

Echo

ULURU STATEMENT FROM THE HEART

We, gathered at the 2017 National Constitutional Convention, coming from all points of the southern sky, make this statement from the heart:

Our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander tribes were the first sovereign Nations of the Australian continent and its adjacent islands, and possessed it under our own laws and customs. This our ancestors did, according to the reckoning of our culture, from the Creation, according to the common law from 'time immemorial', and according to science more than 60,000 years ago.

This sovereignty is *a spiritual notion: the ancestral tie between the land, or 'mother nature,' and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who were born therefrom, remain attached thereto, and must one day return thither to be united with our ancestors. This link is the basis of the ownership of the soil, or better, of sovereignty.* It has never been ceded or extinguished, and co-exists with the sovereignty of the Crown.

How could it be otherwise? That peoples possessed a land for sixty millennia and this sacred link disappears from world history in merely the last two hundred years?

With substantive constitutional change and structural reform, we believe this ancient sovereignty can shine through as a fuller expression of Australia's nationhood.

Proportionally, we are the most incarcerated people on the planet. We are not an innately criminal people. Our children are alienated from their families at unprecedented rates. This cannot be because we have no love for them.

And our youth languish in detention in obscene numbers. They should be our hope for the future.

These dimensions of our crisis tell plainly the structural nature of our problem. This is *the torment of our powerlessness.*

We seek constitutional reforms to empower our people and take *a rightful place* in our own country. When we have power over our destiny our children will flourish. They will walk in two worlds and their culture will be a gift to their country.

We call for the establishment of a First Nations Voice enshrined in the Constitution.

Makarrata is the culmination of our agenda: *the coming together after a struggle.* It captures our aspirations for a fair and truthful relationship with the people of Australia and a better future for our children based on justice and self-determination.

We seek a Makarrata Commission to supervise a process of agreement-making between governments and First Nations and truth-telling about our history.

In 1967 we were counted, in 2017 we seek to be heard. We leave base camp and start our trek across this vast country. We invite you to walk with us in a movement of the Australian people for a better future.

The Byron Shire Echo • Volume 38 #13 • September 6, 2023 • www.echo.net.au

Uluru Statement From The Heart image and text sourced from www.ulurustatement.org.

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Plus: *Echo Property Magazine* issue #2



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Byron biz awards winners

Winners from the Byron Business Awards, held last Wednesday at Beach, Byron Bay, have been announced.

Byron Bay Chamber of Commerce President, Jason Bentley, told *The Echo*, 'Sponsored by Business NSW and ZEPTO, the evening was an opportunity to recognise excellence in business, and outstanding business leadership, from across the region.'

'The energy in the room showcased our resilience, and local insights were shared on the experiences and challenges businesses across the region have faced over the last couple of years.'

- The winners were:
- Outstanding start-up:** Naturescapes landscape construction, Byron Bay.
 - Outstanding community organisation:** Byron Community Centre.
 - Outstanding visitor experience:** Vision Walks Eco-Tours.
 - Employer of choice winner (under 20):** Vim + Zest personal branding.
 - Employer of choice**



From left, Kylie Millwood (Summerland Credit Union), Nicole Bryant (The Macro Group), and Brenda Reyes (Summerland Credit Union). Photo supplied

- (over 20):** Justine Dorrell (Elements of Byron).
 - Outstanding young business leader:** Monique Rutene (Elements of Byron).
 - Outstanding business leader winner:** Mark Ryan (LRG lawyers).
 - Excellence in micro business:** Legacy of the Antipodes.
 - Excellence in healthcare and wellness:** Savvy Brain Boost.
- Excellence in innovation:** Savvy Brain Boost.
 - Excellence in sustainability:** Vision Walks Eco-Tours and Summerland Credit Union.
 - Excellence in trade construction and manufacturing:** Legacy of the Antipodes.
 - Excellence in business and professional services:** Vim + Zest personal branding
 - Excellence in large business:** Elements of Byron.

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Disabled war veteran's tiny home faces Council demolition order

Story & photo Hans Lovejoy

A disabled Afghanistan war veteran, with diagnosed PTSD, faces the loss of his off-grid, tiny home in Wilsons Creek because it is deemed an 'unauthorised development'.

Council's head of compliance, Shannon Burt, refused to reply to questions around her department's demands to demolish the professionally-built dwelling.

Mayor Michael Lyon did reply to *The Echo*, with contested claims regarding the surrounding vegetation and amount of clearing, (see cut out).

War vet Matt Bruce says he approached *The Echo* because he felt there were no options left to him, and wanted the issue of mental health to be more widely known.

Mr Bruce told *The Echo*, 'I would hate to see another member of the community, or a homeless person, go through the level of neglect that I went through', adding, 'If I am forced to demolish my home, I would lose my small life savings'.

After being evicted from his last rental, Mr Bruce says he found land to rent, and craned in the tiny home onto blocks. Mr Bruce says he rents the rural land from landlord, Nick Scali.

According to realestate.com.au, the property is 140 acres with one other dwelling.

Both Mr Bruce and Mr Scali told *The Echo* they are wanting to navigate a way forward to be compliant, yet throughout the process, they say Council staff were unhelpful in establishing a pathway to gain approval.

\$9,000 fine

A \$9,000 fine was also recently issued by Council to Mr Scali, for 'unauthorised development'. Mr Bruce says that a personal agreement between him and Mr Scali makes him responsible for the fine. The arrangement



Afghanistan war veteran, Matt Bruce, at his tiny home.

also includes paying the hefty fees demanded by Council every time compliance officers attend onsite.

Mr Scali told *The Echo* he suspects that the neighbour who complained to Council is also a Council employee.

The issue puts into question Council's often repeated claims that it is doing whatever it can to ease the housing crisis, and how compliance staff exercise their extensive powers, under delegation from general manager (GM), Mark Arnold.

Mental health

Two letters from his psychologist, asking Council staff to consider his mental state, were ignored, Mr Bruce says.

The letters from psychologist, Dr Debra Roberts, ask Council to be lenient on Mr Bruce: 'The pressure being placed on Mr Bruce by this demolition order has triggered his PTSD, anxiety, and depression', she wrote.

'Matthew has found a place he feels safe in. I believe Matthew needs continuity, consistency, and stability in the foreseeable future to assist with his mental health and PTSD'.

One of the questions put to Council staff, which was not replied to, was: if there is a mental health policy in place when dealing with those with mental health issues.

Mr Bruce says he was very careful about his footprint when placing the dwelling,

and only cleared a small number of camphor trees around the pad, which is a former banana farm, mostly populated by weeds.

It is also close to the property boundary and an established road. 'No natives were touched', he says. 'My composting toilet, grey water system, gas and solar array are all up to building code', he says.

Procedural fairness?

Mr Bruce says procedural fairness was not followed in relation to 4.15, 4.16 and 4.29 of Council's *Enforcement Policy 2020*.

Those policies have regard to the impact an unauthorised activity has on amenity, or harm to the environment.

It reads, 'If action is required, Council will consider what is reasonable in the circumstances and ensure the action is not disproportionate to the level of harm or damage arising from the unauthorised activity'.

'Making me homeless would seem to be disproportionate to the level of harm or damage this dwelling has on the surrounding environment', says Mr Bruce.

While Mr Bruce says he was told by Council his tiny home is not a 'moveable dwelling', Council's head of compliance, Sarah Nagel, told Mr Bruce in email correspondence on May 11, 2023 that, 'Council offered up solutions, such as relocating

Mayor replies

The following is in part what Mayor Michael Lyon told *The Echo* on the matter:

'A healthy situation exists where staff and councillors work together on behalf of the community'.

'This issue has been going on for over two years. The dwelling is not moveable for the purposes of the regulations, and has been built in littoral rainforest, after substantial clearing, in a zone that does not permit it. The landowner is responsible and needs to deal with this, including paying the fines.'

'The landowner has been given ample opportunity and options on his own land where the dwelling could be sited, but has refused to do so. There is no Council employee involved as complainant.'

'We have provided the landowner with multiple options to resolve this, provided a long break in action due to the floods period, and he has not availed himself of those options.'

'I am aware of how much latitude has already been given to Matt in order for this to be resolved over an extended period of time'.

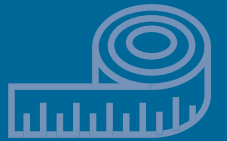
the structure closer to the main dwelling which would permit its continued existence on the property'.

Relocating is not possible, says Mr Bruce, as there is no suitable land near the main dwelling.

'And besides, the road that delivered the tiny home was severely damaged by the 2020 floods. I can't remove it unless the road is repaired', he said. Mr Bruce added, 'This has dragged on for years in part because of the 2020 floods decimating the region, and because Council staff have not provided a clear approval pathway'.



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Rally to 'fix the housing crisis' this Sat

A rally to 'demand reform' and 'tackle the current housing crisis' will be held Saturday September 9, from 3pm at Main Beach, Byron Bay.

Organisers are The Greens, Reclaim Our Recovery Lismore and the National

Union of Students' Get A Room campaign. They are also 'encouraging us all to see beyond the commodification of a basic human right to start a movement to get every Australian a house'.

Speakers include federal

Greens candidate, Mandy Nolan, Chels Hood Withy (The Seeding), and Andy George (Reclaim Our Recovery Lismore).

The group's objectives are: a rent freeze; build more public housing; raise rent

assistance; tax property developers; strengthen renters' rights; end for-profit student accommodation; implement a corporate super-profits tax and fund community-led recovery for climate chaos related disasters.

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Land trust lodges its first affordable housing DA

Paul Bibby

Australia's first community land trust has been launched in the Byron Shire, and has applied to build its first project: a group home for single mothers and kids facing homelessness.

Following in the footsteps of land trusts set up in the US and Northern Europe, the Byron Shire Community Land Trust attempts to address the Shire's housing and homelessness crisis by providing low-cost rental accommodation to those who need it.

It is a not-for-profit entity run by a board, that purchases land and builds housing that is then managed by a community housing provider.

The trust has just submitted a Development Application (DA) for its first housing project, a group home for single mothers, their kids, and older women to be built on the former Eco Village site at 66 Saddle Road, Brunswick Heads.

The home would have five bedrooms, each with its own bathroom, and a separate building containing a shared kitchen, dining area and lounge room.

Transitional housing

It is intended that it will house at least two small single-parent families and two older women, providing them with medium term, transitional housing for a period of anywhere between three and 18 months.

The development includes a driveway from Bashforths Lane, parking for six vehicles, drinking water storage, on-site wastewater treatment facilities and waste storage and composting facilities. Site landscaping includes an Asset Protection Zone (APZ)



Artist's impression of the Saddle Road group home. Image: DA

'We're hoping that other landowners will see the success of the project.'

– Brandon Saul

and the restoration of a gully to the east of the proposed buildings; and rainforest revegetation to the north along a north-flowing gully.

The land for the project has been donated by local developer Brandon Saul, who has played a central role in setting up the land trust.

The group home itself will be built using funds donated by four wealthy local philanthropists with the assistance of the Northern Rivers Community Foundation (NRCF) and Mr Saul's company, Creative Capital.

Managed by social services provider

The home will be managed on a day-to-day basis by The Momentum Collective, a local social services organisation.

The design and layout of the home has been undertaken by a local planner and a local architect, both of whom donated their services.

'This is rental accommodation that will never be sold, or used for anything other than rental accommodation,' Mr Saul said.

'It's written into the terms of the trust that the land can never be sold, can never be used for Airbnb, and can only be used for rental accommodation.'

The Momentum Collective

will run an application process to decide who moves into the housing and help the residents access social support such as counselling, where needed.

Foundation for expansion

It is intended that the group home project will provide a solid foundation for the expansion of the land trust, providing a template to be replicated in other areas of the Shire, and a financial anchor.

This will begin with the creation of two additional group homes of the same size and scale on the Saddle Road site.

'Once the home is up and running, we can then use that as security to borrow more money to buy more land and build more low-cost rental accommodation,' Mr Saul said.

'We're also hoping that other landowners will see the success of the project and donate, say, a corner of their property for another group home.'

'The idea is that we will expand to a point where we're making a significant difference to the housing situation in the Shire.'

'Obviously this isn't going to solve the entire problem – we need housing solutions

at different levels, including government-funded public housing, but we believe this can make a significant difference.'

Group Home SEPP

A key factor in the Saddle Road project and other similar endeavours is that it makes use of the State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) for Group Homes.

Under this SEPP, group homes can be built for those locked out of the housing market on land that does not have an existing dwelling entitlement, thus providing an incentive for landowners who would not be able to develop the land otherwise.

This strategy is applicable in the Shire because it has a significant number of larger land holdings that are no longer being used for agricultural purposes.

Any such development must still be assessed in terms of flood, fire, social amenity, and environmental impact.

It will be up to the board of the trust to decide on which land is purchased for future projects.

Board members

The board is made up of the Manager of the Byron Community Centre, Louise O'Connell, the Chief Executive of Social Futures, Tony Davies, local developer/philanthropist John Callanan, Brandon Saul, and Tracey Mackie, who has 20 years senior and executive management experience in the aged care, health, and community services sectors.

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TAFE Services co-ordinators, Jennifer St. George, Mekah Grace and Hannah Wilson, with Business Relationship Manager, Derek Whitney. Photo Jeff Dawson

A new TAFE NSW Connected Learning Centre (CLC) facility has opened, and is the first permanent TAFE NSW presence in Byron Bay.

The centre is located at 12 Bayshore Drive in the Arts and Industry Estate.

TAFE NSW Executive Director Education and Skills North, Jason Darney, said the investment in Byron Bay will help residents obtain the skills they need to get a first job, find a new job, or land a better job.

'Students at the Byron Bay connected learning centre have access to the latest learning technologies such as simulation and virtual reality, expert teachers both on and off-site, and personalised support services to gain the skills they need to meet the strong demand for a local workforce,' Mr Darney said.

Courses available

Darney said the courses available at the new facility have been determined in consultation with industry,

and include the Certificate IV in Work Health and Safety, Certificate III in Screen and Media, and Certificate IV in Arts and Cultural Administration.

An Education Expo was held on September 6, at which teachers and staff were available to answer questions from the library, counselling and career development, and disabilities and accessibility areas.

To explore TAFE NSW courses, visit www.tafensw.edu.au or call 131 601.



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

Concerns over ayahuasca practitioner Lore Solaris's plan to head to Brazil

The ongoing inquests into the deaths of Natasha Lechner in Mullumbimby in 2019 and Jarrad Antonovich near Kyogle 2021 that were related to kambo and ayahuasca continues. However, concerns have been raised over the intentions of Lore Solaris, who was facilitating the ayahuasca ceremony at Arcoora the night Mr Antonovich died.

Ballina's garbage service to be fully privatised

At its last meeting, Ballina Shire Council voted for one of the three Rs of local government – roads, rates and rubbish – to be entirely taken over by a private company, with council's existing rubbish collection vehicles to be sold off as part of the deal, for \$740,000.

Man dies at Dangar Falls – Dorrigo

A report will be prepared for the coroner after a body was pulled from water at Dorrigo, 35km west of Coffs Harbour.

Pottsville croquet: more fun than a basket of puppies

There are not a lot of things more fun than a game of croquet at the Pottsville Croquet Club with a group of players dedicated to promoting camaraderie, outdoor activity, and of course, the joy of playing croquet.

www.echo.net.au

Tweed top adopters of solar on North Coast with opening of Banora Point solar array



Tweed Shire new Banora Point solar array. Photo supplied

The opening of the Banora Point solar array by Tweed Shire Council (TSC) has seen Tweed Shire take out the top spot for solar energy uptake on the NSW North Coast.

'Tweed homeowners, businesses and Council, it's time to celebrate. We are the top adopters of solar energy on the North Coast of NSW,' said Mayor of Tweed Shire Cr Chris Cherry.

'It's estimated the roofs of more than 20,000 Tweed homes plus businesses and Council facilities have a combined solar energy capacity of 125 megawatts.'

The Banora Point solar array covers the size of a football field with 1,208 high-efficiency solar panels with a capacity of 604

kilowatts that are now powering one of Council's most power-hungry facilities, the Banora Point Wastewater Treatment Plant.

This is Tweed's largest wastewater plant, processing the sewage of 55,000 people from Banora Point, Bilambil Heights, Terranora, Tweed Heads, Tweed Heads South and Tweed Heads West.

'This is great news for our environment and goes a long way towards achieving Council's Renewable Energy Action Plan goal of cutting greenhouse gas emissions from our electricity use by 50 per cent by 2025,' said Cr Cherry.

■ Read more on *The Echo* online at: www.echo.net.au

Young Lismore musicians to play in Sydney

Later this month a group of young Lismore musicians will travel to Sydney to take part in a huge night of Latin music at Sydney's Club York.

This might not seem like such a big deal, but these youth, who live in a town once renowned for its cultural vibrancy and especially its flourishing music scene, have like many in the region, been rebuilding as part of

the long and difficult post-flood process.

On Saturday, 23 September the group will perform at Club York in the Sydney CBD under the name Cubano Jazz Combo, alongside some of the country's finest Latin musicians drawn from multi-ethnic backgrounds.

■ Read more on *The Echo* online at: www.echo.net.au

Bigger and better charity duck race coming to Ballina



Rotary's Michael Jones, Jodie Shelley and Jamie Marshall at the temporary Ballina shopfront. Photo David Lowe

David Lowe

Sunday, 10 September is the date to put in your diaries for the great Rotary Duck Race, which will be happening at Fawcett Park in Ballina to help three wonderful community causes.

The Echo caught up with Ballina-on-Richmond Rotary's President Jamie Marshall and 'Duckmaster' Michael Jones to find out more.

Jamie Marshall said this year's event will be bigger

and better than last time.

'Obviously, we've had a relaxation of all the Covid rules. So there'll be more food trucks, more entertainment, and more kids' games – we're trying to get more of the community involved.'

Best dressed duck

There are two competitions within the Rotary Duck Race; Best Dressed Corporate Duck, with local businesses and organisations outfitting fancy ducks to win a trophy

(these ones don't go swimming); and the Community Duck Race, where anyone can buy a duck to have a chance at some great prizes.

Tickets are available online at: <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/979572> or via the temporary shopfront at 130 River Street, where people can also check out the spectacular corporate ducks.

■ Read more on *The Echo* online at: www.echo.net.au

Sparks fly at extraordinary Ballina Council meeting

David Lowe

Ballina Council's Extraordinary Meeting (31 August) to discuss a rescission motion over Ballina's ward boundaries saw new positions and lots of strong language from councillors, but no ultimate change in the result from the previous meeting.

The rescission motion was moved by Cr Phil Meehan, seeking to return to Ballina Council staff's original suggestion of minor changes to

the ward boundaries, rather than the more significant boundary changes proposed by Cr Rod Bruem.

Cr Meehan suggested the arguments put forward during previous debate about confusion of some residents as to which ward they lived in were spurious, and not the real reasons for the debate. 'I'll just say they're not correct,' he said. 'I think that's a fact rather than just an opinion.'

He said the changes

proposed by Cr Bruem and supported by the mayor and others would affect 2,500 electors, and render the balance of population between the wards (which are supposed to be equal) more inequitable, not less. 'You go out in the street and tell me if people will think that makes sense,' said Cr Meehan. 'It doesn't make any sense at all.'

■ Read more on *The Echo* online at: www.echo.net.au

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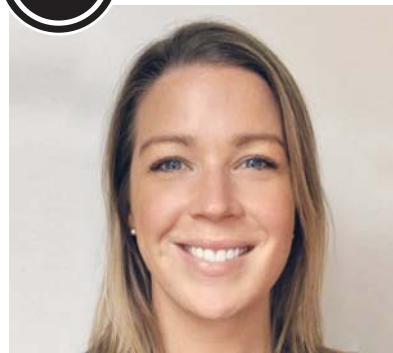
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The Byron Shire Echo
Volume 38 #13 • September 6, 2023

The answer is 'Yes'

Yes, we have printed the Uluru Statement from the Heart on the front page this week. They are the words of simplicity, dignity and truth that stirred the government into presenting us with a referendum.

On October 14, we will vote on the proposal 'To alter the Constitution to recognise the First Peoples of Australia by establishing an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice.'

Most of the people this newspaper reaches will probably vote 'Yes' to the question, 'Do you approve this proposed alteration?' However, if the polls are correct, many people elsewhere intend to withhold their consent.

There are some honourable reasons for doing so.

The proposal does not go far enough; there should be a Treaty; the Voice is a far cry from self-government; and it will not be a magic bullet to right the wrongs and repair the damage that has been inflicted on the First Peoples.

These and similar considerations are not trivial, but they have been drowned out by the deceitful arguments, unfounded assertions and outright falsehoods peddled by the kind of media outlets and politicians who profit from manipulated fear, hatred and division.

Apart from the home-grown example of Scott Morrison, we have had ample warning in the US and the UK of what happens when bad faith and deliberate lies invade the public sphere.

Indeed, the Coalition has even adopted the Trump strategy of undermining people's trust in the voting process itself, by baselessly accusing the Australian Electoral

'Many republican-leaning voters rejected the 1999 Republican referendum, thinking a better proposal would be forthcoming. They are still waiting.'

Commission (AEC) of a bias in favour of the 'Yes' case.

And in the AEC booklet, which is supposed to give both sides of the argument fairly, the anti-Voice campaigners have used the now familiar tactics of cherry-picking, half-truths and fake news. If their fact-free opposition is successful, the momentum towards a better future for all of us will be lost, perhaps for years.

A generation ago a majority of Australians, according to polls taken at the time, wanted to abolish the monarchy, but did not like the referendum's proposal of a head of state chosen by politicians rather than elected by the people.

Many republican-leaning voters rejected the referendum, thinking a better proposal would be forthcoming. They are still waiting.

Those who do not vote 'Yes' now, even from the best of motives, will find no improved future opportunity if the referendum is defeated. Nor will a reluctant vote against the Voice be any different from the triumphant votes of white supremacists.

Yes, it takes courage to change the status quo. Yes, the referendum will not bring down inflation or the cost of living. Yes, the worst problem we face is the existential threat of climate change, which governments are meeting by outlawing protests against its perpetrators.

David Lovejoy, *Echo* co-founder

Medicalisation of a nation

The revamped Drill Hall Theatre in Mullumbimby is back with a bang next month.

The Almighty Sometimes is a new Australian play about mental health, autonomy, and the medication of children.

Without judgement, the play features the story of a teenage girl curious to explore life without her pills. It's already won multiple honours, including one in the UK and the Premier's Literary Awards in NSW and Victoria.

The play comes at a time of ongoing debate about medication use among the young, and the wider 'medicalisation of life'. In Canberra, there's even a Senate Inquiry underway about ADHD.

It's clear many adults and children can benefit enormously from a medical label, and the medication or other treatments that follow. But there's also a mountain of scientific evidence that too many people are over-diagnosed and over-medicated. Including in the field of mental health.

Rising prescriptions

We've known for some time Australians are among the highest users of antidepressants in the world. Yet, new research from the University of NSW has found those rates continue to rise relentlessly.

Over the five years leading up to the pandemic, there was a staggering 50 per cent increase in new antidepressant use among Australian adolescents. The pandemic then saw rates grow even further, especially among teenage girls.

And those increases are despite high quality reviews of all relevant clinical trials, showing commonly used antidepressants are barely more effective than placebos. Plus, they carry side effects, including in some cases, rare but serious ones, such as suicidal thinking.

'There's no good evidence antidepressants are helpful for young people, but there is evidence they're harmful', child psychiatrist, Jon Jureidini, told *The Echo*.

'First of all, it's a problem of the drugs not being very good', says



'In the US in 2022, drug companies and device makers made payments to health professionals totalling almost A\$20 billion.'

– Dr Ray Moynihan

Jureidini, a professor from the University of Adelaide, and practising clinician. 'And second, even if they were good, they're being used far too broadly.'

So what's driving this relentless rise in antidepressant use?

'It's the medicalisation of distress', says Jureidini, a respected academic and critic of pharma-marketing.

'This idea that if people are unhappy or troubled, there must be a medical explanation. And underneath it all, there's the pharmaceutical promotion of drugs as the simple solution to all of life's complex problems.'

Industry influence

As you're likely aware, very little happens in medicine outside of the long shadows of drug company influence. Travel junkets and lavish dinners have attracted much attention over the years.

But while it may be more subtle now, if you think the influence-peddling is a thing of the past, you're mistaken.

It is still entirely legal, and extremely common, for companies to sponsor the research, the hospital seminars, the medical journals, and the scientific conferences where our prescribing doctors are 'educated' about drugs.

One study I did with colleagues some time ago found almost 30,000 such events every year in Australia, where companies offered hospitality to doctors. We don't know the exact figure today, because Australia's self-regulatory system of disclosure has been watered down so much.

Sunshine Act

In the United States, they passed a law over a decade ago known as

the *Sunshine Act*, requiring drug companies to disclose every dollar they give to doctors, and all their names. That means we know exactly how much these corporations are still throwing around to influence the way doctors prescribe.

In the US in 2022, drug companies and device makers made payments and 'transfers of value' to health professionals totalling almost A\$20 billion.

As it happens, the *Sunshine Act* – which forces the exposure of that \$20 billion – arose from explosive congressional investigations in the early 2000s in Washington DC. Those investigations exposed multiple examples of high-profile doctors not disclosing money from pharma, including in the field of mental health.

In one notorious case, investigators revealed Harvard professor Joseph Biederman and colleagues had failed to publicly report millions of dollars of payments from drug companies. Biederman is famous for his research on drugs for children diagnosed with ADHD and bipolar disorder.

Importantly, Australia has never held similar parliamentary investigations. And we have no *Sunshine Act* to throw light into the dark shadows of pharma influence.

There is the current Senate inquiry into ADHD, but that's another story, and another column, coming soon.

In the meantime, we can look forward to the stage-lights coming on in the newly revamped Drill Hall Theatre, and the return of that bright magic of live theatre.

■ Dr Ray Moynihan is the author of four books on the business of medicine. *The Almighty Sometimes* opens at the Drill Hall October 13.



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Nicholas Shand
1948–1996
Founding Editor

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

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

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– Finley Peter Dunne 1867–1936

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Dumbbells ringing

I once knew a bloke who owned a gym with a swimming pool in the basement. He was a crazy bloke. He used to muck around with strobe lights in his gym and he would dance around juggling spinning dumbbells. He used to call it playing with air.

One day the silly bastard got a long bar and put a weight in the middle and another two weights at the ends and started to dance around spinning it. He adjusted the strobe lights so that they were in tune with the big spinning weights. It was pretty mesmerising, everybody just watched and didn't do much about it.

But suddenly it smashed through the wall into the electrical system and created a bloody fire so the whole place went up in flames and all the weights just went flying down through the floor into the swimming pool and made a huge splash so the whole place was burning and flooding and he lost everything! He went into shock, went berserk, and died of starvation!

It actually reminds me of climate change, people just watching mesmerised and not doing much. Even the way carbon dioxide spins up with a particular infrared frequency and rips through the atmosphere creating havoc.

The moral of the story is don't get fossilised when you are watching some fuel playing with fire.

Sapoty Brook
Main Arm

Car chase

To the old guy driving with P-plates thinking he can intimidate a young woman. Thank you so much for the fun game we played on Friday afternoon around Bruns and Mullum - I've always wanted to have a car chase!

It was just like the movies, although I didn't envision it with a Toyota Hilux with red Ps and driven by an ancient dude... You thought it'd be fun to park me and another guy in (regardless of countless spots around Old Maids at that time of afternoon). You deserved the toothpaste on your doorhandle. You're welcome.

Seems like whatever reason you were chasing



Mullumbimby-born Elva Abrahams (nee Fraser) travelled to Mullumbimby from Sydney for her 83rd birthday on 23 August.

Elva was born in the Mullumbimby Hospital in 1940 during war, the fifth of five children to Elsie and Reg Fraser, who share-farmed around the district until 1957.

Elva celebrated the day with a visit to The Paddock and lunch at Ya Man in Stuart Street, Mullumbimby. She was joined by her husband Bruce, son David, granddaughter Sunniva and great-grandchild Aleia who was born one year ago in Lismore.

Elva relaxed with a copy of *The Echo*, impressed by the vibrancy of the town and the quality of life in the district. 'It was a different world back then, mum and dad ran dairy cows, grew pineapples and my dad carted bananas for a living,' Elva said. Photo David Abrahams

me around backroads for a good half hour wasn't worth coming into the Woolies car park... shame! We could have put on a show! Oh well, maybe next time just park in a parking spot like the rest of the vehicle-driving population...

Signed, a model citizen ;))
Paisley Moss
Byron Bay

Richard Jones

Just wanting to say how much I enjoy Richard Jones's column, and especially the one about the 'Greens in government' fantasy... Marvellous. It's great to dream.

Thanks Richard!
Virginia White
Goonellabah

ALP conference

David Lowe is correct in his comments (*The Echo* online, 21 August) regarding the

Construction Forestry Mining Energy Union (CFMEU) protesting at the ALP conference last week in Brisbane.

As the union official responsible we were predominantly arguing against a conference resolution by the party's own environmental network that Felicity Wade chairs, which was proposing a complete native timber logging ban before the next federal election.

An absolutely ridiculous proposition that sent shivers through some of our own communities such as Grafton, Casino, Lismore, Kyogle among others that rely on the timber industry. It was sensibly defeated on the floor of the conference.

The timber industry as a whole are readying themselves for an interesting few months and are keen to

sit down with the NSW Labor government when they're ready and to have input into what the future holds for towns, workers and their families and the forests.

At the conference fringe side event conducted by the Labor Environment Action Network featuring Federal Environment Minister, Tanya Plibersek, I was able to point out to the rabid green adoring crowd in attendance, that the beautiful wood panelling lining the walls and the acoustic sheets lining the ceiling were products we still manufacture here on the north coast... not some cheap, shitty unregulated import from Malaysia or China where there is no regard for the forests or their inhabitants.

You can't have it both ways.

We need some real consensus going forward from all players in this industry not just the fanciful tales the Greens keep spewing out.

Paul Taylor
Murwillumbah

Immigrants

Homelessness has nothing to do with the environment and everything to do with the 500,000 immigrants that landed here in the last year. Likely more per capita than the massive flood of immigrants into the USA and with another 700,000 Chinese forecast to land here in the next two years.

Combined with high inflation and the economic downturn caused by global lockdown polices, one would naturally expect a continuing rise in homelessness, regardless of any homeless shelters built in the centre of town.

► Continued on page 11

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***100,000 Aussie *Suicides in 42 yrs!**
3 in *4 = *75,000 R Males!
 ABS 1980/2022. Est. 4 2022, data not yet released.
 AU Parliamentary website from 1921 re % Male.
Testosterone = many things inc...
SEX + AGGRESSION

Some Sobering Sex Assault Figures!
 *An est. 91% of victims of rape & sexual assault are female and 9% male.
Nearly 99% of perpetrators are male.*
 US *Dept. of Justice stats, 2002. Google CalPoly HUMBOLDT, *Sexualised Violence Stats.*

Introducing **Prof. Carole Hooven**. Scan 4 video above.

For the past 6 yrs, she served as a lecturer and co-director of undergraduate studies at Harvard's Department of Human Evolutionary Biology. Author of: ***T: The Story of Testosterone, the Hormone that Dominates and Divides Us.*** 338p, 2021.

Preprogrammed by Eons of Evolution

A slow reader, so far I've found NO mention of Suicides. But my take??
 • In her 2'nd to last paragraph she talks about her own son, about to enter puberty saying; his

T driven changes R preprogrammed by eons of evolution. ... masculine feelings are not toxic; and he is not toxic for having them. What matters are his actions, and he has control over those. Pg260.

• Males appear wired-up 4 Sex & Aggression, as per Assault figures above.
 • I believe we R so wired up; particularly under *stress and *loss, we often have short wicks, and *explode into *Violent behaviour...
 • With *Violence 2 *others and so often on *ourselves!

If I'm right, it's eons of evolution we have 2 turn around!
 *How? *Always the *1st STOP...
 😊 ***KEEPPICKINGUPURPHONE!*** 😊
 *Emergency 000, Any *Doctor, *Lifeline 13 11 14.
 Created by sheep farmer Tim Barritt. Barossa Valley, S.A.

Why a listening space matters

Richard Hil

Of all the forgotten stories in the aftermath of the 2022 floods in the Northern Rivers, the role of Mullumbimby's Listening Space (LS) surely ranks as one of the more fascinating. This pro bono counselling service, part-funded for flood response and located in the Mullumbimby Neighbourhood Centre, was established in the wake of the 2017 floods. A small team of LS counsellors provided support to many traumatised locals whose houses had been inundated or who needed some emotional support. Most of the counsellors were volunteers or students on placement. As a team, we learned a good deal about the depths of trauma experienced by flood victims as well as the suffering of those who bore witness to a ravaged community.

The events of 2022 proved to be much more challenging than 2017. In the immediate aftermath there was panic and confusion about how to respond to something so widespread and devastating. What role would be played by existing and newly formed organisations? Who would coordinate the whole thing?

It took time to think things through, to get a sense of the most pressing needs and what resources were available. The Mullumbimby Neighbourhood Centre facilitated the presence of LS counsellors in the Recovery Centre which became a major multi-agency response hub. The need for support was evident in the Centre



Top: People gathering to help and for help at the Mullumbimby District Neighbourhood Centre.
Right: Post-flood clean up.
 Photos Aslan Shand



itself where flood victims could be seen weeping, others catatonic or having psychotic episodes. It was a gut-wrenching scene of tragedy and trauma.

We had to act, and quickly. The Neighbourhood Centre was already in full flow, offering all manner of services to a beleaguered community.

Acute crisis

Listening Space invited people with accredited counselling experience to offer their services. And they did, in the most extraordinary ways. Around 80 people turned up: psychologists, psychiatrists, psychotherapists, mental health nurses, social workers, qualified counsellors and many others.

As part of a broad range of services offered by the

Neighbourhood Centre – and facing extraordinary demands in a time of acute crisis – LS had to check these people out, create a roster, find suitable spaces within the Neighbourhood Centre, and appoint a coordinator. All this was done in quick time, as clients began to roll in. Love, compassion, kindness and care flowed through the building. Helpers offered their time, expertise and support to a community in deep crisis. It was amazing to witness this; to be a part of it.

Listening Space continues its work at the Mullumbimby Neighbourhood Centre to the present day, providing professionally supervised counselling services free of charge to a community still in need and seeking the human touch. LS staff provide a listening ear, information, and advice when sought.

Listening Space was, of course, just one of many initiatives that stepped up in the wake of the floods. Countless individuals, groups and organisations became involved. Without this, it's likely that the community

would be in considerably worse shape than it is.

Trauma remains present, people are still hurting and confused about the lack of government response to an ongoing crisis. Homes remain empty, repairs still need to be done, many people remain in temporary housing, or in cars and tents.

The suffering caused by the floods is likely to endure. But over time, and with the right support and connections, life in all its splendour will return. Mullumbimby has already regained much of its verve.

Looking forward, we'll need a much more coordinated, appropriately funded and well-drilled response to whichever climate event strikes these parts. And extreme weather events will happen, most likely this coming fire season. Thanks in part to the lessons learnt last year, services like LS will be better prepared – but only with the right level of support.

I commend everyone who offered their time, energy and skills in 2022. You made a difference to many peoples' lives.

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CASP funding for four Northern Rivers projects supporting the arts



Elle Marinucci, Aslan Shand, and Sally Mathrick are three of the four muffketeers who have developed The Darling Muffs of May project (Insta: @DarlingMuffsOfMay) that will, this year, be raising money for Northern Rivers charities that support older women who are homeless. Photo Jeff Dawson

From supporting emerging youth artists to mentoring emerging writers Arts Northern Rivers CASP (Country Arts Support Program) 2023 is supporting a diverse range of projects.

'We are thrilled to have had such a broad range of projects submitted and that the successful submissions are a joyful reflection on the regions creatives,' said Jane Fuller, Executive Director of Arts Northern Rivers.

Four projects have received CASP funding. 'We Will Thrive' is a creative recovery project for the Northern Rivers LGBTQIA+ community after the 2022 floods run by dancer, performance artist and arts worker Paul Walker; Kyogle Writer in Residence program that will provide a two-week residency for an emerging Northern Rivers writer; Who ate all the pies, a project by Byron Youth Service supporting young emerging artists; and The Darling Muffs of May, a project that takes a celebratory approach to women's health and wellbeing and this year will be raising awareness and fund raising around the issues of older women's homelessness.

► Continued from page 9

The greatest environmental threat to Australia is not coal mining or gas fracking, it is without a doubt, fire ants; say goodbye to picnics.

Peter Olson
Goonengerry

Theory of conspiracy

Plans being made to benefit Australian people. What happens when there are

complaints? Does every living person conspire with their own mind (the physical and mental interaction) so they can function on earth?

The act and actions conspiring to live their life in human society, the conspiracy theory they implement continually, becomes a theory no more, as a person enacts the acts of conspiring. The proof is in the actions of the person. Who the heck on

earth are these people, who have the cheek to say that asking a question or seeking an answer or asking for facts to be presented about actions or plans taken by others?

When they reply with the deflection 'that's a conspiracy theory', 'it's misinformation', if they don't like the query? Do persons conspire against the government ... do the government persons

conspire against the people? Of course, they do it's human nature every person does it.

What is misinformation? Why are answers to questions about proof of facts kept in secret when certain questions are asked, it certainly isn't a conspiracy theory, is it honesty or dishonesty at play ... that has to be questioned.

Rob Podhajsky
Ocean Shores

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Feds announce new coastal light pollution plan

Local federal MP, Justine Elliot (Labor) announced last week that Byron Shire Council will receive \$49,500 in funding 'to reduce light pollution and help protect the coastal habitat of Australia's threatened species'.

Mrs Elliot says, 'As more and more Australians choose to live near Australia's magnificent beaches, light pollution is a growing threat for wildlife conservation, impacting turtles and migratory birds'.

She says, 'The Byron Shire Coastal Light

Management Plan will develop and implement a prioritised action plan for the sensitive ecological coastal environments it manages'.

When asked if Council has such a plan in place, a spokesperson replied, 'there is currently no plan for reducing light pollution in coastal communities, so this grant will be used to produce a Coastal Light Management Plan'.

Council staff say the plan will include a 'Review of coastal sites adjacent to Council-managed lands for sources of light pollution;

review of lighting impacts on endangered migratory birds and marine life and impact assessment of potential wildlife likely to be affected by artificial light; identifying potential solutions to manage light impacts that are not currently being undertaken; identifying practical and sustainable actions and/or strategies that can be implemented within Council-managed lands on a prioritised basis; and a prioritised implementation program to renew and/or upgrade Council-managed lighting infrastructure'.



Byron District Orchid Society show this weekend

Meredith Plowman, pictured, is a newer member of Byron District Orchid Society but she's no novice when it comes to growing beautiful orchids. The society will be running their next show this weekend. All members of the community are invited to submit orchids and/or plants for the competition. Just bring them to the Mullumbimby Ex-Services Club on Thursday afternoon between 4 and 5pm for judging. The show will run on Friday from 10am till 5pm and Saturday from 10am till 2.30pm. There will be lots of beautiful orchids and plants for sale as well so get along and feast your senses. Photo Jeff Dawson

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Successful Shearwater Spring Fair

Tulsi and Ora getting stuck into the charred corn at Shearwater's Spring Fair last Saturday. Photo Jeff Dawson

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First National Byron The value of trust

NEWSPAPER

Listening to the voices: the referendum on the Voice to parliament

■ Groups from across Australia representing First Nations people met at Uluru in May 2017. From this meeting came the *Uluru Statement from the Heart*.

This statement did not request a third chamber of parliament, a treaty or even the power to make laws. It only asked for an advisory panel.

If the 'Yes' vote is successful, members of the advisory panel will be elected by First Nations people. The government wants an advisory panel because past ways of assisting First Nations people have failed (big time). A new approach is needed. The government not only can listen to this panel but also ask their advice.

This country is already divided on Indigenous rights, how could a 'Yes' vote make it worse?

If the 'Yes' vote is successful then First Nations people will feel they have the support of *all* Australians. This will be *unifying*.

L Clarke
Ballina

■ An affirmation:
What parts of the word 'No' don't I understand?

It is the part that means not supporting an Aboriginal/Islander Voice to parliament that might just improve the gulf between outcomes for a large proportion of First Nations peoples and the positive impact this would have on all Australians.

It is the part that comes from its links to right-wing politics, to an ultra-conservative Christian lobby and less 'reputable' hangers on. The chief proponents most closely associated with Australia's version of CPAC (the Conservative Political Action Conference) – Warren Mundine and Jacinta Price standing on the same platform as Pauline Hanson, Tony Abbott, and some of the flotsam and jetsam of Trump's frightening American dream.

It is the part that gives in too easily to fear mongering and which crushes the hope that a Voice has to offer without giving any alternative.

If a Voice can help save a baby's life, save a family from violence, save a teenager from suicide and despair, save someone from the vicious cycle of poverty, crime and jail then it would

have kept the faith that the *Uluru Statement from the Heart* offers. That's too important to deny.

Mark Baxter
Kingscliff

■ Australian Aboriginal peoples are experiencing a second wave of dispossession, and given the bloody carnage required to drive them from paradise into this civilised machine, they are now point-blank faced with the likelihood of becoming perpetrators in the cycle of violence not of their making.

Never mind the Australians who sleep rough and are destitute who can attest to the criminality of this 'civilised' state of things, so can the destitute and working poor of the entire globe. The 1967 referendum is just a piece of paper and Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are still at the very bottom on every level of what it is required to have a decent life.

Their lands were stolen with violence. They were 'owned' in a way the class framework cannot possibly cognise, and has no way out

of, without their help in every way their talents can be leveraged.

The reason we speak of 'closing the gap' is like a pool table, they got buried behind the 8 ball when they were sunk and this 'civilisation' crystallised on top of it. It is not a level playing field until the table is put back on an even keel.

Descendants of my British ancestors had an indirect role in the initial 'terra nullius' which explains land ownership. Aboriginal peoples of Australia 'are still thieves' and 'liars' when they seek a means through constitutional recognition to enact a reconciliation for the heart of the nation through the Uluru Statement of the Heart which begins with the Voice.

Danielle Haliczzer
Ocean Shores

■ In response to David Witney's letter (30 August). Every year the government releases their budget projections for the coming year. Each year funding is allocated to Aboriginal communities to address welfare, health, and housing. The decisions on how this

money is spent are made by Canberra bureaucrats who assume they know what's needed in the communities. Shocking results show we haven't closed the gap or raised the living standards of First Nations people.

The Voice will provide a representative group of First Nations people to propose what will work for them; the government must listen and then decide how to respond.

Most First Nations people in our country live in third-world poverty. They suffer shocking health issues that impact on every aspect of their lives including inadequate housing (if any), poor access to health facilities and clean drinking water – the list goes on.

The Voice will not solve everything immediately but it will provide an avenue that ensures that the government must listen for the long term. It's such a small ask.

I urge people to think carefully about this opportunity. There is too much at stake for the future wellbeing of First Nations communities.

Rhonda Ansiewicz
Federal

■ Hey David Witney (Letters, 30 August), the Constitution was written by colonisers for colonisers. Us white people. Settlers.

It doesn't mention our First Nations people anywhere! Over 80 per cent of mob want recognition in the Constitution.

The Voice is a one-page document of 440 words written by mob for mob. Written completely by Elders of mob from all over this country.

Sitting together over a two-year period of meetings just to create the Voice to parliament. Eighty per cent of mob want this Voice. The Indigenous population of Australia is around 3.8 per cent.

As everyone votes in a referendum, this means once again, and as usual, the colonisers hold all the power in decision-making for our First Nations people.

'No Happy Horse Shit' – the/we colonisers hold the position of power. Support the majority of mob in 'their' decision to support the Voice; vote 'Yes'.

The practical difference is for mob, not you. Support our First Nations people.

Lisa Sandstrom
Brunswick Heads

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The rail trail debate rolls on and finally gets traction in Byron Shire

■ To all the Byron Shire councillors who voted for proceeding with the Northern Rivers Rail Trail (NRRT) in two sections, between Mullumbimby to Crabbes Creek, joining the existing Tweed Rail Trail, and between Byron Bay township and Booyong, via Bangalow, a heartfelt congratulations to you all, from the growing number of supporters for this magnificent project for our communities.

Councillors responsible for this future vision are: Asren Pugh, Mark Swivel, Alan Hunter, Mayor: Michael Lyon, Sarah Ndiaye and Sama Balson.

Your astonishing endurance and dedication over the years, to what will be the greatest eco-journey addition to Byron Shire in living memory, will be written in this shire's history.

It is important to note the political aptitude of Sarah Ndiaye as a Greens representative.

As we know, The Greens to date, have had a blanket policy to return all disused rail corridors in Australia to rail public transport.

Sarah is the first to recognise the perpetual

unviability of this with our very own corridor and so acted to vote, instead, to reactivate our corridor with a viable option, thus putting her community first, before unviable idealism.

The NRRT has always acted likewise, and has never stood in the way of actively pursuing groups towards rail service reinstatement but, to date, little to no effective evidence of plans, costings or fundings has been published.

The Greens may or may not appreciate this advanced decision, but in the end, we're all individuals wishing for best outcomes and if Tweed Shire's trail is anything to go by, the future decades are looking very good indeed for those that want to ride, run, walk or just amble along, in our gorgeous hinterland environment, away from traffic noise and pollution.

Tim Shanasy
Byron Bay

■ In relation to the Byron Shire Council's uninformed decision to vote for a rail trail – it is for everyone, just so ridiculous, as of course not everyone can ride a bike

or walk the rail trail.

Another ridiculous statement – that the train does not go to all homes or communities; planes and buses do not either. Buses are squashed for seating, narrow, have lots of steps to walk up into the bus, all in all, very hard or impossible for a lot of people, hence trains are so much easier and more comfortable.

Mike Halliburton, the 'Rail Trail King', stated in rail trail reports he had done: that diversions can happen, even bridges. The replacement bridge at Mooball – the word is the cost [is] \$1 million.

TAHE: Transport Asset Holding Entity of NSW own the land on which future rail trails are located. Instead of staying at rent-free offices, TAHE moved to the CBD of Sydney costing massive high rent a year, and had tried for extra salaries but were apparently denied. Labor said they would disband TAHE if they 'won' the NSW state election. TAHE is still in control!

The developers' eyes sure have that Byron land in their sights!

Jillian Spring
Billinudgel

■ I refer to the recent petition begging the Byron Shire Council (BSC) to cooperate with the community to expedite the completion of the rail trail in Byron Shire's jurisdiction.

The arrogance, dishonesty and disingenuous behaviour of those councillors who voted effectively against this petition is plain.

If they and their acolytes didn't notice, we already have a public transport system in Byron Shire. I bet none of you use it.

The councillors' proposal to add another transport system is illogical and going to cost ratepayers; and these people are not giving up, obfuscating, and delaying the inevitable.

The rail line built to transport bananas and butter in 1906 was already obsolete when Deputy PM Doug Antony commented in the 1990s that it was a line that nobody used. Labor minister Michael Costa had the good sense to close it in 1993.

The rail trail, a new positive healthy regional asset, was proposed in 2005, now 18 years ago. All 170kms of it is now cut in the middle by

BSC rendering it useless as a whole. The Green alternative is a fantasy that is environmentally and economically unsustainable taking us back to the 1950s. The health and economic benefit to the community will be tremendous.

This fiasco reminds us that it took 28 years to get a bypass into town. The Greens must be judged by their one-eyed ideology.

The mayor must resign along with the nongongs who support him. Councillor Westheimer's analogy to water fluoridation is a non sequitur. Michael [Lyon] you are a mug doing a great deal of harm.

James Blacket
Myocum

■ After numerous protest rallies and over 30,000 names on petitions collected locally calling for Trains On Our Tracks, six Byron Shire councillors think it's a good idea to spend almost \$900,000 per kilometre of taxpayers' money to needlessly destroy the train line for a bike track for 'cycling tourism'.

In 2004 the Member for Richmond, Justine Elliot, promised \$150m for trains

and the state opposition promised \$100m for a 16-trains-a-day commuter train service. They said this service would cost less than the \$2.8m cost per year of the huge, empty coaches which replaced the train service.

After politicians promised train services and a rail connection to the Queensland service for so many years, people need to ask why the state government is now willing to provide funding for a more expensive bike track on condition the train line is needlessly destroyed.

When it costs just \$660,000 per kilometre to repair the line for the Solar train, spending \$900,000 per kilometre to destroy the line for a bike track is not value for taxpayers' money.

In an area desperate for sustainable, affordable, accessible public transport this is a gross misuse of taxpayers' money. The bike track is increasing traffic in the Tweed as people drive to it in their huge gas guzzlers with their bikes on the back. Just what we need in Byron Shire.

Louise Doran
Ocean Shores

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Is there a conflict of interest in consultant reports to Byron Council?

Paul Bibby

Byron Council is overly-reliant on analysis and advice from external consultancies, some of which have conflicts of interest which inhibit their ability to provide frank and fearless advice, Greens Councillor Duncan Dey says.

As disturbing revelations about the use of consultants by the federal government continue to emerge, Cr Dey is calling for an internal examination of Council's own use of external consultants.

This examination, which Cr Dey will formally propose at Council's next meeting, would include calculating the amount Council spent on consultants during the last financial year, and exploring whether such advice could be provided in-house.

It would also examine what criteria Council applied before it sought comparative quotes for consultancies, and whether Council had a protocol for managing consultants' conflicts of interest.

Cr Dey said Council had relied heavily on expert reports when making key decisions, and that these often came from, or were assessed by, external consultants.

'We live in a time where state and federal government use of consultants has become so rife that these two levels of public service find themselves stripped of expertise in carrying out many of these actions within the public service,' Cr Dey said.

'Local government too is experiencing increased use of consultants, favouring the private consultant industry over carrying out the same activities in-house.

'Apart from deskilling the staff, the use of consultants [by Byron Council] may be more expensive, is relatively unregulated, and could be carried out by a small number of consultancy companies.'

He said accusations had been made at a federal level that consultants' advice could be self-serving rather than the 'raw truth', and that there had been examples of conflicts of interest locally as well.

As evidence of this, Cr Dey pointed to advice Council received last month on the hydraulic efficacy of its additional flow path, a drainage path that utilises the stormwater channel which drains Byron Arts & Industry Estate.

He said the advice had

been provided by the same external consultants who had previously provided advice about drainage and fill in support of the West Byron housing estate development.

The consultants in question had stated that there would be no impact on the surrounding catchment from the developer's plans to put two metres of fill across a large area.

Cr Dey said this opened the potential for a conflict of interest when it came to providing Council with advice about the

impact of West Byron on the additional flow path.

He then provided three further examples of alleged conflict of interest in relation to Council's use of external contractors, covering external advice relating to Mullumbimby's future water supply, and plans for a Byron Shire rail trail.

'Conflicts do exist,' Cr Dey said.

Cr Dey will seek support for his motion on the agenda to the September 14 Council meeting.

Colourful lunchbox delights at Mullum Farmers Market



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The competition is in its 18th year which is amazing. Chosen images will be showcased in calendars, postcards, magnets and more promoting the Simple Pleasures of Bruns.

Our judges this year are Davina J Bambrick (Photographer) Mark Seiffert who takes amazing shots of Bruns, John Humphries from the Hotel Brunswick and Eve Jeffries (Echo).

Entries close Friday 15th September at 4pm.

Entry fee is \$10 for adults and \$5 kids (12 and under) with cash prizes to be won!

Instagram entries are free just #brunsphtocomp2023 to win a \$50 Happy Dolphin Cafe voucher. **Entries close 9th October.**

We need a printed copy and a digital copy to enter. Drop into the Visitor Centre, 7 Park St, Bruns or visit the website for more info www.brunswickheads.org.au.



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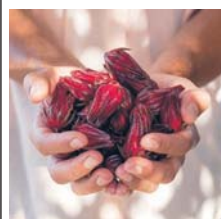
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Forrests do Brussels sprouts

Victoria Cosford

It's the first year the Forrests have had a go at growing Brussels sprouts. 'We're coming into the season of abundance,' Sue tells me at their stall, where there's every sign of it: great bunches of green onions and fat fennel, beets and sweet potatoes and radishes, plump parsnips and baby carrots and sleek leeks – and of course the brassicas. Of which Brussels sprouts are a member, the miniature tightly-furled cabbages beloved by the British but not until recently making their presence felt on fashionable restaurant menus.

At Trouble San in Brunswick Heads they come tempura-ed and piled high with kimchi and spicy mayo, the burst of sprout juiciness as you bite into the crisp batter a gorgeous contrast to the spicy sour tang of the fermented cabbage. The Eltham pub offers them in a creamy miso dressing with the nutty umami crunch of the Japanese seasoning furikake, another blast of fabulous flavourings to elevate the Brussels sprout to gourmet heights.



Not bad for a first try – the wonderful Brussels sprouts at the Forrest Organics stall.

Sue and Dave Forrester have been at the forefront of organic production in the region for decades, Dave himself an educator and mentor for later generations of farmers and growers. I ask him for tips on preparing soil for planting at this time of year. He says the important thing is to add organic matter – 'preferably well-finished compost', before sharing his recipe: 200 grams of lime (which neutralises soil acidity and raises soil pH), 50 grams of rock phosphate

per square metre, and 3 litres of compost. He recommends putting in green manure such as lupin as well and a carbon crop to improve the soil. Dave's enthusiasm for growing things is almost palpable, his grin wide and his skin gleaming. 'Enjoying the garden,' says this shining example, 'is the path to good health!'

Forrest Organics are at New Brighton every Tuesday from 8 to 11am and Mullumbimby every Friday from 7 to 11am.

Dangerous Swede at Sample



Joachim Borenus from The Smoking Camel doesn't seem the type of bloke who'd bring inadequate firepower to any contest, so Jason Saxby from Raes on Wategos, who earned a chef hat in the SMH Good Food Guide 2023, certainly had a challenge on his hands when he faced the Light Years group's Swedish chef in a cook-off over the weekend at the Sample Food Festival Cooking Stage.

www.echo.net.au

Organic Awareness month at Santos



Santos Organics is celebrating Organic Awareness month this September, and welcoming spring! 'With all of our organic products meeting the stringent requirements of our Santos Organics Care Check, our customers can rest assured that we are sourcing the best organic produce and products possible,' says CEO Jolene Ryan.

Santos Organics stocks a wide and abundant range of organic products including personal care, bulk grains, nuts and pulses, teas, coffees, chocolates, crackers, sauces, dry pastas and noodles and everything you need to stock your pantry.

'All of our fruit and vegetables are either certified organic or organic-in-conversion and 100% Australian grown,' says Jolene. 'Sourcing local and organic produce and artisan products is very important to us, with our Ethical Sourcing team prioritising certified organic or certified biodynamic products and ingredients. Where a product is not certified organic, we ensure that it contains a percentage of certified or organically grown ingredients.'

'When making choices for a nutritionally beneficial and healthy lifestyle, we passionately believe that choosing organic and chemical-free foods is the best investment in our health. Organic farming methods and good soil cultivation also promote a healthier and more sustainable use of nature's resources, which also makes it a much better choice for the health of our planet. Modern conventional farming practices using excessive amounts

of synthetic and artificial fertilisers and chemicals and focusing on planting only one crop multiple times can damage rather than support the delicate balance of our ecosystems.

'One concern we have heard our community express over the years about buying organic food is about the higher, and ever-increasing, cost of it. While it's true that certified organic, biodynamic and other organically-farmed food is sometimes more expensive than conventionally grown food, Santos Organics pricing has been steady over the last few years while elsewhere food prices have soared. We also strongly believe in paying farmers fair prices.

'Unfortunately, buying "cheaper" and conventional also means it comes at a greater cost to our health and the planet. When purchasing, we encourage consideration of value – whether the ingredients or produce were grown or made locally, the quality of the ingredients, freshness, the size of the

bunch, and whether the farming practices have helped restore soil and the environment or depleted it. Buying organic is an investment back into Mother Earth and supports the hard work of the farmers who put their heart and soul into sustainable farming methods for the good of all.

'Another way to eat more organically is to grow at home! At Santos Organics we also have a wide range of organic seeds and seedlings to get you started and our team is always happy to help you choose,' says Jolene.

There are special offers during Organic Awareness month, and in-store events, at Santos Organics this September!

Santos Organics has three stores:

Byron shop and café:
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THE ARTS

ARTIST IN FOCUS



BSA Team. Photo by Cristian Morrow

BS'A SHORT COURSES & WEEKEND WORKSHOPS

BS'A has a full program of short courses and weekend workshops coming up in term 4. Short courses include **Abstract Painting with Caleb Reid** and **Ceramics with Jenny Gill Schirmer**. **Emma Walker** will continue to offer **individual mentoring sessions**. These sessions have been hugely successful with students spending time with Emma either face-to-face or online, focusing on their approach to their practice. For those looking for a weekend workshop there will be **Clay as a Canvas with Stephen Bird**, **Fundamentals of Painting with Dale Rhodes** and the one-day workshop **Photo with Natalie McComas**. There will also be a special half-day workshop hosted in conjunction

with Creative Mullum: **Soft Sculpture - Making art using readily available materials with Korean artist Hyijung Lee**. Enrolments are now open on BSA's website. Classes fill up quickly so don't miss your chance to secure your spot and ignite your creativity.

Save the date for the upcoming **BS'A 10 Years** exhibition at Tweed Regional Gallery which runs from **8 September** with an opening on **Friday, 15 September**. The exhibition will showcase work from BSA directors, teachers and alumni, celebrating 10 years of Byron School of Art.

byronschoolofart.com



Ballina Contemporary Art Market

SATURDAY 14 OCTOBER 2023

Market Stalls | Live Music
Free Workshops | Performances
Food Stalls

Northern Rivers Community Gallery & Ignite Studios
Cnr Cherry St & Crane St, Ballina





BALLINA CONTEMPORARY ART MARKET

This free event on Saturday, 14 October from 10am-7pm at the Northern Rivers Community Gallery (NRCG) & Ignite Studios creative precinct will showcase the creative talent of the region, with over 50 arts and crafts stalls selling a range of artworks and products by local and regional artists.

There will be an exciting program of free creative workshops, site-specific installations and a busking competition hosted by Paradise FM, as well as live music, food trucks and fantastical roving creatures. A twilight laneway party with live music from 5pm will close the market.



Ignite Studios Workshop. Image ©Natalie Grono

Northern Rivers Community Gallery & Ignite Studios.
Cnr Cherry St & Crane St, Ballina



TWEED REGIONAL GALLERY

BS'A 10 Years celebrates the significant contribution Byron School of Art (BS'A) has made to contemporary visual arts in Australia over the past ten years.

With its rigorous studio-based model, BS'A has played a seminal role in developing and fostering the experimental visual arts practices of regional artists since its inception in 2013.

The exhibition includes new and existing works by BS'A directors, teachers and alumni across various disciplines including painting, printmaking, photograph, video and



Installation view of works by Emma Walker, Christine Willcocks and Michael Cusack at Byron School of Art, 2023

installation alongside archival material mapping the path from the early days through to the present. Curated by BS'A Directors Michael Cusack and Christine Willcocks. A Tweed Regional Gallery initiative.

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Mistral Rd, Murwillumbah South

BOTANICAL BLUEPRINT WORKSHOPS

Cyanotype imagery, developed in the 1800's, is one of the oldest forms of photography. In this one-day workshop, Northern Rivers visual artist Katie Alleva will lead participants step-by-step through this fascinating process using flowers, leaves and ferns. The class will be inspired by the pioneering work of 19th century botanist Anna Atkins. Participants will end the day with a series of cyanotype impressions on high-quality paper to take home.

The workshops are embedded with encouraging a deeper connection to self and community. They are designed to ignite the creative spark within you. My goal is for you to feel inspired, uplifted, and connected and leave with ideas buzzing around for further creative endeavours!



Katie Alleva
www.katiealleva.com.au
Bookings 0435 203 936

KATIE ALLEVA

BOTANICAL BLUEPRINT WORKSHOPS

WORKSHOP DATES
October:
 Wed. 13th @ SWELL
 Sculpture Festival 10 - 1pm,
 Sat. 21st 10 - 3pm
September:
 Fri. 29th 10 - 3pm
November:
 Sat. 25th 10 - 1pm

BOOK NOW
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 The Tweed Regional Gallery & Margaret Olley Art Centre is a Tweed Shire Council Community Facility and is supported by the NSW Government through Create NSW.
 Open Wed - Sun, 10am - 5pm | 2 Mistral Rd, Murwillumbah | gallery.tweed.nsw.gov.au

Volume 38 #13
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 Editor: Eve Jeffery
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 Gig Guide deadline: 5pm each Friday
 Advertising: adcopy@echo.net.au
 P: 02 6684 1777
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BRINGING THE PARTY TO BYRON

Playing the songs you'd expect from a band with this name, **Mojo Rising** will deliver the blood and bones of rock history with the likes of 'Another Brick in the Wall', 'April Sun', 'Road House Blues', 'Sweet Home Alabama', 'The Boys Light Up', 'Psycho Killer', 'Hip To Be Square' and of course, 'LA Woman'!

Mojo Rising, a high-energy seven-piece band are based on the Gold Coast but they make regular forays south. The band members, who have been together for seven years, are gathering a huge following playing covers of popular classics.

The band's repertoire is a key feature – playing music from bands such as Pearl Jam, Talking Heads, The Angels, Pink Floyd, Midnight Oil, Hunters and Collectors, Split Enz, Hoodoo Gurus plus many more.

Mojo Rising play an awesome diversity of instruments including trumpet, saxophone and harmonica which gives these lads a wide pool of awesome songs to choose from.

You can catch Mojo Rising this weekend as they bring the party to The Rails this Saturday, with support AusLocks.



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SYDNEY'S COMEDY FESTIVAL SHOWCASE HITS BYRON

The **Sydney Comedy Festival Showcase** is heading to Byron Bay. Expertly curated and lovingly presented, the Showcase will feature some of the Festival's hottest acts live on stage for an incredible two hours of hard-hitting laughter.

The showcase features a huge and hilarious line up including: **Dusty Rich** – hailing from South Africa, this unconventional comic is spontaneous, full of energy, and an exhilarating experience; **John Cruckshank** – the laid-back king of deadpan who is a masterful observer of the everyday and every other day; **Peter James** – one of the best comedians to ever come out of Queensland, one half of the viral *Peter & Shad Save The World* podcast; **Ting Lim** – Singapore-born and a beloved favourite on the Brisbane comedy scene; **Ben Hunter** – freshly selected for the 2023 season of Comedy Zone at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival, a talent to watch; and, **Annie Boyle** – the darling of deadpan in the Sydney comedy scene, fast becoming an undisputed star.

The Showcase will land in Byron Bay on **23 September** for two great sets – a **5pm** show and an **8pm** show at the **Byron Theatre**. **For more information, visit: www.byroncentre.com.au.**

BYRON THEATRE

SEPTEMBER

1-2 OZ: A POLITICAL SATIRE
 7 DRAMAWORKS | 9 SOWETO GOSPEL CHOIR | 15 THE GIANTS
 20 HANS DISCO SPEKTAKULAR
 23 SYDNEY COMEDY FESTIVAL
 27 SHORTY BROWN
 29 FROZEN JR | 30 VOIGTMANN

TICKETS AND INFO
 BYRONTHEATRE.COM



ARE THERE KINKS IN YOUR DRAWING?

Artist or voyeur – there's a 'kink' in life drawing at the Brunswick Picture House this September!

It's official – the first *Kinky Drawers* is on its way. **Follow Your Art** presents this playful evening, designed for both artists and the artist at heart.

Delight in the rare opportunity to draw multiple models, and experience a contemporary take on this beautiful traditional art form. Expect costume, music, lights, live performance, and play.

Kinky Drawers is for the creative and the curious – interactive, playful, loose, messy, experimental, and unpredictable!

Follow Your Art's Kathy Toka says she is thrilled to finally bring this to life. 'It's been bubbling away for years! It is not a new concept, but it never outdates, and always delivers. I believe it's important to invest time in creative pursuits and sensory exploration. It's fun to push your own boundaries and see what gives.'

Brunswick Picture House is proud to partner with Kathy for this exciting event. Chris Chen, co-owner of the Picture House says he can't wait for *Kinky Drawers* to make its debut in Bruns. 'Kathy is family to us here at the Picture House and her weekly life drawing class, Sketch Appeal, has always had its spiritual home here, even while we were closed for renovations.

'Kathy absolutely lives and breathes this beautiful art form of life drawing, and we cannot wait for her to finally bring this vibrant idea to life.'

With models and live performances peppered through the night, done with a lot of cheek, a taste of kink and big strokes of beauty – where else would *Kinky Drawers* make its debut?

Don't miss this unique night – spaces are limited. Friday, 15 September 7pm, Brunswick Picture House. Tickets brunswickpicturehouse.com/kinky-drawers-15-sep.

TASTE OF LOVE

The **Taste of Love Festival** is just around the corner, ready to celebrate its ninth edition. This local festival has grown in popularity, steadily building momentum with last year's event sold out for the first time ever!

The Taste of Love Festival has seen hundreds of participants come together every year from a wide cross-section of the community including a broad spectrum of ages, single people and couples, to experience transformation, and expand and learn from the many offerings and workshops held at the festival.

You will hear the term 'embodiment' across events from setting up your camp on **Thursday, 28 September**

through to the last hugs and saying goodbye on **Monday morning, 2 October** as the festival focuses on relieving the body of stress and tension, releasing stuck emotions, increasing vitality and life force and enquiring and exploring areas of relating and sexuality.

The festival is a live-in event held in beautiful natural surroundings and offers not only many workshops and evening events but also relaxation areas with markets, performances and delicious healthy food and drinks.

The four nights and three days will leave you feeling rejuvenated – the event takes great care of its newcomers as well. Starting as

early as 7am daily, Friday has been designed to create a safe haven for everyone, with Q&A sessions and introductory workshops that offer greater insight into the tantra festival. Tantra in one of its most original meanings, explores the interconnectedness of all things, and this is certainly the space the festival offers, to explore, experience and expand by doing it yourself. Embrace what serves you and leave what isn't relevant for you right now.

The event is drug and alcohol-free and promises a guaranteed break from the ordinary with laughter and hugs on tap!

For more information, visit: tasteoflove.com.au.



LOVE YOUR VOICE

One of the most common things people say when they are approaching a singing lesson is: 'my mum (dad/brother/wife/sister/boyfriend/children) said I can't sing and I always hear that in the back of my head when I try.' **Byron Bay Singing** believes EVERYONE can sing, it's just that not everyone is going to end up as a pro.

Just because you had an awesome meal at a restaurant, does that mean you're never going to cook again? Singing should be the same – just because you don't sound like Pavarotti or Joni Mitchell, that shouldn't stop you loving your voice.

One of the most basic forms of artistic expression is singing. This can be a joyful (and sometimes sad) way to express what we feel, and should come naturally to us, but the competitive path that singing has taken in recent years, and the opinions of some people we love, has stopped a lot of us from finding and sharing our voice. Byron Bay Singing knows the value of choirs, structure, musical technique and ability, but that's not what singing is really about.

Have you ever just wanted to belt out some tunes in a safe, fun and uncompetitive space surrounded by other beginners? Have you ever wanted to just feel a song and the freedom of singing it? Byron Bay Singing group



classes are about just that – a little warm-up, a few tips and hints, and then singing until your heart is content – no pressure, no stress, no judgment and no golden buzzers!

Vocal coach Eve has a no-nonsense attitude toward singing: take a breath, open your mouth and sing. It's really that simple.

It's time we stopped the cycle of negative talk and voice shaming that often begins in childhood, so Eve has devised a new program '**Singing Beginnings – Love Your Voice!**' that she will be sharing **Wednesdays** during the school holidays (**27 September and 4 October**).

Byron Bay Singing will be holding classes for all ages, from bubs right up to centenarians, learning to not only sing, but to feel good about it and feel better after it.

Classes start from just **\$7 for bubs and toddlers** (accompanied by an adult, of course) right up to **intermediate and advanced school-aged singers at \$25** and the '**Love Your Voice: Voice Shaming – The Hurt Stops Here**' seminar.

Byron Bay Singing will still be holding the regular **adult beginners and women-only classes (\$15)** during the holidays.

Find out more at byronbaysinging.com.

9th
Taste of Love
TANTRA FESTIVAL
Sept 28 - Oct 2
Tyalgum, NSW

Enjoy 3 days and nights of tantra, dance and embodiment with over 35 workshops and hundreds of likeminded people.

tasteoflove.com.au

Music in the Meadow presents
Serenades of Spring
Sunday 17 Sep. 2023

Gates open at 12.30. Concert from 2 pm - 5 pm
288 Stokers Road, Stokers Siding

Tickets at www.trybooking.com/CJFWC
or at the **Murwillumbah Music store**

SYDNEY COMEDY FESTIVAL
SHOWCASE

DUSTY RICH JOHN CRUCKSHANK
PETER JAMES TING LIM
ANNIE BOYLE BEN HUNTER

*Line ups are subject to change without notice

GIG GUIDE

It's free to list your gigs in the gig guide.
gigs@echo.net.au w: echo.net.au/gig-guide.
DEADLINE 5PM ON FRIDAYS



CINEMA



SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL ON TOUR

The Travelling Film Festival, founded by David Stratton almost 50 years ago, returns to The Regent Murwillumbah for one weekend only, 8-10 September!

The diverse and acclaimed program has been selected especially for Northern River audiences, giving them an exclusive look at films they won't catch anywhere else. The lineup includes the top prize winners at the Cannes Film Festival and Sundance Film Festival, the tense mystery *Anatomy of a Fall* and the hilarious and heart-warming *Scraper*.

Award-winning filmmakers will also be there in person to present their films, including Vince Sheehan the producer of the new Australian film *Shayda* which opens the Festival. This highly praised new film about an Iranian migrant's efforts to protect her daughter was executive produced by Cate Blanchett.

Director Victoria Singh-Thompson will also be in attendance with her prize-winning short film *14 in February*, one of three entertaining Australian short films playing at the Festival. It will screen with the sell-out sensation at festivals around the world, *Smoke Sauna Sisterhood*, the intimate documentary that shares the powerful Estonian tradition of women revealing naked truths, as they share, heal, laugh and cry together in a remote smoky sauna deep in the Estonian woods.

More global stories right at your local cinema include *Let the River Flow*, a Norwegian-set film sharing a turning point in the history of the indigenous Sámi people in 1979, *Riceboy Sleeps*, a multi-award winning and deeply heartfelt migrant story of a Korean mother and son, and *Perfect Days*, the Tokyo-set charmer from director Wim Wenders, complete with possibly the best rock music playlist ever on film, including Lou Reed and Van Morrison.

Tickets are from \$14.50 – or save even more with a pass to multiple films! Tickets on sale now at www.sff.org.au/tff/program/murwillumbah.

WEDNESDAY 6

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, JON J BRADELY
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 8PM CHLOE JETT
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 7PM THE GIN BUGGS
- BANGALOW BOWLO 7.30PM BANGALOW BRACKETS OPEN MIC

THURSDAY 7

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, CHANGO TREE
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM JASON DELPHIN
- BYRON THEATRE 11AM & 6.30PM DRAMAWORKS 2023 PRESENTED BY THE NORTH COAST DRAMA COLLEGIATE
- THE ROCKS, BYRON BAY, 6PM TASH MEEN
- NEWRYBAR HALL 7.30PM 'THE BEAST' BY EDDIE PERFECT
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 6PM BILL JACOBI
- THE LEVEE, LISMORE, 5PM THE LONESOME BOATMEN
- LENNOX HOTEL HOTEL STAGE 8PM JAM NIGHT

FRIDAY 8

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, RICHARD NEILL & THE DRUNKEN MIDNIGHT CHOIR
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 5PM JOCK BARNES, SAM MAC, SHMONÉ, DJ MY HAPPY PLACE
- NORTH BYRON HOTEL 5PM DJ YASMIN
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6PM KANE MUIR + DJ QUENDO, 8PM THE GROGANS
- HOWL & MOAN, BYRON BAY, 7PM STONED WAVES, NERIS & POETIC CHAO
- NEWRYBAR HALL 7.30PM 'THE BEAST' BY EDDIE PERFECT
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 6PM DE'VU
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM DJ PAPA BITCHO
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY, 5PM KRAPPYKEE WITH JESS

- ST JOHN'S SCHOOL HALL, MULLUMBIMBY, 7.30PM ECSTATIC DANCE MULLUM WITH DJ DIRHYTHM
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE STAGE 8PM FOREVER 80S
- CLUB LENNOX 7PM ANDY JANS BROWN
- LENNOX HOTEL HOTEL STAGE 9PM DJ KIRA SUNDAY
- BALLINA RSL LEVEL ONE 10AM MORNING MELODIES, BOARDWALK 6PM PINK ZINC, LEVEL ONE 8.30PM MAGIC MEN
- METROPOLE, LISMORE, 7PM NATHAN KAYE + DJS BIG RED & DBLM
- REGENT CINEMA, MURWILLUMBAH, THE TRAVELLING FILM FESTIVAL PRESENTED BY SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL
- MURWILLUMBAH SERVICES CLUB 6.30PM MARTIN WAY
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 5PM BILL JACOBI

SATURDAY 9

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, MOJO RISING
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 4PM GABRIELLE LAMBE
- BYRON THEATRE 3PM SOWETO GOSPEL CHOIR – HOPE
- NORTH BYRON HOTEL 1.30PM ANIMAL VENTURA, 5PM DJ ABEL EL TORO
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6PM ANIMAL VENTURA + DJ TAI DANIELS
- NEWRYBAR HALL 2PM & 7.30PM 'THE BEAST' BY EDDIE PERFECT
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 4.30PM THE WHISKEYS
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 2PM TOP DOG FILM FESTIVAL 2023, 7PM GUTSY GIRLS ADVENTURE FILM TOUR 2023
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 3.30PM DJ MATTY P
- CLUB LENNOX 7PM 3 PLAY
- LENNOX HOTEL HOTEL STAGE 8.30PM LENNOX GROOVE

- BALLINA RSL BOARDWALK 6PM DENNIS WILSON
- THE LEVEE, LISMORE, 7PM DRAG SHOW W/ RU BELLA
- METROPOLE, LISMORE, 8PM FLOATING WOK AND THUNDER GODS OF THE MULTIVERSE + DJ DEEP FRYER
- REGENT CINEMA, MURWILLUMBAH, THE TRAVELLING FILM FESTIVAL PRESENTED BY SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL
- MURWILLUMBAH SERVICES CLUB 6.30PM JORGE PEREIRA
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 5PM STEPHEN LOVELIGHT
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH HOTEL 7PM SNEAKY SOUND SYSTEM
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE SHOWROOM 8PM THE FINNS TRIBUTE BAND
- SOUNDLOUNGE, CURRUMBIN, 1PM DREAM SOUND FESTIVAL
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL 7PM BONDI CIGARS

SUNDAY 10

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, MATTHEW ARMITAGE
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 4.30PM SHAYA, DJ QUENDO, VERSACE BOYS, BUM BAG
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, DJ ZAC EWING
- NORTH BYRON HOTEL 12.30PM LUKE YEAMAN, 4PM DJ WILL CONNELL
- KARKALLA, BYRON BAY, 5.30PM JOSH LEE HAMILTON
- COORABELL HALL 6PM SCREENING: THE GIANTS
- NEWRYBAR HALL 2PM & 7.30PM 'THE BEAST' BY EDDIE PERFECT
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 4PM RAW ORDIO
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 2PM NATURAL BRIDGE #003
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY, 3PM OPEN MIC WITH THE SWAMP CATS
- TINTENBAR HALL 4PM TINTENBAR UP FRONT

- SHELLY BROWN + BLUE EYED LUCY, NORTH CREEK & MATTY D
- LENNOX COMMUNITY MARKET 9AM CHEYNEE MURPHY DUO
- CLUB LENNOX 3PM JB'S BLUES BREAKERS
- BALLINA RSL BOARDWALK 2.30PM BLUES CLUB WITH SOREN CARLBERGG QUARTET + GEOFF WRIGHT
- SHAWS BAY HOTEL, BALLINA, 3PM BONDI CIGARS
- DUNOON SPORTS CLUB 4PM OPEN MIC 'PLUCKERS AND POETS'
- THE LEVEE, LISMORE, 4PM NAOMI HACKL
- REGENT CINEMA, MURWILLUMBAH, THE TRAVELLING FILM FESTIVAL PRESENTED BY SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL
- CITADEL, MURWILLUMBAH, 3PM GEORGE WASHINGMACHINE AND IAN DATE

MONDAY 11

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, CHRIS ARONSTEN
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM MADDY MONACELLI
- NEWRYBAR HALL 7.30PM 'THE BEAST' BY EDDIE PERFECT

TUESDAY 12

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, SARAH GRANT
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM ANDY JANS-BROWN
- NEWRYBAR HALL 7.30PM 'THE BEAST' BY EDDIE PERFECT

WEDNESDAY 13

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, OLE FALCOR
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM PHIL HOWELL
- BANGALOW BOWLO 7.30PM BANGALOW BRACKETS OPEN MIC
- ELTHAM HOTEL 7PM IAN BALL & BEN OTTEWELL
- METROPOLE, LISMORE, 7PM LIVE POETS

HAVE YOU SENT US YOUR GIG?

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Submit your event to the Echo's free Gig Guide. Running in *The Echo* and online at echo.net.au.

Session Times Ballina Fair Cinema

Thurs 07 – Wed 13 September 47/84 Kerr St, Ballina

ALL MOVIES

- BARBIE (PG) Daily: 3:15PM, 7:30PM
- HAUNTED MANSION (PG) Daily: 10:45AM, 1:30PM
- MY BIG FAT GREEK WEDDING 3 (PG) Daily: 10:20AM, 3:00PM, 5:30PM
- SOUND OF FREEDOM (M) Daily: 4:20PM
- TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES: MUTANT MAYHEM (PG) Daily: 10:30AM, 1:00PM
- THE EQUALIZER 3 (MA15+) Daily: 12:30PM, 7:20PM
- THE NUN II (M) Daily: 5:00PM, 7:00PM

*NFT = No Free Tickets

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PALACE CINEMAS

Session Times

Thurs 07 – Wed 13 September

PALACE CINEMAS 108 Jonson St, Byron Bay

SPECIAL SCREENINGS

- A HAUNTING IN VENICE (IC) FINE WINE SCREENING Wed: 7:30PM
- A BRIGHTER TOMORROW (IC) ITALIAN FF PROSECCO PREVIEW Wed: 6:30PM

FAMILY FILMS

- HAUNTED MANSION (PG) Daily: 11:15AM, 1:45PM
- TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES: MUTANT MAYHEM (PG) Daily except Sat: 11:15AM, 1:30PM, 3:45PM, 6:00PM Sat: 11:15AM, 1:30PM, 3:45PM, 6:15PM

ALL FILMS

- ASTEROID CITY (M) Thurs: 11:00AM, 4:30PM, 8:15PM Fri, Sun, Mon, Tues: 11:00AM, 1:50PM, 4:30PM, 8:15PM Sat, Wed: 11:00AM, 1:50PM, 4:30PM
- BARBIE (PG) Daily except Wed: 11:30AM, 2:00PM, 4:30PM, 7:00PM, 8:30PM Wed: 11:30AM, 2:00PM, 4:30PM, 7:00PM
- EGO: THE MICHAEL GUDINSKI STORY (M) Daily except Sat, Wed: 3:50PM, 6:10PM Sat, Wed: 3:50PM
- MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE - DEAD RECKONING P1 (M) Daily except Wed: 11:00AM, 6:45PM Wed: 11:00AM

- MY BIG FAT GREEK WEDDING 3 (PG) Daily except Wed: 11:15AM, 1:15PM, 4:15PM, 6:15PM, 8:15PM Wed: 11:15AM, 1:15PM, 4:15PM, 6:45PM, 8:15PM

- OPPENHEIMER (MA15+) Daily: 12:00PM, 3:30PM, 7:15PM
- PAST LIVES (M) Daily: 11:30AM, 1:40PM, 4:00PM, 6:15PM, 8:30PM

- SOUND OF FREEDOM (M) Daily except Thurs: 11:10AM, 8:30PM Thurs: 8:30PM

- THE EQUALIZER 3 (MA15+) Daily: 1:30PM, 4:00PM, 6:15PM
- THE NUN II (M) Daily: 2:15PM, 3:30PM, 6:00PM, 8:20PM

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 Book Online at palacecinemas.com.au

National Child Protection Week: Break the Silence

(Trigger Warning: This is about child sexual abuse)

Here's some deeply shocking statistics that remain unchanged. 28.5% of Australians experience or have experienced child sexual abuse. Girls experience double the rate of child sexual abuse.

The Australian Child Maltreatment Study found that almost 1 in 4 Australians experienced one or more types of contact child sexual abuse while almost 1 in 5 experienced non-contact child sexual abuse. Almost 1 in 10 Australians experienced forced sex in childhood.

How do we continue to fail to protect our children? What is broken that we need to fix? What is systemic that we need to smash?

I was at the launch of a podcast in Sydney last week about interfamilial child sexual abuse and a panellist said something that stuck with me. She said, 'I was lucky to have a loving father'. This came after a harrowing story told by a woman who had been sexually abused by her father between the ages of 9 and 14. It was something I would have said. It's something I have heard many people say, particularly women. Yesterday was Father's Day. It occurred to me that in some households there were children gifting presents and handwritten cards to their abusers. It is not lucky to have a loving father who does not sexually abuse you. It is every child's birthright. But it's not just fathers, it's uncles, and well-known friends, trusted carers, and in much rarer cases, women. It scares me that we have normalised abuse to such an extent that we perceive not being hurt as good fortune.

In August this year a 45-year-old former childcare worker from the Gold Coast was charged with more than 1,600 child abuse offences, including rape, against 91 young girls at a dozen early childcare centres, primarily in Brisbane and Sydney. He was charged after police identified bedsheets from a childcare centre in a video on the dark web.

When he was arrested they uncovered nearly 4,000 images and videos allegedly created by the man. This man who had been a trusted carer of small children. This man with a blue card. This man who smiled as he handed babies into the arms of their grateful parents.



MANDY NOLAN'S SOAPBOX

I have five children. I never thought for a moment that my children could have been at risk at a childcare centre. The fact that a man could commit such heinous crimes on so many little girls and go undetected for so long tells me that there is something very wrong in the sector.

My friend Tracey is a childcare worker who lives near where this man was arrested. She is a deeply compassionate person who was outraged by what happened. She rang me and said 'I want to organise a rally. Things have to change'. Tracey identified key recommendations for her sector that included no phones or cameras in all rooms, and increasing staffing ratios so that staff are not left alone with children. It was a no brainer. I imagined there were many in the sector who felt Tracey's rage.

I helped her organise the gathering. At the podcast launch of *No Laughing Matter*, speakers with lived experience identified the crippling impact of silence. The silence borne out of shame. The silence borne out of fear. And the silence borne out of other people's discomfort. These are not the stories we want to hear in the public space. Podcast creator Tanya Lee has taken stories and had them re-voiced by well-known actors and personalities such as Hugo Weaving, Jean Kitson, Andrew Denton – to give anonymity to the original tellers and to create a more accessible format for others to hear these stories. Yet, Tanya talked about the silence. How hard it was for her to get media on her event. MC'd by Richard Fiedler, with high profile guests such as

Jennifer Byrne, Annabel Crabb and Grace Tame. But still she struggled to get cut through. Because of the silence.

It occurred to me that this was what Tracey and I experienced in organising our rally. No media would cover it beforehand. (Although NBN did turn up on the day). Childcare centres did not circulate the information. Every community Facebook page we tried to promote the event on took it down because it didn't comply with 'community standards'. Wow. I would have thought children's safety was the highest standard of all. It was impossible to get any traction on this event to tell people what was happening. So on the day there were around 40 of us. People with lived experience, a law firm and their associates and some friends. I would have thought more people would have cared about this issue. It was deeply sad. It's not enough.

This is the silence. This is why people don't speak up. Why raised voices go unheard.

This silence is the next level of abuse.

Silence is being complicit. It protects perpetrators. Silence is the abuser who hurts our children.

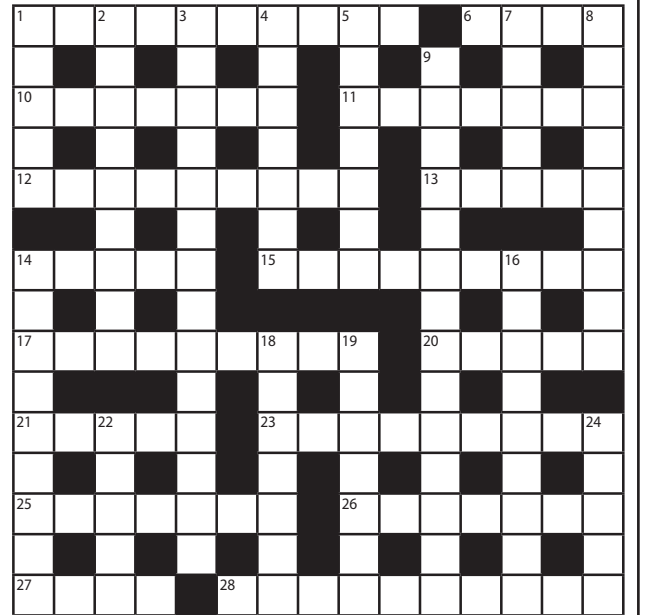
Ask your news sources, your childcare centres, your social media to break the silence.

Ask them to choose who they stand with. Yes, this is an ugly conversation. But silence is uglier.

I stand with children. Where do you stand?

Please sign this petition. www.change.org/p/unite-for-changes-in-the-childcare-system

Mungo MacCallum's Crossword #507



Cryptic Clues

ACROSS

- A point to queen's dance – traditional venue for a quartet (6,4)
- Circle prison – it's not closed down! (4)
- Bundy, violate! cried Spooner of the bureaucratic impediment (3,4)
- T in the canopy (7)
- Puzzle gone? Who cares! (2,7)
- Pyromania from a boy, about right (5)
- Scent and sound of a nomad (5)
- Howl with desire about nothing – a bit jaundiced (9)
- Scold actors with a single entrance (9)
- American rears idiots (5)
- A nude performance poet (5)
- One drink in verbal tests – no copies (9)
- Good – also for little king called great and wizard! (7)
- Encouraged popular saw (7)
- Cover over English-German song (4)
- On the whole, fib and shove, suggested Spooner (2,3,5)

DOWN

- Poet beside Clarke (5)
- Spreads out leftish English plots (9)
- Ms Marie-Saint with a quiet speech to severely critique a dish for drying out solids like salt (11,3)
- Poet returns positive about The Inferno (7)
- Pro cure top mail – the best! (7)
- Tapes wounded heads (5)
- Word play in Spanish nights – and if not pulled, you won't hold back! (2,7)
- Mama, can Galileo reform? He's drunk with power! (14)
- Australian right and left old surplus money for Raphael or Gabriel (9)
- Grant, cover place in a grave immediately (9)
- Supporter holds up idiot showing no emotion (7)
- Issue, amend, charge (7)
- Poet's stake below 500 (5)
- Little and unemployed – move furtively (5)

Quick Clues

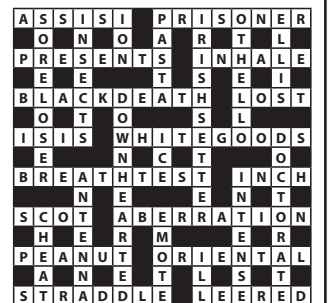
ACROSS

- Hair salon (6,4)
- Unlock (4)
- Excessive rules and regulations (3,4)
- Where you find the highest branches (7)
- You're welcome! (2,7)
- Deliberate burning (5)
- Smell (5)
- Flaxen; straw coloured (9)
- Reprimand (9)
- Donkeys (5)
- British-American literary figure W.H. ... (5)
- From which reproductions are made (9)
- Tolkien's wizard (7)
- Provoked; whipped up (7)
- Deceived (4)
- All things considered! (2,3,5)

DOWN

- The Bay! (5)
- Assigns to a new place (9)
- A device that measures water loss caused by the sun (11,3)
- American actress ... Winters (7)
- Ideal (7)
- Noggins (5)
- When they are not pulled you hold nothing back! (2,7)
- Having delusions of omnipotence (14)
- High-ranking heavenly being (9)
- Without delay (9)
- Remotely; coldly (7)
- Version (7)
- Writer of *The Divine Comedy* (5)
- Edge close to someone (5)

Last week's solution #506



STARS BY LILITH

With Jupiter joining this month's retrograde parade of planets, where's the good news? It's vibrant Venus heading forward again in fun loving Leo ...



VIRGO THE VIRGIN

ARIES: Jupiter retrograde in your financial sector recommends taking a look at how efficiently you're using current resources, and checking any counterproductive habits that may be leaking money. Chiron retrograde in Aries suggests your own internal intelligence could be better medicine this month than outside advice.

TAURUS: September's astral highlight for Taureans is your celestial guide Venus back on the move again after her winter hibernation, and she's in fine, fabulous, friendly form. All things considered, this pragmatic month's signature blend of sensible and sensual actually suits your earthy sign right down to the ground.

GEMINI: As an energetic Gemini with the big-picture ambitions of twins, you might be raring to get things done now spring has sprung. But with expansive Jupiter in its most pragmatic placement exerting a cautious and constraining influence, this week will benefit from slowing proceedings down to a stable and patient pace.

CANCER: September, the zodiac's decluttering month, isn't about getting rid of everything you own or trying to become a different person; it's about living the way you want to live, but better and more freely. About working smarter not harder, with this week about crafting schedules that allow a healthy work-life balance.

LEO: While your majesties might arc up at September's critical feedback, or its lectures on exercise, ethics and etiquette, allow charming Venus, currently gracing your sign, to soothe your royals' reactions into more diplomatic responses. Stay focused on vivacious Venus, emerging from her astral shadow to light up this week's Leo life.

VIRGO: A message for you from professional organiser and this week's birthday Virgo, Andrew Mellen: 'In lieu of gifts, a request... let go of one thing today that's been on your list and give it to someone or some org that could use it. It could be a book, a sweater, a dish, a dollar... keep it simple and just do it. Thank you!'

LIBRA: With your prima planet Venus emerging from her biannual retreat into one of her most resplendent modes, this week benefits from giving those generous impulses free rein. There are so many ways to contribute, no matter how small, by making a donation, offering support, or helping someone out without being asked.

SCORPIO: Venus recently asked us to examine and update our habitual ways of relating, to make some playful renegotiations. This week the universal critic is active, and since people don't usually do their best from being criticised, go easy on the sting. When offering feedback, aim for clear but kind communication.

SAGITTARIUS: Your celestial mentor Jupiter, planet of learning, backspacing for the rest of the year, is reminding you that the answers you're looking for are always there inside you – though admittedly this inner wisdom can be hard to find in the busy buzz of daily life. This cycle helps to develop the daily habit of tapping into it.

CAPRICORN: While this is a major 'taking care of business' transit, an important part of that business is taking care of yourself, Capricorn. So if this week raises the competitive stakes, rather than pushing to get just one more thing done, log out and into yoga, meditation, the gym, a walk outdoors, even just doing nothing.

AQUARIUS: Planetary retrogrades work by slowing us down. When we stop operating on everyday automatic, there's time and space to notice things that usually don't get our attention. Mercury retrogrades are particularly helpful for letting things go, and this week could highlight something in your professional life for reassessment.

PISCES: Life been feeling chaotic? Then you're in luck, because Mercury's ongoing visit to the sign of efficiency helps instil more order and organisation into cleaning up clutter and cutting superfluous expenses. Don't hesitate to ask for support, because you're likely to find September's citizens more than willing to assist.



FEATURE MAGIC MURWILLUMBAH

Flannerys

Flannerys Murwillumbah is the go-to organic hub for the local community.

They pride themselves on sourcing the best locally produced and sustainable wholefoods, vitamins, supplements, bulk foods, produce, meat, seafood, bread and pantry staples. Their produce is 100% certified organic, and locally sourced where possible.

You'll also find qualified naturopaths in store 7 days a week, headed up by much-loved local Colleen Cheketri. Pop in and see the friendly team for free wellbeing advice as well as herbal liquids. Plus members can save 20% off all vitamins once a month – it's free to join in store.

**66 Murwillumbah St,
Murwillumbah
flannerys.com.au**

1



Celebrate new exhibitions at the Tweed Regional Gallery this spring!

Celebrations will be held on Friday 15 September at 5.15pm to open three exciting new exhibitions.

BSA 10 Years celebrates the significant contribution Byron School of Art (BSA) has made to contemporary visual arts in Australia over the past 10 years. Curated by BSA directors Michael Cusack and Christine Willcocks. *Silhouette of Memories* presents a collection of paintings by Bundjalung artist Michael Philp that explore personal history and a strong connection to family and friends. This exhibition is the outcome of Tweed Regional Gallery's inaugural Bundjalung Award, awarded to Michael Philp as part of the 2022 Wollumbin Art Award. Regional artist Diana Miller returns to her childhood era of the 70's to create a new body of work from play-based materials in her exhibition *Analogue Kid*.

Free event, see Gallery website to book.

Contact Apex Dining for dinner reservations at apexdining.com.au.

**Open Wed-Sun, 10am-6pm
2 Mistral Rd, South Murwillumbah
gallery.tweed.nsw.gov.au
[@tweedregionalgallery](https://twitter.com/tweedregionalgallery)**

2



Photo: Kate Homes

JET Real Estate

At JET Real Estate, they deliver a complete 'end-to-end' service. They assess your property, advise you on the health of the property market, access a wide range of genuine buyers and help you prepare your property for sale. They are committed to making sure you get the best possible price.

Their team lives and works here in the beautiful Northern Rivers and they're serious about doing right by the community. They value the relationships they form with their clients, helping locals to relocate and welcoming new owners to the area with open arms. After all, we're all going to be neighbours. They work with integrity, honesty, and transparency, and have over 70 combined years of local expertise.

If you've been thinking of selling, spring is one of the best times to sell your home. Contact them today at jetrealestate.com.au for a complimentary appraisal.

**02 6672 2499
Shop 1/41-45 Murwillumbah
Street, Murwillumbah
jetrealestate.com.au**

3



Apex Dining

Nestled in the Border Ranges between Byron Bay and the Gold Coast, Apex Dining boasts panoramic views of the Tweed River, rolling pastures, luscious foothills rising up majestic Wollumbin, and the surrounding mountain scape.

This stunning wedding venue in the architect award-winning Tweed Regional Gallery, seamlessly combines its stunning outlook, calm, modern and earthy interior design, and its fresh, contemporary menus creating the most exciting and affordable venue on the Tweed Coast.

Book your wedding with them before the end of February 2024 to receive 15% off your food and beverage total (T&C's apply).

**Contact hello@themunchbunch.com.au
2 Mistral Rd, South Murwillumbah
apexdining.com.au**

4



Riverside dining at Tweed River House

Celebrate the best of the Northern Rivers' seasonal produce when you dine at the chef-hatted Tweed River House.

Dine in the magnificent century-old plantation style house, located on the banks of the Tweed River with sweeping hinterland views.

The riverside Lawn Bar is ideal for a drink and lighter bites.

02 6672 5269

131 River St. Murwillumbah South
tweedriverhouse.com.au

5



Mavis' Kitchen and Cabins

Mavis' Kitchen is a restaurant, eco-accommodation, organic produce garden and providore located at the base of Wollumbin.

Immerse yourself in nature in their lush gardens and rainforest setting, whether you're visiting for lunch, a seven course degustation, a picnic by the creek, or staying in their cabins admiring the views from your private deck.

Picture waking up to breakfast on the veranda of this 100-year-old beauty, looking out over manicured gardens and stunning views of the mountain.

Stroll through the produce garden to see what the chefs are harvesting; always a new experience, changing with the seasons.

Go for a dip in the natural swimming holes and bring your fur babies along for the ride.

Romantic getaways and events are crafted by The Mavis' Kitchen team to create cherished memories for families, lovers, and friends.

02 6679 5664

64 Mt Warning Rd, Uki
maviskitchen.com.au

6



McGuinness Funerals

McGuinness Funerals is a traditional funeral company serving the Murwillumbah, Tweed, Ocean Shores and Billinudgel communities.

Libby Varela, an experienced funeral director/supervisor with nine years in the industry, is highly regarded and respected within the local community.

Recently joining their team, Kellie Leslighter is an exceptional funeral director, receiving heartfelt praise from the families she has assisted.

Katriina Mansbridge is a familiar face in town and has been a valued member of McGuinness for two years, showing care, empathy, and a vibrant personality.

The McGuinness Funerals team deeply value the service they provide to grieving families, delivering a professional, compassionate, and detail-oriented experience.

They understand that the funeral day holds great significance, and they strive to make it perfect for every person they serve.

Their staff will treat you like family, and their ultimate goal is to alleviate some of the burden on the worst day of your life.

02 6672 2144

19 Wollumbin Street, Murwillumbah
16 Mogo Place, Billinudgel
info@mcguinnessfunerals.com.au
www.mcguinnessfunerals.com.au

7



Mayberry Meldrum Anderson has joined the Oracle Advisory Group!

Mayberry Meldrum Anderson clients can now access the full benefits that come from a truly national organisation.

Their clients can now access a greater scope of services including financial advice and investment management, and expanded business advisory services, as well as access to the wealth of technical knowledge and experience across the team within the Oracle Group.

Their same local accountants and support staff will continue to serve their clients, businesses and families. While you may notice some practical changes, there will be no material changes to how they deliver their services.

If you're looking for a tax return, wealth management or a complete business accounting and compliance solution then don't delay, contact them today!

02 6672 4044

315 Tweed Valley Way,
Murwillumbah
mmaacc.com
admin@mmaacc.com

8



1. Flannerys
2. Tweed Regional Gallery
3. Jet Real Estate
4. Apex Dining
5. Tweed River House
6. Mavis' Kitchen and Cabins
7. McGuinness Funerals
8. Mayberry Meldrum Anderson

Echo Property

The Agency hires Terasse Davidson in Byron Bay

National real estate brand, The Agency has appointed real estate professional Terasse Davidson to operate across Byron Bay and surrounding markets.

'We are so excited to have Terasse represent us in Byron Bay and the surrounding areas, one of the nominated growth areas for The Agency and one that represents a key part of our strategy,' The Agency CEO of Real Estate Matt Lahood said.

'Terasse's knowledge of the local area means that she can provide the very best outcomes for her clients and with the backing of the national reach The Agency provides, she is sure to see great success in this exciting marketplace.'

Property Partner Terasse Davidson said the real estate industry is competitive and joining an organisation that is committed to being an industry

leader in innovation, technology, and investing in its people is an organisation that she really wanted to be a part of.

'It is important to me to be able to surround myself with like-minded colleagues, who share the same customer service ethos and who are always striving to deliver exceptional results. It feels like I have found the right home for me, my clients and my career at The Agency.'

Ms Davidson is also excited to represent The Agency in the prestige Byron Bay market which she believes is made up of smaller micro markets.

'You have beach front pockets like Belongil, Wategos and to a lesser extent beachside at Suffolk that are priced completely differently due to location and scarcity.'

'I enjoy sharing my local knowledge and insights and I



am able to give vendors a competitive edge around the right marketing and pricing strategy and it helps me to connect with buyers in a very open, honest and transparent way.

'I absolutely love this region. I feel deeply connected to the community and have a solid understanding of the local market as well as the key drivers around pricing.'

Terasse said she has some exciting properties coming to market including five acres at tightly held Coorabell, with west-facing hinterland views complete with a private billabong.

'The property currently has an existing home and subject to council approval this site offers the opportunity for a second dwelling whereby you can build your dream home.'

Terasse added that she had a number of other exciting opportunities that will be announced in the coming weeks.

'We are anticipating a very busy springtime in Byron Bay and surrounds, and I look forward to continuing to providing quality service to our clients.'

■ Terasse Davidson
Contact: 0450 532 276 or terasседavidson@theagency.com.au
www.theagency.com.au

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Alieda Ross

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0412 767 996



James Young

SALES MANAGER

0419 856 840



Sonya Hill

PROPERTY MANAGER

0436 439 056



Naureen Monteith

PROPERTY MANAGER

02 6685 1206



Cheryle Beckman

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THE AGENCY

Australia's real estate

85 ARTHUR ROAD, CORNDALE



Boundary lines are approximate

Tintagel - 37 Acre Ranch, Two Dwellings, Tennis Court & Spring Fed Dam

🛏️ 4 🛋️ 3 🚿 2 🚗 7
📏 37 ACRE

PRICE | \$1.6M - \$1.75M
OPEN | Sat 9th Sept 1:30-2pm

Scan QR code for more
details on this property
*Agent declares Interest



Sharon McInnes
0408 659 649



Paul Prior
0418 324 297



43/11-19 COOPER STREET, BYRON BAY



Spacious Apartment in Byron Bay's Premier Over 55's Community

🛏️ 2 🛋️ 1 🚿 1 🚗 1

PRICE | \$800,000 - \$830,000
OPEN | By appointment

Scan QR code for more
details on this property

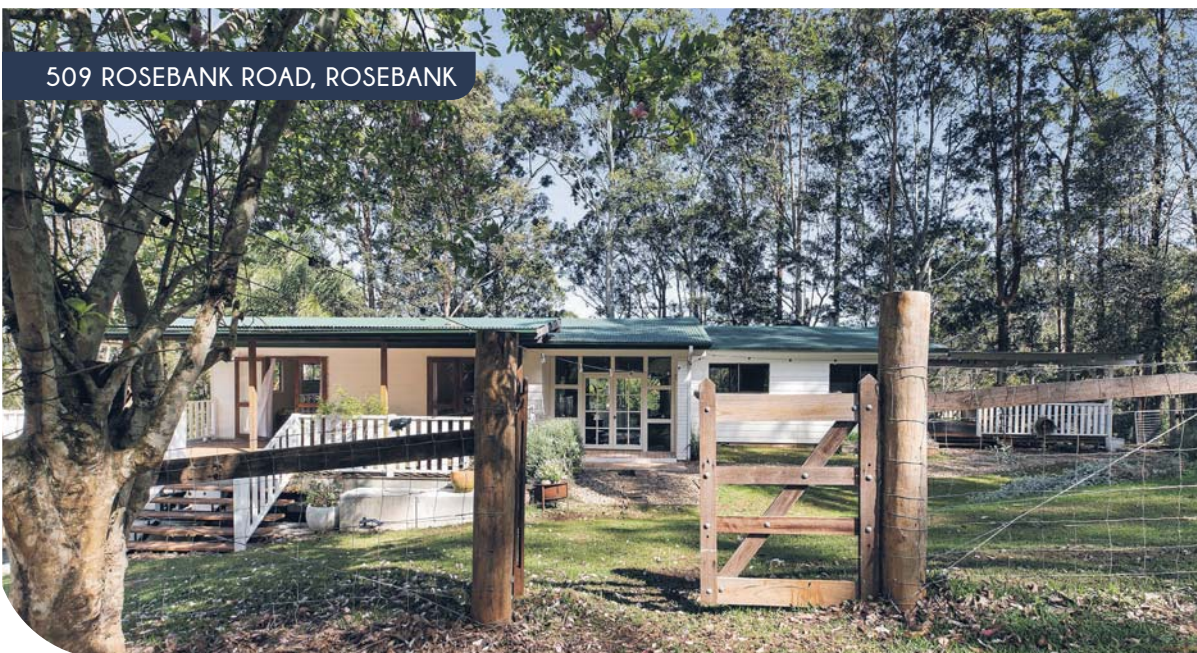


Su Reynolds
0428 888 660



Renee Schofield
0400 028 594

509 ROSEBANK ROAD, ROSEBANK



Character Home on Tranquil 23 Acres

🛏️ 4 🛋️ 4 🚿 3 🚗 2
📏 9.3HA

PRICE | Contact Agent
OPEN | Sat 9th Sept 1-1:30pm

Scan QR code for more
details on this property



Helen Huntly-Barratt
0412 332 232

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20 TAYLORS LANE, EWINGSDALE

Exceptional 4.5 acre Estate
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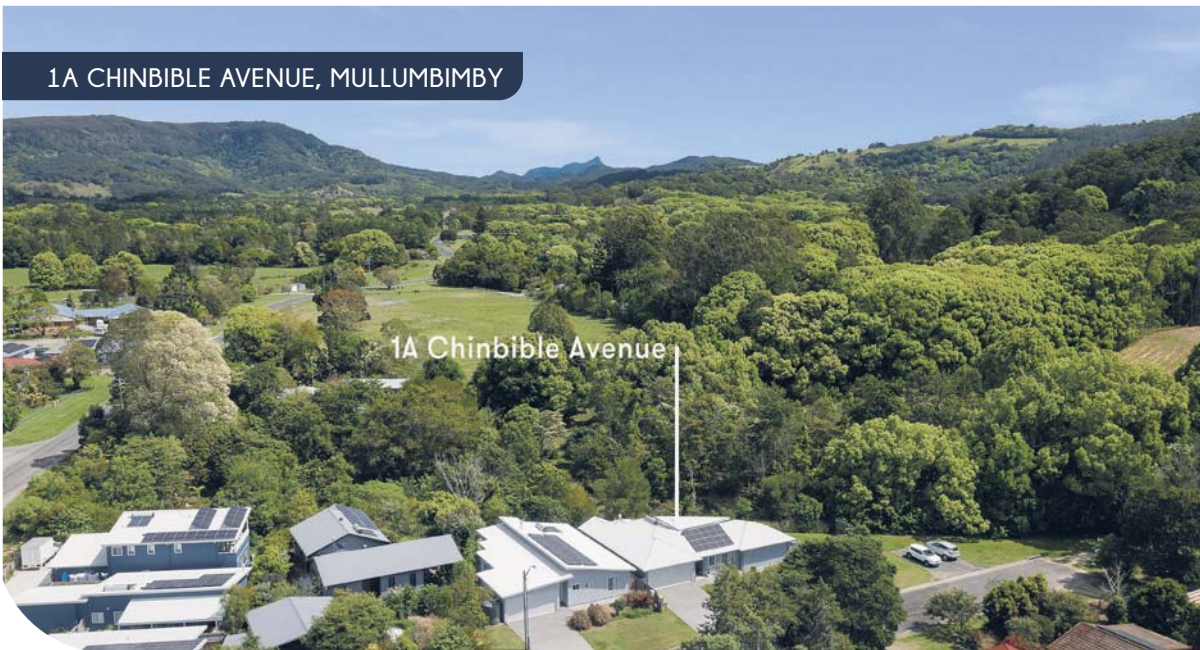
7 5 7 6
14500M²



Helen Huntly-Barratt
0412 332 232

PRICE | Contact Agent
OPEN | Sat 9th Sept 11-11:30am

Scan QR code for more
details on this property



1A CHINBIBLE AVENUE, MULLUMBIMBY

1A Chinbible Avenue

Fantastic Family Home
with Picturesque Bush
Reserve Backdrop

3 1 2 2

PRICE: \$1.2M - \$1.3M
OPEN | Fri 8th Sept 11-11:30am
Sat 9th Sept 9:30-10am



Paul Prior
0418 324 297

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details on this property



15/58 ARMSTRONG STREET, SUFFOLK PARK

Stylish Townhouse
Near Beaches in Secure
Gated Community

3 1 2 1

ONLINE TIMED AUCTION
ENDING | Wed 20th September 12pm
STARTING BID | \$950,000
OPEN | Sat 9th Sept 11-11:30am



Sharon McInnes
0408 659 649



Helen Huntly-Barratt
0412 332 232

Scan QR code to make a bid
on our secure selling platform or
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4/23-29 BYRON ST, BANGALOW

13 DIVERSITY AVE, CUMBALUM



Price Guide: \$725,000-\$775,000



Price Guide: \$430,000-\$470,000



A beautiful apartment overlooking Bangalow's main street

An elevated parcel of land with coastal views



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2 1 1

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GRAND SPRING
AUCTION EVENT
29TH SEP 2023
11AM ONWARDS
THE LANGHAM
GOLD COAST

IN A LEAGUE OF IT'S OWN "THE PALACE ON MAGNOLIA"



amir prestige

📍 15 MAGNOLIA PLACE, EWINGSDALE

8 🛏️ 7 🚿 8 🚗 🏠 8000m²* Disclaimer *= approx.

Immerse yourself in a realm of opulence and tranquility with "The Palace on Magnolia" – an architectural marvel that seamlessly unites eco-conscious luxury with regal romance. Reminiscent of a 19th-century Indian royal residence, it's cocooned within a 2 acre canopy of greenery and promises to be an unrivalled oasis of peace and privacy. Brought to life by Scott Allen and with interiors by LR Fine Design, it sprawls across a substantial single level, showcased by a distinctive colonnade of archways. This classic colonial aesthetic is mirrored indoors, with Austrian chandeliers, 4m ceilings, and ornate crown moulding complementing the light-filled, free-flowing floorplan. Enjoy effortless entertaining with a kitchen complete with a commercial cool room while multiple living and dining zones celebrate a seamless connection to the outdoors. Minutes to The Farm at Byron, world famous surf beach at Belongil Beach, and five minutes to Byron Town.

AUCTION FRIDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER, IN-ROOM
11AM AT THE LANGHAM HOTEL

Inspection by Appointment

Contact the Listing Agents

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

Rochelle Lamers 0407 460 522
rochelle@amirprestige.com.au

amirprestige.com.au





BYRON BAY'S MOST ICONIC ESTATE IS BACK!



amir prestige

📍 59 COOPERS SHOOT ROAD, COOPERS SHOOT

10 🛏️ 9 🚿 14 🚗 🏠 📺 🛠️ 13.88* Acres 🏡 Disclaimer *= approx.

Perched approx. 110m* above sea level, "Hercules" offers a peerless vantage point, revealing Byron Bay's most breathtaking vistas. This exceptionally rare estate represents the epitome of perfection, boasting approx. 13.88* acres of east-facing land along the coveted Byron escarpment. Its unrivalled lifestyle, luxurious amenities, and serene ambiance make it an unparalleled estate of global significance. With its majestic position overlooking the endless Pacific Ocean, Broken Head, and Cape Byron lighthouse, "Hercules" encompasses the Main Residence, Training Centre including offices, meeting room, facilities & parking (for specific purposes use only), Tennis Court, and secondary dwelling for the Health Studio (meditation room, office, meeting room & facilities). This contemporary compound seamlessly blends work and pleasure, offering an exclusive experience that will never be replicated. Minutes to local cafes, golf course, world famous surf beaches, Byron Bay town centre.

AUCTION FRIDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER, IN-ROOM
11AM AT THE LANGHAM HOTEL

Inspection by Appointment

Contact the Listing Agents

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

Abbey Middleton 0426 295 498
abbey@amirprestige.com.au

amirprestige.com.au





QUINTESSENTIAL CHARACTER RICH IN YESTERYEAR HISTORY



amir prestige

📍 301 FRIDAY HUT ROAD, POSSUM CREEK

4 🛏️ 2 🚿 2 🚗 2.47ha* 🏠

Disclaimer *= approx.

The Kingaroy Homestead is a solidly built, beautifully preserved and well maintained rare historic estate, set on about 6 acres of nature with stunning views of the Bangalow Hills and beyond. It is minutes' drive to the local village of Bangalow (7km) plus Byron Bay not too much further along with it's world class beaches to all the shopping your heart desires and restaurants. Closer to the home renowned 'The Hut Byron Bay Restaurant' only a 1.8km scenic walk away for lunch like no-one does it! Enjoy the bustle when you want to and go home to a lovely retreat away from it all.

Inspection by Appointment

Contact the Listing Agent

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



amirprestige.com.au



LARGE BEACHFRONT HOME YOUR FAMILY WILL ABSOLUTELY ADORE



amir prestige

📍 3 MONASH PLACE, POTTSVILLE

7 🛏 3 🚿 2 🚗 🚚 🏠 🚗 1070m^{2*} 🏡

Disclaimer **= approx.

Recently having gone through a fabulous and thorough refurbishment and offering luxurious coastal living. Open areas maximize seamless sea breezes, soaring ceilings, light filled spaces and multiple access points to outdoor living. This is a solely single level home of 465m^{2*}, right by the ocean. It is a substantial beachside family residence with an additional self-contained guest house / or studio if desired.

Inspection by Appointment

Contact the Listing Agents

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

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

amirprestige.com.au





RayWhite

SALE

13 Argyle Street, Mullumbimby
Take a step back in time with this charming 1958 Mullumbimby home. Its warm and inviting atmosphere is complemented by its sturdy timber framing and beautiful hardwood flooring. Take advantage of this opportunity and make an offer today.

Sale
Make an offer!
View
By Appointment

3 🚗 1 🚗 3 🚗 796.94 📏



Brett Connable
0408 155 931
brett.connable@raywhite.com



Nick Russo
0405 977 049
nick.russo@raywhite.com

WHY WAIT?
Ray White Byron Bay | 02 6685 6222

rwbyronbay.com



RayWhite

DA Approved Building Site

AUCTION

17 Argyle Street, Mullumbimby
An amazing opportunity awaits, with a level 797sqm block, this three bedroom, two bathroom home boasts high ceilings and solid timber flooring. The classically styled home is perfect for renovations or further re-development. Positioned close to schools, shops and town centre.

Auction
Friday 8 Sep
2.00pm onsite
View
By Appointment

3 🚗 2 🚗 1 🚗 797 📏



Nick Russo
0405 977 049
nick.russo@raywhite.com



Brett Connable
0408 155 931
brett.connable@raywhite.com

WHY WAIT?
Ray White Byron Bay | 02 6685 6222

rwbyronbay.com

Echo Property Magazine



**ISSUE #3
OUT WED
4TH OCT**

Special offers available now!

Echo Property Magazine is a new monthly magazine, which will be inserted and distributed with all 24,500 copies of *The Echo*, on the first Wednesday of each month.

Echo Property offers the best value and most effective reach for property advertisers in the region. Spanning the Byron, Ballina, Lismore and Tweed shires, *The Echo* has the largest circulation by far.

Advertising properties for sale across the Northern Rivers, *Echo Property Magazine* offers a go-to real estate guide for readers each month. It will also feature on *The Echo's* highly trafficked website www.echo.net.au as a digital magazine which will include hyperlinks to your website. *The Echo* online averages 137,500 unique visitors monthly!

ISSUE #3 OUT WED 4TH OCT

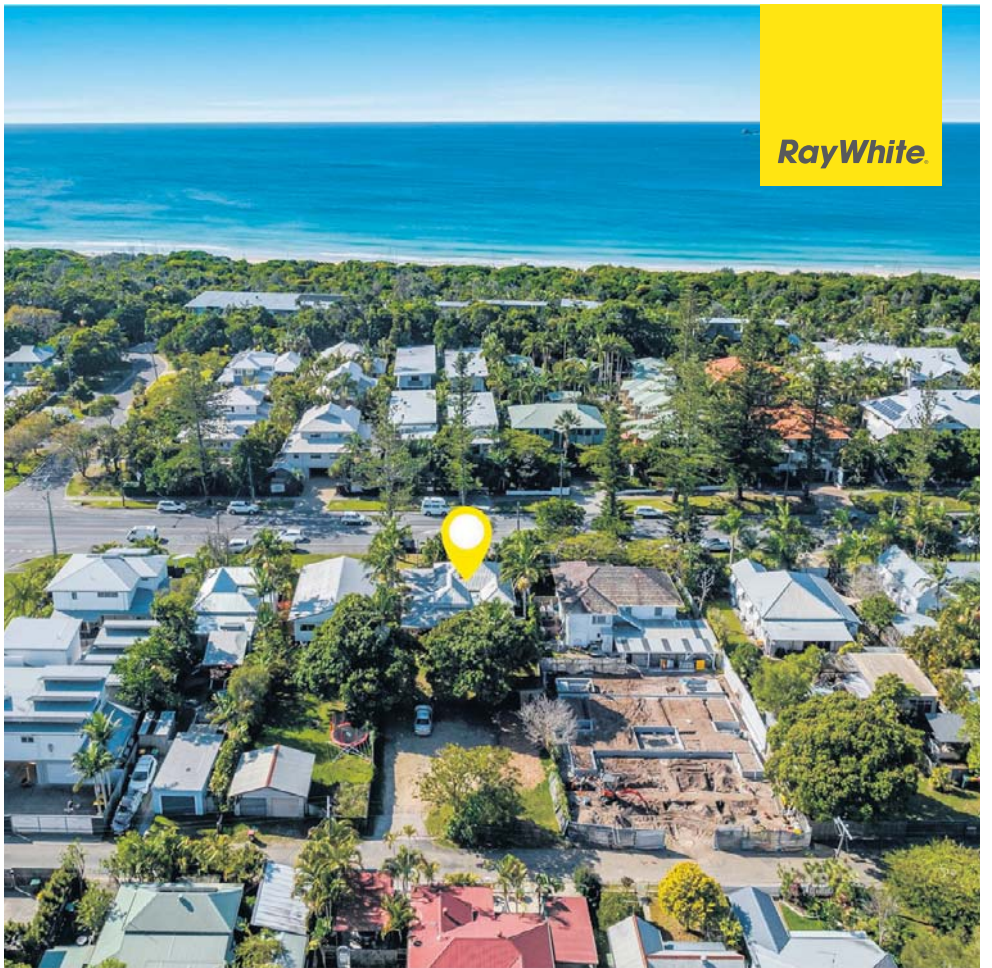
BOOKING DEADLINE: Midday Thursday 14th Sept

COPY DEADLINE: Midday Tuesday 19th Sept

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THE BYRON SHIRE
Echo

Echo
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SALE

52 Shirley Street, Byron Bay

Prime 879m2 Byron property with rear lane access and approved DA for a strata subdivision and plans for a new house. A prime address offering a myriad of opportunities.

WHY WAIT?

Ray White Byron Bay | 02 6685 6222

4 🚗 2 🏊 2 🏠 879 📏

Sale
Expressions Of Interest
Closing Thursday 12 October
View
By Appointment



Damien Smith
0418 123 393
damien.smith@raywhite.com



April Nicolson
0457 451 094
april.nicolson@raywhite.com

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SALE

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- Large high bay roller door plus sliding door entry

Sale
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View
By Appointment

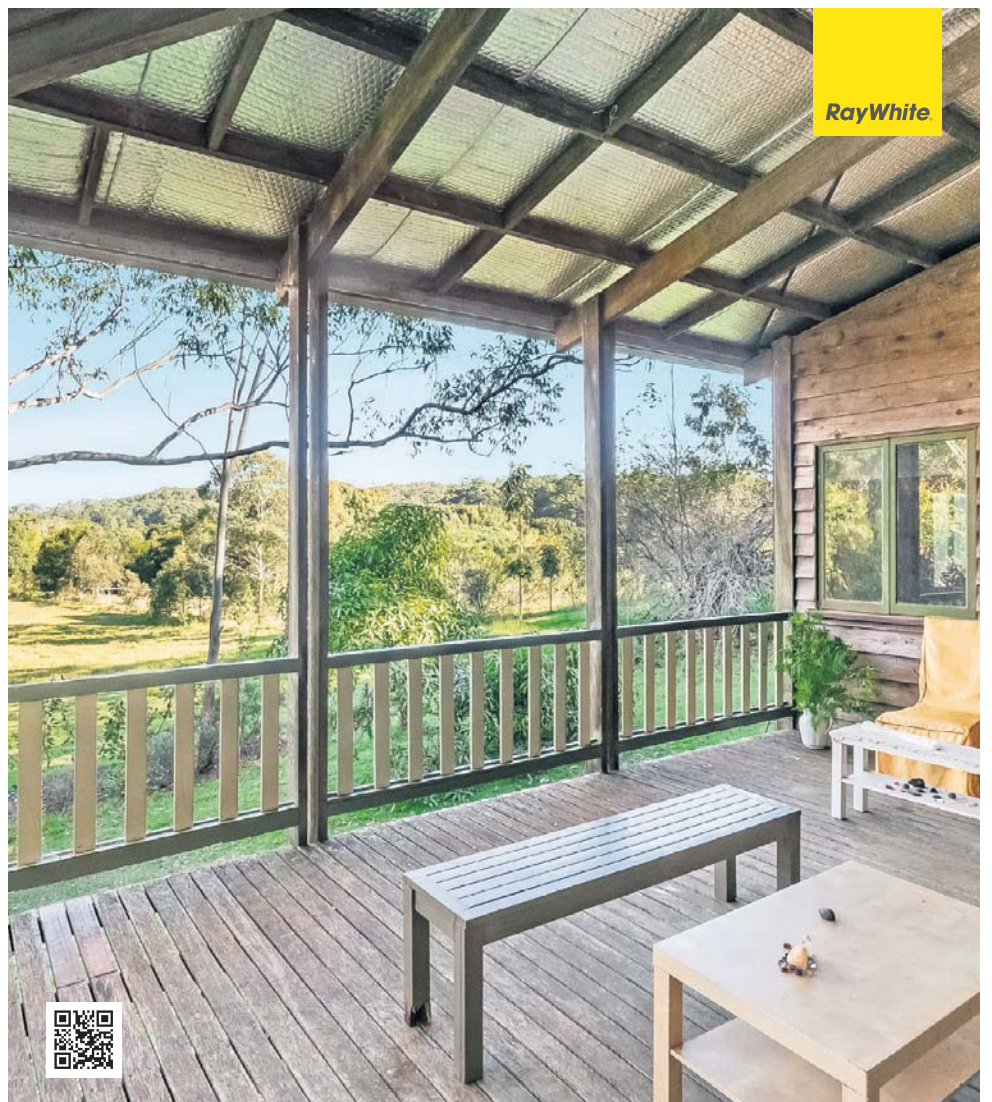


David Gordon
0418 856 222
david.gordon@raywhite.com

WHY WAIT?
Ray White Byron Bay | 02 6685 6222

rwbyronbay.com

1 🚗 1 🏊 1 🏠 125 📏



SALE

109A Mafeking Road, Goonengerry

This unique property is only moments from the village centre. The charming timber home is complete with a pool and a large deck overlooking the wallaby paddock. Enjoy the private peacefulness of birdlife and fauna amongst koala habitat and rainforest regeneration.

Sale
Contact Agent

View
By Appointment



Michael Gudgeon
0419 495 494
michael.gudgeon@raywhite.com

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4 🚗 2 🏊 2 🏠 22acre 📏



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Charming home + secondary dwelling

38 Bangalow Road, Byron Bay

🏠 4 🛏 3 🚗 2

price guide \$2.6M



Within walking distance to Byron's CBD and Main Beach, you will find this beautifully renovated, character-filled three-bedroom home plus free-standing, self-contained one-bedroom cottage.

The home (Circa 1920) has been meticulously updated, with modern design features complementing the fully restored original details. Features include timber flooring, stained-glass windows, high ceilings and a seamless connection between indoor and outdoor living.

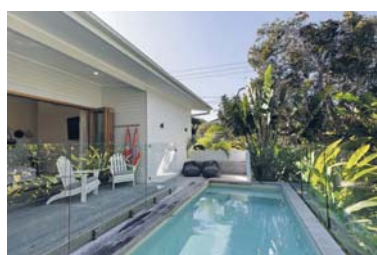
The main living, dining and kitchen area is open plan. The kitchen is sleek, modern and well-equipped. Concertina doors in the living area open onto a large, private deck overlooking the saltwater pool and lush greenery giving the feeling of a private oasis.

The main bedroom features a bay window and a large ultra-modern ensuite. The two other bedrooms have French doors opening onto a peaceful verandah. The main bathroom is bright and modern with feature tiles and a deep free-standing bathtub.

This stunning property offers the laid-back lifestyle Byron is known for.

Inspect: Call Su or Renee

Contact: Su Reynolds 0428 888 660 - Renee Schofield 0400 028 594



Business Directory

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Property Management

📞 02 6685 0177

@ rentals@ljhbrunswickheads.com

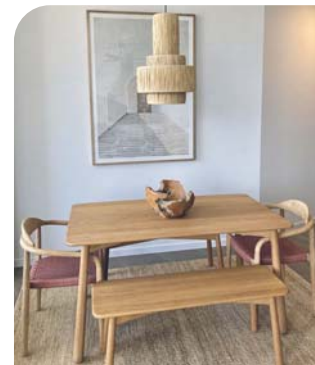
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Large Family Home with 3 Bay Shed

40 Ryces Drive, Clunes

🏠 4 🛏 2 🚗 4

\$850 pw



Situated in the popular village of Clunes, this home has everything a family is looking for! The home has a welcoming atmosphere with a spacious open plan lounge and dining room with an air conditioner and study nook, this opens out onto the large covered entertaining area. The good-sized kitchen has plenty of cupboard space. The large master bedroom has a built-in-robe and ensuite. The other 3 bedrooms with built-in-robbs, large family bathroom with separate toilet and internal access to the home from the garage. As a bonus: There is side access with a concrete driveway leading to the extra-large 3 bay shed that has room for additional cars and to store garden tools and additional items. The large backyard has a variety of fruit trees and a large lawn space with easy to care for gardens. Situated in a quiet street in a cul-de-sac, it is perfect for a family. Conveniently located only 600m from the main street of Clunes for Café and shops, 14km to Bangalow.



Inspect: Call to arrange an inspection

Contact: Lynette Outerbridge on 0411 294 446
or jessica@c21alstonville.com

OPEN FOR INSPECTION

Amir Prestige

- 1 Nixon Pl, Lennox Head. Sat 10.30am-11am

Atlas by LJ Hooker Byron Bay

- 95 Goonengerry Rd, Goonengerry. Thurs 2-3pm

Byron Shire Real Estate

- 8 Weeronga Way, Ocean Shores. Sat 10-10.30am
- 29 Warrambool Rd, Ocean Shores. Sat 11-11.30am
- 6/33 Fingal St, Brunswick Heads. Sat 11-11.30am
- 14 Murumba Ct, Ocean Shores. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 15A Weeronga Way, Ocean Shores. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 11 Waranga Cres, Burringbar. Sat 1-1.30pm

Century 21 Plateau Lifestyle RE

- 44B Ocean Dr, Evans Head. Sat 10.30-11am

First National Byron

- 160 Reardons Ln, Swan Bay. Thurs 11am-12pm
- 4 South Beach Rd, Brunswick Heads. Thurs 2-2.30pm
- 28 Coolamon Scenic Dr, Mullumbimby. Fri 10-10.30am
- 1A Chinbible Av, Mullumbimby. Fri 11-11.30am
- 1/48-50 Cedar Cres, East Ballina. Fri 2-2.30pm
- 103 Goonengerry Mill Rd, Goonengerry. Fri 12-12.30pm
- 69 Lilli Pilli Dr, Byron Bay. Sat 9-9.30am
- 2/5 Chinbible Av, Mullumbimby. Sat 9-9.30am
- 3/75 Stewart St, Lennox Head. Sat 9-9.30am
- 1A Chinbible Av, Mullumbimby. Sat 9.30-10am
- 15 Dinjerra Place, Mullumbimby. Sat 10-10.30am
- 4/6 Keats St, Byron Bay. Sat 10-10.30am
- 30 MacGregor St, Suffolk Park. Sat 10-10.30am
- 15/58 Armstrong St, Suffolk Park. Sat 11-11.30am

- 7/6-8 Norlyn Av, Ballina. Sat 11-11.30am
- 55 Lilli Pilli Dr, Byron Bay. Sat 11-11.30am
- 38 Bangalow Rd, Byron Bay. Sat 11-11.30am
- 20 Taylors Ln, Ewingsdale. Sat 11-11.30am
- 1/48-50 Cedar Cres, East Ballina. Sat 11-11.30am
- 179 Main Arm Rd, Mullumbimby. Sat 11.30am-12pm
- 16 Blueberry Ct, Byron Bay. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 147 Whian Whian Rd, Whian Whian. Sat 12.30-1pm
- 57 Armstrong St, Suffolk Park. Sat 1-1.30pm
- 509 Rosebank Rd, Rosebank. Sat 1-1.30pm
- 85 Arthur Rd, Corndale. Sat 1.30-2pm
- 28 Coolamon Scenic Dr, Mullumbimby. Sat 2.45pm-3.15pm
- 41 Gordon St, Mullumbimby. Sat 3.30-4pm
- 2/51 Cummings Cres, Cumbalum. Sat 10-10.30am

Harcourts Northern Rivers

- 13 Shoalhaven St, Alstonville. Sat 9-9.30am
- 14/3-13 Sunset Av, West Ballina. Sat 9-9.30am
- 129 Ballina Rd, East Lismore. Sat 9-9.30am
- 5 Blue Wren Place, Goonellabah. Sat 10-10.30am
- 67 Burn Point Ferry Rd, West Ballina. Sat 10-10.30am
- 2 Marina Place, West Ballina. Sat 10-10.30am
- 589 Ballina Rd, Goonellabah. Sat 10-10.30am
- 2/5 Henry Philp Av, Ballina. Sat 10.45-11.15am
- 2/111 Kalinga St, West Ballina. Sat 10.45-11.15am
- 3/27 Claire St, West Ballina. Sat 11-11.30am
- 194 South Ballina Beach Rd, South Ballina. Sat 11.15-11.45am
- 7 Daydream Av, West Ballina. Sat 11-11.30am
- 115 Burnett St, Ballina. Sat 11.30-12pm
- 150 Burnet St, Ballina. Sat 11.30-12pm
- 2/14 Barrett Dr, Lennox Head. Sat 12.30-1pm
- 4/13 Tamar St, Ballina. Sat 12.15-12.45pm
- 1106-1108 Tamarind Dr, Tintenbar. Sat 1-1.30pm

- 2/51 Gibbon St, Lennox Head. Sat 1.15-1.45pm
 - 14 Kite Av, Ballina. Sat 1-1.30pm
 - 57 Anderson St, East Ballina. Sat 2-2.30pm
 - 54 Narooma Dr, Ocean Shores. Sat 2.30pm-3pm
- #### Mana RE
- 9 Green Frog Ln, Bangalow. Sat 9-9.30am
 - 10 Beach Av, South Golden Beach. Sat 9-9.30am
 - 59 Riverview St, Murwillumbah. Sat 10-10.30am
 - 2 Clifford St, South Golden Beach. Sat 10-10.30am
 - 73B Balemo Dr, Ocean Shores. Sat 10-10.30am
 - 3 Kallaroo Circuit, Ocean Shores. Sat 11-11.30am
 - 105 Braeside Dr, Uki. Sat 11.30-12pm
 - 3 Narooma Dr Ocean Shores. Sat 12-12.30pm
 - 121 Mcleod St, Condong. Sat 1-2pm

McGrath Byron Bay

- 55/12 Hazelwood Close, Suffolk Park. Fri 11.30am-12pm
- 115 Stewarts Rd, Clunes. Sat 9-9.30am
- 3 Warina Place, Mullumbimby. Sat 9.30-10am
- 1 North Head Rd, New Brighton. Sat 10-10.30am
- 8 Hakea Ct, Mullumbimby. Sat 10.15-10.45am
- 426 Coopers Shoot Rd, Coopers Shoot. Sat 11-11.30am
- 62 Bangalow Rd, Byron Bay. Sat 11.45am-12.15pm
- 33/12 Hazelwood Close, Suffolk Park. Sat 12.45-1.15 pm

North Coast Lifestyle Properties

- 421 Left Bank Rd, Mullumbimby. Sat 10:00-10.45am
- 4/46 Durrumbul Rd, Mullumbimby. Sat 12-12.45pm
- 55B Mylestom Circle, Pottsville. Sat 9-9.30am
- 2 Glendale Cres, Ocean Shores. Sat 10-10.30am
- 4/1 Bindaree, Ocean Shores. Sat 11-11.30am
- 12/2 Rajah Rd, Ocean Shores. Sat 12-12.30pm

Ray White Byron Bay

- 10 Byron Creek Rd, Coopers Shoot. Wed 2-2.30pm
- 31 Beachcomber Dr, Byron Bay. Thurs 12-12.30pm
- 21 Carlyle St, Byron Bay. Thurs 1-1.30pm
- 17 Argyle St, Mullumbimby. Fri 1.30-2pm
- 31 Beachcomber Dr, Byron Bay. Sat 9-9.30am
- 65 Currawong Way, Ewingsdale. Sat 9-9.30am
- 109-111 Broken Head Rd, Suffolk Park. Sat 10-10.30am
- 2/182 Broken Head Rd, Suffolk Park. Sat 10-10.30am
- 48 Jacaranda Dr, Byron Bay. Sat 11-11.30am
- 10 Byron Creek Rd, Coopers Shoot. Sat 11-11.30am
- 39 Belongil Cres, Byron Bay. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 21 Carlyle St, Byron Bay. Sat 1-1.30pm

Real Estate of Distinction

- 35-37 Edwards Ln, Kynnumboon. Sat 10-10.30am
- 40 Old Bangalow Rd, Byron Bay. Sat 10-10.30am
- 413 Crabbes Creek Rd, Crabbes Creek. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 139 Bishops Creek Rd, Coffee Camp. Sat 3-3.30pm

Ruth Russell Realty

- 11 Quail Way, Mullumbimby. Sat 11-11.45am
- 54 Main Arm Rd, Mullumbimby. Sat 12-12.30pm

Tim Miller Real Estate

- 4/23-29 Byron St, Bangalow. Wed 10.45-11.15am
- 51 Tristania St, Bangalow. Wed 11.30am-12pm
- 51 Tristania St, Bangalow. Sat 10.15-10.45am
- 6 Avalon Av, Clunes. Wed 12.30-1pm
- 6 Avalon Av, Clunes. Sat 11.30am-12pm
- 447 Eltham Rd, Eltham. Sat 12.30-1pm

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Casual position of two regular
days a week during school
term to commence 9 October
2023. Currently 14hrs per week
with occasional special events.
Monday – 7:45am - 1:45pm
Friday – 6:45am - 2:45pm

Duties include:

stock management, food
preparation, money handling,
customer service and kitchen
cleaning routine.

Applicants will be required to
provide a current Working with
Children Check. Preferred but
not necessary for applicants
to have a safe food handling
certificate or prior food
industry experience.

Email cover letter
and resumé to:
[mullumbimbypublicschool@
pandcaffiliate.org.au](mailto:mullumbimbypublicschool@pandcaffiliate.org.au)

Closing date:
19 September 2023

MUSICAL NOTES

GUITAR STRINGS, REPAIRS
Brunswick Heads 66851005

Bb



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BIRTHDAYS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY JACKIE!



Love from the Echo crew xxx

FUNERAL NOTICES

WATSON, Aileen Daphne

Passed away peacefully at Coolamon Villa, Mullumbimby.

Loved sister of Edward and Kenneth Watson. Much loved aunty of Terry & Fiona, Jenny & Michael, Michael & Rachael and Alison.

Aileen will be sadly missed by all family and friends.

Aged 94 years.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend a funeral service to be held at St Martins Anglican Church, Mullumbimby on MONDAY (September 11, 2023) commencing at 11.00am.

Michael Currie at Brunswick Valley Funerals Mullumbimby 6684 6232

IN MEMORIAM

EFTIHIA (EFFIE) KORIALOS



6 August 1927–6 September 2022

It's been 12 months since we saw your smile, heard your words of encouragement, felt your kindness and care.

Your love always in our hearts, your words of wisdom echoing in our minds.

We will always remember our happy times together.
With love, your family.

DEATH NOTICES

SLATER, Janine Gai
6/06/1954–23/08/2023
Passed away suddenly at John Flynn Hospital.

Loved sister of Joy, Peter (decd), and Jeffrey. Loved Aunty Nene of Lesa, Cheyne, Jamal & Courtney, and Madison.

Janine will be sadly missed by family, friends and those who knew her in teaching and the local community. At Janine's request a private cremation has taken place.

PETS

LUCINDA is a 6 year old Havanaise.

She is a shy girl so her owner will need patience and she will come around in her own time. She loves her twice daily walks. We would like Lucinda to go to a home with another dog of her size, approximately 7kgs. Please no cats or small children and you will need a securely fenced yard.

M/C # 941000019577190

If interested please submit an expression of interest to www.friendsofthepound.com/adoption-expression-of-interest/

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



LUCINDA



Merlin has 'magically' found himself in a bag ready for his new family to collect him! He's a beautiful young boy with silvery grey markings and eyes that will leave you spellbound. He's confident, affectionate and as you can see, ready to try every trick in the book to win over hearts.

To meet Merlin and our other cats and 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! ANIMAL NSW Rehoming Organisation Number: R25100222

SUN, MOON & TIDES - TIMES FOR NEXT 2 WEEKS

DATE (Sept)	DAY, MOON PHASE	SUN RISE / SET	MOON RISE / SET	HIGH TIDES, height (m)	LOW TIDES, height (m)
6	W	5:55 17:34	9:47	0013.115 1318.145	0617.037 1955.063
7	TH	5:54 17:34	0:15 10:32	0107.100 1430.141	0706.045 2131.065
8	F	5:52 17:35	1:15 11:21	0232.090 1545.141	0815.051 2254.059
9	SA	5:51 17:35	2:10 12:15	0412.091 1651.144	0936.053 2348.052
10	SU	5:50 17:36	2:59 13:11	0519.097 1743.149	1045.049
11	M	5:49 17:36	3:43 14:07	0607.106 1827.154	0028.045 1140.043
12	TU	5:48 17:36	4:21 15:04	0645.114 1904.159	0100.039 1224.036
13	W	5:47 17:37	4:54 15:59	0720.121 1938.161	0130.034 1301.031
14	TH	5:45 17:37	5:24 16:52	0753.127 2010.162	0157.030 1336.027
15	F	5:44 17:38	5:52 17:45	0826.133 2041.160	0223.027 1411.026
16	SA	5:43 17:38	6:19 18:38	0859.138 2110.155	0248.025 1445.028
17	SU	5:42 17:39	6:46 19:32	0932.142 2139.147	0315.024 1521.032
18	M	5:41 17:39	7:14 20:27	1008.145 2209.138	0342.025 1600.037
19	TU	5:39 17:40	7:44 21:25	1046.145 2242.127	0410.027 1643.044
20	W	5:38 17:40	8:19 22:26	1128.145 2318.115	0440.031 1733.052

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

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Here is Wilhelmina or Willa for short. She is a long hair tortie and is cuddly with her kittens and partner Winston, who showed his face here last week. Willa is loving, gentle and playful. Done the mothering thing so is now totally focused on having a special human or family to love and care for. So eager to start the life that she deserves, perhaps with you?

All cats are desexed, vaccinated and microchipped. No: 953010006426477 PETS FOR LIFE

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

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FULL TIME CLASS 1 TEACHER 2024

COMMENCEMENT TERM 1 2024

Cape Byron Rudolf Steiner School is an independent K-12 school dedicated to the educational principles inspired by Rudolf Steiner. Our beautiful school is in Ewingsdale near sunny Byron Bay NSW.

Applications are being sought for a suitably qualified and experienced Steiner School Teacher for our lovely Class 1 students of 2024.

The successful applicant will be registered or eligible to register with NSW Institute of Teachers and hold a current NSW Working with Children Check.

Applications close Friday 8th September 4pm.

Position description and application process available at: www.capebyronsteiner.nsw.edu.au

Byron Dog Rescue (CAWI)

Sweet, affectionate 'Leroy' is a 4-year-old Heeler x Border Collie x Kelpie. Great with other dogs, cats and kids.



LEROY

Leroy comes from a traumatic past but is doing exceptionally well at our open-air shelter.

He loves women and fervently seeks one of his own.

Please contact Shell on 0458461935.

MC: 941000023205533

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On The Horizon

DEADLINE NOON FRIDAY

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

Bangalow GM

The next general meeting for the Bangalow Community Association will be held at 6pm on Wednesday, 20 September at Bangalow Mens Shed, off Station St carpark. All citizens of the 2479 postcode are invited to attend and comment on community-wide matters relating to development and infrastructure, with some game-changing items on the agenda. An engaged community can deliver better outcomes for our village so come along and become involved.

BV VIEW

Brunswick Valley VIEW club will have a meeting on 14 September at Brunswick Valley Bowling Club at 10.30am for an 11am start. Apologies to Wenda on 0449 563 580 or email: wjhunt@yahoo.com.au no later than Monday before.

Alcoholics Anonymous

Alcoholics Anonymous – the doors of AA are open at 7pm this Friday, 8 September. AA is holding a local public AA meeting open to anyone in the community and professionals. If you want more information on what AA is, what AA does and what AA doesn't do, and how we might be able to help the suffering alcoholic come along to this free event at the Bangalow A&I Hall. Phone 1800 423 431 for further details.

Prostate Cancer Support

The next meeting of the Northern Rivers Day Prostate Cancer Support Group will be on Wednesday, 13 September, 10am till 12 noon at the Alstonville Plateau Sports Club (previously known as the Alstonville 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 to share, learn and benefit from each other. Partners and carers are also welcome to attend as family are very much involved with the process and treatment of those with this diagnosis. Enquiries phone Bob Corney 0493 075 612.

Fellowship of First Fleeters

The next meeting of the Northern Rivers Fellowship of First Fleeters will be held on Sunday, 24 September at the Cherry Street Sports Club, Ballina at 10.30am. Anyone interested in their convict family history from any of the many fleets who journeyed here are very welcome to join our group. Our guest speaker will be Alan Hicks speaking on the history of trains in Ballina. If you wish to attend please contact Roddy Jordan on 6687 5339 or via email hollysbuddy1@bigpond.com.

MONTHLY MARKETS

1st SAT Brunswick Heads	0418 400 415
1st SUN Byron Bay	6685 6807
1st SUN Lismore Car Boot	6628 7333
2nd SAT Woodburn	0439 489 631
2nd SAT Tabulam Hall	0490 329 159
2nd SUN The Channon	6688 6433
2nd SUN Lennox Head	6685 6807
2nd SUN Lillingham	0428 793 141
2nd SUN Coolangatta	
3rd SAT Mullumbimby	6684 3370
3rd SAT Murwillumbah	0413 804 024
3rd SAT Salt Village Market, Casuarina	
3rd SUN Federal	0433 002 757
3rd SUN Uki	0487 329 150
3rd SUN Ballina	0422 094 338
4th SAT Evans Head	0439 489 631
4th SAT Wilsons Creek	6684 0299
4th SAT Kyogle Bazaar	kyoglebazaar.com.au
4th SUN Bangalow	6687 1911
4th SUN Nimbin	0475 135 764
4th SUN Murwillumbah	0413 804 024
4th SUN (in a 5 Sunday month) Coolangatta	
5th SUN Nimbin	0458 506 000
5th SUN Lennox Head	6685 6807

FARMERS/WEEKLY MARKETS

Each TUE New Brighton	0424 168 672
Each TUE Organic Lismore	6628 1084
Each WED 7-11am M'bah	6684 7834
Each WED 3-6pm Nimbin	0475 135 764
Each WED 4-7pm Newrybar Hall	
Each THU 8-11am Byron	6687 1137
Each THU 2.30-6.30pm Lismore	0450 688 900
Each FRI 7-11am Mullum	0424 168 672
Each SAT 8-11am Bangalow	6687 1137
Each SAT 8-11am Durambah Rd (Tropical Fruit World)	
Each SAT 8am-1pm Uki	6679 5530
Each SAT 8.30-11am Lismore	
Each SAT 8.30-12am Blue Knob	
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.

Friends of Palestine

The Byron Friends of Palestine are planning a cultural evening of movies, food, and music in the Coorabell Hall 23 September. We're featuring two movies and two short films showcasing creative Palestinian cinema (not war and death, or anything too political), cultural food and music, with a dance party afterward. All of this is to raise money for MAP, Medical Aid for Palestinians. We're seeking enthusiastic volunteers to help make this event a resounding success. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Subhi on 0408 760 991.

BV Scrabble Club

Brunswick Valley Scrabble Club runs from 1pm to 3.30pm every Tuesday at Brunswick Heads Bowling Club. More social than competitive. You don't have to be a champion! Come and join us. For more info phone 0407 844 718.

BB Hospital Auxiliary

The Byron Bay Hospital Auxiliary hold their monthly meetings on the third Monday of every month at the Byron Central Hospital at 1pm. All members and new members welcome. For further information please contact Maureen on 6685 3162.

Baby/toddler drop-in centre and clothes swap

Free drop-in centre and baby/toddler clothes swap each Friday, 10am–2pm at the Mullumbimby CWA Hall, Cnr Tincogan and Gordon Streets. Join us for a free cuppa and biscuits and a chat with other mums and dads. Pick up some baby/toddler clothes and leave any pre-loved clothes (but with plenty of life left) to share with the community.

Women's circle

A women's circle is held 10am–12pm, every Tuesday at the Byron Community Cabin on Carlyle Street. Morning tea, art activities and connection to community for women experiencing housing insecurity. It is hosted by Fletcher Street Cottage and Byron Community Centre. For more info: [www.fletcherstreetcottage.com](mailto:fsc@byroncentre.com.au), email: fsc@byroncentre.com.au, or call 6685 6807.

Volunteer call out

Support for New Mums Inc. a Northern NSW community program are recruiting volunteers in the Byron Shire. We offer a free-of-charge, home visiting program for mothers with babies. For more information email Deb: newmums8@gmail.com.

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–Friday 9.30am–4pm (closed 12.30–1.30pm for lunch). We offer a variety of services. Everyone is welcome. Call reception on 6684 1286.

Some of our services include:
Food recovery support service: personalised, long-term support for those impacted by the floods.
Community support: Food parcels, meals, showers, assistance with electricity bills. Work Development Orders.

Listening Space: free counselling.
Free yoga: every Tuesday 3–4pm.
More Than A Meal: Free Community lunch Tuesday–Friday from 1.30pm.

Financial counselling
Staying Home, Leaving Violence program. Information, referral, and advocacy.

Gulgani affordable pantry shop: located at 3 Bridgeland Lane.

Orange Sky: Free laundry service Mon morning & Tue afternoon.

To enquire about accessing any of these services call reception 6684 1286, check our website

www.mdnc.org.au, or follow us on Facebook or Instagram. @mullumbimbyneighbourhoodcentre.

Byron Community

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, 7am–9am. **Showers and laundry:** Monday–Friday, 9am–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 St. More info: www.byroncentre.com.au Phone: 6685 6807.

Byron Magpies fly high to win premiership



The Magpies celebrate a big AFL grand final win over Port Macquarie and the end to a successful season they dominated from start to finish. Photo supplied.

The Byron Magpies senior men's AFL team have won the 2023 premiership in fine style by beating Port Macquarie 14.12-96-5.9-39 in the grand final of the NSW North Coast League, played at Coffs Harbour Stadium last Saturday.

The Magpies got off to a great start after racing to a 4.6-30-0.2-2 lead after the first quarter.

The competition's minor premiers didn't let the

pressure off and continued to build through the next two quarters. Port Macquarie reeled in a few points in the final quarter but the game was as good as won by then.

'We put the pressure on early and then stayed on top,' team captain Daniel Tiffin said.

'We're all very happy with the result. It was very reflective of the year we've had.

'Its hard to single anyone

out, it really was an all-round team effort. We made a meal of them.

'Of course the coaching staff, volunteers and other supporters were crucial.

'It was a big year, and a big effort from everyone involved,' Daniel said.

The Magpies haven't seriously been troubled all season and have topped the table from the beginning of the season to the end.

Rainbow regatta opens dragon boat racing season

Monica Wilcox

Dragon boat paddlers from 17 clubs started their racing season at the 2023 Rainbow Region Dragon Boat Club regatta on the first weekend of August at Shaws Bay, East Ballina.

Paddlers came from as far north as Redland Bay QLD, as far south as Hunter Valley and from the west to Narrabri.

'Feedback has been positive and it sounds like everyone had a lot of fun along with some good, healthy competition,' club president Jan Wright said.

Starting Saturday afternoon, local club Ballina, won the 1km turn race, with Tweed coming second and Kempsey third.

The four 'State of Origin' teams were drawn from a hat. They had not paddled together before, adding an extra challenge.

Both NSW teams showed they could stay the distance



A rainbow arching over the course lifted paddlers' spirits ahead of a day of dragon boat racing. Photo supplied

to win first and second places.

The 'Community Teams Challenge' made up of teams from schools, clubs, Council, and Rainbow Dragons' sponsors, raced for a good cause.

The *Jetts Pilots* team won \$250 for their chosen charity.

The *Bravehearts* won the Best Dressed award for an array of tartan outfits.

Results

20s: Womens - 1 Currumbin, 2 Ballina, 3 Tweed.

Mixed - 1 Currumbin, 2 Palm Beach/KIN, 3 Tweed.

10s: Womens - 1 Rainbows,

2 Coffs Coast, 3 Currumbin.

Mens - 1 Currumbin, 2 Ballina, 3 Kempsey.

Opens - 1 Tweed, 2 Palm Beach/KIN, 3 Rainbows.

Ballina Bombers chase grand final glory after nail-biter



The Ballina Bombers senior women's AFL team have played their way into the grand final next weekend after narrowly winning their semi-final against Pacific Pines 3.4-22-3.2-20, after extra time, last Saturday.

'Everything is starting to click,' said assistant coach

Laura Box. 'It's very exciting to get a ticket to the big dance'.

The Bombers take on the Tweed Coast at Fankhauser Reserve in Southport from 4.15pm this Saturday.

'This is the only team we haven't beaten all season, but we are really looking forward to the challenge,' Laura said.

Wollongbar-Alstonville win another first-grade premiership



WAR have continued their dominance of Far North Coast rugby with a 23-13 win over the Byron Shire Rebels. WAR's win was on the back of strong defence that limited scoring opportunities even when the side was depleted through yellow cards. It is the team's eighth premiership in

the last ten years.

The Byron Shire Rebels did taste premiership success in second grade after beating Cabarita Beach 30-22, earlier in the day at Lyle Park, Wollongbar. In the Women's 12s Casuarina Beach beat Lismore 12-5.

Photo Vicki Kerry

A big season finale for Brunswick Byron Netball



A full day of grand finals and end of season presentations was held at the Mullumbimby netball courts last Saturday as the Brunswick Byron Netball Association finished up the 2023 season. In the tightly fought senior division one final, The Breeze (Byron Bay) triumphed

over Rainbow Magic (Mullumbimby) 29-20, after they powered away in the final quarter.

In division two, Bangalow Blue were too strong early for Rainbow Magic (Mullumbimby) winning the premiership 44-29.

Photo Ross Kendall

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ByronBaySinging.com

Correction: The story 'Rail Trail slated for some of Byron Shire' (*The Echo*, August 30) incorrectly reported that Independent councillor Sama Balson voted against a motion to move forward with the construction of rail trails in the north and south of the Shire. Cr Balson in fact voted in favour of this motion, making the final vote six votes to three.

Psst: His Planning Majesty, Marcus Ray, chief honcho of the NSW Planning Department, has been promoted to NSW Treasury, *The Echo* is reliably informed.

This Sunday from 4 to 6pm at the Paddock Project (on Argyle Street, Mullum), Auntie Marcia Browning will be joined by school teachers, and First Nations people in support of 'Yes', Michelle Lowe and Eli Pietens. 'Bring a cushion and an open mind' say organisers.

Shearwater's annual Spring Festival held last weekend was also a celebration of its 30-year milestone. The Mullum Steiner school was dreamed up on February 8, 1993, by 37 locals.

A review of the *NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* by former Federal Treasury Secretary, Ken Henry, AC, has 'painted an alarming picture and found that without really major reform only half of NSW threatened species are expected to survive in 100 years'. Just as well NSW Labor are now in charge... oh wait...

Congrats theatre company NORPA, who have won the prestigious PAC Australia Impact Award. It was for



Food lovers welcomed the return of last weekend's Sample food festival, held in Bangalow. Pictured searing octopus over charcoal are Tom Ahern and James Leigh, from Ballina's Kelp Restaurant. Photo Jeff 'All Sizzle No Steak' Dawson

its innovative sell-out 2022 show at the Eltham Hotel, *Love For One Night*.

On top of disastrous fires, Greece is now copping massive rain. And southern Spain is also facing major flooding while central Europe is in a heatwave. In related news, 'Home insurers cut natural disasters from policies as climate risks grow', reports www.washingtonpost.com.

Further to last week's story, 'Committee's calls to retain Mullum's local water supply rejected by staff', the author was not Dominika Tomanek, as reported. According to Council's media spokesperson, she 'wrote the minutes and her role is purely administration'. Presumably Director Infrastructure Services, Phil Holloway, is responsible for the report, which recommended Mullum abandon its local water supply in favour of Rocky Creek Dam.

ICYMI best not to ask the mayor for any assistance if

you are being persecuted by his overzealous compliance team. See page 3.

Lennox COMMUNITY MARKET

SUNDAY 10 SEPTEMBER
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