate efficient meetings and outcomes and sound communication practices,' he said.

'The RWG group agreed to, and were intrinsically involved in the development of ToRs; a process which took several iterations to arrive at a clear set of supported ToRs that derived accurate and full inclusion of all members' inputs.'

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Echo

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Goonellabah park not available for pods

Tuesday's debate in the Lismore Council chambers was mostly about the community's need for open, green space for sport and recreation balanced against the need for places to live.

Concerns over future of Murwillumbah Hospital

Concerns that facilities will be downgraded or closed at Murwillumbah Hospital when the controversial new Tweed Valley Hospital in Cudgen near Kingscliff opens in 2023 have been addressed by Wayne Jones, Chief Executive of the Northern NSW Local Health District.

Lismore – house relocations, buybacks and land swaps

Councillors voted unanimously in favour of Councillor Adam Guise's motion that: 'Council acknowledges flood-impacted ratepayers' desire for house relocations, buybacks and land swaps'.

Tweed Council refuse aged care facility in Tweed Heads

The proposed aged care facility at Caloola Drive Tweed Heads (DA20/0712) was refused at the Tweed Shire Council meeting last Thursday owing to flood risk.

West Ballina locals concerned about new flood risk

A large group of West Ballina residents are alarmed about a DA that has been submitted to Ballina Shire Council by the Emmanuel Anglican College in Horizon Drive.

Alarming footage of devastation in Ellis State Forest

North coast conservationists say they are shocked and alarmed at footage of the devastation being wrought in Ellis State Forest south of Grafton.

Flood residents get \$650 from Lismore Council

Lismore City Mayor Steve Krieg today announced that 1,558 residents will receive a grant of \$650 from the Lismore Flood Appeal.

www.echo.net.au

Kingscliff aged care facility proposed

Developers behind a \$150 million redevelopment 'designed to meet the growing and evolving needs of seniors in the region', are inviting Kingscliff residents to take part in community consultation.

The proposal, by Uniting NSW.ACT, would provide a combination of 120 residential aged care beds, including dementia care places, and about 235 independent living apartments.

Uniting's Head of Property Development, Adrian Ciano said, 'The redevelopment of Uniting Kingscliff will enable us to meet the increasing needs of the community in one location.'

'We have been providing aged care services on the far north coast of NSW for 30 years. In Kingscliff, we are proud to offer residential aged care services.

'We're committed to continuing to support the local community for many years to come, so we're planning to revitalise, upgrade and expand Uniting Kingscliff. During the construction of the project there will be 440 new jobs created for the local community.

'Employment will range



Artist's impression of the redevelopment. Image from DA

from short-term jobs in construction, through long-term roles providing care and other support services. The care and support service roles are in addition to the 440 jobs created during construction.'

Modern facilities

Uniting says the plans also include modern facilities to promote health and wellbeing, including an outdoor pool, function and activity spaces, seniors' gym, hairdressing salon, cafe, day spa, consultation rooms for medical and allied health professionals, cinema and chapel.

Uniting Director of Property and Housing Simon Funnell said Uniting's aim was to share Uniting Kingscliff with the local community.

'We are looking to build

services that encourage a socially inclusive community where people feel they are active members, regardless of age and the level of support they need.

'Uniting last week met with current Uniting Kingscliff residents and their families to discuss the redevelopment, and how they would be supported through the process'.

The plans will be placed on public exhibition early next year, with Uniting aiming for the first stage of construction to begin in 2024, if its plans are approved.

For more information, visit: www.uniting.org/unitingkingscliff, phone 1800 864 846, or via email at ask@uniting.org.

Cabarita DA refused on character grounds

Aslan Shand

A DA for a four-storey block of flats at 2-6 Tweed Coast Road, Cabarita Beach was refused by Tweed Shire councillors at last Thursday's meeting (August 4), despite a staff recommendation for approval.

Mayor Chris Cherry (Independent) put the motion for refusal, telling the chamber 'As a councillor, we often have to deal with issues that are not black and white. In this issue there is a matter of interpretation in terms of the development control standards that need to be adhered to.'

'We heard a lot in the 67 submissions, all of them

raising problems with character and scale and amenity that this building is proposing. How it really does not fit in with the existing character of Cabarita, or the proposed future character of Cabarita'.

Cr Firth highlighted that none of the 67 submissions on the DA were in favour and that the proposal was the first four-storey building being proposed for Cabarita Beach.

Councillor Warren Polglase (conservative) spoke against the refusal, highlighting that the staff were 'well educated, employed, and experts.'

The motion for refusal of the DA was supported by all councillors, except Cr Polglase.

Evans Head, Iron Gates DA before planning panel Aug 30

Aslan Shand

The current development application (DA) for the flood and bushfire-prone site of the Evans Head, Iron Gates development will go before the Northern Regional Planning Panel (NRPP) on August 30.

The meeting is open to the public and speakers can register to put forward their concerns about, or support for, the DA. The current DA has been with the Richmond Valley Council (RVC) since 2014 and has been subject to

community opposition since the 1990s. An approved DA was removed in 1997 by the Land and Environment Court (L&EC) as a result of illegal clearing by the developer, which still remains to be remediated.

The DA, available on the NSW government's planning portal, proposes the creation of 135 residential lots, four public reserve lots, one sewer pump station lot, one drainage reserve lot, three super lots, one residue lot, and two rainforest lots.

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*Budgeram means story in Bundjalung language.

Thank you to Ninbella Gallery for supporting this monthly column.

Chinny Charge returns for Sept

Aslan Shand

After an uphill battle against COVID the Chinny Charge is going to run again on Saturday, September 17 at 2pm.

Over the last two years, the annual Mullumbimby event has been cancelled three times, owing to the pandemic.

The Chincogan Charge was originally started as a fundraiser in 1960 to build the Mullumbimby Swimming Pool, and in that time has attracted keen runners from all over the country.

This year, the run will have a food stall run by the Mullumbimby Primary School, and the Mullumbimby Ex-services Club will be open for drinks.

‘We are really hoping for lovely weather and having a positive community event,’ said Mullum Chamber president, Jenelle Stanford.

The Chinny Charge was restarted by Jenelle in 2017, after a 16-year hiatus, and is the only time that the



The 2019 Chinny Charge. Photo Tree Faerie

mountain can be accessed by the public each year.

The run and walk is open to anyone aged 12 and over, with the junior race going to the base of the mountain and back.

‘No one under 12 is allowed to either run or walk on the mountain, and everyone must be off the mountain by 5pm,’ Jenelle reminded participants.

‘We are looking forward to welcoming back the NSW Fire and Rescue, among other community organisations and volunteers, to put on a great local event.’

Prizes are: \$500 for the first female and male professional runners; \$250 for the first female and male local runners; as well as a number of trophies, including the Kevin Moran Memorial Shield.

To book a place, visit www.eventwizards.com.au.

Bruns gets even more fashionable!



Daisy, from Oh My Goddess, models the new *Brunswick Heads Fashion Trail* photographic brochure, which is available around the town. The aim is to promote Brunswick Heads as a fashion destination, highlighting its eclectic mix of small boutiques and new and emerging local designers. The brochure was produced by the Bruns Chamber of Commerce and the State government – Tracey Hocking from Lazybones co-ordinated the photography, models and design. Photo Jeff ‘Lazybones’ Dawson

Youth poetry prize on offer

Returning to the Byron Writers Festival, after the covid cancelled years, is the John West Youth Poetry Cup.

Performance poet David Hallett told *The Echo*, ‘This special event for kids and teens is a family bequest by the late Melbourne poet, John West’.

‘The event, to be held at Byron Bay Library on Saturday August 27, is open to ten to 18 year olds. The contest is to read or recite a single original poem for a

maximum two minutes.

‘The winner takes \$500 prize money and the cup.

‘There are no entry fees, and no fees for entering the Cup competition or the venue, and the poem can be on any subject.

‘Registrations for the event are at 3pm at the library, and the contest starts at 3.30pm’.

For any further info phone David on 0487 384 993.

The Byron Writers Festival will be held August 26 til 28.

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The Byron Shire Echo
Volume 37 #10 • August 17, 2022

Will the NSW government act on disasters, or just manage them?

There are some takeaways from the latest flood report, which was released last week.

The Select Committee on the response to Major Flooding across NSW in 2022, headed by chair Walt Secord (Labor) painted a picture of unprepared agencies, such as Resilience NSW, and documented a lack of planning.

It's a different report from the 'independent flood report', which the NSW Liberal/Nationals government is still sitting on, despite receiving it over two weeks ago.

This latest report is 200 pages while the 'independent' one is expected to be 700.

There were a myriad of contributing factors that led to the 2022 flood disaster, but let's have look at one – the BoM. Flood-affected residents would recall how wrong the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) were with its predictions on the night of February 27, 2022.

From page 36: 'On why the extent of flooding was not predicted, Ms Jane Golding, Manager Hazard Preparedness and Response, BoM, advised that broadly "the signals were there in the atmosphere and we were communicating that there was a heightened risk for a significant flood", but that "it's very difficult to predict river heights in days ahead of a flood" as it often depends on where the rain will fall. She added that up until the Sunday evening, different forms of computer modelling available at the time weren't "forecasting those extraordinary rainfall rates that we received".

'Ms Golding agreed that there would be benefit in having on-the-ground local knowledge feeding into flood predictions and monitoring.

'She also noted that after flooding

events, the BoM reviews data infrastructure around catchments to identify if there is a need for more gauges. It also reviews classifications to ensure whether they were appropriate, given the impact these classifications can have on communities.

'With regard to gauges that the BoM relies on, Ms Golding explained that the governance of flood data assets, such as gauges, is subject to an intergovernmental agreement with split ownership between local, State and federal governments. Of the 1,500 flood data assets in NSW, the BoM owns 885. Ms Golding added that responsibility for these assets lies with the asset owner'.

Recommendations

Within the report's 37 recommendations were simple, obvious improvements, such as 'increasing ongoing, long-term funding and access to technical guidance and assistance for local councils'.

Other recommendations include 'improving the management of drainage channels' on private and public land, and 'ensuring that land-use planning and development takes a risk-based approach'.

Ensuring robust telecoms infrastructure is also suggested. Additionally, the report suggests 'That the NSW government invest in the restoration of the Wilsons and Richmond Rivers to include riparian restoration, water quality and river health improvement'.

The Brunswick River needs restoration too! Unfortunately that river was not included in the report.

It flooded much of Mullum, and likely contributed to flooding in Ocean Shores, SGB and New Brighton.

Hans Lovejoy, editor

Insider's take on a collapsing education sector

I came prepared for my last Parliamentary Committee Hearing with a fat file of public submissions to assist questioning of witnesses.

The investigation concerned NSW Teacher shortages. First up were public, and then independent teacher unions, bearing scathing criticisms of NSW Government policy. This is always expected – teacher unions are permanently at war on policy, and I suppose the other LNP MP on the Committee was trying to play that card by relentlessly interjecting during Labor's time for questions.

The problem with this infantile behaviour is the teacher shortage issue has exploded into a full blown crisis, as evidenced by the truly alarming submissions and data we were given for the Hearing.

For the lead government MP at the hearing to be so oblivious to the gravitas of the problem, and incapable of even listening to the evidence, was mortifying.

Eventually the Committee Chair snapped and warned him '... that is your third or fourth smart alec contribution to the Hearing. I will not hesitate to kick you out if you continue to be juvenile and stupid...'

Let me pause here and take you through some of the data we received for the Hearing.

We ran an online survey, which received 11,299 responses – 66 per cent were teachers, 11 per cent members of a school executive and 17 per cent were parents. Rural and regional schools submitted 54 per cent of responses. This disproportionate number indicates the extreme level of anxiety in non-metro schools, because they were already harder to staff before this crippling shortage.

I knew we had a significant problem, but even so, the data was shocking: 92 per cent have experienced collapsed/merged classes; 65 per cent had classes taught by 'out of field' teachers (unqualified in the subject); 39 per cent had experienced classes that were not even able to be supervised; five per cent experienced schools closing early; and in nine



'The impacts of the crisis on our teachers, who are still loyally showing up, are profound – the costs to our children and their life opportunities is unconscionable.'

Catherine Cusack

per cent, groups of students were sent home. The full survey and its findings are posted with other submissions on the NSW Parliament's Committees website (Legislative Council Standing Committee 3).

This situation is no game for politicians and posturing. The impacts of the crisis on our teachers, who are still loyally showing up, are profound – the costs to our children and their life opportunities is unconscionable. So, if ever there was an inquiry that required MPs to read the information and behave like adults, this has got to be it.

I texted my government colleagues to ask if they were prepared for questions, and was assured by one that he had been 'briefed by the Minister's Office and had questions'. So he had the lead.

First question: 'Why does the federation seek to block a lot of these government initiatives to get more teachers into the classrooms? Is it a protection racket? Why don't you guys like to actually accept that the government is trying to get more teachers into school for our kids?'

Answer: '... Really? Is that the type of question [you] are going to ask? Is that as good as it gets?..'

And so it continued. There wasn't even enough time at the end to understand what is going on with our teacher workforce planning and profiles. I am not sure how this problem can be tackled without that information. I do know for sure that yelling at each other won't help.

Next was Mark Northam, representing the 32,000 member Independent Education Union. His evidence stopped me cold. Northam pointed to the recent Queensland teachers salary agreement, with increases locked in for CPI, making them the best paid in Australia. He explained, 'It really is a problem for NSW. I'm not suggesting there are going to be busloads

of teachers exiting the State or anything like that. But, certainly in that top portion from Lismore up, people would be giving some serious consideration to it.'

I asked him during the break about our already flood-battered schools losing yet more teachers to better paid positions in Queensland? And he told me he fears it's going to be bad. He is not aware of anybody who has thought this new challenge through, let alone has a plan for it.

My Committee experience tells me these big teacher staffing problems won't be solved in combative political forums.

Somehow, our community needs to cut through the noise and insist our local teachers get the respect and support they need – and not feel obliged to drive across the border to get higher pay, less stress and better conditions.

If NSW can't match the Queensland offer to teachers, we need a special solution for cross border communities facing this new crisis-on-top-of-a-crisis.

If nothing is done, the 2023 school year could see our local teaching service on the brink of collapse. The most disadvantaged schools will be hardest hit. We need to acknowledge our indebtedness to every classroom teacher who keeps showing up for our children.

Families can play a direct role supporting our schools, and all of us can help by insisting our education systems make it possible for them to stay. Experience has taught us we cannot assume a cavalry will come to rescue us in a catastrophe. My big takeaway for 2022: is we have to take these things on ourselves – and this severe teacher shortage is looming as another one of those issues.

■ Lennox Head-based Catherine Cusack has just retired as a NSW Liberal MLC.



The Byron Shire Echo
Volume 37 #10 August 17, 2022
Established 1986 • 24,500 copies every week

www.echo.net.au

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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



A little lift

After the loss of our public road during the February 28 deluge, some isolated residents have had to rely on the kindness of vehicle drivers who offer lifts into town.

It is these people I wish to sincerely thank. They are always generous in dropping me off where I wish to go.

It will be another three months at least before the possibility of public vehicle access to all properties isolated; after which we will have to re-establish private accesses and clear away fallen power lines and telephone poles.

So in anticipation of many more lifts in and out of town, I thank you in advance.

Don Drinkwater
Huonbrook

Belongil clogged

Belongil Creek is blocked and backing up. I understand all the explanations for leaving it as is, but given the trauma people have been through, and the identified failures of... well, just about everybody, surely minimising risk is the priority?

We've gotten the report; stuff-ups from BOM, to SES, to everyone we trusted.

Look, one big system coming in fast, surf on



'Life itself is the most wonderful fairy tale'

– Hans Christian Andersen

the beach, and you've got another bloody flood in Byron Bay. People should not have to carry that stress. Open it.

Matt Hartley
Edinburgh, usually Byron Bay

China's prapoganda

In light of Chinese Ambassador to Australia Xiao Qian's inflammatory comments the other day at the National Press Club in Canberra, one has to wonder why on Earth we are allowing members of the Chinese Communist Party to use this nationally televised platform to spout Chinese Government propaganda?

The Chinese Communist Party has ill intentions towards Australia, and they

are a threat to peace and stability in our region.

It is absolute madness for the National Press Club and the taxpayer-funded ABC to roll out the red carpet and give a soapbox to people, and hostile foreign governments, who are clearly acting against Australia's sovereign national interests.

They should be banned from appearing again.

Matt Eggleston
West Perth

A matter of the commons

Michael Balson (Letters 3 August) writing about the Commons, has tried to place his [mis] interpretation on matters of major significance.

His mischaracterisation and somewhat misanthropic views don't stack up with history and political economy. Central to this is the question of ownership, private property, and markets. Greek philosopher Plato extolled the virtues of common property and believed it would encourage cooperation and avoid divisiveness, and this was later developed by Karl Polanyi and later still by Elinor Ostronin (Nobel Prize 2009 economics) – 'Governing the Commons'.

Ecologist, Garrett Hardin, confused open access resources with the Commons in his article 'The Tragedy of the Commons', concerned with overpopulation, and consequently unrestricted use of the world's resources, which would lead to ecological and civilisational collapse.

Despite ample evidence that the tragedy of the Commons was not too many people chasing limited resources, but rather the unregulated Capitalist exploitation of open access resources in search of profits.

In other words, the Commons and the tragedy of

► Continued on page 14

Letters to the Editor

Send to Letters Editor Aslan Shand, email: editor@echo.net.au, fax: 6684 1719. Deadline: Noon, Friday. **Letters longer than 200 words may be cut.**

Letters already published in other papers will not be considered. Please include your full name, address and phone number for verification purposes.

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Bundjalung stories on Country

Rhoda Roberts AO

As first peoples we have an inherited birthright and a deep responsibility to try, as much as possible, to tread lightly on Country and read Country. Our older generations, many of who are passing, saw the land before the felling of the forests, before the brick and mortar or the cement; it's a different memory, often layered, and in the telling there are tears, head shaking, fist pumping, laughter, and at times gentle sweetness.



With our boundaries north to the Logan River, and west to the Great Dividing Range, we all know of the majestic mountains that cloak our horizons, the rivers that are our bloodline and our sea country. There was much foot travel in the old ways and gatherings

– up and down the coast, along the ridges, where the stories of the Three Brothers penetrated every generation, sand fires holding many secrets, humour, the forbidden love stories, and our Indian and south sea connections.

Grandparents for generations may have been living under the *Aborigines Protection Act 1909* on missions and reserves, but they still watched the winds and knew to look to the sky, knew the rhythm of waterways, the tidal cycles that guide the seasonal constellations. For generations

of Bundjalung it was an oral chart that alerted them to the right time to undertake travel across their estates, celebrate the rituals, planting, fishing, and where and what to gather, harvest, and eat.

The Bundjalung, like many Indigenous nations, have suffered enormous losses, while living under occupation since the arrival of the First Fleet. Attempts were made through various government policies of alienation of the first peoples, who were seen as a barrier and problem across the frontier. It was the pastoral wars, a testimony to the greed of the Europeans, that defined their ignorance of land tenure and management systems, whose guise of law introduced legislations that considered very little of people; promoting an inhumane lack of any form of humanity for the existing society, be it their political, economic and/ or cultural values.

However, as the colony continued to overthrow, they underestimated the complexity of our Aboriginal societies and the deep knowledge and environmental care for resources that had provided for a continent of peoples for thousands of years.

The tangible and intangible connections to Bundjalung territories are growing, as our

And through our passages of time and rituals we continue to learn, to know of our place in the universe.

land, our waterways and sky country, continue to be part of our First Nations philosophy and ethos, one that was never static. The tools, the food sources, the rituals have adapted and shifted with the environmental and societal changes since time immemorial. The first navigators, we mapped our celestial worlds; with each constellation is a varying meaning across the landscape we call mother. And through our passages of time and rituals we continue to learn, to know of our place in the universe. Everything is interconnected and has a purpose.

Today our worlds often collide, while we understand not one society is perfect, and the mass destruction in the name of colonising is no one person's fault, and we now face those disruptive elements of violence and greed in our peoples, as we sell off our inheritance.

For some, it took *Article 22 of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* to gently remind us, that the state must ensure that women and children enjoy full protection and guarantees against all forms of violence.

Today the reclamation work through arts and culture is a

form of healing, a testament to the eons of oral storytelling practice. Some of our custodians refer to those stories, songlines and language that have been hidden and often considered lost owing to being outlawed by authorities as *sleeping*. For others, the stories were simply being kept, silently stored for the right time to be awakened.

Now is the time, as the global population begins to recognise the Cultural amnesia, the mistruths, and the systemic abusive behaviour in our systems, which have slowly grown like a fungus since colonisation.

There have been many changes, and now we are moving into a new era of conciliatory dialogue, with a place and voice at the table. Terminology is changing, and as we embrace some of the difficult and robust conversations we need to have to truly appreciate the truth telling and the move forward.

■ Rhoda Roberts AO will perform in *Bundjalung Nghari – Indigenise* presented by NORPA and Byron Writers Fest, 27 & 28 August at Brunswick Picture House. Tickets at: www.norpa.org.au.

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Mullum, flooding and pods

■ In this region we are all, except for a few, living on floodplains or areas prone to further landslips. And as far as I can remember, this community motto has been 'act locally think globally'. Then it stands to reason that we as a community understand what is happening globally, so we can set a local example, of empathy, compassion and inclusion.

Climate change in the long term is an existential threat for the whole of humanity. However, like the very nature of capitalism, climate change does discriminate. In the short term, Noami Klein avers climate change is hitting the poor first and worst; whether that is being abandoned on the rooftops of New Orleans or Lismore.

This means increasingly we will be faced with overlapping crises. Devastating weather events and the need to provide temporary housing for citizens who have lost all of their belongings. Prince Street pod houses is an example of acting locally, where temporary homes are built, and built quickly.

The local public outcry about the pod houses, most of which has been imbued with fear, mirrors world leaders' stance on climate migration. That is while headlines are quick to employ the label 'climate refugees' on the world stage, displaced global citizens are considered in countries like the US to be a national security threat and without refugee status.

Dominique Klein
Main Arm

■ Saddened by the huge trauma that homeless flood victims are undergoing, those feelings were compounded by reading Hans Lovejoy's editorial regarding the crushing of frogs and their spawn with development of the Mullumbimby pods in Prince Street.

Environmental activists have been aware for decades of the international laws addressing ecocide. Indeed, many of these debates also reside in the literature defining the rise of the Anthropocene, and the negative consequences of interrelated development decisions upon ecological

communities of species.

This is now commonplace in development decisions. It is scientifically understood that complex ecological communities of species define a healthy ecology in the holistic environmental sense. Indeed, the anthropogenic view of the world still enforces ours as the primary/dominant species world view, and the rights of nature are redundant. Thus, a cycle of bad, ignorant and ill-considered belief systems dominates local and State government decisions.

In Byron the development of the bypass has resulted in more flooding of the town, and the fate of the endangered Mitchell's rainforest snail still resonates in environmental circles.

Byron Council was democratically elected. It now appears to be autocratically led by the corrupt NSW State government. When addressing development decisions Council is bound to uphold democratic inclusion/transparency and accountability to its community.

Jo Faith
Newtown

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CHES by Ian Rogers

The Chennai Open Chess Olympiad has seen a team of teenage Uzbeks overtake a team of teenage Indians to win gold, with top seeds USA finishing nowhere.

The undefeated Uzbek team, whose top three players totalled 51 years in age, finished tied for first place with Armenia, but their superior results against the strongest countries gave the Uzbeks gold.

The teenage Indians – entered as the host nation's B team – edged out their compatriots in the A team to take home bronze.

The entire Olympiad hung on the top board of the Uzbekistan v India2 match in the penultimate round. 17-year-old Nodirbek Abdusattorov was pitted against 16-year-old Dommaraju Gukesh, who had already scored an incredible 8.5 points from his first 9 games and was pressing hard for another win, as was his teammate Rameshbabu Praggnanandhaa, 17. (The other two games had been drawn.)

Just as Praggnanandhaa won, Gukesh let his game get out of control and, ruing the fact that he could have drawn at any moment in the previous hour, Gukesh blundered and fell to defeat. At midnight he was still being comforted by, amongst others, Viswanthan Anand.

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

The 2-2 result meant that the Uzbek youngsters stayed in the lead along with Armenia, though tiebreakers were always going to favour the Uzbeks.

A similar fate befell the Indian team in the Women's Olympiad. Headed by world #2 Humpy Koneru, India led from the start and was in first place going into the final round. However, India fell to a hitherto underperforming US team, allowing Ukraine and Georgia to overtake them and win gold and silver respectively.

Ukraine's Anna Ushenina could barely raise a smile after she won the critical final game. She explained: 'It's obviously a great feeling, but the medal can't stop a war.'

Like others in her team, former Women's World KO Champion Ushenina, 36, is a refugee. Her home city Kharkiv, near the Russian border, has been continuously bombed during the Russian invasion.

'It was dreadful,' said Ushenina. 'As soon as we heard the news that the Russians were marching, we had no other option but to flee without any preparations.'

The Ukrainian open team, with captain Oleksandr Sulypa coming to India directly from his army service, underperformed badly, with the 2004 and 2010 gold medallists finishing equal with Australia in a tie for 25th place. (186 countries took part.)

► **Continued from page 11** their commodification.

Capitalists used the tragedy of the Commons to push for privatisation of both common lands and public lands.

The world's fisheries are well documented today for being plundered by mega-factory fishing fleets, scouring the oceans with high technology to maximize catches. Overexploitation is a result of large corporations, with the sole objective of making profits.

Instead of lamenting how climate change is impacting on the planet, people should take courage from others in history who have acted gallantly and courageously, even taking personal sacrifices to collectively take on the citadels of political and economic power to bring about systemic democratic change in tandem with global ecological integrity for the majority, not the privileged few.

Boyd Kellner
Newrybar

Affordable homes

It is a sad reflection on the concept 'affordable' when the real outcome is actually unaffordable housing.

This concept of an affordable housing SEPP (State

Environmental Planning Policy) was to relieve our state government of the responsibility of building social housing. The boarding house concept was to be even more affordable, and set up mainly to house students and single workers.

It is a fiasco of deception of social housing, a long-term solution, when the replacement seems to be sold off not too long after being constructed. Not sold off at a lower rate but sold off at market value, then let out at market value.

Of course, the SEPP was planned in respect to boarding house rental with not just a piddly three rooms out of a huge 43 rooms at the supposed affordable rate of 20 per cent less than the going rate, but with all the boarding house rooms at the discounted rate.

We only have to think about it and then it does make more sense. How is it that we have no real affordability in our Shire when there has been so many of these SEPP boarding houses and 'affordable' houses built and why are they being sold off?

People are able to ring the SEPP NSW Department and ask these very curious questions themselves. Please do

and see if you get the same conflicting answers ie they are supposed to not be sold off so soon after construction but kept as cheap rentals.

Annie Radermacher
Brunswick Heads

Killing spree

Israel's recent three-day killing spree in Gaza, in which the most lethal missiles were unleashed against the civilian population, is a sure-fire way to drum up votes for Yair Lapid, Israel's current Prime Minister.

The blitzkrieg demonstrated that he is at least as good at killing Palestinians as his contender, Benjamin Netanyahu. Some Israelis call their massacres in Gaza 'mowing the lawn'. Their sharp blades have already cropped/slashed/dismembered 43 Gazans, including 15 children, but there hasn't been a peep of protest from the Albanese government or from the US and its lackeys, who spout the need for a 'rules based international system'.

No sooner had the bodies been buried, than the former Israeli ambassador to the US, Danny Ayalon, was hosted by the NSW Parliament on 9 August. This is the same man who made, *The Truth About the West*

Bank in which he denies the existence of Palestine, thus reasserting the old Zionist catchcry, 'A land without a people for a people without a land'. However, Visualising Palestine released *The Real Truth About Palestine in Response to Danny Ayalon*, a humorous yet devastating rebuttal that can be looked up online.

Give Israel the elbow, Albo!
Gareth W R Smith
Byron Bay

Hiding what?

What are the meat corporations so desperate to hide?

The NSW High Court has just rejected a challenge by animal rights activists against 'ag gag' laws in NSW. The Court's finding that these laws protected 'privacy' is absurd – will CCTV cameras be banned from our streets for infringing the privacy of burglars and muggers?

These laws are designed to intimidate those who work to expose cruelty to animals, and hide what animal-exploiting industries don't want consumers to see. Animal activists use peaceful means to expose gratuitous cruelty that is inflicted without oversight.

Desmond Bellamy
PETA Australia

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Unmissable sessions at Byron Writers Festival

Just over a week to go until gates open to Byron Writers Festival 2022! Settle in for three glorious days of goodness: feed your brain, nourish your soul and reflect on the surprising and wonderful world around you.



Not sure which sessions to see? We've saved the best 'til last and highlighted some of the must-see panels and conversations from the 2022 program to help you decide. Hurry, Day Passes are selling fast!

America: The End of Empire? Love and Other Stories

Are we witnessing the end of an empire? What would the world look like with a different lead superpower? In this session, journalist and nine-time Walkley Award recipient Andrew Quilty (*August in Kabul*) and leading communications expert Ed Coper (*Facts and Other Lies: Welcome to the Disinformation Age*) tackle these and other questions about the current state of play in the USA with ABC Radio National's Paul Barclay.

Friday 26 August, 12.30pm in the First National Byron Marquee.

Radical Art

Don't miss Ben Quilty's much-anticipated festival appearance on his art-making practice as he joins fellow artist and Badtjala woman Fiona Foley for the session 'Radical Art' with host of Radio National's *The Art Show*, Daniel Browning. Together they will explore the role art plays in changing the world, and ask the question 'Is it even possible to be radical in art now?'.

Friday 26 August, 3pm in the Southern Cross University Marquee.

For the Good of the World

Could the existential crises facing humanity in fact bring us together? UK philosopher AC Grayling believes the problems facing the world are not insurmountable. In this lecture he discusses the solutions to the three biggest challenges he believes we are facing today: climate change, technology and justice. The solutions he proposes are both pragmatic and inspiring.

Saturday 27 August, 1.45pm in the Southern Cross University Marquee.

Love has been the central inspiration for much art over the centuries. Three stellar Australian writers Trent Dalton (*Love Stories*), Hannah Kent (*Devotion*) and Nigel Featherstone (*My Heart is a Little Wild Thing*) explore how love has inspired their latest works in the session 'Love and Other Stories'. Together with literary agent Alex Adsett, they will discuss love in all its guises.

Saturday 27 August, 3pm in the Melaleuca Marquee.

Sometimes All You Can Do Is Laugh

What are the positive effects of laughing at what troubles us? End the weekend on a high, with four high profile comedians as they share their top tips for tackling tumultuous times: satirist Jonathan Biggins, multi-talented actor, writer and broadcaster Matt Okine, proud Kalkadoon woman Megan Albany, and our very own Mandy Nolan.

Sunday 28 August, 3pm in the Melaleuca Marquee.

Stars and Phosphorescence

Award-winning journalist Julia Baird and broadcaster Indira Naidoo discuss wonder, processing grief and the power of nature in 'Stars and Phosphorescence', an uplifting conversation on how to deal with life's hardest moments and live with grace.

Sunday 28 August, 3.15pm in the Southern Cross University Marquee.

A life of crime



Pictured L-R: Bryan Brown, Matthew Condon, Trent Dalton and Steve Toltz.

One of the highlight panels at the festival this year will bring together best-selling authors Trent Dalton and Steve Toltz with actor Bryan Brown and acclaimed author and podcast creator Matthew Condon to discuss how they bring the lives of criminals to life in their writing.

Iconic Australian actor Bryan Brown has been telling stories with his distinctive Australian voice on TV and in film for a long time, but this time he's writing crime in his first book *Sweet Jimmy*. Brown's friend Sam Neill says 'Quite apart from his other manifold talents, Bryan turns out to be an excellent writer. An authentic voice; highly imaginative yet completely believable, with a flair for fully realised characters and a gripping narrative ... This is utterly baffling. I'm furious.'

Trent Dalton is no stranger to crime, having worked as an investigative journalist, and before that growing up rough and street smart in the seedier suburbs of Brisbane. Many of the characters and events in his best-selling

novel *Boy Swallows Universe* are inspired by Dalton's own experiences.

One of Australia's most fearless writers Steve Toltz's new novel *Here Goes Nothing* is a darkly comic story about what it's like to be murdered, only to come back as a ghost to watch your murderer seducing your wife. His first novel, *A Fraction of the Whole* was shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize and is narrated by the character Jasper Dean from his prison cell.

Matthew Condon is a journalist who has spent almost a decade investigating crime and corruption in Queensland. His book *The Night Dragon* and subsequent breakout true-crime podcast *Ghost Gate Road*, delves deep into a famous cold case, the deadly Whiskey Au Go Go fire and a quest for justice that finally brought down one of Australia's worst killers, Vincent O'Dempsey.

Don't miss this fascinating and entertaining panel 'A Life of Crime' at Byron Writers Festival on Sunday 28 August.

Kids Big Day Out



If you are a kid, or you know a kid who loves books, reading and creativity, then Byron Writers Festival's 'Kids Big Day Out' is the ultimate event for you!

On Sunday 28 August one of the festival marquees transforms into a giant immersive storytelling arena with MC Joel Salom, International Man of Circus, leading the charge. Authors and illustrators will take to the stage to give a behind-the-scenes insight into their creative process and what has inspired their books. These interactive presentations are extremely popular entertainment for kids and parents alike.

'Kids Big Day Out is my favourite day of the year for kids' books. A big, open tent full of kids, parents and authors bringing books to life in fun ways, telling stories and having fun. It's such a great way to inspire kids to read.' – Tristan Bancks
Step into Dreamtime stories with

wonderful Bundjalung author and illustrator **Bronwyn Bancroft** and her daughter **Ella Noah Bancroft**. Be entertained by PAWS author **Kate Foster**, DeadlyScience founder **Corey Tutt**, and one of Australia's most acclaimed authors of fantasy **Isabelle Carmody**. *Big Magic* author **Sarah Armstrong** and the incomparable **Tristan Bancks** wrap up the program with a bang!

As well as the action onstage, kids can explore the StoryBoard StorySpace where the famous StoryBoard bus and tipi village come alive with free drop-in workshops for aspiring young writers and illustrators.

Kids Big Day Out passes are \$40 and includes one child 6–12 years old and one accompanying adult. Children under six are free. Sunday Family Passes are \$175 (1 child + 2 adults) \$20 for each additional child.

All tickets are available at: www.byronwritersfestival.com/tickets

Olivia Newton-John and *FernGully* – and the dam saga goes on

Tricia Shantz

There have been many things written about Olivia Newton-John this past week. All good things. Beyond owning a property in the local area she was active in many environmental issues in the region. One in particular, the 12-year battle to save 'Fern Gully' in Coorabell from being dammed, is not well known to locals, but is one of the most important environmental battles won in Byron. This dam would have shattered the heart of the hinterland forever.

In the early 1980s the region's local water authority, Rous County Council (RCC), proposed building a \$60 million dam that would have flooded the valley between Keyes Bridge at Federal, through to Goonengerry Bridge. There were 39 residential properties that would have been flooded (mine was one of them) and 35 species of endangered birds and animals would have lost vital habitat. Interestingly at this time no one paid for water supplied by the RCC. Water was free. The first letter of notice of the proposed dam arrived in 1983. The final letter to say the dam would not be built arrived in 1995. In between much happened, with many people involved. Olivia was one of them. An important one. She gave generously of her time and her



Olivia Newton-John. Photos Peter Carrette

credibility, which was instrumental in the community's eventual win.

When word of the dam got out, a community group sprang up to fight against it. The co-owners of Music Farm Studios in Coorabell at that time were Wayne and Diana Young and Eric Roberts. Diana wrote the book *FernGully*, which was made into an animated film by Youngheart Productions. Robin Williams was the voice of Batty Koda, a character created for Diana by her sons Stu and Nik. *FernGully* had its World Environment Premiere at the UN in New York on Earth Day in 1992. On that day Diana and Olivia became close friends after Olivia presented Diana with a One Earth Award for her outstanding work.

The mad dam

FernGully was a fantasy tale that became a reality. The media campaign to stop 'the mad dam' began when Rusty Miller rang his friend, Wayne Young in Los Angeles, to get him on board with the fight. Wayne was one of the creators of the 'It's Time' campaign for Gough Whitlam. He knew how to do things and had the connections. Wayne rang Diana who was at the Brisbane Film Festival about to do press for *FernGully*, as it was getting an award for Most Popular Film. She said 'Don't Dam Fern Gully'. That led to a cover story in *New Idea* with Olivia and Diana, written by Jodie Harrison, with photos by Peter Carrette. The headline was: 'Don't Dam *FernGully*'.

Filming for our campaign was immediate. Olivia was spending a lot of time in Byron, particularly at The Music Farm, working on two productions with *Youngheart: The Last Whale*, for which she wrote a song; and *Human Nature*, a 52-hour series she also starred in, produced by Scott Young. He had a full film crew at the 'Fern Gully' waterhole and before we knew it we were meeting there with Olivia,



Jack Thompson and Mandawuy Yunupingu. Manda was Australian of the Year, and Yothu Yindi were rehearsing at the Music Farm for their *Treaty* album world tour.

Over the years of opposing the dam we did everything. We held concerts in local halls with the DamBusters gigs, built around Stu and Nik's band ENRGY. We raised funds to engage local ecologist David Milledge to assess the environmental values of the valley. Water Engineer Brian Milgate was invaluable for the knowledge and energy he contributed.

We wrote numerous submissions over the years. We won, and lost, many times as the

goal posts were changed.

We ran the 'Dam Mad' campaign all around Australia, and the Dam-Busters concerts in Byron. Richard Jones helped greatly as we called for the dissolution of RCC. Our then State MP Don Page walked through 'Fern Gully' one Sunday morning and came onside.

But, it was probably the Dam Mad video featuring Olivia, Diana, Jack Thompson and Mandawuy saying 'No!' to the proposed dam, that was sent to the then NSW Premier, John Fahey, which got us over the edge. How could they resist Olivia? She was a powerful force in her beautiful, sweet way. It was not long after that video was sent to the premier we got the final letter to forever stop the dam being built in our valley. However, it was just the beginning for the proposed Dunoon Dam. Within months of our win, RCC put in place the mechanisms to enable the Dunoon Dam to be built. And this is what the community there is protesting against today.

The Sunday picnic afternoons with Olivia, sitting on the edge of 'Fern Gully' are times I won't forget, nor the people we were with during that time. While we saved 'the last rainforest' in our valley, there are many more rainforests that need saving. And building a dam in Dunoon is also Dam Mad.

2022
BYRON WRITERS FESTIVAL
Radical hope

Traffic Notice
25—28 August

NOTICE TO RESIDENTS OF BYRON SHIRE

With approval from Byron Shire Council, a traffic management plan has been implemented to manage and minimise potential traffic impacts in proximity to the Byron Writers Festival site at the grounds adjacent to Elements of Byron resort

FESTIVAL TRAFFIC WILL ENTER THE SITE VIA BAYSHORE DRIVE FROM THURSDAY 25 TO SUNDAY 28 AUGUST

A festival carpark opposite Elements of Byron, accessible from Bayshore Drive, has been prepared for patrons. There will be restricted access to a drop-off area for shuttle bus, taxis and persons with disability towards the end of Bayshore Drive.

A festival shuttle bus will operate between Byron Bay Interchange in Byron CBD and the festival site every 30 minutes from 7.30am - 6pm on Friday 26th and Saturday 27th and 7.30am - 5pm on Sunday 28th August. The shuttle bus is a free service provided by Byron Writers Festival.

The Byron Bay Solar Train will run between Byron Beach Station at the Shirley St level crossing in Byron Bay township and North Beach Station on Bayshore Drive during the festival. This is a free service provided by Byron Writers Festival.



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Victoria Cosford

There's a steady stream of customers at Jodie's stall. Regulars by the looks of it, most unclipping their plastic containers - 100 per cent recycled and recyclable - upon approach, to then fill with eggs.

Two thousand hens do the supplying on the 120-acre property near Burringbar, an old dairy farm purchased by Jodie and her partner, Fabian, about six years ago. The original idea was to regenerate the land and waterways, the mix of cattle and poultry intended for both rotational grazing and to provide a super-fertiliser.

But once they started selling their eggs at farmers' markets they realised that this was where they wanted their focus to lie. They increased their flock of hens and with the eggs that were less than perfect - drawing on Fabian's Italian background - they started producing fresh pasta. 'It was the eggs first,' Jodie tells me, 'the Italian heritage second, and from there it's grown.'

The pasta looks to be every




bit as popular as those eggs, with one couple gathering up armfuls of various types while I'm there. They also throw in a couple of packets of pasta sauces, also made by Fabian, from his nonna's recipes, says Jodie. There's a creamy herb-flecked pumpkin one and a tomato & basil one, while the pastas include lemon parsley spaghetti, semolina bucatini, pappardelle, spinach fettuccini; there are gluten-free ones too. 'What we've enjoyed most about all this,' says Jodie, 'is knowing people are going home making lovely things.'

They raise ducks too, and from their eggs make a Bronze-award-winning vanilla custard. 'It's the colour of them!' says Jodie.

Regenerative farming, environmental mindfulness, glorious produce and products, and a possible pasta bar in the offing: this young couple might just be unstoppable!

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The Good Life

Halcyon House and Paper Daisy

Simon Haslam

A stylish boutique beachfront hotel with bespoke rooms, its own day spa, a beautiful pool and a laidback but upmarket restaurant, with an awarded wine-list, run by top-notch chefs. Honestly, why would anyone want to stay there? We ask the tough questions here at *The Echo*, but the team at Halcyon House had all the answers:

Q: It's been seven years since Halcyon House and the Paper Daisy restaurant opened. You opened with a bang, with both the 22-room boutique hotel receiving accolades across Australia and the restaurant gaining two hats in the 2017 Good Food Guide list. What factors have been the most important in maintaining your popularity?

HH: We have maintained popularity for several reasons, namely our commitment to service that means we see many repeat guests year-on-year. Regional tourism is also having its moment, which has meant we have welcomed many new guests too, which has been lovely. Being a luxury beachfront boutique hotel, we have a unique offering and one that, thankfully, there seems to be a continuing appetite for!

Q: When you first opened, Cabarita Beach was a much quieter place, and the Casuarina development to the north was only just getting started. But now there are new places to visit like the Earth Beer brewery in Cudgen, Husk Distillery at Tumbulgum, the M-Arts precinct in Murwillumbah and new restaurants popping up everywhere. So, while the hotel was previously away from the popularity of Byron, it's now much more in the centre of the action. Is that a plus for your guests?

HH: Absolutely! We have witnessed many positive changes to the region that provides our guests with a plethora of experiences and opportunities.



Kangaroo tartare, red pepper, yuzu, beach mustard. Photo Francesca Owen.



Halcyon House - Jason Barratt.



Paper Daisy Restaurant.

We are lucky to be in an area of such considered growth and feel we have the best of both worlds in terms of access to fantastic places, some of which you've mentioned, without being right in the hustle and bustle of everything.

Q: How much do your guests visit the local area – is that an important factor for them? I know your very talented Head Chef, Jason Barratt, stayed at the hotel as a guest, well before he joined the team, and said that he hardly left the pool and

do just want to check-in and not leave the property, opting to lounge by our pool, visit the onsite Spa and dine in Paper Daisy for all their meals. Typically, those guests have come to fully relax and unwind for a few days, but then we have other guests who want to do it all! Those guests typically stay three nights or more and want to both relax and enjoy the hotel but also head out for a day or two and explore the region and have a variety of experiences. We find that some of the most popular activities are scenic drives, paddle boarding, whale watching, brewery tours, snorkelling with turtles, or a shopping trip to Byron.

Q: In Paper Daisy restaurant, there is an awarded and comprehensive wine list, and Chef Jason Barratt, who came from 3-hatted Aria, is producing beautiful food. But I know Jason says that the restaurant is much more than a breakfast/ lunch/ dinner kind of place – in particular it caters for people who want to grab a cocktail, or chat in the bar with bar snacks, or guests who want food to takeaway. What do you think the special vibe is when you dine at Paper Daisy?

HH: I think our location and our menu combine to give diners a unique dining experience of relaxed sophistication. If guests want to sit at the bar or by the pool and eat bar snacks while sipping a cocktail they can, but they also get to enjoy a four-course dinner each night in the restaurant. Our staff tend to get to know our guests well during their stay, and with that comes a nice sense of homeliness. Jason's menu changes daily too, in keeping with the seasonal produce on offer, which keeps things interesting.

What would you say are the most popular cocktails?

HH: That would have to be our signature Halcyon Daze cocktail.

Q: Have you opened any additional spaces within the hotel precinct, and what's been the reaction to that?

HH: The Halcyon Spa opened in 2017 and we recently added a 1-bedroom suite to the hotel room offering. They've both been very popular!

Q: Do you have any special events or happenings at the restaurant coming up?

HH: Just this past weekend we had a Torbreck Wine lunch event and do have some other exciting initiatives in the works, but we can't share anything about them yet. Christmas lunch will be offered again, which is always popular, and yes, people are already booking their spots for that now by emailing www.paperdaisy@halcyonhouse.com.au

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All organic, antibiotic and hormone free.

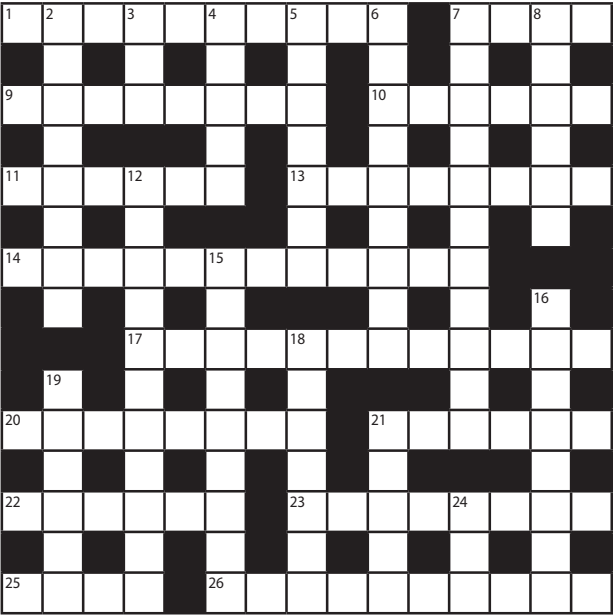
NOW OPEN IN BYRON BAY

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

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

Mungo's Crossword

N452



Cryptic Clues

ACROSS

- 1. Supervisors, units trailing the Queen following a man (10)
- 7. Jeer at a thousand – in writing! (4)
- 9. Nut actor unmasked as a traitor (8)
- 10. Press in charge? Amusingly contradictory (6)
- 11. Colonise and relax (6)
- 13. Unit broken and expired – made a mess (8)
- 14. Nobleman and monarch with self-possession and balance (12)
- 17. Small retreat for pets (8,4)
- 20. Man from Copenhagen behind, noted Spooner of the caribou (8)
- 21. Listen enthusiastically – join the army! (6)
- 22. See after individual – like Nelson! (3,3)
- 23. Give it to raffle – it's mine! (3,3,2)
- 25. Overcome tempo (4)
- 26. Objects around reckless easy victories (10)

DOWN

- 2. H – steeple or chimney? (7)
- 3. Write from prison (3)
- 4. Crumpled horn over Eastern river (5)
- 5. Not behind – bid! (2,5)
- 6. Slain – rite is performed, more holy (9)
- 7. Beloved loss – broken heart (5,6)
- 8. Nothing survives stone fruits (6)
- 12. Skeletal principle, commented Spooner of the famous crooner (4,7)
- 15. Former building material about right? Crap! (9)
- 16. Winning over English – but it could be painful! (3,5)
- 18. Right, one arrow supplied to the fighter (7)
- 19. Make a scene in the spiritualist meeting (6)
- 21. Seven – surprisingly short odds (5)
- 24. Parisian assent (3)

Quick Clues

ACROSS

- 1. They keep their companion out of trouble (10)
- 7. Tome (4)
- 9. Defector (8)
- 10. Paradoxical; satirical (6)
- 11. Resolve (6)
- 13. More disorganised (8)
- 14. Equilibrium (12)
- 17. Setback; regression (8,4)
- 20. They are used to pull the sleigh! (8)
- 21. Enrol (6)
- 22. Cyclops distinguishing feature (3,3)
- 23. Eureka! (3,3,2)
- 25. Hit (4)
- 26. Whippings (10)

DOWN

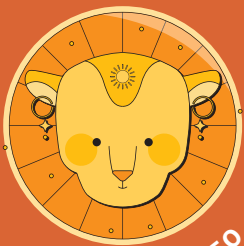
- 2. Roof of a dwelling (7)
- 3. Animal enclosure (3)
- 4. European waterway (5)
- 5. One type of bridge contract (2,5)
- 6. More virtuous (9)
- 7. Artery and vein are examples (5,6)
- 8. Bitter fruit used for oil (6)
- 12. Legendary American singer who sang with Lady Gaga (4,7)
- 15. Solid waste matter (9)
- 16. Apiarist's occupational hazard! (3,5)
- 18. Soldier (7)
- 19. Session often involving a ouija board (6)
- 21. Levels off (5)
- 24. Affirmative (French) (3)

Last week's solution N451



STARS BY LILITH

Looks like a steamy week in store with a Sun / Venus / Jupiter trinity in fire signs, people talking up a storm and behaving like divas...



LEO

ARIES: Mars continues fuelling your ongoing major personal renovation, which is now ready to reveal some of its flaming radiance. So, yes to bold statements, dramatic effects, dashing flash and glamour – so far, so fabulous. But this week is also about containing the blaze, checking the atmospheric pressure and reading the room.

TAURUS: Is 'positive stress' a thing? Apparently, and this week could deliver it via a shock in some Taurean area of life: money, food, or security. As prices rise and shortages soar, treading the fine line between stress and excitement depends on how open-heartedly you can say 'yes' to change.

GEMINI: As current planetary interactions get the inner stage of your hyperkinetic mind sizzling and fizzing, especially during weekend Gemini moon, try not to blow a fuse. Because those great exaggerations and high-handed promises may, or may not, eventuate. How much you enjoy this week depends on how interested you are in playing the game.

CANCER: Cosmic weather conditions predict a week of theatrical passions, sensitive egos on hair triggers and a chance of tantrums, during which Cancerian charm and flattery are your best defences against becoming crab flambe. There's lots of family energy buzzing and bubbling, and those little hissy fits are so entertaining... aren't they?

LEO: Leo author Isabel Allende says it best for this year's final birthdays in the sign of the Lion: 'Heart is what drives us... That is what I need for my characters in my books: a passionate heart. I need mavericks, dissidents, adventurers, outsiders and rebels who ask questions, bend the rules and take risks'.

VIRGO: Rather than reacting this week, astro-savvy Virgos will want to respond creatively. How? By harnessing the current genius of Mercury in Virgo; the thinking planet's most practical placement and antidote to dramatic panic reactions. So what new opportunities are now unfolding that you might, and could, take advantage of?

LIBRA: Feel like the whole human race is on your case and in your face just when you're not in the mood for hard and heavy, deep and meaningful, dramatic soul searching workshopping? When you're just trying to enjoy life, for heaven's sake? Just remember there's a lotus buried somewhere under all that mud.

SCORPIO: The current emotional weather report for Scorpions is a bit fiery, and a bit stubborn. A lot stubborn actually, with dance steps perhaps not entirely to your liking or under your control. If this week stimulates some of your more autocratic traits, the trick is to stay graceful with it.

SAGITTARIUS: Kali, the archetype who destroys in order to make way for new growth, could be considered this week's operating deity. Which means that digging in your hooves and defending some belief or opinion might leave you warming yourself by the blaze of burning bridges. It's definitely worth making every effort to think laterally.

CAPRICORN: Are you feeling unsure about what move to make? This week provides the celestial fire to forge a way forward with some new beginnings. Which will naturally require some decisive endings. What's the good news? Your mentor planet Saturn is strategically placed to strengthen your incentive for this essential groundwork.

AQUARIUS: August's astrology could be considered somewhat of a wrecking ball to outdated structures, both planetary and personal. Beginning with a Uranus/ Mars/ North Node conjunction amplifying openings to the future, followed by last week's full moon in your forward- thinking sign, this week continues its breathtaking revelations for those tuning in.

PISCES: The winds of change rattling your panes and shaking your shutters might feel like you're in the heavy wash cycle at the cosmic laundrette. But there's not much percentage in lurching down memory lane yearning for the lost certainties of yesteryear. This week supports creating some brand new memories.



MANDY NOLAN'S

SOAPBOX LOCK ON

Today I was asked who my heroes are. My heroes aren't academics or famous people. They're ordinary people. They are people who found a way to give their issues a voice. My heroes are people like climate change activist Mali Cooper, the 22-year-old Lismore woman who was among 12 people charged for blocking the entry to the Sydney Harbour Tunnel. Mali and her friends brought Sydney to a standstill and they did it knowing the consequences under the new NSW protest laws. It's no longer a \$400 fine. Protesters now face up to two years jailtime and/or a fine of \$22k.

Mali and her crew made an impact, they stopped a city going to work and made them talk about climate. And it might have cost them jailtime, but they say, even so, it was worth it. To me, that's a hero.

They faced people at their angriest – and in their cars. Bloody hell, if you take two seconds longer than they think you should to accelerate on a green light people go nuts. I can't imagine the heat that Mali and the team took in the tunnel. That takes guts. They knew that it was going to create a media frenzy and that the conservative opinions would be against them.

Most of the media pushback was around the disruption and the inconvenience caused to people going about their daily grind. Democracy isn't always convenient. Maybe someone needs to tell capitalism. And in case you haven't noticed, climate change doesn't care about convenience.

Yep, protest is inconvenient. But then so is having government after government who haven't protected your future. It's inconvenient having your house burnt to the ground or flooded from climate change effects. Just ask anyone in our area living in a tent in their flood-damaged home. Being on the phone to an

insurance company day after day is inconvenient. So is being homeless. Stopping traffic is a minor issue when it comes to the bigger conversation. And maybe we do need to be made uncomfortable. Maybe we do need to be temporarily inconvenienced. This is the idea of protest – it's to push important conversations to the forefront.

This is non-violent protest. The legal basis of the right to protest in NSW is the common law right to peaceful assembly, which can be traced back to the Magna Carta. The right is further protected by the Australian Constitution under the implied freedom of political communication. Except in NSW. It seems our State government is keen on taking us back to the good old Bjelke days of Queensland when the then premier made it illegal to have a public gathering of more than five people. It didn't discourage activists. It just fueled violent clashes between the public and police.

These new laws, passed in April this year are meant to deter activists. The fines aren't really designed to impact on public protest related to industrial grievances. Generally those public assemblies will be done with police permission. The issue is around protesting the effects of forestry, mining, and climate change or animal welfare; the big environmental issues of our era. Basically, if you lock on – then you will be locked up.

So, I have an idea. I'm in my 50s. Maybe instead of leaving it to the young, we oldies need to get out there. It's time we clocked off and locked on. On the upside, when they take us away to enjoy two years of incarceration, that will be the closest we've come in a long time to accessing affordable accommodation.

The future needs us to be radical. Our kids need us to be dangerous. It's good to remember; in a compliance-obsessed world, no one ever subverted the dominant paradigm with permission.

We need to protest the anti-protest laws. I'll put in the application. Lock On.

Health & Healing

Acupuncture and massage in Billinudgel

Billi Health is a wellness clinic located in the heart of Billinudgel offering acupuncture, massage and natural therapies.

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Gum disease can be very serious. When it gets to the stage of periodontitis it's possible to lose teeth, but more concerning is its link to diseases such as cardiovascular disease, stroke, and diabetes.

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Mukti Organics

For 22 years Mukti Organics has been an organic skin care leader, famous for potent bioactive indigenous super fruits and botanical extracts.

Find Mukti Beauty Rooms in Mullumbimby Industrial and Arts precinct, Byron Shire.

Open to the public, their interactive retail store is light and spacious, with ample off-street parking. Try their award-winning products or book for a **FREE** skin consultation or a sublime deluxe facial.

In preparation for the warmer weather, The Beauty Rooms is offering a Spring Renewal Facial and Body Exfoliation for \$205 (save \$75)...

90 min treatment with age defying, peptide rich ingredients that aim to plump, firm, and reduce fine lines includes take home gift.

Call 1300 306 554 or book online

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www.muktiorganics.com/pages/beauty-rooms



Shamanic Healing with Deborah Wolf

Deborah Wolf offers grounded, nurturing and ancient healing practices with Shamanic Healing.

Shamanism is an ancient healing tradition based in the belief that everything in the physical world has first been manifested in Spirit, and it is in this level that we work to make the changes that we need in our life and track back to the original wound, so that any resulting patterns can be changed.

When we do this, we take our healing into our own hands and make our way back to our original self and remember why we came into this life in the first place.

www.deborahwolf.com.au

Get a massage for only \$25!

The Byron Community College students are excited to practice what they have been learning in class to soothe your aches and pains with a 1 hour massage session for just \$25.

The Student Massage Clinic is run in conjunction with the HLT42015 – Certificate IV in Massage Therapy at the Byron Bay campus throughout the term from 9.00am 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 kick back and relax!

Online: www.byroncollege.org.au

RTO: 90013



Easy Access Psychology

Easy Access consists of a team of multidisciplinary therapists who are dedicated to improving lives.

Shannan Connell (Director) of Easy Access has been a psychologist for over 15 years, and from her work, has created a practice that aims to remove barriers to therapy and make it easy to access for all people. We have an office in Mullumbimby and offer both psychology and speech therapy from this setting.

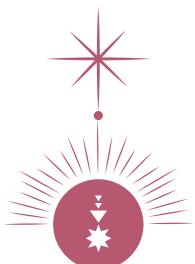
We offer Telehealth to people all across Australia, so people can access therapists from their own home and within their busy schedules. And our therapists travel to meet individuals and families in their own space (home or school); this also allows us to apply strategies in the settings that need it most.

At Easy Access we work with individuals of all ages and backgrounds and support all forms of neuro-diversity.

Please contact us with any questions you may have 0499 217 442

info@easyaccesspsychology.com

www.easyaccesspsychology.com



Bangalow Headache Clinic

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

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

At Bangalow Headache Clinic they quite often find an overlap between headache and dizziness and/ or headache and jaw problems.

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

72 Byron Street, Bangalow

www.bangalowheadacheclinic.com.au



Issue# 37.10
 August 17–23, 2022
 Editor: Eve Jeffery
 Editorial/gigs: gigs@echo.net.au
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E N T E
 R T A I N
 M E N T



THE BOGONG

The **Byron Writers Festival** has partnered with **Blak & Bright** curator **Jane Harrison** to present *The Bogong*, a Blak version of *The Moth*.

The Bogong, Hosted by **Danny Teece-Johnson**, is a celebration of the lived experience in crafted spoken word form. Featuring six First Nations storytellers, it's a feast for the ears. Join **Evelyn Araluen**, **Fiona Foley**, **Megan Albany**, **Paul Callaghan**, **Gary Lonesborough** and **Mykaela Saunders** for a cabaret style event. In the lead up to this show, *Seven* spoke to **Jane Harrison** to get a feel for this wonderful experience.

How would you describe this show?

The Bogong brings together storytellers from different genres who deliver crafted spoken word pieces about a lived experience. In this iteration, the theme is 'Belonging'.

Why the name *The Bogong*?

The idea came from the knowledge that in the higher mountainous regions in the eastern states the bogong moth would swarm at certain times of the year, and this would draw people from surrounding areas to feast on their protein-rich flesh. So *The Bogong* is a get-together, a celebration and a feast – in our case, of words.

Why is it important that these stories are told?

As the oldest continuous storytellers, we have so many stories still to tell. *The Bogong* gives us insight into the lived experience of First Nations peoples from different walks of life.

What can audiences expect from *The Bogong*?

You can expect to be moved, to laugh (humour is one of our most important survival tools), and to have a brief glimpse into another person's connection to their culture and family – and *The Bogong* always surprises.

During *The Bogong* you will hear from:

Evelyn Araluan, who is a poet, researcher and co-editor of *Overland Literary Journal*. Born and raised on Dharug

country and of Bundjalung descent, she is the author of the 2022 Stella Prize-winning *Dropbear*.

Fiona Foley is an artist from the Wondunna clan of the Badtjala Nation. Fiona's book *Biting the Clouds* won the Queensland Premier's Award, in the Queensland Literary Awards, for a work of State Significance.

Megan Albany is a proud Kalkadoon woman whose debut novel, *The Very Last List of Vivian Walker*, was shortlisted for the 2020 Banjo Prize.

Dr Paul Callaghan is an Aboriginal man belonging to the land of the Worimi people. His recently released book is *The Dreaming Path*.

Gary Lonesborough is a Yuin man from the far south coast of NSW. *The Boy from the Mish* is Gary's debut YA novel.

Mikaelya Saunders is an award-winning Koori and Lebanese writer and the editor of *This All Come Back Now*, an anthology of blackfella speculative fiction.

Your host for this event is **Danny Teece-Johnson**, a Gamilaraay man who has been working in black media for 20 years. He is producer/presenter of (98.9FM) Triple A Murri Country's flagship show *Let's Talk*.

The Bogong, Friday 26 August 7.30pm, Brunswick Picture House. \$30/\$25 Members, bookings essential: trybooking.com/CAOYW.

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 The Way of the Psychonaut Event Screening with Q&A Thursday 25 August 6:30pm	 2022 BYRON WRITERS FESTIVAL Radical hope Spin Charles Firth & James Schloeffel Friday 26 August 7:00pm

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norpa *Eltham*



BUNDJALUNG NGHARI – CONTEMPORARY BUNDJALUNG STORIES

Bundjalung Nghari – Indigenise features **Rhoda Roberts AO** and words by **Steven Oliver, Kylie Caldwell, Ella Noah Bancroft, Daniel Browning** and **Melissa Lucashenko**.

Theatre company **NORPA** will bring Bundjalung stories to the fore at Byron Writers Festival with *Bundjalung Nghari* (meaning story), a special evening of theatrical readings of stories, poems and essays penned by Bundjalung writers.

Leading Bundjalung director and curator, Rhoda Roberts AO has commissioned four Bundjalung writers to reflect on homelands, clan and kinship, and the legacy that lives on in the everyday.

Award-winning Bundjalung writer Melissa Lucashenko has also contributed a piece to *Bundjalung Nghari – Indigenise*.

Musician **Kauri Munro-Greentree** will provide a live score.

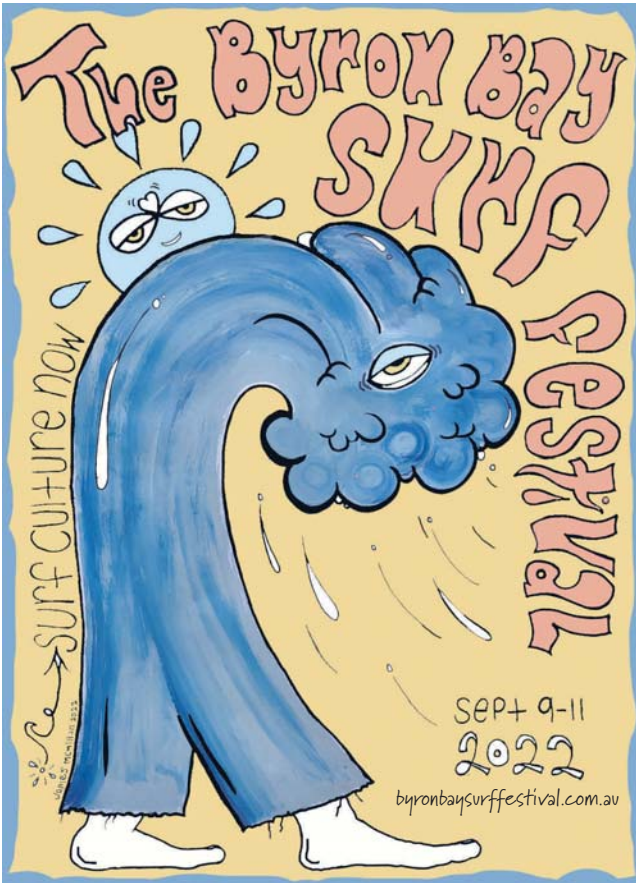
Rhoda Roberts says these multi-disciplinary, creative thinkers and writers share thought-provoking stories, reflecting on the collisions and intersections of belonging in two worlds with opposed philosophies and perceptions of what land and ownership truly means. 'We are still here, with the same voice and language of our ancestors. *Bundjalung Nghari – Indigenise* enables a new amplification of the continued truth telling in the 21st century.

'The authorship and control of this project is Aboriginal led and will focus on Bundjalung artists and practitioners across all disciplines either living on and or off country.'

Don't miss this powerful celebration of Bundjalung stories presented by NORPA in association with Byron Writers Festival.

***Bundjalung Nghari – Indigenise*, presented by NORPA in association with Byron Writers Festival.**

Brunswick Picture House, Sat 27 August, 4pm & 7.30pm, Sun 28 August, 4pm. \$20–\$45. Tickets at www.norpa.org.au.



MORE BLACKS, MORE DOGS, MORE IRISH

Having lived in so-called 'Australia' for a decade, Irish born singer-songwriter, **Áine Tyrrell**, rewrites what is imaginable every step of the way. She has carved a unique musical path, melding her own Irish roots from the ancient limestone rocks of Country Clare with her respect of the red dirt roads of 60,000 years of Indigenous culture in Australia.

With *More Blacks, More Dogs, More Irish*, Tyrrell decolonises the stories we've inherited and enables us to start thinking about what stories have been hidden in order for us to forget the truth of who we are and where we are.

Through a mix of visuals, song and storytelling, Áine brings these hidden Irish narratives to the forefront, weaving together a mix of modern and traditional stories to show the evolving Irish cultural landscape and what it means to be Irish, a woman, and on stolen land.

The show includes a panel discussion with **Bunyarra Culture Collective**, celebrating the parallels of culture, tradition and place, and the inter-woven history between Irish and First Nations People.

See this show 28 August, from 5pm at Byron Theatre.

Music produces a kind of pleasure which human nature cannot do without.

Confucius



MIRABELLE'S GAME

A magical quest is taking place in **Lismore Quad** from **August 15–23**. Deep underground, right beneath the town (and unknown to the human inhabitants of Lismore) there has lived, for thousands of years, a community of tiny magical beings called The Miniatures.

During the last floods, cracks and portals throughout the city were opened up by the power of the water and an amazing thing has happened; the Miniatures have found pathways into the Up-top land of Lismore.

A very brave Miniature called Mirabelle was the first to find her way up and is busy making doorways for her friends to come up through.

Mirabelle would like to invite the (small) Giants of the Up-top land to play a game she is setting up in Lismore Quad in August. You can play any time you like – but daylight hours are best.

Parents/guardians: To play the game with your child download and print the game invitation from www.lismorequad.org.au and head to The Quad between 15–23 August to find the Miniatures.

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THE NEW YORK TIMES

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Wednesday 31 August, 7.30pm (**Sold Out**)
Thursday 1 September, 7.30pm (**Sold Out**)

To book, phone 02 6685 6807 or visit www.byroncentre.com.au



FINDING THE FINE ART

Bangalow Fine Art are boutique art dealers and valuers who hold quarterly online exhibitions of interesting and important pieces of Australian and international art.

The Spring 2022 Exhibition features an early and important view of the Old Jetty in Byron Bay c.1908.

The old jetty ran about 300m into the sea from the end of Jonson St. The jetty serviced a busy port (second only to Sydney) transporting bananas, meat and dairy products and eventually passengers. As the port grew busier, the Jetty was deemed too small and was replaced by the new jetty in 1928.

The artist, **Gerald Fitzgerald**, not only captured the working life of Byron and the fashion of the time, he also depicted an early view of the Cape Byron Lighthouse, which, at the time of the painting's execution in 1908, was a relatively new addition to the landscape having been constructed only seven years earlier.

The Spring 2022 Exhibition also features a lovely work by Fred Williams, and an important early watercolour by **Albert Namatjira**.

Principal valuer, **Matt Henry**, is an approved valuer under the Tax Incentive for the Arts Scheme.

For more information visit:
bangalowfineart.com.au.

INTERNET



BYRON BAY SURF FESTIVAL

Surfers, beach lovers, water people – owing to COVID-related complications, the 2022 Byron Bay Surf Festival has moved to a September timeslot this year.

Held in Australia's much-loved and internationally famous beach town, Byron Bay, the Festival will provide some fabulously immersive experiences of surf culture. The first event will actually be on **Wednesday, 7 September**, when the Festival will premiere the digitally re-mastered version of **George Greenough's** iconic film *Echoes* along with the original Pink Floyd soundtrack. **Thursday night** they host Californian filmmaker **Jack Coleman's** new feature film *Natural High*.

The official opening night, on **Friday 9 September**, will feature none other than the legendary **Jack McCoy** and his unique live show called *Tales from*

the Tube – featuring live Indigenous music, and special guests **Derek Hynd** and **Jaleesa Vincent**. This could be a hard act to follow!

But follow it they will, with days of surfing and nights of live music and art.

Saturday at The Rails Hotel expect a party vibe from **4pm** with live music from **The Terrys, Teenage Dads, Liquid Contours** and more. On **Sunday** evening there is a banging closing party lined up; with more live music and some very special environmental guests at **The Secret Garden**. Get the dates into your diary and watch this space for the detailed program!

byronbaysurfestival.com.au.

GIG GUIDE

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

WEDNESDAY 17

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **DAN HANNAFORD**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 2.30PM **MARK HEAZLETT**, 5PM **AKOVA**, 7.30PM **3 PLAY**, 10PM **DJ QUENDO**
- FOXY LUU'S, BYRON BAY, **6.30PM** TONY AND THE THIEF
- THE QUAD, LISMORE, **MIRABELLE'S GAME**
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL 6PM **ROB RHODES**

THURSDAY 18

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **PHIL & TILLY**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 2.30PM **DAN HANNAFORD**, 5PM **SAM BUCKLEY**, 7.30PM **SIMON WRIGHT DUO**, 10PM **DJ MY HAPPY PLACE**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 6PM **LACHIE THOMAS**
- CENOTAPH, BALLINA, 10.45AM **VIETNAM VETERANS SERVICE OF COMMEMORATION**
- BALLINA RSL LEVEL ONE 3PM **ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY VETERANS BAND**, **ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY BAND SYDNEY & BALLINA CONCERT BAND**
- THE QUAD, LISMORE, **MIRABELLE'S GAME**
- LENNOX HOTEL HOTEL STAGE 8PM **JAM NIGHT**

FRIDAY 19

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **SUGAR GAME**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 3PM **KARUAH**, 5.30PM **JESSE WHITNEY**, 9PM **SAMETIME**, 10PM **DJ SUMMER WOODS**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 6PM **SOUTHWALL DUO**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 7PM **URZILA CARLSON**
- NORTH BYRON HOTEL 5.30PM **DJ JESSE BLIGH**
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM **DJ TAZ**
- MULLUMBIMBY EX-SERVICES CLUB 6.30PM **SOCIAL SWING DANCE**
- TINTENBAR HALL 7.30PM **SAM BUCKINGHAM**
- BALLINA RSL LEVEL ONE 7.30PM **PROMS ON THE RIVER – LISMORE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA & SOUL'D**
- THE QUAD, LISMORE, **MIRABELLE'S GAME**
- MURWILLUMBAH SERVICES CLUB 6.30PM **BETH HAMILTON**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 5PM **BRETT HEALY**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE SHOWROOM 8PM **BABY ANIMALS**

- COOLANGATTA HOTEL 5PM **NIK PHILLIPS**, 10PM **VIVA BON JOVI**
- LENNOX HOTEL HOTEL STAGE 8.30PM **DAMIEN COOPER**

SATURDAY 20

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **HARRY NICHOLS**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 10PM **DJ MADAN**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 2PM **HARRY NICHOLS**, 7.30PM **CATH SIMES BAND**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 7PM **URZILA CARLSON**
- NORTH BYRON HOTEL 5.30PM **DJ IAIN YES**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 8PM **THE SUNNYBOYS + MICK MEDEW & THE MESMERISERS**
- OCEAN SHORES COMMUNITY CENTRE 5.45PM **BYRON KIRTAN WITH MURRAY KYLE**
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 3.30PM **DJ PATRICIA BERLIOZ**
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY, 7PM **CJ & BRUTUS**
- BALLINA RSL LEVEL ONE 1.30PM **PROMS ON THE RIVER – LISMORE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA & SOUL'D**, 6.30PM **PINK ZINC**
- THE QUAD, LISMORE, **MIRABELLE'S GAME**
- SOUTHERN CROSS UNIVERSITY STUDIO D1.29, LISMORE, 6.30PM **THE SENTIMENTAL BLOKE**
- REGENT CINEMA, MURWILLUMBAH, 5PM **SUNSET SOIREE'S WITH SAHAR**
- MURWILLUMBAH SERVICES CLUB 6.30PM **LINDA STREET**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 5PM **ROCKIN' RON**
- SEAGULLS, TWEED HEADS, 7PM **PANIK BUTTON**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE SHOWROOM 8PM **SONGS IN THE KEY OF MOTOWN**
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL 5PM **STEVEN MICHAEL**, 9.30PM **RECKLESS**
- CLUB LENNOX 6PM **BENNY ODWYER**
- LENNOX HOTEL HOTEL STAGE 8.30PM **PINK ZINC DUO**

- BYRON THEATRE 2PM **AN AFTERNOON AT THE OPERA WITH INTERNATIONAL MEZZO-SOPRANO ROSEL LABONE**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 4PM **KOOII**

- 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 **RUSTY TUNES**

- BALLINA RSL LEVEL ONE 1.30PM **PROMS ON THE RIVER – LISMORE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA & SOUL'D**
- THE QUAD, LISMORE, **MIRABELLE'S GAME**
- UKI MARKETS **DR. BAZ, PETE C, GUY KACHEL**

- SEAGULLS, TWEED HEADS, 12PM **HARRY NICHOLS**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE SHOWROOM 7PM **KID INK**

- CLUB LENNOX 2PM **TWO TEARS IN A BUCKET**

- COOLANGATTA HOTEL 4PM **DAVE RITTER BAND**

MONDAY 22

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **JASON DELPHIN**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 2.30PM **SHENOVA**, 5PM **INO PIO**, 7.30PM **CHRIS SHEEHY**, 10PM **DJ QUENDO**
- THE QUAD, LISMORE, **MIRABELLE'S GAME**

TUESDAY 23

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **CHRIS FISHER**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 5PM **GABRIELLE**, 7.30PM **SARAH GRANT DUO**, 10PM **DJ SOPHDEXX**

- BANGALOW HOTEL 7.30PM **BANGALOW BRACKETS – OPEN MIC WITH DR BAZ**
- THE QUAD, LISMORE, **MIRABELLE'S GAME**

- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE SHOWROOM 11AM **BACK TO THE TIVOLI**

WEDNESDAY 24

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **STEPHEN LOVELIGHT**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 10PM **DJ TAI DANIELS**

- BYRON THEATRE 2PM **CANALETTO & THE ART OF VENICE – EXHIBITION ON SCREEN PRESENTED BY BYRON THEATRE**

- FOXY LUU'S, BYRON BAY, 6.30PM **TONY AND THE THIEF**
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL 6PM **JASON DELPHIN**

PALACE CINEMAS

Session Times: Thu 18 - Wed 24 Aug

NFT = No Free Tickets

★ SESSION TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE ★ Check online for all live session times

SPECIAL SCREENINGS
BLAZE (MA15+) Wed: 6:30pm
MOVIE CLUB SCREENING
TUESDAY CLUB (M) Fri-Sun: 3:30, 6:00pm **PREVIEWS** Tue: 11:00am **MORNING TEA**

FAMILY FILMS
MINIONS: THE RISE OF GRU (PG) Daily except Sat/Sun: 11:00am Sat/Sun: 11:00, 1:45pm

ALL FILMS
BOSCH & ROCKIT (MA15+) NFT Daily: 11:30, 2:00, 4:20, 6:15, 8:30
BULLET TRAIN (MA15+) Daily: 1:15, 3:50, 6:30, 8:30pm
JUNIPER (M) Daily: 11:30am

ELVIS (M) Daily except Tue: 11:00, 1:40, 3:45, 6:50pm
Tue: 1:40, 3:45, 6:50p
FALLING FOR FIGARO (M) Daily: 1:45pm
FULL TIME (M) Daily except Sat/Sun: 11:15, 1:45pm
Sat/Sun: 11:15am

WHERE THE CRAWDADS SING (M) Thu: 11:15, 1:50, 4:30, 6:00pm
Fri-Sun/Wed: 11:15, 1:50, 4:30, 7:15pm
Mon/Tue: 11:15, 1:50, 4:30, 6:00, 7:15pm

6 FESTIVALS (CTC) Daily: 4:00, 6:30pm
GOOD LUCK TO YOU, LEO GRANDE (M) NFT Daily: 11:15, 1:30, 2:15, 3:45, 6:00, 7:00pm
NOPE (M) Daily: 11:00, 4:20, 7:30, 8:30PM
THOR: LOVE AND THUNDER (M) Thu/Mon-Wed: 1:00, 3:30pm
Fri-Sun: 1:00pm
TOP GUN: MAVERICK (M) Daily: 11:00, 4:45, 8:15pm



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AUGUST	THU 18 TH	FRI 19 TH	SAT 20 TH	SUN 21 TH	MON 22 ND	TUE 23 RD	WED 24 TH
BOSCH & ROCKIT MA 15+ 107 MIN	11:45 AM 2:55 PM 7:45 PM	11:45 AM 2:55 PM 7:45 PM	11:45 AM 2:55 PM 7:45 PM	11:45 AM 2:55 PM 7:45 PM	11:45 AM 2:55 PM 7:45 PM	11:45 AM 2:55 PM 7:45 PM	11:45 AM 2:55 PM 7:45 PM
BULLET TRAIN MA 15 +126 MIN	10:20 AM 3:35 PM 7:30 PM	10:20 AM 3:35 PM 7:30 PM	10:20 AM 3:35 PM 7:30 PM	10:20 AM 3:35 PM 7:30 PM	10:20 AM 3:35 PM 7:30 PM	10:20 AM 3:35 PM 7:30 PM	10:20 AM 3:35 PM 7:30 PM
ELVIS M 165 MIN	2:20 PM	2:20 PM	2:20 PM		2:20 PM		2:20 PM
FALLING FOR FIGARO M 104 MIN	10:10 AM	10:10 AM			10:10 AM	10:10 AM	10:10 AM
GOOD LUCK TO YOU, LEO GRANDE M 97 MIN	10:00 AM 1:45 PM 5:55 PM	10:00 AM 1:45 PM 5:55 PM	10:00 AM 1:45 PM 5:55 PM	10:00 AM 1:45 PM 5:55 PM	10:00 AM 1:45 PM 5:55 PM	10:00 AM 1:45 PM 5:55 PM	10:00 AM 1:45 PM 5:55 PM
MINIONS: THE RISE OF GRU PG 87 MIN			10:10 AM	10:10 AM			
NOPE M 130 MIN	12:35 PM 4:55 PM 7:15 PM	12:35 PM 4:55 PM 7:15 PM	12:35 PM 4:55 PM 7:15 PM	12:35 PM 4:55 PM 7:15 PM	12:35 PM 4:55 PM 7:15 PM	12:35 PM 4:55 PM 7:15 PM	12:35 PM 4:55 PM 7:15 PM
TOP GUN: MAVERICK M 130 MIN				2:20 PM		2:20 PM	
WHERE THE CRAWDADS SING M 125 MIN	12:05 PM 5:10 PM	12:05 PM 5:10 PM	12:05 PM 5:10 PM	12:05 PM 5:10 PM	12:05 PM 5:10 PM	12:05 PM 5:10 PM	12:05 PM 5:10 PM



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335 CHILCOTTS RD, CHILLINGHAM

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST - CLOSING 16TH SEPT 2022

Make your tree change dreams a reality and escape to the country with this spectacular property. A picture-perfect and spacious four-bedroom home, with a separate self-contained studio, is set against a sought-after backdrop of lush rainforests, winding creeks and loaded with historic village charm. Entering the impressive main residence, the combination of form and functionality is immediately evident. Natural light fills the modern and spacious home.



A large, open plan living/dining area is cool and bright, featuring tiled floors and an open plan scullery style kitchen complete with a butler's pantry and quality appliances. Spacious and offering an abundance of storage and bench space, the kitchen is an entertainer's delight.

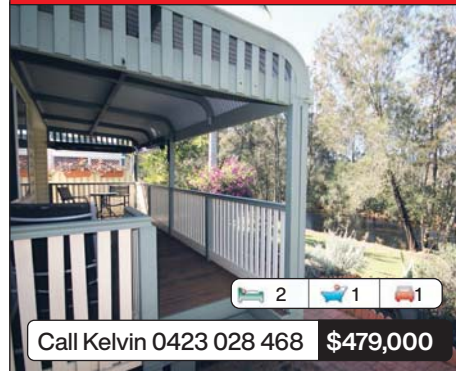
Private viewings • Contact Agent Janis Perkins – 0438 841 122

9/15 – 19 Fletcher Street (entrance Lawson Street), Byron Bay. Ph: 6680 8588
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6 3 2 685.1 m²

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“ Chris and the team at Katrina Beohm have been fantastic and supportive in marketing my property in very stressful circumstances. Chris has kept me informed every step of the way, including market updates, buyer interest and enquiry levels across the market category for my property type and general advice about different pricing and marketing strategies. Chris listened and supported me through the process and ensured the marketing campaign and inspection times and types were structured around my timeframes and family timetable. I cannot recommend Chris and the team highly enough. - Amy, vendor ”



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Unique Offering with Multiple Living Options and a Pool!

6 4 5 1012M²

- Beautifully renovated property with soaring ceilings and exposed beams
- Generous 1012 m2 block with dual street access
- Newly renovated 3 bed, 2 bath home with ample natural light
- Adjacent additional 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom villa
- North facing courtyard with large pool and 2 studio spaces each with independent access
- Walking distance to town, river and beaches

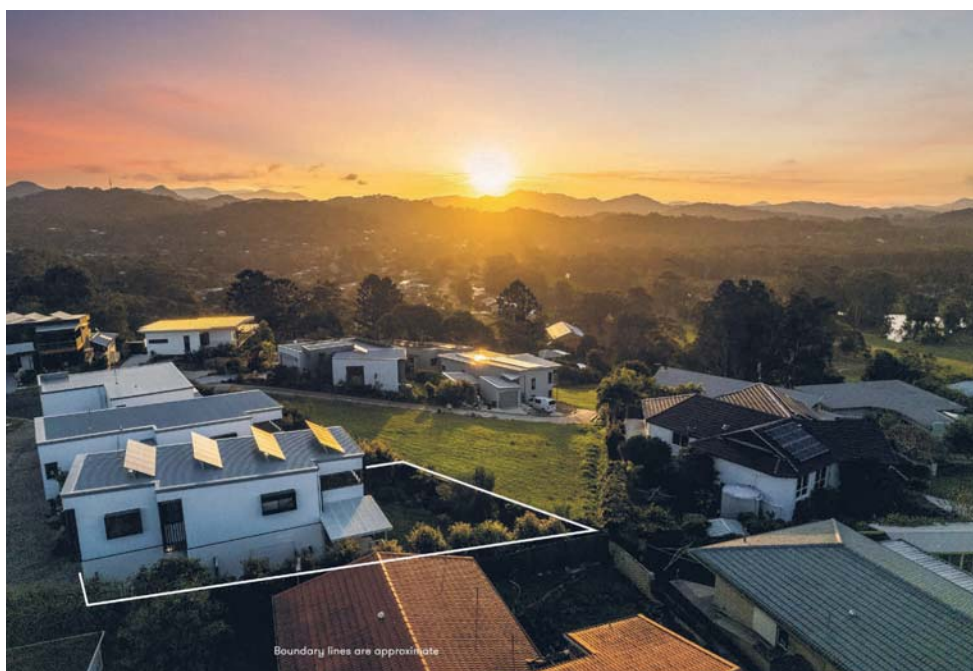
15 Teven Street, Brunswick Heads

Price Guide: Contact Agent

Open: Saturday, 20th August 12-12.30pm



Denzil Lloyd
0481 864 049



Architectural Home Showcasing Ocean, River and Hinterland Views

3 2 2 359M²

- In an elevated premier position in a sought-after small development rests this extraordinary home that is perfect for growing families
- The home features a well thought out design complementing the North Coast climate with a generous balcony creating seamless indoor/outdoor living
- Enjoy stunning views of the ocean, river and hinterland from this fantastic elevated position

House 3, 4-6 Roundhouse Place, Ocean Shores

Price Guide: \$1.35m – \$1.45m

Open: Saturday, 20th August 9-9.30am



Tara Torkkola
0423 519 698



Sally Green
0488 030 116



Elevated and Level 2 Acre Vacant Land in Ewingsdale

8000M² / 2AC

- Resting on an elevated, level parcel of land in a quiet cul-de-sac is this magnificent 2-acre vacant block in highly sought-after location
- With an abundance of space this property presents endless possibilities for you to create your dream home to fit your family's needs (STCA)
- This parcel of land is the gateway into the welcoming Ewingsdale / Byron Bay community and is the perfect place for growing families to put down roots

Lot 5, Cuckoo Dove Place, Ewingsdale

Price Guide: \$2.5m – \$2.75m

Open: By Appointment



Su Reynolds
0428 888 660



Luke Elwin
0421 375 635



Fully Renovated Picture Perfect Cottage

3 2 2 602M²

- Perfectly positioned in the shires most sought-after village rests this charming, character filled cottage set on a large 602m2 level yard with stunning landscaped garden surrounds and immaculate fixtures and fittings throughout
- Featured are high ceilings, hardwood oak flooring and a large skylight which allows an abundance of natural sunlight to filter through the home
- Outdoors is a stunning entertainers deck and a brand new 6 seat spa which overlooks the immaculate landscaped garden

6 Sansom Street, Bangalow

Price Guide: \$1.55m – \$1.7m

Open: Saturday, 20th August 10-10.30am



Tara Torkkola
0423 519 698



Sally Green
0488 030 116



Luxury Manor Home with Established Guest Accommodation

5 3 2 617M²

- This stunning property encompasses a main residence spread over 2 spacious levels plus an attic, there is also a secondary dwelling with solid income and established business, and an additional studio
- The self contained secondary dwelling would make perfect guest quarters or just continue using as a thriving accommodation business
- The landscaped gardens are very private with well established trees and hedges, plus a host of gardenias, magnolias, hydrangeas and pecan trees

15B Rifle Range Road, Bangalow

Price Guide: Expressions Of Interest

Open: By Appointment



Tara Torkkola
0423 519 698



Sally Green
0488 030 116



Narnia Nursery – 20 acres in Myocum, 8kms to Byron Bay!

5 2 10 20 ACRES

- This property offers an existing commercial wholesale plant nursery with a loyal, nationwide customer base providing lucrative consistent income
- The main residence offers a large 3 bedroom home, plus a further separate, 2 bedroom studio with the opportunity to build a second dream home (STCA)
- Featuring multiple outbuildings, an amazing 200+m2 shed, acres of shade houses and fully irrigated nurseries which are controlled through a state-of-the-art computerised pumping system, this property is a rare find!

598 Myocum Road, Myocum

Price Guide: \$3.9m

Open: Saturday, 20th August 9–9.30am



Tara Torkkola
0423 519 698



Sally Green
0488 030 116



Unlock the Potential of This Prime Coastal Suffolk Park Block

2 1 1 556M²

- Build your dream beachside home on this level 556m² east facing block
- Located just 300 metres from the sands of Tallow Beach
- 700m stroll to the cafes, tavern and local village of Suffolk Park
- Existing 2 bedroom cottage offers a rental income, while you plan and design
- Located a short drive from the centre of Byron Bay
- Ideal location for families and retirees alike
- Fantastic lifestyle opportunity that has endless potential

8 Armstrong Street, Suffolk Park

Price Guide: \$1.85m – \$2m

Open: Saturday, 20th August 9–9.30am



Su Reynolds
0428 888 660



Luke Elwin
0421 375 635



Light & Bright Family Friendly Townhouse in Fantastic Location

3 2 1

- Tightly held, small family friendly complex – ideal for growing families, first homeowners or investors!
- Upstairs are 3 light and bright well sized carpeted bedrooms
- Downstairs the L shaped kitchen, living and dining space is light and open
- Sliding doors connect to the paved low maintenance courtyard space
- Elevated and ideal location, easy walk to Suffolk Park shops, skate park and sports fields

6/37–39 Bottlebrush Crescent, Suffolk Park

Price Guide: \$1.150m – \$1.265m

Open: By Appointment



Tara Torkkola
0423 519 698



Jasmin McClymont
0434 029 668



Style – Location – Privacy – Byron Bay

 3  2  1  358M²

- This renovated, gorgeous cottage is set on an elevated north-east facing block with a beautiful leafy outlook
- The home is surrounded by high fences offering complete privacy and security for kids and pets
- Relax around the fire pit, in the private outdoor bath or in the new cedar spa bath – warm on cool nights and cool on hot summer days
- The large covered veranda is ideal for outdoor dining and entertaining.

House 2, 5 Cemetery Road, Byron Bay

Price Guide: \$1.595m – \$1.695m

Open: Saturday, 20th August 11–11.30am



Su Reynolds
0428 888 660



Luke Elwin
0421 375 635



3 Acres – Charming Home + Cottage – Stunning rural views

 6  4  3  1.25HA / 3AC

- This stunning hinterland property sprawls across 3 generous acres, and offers complete peace and privacy with unrivalled panoramic hinterland views
- Featured is a masterfully built 5-bedroom, 3-bathroom main residence, including private 1-bedroom self-contained studio and separate self contained dwelling offering an abundance of space and income potential
- Only 10 minutes to eclectic Bangalow Village and 20 minutes to Byron Bay

264 Friday Hut Road, Possum Creek

Price Guide: \$3.25m – \$3.5m

Open: By Appointment




Su Reynolds
0428 888 660



Luke Elwin
0421 375 635



Incredible Industrial Opportunity on Large 1,516m² Block

 1,516M²

- Positioned on prime vacant industrial land in the heart of Billinudgel
- Unlimited potential to create a desired workspace or let out for extra income potential
- Incredible industrial opportunity with lapsed DA approval for 7 Units including a manager's residence
- The expansive block covers 1516m² of level land making developing easy
- This is the perfect investment opportunity for business owners or developers

10A Mogo Place, Billinudgel

Auction Fri 9th Sept at 12noon onsite

Open: Friday, 19th August 12–12.30pm



Paul Prior
0418 324 297



Immaculate Family Home with Stunning Luxury Finishes

 4  2  5  765M²

- Recently undertaking an extensive renovation with a Scandinavian influence this home offers a relaxed coastal lifestyle, moments to local cafes and local beaches
- Greeted by wide Blackbutt timber floors with soft matt finish, custom timber joinery throughout and seamless flow to the wide wraparound verandahs
- Crisp white interiors capture the natural light flooding from all directions accentuated by the Velux skylights

33 Coomburra Crescent, Ocean Shores

Price Guide: \$1.35m – \$1.45m

Open: By Appointment



Tara Torkkola
0423 519 698



Sally Green
0488 030 116



FIRST NATIONAL BYRON



Pristine Large Land Holding with Stony Creek Frontage!

62 ACRES

- Beautiful elevated parcel next door to the picturesque village of Federal
- 62 acres (25HA) of mostly cleared prime pastoral grazing land
- Once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for the perfect tree/sea change
- Only 25 minutes from Byron's world class beaches, 15 minutes from Bangalow and on the doorstep of the World Heritage rainforests
- Build your dream home!

Address: **349 Federal Drive, Federal**

Price Guide: \$2.5m – \$2.75m

Open: By Appointment



Tara Torkkola
0423 519 698



5-Acres of Cleared Vacant Land – Lighthouse and Ocean Views

5 ACRES

- Magnificent luxury views overlooking the Byron Bay Lighthouse and Julian Rocks
- Vacant parcel of land with building entitlement presents a unique opportunity
- Build the home of your dreams in the blue-chip Tandys Lane location
- 5km to Brunswick Heads and Mullum, 15-min to Byron, 30-min to Gold Coast
- Vacant blocks on the coast are RARE
- Endless possibilities

Address: **72 Tandys Lane, Brunswick Heads**

Price: \$1.2m to \$1.3m

TIMED SALE

ENDING Fri, 19 Aug 2022, 3PM

Open: By Appointment



Tara Torkkola
0423 519 698



Jasmin McClymont
0434 029 668

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Level and Low Maintenance

30 O'Rourke Street, Cumbalum

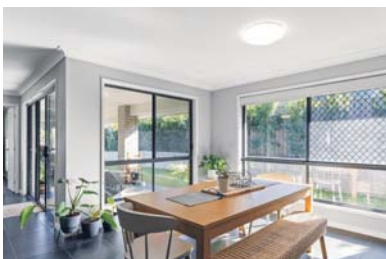
4 2 2

Price: Contact Agent



Immaculate, easy-care Metricon home in a sought-after location.

- Air conditioned, open-plan tiled living with a sun-filled dining room
- The well-appointed kitchen has stone benchtops and a dishwasher
- Three spacious bedrooms and a media room - ideal as the fourth
- Ensuite and walk-in robe to main bedroom
- Extremely practical laundry with plenty of space for a bench
- Large level yard with room for a pool
- The timber shed could be an art studio, or a retreat cave
- Double remote lock-up garage with internal and side access
- Save on electricity bills with gas hot water and 3kW solar power
- Being only 5 years old and low maintenance inside and out makes this an excellent investment opportunity



Price: Contact Agent

Inspect: By Appointment

Contact: Katrina Beohm – 0467 001 122
katrina@kbrealstate.com.au

Blue-Chip Location – Vacant Land

611 Bangalow Road, Talofa

\$3,850,000



- 26-acre lot in blue-chip location with level build site to create your unique estate
- Sweeping views, peace & tranquillity close to Byron Bay and Bangalow
- DA in place – plans available on request & current dwelling approved for removal

This property represents an incredibly rare opportunity to build a unique estate in an elevated, blue-chip location on the edge of Byron Bay.

Ideally located between Byron and Bangalow, the east facing 26-acre lot commands exquisite, sweeping hinterland views.

The proposed building site is an acre of flat, cleared and usable land with room for a swimming pool, tennis court and manicured lawns. The hard work of approvals has been done for you with a DA already in place to create the ultimate Byron lifestyle.

Whilst the property is only ten minutes to the beaches and CBD of Byron Bay, five minutes to Bangalow and fifteen minutes to Ballina Byron Gateway, the feeling of privacy and tranquillity is unparalleled.

Inspect: By appointment only

Contact: Gary Brazenor 0423 777 237
Mike McCabe 0433 856 504
Byron Shire Real Estate

Owners moving south, must sell!

5 Golden Penda Place, Mullumbimby

4 2 2

Auction



The position of this immaculate four-bedroom home on a 1064m² corner, elevated, flood-free block lends itself to a strata subdivision (STCA).

After twenty years the owners of this thoughtfully designed family home are moving south making way for new owners to enjoy the wonderfully private location, and stunning gardens with ridgeline views.

Located at the end of a friendly, quiet cul-de-sac the main living/dining areas and spacious master bedroom flow onto a north-facing deck overlooking the established, tranquil gardens.

An extraordinary variety of birds visit to feed and bathe each day, and the raised kitchen garden is ideal for fresh home cooking. There's also plenty room to park a caravan, boat or other vehicle away from the house.

This is one of the best blocks in Tallowood for size, location, subdivision potential and elevation, as well as containing an existing well-positioned, immaculately presented home!

Call Gary or Todd to arrange an inspection.

Inspect: Saturday 20 August 1.00pm

Auction: 27 August 2.00pm onsite

Contact: Gary Brazenor 0423 777 237
Todd Buckland 0408 966 421
Byron Shire Real Estate

TIM MILLER
REAL ESTATE

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

17 IVORY CURL PLACE, BANGALOW

A beautiful Bangalow home with hinterland views



4 bedrooms 2 bathrooms 2 cars 621m²

OPEN HOUSE WED 17 AUGUST 11.45AM - 12.15PM
SAT 20 AUGUST 10.15 - 10.45AM
PRICE GUIDE \$1,600,000
AUCTION SATURDAY 3 SEPTEMBER AT 1.00PM ON-SITE

TIM MILLER
REAL ESTATE

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

187 CAMERON ROAD, MCLEANS RIDGES

Captivating pavilion-style residence



4 bedrooms 2 bathrooms 3 cars 3.9 ha

OPEN HOUSE WEDNESDAY 17 AUGUST 1.00 - 1.30PM
SATURDAY 20 AUGUST 12.45 - 1.15PM
PRICE GUIDE \$1,600,000
AUCTION SATURDAY 27 AUGUST 10AM

TIM MILLER
REAL ESTATE

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

205 JAMES GIBSON ROAD, CLUNES

An idyllic farmhouse close to the village



4 bedrooms 2 bathrooms 2 cars 1.6 ha

OPEN HOUSE SATURDAY 20 AUGUST 9.00 - 9.30AM
PRICE GUIDE \$1,550,000 - \$1,650,000
AUCTION SATURDAY 3 SEPTEMBER AT 3.00PM ON-SITE

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AGENTS



Tara took the hard work out of selling our home and kept us informed every step of the way. We got a fantastic result in an amazingly short time and we couldn't be happier.

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

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- 10 Martin Street, Coraki. Sat 11–11.30am

Elders Real Estate Brunswick Valley

- 10/2 Arika Ave, Ocean Shores. Sat 10–10.30am
- 70 Helen St, South Golden Beach. Sat 11–11.30am
- 56 Tweed Street, Brunswick Heads. Sat 11–11.30am
- 3 Paldi Court, Ocean Shores. Sat 12–12.30pm

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- 4/49 Belongil Crescent, Byron Bay. Thu 1–1.30pm
- 3/18–20 Jacaranda Drive, Byron Bay. Thu 3–3.30pm
- 44 Yamble Drive, Ocean Shores. Fri 11–11.30am

- 54 Leslie Street, Bangalow. Sat 9–9.30am
- 8 Armstrong Street, Suffolk Park. Sat 9–9.30am
- House 3, 4–6 Roundhouse Place, Ocean Shores. Sat 9–9.30am
- 598 Myocum Road, Myocum. Sat 9–9.30am
- 15 Tamarind Court, Suffolk Park. Sat 10–10.30am
- 44 Argyle Street, Mullumbimby. Sat 10–10.30am
- 13 Kalemajere Drive, Suffolk Park. Sat 10–10.30am
- 26/5–7 Old Bangalow Road, Byron Bay. Sat 10–10.30am
- 6 Sansom Street, Bangalow. Sat 10–10.30am
- 14 Brooklet Road, Newrybar. Sat 10.30–11am
- 9 Callistemon Drive, Federal. Sat 10.30–11am
- 3/18–20 Jacaranda Drive, Byron Bay. Sat 11–11.30am
- 5/20 Sunrise Boulevard, Byron Bay. Sat 11–11.30am
- 32 Argyle Street, Mullumbimby. Sat 11–11.30am
- 30/24 Scott Street, Byron Bay. Sat 11–11.30am
- 6/21–25 Cemetery Road, Byron Bay. Sat 11–11.30am
- House 2, 5 Cemetery Road, Byron Bay. Sat 11–11.30am
- 136 Repentance Creek Road, Goonengerry. Sat 11.45am–12.15pm
- Address Available on Request, Corndale. Sat 12–12.30pm

- 15 Teven Street, Brunswick Heads. Sat 12–12.30pm
- 29/6–8 Browning Street, Byron Bay. Sat 12–12.30pm
- Address Available on Request, Corndale. Sat 12–12.30pm
- 60 Ruskin Street, Byron Bay. Sat 12–12.30pm
- 11 Coolamon Avenue, Mullumbimby. Sat 2–2.30pm

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- 38 Campbell Crescent, Goonellabah. Sat 9.30–10am
- 1/31 Beachfront Parade, East Ballina. Sat 10–10.30am
- 25 Richmond Street, Wardell. Sat 10.30–11am
- 13 Cunningham Street, Ballina. Sat 11–11.30am
- 24 Claire Circuit, West Ballina. Sat 11–11.30am
- 3/27 Claire Circuit, West Ballina. Sat 11.30am–12pm
- 10 The Ridgeway, Cumbalum. Sat 12–12.30pm
- 33 Highfield Terrace, Cumbalum. Sat 12–12.30pm
- 23 Teven Road, Alstonville. Sat 12.30–1pm
- 439 Teven Road, Teven. Sat 1–1.30pm
- 24 Noryln Avenue, Ballina. Sat 2–2.30pm

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- 1/3 Miram Place, Ocean Shores. Sat 10–10.30am
- 4 Robin Street, South Golden Beach. Sat 10–10.30am
- 1/25 Fingal Street, Brunswick Heads. Sat 11–11.30am
- 31 Natan Court, Ocean Shores. Sat 11–11.30am
- 118 Balemo Drive, Ocean Shores. Sat 11–11.30pm
- 26 Booyun Street, Brunswick Heads. Sat 12–12.30am
- 1 Gloria Street, South Golden Beach. Sat 12–12.30am
- 21 Tweed Street, Brunswick Heads. Sat 1–1.30pm

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- 126 Repentance Creek, Rosebank. Sat 10.30–11am
- 3/11 Carlyle Street, Byron Bay. Sat 10.45–11.15am
- 15/3 Pecan Court, Suffolk Park. Sat 11.45am–12.15pm
- 12 Hibiscus Place, Mullumbimby. Sat 10.15–10.45am
- 14 Grevillea Avenue, Mullumbimby. Sat 9.30–10am

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- 33/19 Elizabeth Street, Pottsville. Sat 10–10.30am
- 30 Kolara Way, Ocean Shores. Sat 10.30–11am
- 37 Narooma Drive, Ocean Shores. Sat 11.30am–12pm
- 10 Rajah Road, Ocean Shores. Sat 11.30am–12pm
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- 17 Ivory Curl Place, Bangalow. Wed 11.45am–12.15pm
- 17 Ivory Curl Place, Bangalow. Sat 10.15–10.45am
- 205 James Gibson Road, Clunes. Sat 9–9.30am
- 187 Cameron Road, McLeans Ridges. Wed 1–1.30pm
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- HOME MAINTENANCE All aspects. Carpentry, decks, painting, repairs etc. Insured **0434 705506**

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- Expressing Mood and Emotion in Watercolour
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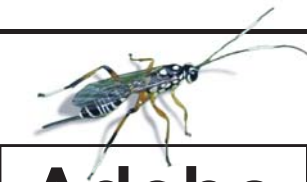
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BIRTHDAYS



Happy Birthday to the living legend of Mullumbimby



Happy Birthday beautiful Tams. Lots of love from the Echo crew xxxx

FUNERAL NOTICES

LEE, GAIL CHRISTINE ("CHRIS")
Forever in our Hearts
Chris passed on 6th August 2022 at Robina Hospital after some time battling illness.
Aged 68 Years
Late of Ocean Shores
Cherished sister to Josie and loving mother to Venessa and Andy. Adored sister-in-law, mother-in-law, grandmother, and friend.
Chris was privately cremated at New Haven Funerals, Gold Coast.
A Memorial Service for Chris will be held Sunday 21st August 2022 at Ocean Shores Country Club commencing at 10:00am.

GRAY
HAZEL LILLIAN
"TERRY"

August 12, 2022, passed away peacefully at Byron Central Hospital, late of Byron Bay.

Dearly loved wife of Tom (dec). Much loved mother and mother-in-law of Lyn, Peter and Judy. Loving grandmother of Michael, Michelle, Jason, Philip and Scott. Loved great-grandmother of Nathan, Matthew, Amy, Rowan, William, Hunter, Justin and Riley. Loved sister of Ken, John, Les, Charlie, Os, Bill, Pat and Carol (all dec).

Aged 94 Years

Relatives and friends are invited to attend Terry's Funeral Service, to be held at the Rainbow Chapel, Rainbow Avenue West Ballina on WEDNESDAY (August 24, 2022) commencing at 10.30am. After the Service a private cremation will take place.

www.guardianfunerals.com.au
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BALLINA 6686 7036

KEYTE, PHYLLIS
MARY ISOBEL

Loved wife of Robert (dec). Much loved mother of Linda and William. Beloved grandmother of Sophia, Sam, Sjaida and Naomi. Loved great grandmother of Maya and Luca. Phyllis will be sadly missed by all family and friends. "Loved by many"
Relatives and friends are invited to attend a funeral service to be held at St Martins Anglican Church, Mullumbimby on THURSDAY (August 18, 2022) commencing at 2.00pm.

MICHAEL CURRIE
At
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IN MEMORIAM

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May you ride the rainbow & swim with the dolphins & whales forever. Bear

DEATH NOTICES

GORDON GEORGE WRIGHT
Formerly of Mullumbimby. 11/2/1942-9/8/2022
Private memorial.
A charismatic member of the Mullumbimby community, always partial to the side hustle. Gordon committed his time in latter years to the Brunswick Valley Markets, Mullumbimby Historical Society, Brunswick Heads Woodchop and a local Prostate Support Group.

Celebrate and give thanks for the life of

Ray Wightley



1 January 1951 - 10 August 2022
Wednesday 17 August 2022 at 1.00pm
Sacred Heart Catholic Church
143 Murwillumbah St
Murwillumbah NSW

PETS



STEVIE
Stevie is our extra special boy. Born on the streets he found himself with a few health issues so he's unable to eat regular cat food. Although a little high maintenance when it comes to dinner time, don't be put off because he adores to sit on your lap and will love it more if you are a bit of a home bird as he loves company. Stevie is an indoor cat whose hobbies include fly stalking and chatting to birds through the window. To meet Stevie, please visit the Cat Adoption Centre at 124 Dalley Street, Mullumbimby.

OPEN: Tues 2.30-4.30pm
Thurs 3-5pm, Sat 10am-12noon.
Call AWL 0436 845 542.

Like us on Facebook!
AWL NSW Rehoming Organisation
Number: R251000222



After five years **BEBE** left the only family and home he had known, and now spends his days sad and alone in the rescue centre. His family has flown away to other parts and left him behind. **BEBE** is a very friendly big boy who's only ambition is to share his life in a forever home. A true companion.

All cats are desexed, vaccinated & micro-chipped.
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M/C # 956000014580941
For more information contact Yvette on 0421 831 128
Interested? Please complete our online adoption expression of interest.
www.friendsofthepound.com/adoption-expression-of-interest/
Visit friendsofthepound.com to view other dogs and cats looking for a home. ABN 83 126 970 338

Byron Dog Rescue (CAWI)

6-year-old desexed male Labrador x Boerboel 'Ziggy' is a big soft teddy-bear in physique and temperament. He is an absolute gentleman with other dogs and excellent with children of all ages. **Ziggy** will endow his family with an abundance of love and loyalty. He weighs in at 48kgs, but could easily lose 8kgs with regular exercise and a carefully managed diet.
Please contact Shell on 0458461935.
MC: 953010002255803

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SUN, MOON & TIDES
TIMES FOR NEXT 2 WEEKS

DATE (August)	DAY, MOON PHASE	SUN RISE / SET	MOON RISE / SET	HIGH TIDES, height (m)	LOW TIDES, height (m)
17	W	6:16 17:24	22:44 9:31	1216 1.36	0554 0.32 1806 0.55
18	TH	6:15 17:24	23:42 10:03	0013 1.32 1311 1.35	0631 0.38 1912 0.66
19	F	6:14 17:25	00:54 10:38	0054 1.16 1415 1.34	0712 0.44 2041 0.72
20	SA	6:13 17:25	0:40 11:16	0150 1.03 1525 1.36	0803 0.48 2215 0.70
21	SU	6:12 17:26	1:37 11:57	0313 0.96 1631 1.41	0907 0.51 2328 0.63
22	M	6:11 17:26	2:32 12:44	0438 0.96 1727 1.47	1015 0.50
23	TU	6:10 17:27	3:24 13:35	0540 1.01 1814 1.54	0017 0.54 1114 0.45
24	W	6:09 17:27	4:13 14:29	0627 1.07 1855 1.61	0056 0.47 1202 0.40
25	TH	6:08 17:28	4:56 15:25	0706 1.13 1933 1.66	0130 0.41 1244 0.34
26	F	6:07 17:28	5:36 16:22	0742 1.19 2009 1.69	0200 0.36 1320 0.28
27	SA	6:06 17:29	6:11 17:19	0817 1.24 2043 1.71	0230 0.32 1357 0.25
28	SU	6:05 17:29	6:43 18:16	0853 1.29 2115 1.69	0259 0.29 1432 0.24
29	M	6:04 17:30	7:14 19:12	0930 1.33 2146 1.65	0328 0.27 1511 0.26
30	TU	6:02 17:30	7:43 20:09	1008 1.37 2219 1.58	0358 0.26 1550 0.30
31	W	6:01 17:31	8:13 21:07	1048 1.40 2253 1.47	0430 0.26 1634 0.37

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



Rainbow Dragons back on the water for regatta



High-energy contests await punters and paddlers at this weekend's dragon boat regatta. Photo supplied

Ross Kendall

The Rainbow Region Dragon Boat Club has waited a few years to welcome the Northern NSW dragon boat and local community back to their annual regatta; and it is on this weekend at Shaws Bay.

Even though the floods have restricted most clubs' training, and regattas have been few and far between, the competitive bug is high and the paddlers are keen for a weekend of hard racing

and socialising, said Jan Wright, president of the Rainbow Dragons.

'We're also keen to finally regatta-test Shaws Bay's dredging and the new beach-front completed a good year or two ago. We're confident that the paddlers on the "new" racecourse and the beach boat loading area will give it the thumbs-up.'

'The community teams' competition always adds fun and colour to the regatta. Each team plans their team

theme and costume – then onto the water they go. Albeit teams are a bit short on this year, but already there are teams making plans for 2023,' she said.

The event is free and spectators are welcome to this exciting alcohol-free venue. Food and drink will be on sale.

Saturday 20 August, 11.30am till 3.30pm and Sunday 21 August, 8.30am till 3.30pm at Shaws Bay, via Pop Dennison Park.

Red Devils beat Evans Head playing finals footy

Ross Kendall

The Byron Bay Red Devils premiership rugby league side won their qualifying final at home against Evans Head 32–30, last Sunday.

The win backed up the previous week's effort when the Red Devils powered home 38–24 against the Cudgen Hornets. That win put them in third place on the competition ladder and gave them the home final.

Never out of contention

In the hard-fought and competitive final the Bombers were never out of contention until the final minute. In the end Byron finished with six tries to five,



In the last game of the regular season the Red Devils not only celebrated a win but also Ladies Day, Donny Day and Old Boys' Day. Photo supplied

with the scorers including Michael Thomas, Akariva Durusolo, Daniel Gibson and Connor Wilson. Captain coach Todd Carney kicked four conversions.

In a quirk of the draw the teams will play again this

Sunday at Red Devil Park in the competition's minor semi-final. All the action starts from 3pm.

Bilambil and Murwillumbah both had wins last weekend and will contest the major semi in Murwillumbah.

Good start to season for Byron Beez basketballers

Ross Kendall

Byron Bay basketballers have started the season strongly with the women picking up a win, and a narrow loss, while the men have taken two wins.

In round one, played on Saturday 30 July, the Byron Beez women played Ballina Breakers and were the better equipped team. They took control of the game right from the start, never losing the lead. With some up-and-coming players, the Beez gave everyone a chance to put a score on the board with the final siren seeing a Beez win 71–38.

Tight game

The Byron Beez then played the Lismore Storm in a much tighter and competitive game. The Beez had a slow start and were down by 16 points at quarter time and slowly found their way back to 73–76. With four seconds left on the clock Beez player, Isy Crawford, splashed the



The Byron Beez women on the charge against the Ballina Breakers. Photo Kylie Robinson

bomb for a three-pointer right on the buzzer to tie the score 76 all, taking the game into overtime.

From there it was a nail-biting score-for-score contest with the Lismore Storm coming out victors by one point: 85–84.

Beez men

The Beez men have two-for-two wins, defeating

Ballina Breakers 129–55 and defeating Lismore Storm 97–46.

Next game

The women Beez's next game is at Coffs Harbour on 11 September. The male Beez take on the Grafton Vikings at the Cavanbah Centre this Saturday, 20 August from 2pm. Everyone is welcome to come and support the guys.

Bangalow wins top-of-table clash in local rugby

Ross Kendall

In a weekend of tight rugby, Bangalow beat Wollongbar-Alstonville 30–27 while Ballina and Lennox Head had a 35–35 draw.

Playing at home Bangalow overcame a half time deficit of 15–13 to claw their way to the triumph. Teale Pyne, Otty Fifita, and Vincent Quigley all scored tries while Troy Doughty kicked three conversions as well as three penalties. Ed McGrath was named man of the match.

WAR

Wollongbar-Alstonville (WAR) try scorers included Bodi Smith (2), Josh Damen, and Bill Johnston.



The rugby boys had a fine day in the mud last Saturday at Shultz Oval. Photo Vicki Kerry

The win puts Bangalow back into first place on the ladder ahead of WAR with

Lennox Head and Ballina rounding out the top four, the likely 2022 finalists.

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White Horses and Dark Knights

If you've read *The Queen's Gambit*, you'll know that the television series is much better than the novel.

For some reason David Lovejoy's new book has not yet been optioned by Netflix, so we don't know if they could also improve his chess-themed fiction.

However, if you enjoy the semi-mystical world of chess and the wholly supernatural realm of muse poetry, this strange story may be for you.

White Horses and Dark Knights, paperback, 245pp, is available for \$20 at *The Echo* office.

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Why is it up to the Mullum Residents Association (MRA) to provide the public with information from Resilience NSW about Mullum's temporary accommodation sites? The 'Independent' mayor seems more decorative than functional at this point. See page 1, 3. Meanwhile, residents of Tregeagle, near Goonellabah, have forced Resilience NSW to stop temporary accommodation works.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■
New doco *Ithaka* will screen at Palace Byron Bay on August 18, and Julian Assange's father, John Shipton, and Julian's brother, Gabriel Shipton, will be appearing at the event, say organisers. They will address a Q&A after the film.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■
If you haven't applied for a flood grant, Service NSW can help and will be in Mullumbimby August 23 from 9-5, August 24 from 10-7 and August 25 from 9-5 at the Mullum RSL. Bookings can be made via the hotline 13 77 88 or via www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/book-northern-rivers-flood-grant-support-session.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■
ICYMI – According to a recent *Domain House Price Report*, the median house in Kyogle has risen to \$490,000, 'up 42 per cent year-on-year'.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■
Engineers Without Borders (EWB) are available to assist in assessing flood-affected dwellings and properties that are at risk of landslips. Co-organiser Ella Rose Goninan says, 'The engineers are mostly coming from out of the area, and billeting hosts need to be found for them when they come. The intention is to be recruiting



Originally discovered and developed in Mullum in the early '70s, Pot Holes can now be found right around Australia. This beauty was spotted on the notorious road that apparently services the Mullum Industrial Estate. Photo supplied

engineers for as long as there is a need.' Email info@ewb.org.au to register for the assessment and/or provide billeting.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■
Local NSW Nationals MLC Ben Franklin must have a lot in his diary – he has just been given another job – Minister for Tourism. He was already Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for the Arts, and Minister for Regional Youth.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■
@MediaAnalystOz tweeted: '[ABC TV's] *Insiders* allocated 12 minutes to attack Labor over Kitching lies, but [on Sunday] "didn't have time" to go into Barilaro's real treachery or Morrison secretly expanding his power. Between today's host and panelists, three had worked for Murdoch. The other works for Costello [Nine]'.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■
Uber wealthy media baron heir, Lachlan Murdoch, who runs 24-hour lie and hate factories, has threatened legal action against small independent online publisher *Crikey*, claiming he was lied about in a report. *Crikey*

■ ■ ■ ■ ■
Last week's scheduled hearing for the Upper House committee inquiry into the appointment of former Nats leader, John Barilaro, as Senior Trade and Investment Commissioner to the Americas was cancelled. Apparently Barilaro was feeling a little, ahem, crook, and couldn't show up.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■
Sample Food Festival returns September 3, and will be held at the Bangalow Showground. Ngaiire will headline, and the event includes music and workshops. For the full program, visit www.samplefoodevents.com.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■
'A poem will not stop a bullet, a novel cannot defuse a bomb. But writers can still sing the truth, and name the lies' – Salman Rushdie

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