

Echo

NOT REPORTING FACTS, JUST IMPROVING THEM, SINCE 1986
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Franti to the Max



When Michael Franti picked local lad, Max McAuley, out of the crowd of thousands at Bluesfest on Sunday night, he jumped at the opportunity. 'Wow! Being on stage with Michael was all new top level!' Max told *The Echo*, 'Everyone was watching me dance – I love Michael like a brother.' Max is no stranger to the stage – he's a member of the Sprung!! ensemble and is currently working on a one man show. For more Bluesfest photos, see page 19.

Photo Jeff 'Maxxed Out' Dawson

Paul Bibby and Eve Jeffery

The big tops are slowly coming down, instruments are being carefully stowed back in their cases, and out-of-town punters are recovering on the beach, or slowly turning their attention toward home.

Such is the gradual wind down from the 34th Byron Bay Bluesfest, an event bathed in golden sunshine and tasty tunes from across the euphonic universe. Attendance numbers may have been down this year, but around 75,000 people still poured into Tyagarah for the five-day festival.

The slightly smaller crowd made it easier for people to move around the site, and get close to their musical heroes, as well as easing the access and egress issues that impacted last year's event.

Incredibly, the weather was fine across virtually the entire length of the festival, meaning punters could trade in their wellies for shorts and thongs.

On the first few days, Bluesfest presented the legendary Steve Earle, and by day three, delivered Buddy Guy and Jackson Browne.

Buddy Guy was just brilliant – at 86 he still has everything he needs

at his finger tips – still shredding, still an envious vocal range, and still as cheeky as sin. He bade farewell to his Bluesfest audience – it was his last performance here.

Palm of Jackson's hand

Jackson Browne held every single punter in the palm of his hand, while Allison Russell brought her redemptive musical saga to Bluesfest with a powerhouse all-female band.

On Sunday, Byron Shire Deputy Mayor, Councillor Sarah Ndiaye, found herself onstage in front of thousands of screaming fans at Bluesfest when festival favourite,

Michael Franti, invited her to come up and sing.

She told *The Echo*, 'There was a sea of people. I was blown away by just how big the audience was and how warm and encouraging they all were. That helped.'

There were tonnes of other great acts all through the weekend, including Loose Content, Clarence Bekker, Hussy Hicks, Christone 'Kingfish' Ingram, Daniel Champagne, Marcus King, Eric Gales, Jason Isbell, Bonnie Raitt, Tash Sultana, Eugene Hideaway Bridges, Trombone Shorty, and the Doobie Brothers.

Councillors to vote on railway land parcel sell off

Paul Bibby

The state government is trying to quietly sell off a piece of rail corridor land in the centre of Byron for residential development.

In a Development Application (DA) coming before this week's Council meeting, the government's Transport Asset Holding Entity (TAHE) is proposing what is described as a 'boundary adjustment' on railway land, located at 14 Kendall Street, Byron Bay.

According to the Council staff report, the government wants to incorporate 261 square metres of highly valuable beachside Belongil land into an adjoining block, so that it can become part of a private residential subdivision.

The application has been initiated by the TAHE, who describe the land in question as being 'surplus to requirements'. No private developer was mentioned in the report, however TAHE's DA 10.2022.159.1 was referenced.

However, the land may not be surplus to the requirements of those, including Byron Council, who want to get trains back on the tracks in the Byron Shire. Nevertheless, Byron Council staff make no mention of this issue in their report on the matter, stating that the formal use and management of the area to be acquired will not change. The report also indicates that the matter was only brought to the specific attention of councillors, because the land in question contains a small area of coastal wetland. Staff have recommended that councillors approve the boundary adjustment.

Emergency pod accommodation update ► p3

Homeless hub chalks up its first year ► p4

News from around the North Coast ► p8



Bob Morgan's case for an Indigenous Voice to Parliament ► p10

Scoop up this week's features ► p20



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Feros board defend allegations of misconduct

Eve Jeffery & Hans Lovejoy

The death of recent Feros Byron Bay resident, Jason Smith, has put fire in the belly of a local advocacy group fighting the facility's closure.

In March, the Feros board announced the closure of its Byron Bay facility, located at 29-33 Marvell Street, in preparation for a new, 'state-of-the-art community, purpose-built facility'.

It came weeks after a damning performance report on the facility by the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission (ACQSC).

ACQSC found its elderly residents were subjected to substandard care across every aspect of the service.

The Feros board have also rejected *Echo* requests for evidence that the property is required to be redeveloped to meet its care requirements.

Friends and Families of Feros Residents (FFFR) have enlisted the help of a Sydney law firm, and local solicitor, Mark Swivel of Barefoot Law, in an effort to stop Feros closing its doors to the place that many people still call home.



Karen Crouch, Feros Care CEO.
Photo www.feroscare.com.au

Swivel commented on social media that an Urgent Notice of Complaint about Feros Byron Bay Village will be lodged with ACQSC Commissioner, Janet Anderson.

Notice of complaint

Swivel says they were instructed to provide the urgent notice of complaint, because time is of the essence, given the unexpected conduct of the board and management, and the urgent pressure put on residents and their families as a result.

The social media post goes on to say that on February 28, 2023, with only overnight notice to residents and their families, Feros Care

announced the intended closure of the Feros Byron Bay Village.

'At the time, there were 37 residents at the Village, which has a capacity of 40 residents.'

'We are instructed that Feros Care's conduct in managing its planned closure of the Village may be in breach of the *Aged Care Act 1997* and its agreements with residents.'

Alleged breaches

'Perhaps more significantly, we are instructed that the alleged breaches have put the welfare of the vulnerable residents of the Village at imminent risk.'

Barefoot Law says, 'While Feros Care may not have wanted to be public about its intention to close the Village, at the stage that those people applied to become residents, it could easily have given a noncommittal reason for declining their respective applications, rather than putting those individuals and their family to the immense emotional, financial and work cost of making the move both to Byron Bay, and to the Village, when Feros Care knew

that it would be closing so soon after accepting them as residents'. Barefoot Law says that, 'Feros Care has refused repeated requests to communicate with the residents, their families and the community as a whole, restricting its interactions to meetings with individual residents and their families.'

As of April 3, there were 18 residents still living at the Village, and at least three who have moved who would like to return.

Barefoot Law says that around half of the members of the company Feros Care Limited appear to oppose, or have concerns about, the decision of the board to close the Village.

'It is a community asset, not one that should be redeveloped in line with a corporate strategy - it was created by the Byron Bay community and should stay part of that community.'

According to www.feroscare.com.au, Karen Crouch is Feros Care CEO, and there are eight directors of the board. They are Jason Bingham (Chair), Colin McJannett (Deputy Chair) and directors

Andrew Young, Janet Quigley, Lynn Warneke, Kathy Heathcote, Kristofer Rogers, and Janelle Manders.

Feros board replies

Feros Care told *The Echo* that at the time of providing their response, they had not received notice of this complaint from the ACQSC.

'Mr Swivel has made serious, but erroneous allegations, about the conduct of Feros Care, which are denied. Mr Swivel has asserted that Feros Care may be in breach of the *Aged Care Act 1997*, and its agreements with residents, as a result of its decision to close Feros Byron Bay. Feros Care denies these allegations. It takes its regulatory obligations and its obligations to residents, very seriously.'

'Feros Care has engaged with both the Aged Care Quality & Safety Commission and the Department of Health and Aged Care in relation to the decision to close Feros Village Byron Bay, and to ensure that the residents of the home receive the best possible support to transition to new accommodation.

'The welfare and safety of

all the residents in the home is paramount and central to the decisions being made by Feros Care. The assertion by Mr Swivel that the "welfare of... vulnerable residents of the Village..." is at imminent risk, is unfounded and is denied by Feros Care.

'While Feros Care acknowledges the concerns that have been raised by the residents of Feros Village Byron Bay and their families, it has always endeavoured to make decisions, as difficult as they may be, which are in the best interests of residents. Feros Care is focused on ensuring its residents receive the highest possible standard of aged care.

'Feros Care is continuing to engage with the residents of Feros Village Byron Bay, their families and legal representatives to ensure that it listens, understands and responds to their concerns, while also supporting them to transition to suitable alternative accommodation.

'Feros Village Byron Bay will not be closed until all of its current residents are transitioned to suitable accommodation.'

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Emergency pod accom update

Michele Grant

Flood-affected residents are moving into the new emergency housing in Brunswick Heads and Mullumbimby.

After a long year of homelessness and uncertainty, those people now face the challenge of living in small homes, squashed close together, in this latest social experiment in intensive community housing by the NSW government.



Pods in Bayside, Brunswick Heads. Photo supplied

Many resilient locals have taken up the challenge. New tenants expressed relief and gratitude at the Brunswick Heads sites, but there's also a pall of anxiety and trepidation hanging in the air.

The smaller Bayside site hosts 27 one, two and three-bedroom units along Torakina Road (see photo).

Fifty homes are on the sports field site, and a similar number in Mullum, alongside the railway line. Everyone has had a police clearance to reassure neighbours they pose no danger to the preschool or community.

The units are fully self-contained with a bathroom and bedroom(s) and furnished with a new lounge suite, a dining table and chairs, a double bed and mattress, with bunks for the kids, and built-in robes.

The whitegoods provided include a front-loading washing machine that's also a drier, an electric cooker, fridge, TV, air con/heater and microwave. The units are cosy, comfortable and welcoming, and there's on-site parking.

The dwellings at the larger sites sit side-by-side, looking straight across at each other.

Privacy is a major issue, and the veranda screens are going up, using all types of materials with the stressed-out tenants feeling anxious and exposed.

The shops should stock up on ear plugs and headsets.

'I think we're gonna need 'em', one resident advised.

'It has the potential to be a messy, noisy ghetto,' one of the sportsfield tenants warned. There's little storage room or open space around the dwellings for bikes or surf boards.

'Don't tell anyone you saw me here', the woman insisted, she needs time to herself and didn't want any visitors.

An older woman at Bayside said she slept for the first week. After living in her car and on the couch at sympathetic friends' houses,

her relief was palpable. She'd come into town to vote and was delighted to finally have a roof over her head again.

A neighbour has been busy unpacking, setting up the kitchen, rearranging the furniture and decorating with family photos and knick-knacks. Internet is an issue, with no broadband, and power has yet to be connected to Bayside, so they're relying on a droning generator.

Support workers

The housing sites are managed by 'Uniting', a church-based organisation with an office on site, and support workers are provided for all tenants.

A security guard loiters around the entrance, mainly to ward off sight-seers.

Perhaps they were expecting protesters or trouble from the 'inmates'? If you want to visit, you need to call your friend and get them to meet you at the gate.

The homes are rent free for the first 12 months, with a review underway, so residents may have to pay a contribution next year.

Only a one-year lease is guaranteed, but tenants have been promised assistance when it's time to relocate.

The emergency housing list compiled by Resilience NSW is now co-managed, with Uniting and NSW Department of Communities and Justice, who control public housing tenancy selection.

Lack of consultation, transparency

The lack of community consultation or open, transparent, decision-making by Byron Shire Council and the NSW government led to ongoing criticism of the housing projects.

The use of land-fill, the site layout, design and construction of homes is now managed by Reconstruction

NSW, and contracts worth millions have been handed out without any oversight by Council or the community.

I know several units leaked during the storm on election night, but the builders are on hand to fix any teething problems.

Non-compliance with planning, health and safety and mobile home park regulations has been permitted in this emergency, cutting red tape to save time and money. How do we evaluate the cost-effectiveness, the environmental impacts or the impact on tenants' health and wellbeing in crowded, sub-standard caravan parks? It's certainly not best practice.

No clear guidelines

A big hurdle for tenants has been the process and paperwork to secure emergency housing.

The lack of clear guidelines, the changing personnel, the multiple form-filling and phone calls, lost documents and missed deadlines caused ongoing stress and frustration for

applicants – many gave up.

The process was described as 'total confusion', 'No clarity or transparency', 'It's a lottery'.

We need to end the secrecy and the backroom deals and ensure there is transparency and community consultation before any new housing projects are undertaken.

Byron Council should be leading the way, and encourage pre-fab home builders to get involved.

There are around 100 displaced residents moving into Brunswick Heads, and over 60 more in Mullumbimby. They need time to settle in, to recover from the ordeal they've endured, and adjust to their new reality.

The women I spoke to are reluctant to celebrate, and they requested I not identify them, though they've lived and worked in the community for decades.

There's embarrassment at their plight, and fear they may not be considered a welcome addition, that others may resent the generous arrangements or argue they're not entitled to be there.

The adverse publicity hasn't helped.

Efforts are underway to allay concerns. A barbecue was held by the Red Cross last month in Bruns, and CWA and Vinnies are on the case.

Our supportive community is on hand to assist our comrades, and ensure they receive a warm welcome and are treated with kindness and respect.

Let's celebrate the homecoming, and let's get more people off the streets!

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Top cop sheared for a cause



Local Detective Chief Inspector, Matt Keogh, was a good sport recently, and agreed to a headshave for the Cancer Council. Pictured is Remy, Teo, Matt, Sumanyu, Roka and Phoenix. Photo Jeff 'Number Ones' Dawson

Regenerating local tourism

Wendy Bithell

The past three years have been a fairly challenging time for the Byron tourism industry; the fires, floods, pandemic.

Now seems the right time to rethink the tourism paradigm for Byron.

Local tourism organisation, Destination Byron, made the first step towards a 'regenerative tourism' future, by creating a Byron regenerative tourism workshop, to start a conversation on how local tourism can make a positive impact on

the environment and community. The workshop will take place on April 26, 2023, at Crystalbrook Byron, from 12.30-4.30pm.

The aim is to explore regenerative tourism as a means of creating sustainable and resilient tourism for Byron. It will be facilitated by Dr Dianne Dredge, director of the Tourism CoLab, Australia's most notable experts in Regenerative Tourism.

Places are limited, so bookings are essential: <https://events.humanitix.com/byron-regenerative-tourism-workshop>

Homeless hub chalks up its first year

A Byron Bay homeless hub that provides a safe and secure environment for those in need celebrates its one-year anniversary this week.

Fletcher Street Cottage organisers say, since opening its doors on April 12, 2022, the Fletcher Street Cottage has seen over 7,000 visits to the service from people experiencing homelessness or at risk of becoming homeless.

The cottage offers a range of services, including breakfast, shower and laundry facilities, and access to medical and housing services.

Remarkably, there is no ongoing government funding for these services, and they operate thanks to the generous support of community members and local businesses.

Lindy Swain, Fletcher Street Cottage Manager, says, 'The team at Fletcher Street Cottage work tirelessly to improve the daily lot of our most vulnerable. Providing support in system navigation, sourcing important documentation, emergency relief and connecting to other community organisations are just some of the services we



Managers, staff and volllies from the Fletcher Street Cottage. Photo supplied

provide. Most importantly we offer compassion and a listening ear.'

30 per cent increase

Louise O'Connell, General Manager of the Byron Community Centre, who manage the cottage, says, 'We are thrilled to celebrate this milestone, and are grateful for the support we have received from the community.'

'Fletcher Street Cottage has become a vital resource for those in need, and we are

proud to be able to provide a safe and welcoming space for people to access support and services'.

Organisers say they see around 800 visitors per month, or between 30 to 70 service users per day, which is up 30 per cent from 2022.

700 free breakfasts are served per month, while 30 per cent of service users access shower and laundry facilities. Visiting services include Social Futures, Momentum Collective, Centrelink, Community Corrections and

the Homelessness Health Outreach Team (HHOT), plus a hairdresser, GP and a podiatrist.

The Fletcher Street Cottage management are inviting their visiting services, including Social Futures, the Homeless Health Outreach Team and First Light Healthcare, and neighbouring businesses, to a first birthday breakfast on April 12.

To learn more about Fletcher Street Cottage and to donate, visit www.byron-centre.com.au.



Byron Shire Community Awards 2023

What makes our Community Great?

Do you know someone who deserves an award to recognise their achievements and contribution to Byron Shire?

Categories for nominations are:

- Community Member of Byron Shire
- Young Community Member of Byron Shire
- Giving Back to Byron Shire Award
- Community Initiative of Byron Shire
- Caring for Country Award
- Contribution to Health and Wellbeing Award
- Creativity Award
- Access and Inclusion Award

Nominate online by 1 June 2023

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A tribute to Woodstock

Nicolina Chartorisky

Like so many beautiful souls in the Rainbow Region, Woodstock's internal compass led him to settle in the Northern Rivers over 30 years ago.

Woodstock had a passion and a knack for finding things and seeing what they could become.

He was an inveterate fossicker, and would bring his treasures home and give them new life.

Many have been on an adventure with Woodstock, out and about exploring junk yards, beaches, walking in the mountains, streams and paddocks and fossicking for rocks and semi-precious stones around Lightning Ridge, and other special places.

And some have had the simple pleasure of sitting on a bench in town listening to his endless yarns, and watching the world go by.

Woodstock felt so proud and blessed that he had eight beautiful



Mullum local Woodstock. Photo supplied

grandchildren from his son Ben and daughter Olwyn.

He wanted to share his passions with them; from being a petrol head, a welder, an all-round repairman and a connoisseur of rocks, to the greener things in life.

Woodstock had a peaceful passing surrounded by a constant flow of friends and messages and calls from near and far. Woodstock's great friend, Jordan, summarised Woodstock's life, saying

that he had spent his life looking for all the beautiful things in life.

He added that Woodstock was the biggest gem of them all, always displaying the qualities of love and kindness. 'I don't think he realised that he shined the brightest of them all.'

If Woodstock could send you all a message from his heart, it would be: 'Promote Peace - be kind and love one another.'

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Pete's long distance walk highlights racism

Photo & story Eve Jeffery

A Coffs Harbour man got so fed up with racism, he is walking from Melbourne to 1770 in Qld – that's 2,023km – in 101 days, to make a point.

The Echo met with Peter Elzer in Brunswick Heads. He says he left Melbourne on December 23, with the plan to end up at 1770 on April 24. It all started when he thought he would go on a bit of a holiday.

Cook's 1770 landing

He says, 'I thought, "I'm going to walk and I'll make it include a message". And I thought: "2023 kilometres. Where does that get me from Melbourne? 1770!" It's Captain Cook's second landing and is the approximate distance. I am symbolically walking racism back in time.'

Elzer says he is spreading the anti-racism message because he knows now that what he was taught in school was a lie.



Peter Elzer plans to make a 2,023km walk to 1770, by April 24.

'I realised that this really needs to be called out. It still happens in daily life in regional and rural Australia, where other races and other ethnic people are denigrated and put down, and just discriminated against because of their origins, or because of their colour.'

Elzer says the reactions to his slogan #RacismNotWelcome range from the benign, to handshakes of enthusiastic agreement.

No support team

Elzer says he is holding up well. He has no support team, just a good pair of

North Face hiking shoes, and a Trekkers Friend hiking trailer, which have both travelled over the distance well.

'The shoes will last the whole distance, 2,500km including all the training, and as long as I keep the weight over the wheels, the trailer is like pulling nothing.'

Council staff support 15 residential lots for Coorabell

Paul Bibby

Plans for a community title (CT) development in the heart of the Byron hinterland look set to go ahead, with Byron Council staff seeing 'no significant issues' with the plan.

The proposed development, at 375 Coorabell Road, Coorabell, will come before this week's Byron Council Planning Meeting for determination.

The owners of the land, Tarongo Land Pty Ltd, are planning to create 15 residential lots, which includes 14 new dwelling sites and one existing dwelling site.

The 64.5-hectare site already has approval for a Multiple Occupancy (MO), following a successful application in 2019.

The owners are now seeking to change that to a community title subdivision

– a type of development that allows for individual ownership rights, while retaining common areas, such as gardens, recreational land and driveways.

According to the Council staff report on the plan, six of the identified house sites are not in the exact location as approved under the MO, and two in particular, on Lot 8 and 10, are in a different location.

Similarly, the internal

road layout has been repositioned in the western end of the development where it services Lots 10 to 15.

The Council planner responsible for the matter, Patricia Docherty, says these changes 'raise no issues and can be supported on environmental and engineering grounds'.

She has recommended to councillors that they approve the development.

Industry conference on strengthening region, post-flood

The Northern Rivers Reconstruction Corporation (NRRC) is hosting a free industry conference to provide insight into the works required to rebuild the region, following the February–March 2022 floods.

The event will be on Thursday April 27 at Twin Towns, Tweed Heads, with a time to be confirmed.

Organisers say, 'Figures released by the Insurance Council of Australia estimate the costs and scale of the

damage to homes, business and infrastructure caused by the floods at more than \$5.56 billion, the largest in Australian history. In addition, there was already a pre-flood infrastructure pipeline of \$3.5 billion in the Northern Rivers.'

Connecting industry to local councils

NRRC Chief Executive, David Witherdin, says, 'The primary aim of the conference is to connect trades and

industry with local councils and state government and get the rebuild underway. The scope and magnitude of the work is significant'.

'We need local industry and trades to be part of building-back-better and I'm keen to see many small, medium and large businesses involved'.

'The conference provides an opportunity to meet and speak with the key procuring agencies involved in the reconstruction, including

NSW state agencies and local councils and will cover the pipeline of work, including the Resilient Homes Program and public infrastructure pipeline.

'There will be sessions on resilient rebuilding, procurement and diversity strategies to increase the workforce, capability uplifts, business and material innovation and more'.

To register, email helpline@vmsconferences.com.au or phone 02 9524 3087.

Stone & Wood's winter party's back for June 3

Stone & Wood's Festival Of The Stone returns Saturday, June 3.

Joining the lineup of local, and well-known live bands and DJs, Stone & Wood organisers say the event includes a competition for

emerging and experienced musicians to nab the festival's opening set.

To enter, visit www.stoneandwood.com.au and submit your most outstanding tracks before April 27.

Held on their brewery site

in the Byron Arts & Industry Estate, Stone & Wood welcomes Byron locals and all lovers of beer along for a night of music, food, fresh ales and community.

For families looking for a day out, there will be a

designated children's area, and profits from tickets sales and raffles will go towards the Fletcher Street Cottage, a community service providing meals, showers, laundry, advocacy and support to Byron's homeless community.

Rare rock legend pics on exhibition



A photo of legendary Angel, Doc Neeson, is one of many images that will be on exhibition – and for sale – at Gallery 7 Byron Bay until April 18. Photo Linda Bell

Never before published photographic works, by head European photographer for CBS International, Linda Bell, will go on exhibition at Gallery 7 Byron Bay, from Friday April 14.

Now residing in the Shire, Bell's works span 27 rock legends in their prime during the 1980s, from Elvis Costello, Lou Reed, The Angels, to Stevie Wonder

and Frank Zappa.

The entire collection is for sale, including rare and valuable proof sheets of ACDC, Adam and the Ants, Joan Baez, The B52s, Captain Beefheart, The Clash, Jimmy Cliff, Alice Cooper, the Dead Kennedys, George Duke, Al Di Miola, Bob Dylan, Bryan Ferry, The Flowers, Nina Hagen, Julio Iglesias, KISS, Madness, Rose Tattoo, Santana, Split

Enz, Talking Heads, Toto, UB40, ZZTop and more...

Opening night, Friday April 14

Opening night, with drinks, is Friday April 14 from 5pm onwards. Gallery 7 Byron Bay is located at 11 Banksia Drive, Byron Arts & Industry Estate. The exhibition runs till April 18.

Exploring the Sensory Lab, April 17 till 20

Local organisation, Sprung!! Dance Theatre, invites everyone to connect through creative practice in a workshop coming up April 17 till 20.

This event follows the successful Rivers' Stories workshop, held in January.

Continuing on from this, Sprung!! say they are excited to introduce Lowana Davies, olfactory and installation artist, based in the Yugumbah language region (Gold Coast).

Lowanna will lead Sensory Lab, an exploration of place and memory through sensory-based processes.

Organisers say, 'Lowana's artistic practice, grounded in eco-justice and pro-Indigenous thinking, reflects on the loss of ancestral knowledge once collected, held and shared through sense-based experiences'.

Smellwalks

'Participants will learn how sensory stimuli – experiences like "smellwalks" along Fishery Creek, can be used to generate movement, [they can] observe the distillation and bottling of scents, and enjoy a sensory feast for

afternoon tea on Thursday. 'This accessible workshop welcomes anyone interested in sensory art making processes, and offers an environment that is supportive, connective and socially inclusive'.

Workshops run from Monday April 17 to Thursday April 20 at the Scout Hall, Canal Road, Ballina, for participants with, and without, a disability aged 16 years and over. For details, and to book, visit sprung.org.au/workshops, or email info@sprung.org.au.

Feline friends need homes – now

Melissa Pleiter

Do you know that having a cat around can trigger the release of a calming chemical (oxytocin) in your body, which lowers your stress and anxiety levels?

Owning a cat can reduce your chances of cardiovascular disease, boost your immune system and in general just make you happier.

Pets for Life Billinudgel have been bringing cat happiness to many people in our Shire, and as far away as

Tasmania to Brisbane, for over 22 years, and they now need help more than ever.

Housing crisis

Cats are also the victims of the housing crisis – when people don't have homes, neither do their pets. With the shelter currently at full capacity, they are urgently looking for loving homes.

If you can't take on a cat permanently, Pets for Life are also looking for foster homes.

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long-term responsibility.

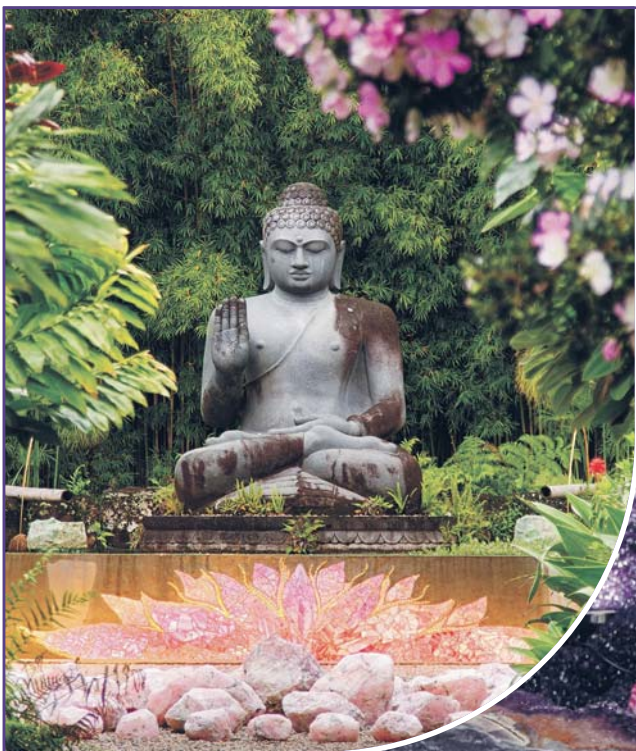
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Echo

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

Frustration and disappointment as Tweed rail trail damaged

Damage to the Tweed section of the Northern Rivers Rail Trail by a 4WD vehicle overnight earlier this week has left both the community and Tweed Council 'disappointed'.

Saffin calls on NRRC for transparency

Newly elected Premier for NSW, Chris Minns, visited Lismore and local member Janelle Saffin called on the Northern Rivers Reconstruction Corporation (NRRC) to feel the communities 'sense of urgency' in responding to the impacts of the devastating 2022 floods.

Get ready for the expanded Harvest Food Trail in May

There's more food and drinks to celebrate and explore in the Northern Rivers with the expansion of this year's Northern Rivers Harvest Food Trail over the weekend of 6-7 May.

Why is Tweed Council's report on developers habitat destruction in Tweed Heads confidential?

The state and federal governments have both said that there would be no future building on floodplains, yet they have not taken any action to delay currently approved and yet-to-be-built development on floodplains.

Dead man walking? Aston disaster for Peter Dutton

Cartoonists love to portray federal Opposition Leader Peter Dutton as a zombie; cold as ice, a man stuck in the past, with a tendency towards authoritarianism. Last weekend the dead man walking analogy acquired new meaning with the loss of the once-safe Liberal seat of Aston, in outer Melbourne.

Break-in and sexual touching – charges laid

A man has been charged following an investigation into an alleged break-in and sexual touching at Banora Point earlier this year.

A century after her birth, Olley's inspiration lives on

The Tweed Regional Gallery & Margaret Olley Art Centre is inviting locals to join the celebrations of the 100th anniversary of Margaret Olley's birthday.

www.echo.net.au

Seniors' estate plans ploughs ahead on ecologically sensitive West Ballina land

Mia Armitage

A proposed seniors' housing estate, featuring nearly 150 units on ecologically sensitive West Ballina land protected by recent rezoning, will be determined by the Northern Regional Planning Panel.

GTH Resorts, marketing as GemLife, is the developer behind the application to build on land at West Ballina's River Street and Burns Point Ferry Road.

The company's determination to build on the land comes despite a Land and Environment Court finding of the site as ecologically sensitive, a subsequent Ballina Shire Council decision to rezone it accordingly, and the state's planning department approving the council's rezoning request.

Information about the latest GemLife DA for West Ballina on Council's website says the development comes under the State Environmental Planning Policy on Housing from 2021, and can

bypass local government approval processes.

Council's disempowerment from the planning process comes after years of controversy over GemLife's development aspirations for the West Ballina land.

GemLife has developed several seniors' housing estates, mostly in Queensland, describing them all as boasting positive lifestyle choices for people over the age of fifty.

The company also has plans for a seniors' housing estate at Skennars Head.

A Land and Environment Court decision last year found the proposed land at West Ballina had environmental values threatened by GemLife plans at the time, which were for a project roughly twice the size of the estate included in the current DA.

Ballina Shire Council Strategic Planning Manager, Matthew Wood, told councillors at a meeting in July last year there was a grey area in relation to the application of

the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* on the land, which Council zoned as suitable for medium density housing prior to the LEC case and prior to 2022's catastrophic flooding in the area.

Rezone to protect

Mr Wood said the endangered ecological communities spread across the entire full area of the land, and told councillors the only way to properly protect the environment, thereby reflecting information from the Land and Environment Court case, was to rezone the land again.

Councillors voted unanimously in July 2022 to zone the land as C2 Environmental Conservation, if further study confirmed it contained vegetation with high biodiversity value.

The final decision on zoning in NSW rests with the state government's planning department, which approved the request in December last year.

Labor MPs spruik free TAFE courses



Labor MPs Brendan O'Connor and Justine Elliot.

Photo supplied

Federal Labor Minister for Skills and Training, Brendan O'Connor, was joined by the Member for Richmond, Justine Elliot, at TAFE NSW Ballina last week, to meet with teachers and students who have enrolled to study in a fee-free TAFE course.

The Labor MPs say students undertaking a Diploma of Nursing at TAFE Ballina are saving up to \$4,420.

O'Connor said, 'Fee-Free TAFE is a big part of the fix for skills shortages we're seeing in NSW, particularly in the care sector'.

'Across the nation, including in NSW, we are seeing shortages in the care sector,

agriculture, construction, hospitality and tourism, technology, and sovereign capability in manufacturing'.

Skills shortages

We need to deliver these skills at a time of acute skills shortages, particularly here in NSW'.

Mrs Elliot added, 'It is vital that we support people locally to obtain the skills they need to fill job vacancies'.

'Fee-Free TAFE is an opportunity for the people of NSW north coast to train or re-train in an area that has demand, now and in the future'.

Melanomas highlighted April 15 at Ballina event

A Ballina man currently celebrating 10 years survival since being given a potentially terminal diagnosis is calling on residents to join a gathering on Saturday April 15, at Ballina's Missingham Park from 3 till 6.30pm.

It's part of Melanoma Institute Australia's 2023 Melanoma March campaign, which aims to support the psychological health and wellbeing of Aussies living with advanced cancer, and to help tackle Australia's 'tanning' culture.

Scott Lynch was just starting to build a new life with his now partner, Lee, ten years ago, when all their plans were thrown into



Scott Lynch with Lee. Photo supplied

disarray. The Melanoma Institute says, 'A biopsy of a lump in Scott's right armpit had confirmed he had the world's most deadly skin cancer, and he soon found himself in surgery to have his lymph nodes removed. Some of which were malignant'.

'Scott is keen to raise

awareness about melanoma by sharing his story to support his good friend, Sharyn Dorey, the organiser behind Melanoma March Ballina, and mum of Mikayla Green who passed away from melanoma, aged only 23 in 2022'. Visit www.melanomamarch.org.au for more info.

Easter Sunday drowning

A drowning in the Tweed River at around midday on Easter Sunday put the number of fatalities in the state to three for the day, say Surf Life Saving NSW (SLSNSW).

In Sunday's press release, SLSNSW say, 'Surf lifesavers are urging beachgoers to swim between the red and yellow flags today, and for the final two weekends of the patrol season'.

At around midday, Far North Coast Support Operations team members investigated reports of a person being seen face down in the water in Tweed River, but the team was stood down before

arrival by NSW Water Police.

A man described as in his 70s drowned at Fingal Spit in Port Stephens just north of Newcastle. SLSNSW say he was 'some way from where the flags fly on Fingal Beach'.

Another man in his 40s drowned off Killalea Beach in Shell Cove on the state's South Coast, after signalling distress approximately 50m offshore.

SLSNSW CEO, Steve Pearce said, 'This is another tragic day in what has been a terrible year for drownings in NSW and comes off the back of the worst summer in NSW history'.

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Prof Lesley Hughes leads climate talk April 26

Jean Renouf & Richard Hil

Plan C (formerly Resilient Byron) is hosting an upcoming series of trauma-informed conversations with some of Australia's leading thinkers on our responses to the climate/ecological crisis.

From March to November, on the last Wednesday of each month, Plan C presents its 'Facing Up' series.

The next Facing Up event is April 26, to be held at the Brunswick Picture House, starting at 5.30pm.

The evening will feature eminent climate scientist, Professor Lesley Hughes, in conversation with Plan C CEO Jean Renouf. The theme will be 'When climate catastrophe is your day job'.

Lesley is a former lead author in the IPCC's 4th and 5th Assessment Report, a former federal climate commissioner, and now a councilor and director with the Climate Council of Australia.

Along with Plan C CEO, Jean Renouf, and local author, Professor Richard Hil, Lesley will be speaking on ways she has found to live and cope with climate change and its implications



Professor Lesley Hughes.
Photo www.mq.edu.au

in her daily life.

There will be plenty of time before the talks to connect and converse with

others, and remember, it's a BYO event, although you can also purchase food and beverages on the night.

As we live in the midst of the climate and ecological crisis, we will address the major challenges we face, and how we might respond to them in a resilient, life-enhancing way.

For many, the task now is how to adapt to the new reality. But this isn't simply a question of building more flood-or-fireproofed homes, or moving to higher ground.

It's also how we manage

our emotions, our spirits, relationships, and communities – not simply to survive, but to thrive.

Big questions

In so doing, we'll have to revisit those big metaphysical questions around meaning, purpose and being.

One thing's for sure: the world and everything on it will be transformed during the course of this century.

We need to talk. To reflect. To reimagine. To connect.

Visit www.planc.org.au/ events for more info.

Green drinks, back for April 21

Following a recent packed-out launch, Gondwana Green Drinks is back for April 21 from 4 till 6pm at Stone & Wood, Byron Bay. Co-hosted by Rainforest 4 and Mullum SEED, everyone who has an environmental interest is invited to come and meet over social drinks. They say the afternoon provides an opportunity for like-minded people to connect and collaborate. For more info, visit mullumseed.org.au/gondwana-green-drinks.



Susan Fell from Caldera Contemporary Textiles Collective, Maddy Monacelli from Mullum SEED, and Kelvin Davies, from Rainforest 4. Photo supplied

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www.byron.nsw.gov.au/Your-Say-Byron-Shire/Business-Industry-and-Visitor-Economy-Strategy



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Echo

The Byron Shire Echo
Volume 37 #44 • April 12, 2023

Meet your NSW Labor overlords

With Labor's Chris Minns' recent win at the NSW election on March 25, let's take a closer look at the (front bench) ministers he hand picked, and how they may impact residents on the north coast.

On the upside, there is now substantial power bestowed upon the women folk – his frontbench consists of 22 ministers; 11 are women. There's also much broader cultural diversity in ministers than the Liberal-Nationals government previously had.

It's a big divergence from the vanilla, privileged (and entitled) white middle-aged male lineup that mostly occupied the NSW parliamentary cabinet for the past decade.

The Minister for the North Coast is Rose Jackson, MLC, who, from *The Echo's* understanding, lives elsewhere.

Nevertheless, Jackson is also Minister for Water, Housing, Homelessness, Mental Health, and Youth.

Unfortunately, Lismore Labor MP Janelle Saffin's strong advocacy for the region didn't land her a ministry position.

Given the flood/landslide devastation a year on, and poor governance so far in the reconstruction of the region (despite a massive budget) – where is the Minister for Northern NSW Flood Reconstruction?

Moving on, there are Ministries that are more influential than others.

Just two that will impact the north coast somewhat more than others are the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces (Paul Scully MP), and the Minister for Local Government, (Ron Hoenig MP). They can

As Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, Wollongong-based Labor MP, Paul Scully, is now in charge of a large army of planning staff, mostly based in Bridge Street, Sydney. Fun fact: there is little to no information available as to what planning experience Scully has. Photo paulscullymp.com.au



play a pivotal role in either improving, or not, the ability for council's to operate sufficiently without the need to grovel to the government for funds. Such advancements could lead to better roads, for example.

Other ministries play arguably similar influential roles in our lives.

They include the Minister for Health and Regional Health (Ryan Park MP), the Minister for Education and Early Learning (Pru Car MP), the Attorney General (Michael Daly MP), Treasurer (Daniel Mookhey MLC), the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads (Jenny Aitchison MP), the Minister for Police and Counterterrorism (Yasmin Carley MP), and the Minister for Small Business, Lands and Property (Stephen Kamper MP).

John Graham MLC takes on large portfolios as Minister for Roads, the Arts, Music and the Night-time Economy, as well as Jobs and Tourism.

It's early days. And ministries can shuffle about at the start. Let's wish them all the best in bringing about meaningful and positive reform.

Hans Lovejoy, editor

Civility, restitution and respect: The case for an Indigenous Voice to Parliament

On Thursday March 23, 2023, Australian Labor Prime Minister, Anthony Albanese, flanked by members of the First Nations referendum working group, laid out the proposed wording of the question on an Indigenous Voice to Parliament that will be taken to referendum in late 2023.

The Prime Minister became emotional during various stages of his address, a situation that drew derision from media-appointed Indigenous 'leader', Warren Mundine, who claimed the prime minister was spouting 'crocodile tears' over the Voice.

Mundine later retreated from his comments, telling 2GB host Ben Fordham that he would apologise to the prime minister when he next met him. Mundine's retreat was no doubt prompted by Fordham's own comments when he said; 'I don't think that they were crocodile tears, I think they were genuine tears, and I think the tears came from the fact that we have this terrible situation with Indigenous Australians who are still so far behind.'

Mundine's comments, as puerile as they are, and those of some of his acolytes at the federal level of politics, stand in stark contrast with the civility and respect that was shown by both the outgoing NSW Premier, Dominic Perrottet, and the newly elected Premier, Chris Minns, leading up to, and during, the recent NSW election.

Contrast this with the Leader of the Federal Opposition, Peter Dutton, and his politics of division. He has now, predictably, decided to oppose a Voice to Parliament.

One of the opposition's reasons for opposing the Voice is that it would create a 'Canberra bubble' and leave local and regional voices muted.

Obviously, Dutton hasn't read the *Calma-Langton Report*, because the recommended structure provides for such input.

Dutton has a history of opposing anything that even remotely resembles fairness and civility.



'In Canada, since 1982, the rights of First Nations peoples, including Indian, Inuit, and Metis, have been recognised and affirmed in Section 35 of the Canadian Constitution.'

Professor Bob Morgan

Like a schoolyard bully, he walked out on the Apology and now opposes the Voice, and if he is the best that the Liberal party can offer as an alternative PM, Australian democracy is truly in trouble.

Irrespective of what the politicians have said it will be Australian voters, the people, who will decide the fate of the Voice.

The last time Aboriginal people featured in an Australian referendum was in 1967, when just over 90 per cent of voters voted 'Yes' to the question to approve amendment to section 51 (xxvi), and repeal section 127 of *The Constitution*.

Hopefully, a majority of Australians of good will, across the generation divide, but especially among younger voters, will vote to support the Voice, and send a message to Dutton and his ilk that, as a country we are better than his politics of division.

The 1967 'Yes' vote was the result of a decade-long campaign waged by the Federal Council for the Advancement of Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders (FCAATSI), whose members included luminaries such as Faith Bandler, Doug Nichols, Chicka Dixon, Harold Blair, Gordon Bryant and many others.

The churches, unions and other key industry and community organisations were mobilised, and ordinary Australians who believed in the need for change made sure that the case was driven by the people and not just by politicians.

Addressing the Voice, Justice Robert French; former chief justice of Australia and Geoffrey Lindell, Emeritus Professor of Law at the University of Adelaide, were quoted

in the *AFR* (Nine) in February 2023: 'The Voice is a big idea but not a complicated one. It is low risk for a high return. The high return is found in the act of recognition, historical fairness and practical benefit to lawmakers, governments, the Australian people and Australia's First Peoples.'

In Canada, since 1982, the rights of First Nations peoples, including Indian, Inuit, and Metis, have been recognised and affirmed in Section 35 of the Canadian Constitution, and clearly this act of goodwill and civility hasn't damaged or crippled Canadian democracy.

Canada and Australia are also signatories to the *UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (UNDRIP), and the Australian Human Rights Commission declared that UNDRIP establishes a 'framework of minimum standards', the application of these standards rely on the enactment of enabling legislation by nation states.

Canada's treaties with First Nations are considered a mechanism, a voice, through which the rights and freedoms of First Nations can be negotiated.

Australia does not have such a treaty with Indigenous peoples; hence a voiceless vacuum exists here. An Indigenous Voice to Parliament will help to ensure that restitution is made by instituting a measure to correct historical wrongs, by embracing civility and also serving as a lasting legacy of respect between and for all Australians.

■ Among his many titles, Bob Morgan is Chair, Board of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education & Research, University of Newcastle.

Echo

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Nicholas Shand
1948–1996
Founding Editor

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

– Finley Peter Dunne 1867–1936

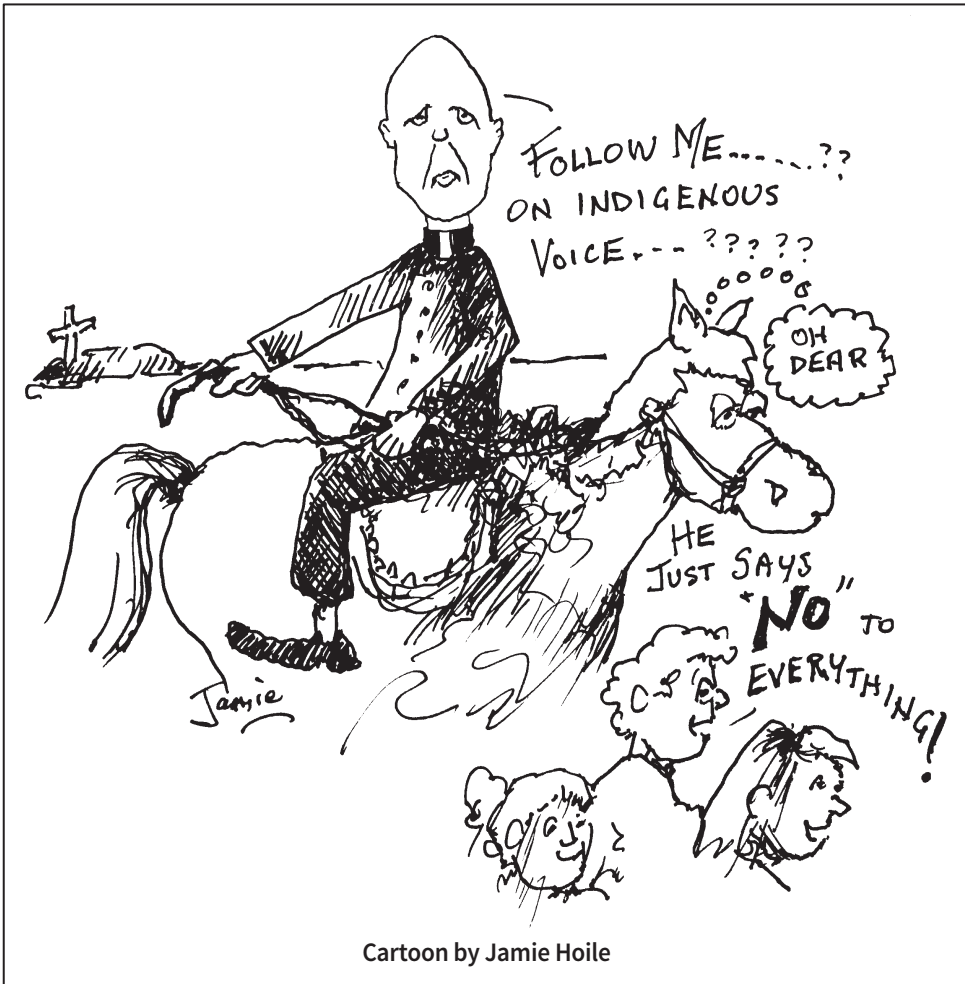
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Cartoon by Jamie Hoile

\$75M Ballina DA

Just a short letter to advise your readers about the notification of Development Application D.A. 2022/721 to Ballina Shire Council (BSC) [submissions for] which close on 14 April 23. This DA needs to be brought to the attention of 'all' residents of West Ballina, not just the tiny percentage residing in the one and a half adjoining streets the BSC has notified by mail.

This \$75 million (+) DA proposes the construction of more than 150 residences on the south side of Burns Point Ferry Road even though the entire street and adjoining wetlands were inundated up to two metres in March last year, with many of the street's occupants still not even likely to be able to return for many months yet. This proposal will surely exacerbate the flooding of West Ballina again, as many of the recent, similar, 'raised-level' sites did for us last year.

Yes, there is a tiny little sign BSC has stuck in the mud and long grass on the south side of our road, but to read it, or even know what it is, you are required to alight from your vehicle some 40 metres away, walk back and stand on this very busy street (very dangerous stuff). BSC has advised they've only sent letters to the Burns Point Ferry residents together with a small portion of Kalinga

Street in stone-throwing distance.

What I am saying is that the BSC, and subsequently the 'deeming authority' (The Northern Regional Planning Panel), will only receive a 'pittance' of concern from the majority of highly vulnerable West Ballina residents unless you publish this letter. So, for the sake of our present and future homes, and our beautiful unique wetland and its wildlife, please say 'no' to development in all fragile environments.

Laurie Johnstone
West Ballina

RIP Mary Gardner

I met Mary Gardner a couple of times and she was a very quiet person. That's my impression.

When I read in *The Echo* (29.3.23) of her passing and all that great stuff Cate Coorey wrote about her and her achievements, it was very interesting.

I have been a conservationist for 40 years on and off (rest) and haven't achieved a quarter of what Mary achieved.

To her family and friends, RIP Mary, may the sun shine on you for a long time sis.

Paul Brecht
Evans Head

■ Ed note: Mary Gardner's memorial will take place at Marvell Hall on Saturday, 6 May from 2.30pm.

Gaming Minns

The media are falling over themselves to say what a great guy Chris Minns is. If he is such a great guy why is he opposing cashless gaming? Poker machines cause poverty among the very people he claims to represent.

He will 'trial' it on 500 machines, the addicted gamblers will go somewhere else and gamble, then he'll say it doesn't work and forget about it.

He is just another Labor conman. Poker machines were the biggest issue in the election. The clubs and pubs are like drug pushers – parasites and bloodsuckers feeding off someone else's addiction.

Bob Vinnicombe
Sefton

Roundabout needed

Have you ever been stuck in the middle of Mullum at the intersection of Stuart and Burringbar streets, with traffic in front of you, cars turning across you and nervous pedestrians on both sets of crossings?

This intersection is forever an 'accident waiting to happen' and I avoid it like the plague. It's been obvious forever – the centre of Mullum needs a roundabout!

Those yellow domes on each corner are a miserable failure (I never did understand what they are for!). They are a road hazard and

just make turning the corners a lot bumpier!

And of course we could crown our new roundabout with a sculpture and a garden. YAY!

Michael Balson
Wilson's Creek

Indigenous rights

In the world of the 'big political boys' it is shocking to read in *Crikey* that 78-year-old Aunty Joy Murphy was removed from two events by event organisers. Aunty Joy wished to offer visiting ex-US president Obama 'a gift', which is cultural practice. Event organisers found this moment of sharing and respect 'too difficult' in 2023. Shame racist Australia!

In the Byron Shire there appears to be no local will by Council or elected representatives to prioritise targets to Close the Gap; this was implemented in 2008 with 17 socioeconomic targets... have they been addressed to illustrate justice and human rights? It would appear not. After the documentary *Incarcerated Nation* was shown at Brunswick Picture House, Delta Kay, Indigenous representative, spoke of the need for a local space to deal with traumatised young First Nations youth. No space exists. Furthermore, Councillor Sarah Ndiaye spoke publicly of seeking support from developers for housing; only one was willing to develop housing for First Nations peoples. Shame Byron Council and favoured developers!

There is a paucity of will by Australian settlers to look beyond colonial consciousness as we approach a turning point in Australia's

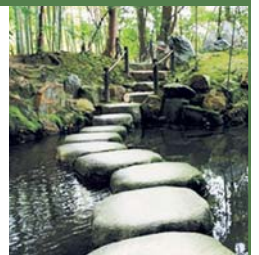
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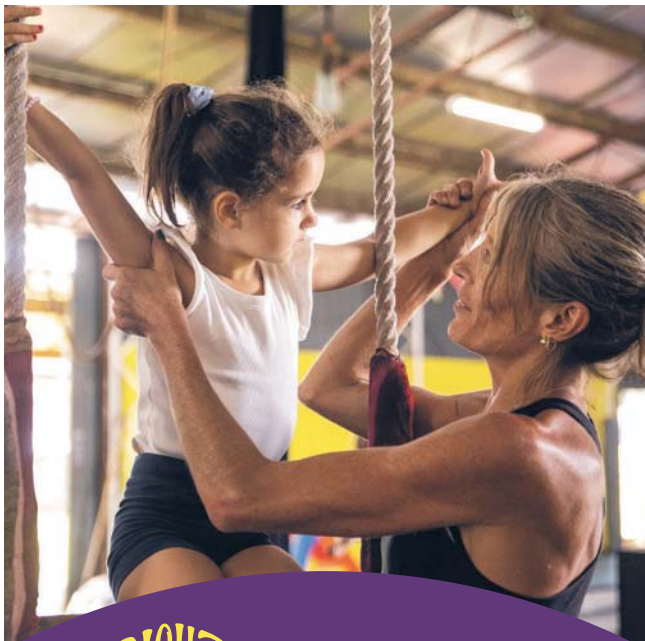
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Letters to the Editor and cartoons

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



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When will the roads get fixed?

I moved to the Byron Shire in 1986, the year this great little paper started expressing the views of our community. I remember back then the complaints about the state of our roads... It's like this paralysing brain fog descends at the mere mention of our roads, and this has now been going on for decades. Throw in a couple of 'once in a lifetime weather events' and now we've got 200 road projects in waiting. Is mine one of them?

Yankee Creek Road is only 1.4 kilometres and is a dead end (in more ways than one). Last Monday night I had to tow my friends out after they tried to avoid the craters.

So far this year four different friends have said they cannot visit me anymore because they don't feel confident negotiating the road.

There are now four sections where you have to drive offroad to avoid the potholes and craters that remain unfixed in the road.

It was really bad before the 28 February and 30 March 2022 floods, but now it's atrocious.

The repair work to my car last week cost me \$1,570; that entailed replacing the strut mounts, shock absorbers, bump stop boot kits, and of course I'm constantly visiting my mates down at Tyre Power!



Yankee Creek Road. Photo supplied

So, I thought I should wave my feeble hand in the air, and I wrote to the Mayor and all councillors with photos and a detailed description of how bad things are. I did get a response from Sarah Ndiaye and Duncan Dey that the matter had been forwarded on to Byron Shire Council (BSC) staff, but no other confirmation.

Like Navaya Ellis (*Echo*, 29 March) I would like questions answered. These are: when will someone come and take a look at Yankee Creek Road? What classifies a 'bad' road versus a 'dangerous' one? What designates a high priority? Is there anybody out there? Yoohoo, drowning not waving!

Gosh, a courteous reply saying my letter had been received would be a good start.

I think I'm experiencing what I'll coin FF: 'futility fatigue'. It certainly took me out last year after nine months enduring the endless fob offs from insurance companies.

Yes, I have a beautiful new home, albeit, now a leaky one. Here, I have to thank Byron Council for giving me a 'Completion Certificate' when parts of my roof had no flashing - my insurance company sure loves you dudes.

Sorry, I digress... you see FF is insidious because there are so many other people with way worse war stories; I don't have the right to winge and complain about insurances and roads when others are so much worse off.

Then FF inertia sets in and the paralysing brain fog returns, making any attempt for resolution and clarity feel like crawling across cut glass... best just give up, right?

Nup! Maybe we can generate some income to help BSC, perhaps a new reality TV show called *Survivor on North Coast Roads*, city dwellers can pay an exorbitant amount to be given four bald tyres and a road map of our worst roads; an experience of a life time! Spine tingling action with search and rescue at the ready.

Mishaela Simpkins
Mullum Creek

► **Continued from page 11** identity with the Voice offering a vision to 'walk together'. There is no specific funding for Indigenous health and social needs in Byron and what is offered is ad hoc, a lack of clarity in policy further confuses and intimidates the traumatised and vulnerable Indigenous folk.

Is this who we really are? Can GPs offer bulk billing please? Can Council seek the generosity of heart to illustrate the will to work for a healthy Indigenous community? Can developers address their own racism? Can we recognise our basic humanity? Can we dismiss skin as the pivot justifying prejudice and cruelty? Can we all overcome a very vile cruel colonial history that currently pulsates in cruel oppression of a remarkable people? Finally, can we walk together in peace?

Jo Faith
Newtown

Really?

On 30 March, 2023 the newly formed Water and Sewer Advisory Committee was scheduled to meet. The committee would have been supplied with an agenda containing some very strange and also misleading information. Consultants Fitzroy and Associates have supplied a strategy for the

committee to endorse guidelines for on-site sewage management. The main issue of importance in the guidelines is preventing contamination of groundwater.

It is hoped that the long-serving members of the previous WW&SAC, who now sit on the new W&SAC, ask what has been achieved over the last five-year investigation proposed by W&R, and endorsed by the elected Council at a cost of approximately \$500,000 a year. This brings a contractor in to investigate the inflow infiltration issue with the sewer gravity mains in Mullumbimby, reline the gravity mains, inspect and repair the stormwater system. Please ask for inflow figures during and after rain events into BVSTP.

The Acting Manager of Works MR, Clarke, refers to the Main Reuse strategy, but that system has not been online for the last five years.

Mr Clarke also refers to the Constructed Wetlands at OSSTP, the four elected councillors who sat on the previous WW&SAC and now sit on the new W&SAC, would remember the then utility manager introducing a man by the name of Mr Pont. He introduced Mr Pont as one of the foremost authorities on constructed wetlands in NSW. Mr Pont, when asked, stated there were

no constructed wetlands at OSSTP, there was a serpentine channel that would never perform like a constructed wetland.

The question needs to be asked of Mr Clarke, why is the effluent that passes through the UV Disinfection Plant before entering the serpentine channel being pumped back to the UV Disinfection plant when the effluent reaches the end of the serpentine channel?

Lastly, it is stated that the constructed wetlands at WBSTP may have to be taken offline, the reason given is that the melaleucas that were planted years ago to mitigate the acid sulphate levels in the surrounding area, by taking up effluent and removing the phosphorus, are causing raised phosphorus levels by dropping their leaves, which contain phosphorus.

I was the operator in charge of WBSTP when the trees were planted, I read a lot of information online concerning this process, and several highly qualified people raised this issue in their analysis and stated the leaves should be removed and not left on the ground. I raised this issue with sewer engineers and the operations manager but received little interest from them. Mr Clarke was not employed by

the Council at that time but several of the engineering staff still are.

This report also suggests investigating the mains system, manholes, etc. What have the contractors been doing for the last five years? And where is the data and evidence of work successfully completed?

Alan Dickens
Ballina

The rise and fall of empires

Terry Pratchett once suggested our species' name should be Pan Narrans, the storytelling chimpanzee, because that's what we do and we're supremely good at it - creating stories.

All of our empires have had their own stories/cultural narratives, that were justifications of how our societies operate, what the rules are and, more importantly, where the money has to go. Our empires grew by replacing cultural stories elsewhere, usually with violence.

Our empires all fell when sufficient people decided they were sick of being told what to do. For instance, the Holy Roman Catholic Empire lost its primacy when Henry VIII would no longer be told what to do, the British Empire collapsed as a rapidly growing procession of

► colonies refused to be told what to do.

From what we've seen it's probable that the fall of all empires was accompanied by massive and vindictive violence on the part of the empire attempting to retain control which, of course, they never do. Once the word gets around the playground that the bully isn't invincible, others begin to stand up and the collapse accelerates.

It presents something of a problem if the schoolyard bully has the capability of saying, 'If I can't have the playground, nobody can' and mean it. If, in their story, they have a great bearded sky daddy to save them from the apocalypse they're creating, it can be particularly alarming.

We are Pan Nerrans, we make up stories, and none of them have any universal truth, so we have complete licence to make up other stories, hopefully based on reality, like the reality of the largest and most important question ever presented to our species.

Are we living sustainably on this planet? We're clearly not. And unsustainable is terminal, so we have an existential need to find another way. Luckily, if we're to have a sustainable future it will

probably require a healthy environment and a healthy society, something that's likely to be more abundant and prosperous than anything we humans have ever done, potentially a massive economic advantage. Just not for the curators of this empire's story, the wealthy elite who have always run everything, including our mainstream narrative, and make a mountain of money out of conflict and war.

If we can find a way to monetise that economic advantage, we can start writing the story of our sustainable future, potentially by far the most prosperous era our species has ever known. If, of course, we make it through this transition. If not, it's probably goodbye us.

Robin Harrison
Binna Burra

Thank you, Ballina!

I'm writing to express my sincere gratitude for the fair and unbiased reporting during the recent election. As a candidate, I know how hard it can be to stay neutral, so I appreciate *The Echo's* dedication to objective reporting.

To my supporters, thank you for believing in my vision for our community. Although my campaign didn't win, I'm

proud of the issues we raised and the conversations we started. Plus, the after-party was well earned.

Congratulations to Tamara Smith on her victory! While we may have had different ideas about how to move our community forward, I know that we share a deep commitment to making it a better place for everyone.

And to *The Echo*, keep up the great work. You are an important voice in our community, and I appreciate the role you play in keeping us informed and engaged.

Now, some might say that losing an election is like getting hit by a truck. But I like to think of it as more like falling off a bike. Sure, it's a bit of a bruise to the ego, but it's also an opportunity to learn, grow, and get back on the saddle. So, I'll be dusting myself off and getting ready for the next ride, with a renewed commitment to listening to our community and working hard for their needs.

Thank you again to everyone who supported me in this journey. Together, let's continue to build a community we can all be proud of.

Josh Booyens
Candidate for the seat of Ballina, NSW Nationals

MULLUM 2 BRUNSPADDE

SUN 21 MAY 2023

Early Bird Registration Closing April 19!

Mullum 2 Brunspaddle is on again for another fun paddle along the Brunswick River. The event will be a little different this year though, starting at Heritage Park in Mullumbimby and then finishing at the entrance to Simpsons Creek, with an exit at Banner Park.

Entertainment and food stalls will still be at nearby Terrace Park.

In addition, there will be a new optional pre-registration event held at Hotel Brunswick on May 20 from 4-7pm. All participants are welcome. Come along to pre-register, pick up your wristband and t-shirt, and share a laugh with your fellow paddlers!

Positive Change for Marine Life will also be joining us, encouraging us all to clean up the river as we go and help keep it beautiful.

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Seeking balance on the Tweed section rail trail?

■ I was quite distressed to read a letter recently in *The Echo* from Tim Shanasy with regard to the Tweed Rail Trail. He wrote that he was 'aghast at the lies and mistruths pedalled by Lydia Kindred...'

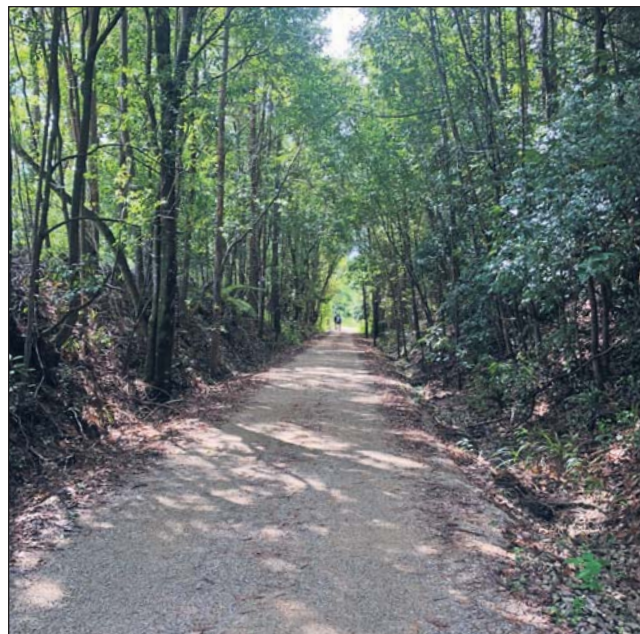
I have known Lydia for a long time, more than 20 years, and I know her as a person of intelligence and integrity. Lydia has no objection to a bicycle track, and only works towards the outcome of the two, rail and trail, running together.

This would be of great benefit to all including cyclists, who could ride one way and put their bike on the train for the return journey. And for those who only want to ride the train, well, they would be served as well. Surely a win win for all.

Older folks have a lot of trouble with the bus and besides, buses still run on fossil fuels.

Bronwyn Sindel
Mullumbimby

■ It is not a lie that Tweed Shire Council (TSC) pushed through the rail trail on the railway formation, pulling up the tracks, while they could



Tweed section of the Northern Rivers Rail Trail. Photo Aslan Shand

have taken the cheaper option, according to initial projections by contractors Hazell Bros, of building it off formation to the side, giving us a chance to reinstate rail services.

The council was told by John Barilaro that the tracks must be pulled up otherwise they wouldn't get their funding! This was not true either and councillors had been earlier assured that either option would gain the funds.

who would rather have a regular train service with a bike trail beside it.

Lydia Kindred
Northern Rivers Rail Ltd

■ With all the hype about the Tweed Rail Trail recently, I wonder if now is the right time to think about our railway infrastructure, before it's too late.

Since we lost the trains on our tracks 19 years ago, the population of Byron Shire has risen by 20 per cent and tourism has increased by 53 per cent. Ewingsdale Road and Bayshore Drive are already a nightmare, and they are about to get worse with the 300 new homes being built at West Byron and the new TAFE campus on Bayshore Drive, all coming off the same roundabout.

Restoring the line from Byron to Mullum would be a great start. Extending it to Billinudgel would give the population of 7,000 people at Ocean Shores access. Extending a little further to Yelgun which is 500m from North Byron Parklands, could elevate the issues with the festivals. I've had a chat with a railway engineer who has said it would cost about \$12m to repair the line from Byron to Mullum and another \$6m to Yelgun, while the Tweed section of the rail trail cost \$14m.

I recently spoke to Mayor Michael Lyon, who said the rail trail section north of Mullum was a done deal. This is a massive mistake. Losing this valuable infrastructure with a growing population is myopic.

Wendy Bithell
Brunswick Heads

Also, in their application for funding TSC committed to speaking with 70,000 residents at all the local markets as part of the agreement. This was never done, and former mayor Katie Milne stated that in her five years as mayor she had never seen any real community consultation. One day, 40 hand-picked people were personally invited to a meeting, out of the 90,000 residents who were never asked! A majority of councillors voted to not pursue community consultation.

Our Casino-Murwillumbah railway, before the Rail Trail Bill was introduced in October 2020, was one of the most protected lines and could not have been sold off, but the legislation has thrown that into question.

The Echo kindly publishing my letter shows balance, on behalf of so many people

Congrats

Congratulations to Tamara Smith on her reelection as representative of our community in parliament. So, here's my message, yet again. Under the Affordable Housing SEPP Professor Peter Phibbs of UNSW, after studying the true affordability of SEPP housing, found it to be 'hardly affordable for the average punter'.

Many average punters, and here in Byron Shire our councillors led by former Mayor Simon Richardson, have inadvertently voted for these rorts called affordable housing.

My emails with Mr Richardson questioned the 'affordability' of the Argyle Street apartments, selling for \$650k at a time when free-standing homes were being sold at the same rate - I said this 'affordable' housing was only going to push the prices of rentals and houses up. Those so-called affordable accommodations sold at market rate, and went on to be rented out at market rate. This happened as less than the 20 per cent of stock built was being rented out at the '20 per cent less than the going rates' set by the developers

This rort has outraged charities, potential renters and locals who have been impacted by the lack of off-street parking allowed for developers who are very well incentivised with tax deductions of \$10k per year for each affordable accommodation built.

Now that rentals have increased by as much as 50 per cent, how on Earth can '20 per cent less than the going rate' even be called fit-for-purpose for an average punter, let alone affordable? The other outrage for myself is the fact that these so-called affordable housing units are being sold off, and the fact that so little of each development is required to be 'affordable'.

For example, councillors led by Mr Richardson voted to approve a development where just three of 42 'new generation boarding house' self-contained units, were to be rented out at '20 per cent less than the going rate'.

Annie Radermacher
Brunswick Heads

Out of here

Another election, another hiding for the conservatives. How much humiliation does it take for these drongos to finally get the message? They are out of touch, out of integrity, out of competency, out of intelligence and certainly now, out of here.

The Labor Party is now in power in every mainland state. Labor, as always after a conservative government, is faced with a massive mess to clean up in a world that is now facing major climate, energy and social problems.

After every defeat, elements of the ratbag right slip further into denial and attack and blame the very people in their own parties who are actually trying to lead their intellectually deficient comrades out of the political wilderness.

The Labor Party's NSW victory was history-making, the losses suffered in the disastrous 2011 election were redeemed, and many of the swings, even in safe Coalition seats, were truly massive. The seats the Liberals did manage to hold onto now so marginal that at the next election, in four years, a massive effort will be required to hold onto them.

Credit must be given to our new Premier, Chris Minns, for not only winning, and along with outgoing Premier, Dominic Perrottet, for running clean campaigns based solely on political issues.

Keith Duncan
Pimlico

Greens, Labor and our roads

The Echo (March 29) contains a strange contradiction in its uncritical support for local Greens representative, Tamara Smith, and its scepticism of the nascent ALP government in NSW with regard to funding local road upgrades.

The article reads positively for both the Greens and the Ballina electorate. Any notion of Smith struggling to deliver results is absent, along with the issue of roads. Yet beside this article is another, highlighting 200 road projects without funding in Byron Shire. Instead of noting the apparent ineffectiveness of the Greens in delivering for the local area, and failing to secure this funding after eight years, the article questions whether Labor will commit.

We need to hold our local politicians to account and not gloss over these issues if we want effective representation.

Joe Eric Dawson
Ocean Shores



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Jason Smith: A building life, 25 April 1947 – 1 April 2023

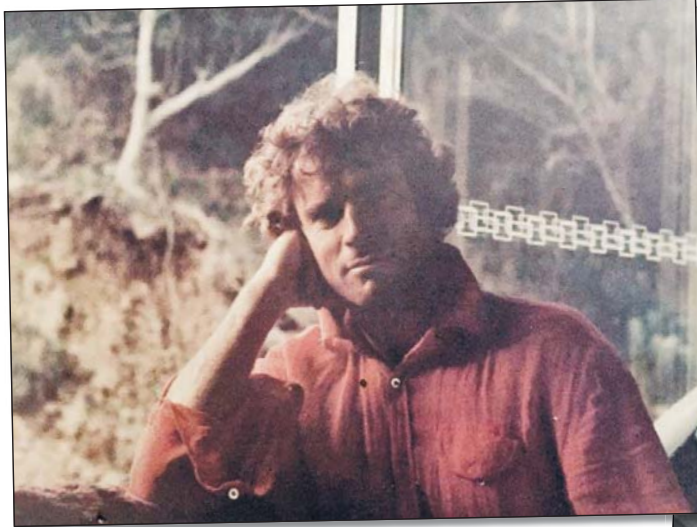
Tricia Shantz

Jason and his twin sisters grew up in Vaucluse, and his surfing life began at Bondi. When his parents moved to Balgowlah he started surfing on the north shore. Jason was a natural athlete and a very talented football player who played centre for the Eastern suburbs in Sydney Rugby Union. Later he excelled at golf and tennis.

Jason used to come to Byron Bay in the mid '60s, stay in caravan parks in town and surf The Pass. He moved up north permanently in 1971 and with mates rented a little cottage from Keith Flick, a kindly dairy farmer.

Vegetarian restaurant

The nearby Newrybar bakery (now Harvest) was operating then and you could wake up early and get a fresh loaf out of the oven. Jason's flatmates found a two-storey shop in Balgallow for rent at \$13 a week. It was an old doctor's surgery opposite Draper's house on the main street.



Jason Smith, 25 April 1947 – 1 April 2023.

They decided to open the Good Earth Restaurant, the first vegetarian restaurant in Balgallow.

After the restaurant closed Jason moved to Mt Warning where a friend had a farm. Jason had studied architecture at East Sydney Tech while the Sydney Opera House was being built. He was a regular visitor during its build.

In The Pocket he lived with Stephen and Linda Ash, and next to Geoff and Elsbeth Williams, for many years. His wonderfully simple designs at this time were

much influenced by the work of Glenn Murcutt. His building work was excellent and he always had work in NSW as well as spending much time building houses in Jeffrey's Bay, South Africa and Reunion Island.

Winning architect

Jason built many houses for so many people here in the Northern Rivers. His building was practical and beautiful such as Eljay's large house at Possum Creek (a Paul Witzig design), the Ken Hilliar house in Coorabell (it won the Hardwood Timber



House of the Year), artist Reg Buckland's in Rylestone and Nat Young's house at Nymboida, which tragically burnt down in the 2019 bush-fires. They were buildings his clients loved to be in, full of warmth and generous space.

Jason loved wood and used it to the best effect. He was an early proponent of

design for passive solar and would spend time looking at the angles of the sun prior to drawing plans so as to achieve the best aspect for passive solar. The people who continue to live in his houses say how much they love being in them.

Jason's love of the water included scuba diving, and

he worked for Sundive for a time in Byron as the boat skipper and dive instructor.

Forced move from Feros Byron

In later years he was living at Broken Head. For the last year or so Jason lived at Feros Village in Byron Bay, until his last week when he was forced to move from there.

Jason was the most determined person when it came to battling his Parkinson's disease. Walking around Wategos and Clarkes beaches he found great relief in the people he knew. He had thrived at Feros, continuing to surf, swim, do Tai Chi, do brain games and took up drawing portraits and painting watercolours. Of course, he was good at it.

Most of all the ocean was his best friend.

His legacy lives on in the houses he built for people.

There will be a commemoration of Jason's life at a date to be announced.

■ Compiled by Tricia Shantz with input from Noel Parker and Michael Leach.

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New hair testing uncovers drug use in Bronze Age culture

Toxic plants used as part of burial ceremonies induced delirium, hallucinations.



Thornapple (*Datura stramonium*) seed pods (pictured) are suggested as the source of psychoactive atropine and scopolamine chemicals detected in ancient Menorcans. Photo flickr.com/gertrudk



The inner chamber of Es Càrritx cave. Photo ASOME-Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona



One of the Menorcan hair strands analysed. Photo ASOME-Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

Cosmos Magazine

Hairs found in an ancient cave in Spain have shed light on the use of drug plants in ancient Europe.

Plants like mandrake (*Mandragora autumnalis*), henbane (*Hyoscyamus albus*), thorn apple (*Datura stramonium*) and joint pine (*Ephedra fragilis*), were the likely sources of several drugs detected in hair samples obtained from a burial site in Menorca.

That's because precise analysis of ancient hair samples sealed in containers from the

Es Càrritx caves in Spain found traces of the psychoactive stimulants tropine, scopolamine, and ephedrine.

It's not the first time that long-passed humans have been effectively drug-tested. Similar hair testing has found traces of various psychoactive substances from other Bronze Age cultures across Europe and the precolonial Americas.

But the research published in Scientific Reports now suggests that some indigenous peoples in Western Europe may have used hallucinogens derived from

multiple plant species as part of their cultural behaviour.

Ancient hair testing reveals cultural practice

Hair testing is used to detect tiny remnants of illicit substances in modern day humans.

Once consumed, chemicals circulate in the bloodstream and are eventually integrated into growing hairs within the hair follicle.

To determine whether chemicals have been taken by a person, locks of hair are cut from the scalp, and decontaminated. Each substance

in the hair is then isolated and atomically weighed.

Similar processes are used to determine chemical composition in millennia-old hairs.

In this case, the ancient samples were preserved in containers made from wood and antler bone retrieved from a burial chamber, which served as the final resting place for about 200 people who died between 1600 and 800 BCE.

Included within some containers were red-dyed hair samples, likely due to a ritual treatment using local hematite pigments or plant colourant.

Finding these hair containers deep within the Es Càrritx cave system suggests attempts by these Bronze Age communities to protect their culture amid transforming populations in the region around 800 BCE, according to the researchers.

The use of drug plants like atropine and scopolamine have been suggested as a key component in European witchcraft practices from the Middle Ages due to their delirium and hallucination-inducing properties, whereas ephedrine was likely used for its rush-stimulating effect.



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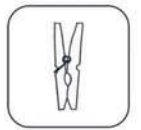
Issue #4 Easter 2023



Echo

www.echo.net.au/eat-drink

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New to Pegs



New to Pegs



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New Pegs Charity Partner - The Returning



The Returning Indigenous Charity is an organisation that is operated, managed and run by Indigenous women on Indigenous land. They aim to reconnect people with the earth, self and community while promoting Indigenous culture.

Their programs include postpartum support, women's gatherings, cultural camps, arts and culture retreats, and health retreats. The Returning puts the furtherance of Indigenous culture at the heart of all activities. They support our Indigenous communities with employment and scholarship opportunities.

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CHESS Ian Rogers

The lowest seed winning a round-robin tournament is not unheard of; Melbourne's Ari Dale managed it twice in Wijk aan Zee. But winning with a perfect score? Impossible!

Not any more. This week, 13-year-old Iker Hernandez-Mendez took out the championship of Perth's strongest chess club, Metropolitan, with an incredible 9/9 score.

Hernandez-Mendez finished 2 points clear of Ihsan Ferozkohi, who had won the previous six(!) Metropolitan championships and is currently ranked sixteenth on the Australian rating list.

WA is currently undergoing a chess renaissance, a boom with many progenitors – the pandemic, *The Queen's Gambit*, the growth of internet play – but the arrival of Temur Kuybokarov in Perth cannot be discounted.

Since settling in Perth six years ago, Kuybokarov has won every national title worth winning – Australian Championship, Australian Open, and Australian Masters – and defended those titles with success every time.

Though a professional player, he has been willing to spend time coaching in Perth, as well as online for the Australian Junior Elite Training Squad. Kuybokarov was also instrumental in helping Hernandez-Mendez find a suitable foreign online trainer.

In January Perth hosted the Australian Open. There Hernandez-Mendez performed only modestly, but a few months later he was playing games like this...

Perth Metropolitan CC Ch. 2023

White: D Barry
Black: I Hernandez-Mendez
Opening: Sicilian Dragon

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.f3 0-0 8.Qd2 Nc6 9.0-0-0 d5 10.Qe1!?

A trendy line, though 10.exd5 Nxd5 11.Nxc6 bxc6 12.Nxd5 cxd5 13.Bh6! is more testing for Black. 10...e5 11.Nxc6 bxc6 12.exd5 Nxd5 13.Bc4 Be6 14.Kb1 Re8 15.Ne4 f5 16.Ng5 Bc8 17.h4!

An improvement on Magnus Carlsen's 17.g4?, which allowed 17...f4!, winning a piece (though Carlsen won anyway). 17...h6 18.Nh3? In such a sharp position, one error can be fatal. Here 18.Ne4! was the correct follow-up, when 18...Be6 19.Nc5 Bf7 remains playable for Black. 18...Be6 19.Bc5 Qc7 20.Bb3 a5! 21.a4 Rab8! 22.Nf2 e4! 23.fxe4

Now White is blown away. 23.Bd4 was necessary, although after 23...e3 Black is well on top. 23...Nc3+! 24.bxc3 Bxb3 25.cxb3 Qf7! The final finesse, after which Black's king is doomed. 26.b4 axb4 27.cxb4 Qb3+ 28.Kc1 Qb2 Checkmate!

Players meet at Byron Bay Services Club, Sat 2.30pm and Mon 5pm

\$15,000 fine and warnings over illegal logging in Kyogle Shire

Aslan Shand

Urberville-based logging company Rojech Pty Ltd were fined \$15,000 earlier this month over logging operations near the entrance to the Border Ranges National Park in Kyogle Shire. They were also issued an 'Official Caution' for breaches under the Local Land Services Act.

A 'Formal Warning' was also issued to the landowner for not adequately ensuring compliance by the harvest contractor who was operating under a Private Native Forestry (PNF) agreement.

Kyogle Environment Group (KEG) members had witnessed the logging aftermath near the entrance to the Border Ranges National Park and, with the help of local ecologists, identified potential breaches and reported the operation to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

The Northern Rivers is considered a biodiversity hotspot and is recognised as one of the richest and most diverse regions for flora and fauna in Australia.

No DA

The EPA's investigation led to the discovery of 133 illegal logging projects, which had all failed to comply with Kyogle Council requirements of a development application (DA).

'Since 2013 landholders have been required by the Kyogle Local Environment Plan (LEP) to obtain consent for logging by submitting a development application (DA), despite this, the Local Land Services (LLS) has since issued 133 Private Native Forestry approvals, without any preparing DAs or obtaining consent from Council,' explained North East Forest Alliance (NEFA) spokesperson, Dalian Pugh OAM.

'The private logging fiasco in Kyogle Shire highlights the problem of the LLS approving logging without requiring that landowners first obtain development consent from councils where legally required.'

160,000 acres approved for logging

Kyogle Environment Group Chair, Tori Bail, says more than half of all private



Rojech Pty Ltd were fined \$15,000 and cautioned over illegal logging activities by the EPA. Photo supplied

native forests, totalling 160,000 hectares, under freehold title in the Kyogle Shire are approved for logging.

Kyogle Shire Council Mayor, Kylie Thomas, stated to the ABC in November 2022. 'We've got a history in Kyogle of a strong timber industry, and the fact that it is still functioning today is a testament to generations past and present and how well they are managing their land. Why would we get in the way of that?'

Logging compliance needed

KEG wants a newly elected state government to adequately resource the EPA to carry out a satisfactory forestry compliance regime that doesn't place prime reliance on community reports and is armed with detailed flora and fauna mapping. It also wants a process of ratification of dual consent so councils can assess environmental and community infrastructure impacts from a local perspective.

'Regulation without adequate compliance is basically useless,' says Ms Bail. 'We may never know what unchecked damage has been done to our local forests from this bureaucratic neglect.'

Mr Pugh said that, 'even the PNF Plan that maps areas to be excluded from logging (threatened ecological communities, rainforest, old growth, wetlands, heathland, caves, rocky outcrops, Aboriginal sites, riparian buffers, slopes over 30 degrees) does little to review



The Kyogle Environment Group with the help of local ecologists, identified potential breaches and reported the operation to the Environmental Protection Agency. Photo supplied

or assess environmental constraints.

'LLS, and before them the EPA, have been grossly negligent in approving unlawful PNF logging operations across NSW, including in environmental zones.'

'A 2018 review by the Department of Planning identified that across north-east NSW "4% (14,182ha) of the PNF Plan area falls into council "forestry prohibited" zones" and "30% of the PNF plan area (110,578ha) is in zoning where "forestry requires development consent".'

'PNF plans are just simplistic desk-top assessments, limited to within the property, that require no surveys for threatened species, and disregard applicable strategies and policies, including those of councils.'

'Other landholders are required to submit DAs for far more benign activities, and these give an opportunity for neighbours and affected

communities to have their say, and account taken of impacts on local amenity, roads and bridges.

'On 2 December 2022 Kyogle Shire Council wrote to all 133 PNF operators with LLS approvals since 2013 informing them their operations are unlawful, and requesting they submit DAs and obtain consent before proceeding.'

On the north coast more than two million hectares of eucalypt forest is on private land. In 2018 the Department of Primary Industries identified that all regulatory exclusion categories (including old growth) cover 25.6 per cent, of the total area of private native forest in north east NSW, indicating that around one and a half million hectares of the north coast is potentially available for logging.

'No wonder Australia leads the world in biodiversity loss,' said Ms Bail.

BLUESFEST 2023

Photos by: Jeff 'Blueit again' Dawson



THAT'S NO SEAGULL



LP



BETH HART



JOE BONAMASSA



ERIC GALES, CHRISTONE 'KINGFISH' INGRAM, JOE BONAMASSA AND MARCUS KING SHARE AN HISTORIC MOMENT.



LEFT: KING BANDMATE ON FIRE | RIGHT: A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE



THE POSITIVE FORCE OF A FEMI KUTI SHOW



ABOVE: BUDDY GUY | BELOW: EUGENE HIDEAWAY BRIDGES



LEFT: GENERAL MERRIMENT | RIGHT: DEPUTY SARAH AND FRANTI



ABOVE: ALLISON RUSSELL | BELOW: CIRCUS ARTS PIRATES



ABOVE: CHRISTONE 'KINGFISH' INGRAM | BELOW: A MORTAL



THE SCOOP

Coastline Pressure Cleaning

Coastline Pressure Cleaning is a locally owned and operated business, which services the entire Byron Shire. Jo grew up in Ocean Shores and has always lived locally. He now lives in Stokers Siding with his wife Lila, two sons Nakoha and Tao, and daughter Tahan.



Coastline Pressure Cleaning specialises in all of your cleaning needs, including exterior house washes, mould and mildew removal, driveways, paths and pavers, roofs, gutters and eaves, pool surrounds, walls and fences, and preparation for house painting and sales.

Jo has a great reputation for competitive prices, friendly, reliable and prompt service, and 100 per cent customer satisfaction.

0409 993 249.
@CoastlinePressureCleaning.

New Courses at the College!

With Term One freshly finished, Byron Community College has not missed a beat in curating a classic collection of courses for Term Two.

So many opportunities to learn and grow with over 160 courses to choose from, including 29 NEW exciting courses! Classes like Urban Permaculture, Accounting and Tax Basics, Fruit and Art Sculpture, Meditation & Sound Healing, Tropical Painting With Oils, Sustainable Fashion, Pilates Over 50s, Be Your Own Interior Stylist, Intermediate Tarot and Success as a Virtual Assistant. Truly something for everyone!

There has never been a better time to explore new interests, meet new people and expand on your skills. Especially as several of these courses (and many others!) are Fee-free*! (*This training is subsidised by the NSW Government.) RTO 90013

6684 3374
www.byroncollege.org.au



Private computer tutor Sessions with Dave Carnovale, aka 'Mr Mac'

Due to popular demand, Mr Mac is tutoring clients to get the most out of their systems—including basic keyboard shortcuts, accessing more iCloud storage, backing up your files with Time Machine or just updating software. This can be done in the workshop (Brunswick Heads) or in your own home or office in the Byron Shire.

Alongside this, Mr Mac also offers:

- System transfers, upgrades and updates
- Application troubleshooting
- Email setup and repair
- New Mac device purchase advice
- RAM upgrades (where possible)
- Battery replacements
- Productivity software
- Anti-Malware applications



Easter Note: Mr Mac will be on leave from Thursday 13 April – Monday 24 April
0418 408 869

Wallace & Co

If you need some retail therapy, you can't go past locally owned Wallace & Co, in the heart of River Street, Ballina!

Offering expert advice and good old-fashioned customer services, they specialise in men's and ladies' clothing and footwear. Shop the biggest and most sought-after range of linen and bamboo clothing from Industrie, Kingston Grange, Gazman and Blazer, as well as Birkenstock and Doc Martin shoes and famous Australian brands like Akubra and RM Williams.

Shop their great range now.

Open seven days for your shopping convenience, or shop online.

6686 2081
109 River St, Ballina
wallaces.com.au



Better By Bike comes to Byron Bay



Ride through the lush Northern Rivers hinterland, rainforests, a 520m long tunnel and through quaint villages over the 24kms rail trail.

Better By Bike provides E-Bikes and Return Shuttles to and from the trail. Their high end E-Bikes make this ride suitable for all ages, couples, families or groups.

The service picks up in Byron Bay, the Tweed, and Kingscliff areas.

They offer two different trips for the same price.

Option 1: Ride one way – Crabbes Creek to Murwillumbah, 24km. Duration 1.5 to 3 hours depending on length of stops.

Option 2: Return journey to the pickup point in Mooball, 45km. Duration 3 to 5 hours.

Children can use tag ride-along bikes, a tag along chariot, or for infants, a baby seat option.

0408 444 858
www.betterbybike.com.au
info@betterbybike.com.au
@betterbybikeau

U Choose – Spotlighting Kids' Superpowers

'Prevention is better than cure' – why wait for problems to arise in your future teenagers? Kids' life coaching provides children (6–12 years) with a set of tools and practical skills to help them navigate and conquer the challenges of daily life with more confidence. It helps children recognise and regulate their emotions, and foster a growth mindset, empowering them to think positively and become more emotionally resilient.



Using constructive play, activities and games to 'play with a purpose', the coaching program is fun and engaging, with the aim of establishing new, healthier habits and ways of thinking. By shining the light on what children can do, rather than focusing on what they can't do, Kids Life Studio's coaching 'spotlights kids' superpowers'.

0407 871 142
uchoose@kidslifestudio.com
www.kidslifestudio.com

My Geek Mate



Good news! The Chief Geek has been awarded another round of funding to help support senior citizens with their technology. So you can have another free 1.5hr session with a maximum class size of three humans.

Alternatively, if you need private tech support or tuition Mark is available for that too. Parking is free, still no potholes. Call Mark or pop in and see him.

Once again, please make sure you enable 'two-factor authentication' for all your important online accounts, add a recovery email and or a phone number, don't use a false date of birth, use a password manager, keep your devices backed up and up to date, don't buy cheap phones, especially not Oppos, and have some fun time away from the screens these holidays!

0431 122 057
1/53 Tamar St, Ballina

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS



BALLOON ALOFT

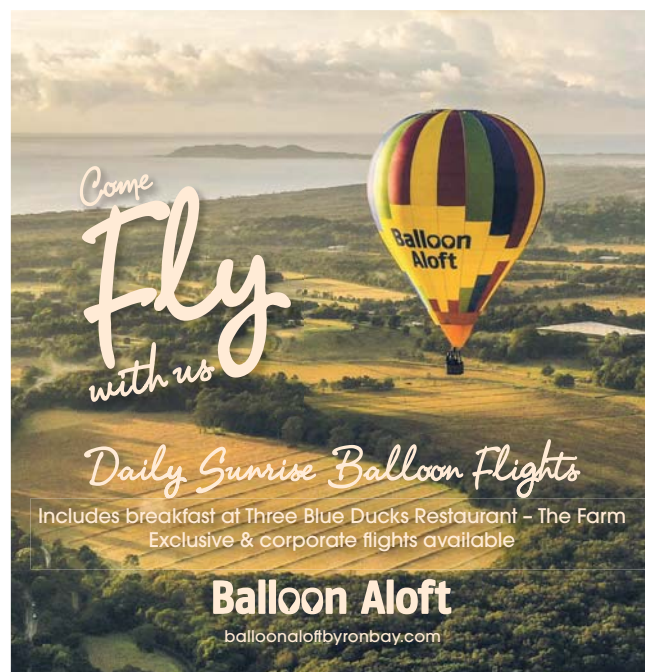
With autumn in the air, and Easter and school holidays here once again, it's the perfect time for a special family adventure, and what could be more perfect than a hot air balloon ride with your loved ones over the Rainbow Region!

For adults, kids, visitors and locals alike, this is an unforgettable experience!

Magical sunrise views and a delicious breakfast together afterwards at the Three Blue Ducks restaurant make for a fun and exciting morning activity.

Flight gift vouchers, group and private bookings can be made at www.balloonaloftbyronbay.com

www.balloonaloftbyronbay.com



KIDS CIRCUS-MANIA AT BRUNSWICK PICTURE HOUSE!

Looking for some good old live entertainment these school holidays?

Lil' cheeky

Saturday 15 April - 2pm

Lil' Cheeky is what you get when you cross family-friendly cabaret with the circus and throw in a good dose of comedy, hijinks and surprise. For the young and young at heart, this show will razzle and dazzle its way into your heart and tickle your funny bones.

Boop

Saturday 22 & Sunday 23 April - 2pm

In *Boop*, your everyday supermarket is transformed into a joyous world of trolley races and terrifying stunts! This hilarious award-winning family show immerses you in physical theatre, clowning and inventive acrobatics! Telling relatable stories for young people, it looks at finding your place in the world, and revels in the lack of sense life makes.

These shows are selling quickly, so book now!

www.brunswickpicturehouse.com

BRUNSWICK PICTURE HOUSE

LIL' CHEEKY

Formerly the All Ages Circus Bonanza, LIL' CHEEKY is the family friendly circus show tailor-made for the young and the young at heart!

SAT 8 & 15 APR @2PM

CIRCUS ALL AGES



BOOP

CIRCUS SUPERMARKET BONANZA!

A hilarious and imaginative family show filled with physical theatre, clown and inventive acrobatics.

TWO SHOWS!

SAT 22 & SUN 23 APR @2PM

CHEAP TRICKS

LIFE'S A CIRCUS CLEAN UP IN... 6

TIX



brunswickpicturehouse.com | 30 FINGAL STREET | 02 6685 0280

Ottway The Label



OTTWAY is a community rather than just a clothing brand. They are a lifestyle vehicle, which can inspire the way people live, the way people look, and the way people feel. Their mantra... LIFE IS FOR LIVING! Enjoying the present moment, friends and outdoors, their aim is living adventures near or far, with sustainability always at the forefront.

With every purchase they donate funds to install solar power, and so far they've contributed to the installation of 700 solar panels in community-owned projects around Australia.

Their new store is now open at 15 Lawson St, Byron Bay. Check out their unique and unisex designs, all made in small batches with premium quality fabrics.

15 Lawson Street, Byron Bay, NSW
 @ottway_thelabel
www.ottwaythelabel.com

Frankie God of Hair

Is there a God? Of course. There is no denying it. Frankie the God of Hair is celebrating his 10th anniversary in the heart of Mullumbimby, next to the Rock 'n Roll cafe. Getting coiffed by Frankie and his holy team is nothing short of a spiritual awakening. Heaven is a groovy place, replete with soulful vinyl, Euro chic decor and friendly (if not downright hilarious) conversation. Frankie and a new Swiss hairstylist specialise in classic cuts to avant-garde styles for men, women and the non binary, using non-toxic, cruelty-free colour and products. Become a believer! Book in now and let Frankie the God give your hair the miracle it deserves.

0423 165 699
 1B/55 Burringbar St, Mullumbimby



Spell Warehouse Sale



Local brand, Spell, is having their annual warehouse sale and this is the biggest yet!

Head to the Cavanbah Centre, (249 Ewingsdale Rd, Byron Bay), 9am until 4pm, April 13-15 for samples, seconds and past season pieces - with nothing over \$100!

For more information head to spell.co/pages/spell-warehouse-sale.

They can't wait to see you there!



Good Taste

Eateries Guide

BYRON BAY

Barrio Eatery & Bar

1 Porter Street, North Byron
 Mon-Tues: 7am-3pm
 Wed-Sat: 7am-10pm
www.barriobyronbay.com.au
 @barriobyronbay
 0411 323 165

Barrio brings together the local community in a relaxed environment for all-day dining. The wood-fired oven and open-flame grill is the heart of the restaurant. Keep an eye on socials for daily specials. **Now open for Sunday lunch from 11.30am-3pm**



Wahlburgers Byron Bay

American style burger restaurant & sports bar
 Upstairs at Mercato on Byron, Jonson Street.
www.Wahlburgers.com.au

American & local sports played live

Family Offer
 Buy 1 kids meal, get 1 free.
\$8 after 8
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Live music Fri-Sun.

Open 11am to 9pm daily - dine-in or takeaway.



North Byron Hotel

61 Bayshore Drive, Byron Bay
Ph 6685 6500
 Kitchen open Sun-Thu 11.30am-8.30pm / Fri & Sat 11.30am-9.30pm
 Bar open daily 11.30am-late
 Bottleshop open daily 10am-8pm
hello@northbyronhotel.com.au

Step away from the centre of town and into a shimmering oasis away from crowds.

A tucked away treasure, the North Byron Hotel is a thriving mecca of good food, great music, laughter and the 'chilled Byron Bay vibes'.

Eat Drink Discover



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Open 7 nights from 5pm

HAPPY HOUR EVERY DAY 5-6PM

Local DJ - Friday & Saturday nights, from 6pm

\$12 Margarita / Lychee Martini
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Book online via website
nobonesbyronbay.com.au
 #BRUSSELSNOTBEEF



Loft Byron Bay

4 Jonson Street, Byron Bay
6680 9183

Book online:
www.loftbyronbay.com.au

Signature cocktails, and casual dining with ocean views.

Happy Hour | Daily from 4-6pm
 \$6 Loft beer or wine, \$10 Aperol Spritz, \$14 Margarita & \$2.50 fresh oysters

Espresso Martini Nights | Every day 9pm - close 2 for \$25 Classic Espresso Martini.

Open weekdays from 4pm and weekends from noon.



The Italian Byron Bay

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

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

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Main Street

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 Menu, more details - @mainstreet_burgerbar
 18 Jonson Street
6680 8832

Open for takeaway daily, 12 midday until dinner.

Menu and more details @mainstreet_burgerbar

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



Success Thai

Open Lunch Wed-Fri 12-2.30pm.
 Dinner Mon-Sat 5-8pm.
 Closed Sunday
 3/31 Lawson St, Byron Bay
www.facebook.com/pages/Success-Thai-Food/237359826303469

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

Welcome for lunch, dinner and takeaway.

Menus available on Facebook.



The Rocks

Brunch 6.30am-2pm, every day
 16 Lawson St, Byron Bay
6685 7663
 Menus at therocksbyronbay.com.au
 @therocksbyronbay

The Rocks

We have a range of freshly sourced dishes, Reverence coffee, and hand-made juices and smoothies at locals prices.

Fully licensed, all-day brunch and happy hour from 11am.

Check out our new dishes on Instagram!



BYRON BAY *continued*

QUARTZ GALLERY

Thursday, Friday, Saturday 12pm - 10pm
 Upstairs at Mercato, above Woolworths, 108 - 114 Jonson St, Byron Bay
 Insta - @thequartzgallery
 Web - quartzgallery.com.au

Crystals and cocktails, tapas and wine
 In the heart of Byron Bay this crystal gallery is a stunning visual experience and a taste sensation not to be missed. Sit amongst magnificent crystals from all over the world while sipping on crystal infused cocktails. We also offer delicious vegan tapas by No Bones, an eclectic wine list, an event space, and a view of the Byron Bay lighthouse.



KARKALLA Byron Bay



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

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 DINNER, THURSDAY-MONDAY
 Early sitting from 5pm | Second sitting from 7.30pm
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www.karkalla.com.au | @karkallabyronbay
For exclusive events & catering please contact us via our website.

BANGALOW

Bangalow Bread Co.

12 Byron St, Bangalow
 6am-3pm weekdays.
 7am-2pm weekends.
6687 1209
www.bangalowbread.co
info@bangalowbread.co

Stone baked sourdough, hand rolled pastries, small batch pies, house made cakes.
 Your local artisan bakery, specialising in all things sourdough. Serving Old Quarter coffee along with freshly made sandwiches using our own sourdough bread, hand rolled pastries, award winning pies and a variety of house made cakes.



MULLUMBIMBY

Yaman Mullumbimby

62 Stuart St, Mullumbimby
6684 3778
www.yamanmullumbimby.com.au

Open 7 days
 from 9am-8pm
 Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

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

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



The Empire

20 Burringbar St, Mullum
6684 2306

Open for brunch and lunch
 FB/Insta: EmpireMullum
empiremullum.com.au
 Online orders:
mryum.com/theempire

Something for all tastes, from epic burgers to vegan delights. Enjoy delectable treats and good vibes at this Mullum icon.

Order and pay online!
 Scan the QR view menu and order online. Takeaway is available on the whole menu. Phone orders also welcome.



NEWRYBAR

Harvest

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

COFFEE CART
 7 days | 6.30am-3.00pm
RESTAURANT
 Lunch | Wed-Sun | 12-2.30pm
 Dinner | Fri & Sat | 5.30-8.30pm
DELI
 7 days | 7.30am-3.30pm



OCEAN SHORES

No Bones, Little

vegan kitchen and bar
 84 Rajah Rd, Ocean Shores
 OPEN TUES-SUN
 from midday until 8pm
noboneslittle.com
0422 355 928

NO BONES OCEAN SHORES

\$5 TACO TUESDAY
every tuesday from midday til 8pm
HAPPY HOUR 5-6PM
\$12 COCKTAILS / \$7 WINE / \$6 BEER
 Order online via our website
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 .net.au

New flavour signature at Azure Bar and Grill



New Azure Executive Chef, Ebony Baker, believes in honouring each ingredient.

Azure Bar and Grill invites Byron food lovers to explore a new food signature that reads like the passport of new Executive Chef, Ebony Baker.

The Australian-born chef's culinary purpose began at an early age when she fell in love with how dramatically food changed as she travelled around Europe.

When she returned to Australia Ebony immediately pursued culinary studies and obtained an apprenticeship, which she completed at the world-renowned Aria restaurant, under Matt Moran.

She opened her passport again, beginning a 10-year journey across the Indian Ocean, the Caribbean and Antarctica, building the fine-dining

techniques required to work on the finest luxury yachts and villas in the world.

Then in 2018 when she discovered that three of the top 10 restaurants in the world were in South America, she packed her bag and worked in two of them – Aramburu in Argentina and Astrid Y Gaston in Peru.

With family living in Tweed Heads, Ebony jumped at the opportunity to reinvent the culinary experience at Elements of Byron.

'I truly believe in the perfection of every ingredient. Our lettuce is pulled from the earth from nearby farms. We receive the freshest seafood every day. We have our very own kitchen garden.

'With ingredients like that, it's easy to honour them with an ethos to use as much of each ingredient as possible, which only enlivens natural flavours with balance, rather than over-producing a dish,' Ebony says.

Ebony established all new kitchen systems at Elements of Byron to create an environment of heightened creativity, as well as calm refinement.

'I want my team to create, learn new techniques and achieve the focus required to ensure that the same degree of attention is applied to a burger as to our Peruvian ceviche,' Ebony said.

'Azure Bar and Grill is such a beautiful, open space. You can dine on the terrace overlooking the Central Lagoon pool

or in the hushed dining room inside. It naturally brings people together.

'The people of Byron know great food when they taste it. I wanted this menu to bring flavours from around the world together in a way that foregrounds the ingredients and creates an entirely new experience for Byron Bay.'

Ebony's profound creativity, comprehensive gastronomic knowledge, and mastery of culinary skills is evident in every bite.

Locals welcome for lunch or dinner.

■ Reserve a table at Azure Bar and Grill at elementsofbyron.com.au/azure-bar-and-grill/ or call 02 6639 1500.

Wine with food at Bayleaf

Simon Haslam

I arrived at Bayleaf with the sun shining. There were good vibes about the place, whether that was to do with the seating, the friendly staff, or because the diners seemed to be having a good time, I wanted to go in.

Bayleaf has something for everyone who likes good food and coffee, or perhaps a glass of wine with their lunch.

The door man who greeted me made me feel as welcome as if I'd just rolled up at a friends place for dinner. But it's not just the vibe of the place, it's actually right at the top of Byron CBD places for casual coffee and food.

And that's saying something, because Byron's got some pretty good food. I couldn't help comparing my avocado on toast (Tom's avocado, Bread Social sourdough, beetroot hummous, macadamia fetta, Davidson's plum, sunflower sprouts, black sesame seeds, poached egg...) with something I had recently eaten in Melbourne. No wonder the city people come here – every element of my dish at Bayleaf was terrific. My coffee, Bayleaf's own roast, was also served on a little wooden platter with sparkling water and a spoon. And it was a sunny day, under an umbrella, looking over the street parade.



Every element of the dishes at Bayleaf are made with care from the best local ingredients.

The couple next to me were sipping margaritas, and a lot of people came up to say hello. 'Oh, are you doing margys?', their friends asked. 'Yeah, they're coconut and

they're delicious', they replied. Someone was having a birthday. I'm in a non-drinking period, and must say I had to admire the way they actually discussed whether they'd have a second one, or not. They did.

Yes, you can have alcohol with your food now at Bayleaf. Try pairing the Kingfish Ceviche (with chilli, lime, avo, pawpaw etc) with Blood Moon Spritz, the Charred Octopus (with freekeh, nduja, bortaga etc) with Das Juice white wine, or perhaps the Fish Sliders (snapper on brioche) with locally-brewed Wandana Pilsener (I must say I do like the Wandana Pilsener).

'There's always room outside for people to come and linger over lunch with a nice glass of wine', says Bay

Leaf's Antonia, who picked Luna Wine Store as their local wine supplier (they're pretty local, literally 750m away on Jonson St), along with Lord Byron Distillery and Mullumbimby's Wandana. And, the menu is seasonal; soon to be an autumn

menu, so if you want to try the popular Japanese pancakes (okonomiyaki), now's the time.

■ Bayleaf: corner of Marvell St and Fletcher Ln, Byron Bay. bayleafbyronbay.com.



THE PATCH

5AM – 11AM EVERY DAY
49 BURRENBAR STREET,
MULLUMBIMBY

Baraka: best hummus and more

Victoria Cosford

Alan Schwarz at Baraka is often told he makes the best hummus in the world – and now he's taken it a step further. Out of a 'desire to make a range of healthy dessert products', he tells me, he has developed a dessert hummus – 'the first dessert hummus products available in Australia!'

Chickpeas, naturally, form the base, and the sweetening agents are dried fruits like sultanas and dates. So far there are three flavours: vanilla bean, chocolate and mocha, and they're all gluten-, dairy- and nut-free – no preservatives, artificial flavours or colours. 'It is always a joy', Alan says, 'to be able to offer our customers something new.'

Alan, a former winemaker whose background is in sustainable agriculture, took over the Baraka business with

his wife about seven years ago. 'Many people at the farmers' market say Baraka products are better now than they have ever been.' He believes that's due to their commitment to consistent quality, using the best possible ingredients, and their 'desire to make the world a better place.' 'This drives us', he says, 'to create healthy products, and to operate our business in a moral, ethical, and environmentally sustainable way.' Most of their power comes from solar panels and their waste is 'recycled, repurposed or composted.'

There's herb tahini, labneh cheese, basil pesto and Moroccan capsicum salsa, and of course their celebrated hummus (silver medal winners twice at Sydney Royal Fine Foods) but also another first of its kind, hemp hummus. 'Although others have tried', says Alan, 'our hemp hummus is the only product of its type available in Australia.'



Alan Schwarz of Baraka says, 'it's always a joy!'

As for that wonderful dessert hummus, Alan suggests it be used as a dip, a spread for bread or croissants, or a dessert with fruit. It's available for tasting most Fridays at the Mullumbimby Farmers Market.

Baraka is at Mullumbimby Farmers Market every Friday from 7-11am.

100% VEGAN

#BRUSSELSNOTBEET

NO BONES



OCEAN SHORES

BYRON BAY

@NOBONESRESTAURANTS
WWW.NOBONESBYRONBAY.COM.AU

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 Advertising: adcopy@echo.net.au
 P: 02 6684 1777
 W: echo.net.au/entertainment

seven



CANADA'S FINEST SHEEPDOGS

Playing next week at the **Eltham Hotel**, is one of Canada's finest rock outfits, **The Sheepdogs**, who are returning to Australia for the first time since supporting John Fogerty in 2012.

Built on the solid, classic rock foundation of three-part harmonies and dual guitar leads, Canada's Multi-platinum selling and Juno Award winning Sheepdogs blend Southern boogie rock, groove-based psychedelia, and bluesy, barroom swagger into a modern rock 'n' roll revival. Emerging in 2004, the band found mainstream success in 2010 with the release of their platinum-selling third LP, *Learn & Burn*, and continued to top the Canadian charts with efforts like *The Sheepdogs* (2012), *Future Nostalgia* (2015), *Changing Colours* (2018), *No Simple Thing* (2021) and *Outta Sight* (2022).

The Sheepdogs lead singer and guitarist, Ewan Currie, says their live show is a rock 'n' roll party. 'We'll play nearly 90 minutes while delivering a lot of songs, both old and new. There's tons of guitars playing in harmony and everybody sings in our band, so it's awesome!'

The band isn't all Canadian – this serves as a bit of a homecoming for Ewan and his brother and bandmate Shamus, who were born in Sydney and raised in Adelaide, until 10 years of age, before moving to Canada.

This will be a great show – next week Wednesday, 19 April. Head to moshtix.com.au and search 'Sheepdogs' for tickets.



BYS CELEBRATES YOUTH WEEK
6 FESTIVALS ON THE BIG SCREEN
@ THE YAC
THURSDAY 20TH APRIL 5PM - 7PM

Mullumbimby's Madness Magic

ANNIVERSARY SCREENINGS AT DRILL HALL MULLUMBIMBY

SAT 15 April 5:00pm Magic Pt 3: *The Arts*
 7:15pm Magic Pt 2: *Activism & Politics*
 SUN 16 April 5:00pm Magic Pt 1: *Health & Wellbeing*
 7:15pm Madness: *Legacy of the Hippies*

Tickets \$10 per screening
 Tea, coffee & cakes for sale

Brunswick Valley Historical Society Inc. Museum: 0266844367
 Open Tuesday & Friday 10-12 3rd Sat 9-1 Market Day
 Stuart & Myocum Street Mullumbimby

Flaming Heart Records presents...

Flaming Heart Fest

LEAVING JORDAN
SUGAR LEAVES
LIQUID CONTOURS
EYESITE
MUDWAGON
PJ SHEEK

Saturday 15th April
 The Billinudgel Hotel
 Doors 3pm, 18+

Profits to Byron Youth Service

merch/raffle/
 food/drinks/
 dog friendly/
 Badlands Vinyl
 pop-up stall

seven

IT'S MULLUM AND IT'S MAD!

Don't miss this opportunity to discover/ recall/ revisit the time that the hippies came to our region!

The Brunswick Valley Historical Society is hosting a **Madness Magic** weekend at the **Drill Hall Mullumbimby** on the weekend **15-16 April**.

The Society is screening **Sharon Shostak's** highly popular documentaries about the hippies and their influx into Mullumbimby and surrounds circa the 1970s-80s. These informative docos are screening in reverse order: starting with *Mullumbimby Magic; The Culture of the '70s-'80s, Part 3, The Arts*, on **Saturday at 5pm**, followed by *Part 2, Activism & Politics* at **7.15pm**.

On **Sunday**, *Part 1, Health & Wellbeing* will be screening at **5pm**; and the series will finish with *Mullumbimby Madness; The Legacy of the Hippies* at **7.15pm**.

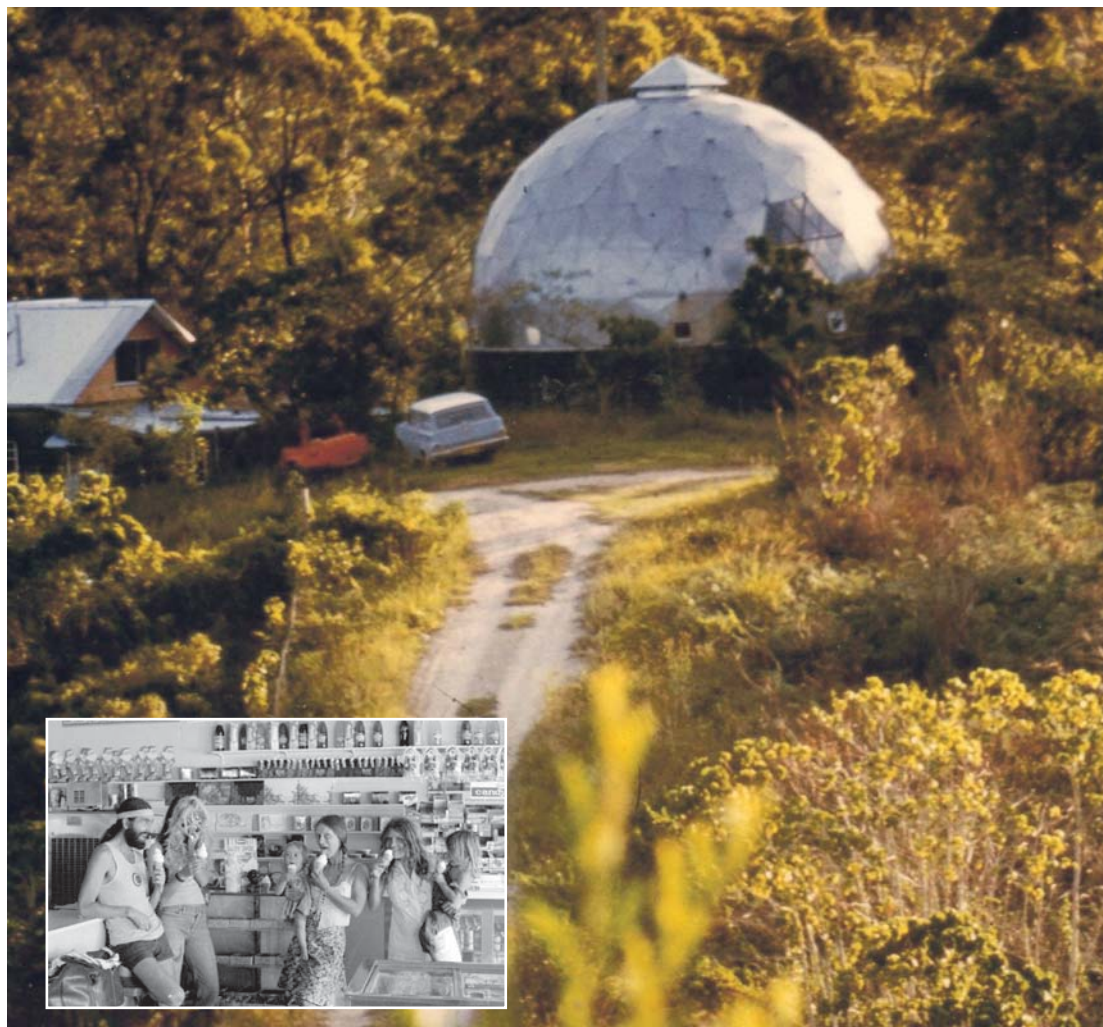
The screenings are to celebrate the Aquarius Festival's 50th anniversary and Brunswick Valley Historical Society's 40th anniversary.

Tickets will be available at the door and are \$10 per screening. Tea, coffee and yummy cakes will be for sale.

Each doco features interviews with local people of the time, along with rare historical photographs, film and video footage. They cover the emergence of the alternative culture locally and the birth and development of health, environmental and social awareness that pushed these early new settlers to achieve world-first successes in important environment protections.

Mullumbimby Madness features the journalist **Kerry O'Brien**, who was one of the first to report to the nation on the Aquarian revolution. This doco gives you a taste of what the 'weird invasion' was really like. Turn it on, drop into it and trip out.

For more info and tickets, visit: mullumbimbymuseum.org.au.



6 FESTIVALS FILM, SCREENING FOR YOUTH WEEK

If you are looking for something cool to do in the school holidays BYS are celebrating Youth Week with the screening of *6 Festivals* – a cutting edge, coming-of-age film, written and directed by local, **Macario de Souza**.

Maxie, Summer and James share a deep bond and love for music. James is the entrepreneur of the trio, his sights set on a career as a promoter. Summer has an incredible singing voice, and Maxie is their maestro of mischief. When James receives a devastating diagnosis, the friends – each with their own burdens to bear – throw themselves into a whirlwind of music festivals in an attempt to escape reality.

6 Festivals is a moving love letter to young friendship and the life-altering power of live music, it is rated MA 15+ and contains explicit language and drug references (children under the age of 15 may not legally watch this film unless they are in the company of an adult or legal guardian).

This is a free community event and includes a Q&A.
Thursday 20 April, 5pm-7pm @ The YAC, 1 Gilmore Crescent, Byron Bay.

www.echo.net.au

Save the dates. June 1-4

Tix on sale now at
www.byroncomedyfest.com

BYRON COMEDY FESTIVAL • 1-4 JUNE 2023

2023 Sponsors

Jane Fender Special Projects

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BEACH

Small Giants Academy

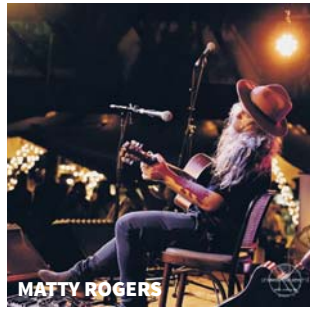
endota

FLITE

THE LOCAL SCENE



ISAAC FRANKHAM



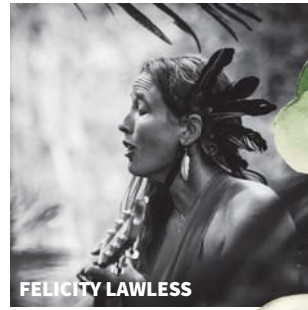
MATTY RODGERS



TIM STOKES



SEX ON TOAST



FELICITY LAWLESS



JOCK BARNES



BEN WALSH



MARSHALL OKELL



TAJ RALPH AND SODA



HAYLEY GRACE

BALLINA RSL

There's an awesome show on at the Ballina RSL on **Friday** – **Jock Barnes**; professional surfer, musician and songwriter, who has collected a world of inspiration to create original lyrical content and beautiful re-workings of his acoustic blues, rock and pop influences.

Saturday at the beautiful beachside rissole you can catch **Turtle Boy** in a fantastic new duo who play all the sing-along hits, with a twist. Featuring acoustic guitar, loops, big vocals and crowd-pleasing saxophone solos, Turtle Boy is sure to please.



RAILS

Ben Walsh kicks off the post-Easter week at the Rails on **Wednesday** – Walsh is one of Australia's most innovative musicians – although he is widely known as a drummer and percussionist, Ben is also a composer and sound designer, studio engineer and has worked in many varied disciplines of artistic practice and directed many stage productions. So, you can expect some tasty aural treats.

On **Thursday** at the Rails you can catch the **Marshall Okell Duo**. If you hang out in Byron, you just know Okell's music – and psychic or sceptic, you'd be forgiven for thinking that a man born under a full moon, on a Good Friday the 13th, must have 'something else' going on? Well, just as his timely arrival in the world set the precedent, there's nothing coincidental or ordinary about Marshall's music. I dare you.

Saturday sees the **Matty Rodgers Band** at the Rails. Matty's heartfelt storytelling comes from the depths of his soul, and once you start to listen, he will make you feel like he is singing about you and your life. Pure, raw, human emotion pours out of his lyrics and performance, earning him awards for both vocal performance and song writing.

On Monday, a new week begins in this crazy world of increasing distraction, and in strolls **Tim Stokes**. He's a big-hearted man with a pocket full of songs, reminding us of who we are and what really matters.

He is followed on **Tuesday** by **Isaac Frankham** taking well-known songs and spicing them up with grooves and sonic textures. Isaac has people on their feet dancing, or quietly contemplating his more soulful tunes, wherever and whenever he plays.

BEACHY

On **Thursday** at the Beach Hotel you can see the double headliners **Boy Soda** and **Taj Ralph**; two leading lights in the burgeoning Australian R&B/Soul scene. In the post pandemic landscape, these artists have both managed to create an exciting array of music, delivering numerous thoughtful nuggets in 2022 for us to sink our teeth into.

Boasting a diversity of sounds that is truly rare among up-and-coming artists, Boy Soda has made waves in the music world with his impressive repertoire.

Described as being 'at the forefront of Australia's indie-R&B scene', Taj Ralph is flourishing into a unique and experimental songwriter and producer.

On **Friday** at the Beachy there's **Hayley Grace**, a multi-talented, singer-songwriter. Her soulful, unmistakable sound, and her energetic live shows that loop guitar, vocals, beat boxing and percussion are an explosion of funk, reggae, soul, R&B and trip hop.

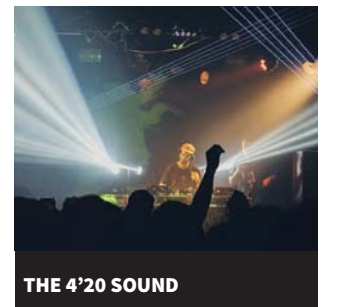
Saturday's crew has it all. **Sex on Toast** are a big band who specialise in raw early '80s funk, hard-edged new jack swing, blazing improvisation and heartfelt blue-eyed soul. You'll love them (with or without the Vegemite!).

Sunday is fun day and the Beach Hotel have **Felicity Lawless**, a one-woman, world music experience, and **Ragga Jump** will be there changing the world one song at a time along with **The 4'20' Sound**, Byron Bay's reggae and dancehall collective.

All in all it's a great week for local music on home turf – check out each venue's website for more information.



RAGGA JUMP



THE 4'20' SOUND

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BayFM sponsorship is the trusted way to reach buyers in Byron and beyond. Whether you sell solar or fix molars, we'll work with you to write, produce and broadcast messages that cut through to your particular market. Talk to Jeff on 0437 884 405 about our competitive rates and fast turnaround or head to bayfm.org



BYRON THEATRE
THE MACHINERY OF CULTURE

BYRON THEATRE

APRIL

1 HAIR | 4 THELMA & LOUISE | 5 AND STILL I SING | 6 ENZO SIRAGUSA | 11 ROMEO & JULIET | 13 TWOROO | 14 MARY COUGHLAN | 15 TEARDROPS ON MY DILDO | 18 TRAINSPOTTING | 20 BRIGHT LIGHTS | 22 DEEP DOWN | 25 THE TRUMAN SHOW | 27 KAREN FROM FINANCE | 28 HERE FOR NOW | 29 THE HONEY SLIDERS

TICKETS AND INFO: BYRONTHEATRE.COM

Music in the Meadow

A stunning outdoor classical music event conducted by **Barry Singh**, with the new *Caldera Chamber Ensemble*.

Sunday 7 May - 2 pm - 6 pm

288 Stokers Road, **Stokers Siding**

Dress in 1800s apparel!

Book tickets online:

www.trybooking.com/CGLPZ

Bring chairs or picnic rug, snacks and drinks.

GIG GUIDE

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



WEDNESDAY 12

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **BEN WALSH**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 4PM **AKOVA**, 7.30PM **INDIGO MCKEON**, 9.30PM **DJ SOPHDEXX**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, **MATTHEW ARMITAGE**
- BANGALOW BOWLO 7.30PM **BANGALOW BRACKETS' OPEN MIC SESSION**, 7.30PM **EISHAN ENSEMBLE**

THURSDAY 13

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **MARSHALL OKELL DUO**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 3PM **YAZMINDI**, 5.30PM **KANE MUIR**, 8.30PM **TAJ RALPH & BOY SODA**, 10.30PM **DJ TAI DANIELS**
- BYRON THEATRE 6.30PM **TWOROO - A SURF ADVENTURE AROUND AUSTRALIA**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, **DAN HANNAFORD**
- LENNOX HOTEL HOTEL STAGE 8PM **THURSDAY JAM NIGHT**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 6PM **MATTY ROGERS**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 7PM **CHEEKY CABARET**
- LISMORE CITY BOWLO 7.30PM **EISHAN ENSEMBLE**

FRIDAY 14

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **RAGGA JUMP**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 2PM **HAYLEY GRACE**, 5PM **LUCY GALLANT**, 8PM **JEROME WILLIAMS BAND**, 10PM **DJ QUENDO**
- BYRON THEATRE 7.30PM **MARY COUGHLAN**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, **KANE MUIR**
- VILLAGE, BYRON BAY, 6PM **VINYL FRIDAYS**
- THREE BLUE DUCKS, EWINGSDALE, **JOSH HAMILTON**
- LENNOX HEAD COMMUNITY CENTRE **BALLINA SHIRE CONCERT BAND WILL BE HOSTING A 140TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY CONCERT**
- CLUB LENNOX 7PM **DAN HANNAFORD**
- BALLINA RSL BOARDWALK 5PM **JOCK BARNES**
- SHAW'S BAY HOTEL, BALLINA, 6PM **JESSE BALFOUR**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 7.30PM **AMBER ROSE & JACK REEVES**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 6PM **THE GODS THE GODS**, 8.30PM **CHEEKY CABARET**
- OCEAN SHORES COUNTRY CLUB 5.30PM **BARRY FERRIER**
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM **DJ PAPA BITCHO**
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY, 5PM **BALCONY BEATS - DJ ABEL TORO**, 8.30PM **KRAPPYKEE WITH JESS**
- ST JOHN'S SCHOOL HALL, MULLUMBIMBY, 7.30PM **ECSTATIC DANCE MULLUMBIMBY WITH DJ LO QI**

- METROPOLE, LISMORE, 7.30PM **CARLY AND ROO**, 8PM **DJ BUS**
- CITADEL, MURWILLUMBAH, 7.30PM **THE WEEPING WILLOWS AND CJ SHAW**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 5PM **JASON DELPHIN**
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL 8PM **MUDHONEY**, 9PM **THE ULTIMATE CREEDENCE & JOHN FOGERTY REVIVAL**

SATURDAY 15

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 7.30PM **MATTY ROGERS BAND**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 1PM **LEO VINE**, 3.30PM **OLE FALCO**, 6.30PM **PABLO LAVERDE**, 9PM **SEX ON TOAST**, 10PM **DJ MY HAPPY PLACE**
- BYRON THEATRE 7.30PM **VANESSA LARRY MITCHELL - TEARDROPS ON MY DILDO**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, **MUDHONEY, BEN WALSH**
- BYRON TWILIGHT MARKET 5PM **BARRY FERRIER**
- THREE BLUE DUCKS, EWINGSDALE, **TIM STOKES**
- CLUB LENNOX 7PM **ANDY JANS BROWN DUO**
- SHAW'S BAY HOTEL, BALLINA, 6PM **JASON DELPHIN**
- BALLINA RSL BOARDWALK 6.30PM **TURTLE BOY DUO**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 2PM **RICHIE LANGFORD**, 7.30PM **THE HILLBILLY SKANK**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 2PM **LIL' CHEEKY**, 7PM **CHEEKY CABARET**
- OCEAN SHORES COMMUNITY CENTRE 5.45PM **SUZANNE STERLING AND CARMELLA BAYNIE**
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 3.30PM **DJ ABEL TORO**
- DRILL HALL THEATRE, MULLUMBIMBY, 5PM **SCREENING: MULLUMBIMBY MAGIC THE CULTURE OF THE 70S-80S PART 3: THE ARTS**, 7.15PM **SCREENING: MULLUMBIMBY MAGIC THE CULTURE OF THE 70S-80S PART 2: PART 2 ACTIVISM & POLITICS**
- BILLINUDGEL HOTEL 3PM **FLAMING HEARTS FEST**
- METROPOLE, LISMORE, 8PM **GLITTERATI RIOT**, 8PM **DJ BOZ**
- MURWILLUMBAH SERVICES CLUB 6.30PM **MERLIN**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 5PM **NATHAN KAYE**
- SEAGULLS, TWEED HEADS, 7.30PM **BEARDED DRAGONS**
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL 8PM **KAITLIN**

SUNDAY 16

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **THE LONESOME BOATMAN**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 1PM **FELICITY LAWLESS**, 4.30PM **RAGGA JUMP**, 7.30PM **ANDY V**, 9PM **THE 4'20 SOUND AND DJ QUENDO**
- VILLAGE, BYRON BAY, 3PM **SHANE SOS & CADENCE**
- YOUTH ACTIVITY CENTRE (YAC), BYRON BAY, 3PM **MAMA FLAMBEAU, FEAT. Z-STAR TRINITY, TWO TEARS IN A BUCKET, LUKE ROBINSON, STREAMING SPIRIT, AFRODELICA**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, **PETE MCCREDDIE**
- THREE BLUE DUCKS, EWINGSDALE, **MATTIE BARKER**
- CLUB LENNOX 3PM **DAX**
- LENNOX HEAD COMMUNITY CENTRE 7.30PM **DANIEL CHAMPAGNE**
- BALLINA RSL BOARDWALK 2.30PM **SUNDAY BLUES SESSION - HUBCAP STAN WITH GUEST SLIM PICKENS**
- SHAW'S BAY HOTEL, BALLINA, 3PM **JASON DELPHIN**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 4PM **PEACH FUR, THE COLLIFLOWERS & BUTTERED**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 6PM **CHEEKY CABARET**
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY, 3PM **OPEN MIC WITH THE SWAMP CATS**
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 3.30PM **OPEN MIC HOSTED BY JACK CAVE**
- DRILL HALL THEATRE, MULLUMBIMBY, 5PM **SCREENING: MULLUMBIMBY MAGIC THE CULTURE OF THE 70S-80S PART 1: HEALTH & WELLBEING**, 7.15PM **SCREENING: MULLUMBIMBY MADNESS THE LEGACY OF THE HIPPIES**
- SEAGULLS, TWEED HEADS, 1PM **CALEB**

MONDAY 17

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **TIM STOKES**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 5PM **GAUDION**, 8PM **SHAYA & HENRY WEST**

TUESDAY 18

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **ISAAC FRANKHAM**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 5PM **BRIDEY ROSE**
- BYRON THEATRE 6.30PM **90S MOVIES TUESDAY - TRAINSPOTTING**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 6PM **JAMES SUTHERLAND**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE STAGE 11AM **SPIRIT OF THE ANZAC**

WEDNESDAY 19

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **OOZ**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 5PM **TIAGO FREITAS**, 8PM **INO PIO DUO**
- BANGALOW BOWLO 7.30PM **BANGALOW BRACKETS' OPEN MIC SESSION**
- BALLINA RSL LEVEL ONE 2PM **THE MAGIC AND CIRCUS SHOW**
- ELTHAM HOTEL 7PM **THE SHEEPDOGS + KARL S WILLIAMS BAND**



CINEMA

AIR

Basketball enthusiasts are going to love this – and what's not to love? Whenever Ben Affleck and Matt Damon are in the same place at the same time magic happens.

Award-winning director Affleck, heads up a stellar cast of Matt Damon, Jason Bateman, Marlon Wayans, Chris Messina, Chris Tucker and the immeasurable talent of Viola Davis playing Michael Jordan's mother, Deloris Jordan.

Air reveals the unbelievable game-changing partnership between a then rookie Michael Jordan and Nike's fledgling basketball division, which revolutionised the world of sports and contemporary culture with the Air Jordan brand. This moving story follows the career-defining gamble of an unconventional team with everything on the line, the uncompromising vision of a mother who knows the worth of her son's immense talent, and the basketball phenom who would become the greatest of all time.

Of her role as Deloris, Viola Davis says she was at first taken aback when she heard that Michael Jordan had asked she play his mother, but then realised it was actually a huge honour.

In an interview Davis says the story is about 'dreaming dreams... I have a very close personal relationship with dreams. Because dreams, I'll tell you, no matter what your

circumstances are in life, no matter what you were born into, your dreams are the tools that keep you alive. And I'm always interested in people who have the most outrageous dreams, who really think outside of the box and go for it. I compare that to magic.'

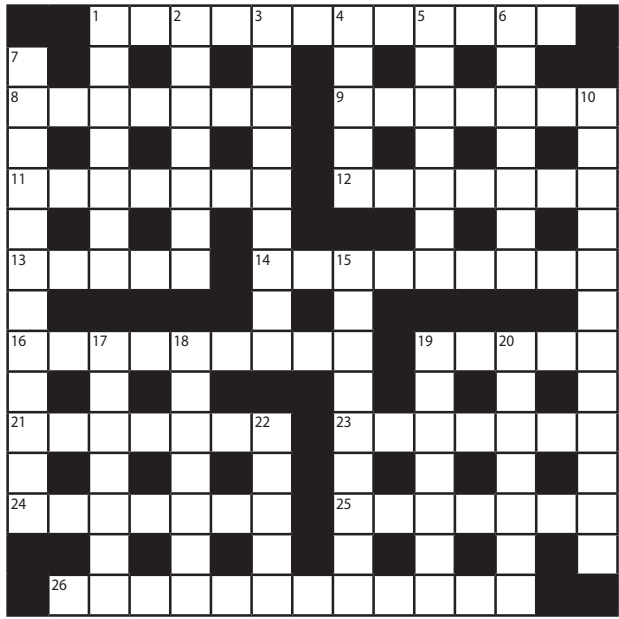
Air is screening this week at Ballina Fair Cinemas and Palace Cinemas, Byron Bay.

PALACE CINEMAS **Session Times**
Thurs 13 Apr - Wed 19 Apr

<p><small>2023 GERMAN FILM FESTIVAL - TICKETS NOW ON SALE - BOOK NOW! Visit website for details</small></p> <p>SPECIAL SCREENINGS COLDPLAY - LIVE AT RIVER PLATE (M) Wed: 7:00pm</p> <p>METALLICA: 72 SEASONS Global Premiere (CTC) Thu: 7:00pm</p> <p>POB: GEORGE BALANCHINE (CTC) Sun: 1:00pm Wed: 11:00am</p> <p>FAMILY FILMS ARGONUTS (G) (NFT) Daily excl Sun: 11:30am, 2pm Sun: 11:00am</p> <p>MAVKA: THE FOREST SONG (PG) (NFT) Daily: 11:30am, 1:45pm</p>	<p>THE SUPER MARIO BROS. MOVIE (PG) (NFT) Daily: 11:15am, 1:30pm, 3:45pm, 5:00pm, 6:00pm</p> <p>ALL FILMS AIR (M) (NFT) Daily: 11:30am, 1:20pm, 3:40pm, 6:00pm, 8:00pm</p> <p>ALLELUJAH (M) (NFT) Daily: 11:40am, 6:15pm</p> <p>DUNGEONS & DRAGONS (M) Daily excl. Sun/Wed: 11:15am, 2:00pm, 7:15pm Sun: 11am, 2pm, 7:15pm Wed: 2:00pm, 7:15pm</p> <p>EVERYTHING EVERYWHERE ALL AT ONCE (MA15+) (NFT) Daily: 4:30pm</p> <p>LIVING (PG) Daily: 11:45am, 4:00pm</p>	<p>JOHN WICK 4 (MA15+) (NFT) Daily excl. Thu/Wed: 3:45pm, 7:00pm Thu/Wed: 3:45pm</p> <p>MAFIA MAMMA (MA15+) (NFT) Daily: 11:15am, 1:45pm, 4:30pm, 6:10pm, 7:15pm</p> <p>SCREAM VI (MA15+) (NFT) Daily: 2:00pm</p> <p>SUZUME (PG) (NFT) Daily: 4:10pm, 6:45pm, 8:20pm</p> <p>THE INNOCENT (M) (NFT) Daily: 11:30am, 1:45pm, 4:00pm, 6:45pm, 8:20pm</p> <p>THE POPE'S EXORCIST (MA15+) (NFT) Daily: 1:50pm, 8:20pm</p>
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108 Jonson St, Byron Bay • Book Online at palacecinemas.com.au
Mercato Complex 3hrs FREE parking Validation for all Palace Cinemas customers
Session times subject to change - check web for most up to date sessions. *NFT = No Free Tickets

<p>Admission prices: Adults: \$15 Stud/Conc: \$13 Senior: \$12 Child: \$11</p> <p>Wednesday All tickets \$11 3D Surcharge \$3</p>	<h2 style="margin: 0;">BALLINA FAIR CINEMAS</h2> <p style="margin: 0;">Thursday Apr 13th to Wednesday Apr 19th</p> <p style="margin: 0; font-size: 0.7em;">Tel: (02) 6686 9600 ballinafaircinemas.com.au</p>						
APRIL	THU 13 TH	FRI 14 TH	SAT 15 TH	SUN 16 TH	MON 17 TH	TUE 18 TH	WED 19 TH
AIR M 112 MIN	12:35 PM 4:10 PM 7:40 PM	12:35 PM 4:10 PM 7:40 PM	12:35 PM 4:10 PM 7:40 PM	12:35 PM 4:10 PM 7:40 PM	12:35 PM 4:10 PM 7:40 PM	12:35 PM 4:10 PM 7:40 PM	12:35 PM 4:10 PM 7:40 PM
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THE SUPER MARIO BROS. MOVIE PG 92 MIN	10:00 AM 11:30 AM 1:20 PM 3:10 PM 6:15 PM 8:00 PM	10:00 AM 11:30 AM 1:20 PM 3:10 PM 6:15 PM 8:00 PM	10:00 AM 11:30 AM 1:20 PM 3:10 PM 6:15 PM 8:00 PM	10:00 AM 11:30 AM 1:20 PM 3:10 PM 6:15 PM 8:00 PM	10:00 AM 11:30 AM 1:20 PM 3:10 PM 6:15 PM 8:00 PM	10:00 AM 11:30 AM 1:20 PM 3:10 PM 6:15 PM 8:00 PM	10:00 AM 11:30 AM 1:20 PM 3:10 PM 6:15 PM 8:00 PM



Cryptic Clues

- ACROSS**
- Angry hotshot, and violent – run for your life! (5,7)
 - Israel attacked by mass retreat from idealism (7)
 - Rebels about electric potential (7)
 - Parvenu to sup recklessly with a strumpet (7)
 - A type of fungus? Look, it's a kind of cherry (7)
 - Turner, one Hawaiian island (5)
 - Fight around night-bird journalist – team dismissed! (6,3)
 - Emotion provides test in men (9)
 - Perry's mother and her boy (5)
 - American marsupial delivers big total after work (7)
 - Rustles around outcomes (7)
 - Chirped – attempted lines inside (7)
 - Aircon a scam – try a small blower! (7)
 - Small instrument, small horn – but could be deadly accurate! (12)
- DOWN**
- Gloria's truncate last performance (7)
 - Japanese craft – alternatively, wise men return to one (7)
 - Agenda for the magazine desk (9)
 - Bad actor around, concerning the Sultan's entourage (5)
 - Heads up, smell the poetry (7)
 - American girl – one sign of a great scientist (7)
 - So hot – find the problem and fix it (12)
 - Light in the sky – could be 26! (8,4)
 - Power a lot – play the game! (5,4)
 - Wildly rock the lion (7)
 - Run, sail, cavort – but anti-social (7)
 - Lose those with hereditary privileges, they say – got the actors wrong! (7)
 - Military type traded – that's right (7)
 - Ways of acting – poses without a line! (5)

Quick Clues

- ACROSS**
- Abscond (5,7)
 - Pragmatism (7)
 - Rises up (7)
 - Arriviste; social climber (7)
 - Sour cherry (7)
 - Covered porch (5)
 - Ten wickets taken! (6,3)
 - Tender feeling (9)
 - Builder in stone (5)
 - US pouched mammal (7)
 - Consequences (7)
 - Warbled (7)
 - Wind musical instrument (7)
 - Sniper (12)
- DOWN**
- Major Melbourne street (7)
 - Paper folding art (7)
 - Schedule (9)
 - Muslim women's house (5)
 - Antithesis (7)
 - 17th century Italian astronomer (7)
 - Diagnose and identify a solution (12)
 - Meteor (8,4)
 - Aquatic sport (5,4)
 - Ancient stone tool (7)
 - Narrow-minded (7)
 - Allotted an unsuitable role (7)
 - Fighter (7)
 - Fashions (5)

Last week's solution #485



Dear Karen

Women named Karen aren't doing so well. They don't find Karen jokes funny. 'Calm Down Karen' doesn't make them calm. It makes them anxious, unhappy and unfairly victimised. They don't appreciate the continual social derision, based not on their actual values, but on an assumption that their name is the only evidence required to minimise and reduce them to a stereotype that insists they are all small-minded, angry, entitled, middle aged white women. It's clearly not true. So why, in a world that is so woke, is it socially acceptable to knock on the door of every woman named Karen and ridicule her?

I don't make Karen jokes. Not because I'd thought deeply about the inherent misogyny of attributing all those negative attributes to innocent women named Karen. Many who aren't entitled, who aren't racist, but who are kind and compassionate, considered and thoughtful. I hadn't reflected on the impact the Karen jokes, trending since 2020, might be having on them. I just didn't find the jokes funny. They felt a bit sexist and cruel – a social cue that told us, in a world where we are encouraged to be respectful, that 'we have an approved target, so come on over and have a kick'. Karen is on the ground, and no one is helping her up.

I have a friend named Karen. Well, to be honest, I have a lot of friends named Karen. None of them are entitled white women. They are all very intelligent, beautiful people. I actually don't personally know anyone called Karen who fits the 2020 trending meme.

When I was performing at Adelaide Fringe this year I invited my dear friend Karen. She sent me a long message explaining how comedy was no longer a safe space for her, that she was really upset by the Karen jokes as they'd made her feel alienated and ridiculed, and prescribed her with a set of values that had never been hers. It had made her feel anxious and bullied. Simply put, she was worried about coming to comedy because she was an easy target. She asked if I told Karen jokes? I told her 'No, none. My shows are a safe space for



women named Karen.' When I call out racism, or entitlement I don't make an entire cohort of women responsible.

I hadn't realised how much that joke had hurt. My friend disclosed how traumatising it had been; that women named Karen had been talking to other women named Karen. That they had set up chat groups on Facebook to share stories of what had been happening to them. They'd been the butt of jokes in their family, at work, and with their friends who'd say 'Stop acting like your name'. They'd been laughed at and ridiculed in every part of their life. Not for anything they had said or done. Just because of their name. That's called bullying. It hurts people. And women named Karen are over it. They try to say something, but every time they do, they are shut down, minimised or ridiculed again. Women named Karen are anxious, and they are tired of everyone feeling virtuous and right on at their expense.

When we feel powerless in the world we have to stop coming home and kicking Karen. It's also sexist. We're not calling out Darren or Peter or Bruce. The reality is, in the global picture, middle aged women don't hold any power. So why are we targeting them as symbolic of

entitlement? In a patriarchal society, they're pretty well invisible. Karen bashing has given us permission to do what society has always loved but not been permitted to do: bash women and get away with it.

So let's stop making dumb jokes about women named Karen. Let's call out racism, entitlement and obnoxious behaviour, but let's not do it by throwing every woman we know named Karen under the bus. It's cruel. It's not okay to use profiling to prescribe values.

Women named Karen should not feel scared every time someone says: 'name?'

If you know someone named Karen, ask them how they are going. Tell them you are sorry. And shut down anyone who makes fun of people named Karen. The Karen joke is dead.

If your name is Karen and you'd like a safe place to talk to other women also named Karen – try Karens United on Facebook. And please, don't go there to troll.

If you would like to know what it feels like to be Karen, try this empathy generator, and you'll be named and shamed on the spot: <https://karenismyname.org/rename>

STARS BY LILITH

Venus scintillates this week into her zone of social pleasures to leaven the general intensity with some much-needed light-heartedness...

ARIES THE RAM

ARIES: Sure, it's your birthday month and you just wanna have fun, but with Chiron in your sign this a great time for healing work with a mentor, therapist, or your own inner wisdom; to clear blocks, open up to new ways of thinking about your life, and making the necessary changes.

TAURUS: Salvador Dali's famous liquefying timepiece is an apt image for the three-year reality-melting transit of Saturn in Pisces, lasting till early 2026; which will be especially challenging for Taureans, but resistance is futile. Best let it all melt, dance with the new form it flows into, and embrace the sea change.

GEMINI: Breezy Venus this week sashaying into your chatty, socialising sign to schmooze with who's who sees you at your witty, charming, entertaining best. But with so many choices, it may be particularly hard to commit. Be cautious about overpromising because it will seriously irritate others if you underdeliver.

CANCER: Serious Saturn isn't without its amusing side, which this week could manifest by throwing a spanner into your intended program. So, keep an open mind, be prepared to pivot, and maybe take a little preventive action by having at least one 'Plan B' up your sleeve.

LEO: With two recent galvanising planetary moves, this week could toss a match on the powder keg of existential unease. In which case, try not to go off the deep end or get caught in one-upping. Focus on the real work of beaming your brilliant, loving, creative energy out into the world.

VIRGO: If you've been working harder for your money than it's been working for you, this innovative week suggests getting busy discussing ways you might turn that around. Consider whether it's worthwhile revamping your digital domain, updating your online profile, and/or reaching out on new professional platforms.

LIBRA: Vibrant Venus, Libra's love and money planet, vamps this week into the vivacious sign of variety, like a cosmic butterfly, to lighten and brighten the current existential heaviness and to invite Librans to spice life up with a glamping getaway, overnight sleepover, or even just somewhere different for dinner.

SCORPIO: Planet Pluto's recent move brings up issues about control – or the lack of it – in our lives. Spending more introspective time in solitude, preferably also in nature, will support you to be graceful, grateful even, in circumstances you can't control. To ask, 'What can I learn from this new turn of events?'

SAGITTARIUS: You're no longer the same person you were at the beginning of this year's journey, and maybe you need to get a few things out of your system. Emotional contagion is a thing, so don't add to the general agitation. Instead apply creative compromise and an attitude of compassionate curiosity.

CAPRICORN: This week supports reconsidering habitual ways of thinking and acting; methodologies, beliefs and attitudes that now lead into ruts or dead ends. If a provocative, pressure cooker moment arises, forcing an issue might win the battle but lose the war. Holding your fire, even if it feels frustrating, will pay off.

AQUARIUS: While Plutonic energy is presently affecting a global reset, on a personal level it's not unreasonable to experience intense thoughts, extreme feelings, and cathartic events, which remove what's not useful so that a new life cycle can grow. Or to have blind spots revealed, which show what we can't, or haven't wanted, to see.

PISCES: Saturn, the planet of tough love and maturity, in your sign isn't always the most 100 per cent enjoyable of transits. This week's good news brings colourful Aries energy – plus – sparky, scintillating Venus at her most effervescent spreading atmospheric bubbles of micro joy to float you above momentary troubles.



amir prestige

📍 301 FRIDAY HUT ROAD, POSSUM CREEK

4 🛏️ 2 🚿 4 🚗 2.47Ha* 🏡

Disclaimer: *≈ approx.

THE DIAMOND OF THE MOUNTAIN, YOUR OWN PRIVATE RETREAT

This lush green, 6.6 acre property 160m above sea level, is complete with a beautiful established subtropical garden and stunning views of the Bangalow Hills.

It is a scenic 1.8km walk to 'The Hut Byron Bay' renowned restaurant and a 7km drive to Bangalow village where your every boutique retail and hospitality whim is catered for. Another few km's further along Bangalow Road and you're in Byron Bay - with the buzz and world class beaches that completely contrast this country haven.

Inspection by Appointment

Contact the Listing Agent

Oliver Hallock 0419 789 600
oliver@amirprestige.com.au



amirprestige.com.au

BYRON SHIRE

REAL ESTATE

byronshirerealestate.com.au



Select Land
Release
'Byron View'
Ocean Shores

Byron View

4 vacant lots in the FINAL STAGE

We've saved the best for last. The long-awaited release of the last vacant land in Ocean Shores. 4 fully serviced, prime homes sites, registered and ready to build on. Magnificent ocean views from Pottsville to Cape Byron and the gorgeous green of the national park bordering the subdivision. Duplex and single-dwelling lots. End of street quietness and privacy, flood free and surrounded by nature reserve. Coolangatta airport 30 min, Brunswick Heads 7 min and Byron Bay 20 min.

Don't Miss Out!

- 24 Player Parade** - Lot 165 800m²
Duplex compliant, ocean view
- 2 Thomson Court** - Lot 166 750m²
Ocean and National park view
- 4 Thomson Court** - Lot 167 700m²
Ocean and National park view
- 6 Thomson Court** - Lot 168 685m²
Ocean and National park view

Best Offers by 26th April 2023

Todd Buckland 0408 966 421
todd@byronshirerealestate.com.au





"THE ASPEN MALIBU LOVE CHILD" - AUSTRALIA'S MUST HAVE HOME!



amir prestige

📍 225 BROKEN HEAD ROAD, NEWRYBAR

8 🛏️ 8 🚿 6 🚗 5 Acres* 🏡

The perfect property is a place where calmness calls, fusing relaxed luxury with picturesque tranquility. Such a rare destination does indeed exist with "Cedar Hill". Revered as one of Australia's most beautiful homes and boasting lush hinterland and ocean views, it is a spectacular showcase of international design and unique architecture.

Cocooned within five acres of absolute peace and paradise, two premium hardwood residences rise up from this elevated, northeast-facing estate.

Linked by a glass-lined walkway that nicely separates social and sleeping quarters, elegance blends skilfully with cutting-edge design, including retractable glass walls, soaring ceilings with exposed timber beams and polished concrete floors.

Disclaimer: *= approx.

AUCTION 15TH APRIL 1:30PM ON-SITE

Please call to RSVP prior to inspection
 Saturday 8th April 4:30pm - 5:30pm
 Thursday 13th April 5:30pm - 6:30pm
 Open prior Auction Saturday 15th 1:00pm

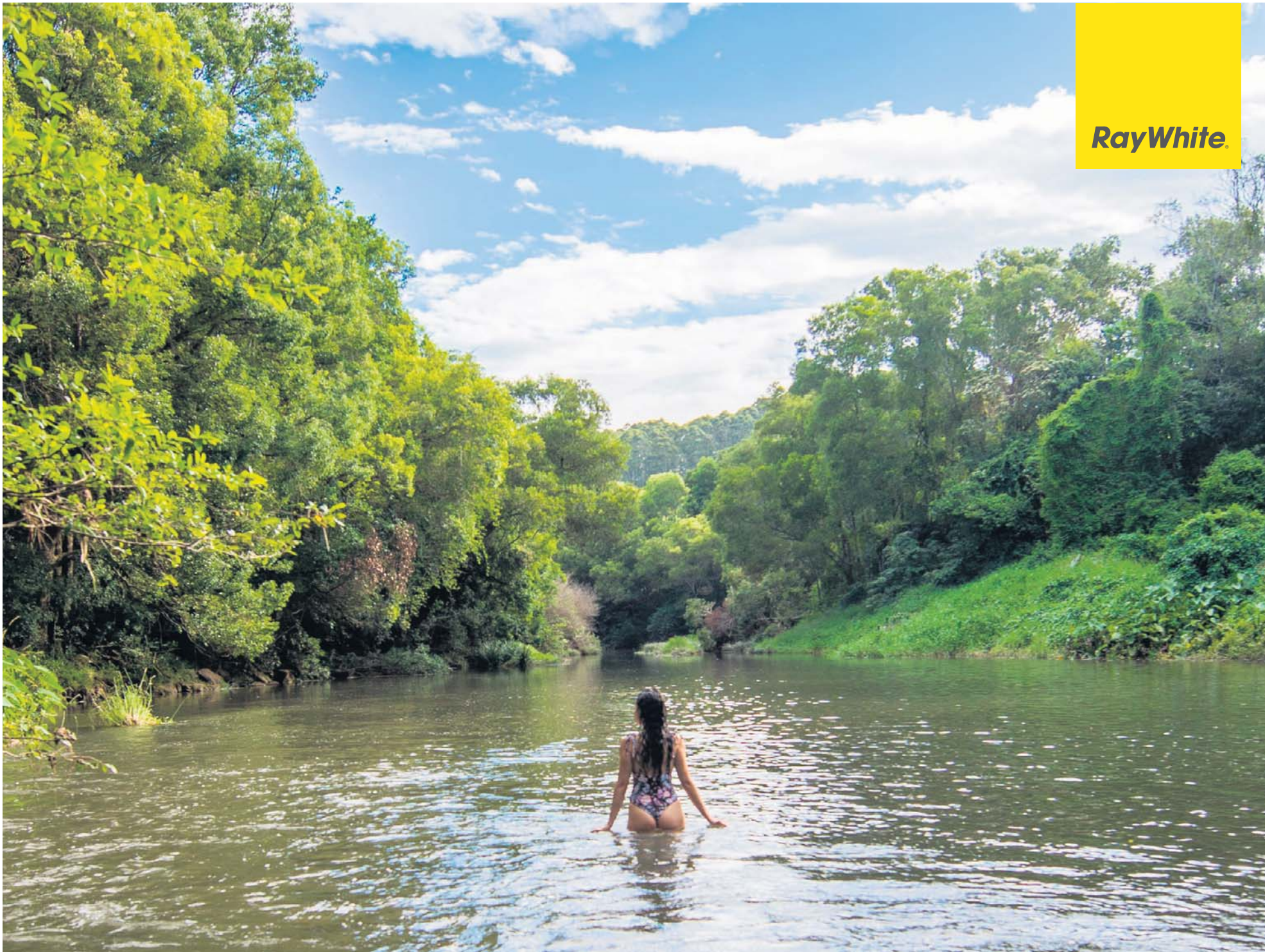
Contact the Listing Agents

Amir Mian 0401 470 499
 amir@amirprestige.com.au

Oliver Hallock 0419 789 600
 oliver@amirprestige.com.au

Colleen Brunt 0437 533 943
 colleen@amirprestige.com.au





AUCTION

"Coorabell Ridge"

- Your choice of lifestyle acreage lots of 2-5 ACRES to design and build your forever home PLUS 60 ACRES of pristine recreational land for your family's enjoyment
- Tranquil, private sanctuary of lush rainforest walks, northerly vistas to rolling verdant hills, traversed by babbling crystal creeks and stunning Wilson River swimming holes
- Central to Byron's beaches, Bangalow and Mullumbimby's amenities... "Coorabell Ridge" is the benchmark for a new uncompromised lifestyle

Auction
(Guide \$1.4m)

View
By Appointment

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

WHY WAIT?
Ray White Rural Bangalow | 02 6687 2479

raywhiteruralbangalow.com.au



AUCTION

"Erima" at Eureka

- Over 50 acres of prime red soil country perched on the eastern edge of the rich Eureka Plateau with long frontage to postcard pretty STONY CREEK
- 190 degree northerly vistas over surrounding countryside from Proposed SECOND HOMESITE offering complete privacy and leafy atmosphere
- Substantial family residence positioned amongst established grounds and gardens
- Huge level home paddock ready for machine sheds, stables, yards and all your self sufficient ambitions

WHY WAIT?
Ray White Rural Bangalow | 02 6687 2479

4 🚗 2 🏠 5 🏡

Auction
Thursday 27th April

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

View
Thursday 2-2.30pm
Saturday 11-11.30am
or by appointment

raywhiteruralbangalow.com.au



EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Renovated, Easy Living - 11 Kurrajong St, Mullumbimby

- Recently refurbished throughout including fresh carpets, a lick of paint and renovated kitchen and bathrooms
- Be part of Mullumbimby's close knit community and enjoy all it has to offer
- Close proximity to Brunswick, Byron and Bangalow

Sale
EOI Closing 28th April

View
Saturday 9-9.30am
or by appointment

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

WHY WAIT?
Ray White Rural Bangalow | 02 6687 2479

raywhiteruralbangalow.com.au

3 🚗 2 🏠 1 🏡

SALE

1 Acre Dorrroughby Farmlet

- Spacious family home with green vistas offering the perfect foundation to renovate or simplify
- Entertaining is a breeze with a palm tree lined pool oasis and covered deck
- Huge machine shed/mancave
- 15min drive to Clunes. 25 to Bangalow

Sale
\$925,000

View
Saturday 12.30-1pm

WHY WAIT?
Ray White Rural Bangalow | 02 6687 2479

raywhiteruralbangalow.com.au

3 🚗 1 🏠 2 🏡 1 🏢



The Springs – Elevated, Modern Architectural Masterpiece with Spectacular Mountain Views

- The Springs' is a Master Builders Association multi award winning home featuring swathes of glass, sleek polished concrete and soaring ceilings
- Stunningly set on an elevated ridgeline overlooking 37 acres of verdant pasture including fruit trees, bamboo rainforest and farming land
- The home has an intelligent layout that flows out to the north facing horizon pool and breathtaking mountain panoramas beyond
- A state-of-the-art kitchen boasts quality appliances with ample benchtops and storage while louvred windows and bi fold glass doors promote breezes
- A separate self contained studio completes this unique, luxurious offering

4 3 4 15.26HA

77 Robinsons Lane, Wilsons Creek

Price Guide: Contact Agent

Open: Thursday, 13th April 3-3.30pm



Denzil Lloyd
0481 864 049



Architecturally Designed Hinterland Treasure – Two Homes

4 3 3 2.02HA

- Positioned on an expansive 5 acres of well-maintained gardens is this stunning mid-century modern masterpiece with breathtaking views and multiple vistas
- The office/studio has access to the pool and is ideal for working from home
- Across the 5 acres are open paddocks, perfect for a couple of horses
- The secondary dwelling is extremely private and features one bedroom, bathroom, separate laundry, and fully equipped kitchen plus a private deck

15 Newes Road, Coorabell

Price Guide: Contact Agent

Open: Saturday, 15th April 12-12.30pm



Su Reynolds
0428 888 660



Denzil Lloyd
0481 864 049



Commercially Zoned Rare Opportunity in Brunswick Heads

3 2 1 613M²

- Spacious block with commercial zoning giving you endless possibilities
- The large block offers an existing 3-bedroom dwelling, but there is opportunity to redevelop or redesign in the best CBD position in the mecca we call Bruns
- The home offers a spacious floorplan with a large living and dining area that adjoins the kitchen with ample storage space and a large, level yard with dual lane access
- Central location walking distance to everything Brunswick Heads has to offer including the Brunswick River, world class beaches, cafes and fine dining

23 Fingal Street, Brunswick Heads

Price Guide: \$2.5m – \$2.75m

Open: By appointment



Tara Torkkola
0423 519 698



Commercially Zoned 809m2 Block with Original Cottage

3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, 2 cars, 809M²

- Perfectly positioned in central Mullumbimby is this original home on an expansive 809m2 commercially zoned corner block with endless possibilities
- Opportunity to develop either a large centrally located home, commercial development, multiple buildings or potential strata subdivision (STCA)
- Classic 3 bedroom cottage with spacious layout and high ceilings throughout
- Corner position with dual access with Tincogan and Dalley Street

20 Tincogan Street, Mullumbimby

Price Guide: \$1.45m – \$1.595m

Open: By appointment



Tara Torkkola
0423 519 698



Luxury Designer Home Located in Prime Byron Position

4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 cars, 480M²

- Located in a tightly held, quiet cul-de-sac is this superb modern designer home with high-end finishes, absolute privacy, and pure luxury
- Large, private courtyard with easy care cactus garden and limestone tiles
- Outdoors features an olympic size in-ground trampoline, Alpine Lucania 6 seater spa and a tranquil native bush backdrop
- Main bedroom features stacker doors opening to the beautiful back yard

26 Oakland Court, Byron Bay

Price Guide: \$2.85m

Open: Saturday, 15th April 12-12.30pm



Su Reynolds
0428 888 660



Luke Elwin
0421 375 635



Byron Beachside Cottage Plus Development Potential

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 767M²

- This superbly located property offers a great beachside home with development potential to create a dual occupancy or duplex (STCA)
- The home is in its original condition and a freshen up would offer a simple, yet charming 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom home with open plan living
- Featured is a wide deck, perfect to enjoy the expansive natural backdrop
- Easy stroll to the beach, Top Shop Cafe, town centre and restaurants

48 Massinger Street, Byron Bay

Price Guide: \$2.8m – \$3m

Open: By appointment



Su Reynolds
0428 888 660



Luke Elwin
0421 375 635



Spacious Hinterland Block with D.A Approved Plans

3,916M²

- Elevated 3,916M2 block with a beautiful rural outlook that offers a rare opportunity for you to build your dream home
- D.A approved plans for an ultra-modern home and pool
- There are engineers drawings and certifications so there is no time to be wasted to proceed to a constructions certificate, so you can get ready to build!
- The site offers lots of space to add veggie patches, and chicken pens
- Positioned in the beautiful hinterland only a 3 minute drive to Federal village

7/19 Teak Road, Federal

Price Guide: \$895,000 – \$980,000

Open: By appointment



Helen Huntly-Barratt
0412 332 232

**UPCOMING
AUCTION**



NASHUA 604 Lismore-Bangalow Road

Taking pride of place on a spectacular 12.47ha parcel of land, this exclusive residence takes private and contemporary living to an all-new height, showcasing 467sqm of internal living space in the main house, plus a 4 bed guest house and two additional studios. The main house is immaculately appointed throughout, offering 6 large bedrooms all with large picture windows framing the beautiful countryside views. The palatial master wing enjoys a wall of built-in storage plus walk in wardrobe, a full-sized ensuite and direct access to a private patio. Complete with an oversized garage for 4 cars plus workshop, this is the ultimate family sanctuary in a tightly held position just 9 minutes from Bangalow and a 30-minute drive to the popular Byron Bay.

6 4 4

AUCTION

Monday 17th April 2023 at 5:00PM
Level 1/29-33 Bay St, Double Bay NSW 2028

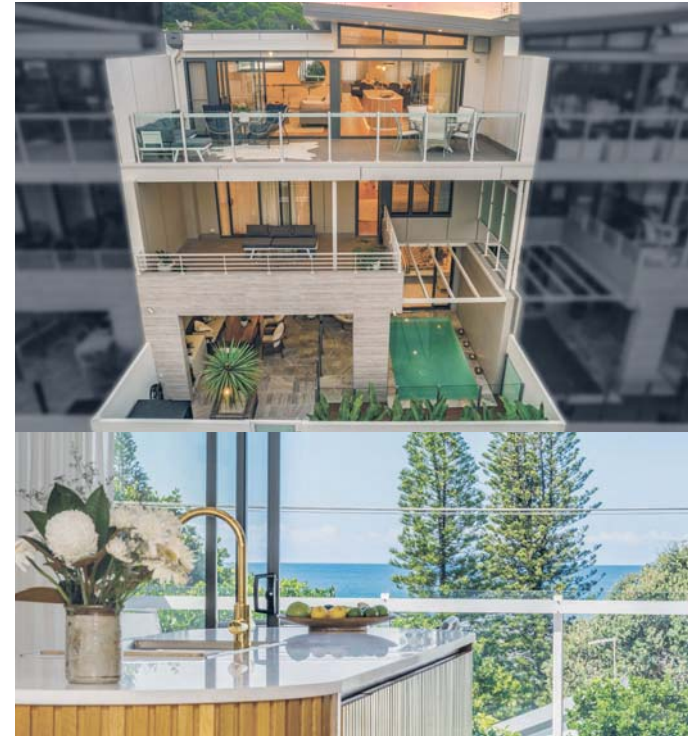
Grant Dale 0419 199 122
Darren Perkins 0428 660 324

byronbaysir.com.au
gnfrealestate.com.au

TIM MILLER
REAL ESTATE

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

3/4A RAYNER LANE, LENNOX HEAD Ultimate beachside living



Price guide: contact agent | Inspection: by appointment

5 4 2

A luxurious beach residence with beautiful ocean views from the living area, main bedroom and balconies

Self-contained studio, private courtyard with heated pool and internal lift

TIM MILLER
REAL ESTATE

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

'Netherbury' - an idyllic lifestyle

756 COWLONG ROAD, ELTHAM



4 2 2 1.97ha

AUCTION SATURDAY 15 APRIL 10AM ON SITE

TIM MILLER
REAL ESTATE

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

An impressive period home with spectacular views

168 JOHNSTON ROAD, CLUNES



4 3 2 1.01ha

PRICE GUIDE \$1,550,000 - \$1,650,000

An Amazing Home – Furnished

71 Parkway Drive, Ewingsdale

🛏️ 3 🚿 2 🚗 1 🌊

\$1,750pw



Furnished including: electricity usage, water usage, internet usage, monthly pool service, lawn mowing and garden maintenance.

This amazing home is ready for you to enjoy the Byron lifestyle, with the large covered deck wrapping around two sides of the home and the high cathedral ceiling in the living area creates a welcoming calming atmosphere, enhanced by the year-round comfort of the airconditioner and wood heater. The comfortable lounge and large timber dining table are some of the quality furnishings in this home. The kitchen is well equipped with appliances, dishwasher, and a gas cooktop. All of the three bedrooms have an airconditioner, the master bedroom with an ensuite and access to the deck. Outdoor entertaining has never been so easy with the timber deck extending out surrounding the pool area. Relax on the cane sofa chairs or step into the sauna, complete with bluetooth speakers, so you can listen to music or a podcast while having your skin rejuvenated. After enjoying the sauna, step into the timber hot tub for some further pampering. The mineral pool is also there for the whole family to enjoy. This lovely home is surrounded by lush tropical gardens. Available for a 6 month or 12 month lease.



Inspect: Call to arrange an inspection
Contact: Lynette Outerbridge – 0411 294 446

Classic On The Clarence

151 River Street, Maclean

🛏️ 5 🚿 1 🚗 5

\$1,100,000



This stunning property, located in the picturesque town of Maclean, overlooks the majestic Clarence River. Built circa 1870, the house has been renovated to an extremely high standard, with high ceilings, panelled walls and hardwood floors throughout, and ducted airconditioning and heating. The upper level of the home boasts a lounge room and three bedrooms, including the master bedroom. The front covered verandah features beautiful cast iron fretwork and breathtaking views of the river, and is accessed via the hallway or from the master and second bedrooms.



The centrally located kitchen on the middle level features exposed timber beams, cathedral ceilings and an abundance of bench space, cabinetry and electric appliances.

The lower level includes the shopfront area opening to the street, with large windows, making it the perfect location for a store, cafe or gallery, home-based business, or second family lounge. Bedrooms four and five can double as extra space for the business.

Inspect: By appointment
Contact: Tim O'Connor – 0402 766 617
timo@doughertyproperty.com.au

Business Directory

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Property Management

📞 02 6685 0177

@ rentals@ljhbrunswickheads.com

Save yourself thousands, call the expert property management team.

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LJ Hooker Brunswick Heads

LJ Hooker

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PROPERTY STAGING styling for sale

visit our website or drop by our retail store
82 Burringbar St Mullumbimby

cactus hill project

02 6684 6110
cactushillproject.com.au



Open For Inspection

www.echo.net.au/ad/ofi

Amir Prestige

- 225 Broken Head Road, Newrybar. Thurs 5.30–6.30pm
- 225 Broken Head Road, Newrybar. Sat 1–1.30pm

Atlas by LJ Hooker Byron Bay

- 35A Station Street, Mullumbimby. Sat 9.30–10am

Century 21

- 8 Denbos Crescent, East Lismore. Sat 12–12.30pm

First National Byron

- 77 Robinsons Lane, Wilsons Creek. Thurs 3–3.30pm
- 2E Kalemajere Drive, Suffolk Park. Sat 9–9.30am
- 7 Ocean Avenue, New Brighton. Sat 9–9.30am
- 68 Orana Road, Ocean Shores. Sat 9.30–10am
- 28 Armstrong Street, Suffolk Park. Sat 10–10.30am
- 16 Omega Circuit, Brunswick Heads. Sat 10–10.30am
- 38 Avocado Crescent, Ewingsdale. Sat 10–10.30am
- 2/54 Argyle Street, Mullumbimby. Sat 10.30–11am
- 14 Brooklet Road, Newrybar. Sat 11–11.30am
- 5/16 Oakland Court, Byron Bay. Sat 11–11.30am
- 3/9 Colin Street, Bangalow. Sat 11–11.30am
- 6 Jacaranda Drive, Byron Bay. Sat 11–11.30am
- 26 Oakland Court, Byron Bay. Sat 12–12.30pm
- 15 Newes Road, Coorabell. Sat 12–12.30pm

Harcourts Northern Rivers

- Karaloren Court, Lennox Head. Sat 9–9.30am
- 10 Kookaburra Street, Ballina. Sat 10–10.30am
- 950 Pimlico Road, Pimlico. Sat 10–10.30am
- 3 Carrabeen Court, Kyogle. Sat 10–10.30am
- 36 Surf Avenue, Skennars Head. Sat 10–11am
- 1 Bath Street, Wardell. Sat 10.45–11.15am
- 30 Unara Parkway, Cumbalum. Sat 11–11.30am
- 24 Farrelly Avenue, Cumbalum. Sat 11–11.30am

- 7 Crandon Court, Goonellabah. Sat 11.30–12pm
- 565 Friday Hut Road, Brooklet. Sat 12–1pm
- 59 Dolphin Drive, West Ballina. Sat 12–12.30pm
- 7 Platypus Drive, Uralba. Sat 1–1.30pm
- 82 Tyumba Avenue, Teven. Sat 1.15–2pm
- 131 Tanamera Drive, Alstonville. Sat 2–2.30pm

LJ Hooker Brunswick Heads

- 40 Byangum Road, Murwillumbah. Sat 10–10.30am
- 46 Mullumbimbi Street, Brunswick Heads. Sat 11–11.30am
- 2/85 Andrew Avenue, Pottsville. Sat 11–11.30am
- 48 Narooma Drive, Ocean Shores. Sat 11–11.30am
- 8 Gin Gin Crescent, Ocean Shores. Sat 12–12.30pm
- 2 Bower Street, Brunswick Heads. Sat 12–12.30pm

Mana Real Estate

- 46 Narooma Drive, Ocean Shores. Sat 9–9.30am
- 5 Philip Street, South Golden Beach. Sat 9–9.30am
- 3 Weeronga Way, Ocean Shores. Sat 10–10.30am
- 4/4 Halyard Court, Ocean Shores. Sat 10–10.30am
- 8 Redgate Road, South Golden Beach. Sat 11–11.30am
- 72 Boonydoon Road, Uki. Sat 11–11.30am
- 33 Beach Avenue, South Golden Beach. Sat 11–11.30am
- 21 Pacific Street, New Brighton. Sat 12–12.30pm
- 1/8 Yengarie Way, Ocean Shores. Sat 1–1.30pm

North Coast Lifestyle Properties Mullumbimby

- 15 Clifford Street, South Golden Beach. Sat 10–10.45am
- 50 Stuart Street, Mullumbimby. Sat 12–12.45pm

North Coast Lifestyle Properties Brunswick

- 17 Robin Street, South Golden Beach. Sat 10–10.45am
- Unit 8, 5-7 Newberry Parade, Bruns. Sat 10–10.30am
- 14 Avocado Court, Mullumbimby. Sat 10–10.30am
- 5 Wahlooga Way Ocean Shores. Sat 11–11.30am

Ray White Byron Bay

- 30 Bottlebrush Crescent, Suffolk Park. Wed 12–12.30pm
- 31 Beachcomber Drive, Byron Bay. Wed 1–1.30pm
- 121 Alcorn Street, Suffolk Park. Wed 4.30–5pm
- 71 Charltons Road, Federal. Thus 4–4.30pm
- 30 Bottlebrush Crescent, Suffolk Park. Sat 9–9.30am
- 65 Currawong Way, Ewingsdale. Sat 9–9.30am
- 28 Springvale Road, Eureka. Sat 10–10.30am
- 3/14 Sunrise Boulevard, Byron Bay. Sat 10–10.30am
- 13/146 Old Bangalow Road, Byron Bay. Sat 10–10.30am
- 11 Angus Kennedy Close, Lennox Head. Sat 10.30–11am
- 60 Hollingworth Lane, Mullumbimby. Sat 10.30–11am
- 222 Friday Hut Road, Possum Creek. Sat 11–11.30am
- 86 Brushbox Drive, Mullumbimby Creek. Sat 11.30–12pm
- 13 Argyle Street, Mullumbimby. Sat 11.30am–12pm
- 121 Alcorn Street, Suffolk Park. Sat 12–12.30pm
- 71 Charltons Road, Federal. Sat 12–12.30pm
- 31 Beachcomber Drive, Byron Bay. Sat 1–1.30pm

Ray White Rural Bangalow

- 171 Goremans Road, Eureka. Thurs 2–2.30pm
- 11 Kurrajong Street, Mullumbimby. Sat 9–9.30am
- 37 Clover Hill Circuit, Bangalow. Sat 10–10.30am
- 171 Goremans Road, Eureka. Sat 11–11.30am
- 400 Dorrroughby Road, Dorrroughby. Sat 12.30–1pm

Tim Miller Real Estate

- 756 Cowlong Road, Eltham. Wed 1.30–2pm
- 447 Eltham Road, Eltham. Sat 11.45am–12.15pm
- 168 Johnston Road, Clunes. Wed 12.30–1pm
- 168 Johnston Road, Clunes. Sat 12.30–1pm
- 1098 Bangalow Road, Bexhill. Sat 1.15–1.45pm
- 1 Flatley Drive, Clunes. Sat 2.15–2.45pm
- 8 George Street, Bangalow. Sat 3.15–3.45pm

Real Estate of Distinction

- 2 Giaour Street, Byron Bay. Sat 11–11.30am
- 35-37 Edwards Lane, Kynnumboon. Sat 3–3.30pm
- Lot 2 Martin Lane, Empire Vale. Sun 11–11.30am
- Lots 1 and 3 Empire Vale Rd, Empire Vale. Sun 12–12.30pm
- 139 Bishop Creek Rd, Coffee Camp. Sun 2.30–3pm

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INDEX

Accountants & Bookkeepers	40	Landscape Supplies	42
Acupuncture	40	Landscaping	42
Air Conditioning & Refrigeration.....	40	Locksmith	42
Alterations & Repairs.....	40	Painting.....	42
Architects	40	Pest Control	42
Automotive.....	40	Photography.....	42
Blinds, Awnings, Curtains, Shutters.....	40	Physiotherapy.....	42
Bricklaying.....	40	Picture Framing	42
Building Trades	40	Plastering	42
Bush Regen & Weed Control	40	Plumbers.....	42
Car Detailing	40	Pool Services.....	42
Carpet Cleaning	40	Removalists	42
Chimney Sweeping.....	40	Roofing.....	43
Chiropractic	40	Rubbish Removal	43
Cleaning	41	Self Storage	43
Computer Services	41	Septic Systems	43
Concreting & Paving	41	Solar Installation	43
Decks, Patios & Extensions.....	41	Television Services	43
Dentists	41	Tiling	43
Design & Drafting.....	41	Transport.....	43
Earthmoving & Excavation.....	41	Tree Services	43
Electricians	41	Upholstery.....	43
Fencing.....	41	Valuers	43
Floor Sanding & Polishing.....	41	Veterinary Surgeons.....	43
Furniture Maker	41	Water Filters	43
Garden & Property Maintenance.....	41	Water Services	43
Gas Suppliers	41	Welding.....	43
Graphic Design	41	Window Cleaning.....	43
Guttering.....	42	Window Tinting	43
Handypersons.....	42	Writing Services.....	43
Health	42		
Hire	42		
Insurance.....	42		

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- ANTHONY D'ORSOGNA Physiotherapy, acupuncture, hydrotherapy Suffolk Park 1 Bryce St... 66853511
- OCEAN SHORES PHYSIOTHERAPY Manual therapies, dry needling, custom orthotics,
shock wave therapy, real time ultrasound. Nigel Pitman, Ilse V Oostenbrugge..... 66803499
- PELVIC FLOOR PHYSIOTHERAPY In Bangalow with Lisa Fitzpatrick on Wed & Thu0422 993141
- OCEAN SHORES PHYSIOTHERAPY Manual therapies, dry needling, custom orthotics,
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INDEX

Bussines for Sale..... 44

Caravans 44

For Sale 44

Funeral Notices..... 45

Garage Sales 44

Health Notices 44

Musical Notes 45

Lost & Found 44

Only Adults 45

Pets..... 45

Positions Vacant..... 45

Public Notices..... 44

Prof. Services..... 44

Social Escorts..... 45

To Let..... 44

Tradework 44

Tree Services 44

Tuition..... 45

Volunteers wanted..... 44

Wanted 44

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PUBLIC NOTICES



Osho Meditation Day
Saturday 15th April
8am Silent dynamic meditation
10am Osho discourse
12noon Nataraj dancing meditation
2pm Nadabrama humming meditation
4pm Kundalini shaking meditation
6pm Osho evening meditation
Osho: "my meditations are easy; singing, dancing, sitting silently"
Call Shahido 6688 2494

MULLUMBIMBY COMMUNITY MARKET & MUSEUM OPEN THIS SATURDAY 8am - 2pm
Shaya Playing Live
www.mullumbimbycommunitymarket.com.au
Cnr Stuart and Myokum St Mullum
No dogs please

ECHO CLASSIFIEDS – 6684 1777

CLASSIFIED AD BOOKINGS

PHONE ADS
Ads may be taken by phone on **6684 1777**

AT THE ECHO HEAD OFFICE
Ads can be lodged in person at the Mullum *Echo* office:
Village Way, Stuart St, Mullumbimby

EMAIL ADS
Display (box ads) and line classifieds, email:
classifieds@echo.net.au

Ad bookings only taken during business hours: Monday to Friday, 9am–5pm. Ads can't be taken on the weekend.
Account enquiries phone 6684 1777.

DEADLINE TUES 12PM
Publication day is Wednesday, booking deadlines are the day before publication.

RATES & PAYMENT

LINE ADS:
\$17.⁰⁰ for the first two lines
\$5.⁰⁰ for each extra line
\$17 for two lines is the minimum charge.

DISPLAY ADS (with a border): \$14 per column centimetre
These prices include GST.
Cash, cheque, Mastercard or Visa
Prepayment is required for all ads.

CLASSIFIEDS THAT WORK ALL WEEK!

Echo Classies also appear online:
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EVERYONE WELCOME

Come one come all and join us in a meal or just a chat. Takeaway most welcome: COVID safe rules apply. Frozen takeaway meals now available.

10am to 12pm In the Ballina Presbyterian Hall

Corner of Cherry & Crane. Just behind the Presbyterian Church.



Mullumbimby & District Neighbourhood Centre
Connecting the Byron Shire Community

HELP YOUR COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

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

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

Contact Volunteer Coordinator Kaz
Wednesday – Friday
6684 1286

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ORCHID SALE
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GARAGE SALES

FRI 14 & SAT 15 APRIL 8am to noon at 12 Hibiscus Place, Mullum. Lots of everything must go.

17 MIA CT, O/SHORES Sat 7am–3pm & Sun 7am–noon. Building mats, garden, fishing, furniture, kitchen, surf & free stuff

8/4 BINDAREE WAY, OCEAN SHORES 7am–noon & **5 BOWER ST, BRUNSWICK HEADS** Noon–5pm. Both on Sat 15 April. Downsizing, moving sale. Furniture, chest of drawers, china cabinet, bed & side table, rugs, household. Everything has to go this weekend.


Tip Runs & Rubbish Removal

0408 210 772

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

PETS FOR LIFE

ANIMAL SHELTER INC. VOLUNTEERS WANTED URGENTLY!
Some of our current volunteers are having to move on for one reason or another (as happens in life) so we are now looking for more helpers; particularly with the shelter roster by cleaning for and socialising our cats and kittens. You'll get a warm fuzzy feeling because you can make a difference
If you are able to assist, please text Emma on 0411587032 or email: petsforlifebillinudgel@gmail.com.



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Want to join an awesome team producing the best community newspaper around?

If the answer is yes, then please get in touch!

Part-time position working Mondays and Tuesdays in our Mullumbimby office. Ideally candidates would be experienced in designing for both print and websites using the Adobe Creative Suite, and be comfortable working on a Mac.

Send your resume and an introduction to:
positions@echo.net.au



THE ECHO

The Echo has a contract position commencing 12 April delivering papers to: 1. Wategos Beach and Paterson St: 500 papers. This position involves inserting, folding and (in wet weather) bagging and delivery of papers, throwing them accurately to driveways from a car, to homes in Wategos and Paterson St areas of Byron.

*The work tends to suit a semi-retired or underemployed person/couple who just want a reliable job to do at their own pace at the same time every week. The successful applicants for these runs will have an ABN, a reliable vehicle, a strong throwing arm, and ideally they will live near the distribution area. They will collect the papers/inserts from Ballina (before 7am) or Mullumbimby (7-7.30am) or Byron A&I Estate (around 10am) on Wednesday and will have delivered all the papers by 6pm Wednesday. Suit mature or stable person. Commencing asap. Email simon@echo.net.au or phone/text 0409324724

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SOCIAL MEDIA GURU for small local business. Please call Wayne 0423218417

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FUNERAL NOTICES

MCGARITY John "Jack" William

26.12.1927 - 2.4.2023



Late of Suffolk Park and formerly of Armidale. Soil Scientist, Golfer, Bon Vivant. Beloved husband of Barbara (deceased) and Margaret (deceased). Loved father and father-in-law of Bruce and Jane, Antonia and Greg and Elena. Loved Grandfather of Chris, Isobel, Claire, Sevanne, Jocelyn, Allie, Alexander and Victoria.

Aged 95 Years. Family and Friends are invited to a celebration of Jack's life to be held at the Moller Hall, Bangalow Showground, Thursday 13th April, 2023. Commencing at 11.30am followed by burial at Bangalow Lawn Cemetery.

Michael Currie at
BRUNSWICK VALLEY FUNERALS
6684 6232

MUSICAL NOTES

GIUITARS, RECORDS, HI-FI
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LOST & FOUND

LOST: Bag left with dog gear in car ride on Friday.

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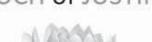
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PETS

Byron Dog Rescue (CAWI)

6-month-old male Border Collie x Kelpie 'Kela' is a cutie sweetie clever affectionate boy who needs not only adequate exercise but continuing training and lots of mental stimulation.

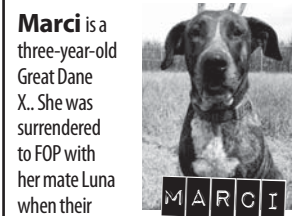


He is initially shy with other dogs but then loves to play. He is good with children, cattle and cats but will chase chickens.

If you have a fenced property and can provide Kela with an appropriate lifestyle for a working-dog breed, contact Shell on 0458 461 935. MC: 95301006015037



Prince is a handsome chunk of tabby love. Surrendered to us aged 10, he still has many more years of love to give. He loves head rubs and is incredibly affectionate. Prince would like to find his forever home soon as the shelter is not the place for this love bug. To meet Prince & our other cats & kittens, please visit the Cat Adoption Centre at 124 Dalley Street, Mullumbimby. OPEN: Tues, 2.30-4.30pm / Thurs, 3-5pm Sat, 10am-12 noon Call AWL on 0436 845 542 Like us on Facebook! AWL NSW Rehoming Organisation Number: R251000222



Marci is a three-year-old Great Dane X.. She was surrendered to FOP with her mate Luna when their owner couldn't find a rental that allowed dogs. She is well behaved and would love a family of her own or with Luna. She is good with kids, cats and dogs. M/C # 953010004201682 Location: Murwillumbah

For more information contact Yvette on 0421 831 128. Interested? Please complete our online adoption expression of interest. <https://friendsofthepound.com/adoption-expression-of-interest/>

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



Meet the distinctive and gorgeous PRINCESS Di. She was a hapless stray who was fortunately rescued, together with her twin kittens, both of whom were advertised recently. Di has retired from motherhood so she is now ready to adopt humans to care for. She is guaranteed to do just that!

All cats are desexed, vaccinated and microchipped. No: 90007900092228

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

MONTHLY MARKETS

1st SAT Brunswick Heads	0406 724 323	4th SUN Nimbin	0475 135 764
1st SUN Byron Bay	6685 6807	4th SUN Murwillumbah	0413 804 024
1st SUN Lismore Car Boot	6628 7333	4th SUN (in a 5 Sunday month) Coolangatta	
2nd SAT Flea Market, Bangalow	0490 335 498	5th SAT Flea Market, Bangalow	0490 335 498
2nd SAT Woodburn	0439 489 631	5th SUN Nimbin	0458 506 000
2nd SAT Tabulam Hall	0490 329 159	5th SUN Lennox Head	6685 6807
2nd SUN The Channon	6688 6433	FARMERS/WEEKLY MARKETS	
2nd SUN Lennox Head	6685 6807	Each TUE New Brighton	0424 168 672
2nd SUN Chillingham	0428 793 141	Each TUE Organic Lismore	6628 1084
2nd SUN Coolangatta		Each WED 7-11am M'bah	6684 7834
3rd SAT Mullumbimby	6684 3370	Each WED 3-6pm Nimbin	0475 135 764
3rd SAT Murwillumbah	0413 804 024	Each WED 4-7pm Newrybar Hall	
3rd SAT Salt Village Market, Casuarina		Each THU 8-11am Byron	6687 1137
3rd SUN Federal	0433 002 757	Each THU 2.30-6.30pm Lismore	0450 688 900
3rd SUN Uki	0487 329 150	Each FRI 7-11am Mullum	0424 168 672
3rd SUN Lismore Car Boot	6628 7333	Each SAT 8-11am Bangalow	6687 1137
3rd SUN Ballina	0422 094 338	Each SAT 8-11am Duranbah Rd (Tropical Fruit World)	
4th SAT Evans Head	0439 489 631	Each SAT 8am-1pm Uki	6679 5530
4th SAT Wilsons Creek	6684 0299	Each SAT 8.30-11am Lismore	
4th SAT Kyogle Bazaar	kyoglebazaar.com.au	Each SAT 8.30-12am Blue Knob	
4th SUN Bangalow	6687 1911	Each SUN 7-11am Ballina	0493 102 137

The Echo updates this guide regularly, however sometimes markets change their routine without letting us know. Please get in touch if you want to advise us of a change.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

AMBULANCE, FIRE, POLICE	000
AMBULANCE Mullumbimby & Byron Bay	131 233
POLICE Brunswick Heads	6629 7510
Mullumbimby	6629 7570
Byron Bay	6685 9499
Bangalow	6629 7500
STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE Storm & tempest damage, flooding	132 500
BRUNSWICK VALLEY RESCUE Primary rescue	6685 1999
BRUNSWICK MARINE RADIO TOWER	6685 0148
BYRON CENTRAL HOSPITAL	6639 9400
BYRON COUNCIL: EMERGENCY AFTER HOURS	6622 7022
NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE (Mullumbimby)	6684 1286
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE 24 hour crisis line	1800 656 463
LIFELINE	131 114
MENSLINE	1300 789 978
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS 24 hours	1800 423 431
AL-ANON Help for family and friends of alcoholics	1300 252 666
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS Meets daily	6680 7280
NORTHERN RIVERS GAMBLING SERVICE	6687 2520
HIV/AIDS - ACON Confidential testing & information	6622 1555
ANIMAL RESCUE (DOGS & CATS)	6622 1881
NORTHERN RIVERS WILDLIFE CARERS	6628 1866
KOALA HOTLINE	6622 1233
WIRES - NSW Wildlife Information & Rescue Service	6628 1898



Term 2 Courses
ENROL NOW!

TERM 2 FEE-FREE* Skill Set Courses

- English Skills For Work & Study - 26th April
- Introduction to Massage - 27th April
- Backyard Food Production - 28th April
- Healthy Soil For Farm & Garden - 29th April
- Urban Permaculture (NEW) - 2nd May
- Introduction to Floristry - 5th April
- Visual Art: Dreaming In Colour 2 - 9th May
- Visual Art: The Art Of Juxtaposition 2 - 10th May
- Visual Art: Breathing The Land 2 - 11th May
- Sustainable Fashion (NEW) - 26th May
- Advanced Floristry - 8th Jun
- Floristry Intermediate - 9th June

*This training is subsidised by the NSW Government. Most NSW residents are eligible - contact us for details.

RTO: 90013 02 6684 3374 byroncollege.org.au



Term 2 Course now
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Sat 22nd April

- Abstraction & Figurative Painting

Fri 28th April

- Webdesign With Wordpress

Mon 1st May

- Portuguese For Beginners
- Afro-Cuban Percussion
- Italian For Beginners

Tues 2nd May

- Afro-Cuban Percussion 2

RTO: 90013 02 6684 3374 byroncollege.org.au

Weds 3rd May

- Pilates Over 50's

Thurs 4th May

- English Conversation Practice
- Encounters With Poetry

Fri 5th May

- Self Help For Anxiety

Sat 6th May

- Reiki Level 1

Medical Receptionist Wanted

to join the Admin Team at Meadows Medical Centre, Mullumbimby.

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On The Horizon

DEADLINE NOON FRIDAY

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

Brunswick VIEW club

Brunswick Valley VIEW club will meet on the second Thursday of this month at Ocean Shores Country Club at 10.30am. Apologies ring Wenda 0449 563 580 or email: wjhunt@yahoo.com, no later than Monday.

GCAT

The Green and Clean Awareness Team's monthly Dunecare Day is on Sunday 16 April, 9am to 12 noon, meeting in front of the Beach Cafe at Clarkes Beach. We plant in the sand dunes from Clarkes Beach to Main Beach. From 12 noon to 1pm, enjoy a delicious free BBQ and be in the draw to win one of four excellent prizes. It's good fun. Enquiries to Veda 6685 7991 or Miles 0403 206 190.

Drill Hall films

The Drill Hall Film Society presents *Mrs Henderson Presents* on Saturday 29 April at 2pm (doors open at 1.30pm) at the Drill Hall Theatre. Please book at drilhallfilms@gmail.com or ring Sonia on 6684 2112. A 2005 biographical film directed by Stephen Frears, starring

Judi Dench and Bob Hoskins. It tells the true story of Laura Henderson, an eccentric British socialite who opened the Windmill Theatre in London in 1931 providing a continuous burlesque revue called 'Revudeville'.

MIA

Melanoma Institute Australia (MIA) is calling on Australians to join its 2023 Melanoma March campaign to support the psychological health and wellbeing of their fellow Aussies living with advanced cancer, and to help tackle Australia's tanning culture. Join the Melanoma March in Ballina being held on Saturday 15 April at Missingham Park on Bundjalung Country from 3-6.30pm.

Free kids chess lessons

Lennox Head Chess Club is conducting a free four-day chess course and tutoring, for 12 year olds and under, over the school holidays. The course is designed for beginners and intermediate players. To be conducted 9am till 11.30am, 18-21 April at Room 2 Cultural Centre Lennox Head behind the Library. Contact Jim Gilchrist on

02 6687 4471 or 0425 276 946, or email president@lennoxheadchess.com.au to book.

Prostate Cancer Support

The next meeting of the Northern Rivers Day Prostate Cancer Support Group is to be held on Wednesday 12 April, 10am until 12 noon at the Alstonville Plateau Sports Club (previously known as Bowling Club), Deegan Drive, Alstonville. Men previously and newly diagnosed with prostate cancer are urged to join with the group to experience the personal cancer stories told, which give a great opportunity for all present to share, learn and benefit from each other. Partners and carers are also most welcome to attend as family are very much involved with the process and treatment of those with this disease. Enquiries, phone Bob Corney 0493 075 612.

AIRFNC

As reported last month, the next meeting of the Association of Independent Retirees Far North Coast (AIRFNC) will be held on Friday 14 April, at 9.30 at Ballina RSL Club. The guest speaker will be Bill Coulter, the CEO of Ballina RSL, speaking on what they do for the Ballina Community. The following meeting will be held on Friday 12 May and this will be the 30th Anniversary of the Branch. The guest

speaker will be author, newspaper columnist and finance investment expert Noel Whittaker. The meeting will be followed by a celebration luncheon and to book your place at this function, please contact Anne on 0437 309 250. Any enquiries please contact John Ritchie, President/ Secretary on 0437 509 618.

Chemical Free Landcare

Byron Shire Chemical Free Landcare working bee will be at Saltwater Creek, Saturday 22 April, 8am until 12 pm. Meet at Mullumbimby Community Garden car park. A cats claw weaving workshop is available 14-16 April.

Botanic Gardens Rainforest walk

Lismore Rainforest Botanic Gardens **Saturday 15 April:** Guided walk of the rainforest with Marijo. Find out about the history of the Gardens as a regeneration project on land given to the Friends of the Rainforest Botanic Gardens by Lismore Council. Meet at the Visitor's Centre at 9.15am for a 9.30am start for a one hour walk. Morning tea in the Visitor's Centre after the walk. Gold coin donation appreciated. Booking essential: Email publicity@friendslrbg.com.au or text 0450 596 705. **Sunday 30 April:** Guided walk of the Wilsons Park Species Garden with Tim. The Wilsons Park Species Garden replicates the

rainforest plants that were originally found at the Wilsons Reserve a few kilometres from the Gardens. Meet at the Visitor's Centre at 9.15am for a 9.30am start for a one-hour walk. Morning tea in the Visitor's Centre after the walk. Gold coin donation appreciated. Booking essential: Email publicity@friendslrbg.com.au or text 0450 596 705.

Sing in support of Feros residents

Be part of Raised Voices, a Community of Voices that are coming together to sing in support of Elders at Feros Village in Byron Bay who have been evicted by the Feros board. They wish to remain in their homeland their community until the end of their lives. Join us to sing this Thursday at Butler Reserve, behind the farmers' market at 11.15am and every Thursday after that until we know our elders are safe in their home. Everyone welcome, for information call and enquiries Matijo 0435 049 489.

Peace & ANZAC Day

Lighting a Candle for Peace on the Eve of ANZAC Day will be held on April 24, at Lismore Anglican St Andrew's Church, 10 Zadoc St. This ceremony is to remember all who have suffered through war, on all sides. At the same time it expresses the wish for non-violent conflict resolutions in

New members and guests welcome. Contact Bruce 0418 515 991 or Ninian 0411 629 982.

Social sporting groups

Mullumbimby: Tuesday Ladies Group of Riverside Tennis Club welcomes new players 9.30am every Tuesday next to Heritage Park, for social tennis, fun and friendship. Info: Barbara 6684 8058. **South Golden Shores Community Centre** Women's table tennis every Monday at 10am. Phone 0435 780 017. **Byron Bay Croquet** at Croquet Club next to the Scout Hall at the Byron Rec Grounds every Monday at 3.30pm. Ring 0477 972 535. **Pottsville Fun Croquet Club** at Black Rocks Sportfield. Beginners and visitors welcome. Game starts 8.30am Tuesday and Thursday. \$5 per game. Enquiries 0413 335 941.

Meditation

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

Byron Gem Club

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

Lions Club

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

Op shops

Uniting Church Op Shop, Dalley St, Mullumbimby - open each Saturday 9am-12 noon. **Byron Bay Anglican Op Shop** opens Tuesday to Saturday 9am-1pm. Volunteers needed. Enq Cathy 0432 606 849. **Mullumbimby Anglican Op Shop** opens Monday to Friday 9am-4pm, Saturday 9am-12noon. Volunteers needed, enq to shop 6684 4718. **Mullumbimby Seventh-Day Adventist Op Shop**

a peaceful future. This all-inclusive, multicultural, multi-faith gathering on April 24, at 5.30-6.30pm, followed by refreshments. For more information please contact: Sabina 6688 6214.

Bangalow Museum

The Bangalow Museum is open Thursday to Saturday 10-2pm. Volunteers are needed, so if you have a few spare hours either weekly, monthly or for special events call in at 4 Ashton Street, Bangalow or contact Trisha 0429 882 525.

CWA Bruns

CWA of Brunswick Heads Crafty Women meet Fridays 10-2pm, corner of Park and Booyun Street, Brunswick Heads. Join us for a chat, a cuppa and bring along your craft projects including sewing, knitting, crocheting, memory books or quilting.

Byron Bay library Scrabble Club

If you are a word enthusiast come along and join our community led Scrabble Club which meets every Thursday at 2pm at Byron Library. Open to players of all levels, make new friends. More info on 6685 8540.

Please note: This section is intended for the benefit of non-profit community groups.

opens Tuesday to Friday 11am-3pm. **Companion Animals Welfare Inc (CAWI) op shop** Brunswick Heads (next to supermarket) open Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 9am-1pm, Sun closed.

Craft group

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

Mullumbimby Potters & Sculptors

Mullumbimby Clayworkers Gallery in the Drill Hall complex is open every Thursday to Saturday 10am-2pm with pottery and sculpture from community members for sale. All details at www.mullumclayworkers.com.

CWA Bangalow

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

Toy Library

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

Muslim prayer

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

Brunswick Heads CWA

Brunswick Heads CWA Crafty Women meet Fridays 10am-2pm, cnr Park and Booyun Streets, Brunswick Heads. Join us for a chat and cuppa, bring along your craft projects including sewing, knitting, crocheting, or quilting. Beginners welcome. Gold coin donation for morning tea.

Sex & Love Addicts Anon

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

Bridge club

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

Regular As Clockwork

DEADLINE NOON FRIDAY

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

Mullumbimby District Neighbourhood Centre

Mullumbimby & District Neighbourhood Centre is open Monday-Thursday 9am-4pm (closed from 12.30-1.30pm for lunch) and offers a range of services and activities. Everyone is welcome. Call reception on 6684 1286 and discover what is on offer. MDNC services that are running include: **Flood Recovery Support Service:** personalised, long-term support for those impacted by the floods. **Community support:** Food parcels, meals, showers, assistance with electricity and phone/stra bills, Work Development Orders. **Listening Space:** free counselling. **Staying Home, Leaving Violence program.** **Integrated Domestic & Family Violence program.** **Financial Counselling:** outreach available Thursdays & Fridays **Financial Counselling:** free service to resume in February, call 6684 1286 for more details. **Information, referral and advocacy.** To enquire about accessing any of these services call 6684 1286 or fill out an online enquiry form.

Byron Community Centre

Byron Community Centre The Byron Community Centre provides community services and programs including meals, advocacy and counselling for locals in need. **Fletcher Street Cottage:** A welcoming, safe and respectful space where people who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness can come to get practical relief opportunities, find connections and access broader support. Fletcher Street Cottage services are open Monday-Friday. **Breakfast:** Monday-Friday, 7am-9am. **Showers and Laundry:** Monday-Friday, 7am-12pm. **Office Support:** Monday-Friday, 9am - 12pm. **Support Appointments:** Individual support appointments with community workers or specialist services. For bookings please call 6685 6807. Fletcher Street Cottage, 18 Fletcher St, Byron Bay. More info: www.fletcherstreetcottage.com.au. **Byron Community Cabin:** Seniors Computer Club (school term only), 9-11am, Friday, Carlyle Steet. More info: www.byroncentre.com.au Phone: 6685 6807

Low-cost or free food

Food Box Thursdays 9.30-11.30am at Uniting Church, Mullumbimby. You may purchase cheap food, obtain free veges, and enjoy a cuppa. **Free Food Relief Bags** for anyone doing it tough, every Wednesday 10-12noon at The Hub Ocean Shores, cnr Rajah Rd and Bindaree Way. No ID or Concession Card required. NILs referral service also available. Check Facebook page The Hub Baptist Ocean Shores for details. **Liberation Larder** Takeaway lunches and groceries Monday and Thursday 12 till 1pm. Fletcher Street end of the Byron Community Centre.

Respite Service

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

Alateen meeting

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

ACA

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

Drug support groups

Call **Alcoholics Anonymous** 1800 423 431 or 0401 945 671 - 30 meetings a week in the Shire - www.aa.org.au. Are you experiencing difficulties and challenges because of the alcohol or drug use of someone close to you? Learn coping skills and gain support from others. **Narcotics Anonymous** is a fellowship of men and women for whom drugs had become a major problem. We are recovering addicts

who meet regularly to help each other stay clean. For information and meetings call 1300 652 820 or text your postcode to 0488 811 247. www.na.org.au. Are you concerned about somebody else's drinking? **Al-Anon Family Groups** meetings held Fridays at 2pm by Zoom. 1300 252666 www.al-anon.org.au.

Support after suicide

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

End-of-Life Choices

Voluntary Euthanasia End-of-Life Choices are discussed at Exit International meetings held quarterly. Meetings are held at Robina and Tweed Heads South, this month. Attendees must be Exit Members. For further information www.exitinternational.net or phone Catherine 0435 228 443.

Carers' support

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

Byron cancer support

The Byron Bay General Cancer Support Group has been running for six years and welcomes new participants. The aim of the group is to provide a safe, supportive and friendly environment for people with cancer to discuss how they are feeling and connect with other people with cancer. The group meets every four weeks on the first Tuesday of the month at 10am at the Byron Bay Services Club Jonson St Byron Bay. For more information Contact Ken 0411 233 755 or David 0428 187 025.

Rainbow Dragons

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

Older adult exercise

Chair Based Older Adults Exercise Classes run by a qualified instructor, that feel more like fun than exercise, are held every Thursday at 10.15am in

the Brunswick Memorial Hall. Cost \$10. All welcome. Just show up or if you have any questions please contact Di on 0427 026 935

\$5 pilates classes

Pilates for the price of a coffee! Come and join us for \$5 Pilates classes every Thursday at 8.45am in the Memorial Hall, 22 Fingal Street, Brunswick Heads and Monday at 8.45am in Mullumbimby. It doesn't matter what level you are, as beginner to advanced options are shown. Just bring a mat and water. My goal is to keep the Shire active and feeling great one person at a time. No need to book just show up. For more information contact Di on 0427 026 935.

Language exchange

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

Brunswick Valley Historical Society Inc

The Museum is on the corner of Myocum and Stuart Sts Mullumbimby, open Tuesdays and Fridays 10am-12pm and market Saturdays 9am-1pm. Discover your local history, join our team - 6684 4367.

Library fun

Baby Bounce and Storytime for toddlers and pre-school children are at: **Brunswick Heads** Library, Monday - Story Time 10.30 till 11.30am; Friday - Baby Time 10.30 till 11am. **Mullumbimby** Library, Monday - Story Time 10-11am; Tuesday - Baby Time 10-10.30 am.

Bruns Progress Assoc

Residents, come along and have your say at the Brunswick Heads Progress Association. We meet the first Monday of each month at the CWA cottage, Park St, at 6:30pm. brunswickheadsprogressassoc@gmail.com

Toastmasters

Byron Cavanbah Toastmasters meetings coaching in communication and self-development run on 1st and 3rd Mondays, 6.15 for 6.30pm at Byron Bay Services Club, Byron Bay. Online attendance allowed. **Mullum Magic Toastmasters:** Mullum Magic provides a safe and fun environment for members and guests to develop their public-speaking and leadership skills. Meeting 6.30-8.30pm every second and fourth Thursday of the month at the Mullum Ex-Services Club.

Delilah wins state gold in the pool

Delilah Warton from Ocean Shores Aquatics swim club has won a gold medal at the primary school-aged state championships and is set to compete at the nationals in late August.

The state championships were held at the Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre over April 5 and 6.

'Delilah was a stand out, qualifying fourth fastest in the 12 years 50m butterfly heats. She went on to win a gold medal in the finals placing equal first with a time of 31.7,' coach Adrian Filipic said.

'This is a phenomenal achievement and it demonstrates what is possible when you have a superior will and want, with belief.

'She was prepared to dig deeper than the other finalists to make her dream come true.'

Adrian spends a lot of time on his swimmers' techniques, which he believes is the primary source for their success, and for Delilah's amazing season.

The club's high school-aged swimmers are



Delilah adorned with championship gold at SOPAC earlier this month. Photo supplied

competing at the state championships at the beginning of next month, and with the team all 'taking the same medicine,' he is excited to see how they perform.

Fourteen squad members have qualified for the state championships and they include: Lawson King, Mali Stewart, Delilah Warton, Eve Porter, Montannah Archibald, Zara Morris, Madison Harper, Eloise Knezy, Lily Purtell, Maddison

Oliss, Spike Stubbings, Tiggi Groves, Addison Cecil, and Andie Gilbert.

Top facilities

'We can't thank Baz and Ralph enough at the Byron Bay Memorial Pool for giving us a great training facility,' Adrian said.

'They are always catering for our needs and supporting our squad so that we keep them thriving and in the sport.'

Byron bowlers win local triples pennant

Byron Bay Bowling Club's men's triples pennant team has qualified to compete in the grade two zone finals after winning five of its six matches in the local series.

In the last round of the competition, Byron Bay's number two side travelled to Ocean Shores, having already secured the series after winning five straight rounds.

They missed out on the clean sweep by just one point going down 58-57.

The team included: Pat Bigg, Dan Foster and Louis and Paul Clark.

'To win the section is an outstanding effort. We now travel to Yamba on May 7 to play the Zone final,' club member Pam Scarborough said.

'A win there would definitely cause a huge



Byron Bay bowlers (L-R): Mark (Boof) Brown with Paul and Louis Clark, celebrate their remarkable win. Photo supplied

celebration as the Byron Bay club, in conjunction with Cherry Street Bowling Club (Ballina), have been awarded the honour of holding the state finals for grade two at their clubs in June.

'So every breath is being held for the result in May.'

Byron Bay Bowling Club is celebrating their centennial year in 2023 and hosting the state finals will kick start the celebrations that will include a reunion day.

'If we can win, what a great centennial year that would be,' Pam said.

Novice sailors hit the water in Ballina

The Richmond River Sailing and Rowing Club at Ballina has just completed a three-day Learn to Sail course held over three consecutive Saturdays.

All up, sixteen people, including nine women, five men and three teenagers took the course

'It was encouraging to see the number of women attending,' training coordinator, Garry Bargh, said.

'The trainees' skills improved over the three days of instruction, with the majority going solo without an instructor on board on the last day.

'Our instructors followed them in our rescue boats giving them guidance when needed.'

Trainees got experience handling different types of boats including: Pacers, Cats, Corsairs, Lasers and a 59er.

'The course was



A stiff breeze helped these trainees get the feel for sailing on the Richmond River. Photo supplied

appreciated by the trainees, who found it helpful and the environment friendly,' Garry said.

Practise sailing for the trainees will continue every Sunday morning to further improve their boating skills.

The club will run its next training course in September.

Send us your sport stories!

We would love to run all kinds of local sport on these pages so please send your photos and stories to sport@echo.net.au.

Local rugby league kicks off this weekend

The wait is over for local rugby league fans with the NRRRL competition set to begin this weekend when the Byron Bay Red Devils take on Murwillumbah at home, while the Mullumbimby Giants travel to take on the Lower Clarence.

The first round home game this Sunday April 16 for the Red Devils will also be Sponsors Day.

The action gets underway with the women's touch team taking to the field at 10.45, followed by the U/18s at 12.00, Reserves at 1.15pm and the A-grade at 2.45pm.

The Mullumbimby Giants are travelling to Yamba Fields



The Red Devils started training in January and are ready to back up their strong 2022 performance. Photo supplied

to take on Lower Clarence, with all the action starting at 11am.

Fans will have to wait till the following week to see the Giants at home, when they

host Northern United.

The NRRRL will be introducing a women's tackle competition in 2023 with the first round set to take place on April 22



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Hopefully Sydney-based NSW police had a great Byron holiday, and enjoyed themselves at Bluesfest, all at taxpayer expense. Letting adorable puppies sniff harmless crowds in the hope of seizing small amounts of cannabis, while also strutting around on horses, and blazing about in large black SUVs, certainly sends a message. The message? Drug law reform is urgently needed so the cops are forced to focus on DV, for example, instead.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■
Mullumbimby Community Preschool is celebrating their 30 year anniversary, with an open day on May 7 from 9am till 12pm. A mini market is planned, and the Mullumbimby fire truck (NSW Fire Service) will also be joining the celebrations.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■
Beware of the ducks, people! In Byron Bay, they follow the same routes and sometimes stand on the road and don't move... so drivers, please be on the lookout.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■
A memorial for Mary Gardner will be held Saturday May 6 from 2.30pm at Marvell Hall in Byron Bay. All are welcome, but organisers need to know how many to expect. To confirm attendance, email catemcoorey@gmail.com.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■
Mexico has announced a 50 per cent reduction in the amount of glyphosate weed killer allowed to be imported into the country, according to www.jornada.com.mx.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■
Psst: Boomerang Festival is returning for the October long weekend, says Bluesfest director, Peter Noble, with Rhoda Roberts curating again.



Local artist, James McMillan, has adorned the wall of Byron's Bayleaf Cafe. 'I was super grateful when Dan and Nicky from Bayleaf Cafe offered me the opportunity to paint the next mural on their famous lane wall. I love this wall, and Bayleaf, for the opportunity it gives local artists to share their work with the community'. Photo Jeff 'To The Wall' Dawson

Are the boards of private corporations beholden to the wishes of local councils? Byron Shire Mayor, Michael Lyon, seems to think so. He will move a motion at this week's Council meeting requesting that Feros Care 'abandon' plans to close its Byron Bay nursing home. The motion also asks the company for a 'full set of financials for the last three years and the forecast for the current year with line-by-line details of income and expenditure relating to the facility.' Well-intentioned though the motion may be, *The Echo* wonders what powers Cr Lyon is relying upon in making this request.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■
Further to the pod accom update on page 3, it's worth noting that Northern Rivers Reconstruction Corporation Chief Executive, David Witherdin, told Patricia Karvelas on ABC RN on March 1 that some two-bedroom emergency pods have cost up to \$500,000,

when all factors are considered, while some cost less. It shows what poor value for money governments get for our taxpayer money, and

that permanent buildings could be built for those in need if only there were the political will.

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