

Echo

IS YET TO REACH PEAK HYSTERIA

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Who won Mullum's mad mountain dash?

Mullum's Chiny Charge was held in perfect spring weather on Saturday, with athletes and strollers enjoying the magnificent views Mount Chincogan has to offer.

Vintage cars and visitors filled the town, with the monthly markets also brimming with activity.

Jack Gill came first in the race, completing the course in 30 minutes and 44 seconds, almost two-and-a-half minutes ahead of Joe Stokes (33.09), and Aaron Dower (33.32) a few seconds behind in third place. The top three women runners were Courtney Gilfillan (36.55) Bec Curtis (40.55) and Lisa Parkes (41.18).

'The pain, the sweat and suffering, it was all present. We all endured so much. When you think it's all over, it's just begun. Keep rolling with the punches.

'For me, victory lies within the mindset to never give up. Running the Chiny Charge was a huge achievement for me.

'I was so worried about whether I could make it, or if it was dangerous as so many people said how steep it is, and that I need to be very careful.

'Even though I injured my ankle when running the goat track in Byron Bay, I believe if you don't test your limits, you may never know what you are capable of.'

Overcoming addiction

Off The Street On Our Feet founder, and former rough sleeper, Mathew Broster, told *The Echo*, 'Overcoming heroin addiction, two strokes and severe brain damage, Chiko had to learn all over again.'

'Learning from scratch many things that are so often taken for granted like speaking, thinking, walking and basic motor skills have been a huge challenge for Chiko since his last hit of heroin left him in a coma around eight years ago. His community are so proud. Well done Chiko, and a huge thank you to Jenelle Stanford and the chamber for hosting the event and for her support.

'Another huge thank you to many staff from Fletcher Street Cottage, and Gary from the Byron Bay Runners Club for physically supporting Off The Street On Our Feet on the day, with many reaching the top of the mountain along with Chiko.'



Land council accused of land grab

Auntie Susan Anderson says she owns the land and the houses at Cabbage Tree Island, which was passed down by her grandfather.

Photo & story Eve Jeffery

Around 80 residents of Cabbage Tree Island, just south of Wardell, say they want to return home after the 2022 floods, but the Local Aboriginal Land Council, Jali, have other ideas.

The Department of Planning and Environment (DPE), including the Aboriginal Housing Office and Crown Lands, say they are supporting Jali Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC) and the community of Cabbage Tree Island to determine the way forward for the land use of the island, following the catastrophic floods that inundated '26 homes' on the Island.

But there is a dispute over the number of flood-damaged homes, with traditional owners, represented by Auntie Susan Anderson, claiming that only four houses sustained flood water damage inside. All the foundations, which are made of

reinforced concrete and brick, are in good condition, Auntie Anderson says. She adds that this has been confirmed by the Australian Army engineers.

When *The Echo* visited the island in March this year, most of the homes were clearly built higher than the 2022 flood level.

The only damage that appeared to be done was by the army, who came in and ripped up carpets in all of the homes, despite them not being flooded.

On August 28 this year, a community meeting with Jali LALC was held, and a motion was carried 'to proceed with the rebuild of 26 residential properties at 50 Bath Street, Wardell, including detailed master planning, engineering, design and construction'. This is the site of the current pod village.

Auntie Anderson says the land was purchased in the mid-1800s,

and that she is the owner of the land which was passed down to her and her family by her grandfather, John Jack Cook. Auntie Susan says that after the August announcement, the Cabbage Tree Island community has been very distressed.

Distressed community

'They told us, "We're not going back and they're not going to rebuild". Everyone just burst out crying. The elders and everyone, we just got up and walked out. It's very sad.'

'The flood never went in all of the houses. They want the land. They tried to sell it, unknown to the community, in 2001. Their lawyers sent a letter to me asking me if I would sell it and I said, "The land is not for sale".'

Anderson says that Jali has a 99-year lease on the land, but they certainly do not own it, and that last week the families and Elders went to

► Continued on page 2



Off The Street On Our Feet competitor, Chiko, with Jenelle Stanford. Photo Gary Leckie.

Chiko's journey

A standout runner for the event was Rhys Marin, known as Chiko.

As a competitor from Off The Street On Our Feet, he told *The Echo*, 'During the run, I just kept pushing through the mental challenges.'

Cruel Sea return gig supports Wildlife Hospital, Oct 21 ► p5

Richard Jones asks if not 'Yes' now, then when? ► p8



What's happening in the school holidays ► p15



Simple pleasures in Brunswick Heads ► p20



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Free compost workshop Oct 4

North East Waste are hosting a free compost workshop on October 4, from 10.30am at the Brunswick Library.

Organisers say it's part of the 'Let's Get Our Scrap Together' community education campaign, and North East Waste and Byron Shire Council's efforts towards eliminating food waste and ensuring it doesn't go to landfill. The workshop will cover composting fundamentals, including: how to make your own compost container; what can be composted and how long it takes to compost; how to manage weeds and vermin; and ways to use your home-made compost in the garden.

To book a space, visit <https://tinyurl.com/2ppr3fav>.

Spinning yarns at Spring Fair



Shanti Leimanis, Matilda Mayson and Vicki Brooke explore woolly logic at Cape Byron Steiner's Spring Fair last Saturday. Photo Jeff 'I'll Have Some Socks, Please' Dawson

War vet's tiny home still in Council's sights

Council are continuing to put the squeeze on an Afghanistan war veteran with PTSD, who approached the media after he received a demolition order on his tiny home in Wilsons Creek.

As previously reported, Matt Bruce's off-grid removable dwelling is considered an unauthorised dwelling by Council, and after failed negotiations, staff have ordered it to be demolished. A \$9,000 fine was also issued to landowner, Nicholas Scali.

Mr Bruce says efforts to reach out to Mayor Michael Lyon and Cr Mark Swivel for help at the time were ignored.

A neighbour also approached *The Echo* with her perspective, claiming among other things that the private road was damaged when the dwelling was brought in.

Mr Bruce denies the claims. In a Mayoral Minute from last Thursday's meeting, Cr Lyon gained unanimous support from councillors to

invite 'the property owner to attend an independent mediation within 14 days with Council staff'.

Enforcement threat

Yet 'failing a successful outcome', Council will pursue and complete 'enforcement action against the property owner'.

A caveat notes that any failure to negotiate 'does not prevent the landowner seeking approval for the additional dwelling on

a permitted part of the property'.

Mr Bruce previously told *The Echo* he is taking responsibility for the fines from the landowner, and does not have the money to relocate the dwelling.

Cr Lyon's motion also states it will share with the public, 'an appropriate precis of this matter in the form of a media release', and will contact the occupant, or their advocate, 'to explain the process above'.

Cabbage Tree Island elders accuse land council of land grab

► Continued from page 1 the island to spend some time at home on their Country.

'Jali kept sending the police up every day - my nephew was arrested. We just want to go back home. All of the North Coast was flooded. Everyone has moved back - Lismore, Coraki, Woodburn,

Broadwater, Wardell and Ballina - you know, it's just us! They won't let us go back because they want the land.'

Aunty Susan says that, through her lawyers, she has an injunction to stop anything happening on the island, including the imminent demolition of the houses.

'It just breaks my heart',

she says. 'They all want to go home, but they're frightened to go against Jali.'

The DPE said the decision by Jali LALC and its members is based on an 'extensive independent feasibility assessment', and flood analysis that 'clearly shows an unacceptably high risk of exposure on the Island to

future flooding events and a real risk to human life'.

The Echo contacted The CEO of Jali LALC, Chris Binge. We are yet to get a response.

The DPE says the commencement of necessary planning and legal requirements to support the rebuild approval process will begin shortly.

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Rehab centre Buttery celebrates 50

Binna Burra-based rehab centre, The Buttery, celebrated 50 years of serving the community this year, and held a gala dinner for 150 supporters in Tweed Heads on September 14.

The not-for-profit charity, which assists people living with alcohol and substance misuse and mental health conditions to rebuild their lives, was immortalised in Australian musician Paul Kelly's song, 'To Her Door'.

Organisers say that in those 50 years, 'The Buttery has provided services to over 5,000 participants in its residential programs, and 20,000 participants in its outreach programs'.

The six-part podcast, *To Their Door*, which chronicles The Buttery's 50-year history,



Left to right front row: Former Buttery Chair Dr Ross Lehman, former CEO Barry Evans, current CEO Leone Crayden, *To Their Door* podcast presenters Mandy Nolan and George Catsi, and current Chair Sandy Lockhart. Back row: Sam and Brendan. Photo supplied

was launched at the dinner. Ex-Buttery participant and Hoodoo Gurus bassist, Rick

Grossman, also performed an acoustic duo set. Rick attended The Buttery's

residential program in 1986. For more info, visit www.buttery.org.au.

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Discussion around Council consultants to be held behind closed doors

Paul Bibby

Byron councillors will explore the amount Council spends on external consultants and potential conflicts of interest, following a long and, at times, spiteful debate last week.

As revelations over the inappropriate use of consultants at the federal government level continue to emerge, a majority of councillors voted to discuss the issue at a future closed-door workshop.

The discussion will canvass the amount Council spends on commissioning reports from external contractors each year, whether such expert advice could be obtained internally, and what measures could be undertaken to improve management of potential conflicts of interest.

Cr Alan Hunter, Cr Mark Swivel, and Mayor Michael Lyon voted against Cr Duncan Dey's motion.

The decision to discuss these matters at a workshop

was significantly less than Cr Dey had originally intended.

Cr Dey had sought what was effectively an internal audit of Council's use of consultants. 'I think there's a case - and I'm not just talking about our Council, I'm talking Australia-wide - that we have gone around a corner and are sending our money out to consultants and then we're saying, "Oh dear, we're sending all our money out to consultants, but we're losing all our staff because they're going to work for consultants"', Cr Dey said.

'I think that Australia should wake up and realise that we need expertise in the ranks of the public service... so that we can get unbiased expert opinion from within.'

But councillor and lawyer, Mark Swivel, questioned whether Cr Dey was motivated by the broader issue of consultants, or a particular consultant's report that he did not agree with.

Cr Swivel was referring to a consultant's report which

provided the foundation for Council's decision last month to proceed with a bike and pedestrian path on parts of the Shire's long-closed rail line rather than returning trains to the tracks.

Accusations

'I think raising an issue like this in this manner is almost an abuse of process,' Cr Swivel said.

Cr Dey strenuously objected to Cr Swivel's characterisation of his motivation for moving the motion. 'The councillor [Swivel] is reading my mind, putting words in my mouth, and telling the public what I think,' he said.

The remaining councillors were divided in their opinions of the motion.

Ultimately, a majority agreed that it should be significantly watered down.

'I do think the broader issue of consultants is something that we need to get a grip on as a Council,' said independent councillor Cate Coorey, who seconded the motion.

'It was raised that the recent rail trail consultancy is the reason for this,' Cr Coorey said. 'I dispute that. It may be the starting point for the discussion, but there have been many occasions where reports that have been brought to us, I have felt were conflicted, or perhaps the content was not what was expected, perhaps due to not seeing the brief.'

'I think this is a good opportunity to open the discussion, and for staff to share with us about how we work in terms of discussions.'

Not a witch hunt

'I don't see this as some sort of witch hunt, I think it's about getting clarity and better mechanisms for oversight of the process.'

In favour of the motion were Crs Sama Balson (independent), Peter Westheimer (independent), Cate Coorey (independent), Sarah Ndiaye (Greens), and Duncan Dey (Greens).

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Orange Sky assists working homeless

Brisbane-based free laundry and shower service for the homeless, Orange Sky, run their service behind the Mullum Civic Hall every Monday and Wednesday mornings. Orange Sky staff member, Loraine, told *The Echo*, 'We are seeing clients of all ages and a worrying increase in working homeless people.'

Orange Sky say they operate in 36 locations across Australia, 13 of which are in remote communities.



Sally and Loraine are part of the team from Orange Sky. Photo Jeff 'Crisp Sheets' Dawson

Labor's budget falls short on flood funding: MP

Tamara Smith, Member for Ballina and NSW Greens Disaster Relief Spokesperson, has welcomed an additional \$150m in funding for the Northern Rivers and Central West flood recovery in Tuesday's NSW budget.

However, Smith has warned that this announcement falls far short of the additional \$800m that was committed to by Premier Minns in the lead up to the 2023 state election. She says it is required to ensure that residents devastated by the 2022 floods can receive a buyback, house-raise or retrofit.

Mandy Nolan, Greens

candidate for Richmond, has condemned the federal Labor government for failing to pitch in funding for a second tranche of flood recovery funding for the Northern Rivers, leaving residents who have been waiting for assistance confused and anxious about their future.

Both Ms Smith and Ms Nolan are urging the federal Labor government to immediately prioritise delivering the remaining \$700m to the Resilient Homes Program, and to end the uncertainty for flood victims across the Northern Rivers.

Smith said, 'The federal Labor government now

needs to step up and deliver the additional \$700m in funding that flood survivors were promised. How much longer does our community have to wait?'

Reliant on fed funds

A spokesperson from Lismore MP Janelle Saffin's office (NSW Labor) told *The Echo* they were not aware whether the state government had applied to the federal government for the next round of flood funding.

The Echo understands that to be granted the funds, the state government needs to apply to the federal government.



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Ciggie butts tops in litter prevention project

A litter prevention project has been a success, say Byron Shire Council staff, with 1,450 pieces of litter being prevented from flowing into the Cape Byron Marine Park over a two month period.

In a media release last week, Council staff say, 'The Source to Sea - Keep Byron Shire Litter-free project has allowed for the installation of 24 litter baskets in drains in Byron Bay.'

They say the project was funded by a \$50,000 grant from the NSW Environment

Protection Authority (EPA).

Zoe White, Council's Waste Education and Compliance Officer said, 'The first audit revealed 5.1kg of rubbish was collected in the baskets, with 60 per cent of items made of plastic including cigarette butts, cutlery, straws and small sushi soy sauce "fish" bottles.'

'Cigarette butts, which are made of plastic and leach toxic chemicals into waterways, were the most numerous item', Ms White said.

The baskets in the drains

are designed to trap any litter and organic matter from the street that enters the stormwater drains without impeding the regular flow of water.

Almost 91kg of organic matter was also collected, Ms White said.

North East Waste and Positive Change for Marine Life helped Council with the first waste audit. Volunteers who would like to be involved with this project and upcoming audits can email zwhite@byron.nsw.gov.au.

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Cruel Sea return gig supports Wildlife Hospital, Oct 21



Tex Perkins with new Cruel Sea member, Matt Walker. Photo texperkins.com

For their first gig in ten years, The Cruel Sea will headline a fundraising event for Wild Aid 2023, in association with Byron Bay Wildlife Hospital and Bluesfest.

Cruel Sea front man and wildlife ambassador, Tex Perkins, says he was shocked when he heard that Byron Bay Wildlife Hospital had lost a \$6 million funding grant announced by the NSW government in February.

Perkins contacted the hospital's management team, offering his support.

'I've seen what these incredibly caring humans do to help wildlife,' said Perkins.

'Losing that vital funding was a brutal shock, and I really wanted to help,' he said.

Original band members Dan Rumour, Jim Elliott and Ken Gormly have reunited for the tour. Guitarist/keyboardist Matt Walker will take the place of James Cruickshank, who died in 2015.

Wild Aid 2023 will be held Saturday, October 21, at The Green Room at Byron Events Farm.

Bluesfest Executive Chairman, Peter Noble OAM, said he was delighted to provide the venue for the fundraiser for an important cause.

Tickets are available via tinyurl.com/ydjr2tsf.

Options explored to save Bruns native habitat

Paul Bibby

Byron Council could seek federal government intervention in a last-ditch effort to protect a pocket of precious bushland in Brunswick Heads from development.

The 30-hectare site at 15 Torakina Road, next to the Bayside housing estate, is home to scores of native trees and flowers, which provide food and shelter to koalas, black cockatoos, gliders and the threatened Wallum froglet and sedge frog.

However, the site has been approved by the Northern Regional Planning Panel (NRPP) for a major housing development by the Clarence Property Group.

Given the 'significance' of the development, it is determined by the NRPP, thus avoiding Council.

Council staff supported the application at the time.

Called 'Wallum Estate', it features 124 residential lots, three medium density lots and a series of roads and supporting infrastructure.

A number of lots on the site have already been sold, meaning that the start of construction may only be a

matter of months away.

But that hasn't stopped a large and growing group of locals from campaigning to stop the development from going ahead.

They have been lobbying Council and the federal and state governments in a bid to force an eleventh-hour intervention to halt the project.

Urgency motion unsupported

At last week's Council meeting, Greens councillor, Duncan Dey, moved an urgency motion, to bring the matter onto the Council agenda. Cr Dey told the meeting that his motion would seek Council support for an application to the federal government seeking intervention under the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

Under the Act, a referral can be made to protect a specific site on the grounds that it contains unique and/or threatened plants, animals, habitats and places.

Cr Dey said, 'I think it's important that we know what we want to do, so that people who are thinking

about purchasing the properties know.'

But Mayor Michael Lyon knocked back Cr Dey's urgency motion, arguing that it was more appropriately brought before Council as a normal notice of motion that could then be properly scrutinised and commented on by Council staff.

However, he indicated that the matter could be brought back to Council's October planning with the addition of this extra material.

The meeting also heard that councillors had been discussing the possibility of approaching the Clarence Property Group directly in an attempt to negotiate some additional protections for the site.

This echoes comments made by the mayor on the 'Save Wallum' Facebook page last week.

'I have asked for a meeting with the owner to discuss what other options may exist to enable some or all of the trees to be retained,' Cr Lyon said on the page. 'That meeting will occur in the next few days.'

In its now-approved DA, Clarence Property said

that over 18 hectares, or 60 per cent of the site, will be retained and enhanced as conservation zones.

Earlier in Council's meeting, local ecologist and bush regenerator, James Barrie, asked Council about the level of community consultation that had been undertaken by the developer in relation to the project.

He also questioned measures the Clarence Property Group were planning to undertake to 'protect' the Wallum froglet and sedge frog, including installing artificial ponds.

Ineffective measures

'Our ecological understanding is that the Wallum froglet and sedge frog aren't going to find the constructed ponds adequate, and in fact, the [ponds] will favour the cane toad and the striped marsh frog, which secretes a hormone into the water that inhibits the development of other tadpoles.'

'The breeding scenario of the Wallum froglet and sedge frog is reliant on the peat salt marsh. Basically, the ponds wouldn't be effective as they're presented to be.'

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Ballina councillors and landowners still unclear on conservation zones 11 years after introduction

Officially recognised environment conservation zones in the Ballina Shire are to be voted on in November, eleven years after they were first suggested.

It won't be long now – election 2024

Just when you thought all the fun was over, here's a reminder that it's just under a year until local government elections in NSW on Saturday, 14 September, 2024.

Lismore's \$15 million grant funding for arts and culture

Lismore Council say they have welcomed a \$15 million grant funding announcement – the State and Federal Government's grants will assist Lismore's City Hall and, arts and cultural sector as they continue to rebuild after the February 2022 natural disaster.

Works to begin at Riverside Park near Uki following 2022 floods

Riverside Park near Uki lost 45m of vegetated bank during the 2022 floods leaving parts of the bank just five to 15 metres away from busy Kyogle Road.

www.echo.net.au

Tweed Council refuses Fingal Head tree removal and will defend decision in court

Aslan Shand

An amendment to the development consent (DA18/0478.02) for 20 Lagoon Road, Fingal Head to remove an extra eight trees to form a path to Dreamtime Beach for 'bushfire purposes' in addition to the existing approval in place was refused by Tweed Shire Councillors last week.

The trees proposed for removal are within the littoral rainforest conservation area and adjacent to coastal wetlands.

'[When] this development application was given approval to go ahead it did require those trees to be protected and I think we need to adhere to that,' explained Tweed Shire Council I(TSC) Mayor, Chris Cherry (Independent), who put the amended motion.

This position was supported by Deputy Mayor, Meredith Dennis (Independent) who told the meeting, that these 'conditions [were] set out and we can't suddenly go back and change [this decision] and decide to remove extra trees.'

Refusal recommended

The staff recommendation for refusal included a range of issues that the developer had not addressed, highlighting that 'the modification application should be refused because insufficient information has been submitted to enable a proper assessment of the impacts that the development as proposed to be modified will have on the biophysical, hydrological or ecological integrity of the adjacent littoral rainforest.'

It went on to highlight that the developer had not

provided sufficient information on the impact it would have on the 'coastal environment area' or how they intended to 'avoid adverse impacts'.

'No details have been provided of alternative strategies which seek to minimise impacts upon the ecological environment, coastal environmental values and natural coastal processes,' said the staff's proposed refusal motion.

They also highlighted that 'no details have been provided of any vegetation to be removed to provide the access formation' of the track or 'quantified assessment of the cumulative impact of the development'.

Councillor Dr Nola Firth (Greens) reminded the other councillors that 'these are really important, environmentally sensitive areas. Some of the trees are prescribed trees. There are areas that are [under] a covenant where trees are not to be removed.'

The motion further stated that 'the applicant has not demonstrated to the satisfaction of the consent authority that the proposed tree removal and disturbance will not negatively impact the adjacent littoral rainforest on public land, and as such is not considered to be in the public interest'.

Court action

The modification application had already become a deemed refusal and Mayor Chris Cherry added to the staff-drafted refusal that the Tweed Shire Council defend the Class 1 Appeal in the courts and 'engage any necessary experts' for this purpose.

All councillors voted in favour of refusing the application.

Ballina DV campaign goes international

David Lowe

Ballina-on-Richmond Rotary Club's domestic and family violence prevention campaign is rippling far beyond the Northern Rivers, sparking interest and support from across Australia and the wider Pacific. *The Echo* caught up with Rotary District Governor Dave Harmon to find out more.

The reality of the domestic violence crisis came home to Mr Harmon when he attended the 2018 funeral of his friend's sister in Kyogle. This was a woman who was murdered by her partner in front of her three young children, sadly far from an isolated incident. Dave Harmon spoke to his wife Robyn, then to the local Rotary Club board meeting. The Ballina Club decided to take an active stand.

In November 2019 there was a community walk through the streets of Ballina to highlight the DV issue,



No to DV shirt. Photo David Lowe

which was attended by 800 people. Since then, Rotary's 'No to Domestic Violence' campaign has continued to snowball.

Zone 8

As part of a major international community organisation, Rotary's Zone 8 covers 16 countries, including Australia, New Zealand and PNG, with 20 district governors, of which Dave Harmon is one.

Thanks to his strong push from Ballina, domestic and family violence is now a common project and

campaign, throughout the Pacific zone.

'This is the first time in over 30 years that we've actually had a common cause that has united us,' he explained. 'In October last year in Canberra, that's the first time all my cohort met in person. And I presented to them a proposal, about domestic and family violence [prevention], and how it's helped transform our club and connected with the community.'

■ Read full story *The Echo* online: www.echo.net.au.

Are you for trees or not for trees?

Eve Jeffery

Cr Andrew Gordon did his best to not let Lismore Council talk about trees at their most recent meeting.

Cr Adam Guise proposed a motion to be put forward at the 2023 Local Government NSW Annual Conference. Cr Guise missed the deadline for the motion to be printed in the agenda for the September meeting, but he submitted in time for it to be debated at the meeting (and it was emailed to all councillors). Cr Andrew Gordon tried to exclude the matter from debate.

Cr Guise's motion was: Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW government to declare an immediate moratorium on current Forestry Corporation logging

activities in NSW's native state forests, and develops a just transition package for forestry workers and creation of sustainable employment opportunities in new related industries, including ecologically sustainable plantations and farm forestry.

Cr Gordon's second tactic was to repeatedly question public access speakers and then harangue them with answers to those questions that he had on several sheets of paper on his desk.

'As a member of Fridays4Forests, I visited Doubleduke State Forest,' said Dott Moller during public access.

'This forest has been logged over many years. Forestry Corp has finished logging the Valley of the Giants

at the moment, a wet area that fires passed by – there's old growth in there.

'Our local forests have been used like a mining resource and extractive industry with little regard for the future, [and] running at a huge loss.'

After significant debate the mayor took a vote – all those in favour of taking Cr Guise's motion to the Local Government Conference were Councillors Cook, Colby, Guise, Bird and Ekins. Those opposed were Councillors Gordon, Hall, Bing, Rob and Krieg. As it was an even split the Mayor used his deciding vote to defeat the motion to speak of trees.

■ Read full story *The Echo* online: www.echo.net.au.

Witness Callout

We are calling on former teachers, students and parents of students who **attended the Uki Public School between 1990 and 2000** to assist with enquiries in relation to allegations of physical and sexual abuse occurring at the school.

Please contact **Toni-Lee Masters** at Shine Lawyers on **02 8754 7200** to assist.



SHINE LAWYERS
RIGHT WRONG.

Splendour found in the brass

Ray Moynihan

The sound of music has well and truly returned to our schools, following the eerie silence of the pandemic.

In Byron – as across the region and the world – school closures, lockdowns and Covid distancing rules had a harsh impact on school band programs.

But regeneration is underway. In partnership with the Northern Rivers Conservatorium, like other schools, Byron Bay Public's Band Program is bouncing back big time.



Evie, Rosie, Indiana, Lara, Fender and Gwen all just started learning brass this year, as part of the regeneration of Music in Schools at Byron Bay Public, taught by Dave O'Meara from the Northern Rivers Conservatorium." Photo: Jeff 'Treble Cleft' Dawson.

Little Hippos

A new brass ensemble (pictured) has blasted off, while a new junior band – curiously nicknamed the Little Hippos – is rolling along nicely. At the same time, the school's senior band is getting funky and may soon be spotted at local markets or on the streets busking.

A generous donation from the school's P&C is helping all this regeneration, with new instruments, scholarships, and resources to bring in visiting musicians.

Next term, the entire school will be wowed by a visit from a local New Orleans brass band.

Youth jazz orchestra

Along with a performance and 'second line', the band will run a short workshop to inspire more young students to learn a brass or woodwind instrument.

Also coming is an exciting

visit from the Northern Rivers Conservatorium's Youth Jazz Orchestra, as part of their multi-school tour.

If you or a loved one has a primary aged student keen to learn an instrument and play in a school band, there may never be a better time.

■ Ray Moynihan is working as Band Manager at Byron Bay Public School.

NSW teachers receive pay rise

An 'historic pay offer to 95,000 NSW public school teachers' has been announced, 'which will take them from being the worst paid in the country to being the best paid', Lismore MP Janelle Saffin (Labor) says, 'Since coming to power in April the Labor government has reversed the decline in

teachers' working conditions under the previous Liberal National government, which saw teachers leaving the profession in droves'.

She says the starting salary for a NSW teacher will increase from \$75,791 to \$85,000, and the salary for top of the scale teachers increased from \$113,042 to \$122,100.

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Swimmer missing

NSW Police say a swimmer reportedly went missing at Tallow Beach, Byron Bay on Sunday at about 3pm. Emergency services were called following reports he was seen in distress before failing to resurface.

He is described as Caucasian in appearance, and aged in his 50s.

GUARANTEED GOODNESS





The Byron Shire Echo
Volume 38 #15 • September 20, 2023

Be more like Gavin Newsom

The US state of California is suing five major fossil fuel companies over their contribution to the climate crisis.

They are BP, ExxonMobil, Chevron, Shell and ConocoPhillips.

While there are those who hold the view that anthropogenic climate change is not a contributor to the Earth's climate becoming more unstable (the climate is always changing argument), surely those people would like to see less pollution, more efficiency, and less reliance on fossil fuel corporations for their energy?

California governor, Gavin Newsom (Democratic) tweeted on September 17, 'These companies knew about the catastrophic consequences of fossil fuels.'

'They covered it up. Suppressed scientific data. Spent millions to cast doubts on climate science. Time for them to pay.'

He also told a press gathering 'The climate change crisis is a fossil fuel crisis', and called upon other states and nations to join the court case.

Meanwhile in Stralia, federal Environment Minister, Tanya Plibersek (Labor), is being taken to court, accused of failing to protect the Great Barrier Reef and Australia's other living treasures from climate harm caused by coal mining.

According to www.thenewdaily.com.au, 'Environment Council of Central Queensland is pursuing Plibersek after she refused its request to reconsider the full scope of climate impacts from two coal mining projects at Narrabri and in the Hunter Valley in NSW.'

According to think tank, australianinstitute.org.au, 'There are 116 new fossil fuel projects on the federal government's annual Resource & Energy Major Project list, two more than at the end of 2021. If all proceed as estimated, they will add 4.8



Grab the popcorn! California governor, Gavin Newsom has set his vast murder of lawyers upon the well-resourced fossil fuel industry.

billion tonnes of emissions to the atmosphere by 2030' (from March 21, 2023).

Urgent climate summit

To add to this absurdity, in New York this week, the UN Secretary-General is hosting an 'urgent Climate Ambition Summit', which Labor Foreign Minister, Penny Wong, will attend.

According to parlinfo.aph.gov.au, on September 12, Greens MP Elizabeth Watson-Brown asked Chris Bowen, Minister for Climate Change and Energy, 'Will you or someone from the government attend the summit, and how will you explain your approval of coal and gas projects?'

Bowen replied that Minister Wong would attend, while also spruiking that Australia is finally 'back at the table of climate leaders'.

No explanation of new coal and gas projects approvals was made.

It doesn't appear that federal Labor take anthropogenic climate change seriously. If they don't believe in it, then why not at least strive for less pollution, more efficiency, and less reliance on fossil fuel corporations?

Is it the political donations?

Hans Lovejoy, editor

If not 'Yes' now, then when?

Being a Ten Pound Pom, I knew nothing of the history of massacres and dispossession of this continent's first peoples when I arrived here in 1965.

At that time, First Nations people were not even counted in the Census, and barely recognised as human, let alone equals.

The White Australia policy was still in place. That wasn't officially renounced until 1973, by the Whitlam government when it established a policy of multiculturalism.

My first personal encounter with racism against First Nations people was in Southern Queensland in the late '60s. I had picked up an Aboriginal hitchhiker and, when I dropped him off at his destination, it was getting dark.

I asked him where he would spend the night and suggested the motel across the road. He replied, 'They won't let me stay there.'

I was shocked. I went to the motel reception and paid for a room for him. As I handed the keys to my hitchhiker friend, the receptionist gave me a truly disgusted look.

Over the years since then I collected old Aboriginal artefacts, bringing a number back from overseas, and a library of books. These books, several published in the 19th century, opened my eyes to the extraordinary richness of the ancient Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.

The coming of Europeans was devastating. The oldest continuous living culture on Earth was swept aside. Ancestral lands were seized and cleared. People were slaughtered and rounded up to live in camps, children were taken away from their families, and not even allowed to speak their ancient languages or practise customs. This led to intergenerational trauma. The truth of this must be told.

There has never been a treaty, even though Prime Minister Bob Hawke promised one in 1988, but it didn't happen.

I was elected to the NSW Upper House that same year, on the preferences of The Aboriginal Team, headed by Wiradjuri woman, Millie Ingram. I vowed I would represent



'There has never been a treaty, even though Prime Minister, Bob Hawke, promised one in 1988.'

Richard Jones

her people during my term in parliament and worked hard to do just that.

Acknowledgement

Now we have an opportunity with this referendum to finally acknowledge First Nations people in the outdated Constitution, put together by a group of white men one hundred and thirty years ago.

There was no input from women, who couldn't vote federally until 1902, and no input, of course, from First Nations representatives, who had to wait until 1962 to be able to vote.

The referendum also includes a Voice to be set up by a subsequent act of parliament that 'may make recommendations to the Parliament and Executive Government on matters relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples'.

This Voice is not required to be guaranteed in the Constitution, and could be established with identical functions and powers by an act of parliament.

Being in the Constitution simply means there will always be a voice of some sort, and it can't be denied by any incoming government. By opposing having the Voice in the Constitution, Peter Dutton is signalling he wants to be able to take that legislated Voice away altogether, if he is elected prime minister.

Some have misinterpreted the proposal to read into it, falsely, that there is an obligation on the government to act on the representations made by the Voice.

Constitutional expert, Professor Anne Twomey, has endlessly tried to explain that 'representations' cannot be regarded as 'advice' that must be followed.

Some First Nations representatives have expressed fears about sovereignty being affected. It cannot.

Sovereignty can only be ceded by a nation agreeing to it.

Other 'No' voters have said 'Would you sign a blank cheque?' There is no blank cheque.

'Where are the details?' some ask. The fine details of the Voice will be debated at length in parliament. There will be extensive consultation right across Australia. Then parliament will vote on it.

If a majority of Australians votes down the referendum, there's nothing stopping the federal government introducing exactly the same legislation. In fact, NSW Premier Chris Minns has already announced he is open to introducing a state Voice to parliament regardless of the outcome.

Scare campaign

This should never have been a political scare campaign. Moderate former Liberal leaders John Hewson and Malcolm Turnbull and other compassionate Liberals support it.

In my view, it is quite immoral that Peter Dutton, the man who walked out on the stolen generations apology, has created a divisive scare campaign without any authentic justification, just to score political points. He is supported by others on the hard right.

Sadly, if it does fail for no genuine reason, Australia's international reputation will be in tatters.

Let's hope the people of our region can show the rest of Australia and the world that we really do care.

Local Bundjalung woman, Delta Kay, will be voting 'Yes', as will at least an estimated 80 per cent of First Nations people.

Vote 'Yes' for Love ❤️

■ Richard Jones is a former NSW MP, and is now a ceramicist.



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Nicholas Shand
1948-1996
Founding Editor

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

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

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

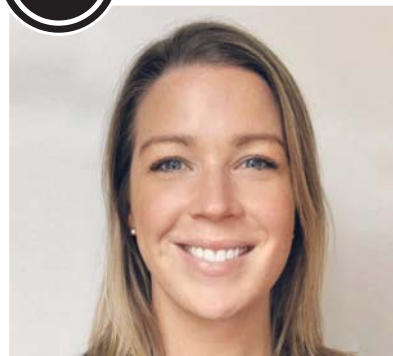
- Finley Peter Dunne 1867-1936



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Lighthouse walk

Our family are regular visitors to Byron Bay and have, for many years, enjoyed the walking track to the lighthouse.

Yesterday (Sunday, 10 September) we walked the track again and were deeply saddened to see the brutalist concrete structure that now serves as a path for the first part of the journey from Wategos.

It simply beggars belief that those in charge of the unique walking track could think it appropriate to introduce a structure as hideous as this to a place of such natural beauty.

Instead of maintaining a humble track that was subservient to the natural environment, a brutal statement of human domination has been displayed. It's a slash across the beautiful face of coastal Byron and testimony to human insensitivity and stupidity.

A thorough review of the decision-making process should be undertaken to ensure that when issues like this arise all relevant considerations are taken into account – not just economic and engineering ones.

John Bennetts
St Kilda West, Victoria

Complete rail trail

The Byron Shire Council's recent decision to approve the proposed rail trail on the abandoned rail corridor, excluding the section between Mullum and Byron, is a half-hearted half-step toward realising the community's desire for progress on this issue. *The Echo's* report on the vote notes this decision will make less likely the already unlikely prospect that trains will ever return to

Not sure?... Perhaps ask a Child what **they** Understand about the Voice...
The following words come direct from an eleven year old child...

" THE VOICE? ... YES IT'S A DECISION WE ARE MAKING ABOUT SAYING IN THE CONSTITUTION THAT FIRST NATIONS PEOPLE WERE HERE FIRST, ... BECAUSE THEY OBVIOUSLY WERE ... "

" ... AND ALSO MAKING SURE THAT THE GOVERNMENT LISTENS TO THEM WHEN THEY MAKE DECISIONS ABOUT THINGS IN THEIR LIVES. "

... ASK A CHILD!

Cartoon by Jamie Hoile

that section of the line, begging the question why the councillors thought it was a necessary compromise.

In truth opposition to the rail trail is ideological, it's rooted in theory, not facts. It's based on the idea there's a demand for a rail service between Byron Bay and Mullumbimby, and there's profit to be made from that demand. The proponents of this theory present no evidence for it and have shown little interest in finding any, they seem content to simply assert their opinion and expect everyone to accept it at face value.

But the evidence already exists to disprove their precious theory. The final report from the 2004 Parliamentary Inquiry into the closure of the local rail service made clear there were two main reasons for the termination of the Casino to Murwillumbah line. Namely escalating maintenance costs and declining patronage. These

factors were due largely to long-term social and environmental processes, such as deterioration of wooden bridges and the advent of alternative transport.

Whatever the opponents of the rail trail may want to believe about the validity of these arguments, there is little chance their opposition will alter or reverse these historical trends. They should abandon their goal of going forward looking backward and instead get on with the project of delivering a viable rail trail for all of Byron Shire.

John Scrivener
Main Arm

Your cover

Just want to acknowledge *The Echo* for your front page of the Uluru Statement.

A powerful and generous contribution to a really important historic event in the making. Thank you for your beautiful heartfulness!

Virginia White
Goonellabah

No more Hottentot

I have received a petition from Change.org to change the name of Hottentot Crescent, Mullumbimby to another South African word, 'Khoisan', also totally irrelevant to the area. Why can't it be changed to the name of an Australian bird or an Australian tree in keeping with the rest of the area? As in Cockatoo, Quail, Tuckeroo, Corella, etc.

According to sahistory.org: 'It is important to remember that the Khoi-San people were the most brutalised by colonialists who tried to make them extinct, and undermined their language and identity. As a free and democratic South Africa today, we cannot ignore to correct the past.'

So by using Khoisan, as was suggested, are we not repeating the offence caused by the word Hottentot?

Vicki Kennedy
Mullumbimby

► More letters on next page

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'Prejudice is a burden that confuses the past, threatens the future, and renders the present inaccessible.'
— Maya Angelou

***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.

How do these 2 young CHICKS *HELP
Take the **WEDGE** from these
75,000 *MALETALES! ***?TESTOSTERONE?***



Wedgetail Chicks. Pic Courtesy Wikipedia.

Wedgetails mate 4 life. *Except 4 laying (usually) 2 eggs, ALL duties R SHARED, inc. 45 days incubation, feeding 4 3 months, then up 2 6 months after fledging B4 the teenagers R completely independent!

T GIVES +VE THINGS 2!

After talking about T + Male Sex and Aggression, Prof. Carole Hooven explains 2 POSITIVE effects on Males. Scan 4 Video above.

- Humans R in the 5% Mammals where Males (generally) do *everything that Female Wedgies do, usually 4 around 2 decades/child.
- Men R prepared to risk their lives even 4 complete strangers; e.g. from drowning. Women will, but more often 2 save their children.

***Males, Females and Sex Assaults.* (S.A.s.)**

Stats indicate 99% S.A.s R by Males (U.S. Dept Justice, 2002). Prof. C.H. says in her last 2 lines; *p260 of her recent Book on T*

Becoming a man is a beautiful thing. But-like every man-my son should enjoy his T responsibly.

Not their ***Male Behaviour Needs 2 Change!*** T levels.

The Man who Sexually Assaulted me, age 15, was older-stronger, loved + trusted; using deception/trickery he ALSO stole my liberty with steel chain.

But 56 years later HERE I STILL am, leading a very rich life... STILL ½ way happy, more days than not,

😊 Inspired by my nesting Wedgetails + a Genius Prof! 😊

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Created by sheep farmer Tim Barritt. Barossa Valley, S.A.

Benefits of microplastic

I loved Hannah Grace's fanciful letter about sprinkling young men and boys with microplastic dust to lower the sperm rate and thus control overpopulation.

I agree that population growth makes many problems worse, from the greenhouse effect to the housing crisis, not to mention environmental degradation, species loss, and traffic.

But perhaps the fairy dust is not needed. Perhaps more and more young men are seeing the huge disadvantages of marriage, offspring, and mortgage – what we might call MOM. Perhaps people want to avoid being trapped in a possible downward spiral of poverty and problems.

We could also help solve the housing crisis by cutting way down on immigration. I'm an immigrant myself, and I know how appealing it is to offer a better life to people from difficult areas, but I doubt if Australia can continue to sustain numbers like half a million a year.

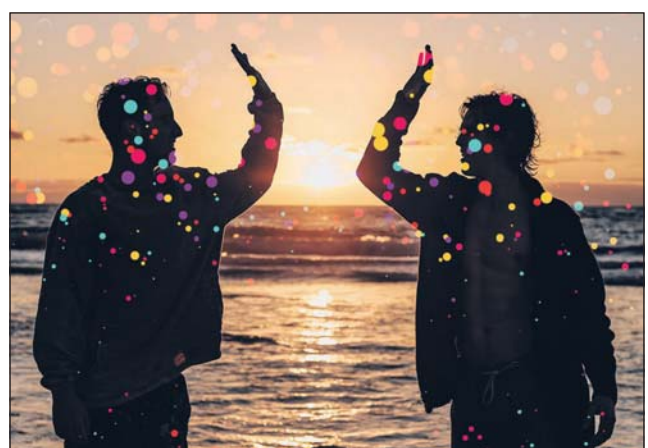
Charles MacFarland
Ewingsdale

Misanthropic disGrace

Hannah Grace's recent letter 'Benefits of microplastic' might be considered a sick joke, but over the years misanthropy has run strong in Ms Grace's letters, and this one has gone too far: it's a disgrace.

Moreover, it doesn't give a credible solution to what I agree is a serious problem: namely overpopulation – a discomforting term for an uncomfortable problem. Like, we agree the earth cannot support an infinite number of people. Terraforming Mars is not a serious solution, and even if it were, it would only delay the inherent limitations. Should population stabilisation occur through natural means, like the Rwandan genocide, which Jared Diamond considers a de facto Malthusian catastrophe?

The most humane and



fair means that I'm aware of was suggested by Kenneth Boulding in the 1960s. Basically it involves marketable birth credits, say one per person, or perhaps two per woman, that can be bought and sold to keep the aggregate population stable, but which allows those who want to have more than their fair share to do so by paying those who want to have less. There are many variations on the basic idea. If someone can think of a fairer and more humane way, please let me know. Importantly, Boulding never suggested coercive means for implementing the idea. Rather, there needs to be an educational, cultural, and political shift away from the 'go forth and multiply' mentality, even while Elon Much is supporting it.

The only political parties in Australia that have population stabilisation policies are the Sustainable Australia Party and, through its support of the Steady-State Economy, the TNL party.

Jason van Tol
Myocum

Too many councillors?

For years some close to Tweed Shire Council (TSC) have tried to lower councillor numbers. Why? Say you have five councillors. Then, as long as you own three, you will control any council. With seven as current in TSC, you need four of the seven. So the higher the number of councillors, the harder it is for unethical people to gain control.

In 2012, four new and existing councillors decided to form a block... they supported each other's agenda rather than the community. As a result, Byrril Creek, the

sensible water security consideration that the majority wanted was eliminated. Then came what I consider to be the totally unjust dismissal of our general manager, where the four with the obvious assistance of the Office of Local Government were allowed to disregard 'due procedural process'.

More recently the state government had given us, the people, a guarantee that TSC's rail trail would only be allowed to proceed... 'as long as there was strong local community support'. There never was... but between the assistance of Mr John Barilaro (remember the sports rorts?) and the state government, politicians all looked the other way as TSC destroyed a state significant asset.

The only way to beat these rats is... we must increase councillor numbers... and eliminate party political candidates.

Mike Yarrow
Byangum

Tiny home demolition

I refer to the article in *The Echo* (6 September) 'Disabled war veteran's tiny home faces Council demolition order'.

Byron Council should collectively hang its head in shame. Just because the boxes in an office drawer aren't ticked to the satisfaction of some micro-minded bureaucrats a human being is to be evicted. Not only a human being, but a disabled human, with PTSD, from a foreign country, who is doing no harm to anyone.

I wonder, if the tables were turned, how would those councillors feel if their

tiny accommodation was destroyed because a local bureaucrat decreed the place did not conform to some ridiculous rule.

Every day I am more certain this world is becoming worse, choking on its red tape and self-interested power. Sometimes I am ashamed to call myself an Australian.

Where is the humanity in these fat cats?

Shame on them all.

V Lauf
Ballina

Nuance needed

The plight of Matt Bruce, now getting press in the *Guardian*, is an issue that demands greater nuance from our council.

On the one hand we have the worst housing and homelessness crisis we have ever seen, and on the other we have, often ageing, low-income landowners on large marginal properties that they are struggling to manage on their own, let alone pay the skyrocketing rates that are illogically pegged to land values. Many of them don't have the resources to follow due process to apply for a secondary dwelling, nor is having someone live right next to you that attractive when you live on an enormous property getting overrun with weeds.

The only other option, to subdivide, is heavily constrained by originally well-intentioned, but antiquated, zoning laws that restrict rural subdivisions to lots greater than 200 acres regardless of its agricultural viability.

Matt's case is not unique. A friend with a similar parcel of land in Wilsons Creek, who provides low-cost shelter for a number of people, is also being forced to evict everyone. Where will they go? To more donga refugee camps on the fringes of our towns? Is that the best we can do?

Surely allowing more small, low-impact dwellings on large rural holdings is a win/win for both the homeless and struggling landowners.

Erik Adams
South Golden Beach

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Koala logging moratorium great first step

Lucien Shand

The NSW government has agreed to put 106 koala hubs contained within the proposed area for the Great Koala National Park (GKNP) under protection until the establishment of the park in order to prevent logging of these key koala habitats.

Koala hubs were originally identified in 2017 by the office of environment and heritage by analysing koala records in order to determine 'areas of currently known significant koala occupancy that indicate clusters of resident populations,' as identified by the Chief Scientist, Office of Environment and Heritage in their 2017 report.

Logging protests

The decision to place a moratorium on logging in the future GKNP comes after months of forest protectors protesting logging within the soon-to-be-protected habitats.

'In May 2023 we identified to Penny Sharpe that across the north coast there are 2,716 ha of koala hubs in compartments identified by the Forestry Corporation for logging this year,' explained Dailan Pugh from North East Forest Alliance (NEFA).

'Despite our entreaties, the Forestry Corporation was allowed to log koala hubs within the Great Koala National Park in Moonpar, Orara East, Boambee, and Newry State Forests.

'This was clearly an untenable position, so it is welcome news that koala hubs will no longer be logged within the proposed Great Koala National Park, though



NSW Labor has finally placed a moratorium on logging Koala Hubs in the area proposed for the Great Koala National Park. Photo Friends of the Koala

lamentable that they can go on logging them elsewhere (such as currently in Yarratt State Forest).'

Insufficient action to save the koala

Despite this important step towards the protection of our valuable wildlife, the establishment of the GKNP has been pushed back until 2025. This decision has been made much to the regret of Sue Higginson, Greens MP who stated, 'The Government's announcement today needs to be called out for what it really is – a gift to the timber industry at the cost of continuing the koala extinction logging and an enormous delay in the delivery of the promised Great Koala National Park.'

The Great Koala National Park includes 175,000 hectares of state forest however, as highlighted by the head of the National Parks Association (NPA), Grahame Douglas 'Of the



A HSC student has locked on to logging machinery to prevent logging operations in Orara East State Forest in Coffs Harbour. Photo supplied

175,000 hectares, we are talking less than a third of the state forest areas where compartments include koala hubs.' (ABC News)

'NPA's next priority is expanding that protection to the remainder of the proposed Great Koala National Park, especially the habitats and connecting corridors that are so essential to the long-term survival of koala,' explained Mr Douglas. Although this represents

a key step towards the preservation of koalas as a species, which are currently predicted to be extinct by 2050 in NSW, the North East Forest Alliance (NEFA) has stated that 'if there is a genuine intent to save koalas from extinction the government needs to protect all koala hubs across NSW and reinstate the requirement for pre-logging surveys to identify and protect all important koala habitat.'

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What is the Voice and how will it work for

■ When asked about the Voice referendum, Aboriginal performance artist and blogger, Briggs, summed it up pretty concisely: 'Why would you vote "No"? We're already in "No"!'.

This is what 'No' looks like. Incarceration through the roof, with one in three of all prisoners Aboriginal. Wasted allocations for Aboriginal housing. Chronic health and nutritional issues with three times the diabetes rate of non-Aboriginal Australians. A life expectancy ten years less than other Australians.

Having a say on all these matters from the people most affected can dramatically improve outcomes.

If voting 'No' just means more of the same, surely we can do better than this?

Michael Balson
Upper Wilsons Creek

■ I call upon my brethren and Jewish Australians and Israelis who have made their permanent home here and are eligible to vote in the upcoming referendum, to consider writing the word 'Yes' in the ballot paper.

Why? Because on the night of 9 November 1938 the Nazi authorities and civilians ransacked and destroyed Jewish homes, shops, and synagogues across Germany and Austria. These events became known as Kristalnacht (night of broken glass) and were the commencement of a crusade to exterminate the Jewish race by Christian European society on the grounds of being superior.

On 6 December 1938, here in Australia, the Australian Aborigines League's secretary, Ngapa William Cooper, a Yorta Yorta activist, led a march from Footscray to the centre of Melbourne into the site of the Nazi German consulate to deliver a formal petition condemning the persecution of Jews and calling for it to end.

The First Nations people, although themselves dispossessed and denied citizenship in their own country Australia, were the only ones who in protest did raise their voices for solidarity with the Jewish people. In contrast, the editorial of the *Argus* newspaper had meekly

stated: '... what will become of the wandering Jews? Nobody wants them... It is in reality, not a problem for Australia, but for Europe'.

I say this is a great debt of validation that we owe to First Nations people who are asking us to validate them by voting for a Voice in the Constitution and we should reciprocate that treatment without bias or fear.

In the course of the new 5784 Jewish Year (as of 15 September 2023) let us grant them the Voice and be honourable in paying back our debt. If we do so, we won't be standing alone, but marching along in history with great Jewish Australians who have contributed to goodness in Australia: the late Sir Isaac Isaacs, the late Sir John Monash, the late Michael Gudinski AM, the late Ron Castan AM QC, Julian Leaser MP and many others, by fulfilling the Jewish values exhorted by the prophet Amos (5:24) in the Old Testament '...let justice run down, like water and righteousness, like a mighty stream'.

Mario Linder
Ocean Shores

■ Amongst all of the rubbish, the myth-information about the Voice being spread, one crucial point is missed. The Voice is a lobby group FFS.

Just like farmers/miners/tourism/sport/performing arts/teachers - all have their own lobbies that give them access to the government on matters that concern them, so will the Voice function. Where's the big deal?

And how could anyone possibly object to our Indigenous people having a voice, *on matters that concern them*?

It beggars belief that anyone, excluding the obvious racists - the Hansonites, the religious right, etc or those out to score political points - could rationalise voting 'No'.

Mark O'Brien
Montecollum

I'm feeling a 'tad' disillusioned with the human species. My two 'Yes' posters were violated and removed just last night. One on my property mail box, rivetted into a thick piece of timber and the other erected up a tree.

This took quite a lot of effort obviously, in the dark of night. Several friends told me that they too have noticed 'Yes' posters disappearing from Friday Hut Road. Must say moving here to be closer to my tribe, has now made me realise not everyone is an enlightened/groovy tribal member. How naive of me?

So much for democracy, I forlornly told myself, as I

would not remove any 'No' posters. This shock to my system initiated a much bigger dilemma that I have witnessed and worried about via various news media sites. The Voice that was supposed to unite us and engender empathy and awareness, has been hijacked by those that will never embrace such a generous gift from Indigenous people.

Most Indigenous people (about 80 per cent according to multiple surveys) want a Voice to parliament. Many would like more, as I do, i.e. truth telling and treaty, but they are realistic and know this first step is all that they might get from this fearful nation in denial of its violent past.

White people have *nothing* to lose from accepting the wishes from our Indigenous community that took over six years valiantly and lovingly compiling the Uluru Statement from the Heart.

To me this is the very least our non-Indigenous community should agree to, after 235 years of persecution and vilification.

Lindy Stacker
Binna Burra

I felt drawn to comment on the varying perspectives surrounding the Voice referendum. Perception involves incorporating and reevaluating various points of view; it is always an active process.

It is easy to forget how we often bring our backgrounds, life circumstances and complexities into discussion without noticing or reflecting

on them. This is not clear-cut, yet we are often unable to see past the boundaries of our current frame of mind.

Let's take into consideration the 'Fish Tank Paradox': if we all sat around a rectangular fish tank and observed a side from an assigned position (top, the ends, front and back) we would all have a different perception of what was happening inside the tank. Our lenses of perception are relative to our position. I hope that within this ongoing conversation on the Voice we aim to facilitate a reciprocal and respectful dialogue, bringing an awareness to what we carry or bring with us as we engage relationally.

Let's hope that during this historical time we can sense into our 'blind spots' and be open to each other's viewpoints. We are after all, sitting at various sides of the tank.

Kate Parker
Byron Bay

■ I'm really annoyed about all the things that are written and said about the referendum on October 14 which do not address the proposed addition to the Australian Constitution.

A typical example is attributed to Justine Elliot, federal member for Richmond, in *The Echo* (13 September). It was: 'Recognising 65,000 years of Indigenous culture'.

The proposed addition to the Constitution states: 'In recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ▶

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Indigenous Australians in Closing the Gap?

► peoples as the First Peoples of Australia'. There is nothing about 65,000 years of culture.

Her advertisement in *The Echo* also states 'the Voice [is] a diverse group of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people'. The proposed addition to the Constitution states 'the parliament shall, subject to this Constitution, have power to make laws with respect to matters relating to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice, including composition, functions, powers and procedures.'

Despite its name every matter relating to the Voice, including its composition, is to be determined by the parliament, not Indigenous people, if this proposal is approved by the referendum. The Voice could include both Indigenous and non-Indigenous people or even contain no Indigenous people at all and still be consistent with this constitutional proposal.

Don't believe what I say about the referendum proposal. Everything I say

about it comes from the AEC referendum booklet. Look it up.

I also do not understand why it is claimed that Indigenous people are not already recognised in the Australian Constitution. After all, the 1967 referendum changed the Constitution to grant Indigenous people Australian citizenship and the right to participate in the electoral process. If such changes to the status of Indigenous people occurred in the Australian Constitution how could they not have been identified and recognised as the people who have gained citizenship and suffrage? Calling them Indigenous or Aboriginal implies their prehistoric occupation of this continent, like the Aztecs in Mexico or the Celts in Britain.

Michael Trevaskis
Alstonville

■ I am writing specifically against Senator Jacinta Nampijinpa Price's advocacy for a 'No' vote on the Voice to parliament. The argument she put that stuck with me was that one of the



Cartoon by Jamie Hoile

main premises of the Voice is to 'Close the Gap'. If this is one of the main reasons people wish to vote 'Yes', you should know that it is in 'perpetuity' and this logic entails the lack of a Voice once the 'gap' is closed.

Spurious attributions of a desire for power over other Australians is then attributed to the Voice being institutionalised if the 'gap' is closed.

This speculation should not be taken as proof. Any serious assessment shows

a record of government programs disempowering, a pattern of dropping the ball, a landscape of devastation in which you have to pay more than I can afford - to see nothing has changed. I see deliberation in it.

Price said that since the Voice was put on the table by the current government, it has caused 'division' in our nation.

FFS elections call for division, and call for people to consider who they wish to vote for - if they trust

the electoral system at all. The rest of the division has nothing to do with calling a vote, it has to do with a bastardised history of Australia that only the little children welcome without judgment. Only by facing what happened can you understand and fight racism towards Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Danielle Haliczzer
Ocean Shores

■ The Albanese government has lost its pre-election chutzpah on Palestine. True, it now refers to the Palestinian 'occupied' territories but has wimped out on recognising, with 138 countries, that Palestine is a state.

It has also retracted from its promise of greater transparency as its abysmal response to FOI requests shows. Australia has an obligation under Article VII of the international convention against the crime of apartheid, to 'submit periodic reports to the group established under Article IX on the legislative, judicial, administrative or other measures that they have adopted

and that give effect to the provisions of the Convention' and to transmit copies of the reports 'through the Secretary-General of the United Nations to the Special Committee on Apartheid.'

However, my recent FOI request to the Attorney-General seeking copies of these reports drew a blank, as did my question of how Australia reconciles its support for apartheid Israel with this international apartheid convention.

The consensus that Israel is an apartheid state (Amnesty International, MSF, Human Rights Watch, the Israeli Human Rights NGO B'Tselem and Israeli military veterans' 'Breaking the Silence') is confirmed by ex-MOSSAD chief Tamir Pardo and Israeli politician Itamar Ben Gvir, who spelled out on live television that his rights as an Israeli eclipse those of Palestinians. As Prime Minister Albanese barracks for the Voice we have to ask why his silence on Palestine is blaringly louder!

Gareth W R Smith
Byron Bay



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For whites only – Deakin’s 1901 Constitution

Klaas Woldring

The Voice campaign has shown up more than ever that Australians are seriously ignorant about their 1901 colonial Constitution. To remedy that, as I have argued earlier, the ABC could do a great job in organising educational programs. The public broadcaster could begin a campaign stretching well beyond the Voice referendum. For the longer term, high school and university programs should catch up with this astonishing neglect. If we finally end up with a republic serious major educational revision will have to be undertaken that would require proper preparation and time. Just replacing the British monarch with an elected president with this archaic, even racist Constitution is beginning to look ridiculous frankly.

Racist Australia

The Voice campaign has revealed just how little the average Australian knows about their Constitution. It was Alfred Deakin the second PM, who did most of the work towards this federal Constitution, enacted in fact

by the British Parliament in 1901.

Deakin was entirely in favour of a ‘White Australia’ and saw the Indigenous people as a race that would disappear over time altogether. In the same year the *Immigration Restriction Act* became law. It meant the prohibition of all coloured immigration. It also meant ‘the deportation or reduction of the number of aliens now in our midst’. That ‘White Australia’ essentially meant a British White Australia so much so that by 1947, only 2.7 per cent of the population was actually born outside Australia, Ireland, and the UK! Not surprisingly, when the influx of British dried up the Australian government began to encourage other white Europeans to join the population. It began to become much more multi-cultural but still white.

The small Asian population had shrunk to around 0.21 per cent by the late 1940s. The 1967 referendum, the Mabo judgement of 1992, the Wik judgement of 1996 and the 2008 apology to the stolen generation ended the colonial rule. By then the Indigenous population

was 3.2 per cent of the total of what had become a very multicultural society quite different from 1901. But the Australian Constitution, repatriated from Britain, could hardly be updated.

Nevertheless, there have been major attitude changes toward the Indigenous population in recent years. These are totally at variance with the racist Australian Constitution and the White Australia policy prior to WWII. But it has been virtually impossible to amend the Constitution and, as former ALP Minister Barry Jones has explained recently in a recent *Saturday Paper* article (No 460). He argues that ‘small-c constitutional practice – also known as ‘the system’, replaced in practice the constitutional shortcomings. In actual fact one could argue that what we have in Australia now is ‘Government by Judges’ whose status in society has risen to the top.’

But more elaborate education about the Constitution, while essential, will very quickly make the society understand how inadequate this document, this set of ground rules, have become. It is certainly not at all enough

to make people aware of what is in it. They would certainly discover how necessary it is to rewrite it! Jones does mention a few obvious shortcomings.

‘The document the colonists voted for makes no reference to democracy, democratic practice or the system of responsible government’, he noted. The society gradually learnt to work around the Constitution, one could say, as best as they could. There is lot more that has been noted by several progressive constitutional lawyers for the last 30 years.

Constitution deficient

Constitutional law professor George Williams wrote ‘The text of the Constitution does not match political reality because it is premised upon an understanding of the Westminster system of government operating in the United Kingdom.’

There is a serious problem with the major political parties not acting on widespread, well-informed and sustained criticism of the Constitution. The system by which our politicians are elected

doesn’t help. The Westminster practice to appoint ministers only from the elected MPs promotes amateurism.

PM Hawke also made that point several times that the pool from which ministers are elected is far too small. Hawke also spoke many times in favour of abolishing the federal system but both the ALP and the Liberal/NP Coalition governments have failed in this regard as well.

The Constitution doesn’t serve the economy well either. Although High Court interpretations have enabled the federal parliament to control and regulate the national economy, the federal vision contained in the Australian Constitution is now inconsistent with modern understandings of the Australian economy.

The Constitution is almost totally deficient in the areas of social justice and human rights. The framers of the Constitution chose to rely on the operation of the Common Law, but it is now quite widely accepted that this is indeed very inadequate. ‘The Constitution suggests that Australia is not an independent nation’, argued Williams. Surely, this is the very

opposite of an independent republic.

There is no bill of rights, no recognition of the importance of the environment and provisions to combat climate change; the Constitution does NOT state that the government derives its authority from the people’s sovereignty either. Constitutional conventions should all be codified.

The position of women and issues of equality between the sexes and of gender in Australian society are *not* addressed anywhere. Given the continued discrimination of women in management and executive roles this issue surely needs constitutional recognition. The LGBTIQ+ people should be recognised and protected constitutionally. A democratic electoral system needs to be adopted and anchored in the Constitution; but amendment should be easy.

While the Voice would be a major positive addition to the Constitution, a majority for the ‘Yes’ vote could still be blocked by Section 128. Deakin, a federalist, provided for the additional majority; four of the six states need to be in favour as well. A nonsensical requirement in the current situation.

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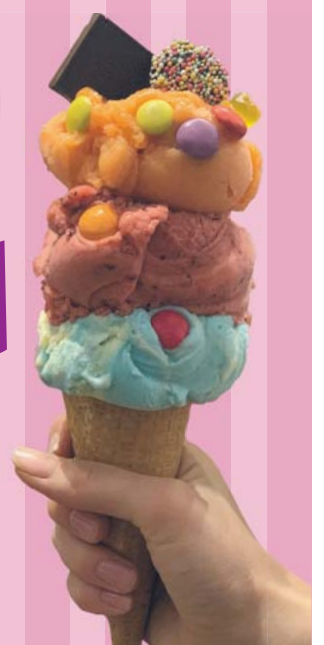
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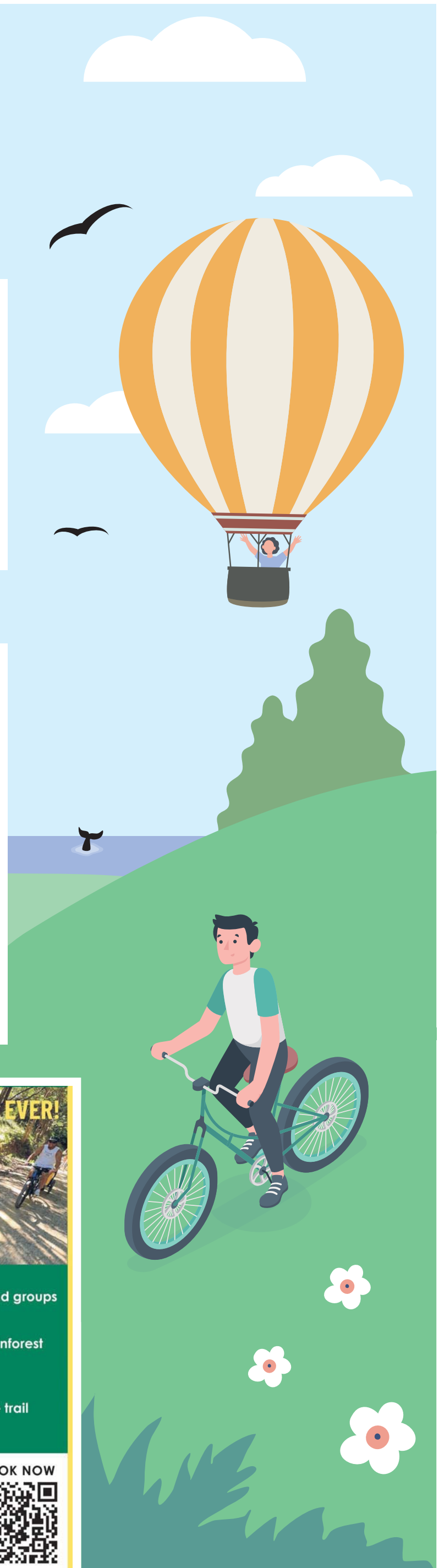
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Dinner Mon–Sat 5–8pm.
Closed Sunday
3/31 Lawson St, Byron Bay
www.facebook.com/pages/Success-Thai-Food/237359826303469

All your favourites, every lunch and dinner. Experienced Thai chefs cooking fresh, delicious Thai food for you.
BYO only.
Welcome for lunch, dinner and takeaway.
Menus available on Facebook.

The Rocks
Brunch 7am–1pm
Dinner 5pm–10pm
14–16 Lawson St,
5642 0149
therocksbyronbay.com.au
@therocksbyronbay

Happy Hour 6pm–8pm
\$6 tap beer or wine
\$12 selected cocktails

\$25 Pasta & Wine/Beer + Garlic Bread
Live Music Thursdays and DJ Saturdays
Open for dinner Wed–Sun

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

KARKALLA BYRON BAY
Ancient food and modern flavours.
PROUDLY BUNDJALUNG.

Monday Locals night from 5pm.
Thursday 5–9pm.
Friday & Saturday Drinks & snacks from 4pm.
Sunday Live and local music from 6pm.
Seasonal, local & native inspired menu.

Barrio Eatery & Bar
1 Porter Street, North Byron
Mon–Wed: 7am–3pm
Thurs–Sat: 7am–10pm
www.barriobyronbay.com.au
@barriobyronbay
0411 323 165

Barrio brings together the local community in a relaxed environment for all-day dining. The wood-fired oven and open-flame grill is the heart of the restaurant.
Keep an eye on socials for daily specials.

BANGALOW

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

Stone baked sourdough, hand rolled pastries, small batch pies, house made cakes.

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

LENNOX HEAD

Lennox Head Pizza & Pasta
4/74 Ballina St, Lennox Head
Open 7 days
Lunch: 12–2pm
Pizza & drinks only: 2–5pm
Dinner from 5pm

Views, Brews, Cocktails, Beats, and Eats!
Live Music Friday, Saturday, Sunday.
Bookings essential.
Head to lennoxpizza.com
Follow on Insta: @lennoxpizza

MULLUMBIMBY

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

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

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


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

The Empire
20 Burringbar St, Mullum
6684 2306

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

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

Order and pay online:
Scan the QR code to view the menu and order online.



MURWILLUMBAH

Apex Dining
Fully Licensed Café
Brunch + Lunch
Weddings + Events
Wednesday–Sunday from 9am
Bookings recommended.
www.apexdining.com.au
@apexdining

A hinterland 'destination dining' favourite with spectacular views, first or last stop on the Rail Trail from M'bah station.
Modern cafe / bistro fare featuring regional produce with a cheeky Asian twist.
Excellent coffee, fresh artisan pastries and a full a la carte brunch and lunch menu accompanied by a natural wine list, cocktails and house made soft refreshments.

NEWRYBAR

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

COFFEE CART
7 days | 6.30am–3.00pm

RESTAURANT
Lunch | Wed–Sun | 12–2.30pm
Dinner | Fri & Sat | 5.30–8.30pm

DELI
7 days | 7.30am–3.30pm

CATERING

Celebrations Cakes by Liz Jackson
lizzijackson@gmail.com
0414 895 441

GLUTEN FREE AND SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS CATERED FOR



Find more tasty morsels at
Echo
.net.au

Byron Hinterland Seed Savers

Byron Hinterland Seed Savers are coming to Mullumbimby Farmers Market this Friday, 22 September at 8am for a seed swap. Bring any excess seeds/cuttings you have and come and collect some free seeds and cuttings.

Who are Byron Hinterland Seed Savers?

They are a not-for-profit seed saving network for the Byron Hinterland region.

What do they do?

They encourage the community to grow, save and share seeds, with the intention of protecting and carrying on the existence of a wide variety of rare and wonderful seeds.

They want to see seeds kept safe in the hands of the people and the community, as they have been by our ancestors since time immemorial. Seeds, when kept local, adapt to our climate over time producing stronger and more resilient food sources.

Seeds are given freely and abundantly from the earth so, they believe, they are to be shared and given freely in return.

Why is local seed saving and sharing important?

They say: 'Seed saving is one of the most important things we can do in our time. Seeds are life and our future. Sadly, seeds



have become a commodity in our modern day. Large corporations have acquired control and ownership over the vast majority of the world's seeds. Diversity within plant species is rapidly being lost with many varieties already extinct. Seeds have co-evolved alongside humans, passed down from hand to hand. If we do not continue this relationship and act as seed keepers within our own backyards, seed lineages may be broken and lost forever.'

If you would like to support Byron Hinterland Seed Savers and stay in loop for future events: follow on Facebook @ byronhinterlandseedsavers.

Visit or become a member at the website, <https://byronseedshare.org>.

'Seed is not just the source of life. It is the very foundation of our being.' ~Vandana Shiva.

Mullumbimby Farmers Market is held every Friday 7am to 11am at Mullumbimby Showgrounds

Young farmer forging ahead

Despite growing up in Sydney, James Daaboul says he has always been drawn to the idea of living on the land. A couple of years ago he turned that dream into a reality, leaving behind a stable job as a set builder and carpenter for greener pastures in the Northern Rivers.

'When I was living in the city, my passion for the land started with gardening and growing veggies at home and it just snowballed from there,' James says. 'As time went by, I became hooked and really wanted to connect more deeply with the natural world and move to a regional area. Farming seemed to hold all the cards for me to achieve that.'

So, with only a bit of home gardening experience under his belt, the keen 28-year-old's first foray into farming was as a volunteer at the Conscious Ground market garden in Myocum. After honing his 'agri' skills, James took on his next challenge – working at Kennedy's Lane Farm in Ewingsdale where he swiftly progressed to farm manager.

Kennedy's Lane Farm offers James not only two acres of certified organic market garden to get his hands into, but also the opportunity to soak up years' worth of experience and knowledge from the farm's owner (and farmer), Uri Leshem.



Left: James Daaboul at Bangalow Farmers Market. Right: Kennedy's Lane Farm certified organic produce.

'Uri offers a lot of mentoring, which is great and it's a mutually beneficial relationship – I learn a lot from Uri and the farm remains productive,' says James. 'We aim to meet

The Smoking Camel partners with Brookie's Gin to create a Turkish Delight Gin!



Byron Bay's newest Middle Eastern restaurant, The Smoking Camel, has partnered with Brookie's Gin to create a Turkish Delight Gin. A passion project between the two brands and owners Kim Stephen (The Smoking Camel) and Eddie Brook (Brookie's Gin), the gin is emblematic of the close-knit Byron Bay community, and combines The Smoking Camel's signature Middle Eastern flavours with Brookie's expertise in gin making.

The Turkish Delight Gin is made by infusing Brookie's Gin with the perfect balance of fragrant rose, orange blossom, delicate Meyer lemon and balanced with a touch of sweetness. Harvested from the Cape Byron Distillery rainforest, the fragrant white aspen (which tastes like lemon gelato) and native raspberries are distilled into Brookie's Gin.

The gin was created with the help of Eddie Brook's mum Pam Brook, who says 'Brookie's Turkish Delight was made not from the flavours of modern day commercial Turkish delight, but from my memories of tastes and smells in exotic Turkish sweet shops which abounded in inner Melbourne. Entering these stores as a child I was

enveloped in the scents of rose and orange blossom, surrounded by luscious sweet sticky pastries, aromas of roasted nuts and sticky honey sweetness.'

The Smoking Camel, which opened in Byron Bay in July this year, will also feature the gin in one of their signature cocktails, aptly named the 'Turkish Delight'. The cocktail combines Brookie's Turkish Delight Gin, pomegranate, cranberry, rose, lime and foam to evoke the sweet flavours of the Middle East and add a Byron Bay beachy touch with the foam.

The Smoking Camel and Brookie's Turkish Delight Gin is exclusively available in The Smoking Camel, Light Years Asian Diner and Moonlight Japanese, as well as through the Cape Byron Distillery website (www.capebyrondistillery.com), cellar door and local bottle shops.

To celebrate the launch of the collaboration gin Cape Byron Distillery will be hosting a free-to-attend party at the distillery this Sunday, 24 September from 1pm with food and music by The Smoking Camel and cocktails by Brookie's Gin! More information via thesmokingcamel.com and capebyrondistillery.com.



and beetroot to corn, leeks, celery and leafy greens. All of which are certified organic and available at Byron and Bangalow Farmers Markets every week.

While the leap into farming has been a steep learning curve, James says it is not one that he regrets.

'Young farmers have to sacrifice a lot when it comes to their social lives. I'm in bed about 8-8.30pm every night, but I think it's worth it. And as creative as my job was in set building, it wasn't for the good of the people. Whereas growing food and feeding people is just such a worthwhile thing to be doing with your life. It has given me a purpose. So even though it's hard work, I feel like it's a worthwhile endeavour and one that is valued.'

You can find James and the Kennedy's Lane stall at Byron Farmers Market and Bangalow Farmers Market.

once a week to discuss plans for the market garden, working together to see how it can benefit both of us and the farm.'

Under the tutorage of Uri, James grows everything from cauliflower, carrots, broccoli

Byron Farmers Market, Thursdays 7-11am at Butler St Reserve and Bangalow Farmers Market, Saturdays 7-11am behind the Bangalow pub.

A word from the Brunswick Heads Chamber of Commerce

BRUNSWICK HEADS AND ITS SIMPLE PLEASURES

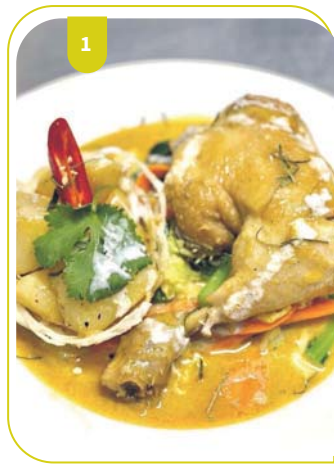
Spring has sprung and Bruns is the perfect place to be! Enjoy a refreshing swim in the river or beach, hire a canoe and take in the scenic views along the river. Make sure to snap some epic photos along the way and enter the Simple Pleasures Photo Competition as the entry date has been extended to Friday 22nd of September.

Bruns is filled with specialist stores now including the Little Dispensary opening up on Park St. The Visitor Centre is currently focussing on local artists and has some amazing local art, Australian-made wildlife toys and children's books, including 'The Adventures of Mist' written by local author Katrina Jeffrey. Katrina's books hope to 'engage children in a fun way that will bring them into the world that Mist inhabits. The goal is to teach the impact they can make on the world around them through conservation and responsible choices.'

We also have an array of delicious treats sold throughout town including the Bruns Bakery, Sticky Fingers Pizzeria – now under new ownership, and the newly opened Street Sushi! We are also excited to see Pink Lotus opening up in town.

See you in Bruns!

See more on our website
www.brunswickheads.org.au



TOM TOM THAI RESTAURANT

Serving up traditional Thai food in the heart of Brunswick Heads using the freshest ingredients cooked by Thai chefs, whose passion is reflected in the delicious Thai flavours they create.

02 6685 1674



BRUNSWICK HEADS PHARMACY

Saponified in a cauldron using a traditional method, the Marseille Liquid Soap by Compagnie de Provence, is enriched with botanical oils. It transforms into a fine lather that gently cleanses the skin.

02 6685 1219

www.brunsparmacy.com.au



ANNELIES ELLANORA JEWELLERY

Annelies is an experienced trade-qualified jeweller and gemologist specialising in handmade bespoke fine jewellery, repairs and remodeling. The Annelies Ellanora workshop awaits you at the Electric Mermaid Barbershop, Brunswick Heads.

0409 070 786

annelies.ellanora.jewellery@gmail.com
[@annelies.ellanora.jewellery](https://www.instagram.com/annelies.ellanora.jewellery)



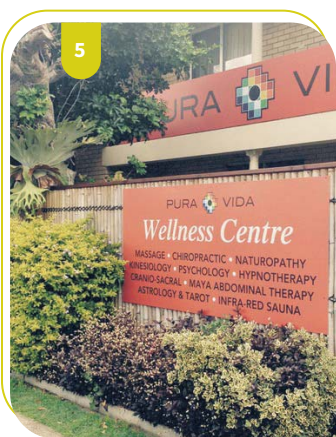
PRINT RESCUE

Print Rescue offer large format printing up to 840mmx1194mm, great for large posters and plan printing.

They also do stickers, business cards, photos and more!

Contact them for a quote.

02 6685 0477



PURA VIDA WELLNESS CENTRE

Pura Vida Wellness Centre is an oasis of healing, providing a comprehensive range of therapies including colon hydrotherapy, hyperbaric oxygen therapy, infrared sauna, massage, naturopathy, psychology, reiki and more.

02 6685 0498

www.puravidawellness.com.au



BRUNSWICK HEADS OSTEOPATHY

Treatment of back, neck, shoulder and hip pain, headaches, joint and muscle pain. Osteopathy and remedial massage. Experienced local practitioners, Online bookings, open 6 days.

Monday to Friday 9am–6pm

Saturday 9am–4pm

02 6685 1126

www.brunstoste.com.au



BRUNSWICK HEADS VISITOR CENTRE

Proudly supporting local artists. This week introducing @artbysharni.

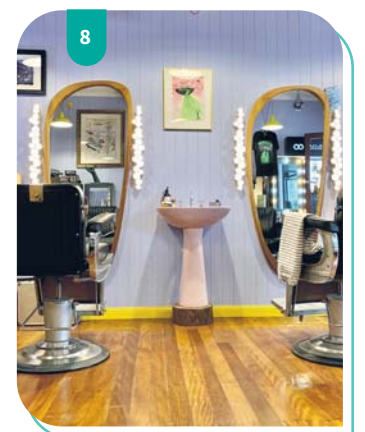
Beautiful images of Bruns on prints, cards and stickers.

Mention this ad and receive 10% off all merchandise.

Open 9.30am–4.30pm
Monday–Friday
10am–2pm Saturday & Sunday

02 6685 1002

info@brunswickheads.org.au



ELECTRIC MERMAID BARBER SHOP

Electric Mermaid is a premium walk-in barbershop with a retro twist. They offer all types of cuts, beard trims and legendary straight razor shaves. All are welcome!

0499 902 120

www.electricmermaid.com.au
[@electric.mermaid.barbershop](https://www.instagram.com/electric.mermaid.barbershop)



BAYSIDE ACUPUNCTURE & HERBAL MEDICINE

Experience their signature acupuncture, massage, cupping or Acutonics® Sound Medicine combination sessions to address all aspects of health & wellbeing. Experienced registered professionals. Health fund rebates / online bookings.

Open Monday to Saturday
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www.baysideacupuncture.com



BRUNSBOKS

BrunksBooks is a cozy, welcoming hub of reading joy. They offer new and recycled, carefully curated reads of all genres.

Books can be brought in for credit on pre-loved buys!

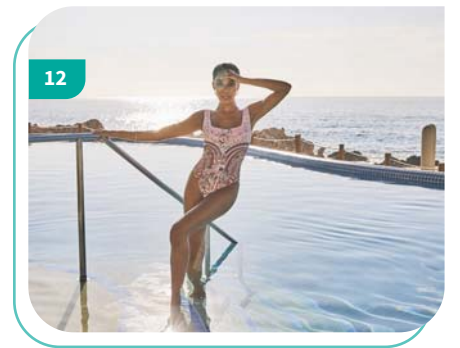
02 6685 1494
Facebook: BrunsBooks
@brunsBooks



BODYPEACE BAMBOO CLOTHING

Dressing Byron Shire locals and visitors for over a decade. Their latest store offers a range of organically grown bamboo basics, yogawear and underwear for the style and sustainability-conscious consumer. Mens & Womens / XS - XXL available. Sale on now!

www.bodypeacebamboo.com
@bodypeacebamboo



OH MY GODDESS!

We are so excited about the new summer collections in store. A fresh wind brings colours and happiness. Come in and check it out.

6685 1307



ROSEFINA'S PLACE

River. Beach. Pandanus. Caravan. Coffee. Outdoors. Friends. Bush turkeys. Lillies. Oasis. Rocks. Food. Friendly. Sunshine. Mornings. Music. Musings. Retreat. Garden. Nature. Secret. Treasure.

Rosefinas_place@instagram.com



BRUNSWICK SURF SHOP

With spring well underway, Bruns Surf is extending its 40% off all winter fleece and men's, women's and kids' woollens throughout September and into October! New summer stock now in store.

6685 1283
Brunswicksurf.com.au



MANDORLE

Fine linen, silk and cotton clothing, leather bags and accessories. Gorgeous new designs and colours now available with beautiful Italian quality and style. Bring this ad to claim 10% discount.

www.mandorle.com.au
@mandorle_clothing



STREET SUSHI

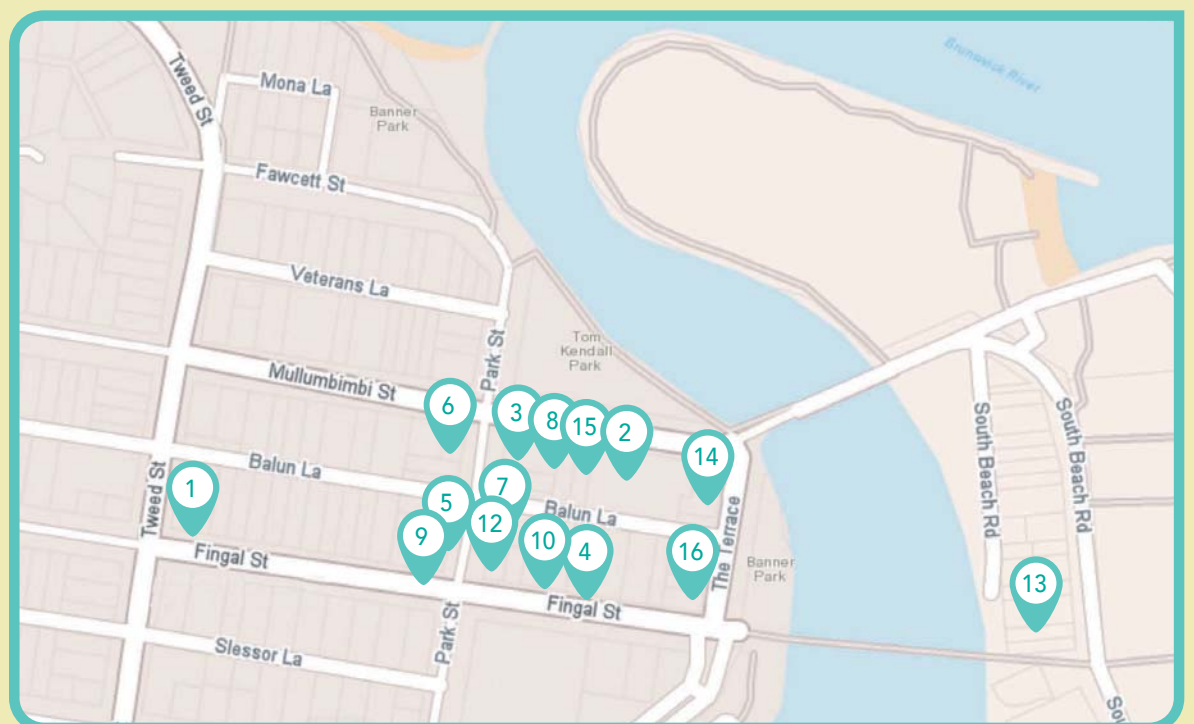
Street Sushi is where the locals go for fast, affordable and delicious takeaway lunches.

Offering a generous serving of mouth-watering bento-boxes, infamous meal-deals made with freshly rolled sushi and a refreshing blend of smoothies and juices.

Monday – Sunday 8.30am to 5.30pm
0412 100 855
stsushibruns@hotmail.com

BRUNSWICK HEADS

1. **Tom Tom Thai restaurant**
15 Tweed Street
2. **Brunswick Heads Pharmacy**
14–16 Mullumbimbi Street
3. **Annelies Ellanora Jewellery**
Shop 3/28
Mullumbimbi Street
4. **Print Rescue**
4/9 Fingal Street
5. **Pura Vida Wellness Centre**
14a Park Street
6. **Brunswick Heads Osteopathy**
2/32 Mullumbimbi St
7. **Brunswick Heads Visitor Centre**
7 Park Street
8. **Electric Mermaid Barber Shop**
Shop 3/28
Mullumbimbi Street
9. **Bayside Acupuncture & Herbal Medicine**
14 Park Street
10. **BrunksBooks**
5/9 Fingal Street
11. **Bodypeace Bamboo Clothing**
12 The Terrace
12. **Oh My Goddess!**
7 Park Street
13. **Rosefina's Place**
38 Southbeach Rd
14. **Brunswick Surf Shop**
1/12 The Terrace
15. **Mandorle**
Shop 1, 22
Mullumbimbi Street
16. **Street Sushi**
10 The Terrace



health & healing

North Coast Medical Centre

Are you experiencing... Hay fever? Headaches? TMJ pain? Excessive sweating? Dr Meera McGarry is a local GP who offers muscle-relaxing neuromodulator injections to help relax the muscles associated with tight shoulders, neck and jaw. These injections can also be delivered to the armpits to block sweat glands from producing excessive sweat (hyperhidrosis) or delivered as an aerosol to the nasal cavity to treat the symptoms of hay fever. Enquire today to book an initial consultation to develop a clinical treatment plan tailored to your needs.



Call North Coast Medical Centre to book an appointment.
02 6685 8666
24 Shirley Street, Byron Bay

O'Meara Dental welcomes Dr Nicky Hale

After completing her training at the University of Otago in 2019, Nicky worked in the public health system in Northland, New Zealand, then joined a private practice in the town of Mangawhai. She enjoyed working with the local community, and alongside the maxillo-facial consultant surgeon in the operating theatre. Nicky has taken a special interest in restorative dentistry, and she is also passionate about periodontics, believing healthy gums equals a healthy body. She works closely with the practice hygienists and several specialist periodontists. Away from dentistry, Nicky takes every opportunity to get outside and is an active member of the local surf lifesaving club. Nicky and her partner also enjoy snowboarding and hope to get their two-year-old son on his own board soon!



19/5 Easy St, Byron Bay | 60 Stuart St, Mullumbimby
02 6694 3083
omearadental.com.au

Clinical EFT (Emotional Freedom Techniques) workshop

Learn Clinical EFT (Emotional Freedom Techniques) with master EFT trainer and social worker Jules Vandermaat at Diptipur Retreat Centre in Nashua, 9-5pm, 4-6 November then day 4 online Saturday 25 November.

Suitable for anyone who wants to learn how to help their clients recover faster and more effectively in safe and gentle ways. This training is open to anyone, and is particularly useful for health and helping professionals and focuses on working with trauma and the nervous system.

Learn the science and research behind this evidence-based stress reduction tool. Effective for many conditions including anxiety, depression, PTSD, chronic pain, addictions and phobias.

Clinical EFT combines exposure therapy, cognitive therapy, and the tapping on acupuncture points is the somatic element. Contact Jules if you're interested.

0434 693 336
julievandermaat@outlook.com
www.tappingwithjules.com



Quantum Uplift Biohacking & Wellness Centre

Welcome to a transformed version of yourself, brimming with vitality, boundless energy and enhanced mental clarity. Quantum Uplift's revolutionary approach incorporates seven leading edge bio-hacking and cellular rejuvenation technologies, setting them apart as world leaders in this field. They couple these innovations with a deep dive into neuroscience, epigenetics and quantum field consciousness to empower you to actualise your optimised life.



Attend their free one-hour introductory sessions every Tuesday and Thursday at 12pm (and experience their Tesla Cell Charger first hand) as you embark on your journey to optimal wellness. You're invited to their 5th Birthday this Saturday 9am-3pm. All sessions are complimentary and attendees stand a chance to win prizes worth over \$5,000. Refer to back-page ad for details. Unlock your full potential with Quantum Uplift.

0475 771 181
1A, Banksia Dr, Byron Industrial Estate
www.quantumuplift.com

Acupuncture and massage in Billinudgel

Billi Health is a wellness clinic located in the heart of Billinudgel offering acupuncture, massage and natural therapies. Their team of degree-qualified professionals combine these healing methods with attentive listening and care to help enhance your overall health and wellbeing. Their acupuncturists treat a wide range of conditions including:



Women's health | fertility & IVF | pregnancy support | stress and anxiety | fatigue and immune support | musculoskeletal pain.

Other services include remedial massage, cupping therapy, Chinese herbal medicine and natural therapies. Private health rebates available.

0477 259 236
1/6 Wilfred Street, Billinudgel
Bookings online at www.billihealth.com.au

Ritual Pause

Anaiya Cooper uses traditional ayurvedic abhyanga massage techniques to fully harness the unawakened potential of endocannabinoid receptors in the body. This is an exclusive offering and the first of its kind, to enhance vitality, wellbeing, collagen creation and freedom from chronic pain cycles.

This experience of full body ayurvedic and CBD oil immersion is one of wholeness, deep nurture and restorative rebalancing like no other.

Massage is respected as medicinal at Ritual Pause and they celebrate commitment to traditional, essential self care.

0402 451 898
ritualpause@gmail.com
ritualpause.com



Ananda Clinic's plant medicines shouldn't be a last resort

Ananda Clinics doctors often meet long-suffering patients who only seek their medical advice after years of failed treatment and undesirable side effects.

You don't need a referral to see an Ananda doctor. They encourage anyone living with a chronic condition to speak to one of their nurses (for free) about their safe, scientific approach to determine if you, or a loved one, might be eligible for an Ananda treatment plan.

02 5624 5024
Anandaclinics.com.au



Rentia Visser CTC master therapist and reiki healer

A beacon of transformation and healing, located on a magical macadamia farm just outside Alstonville, is Rentia Visser. A remarkable energy healer, CTC master therapist and success coach, she combines ancient truths and modern wisdoms for the growth, healing, and wellness of her clients.

CTC (Combined Therapy Cocktail) combines the best components of various modalities, to ensure powerful transformation in just one session. It takes a deep dive into your subconscious, liberating you from limiting beliefs, past traumas, and addictions. It can heal mind, body, and soul, to create lasting change in 2-2.5 hours.

Reiki healing is available to restore your energy, reduce stress, and promote overall well-being.

And the best part? All sessions are available via Zoom, so you can heal in the comfort of your home.

Booking: 0429 964 495
rentiavisseralchemy@gmail.com
www.rentiavisser.com

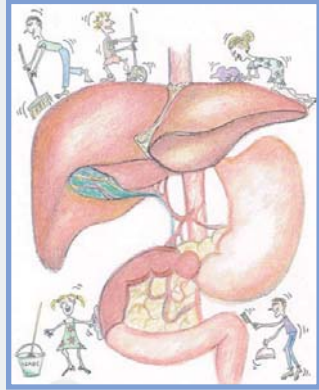


health & healing

Mullum Herbals Easy Cleanse

We believe that cleansing is the most potent short-term thing that can be done to improve health. During autophagy the body consumes insufficient calories to fuel itself. This unleashes the energy normally devoted to digestion being liberated to cleanse the body. Detoxification mechanisms launch into action consuming metabolic waste products that are clogging blood vessels, bowels and lymphatics. This results in quelling inflammatory and other maladaptive physiological processes. The results are a whole range of improved health parameters; clearer skin, improved digestion, improved mood and cognition, better energy, improved airway function, alleviation of muscular skeletal discomfort and of course the loss of some unwanted kilos. The Easy Cleanse supports this metabolic process with diet, herbs and supplements which aid the detox organs.

Mullum Herbals 02 6684 3002
79 Stuart St, Mullumbimby
Brunswick Herbals 02 6608 2661
Shop 2/28 Mullumbimbi St, Brunswick Heads
www.mullumherbals.com.au



Byron Community College

Don't hold your breath!

In these challenging times, Byron College always has a course to help you through, including:

Breathwork: managing anger and supportive practices during menopause, Yin Yoga with Sound, deeply restorative yoga poses accompanied by the beautiful sounds of crystal bowls, Tibetan bells and cat's angelic voice; A Compassionate lense on anger: transform anger, break unhelpful patterns of thinking and develop empowering healthy responses to conflict; Breath Of Life: learn breathing techniques that assist with sleep, mental clarity, reducing anxiety & depression to elevate wellbeing;

Meditation and Menopause: calm the mind, release emotions and reduce the heat during this time with a supportive meditation practice. With a new term starting soon, the College has so many options to support your health and wellbeing.

02 6684 3374
www.byroncollege.org.au



byron healing

byronhealing.com.au

Byron healing is your guide to maintaining health and wellbeing in Byron and the Northern Rivers.

New listings recently added to **Byron healing**: Tapping with Jules and Rentia Visser Alchemy - visit the website for full details on these businesses.

The Byron healing Vol. 6, 2023-24 magazine is out now! If you missed your copy keep an eye out for copies around the usual spots, or collect one from The Echo office in Mullumbimby.



Rentia Visser Alchemy

Rentia Visser is a CTC master therapist, reiki master & healer, success coach and alchemist, who helps you uncover and shift your subconscious programs to unlock your true potential.



Tapping with Jules

A Certified Master EFT trainer, social worker, and international expert on EFT for sexual trauma with over 30 years experience, Jules specialises in teaching health professionals to do Clinical EFT.

<https://healing.echo.net.au/listing/trauma-focused-training-in-clinical-eft-november-in-nashua/>



UPCOMING BYRON HEALING CLIENT EVENTS

Yin Yoga with Sound (course)

Held by Byron College
Date: Tues 10th October
Time: 6-7pm (over 6 sessions)
Address: Mullum Campus
Booking contact: <https://www.byroncollege.org.au/course/MusicMeditation>

Introduction to Massage (course)

Held by Byron College
Date: Thurs 12th October
Time: 9am-4pm (over 8 sessions)
Address: Byron Campus
Booking contact: <https://www.byroncollege.org.au/course/IntroMass4>

Yoga Over 60's (course)

Held by Byron College
Date: Mon 23rd October
Time: 9:30-11am (over 8 sessions)
Address: Mullum Campus
Booking contact: <https://www.byroncollege.org.au/course/YogaOver60s>

A Compassionate Lense on Anger

Held by Byron College
Date: Tues 24th October
Time: 9:30am-12pm (2 sessions)
Address: Byron Campus
Booking contact: <https://www.byroncollege.org.au/course/LenseOnAnger>

Meditation and Menopause

Held by Byron College
Date: Tues 24th October
Time: 1-4pm (3 sessions)
Address: Mullum Campus
Booking contact: <https://www.byroncollege.org.au/course/MeditationAndMenopause>

Pilates over 50's

Held by Byron College
Date: Weds 25th October
Time: 10-11:30am (7 sessions)
Address: Mullum Campus
Booking contact: <https://www.byroncollege.org.au/course/PilatesOver50>

Spiritual Breathwork and Sound Healing

Held by Chrysalis Byron Bay Breathwork
Date: September 28th
Time: 6pm
Address: Happy Mountain Yoga Studio, Wollongbar
Booking contact 0451 006 577
www.byronbaybreathwork.com

Level 1 in Sound Healing

Held by Lakshmi Sound Healing
Date: 17th-20th November
Time: 10am-4.30pm each day
Address: 37 Marvell St Marvell Hall
<https://www.academyofsoundhealing.com/events-level-1-multi-instruments-byron-bay-nov-2023>

Free Cellular Rejuvenation - Quantum Uplift 5th Birthday

Held by Quantum Uplift
Date: Saturday Sept 23rd
Time: 9am-3pm
Address: 1A Banksia Dr, Byron Bay Industrial Estate
Free sessions all day and \$5000 in wellness prizes.
www.quantumuplift.com

Donation Yoga on the Grass

Held by Ritual Pause
Date: October 14th
Time: 7am
Address: Club Burringbar
Booking www.ritualpause.com

Pot N Pour Garden Pottery

Held by Ritual Pause
Date: October 21st
Time: 10am
Address: Club Burringbar
Booking contact: ritualpause.com

Introduction to Clinical EFT

Held by Tapping with Jules
Date: Saturday 30th September
Time: 9.30am-12.30pm
Address: Online. See link below
Free intro session.
<https://www.tappingwithjules.com/events/introduction-to-clinical-eft-free-online-info-session-8h89b>

Byron Bay Beachfront Yoga Retreat

Held by Uearthed Retreats
Date: October 24th-27th
Time: 4 days
Address: Belongil Beach
Booking contact: <https://uearthedretreats.com/experience/byron-bay-beachfront-yoga-retreat>

Event name: Men's Retreat - Breathwork, Cold Water Immersion Retreat

Held by Uearthed Retreats
Date: September 29th - October 2nd
Time: 4 days
Address: Snowy Mountains
Booking contact <https://uearthedretreats.com/experience/men-s-retreat-breathwork-cold-water-immersion-retreat>

Signature Detox Retreat

Held by Byron Bay Detox Retreats
Date: September 10th-16th, October 15th-21st, November 19th-25th, December 10th-16th
Address: Tallow Beach, Byron Bay
byronbaydetoxretreats.com.au/byron-bay-group-retreats/
info@byronbaydetoxretreats.com.au

Tantric Retreat for Men who Love Men

Held by Andreas Embodiment
Date/Time: 4pm Fri September 22nd, 2pm Sun 24th Sep.
Address: Yanada Retreat Centre, St Albans
www.andreasembodiment.com/tantricretreat

Bangalow Hinterland Yoga Retreat

Held by Uearthed Retreats
Date: September 24th- 27th, 4 days
Address: Bangalow
uearthedretreats.com/experience/bangalow-hinterland-yoga-retreat

Weekend Reset Retreat

Held by Byron Bay Detox Retreats
Date: November 3rd-6th
Address: Blue Green Sanctuary, Byron Bay
byronbaydetoxretreats.com.au/weekend-reset-retreat/
info@byronbaydetoxretreats.com.au

REIKI 1 training

Held by Rentia Visser Alchemy
Date: Saturday and Sunday, 4th & 5th November (2 full days training)
Time: 9am-5pm
Address: 39 Red Lane, Rous NSW 2477 (just outside Alstonville)
Booking contact 042 996 4495
rentiavisseralchemy@gmail.com

Volume 38 #15
 20-26 September, 2023
 Editor: Eve Jeffery
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SPRING EQUINOX SPIRIT FEST

Come to Murwillumbah for a magical day of harmony and joy at the *Spring Equinox Spirit Fest*. Organisers say 'As the sun crosses the celestial equator, marking the beginning of a new season, we gather to celebrate the spirit of renewal, growth, and togetherness. This enchanting family-friendly event is on Saturday where all ages are invited to partake in a day filled with music, art, and shared experiences.

'Melodious tunes will traverse genres and uplift the soul – feel the rhythms of the drums resonate with the heartbeat of the Earth as you dance freely with friends and family.

'Enrich your understanding of the equinox and its significance through a variety of workshops designed for all ages, and as the sun begins to set, be part of a mesmerising sunset ritual where we symbolically release the old and welcome the new.

'The *Spring Equinox Spirit Fest* fosters an inclusive environment for people of all ages – you are guaranteed to leave with cherished memories and a renewed sense of connection to nature and your community.'

Saturday from 1pm at the Murwillumbah Leagues Club. Tickets are available online at Eventbrite and at the gate. Adults \$30 and children under 14, \$20, a family of four \$80.

IT REALLY IS UNCANNY

Stereo are stoked to celebrate the release of the EP *Uncanny Valley*, with an extremely well named, *Uncanny Valley 2* event. **Crumbs in the Bed** will be kicking off the night with their rock-and-roll energy. They'll set the stage on fire with their infectious rhythms to start the mosh.

Prepare to be serenaded by the soulful, intricate sounds of **Calypso Cora** as they take you on a musical journey through their mesmerising melodies, then rock on with **The Tin Heads** on their Sydney Tour as they bring their high-energy performance and electrifying guitar riffs to get the mosh pit moving.

Stereo close the night with a bang as they turn it up a notch with their infectious beats and unforgettable hooks.

Uncanny Valley 2 album launch and gig, Saturday from 7pm at the Byron YAC. Tickets are \$10 presale via Eventbrite or \$12.50 on the door if not sold out.

STANNO ARRIVANDO GLI ITALIANI!

Palace Cinemas are thrilled to announce a great lineup for the *2023 ST. ALi Italian Film Festival* showcasing an incredible selection of new Italian cinema celebrating the country's language, stories and culture.

Featuring an eclectic mix of contemporary Italian auteurs, documentaries, a closing night tribute to a much-loved Italian cinema legend and more, the festival will screen in Byron Bay exclusively at Palace Cinemas from 28 September.

The *2023 ST. ALi Italian Film Festival* will open with the Australian Premiere of *The Last Night of Amore (L'ultima notte di Amore)*, a stylish Milan-set thriller starring the magnificent Pierfrancesco Favino. A major Italian box office hit, the film follows a police lieutenant who is drawn into a web of crime and corruption on the eve of his retirement.

Direct from the *Cannes Film Festival* come the three Italian films that screened in competition this year. The *2023 Festival Centrepiece* is Marco Bellocchio's *Kidnapped (Rapito)*. Based on true events, this gripping historical drama is the story of a young Jewish boy whose abduction by the Vatican fuelled outrage in 19th-century Italy and triggered a global scandal.

Alice Rohrwacher's *La Chimera*, a captivating fable of lost love set in 1980s Tuscany, follows a young British archaeologist (played by Josh O'Connor)

who becomes entangled in an international network dealing in stolen Italian artefacts; and in Nanni Moretti's multi-layered new comedy *A Brighter Tomorrow (Il sol dell'avvenire)*, about filmmaking in the age of streaming giants, a film director (Moretti) struggles with his relationship, family and the production of his latest film.

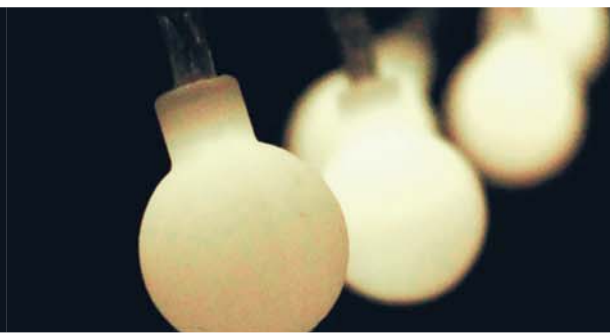
This year's festival features three special presentations: *The Eight Mountains (Le otto montagne)*, starring Luca Marinelli and Alessandro Borghi, was awarded the Cannes Jury Prize in 2022 and won four David di Donatello Awards. This epic journey of friendship and self-discovery is set in the breathtaking Italian Alps; *Burning Hearts (Ti mangio il cuore)*, is a searing crime story of love and revenge set in Puglia and shot in stunning black and white, which



A Brighter Tomorrow stars Italian singer Elodie in her first acting role, and; *Caravaggio's Shadow (L'ombra di Caravaggio)* is a lush, historical drama starring the impeccable Riccardo Scamarcio, which explores the struggles of the notorious Renaissance painter as he is investigated by the Vatican.

These films are just the *punta dell'iceberg* of an amazing festival of films screening at Palace.

For more information visit the festival, website: www.italianfilmfestival.com.au.



INTERVIEW WITH THE CAT EMPIRE

The Cat Empire have unveiled a brand-new era for the band, with legacy members **Felix Riebl** and **Ollie McGill** breathing new life into the band's DNA as they welcome a wonderful collective of musicians.

The band has recorded their ninth studio album *Where the Angels Fall*, but it's the first album as the new iteration of The Cat Empire – new faces include award-winning musical force **Grace Barbe**, Cuban-born trumpeter, vocalist and percussionist **Lazaro Numa**, long-time tinmen **Roscoe Irwin** and **Kieran**, and percussionist **Neda Rahmani**.

Seven had a chat to Felix Riebl at the weekend to see how the new outfit is travelling.

How are the new members 'settling in'?

The new members are more than settling in, they're opening up a whole new musical world for us. Lazaro, a Havana-born trumpeter and percussionist, who toured with the Afro Cuban All Stars, has brought this essentially Cuban attitude to the band. With him the music never stops, it's before shows, after shows, in airport lounges, it's wall-to-wall! Grace has opened up her world of African Seychelles music to us, we're singing in Creole, learning new rhythms, it's wild. Neda has got the whole band playing Brazilian batucada (roving street percussion) before and after shows, she's a dancer as well, so there's a new level of movement on stage. To keep the spirit of The Cat Empire true, we decided that instead of trying to replace old members, we'd embrace the new and different strengths of the new ones. It's been an amazing experience.

Was recording a very different process with the new line-up?

Recording *Where the Angels Fall* was by far the most unique and exciting recording process I've ever been involved in. There's something like 75 musicians playing on it. It was recorded at Merri-Bek City Band, a community hall, which had musicians constantly coming in and out. We treated each song as its own world. Some would start with a Brazilian percussion ensemble at the base, some with West African percussionists, some with flamenco musicians, some with symphonic strings, some with a pure trashy rock line up, and so on. The range of emotions on the album is vast, but those contrasts all seem to make a dynamic and moving whole. We took risks, we laughed a lot, we were very ambitious with our ideas, and everything seemed to flow. To me the album feels like an absolute Cat Empire classic, but the way we got there was completely new.

What will fans notice (or not) that's new or different about this album?

So far the fan response to the album, and how those songs have come to life on stage, has been overwhelming. I think what's been exciting for us, has been exciting for them as well. In new creative approaches, and new personalities, The Cat Empire – in the soul of the band sense – feels more alive than ever.

Are live shows going well?

The live shows have been a dream. Before we went to Europe there were so many unknowns – but from the first note to the last, the feeling in the room was electric. That gave us a lot of confidence coming back to



Australia, then North America and Mexico. We're taking risks, we're doing new things on stage, the sound is bigger than it's ever been, we're riding a very exciting wave. Every show feels like a big occasion. For me, that's as good as it gets for a musician.

Are you having enough fun?

Wall-to-wall fun! It's pure music, every day. On the bus, backstage, in hotel rooms, on stage. It doesn't seem to stop, and everyone thrives on it. It's an exciting time for us.

The Cat Empire is playing the Green Room on Saturday from 6.30pm. Tickets are available from moshtix.com.au.

DOUBLE J PRESENTS

THE CAT EMPIRE

WHERE THE ANGELS FALL TOUR
SAT SEPTEMBER 23
THE GREEN ROOM - HOME OF BLUESFEST
BYRON BAY

WITH **COTERIE + STEPH STRINGS**

LLA LTM TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THECATEMPIRE.COM Double J

GOLD COAST CHAMBER ORCHESTRA PRESENTS...

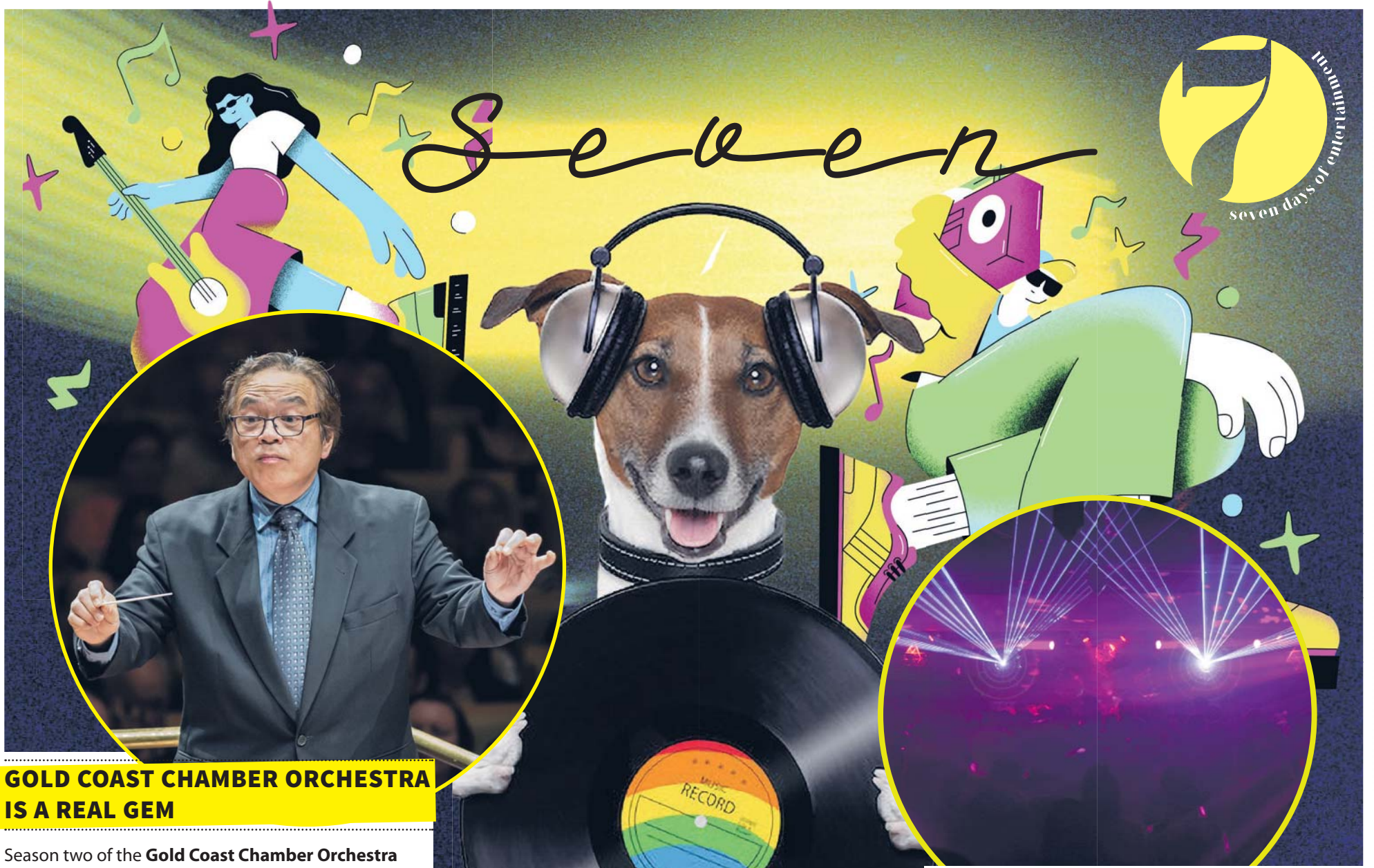
CLASSICAL GEMS

Date: Sunday, 24 September
Time: 2.30pm
Venue: Murwillumbah Civic Centre
 10-14 Tumbulgum Road,
 Murwillumbah

Thomas Chawner Viola (from Orava Quartet) soloist in the sublime Herbert Howells – *Elegy*
 Holst, Piazzolla and more...

Champagne and nibbles afterwards.

DON'T MISS OUT!!
Tickets online www.gcco.com.au



GOLD COAST CHAMBER ORCHESTRA IS A REAL GEM

Season two of the **Gold Coast Chamber Orchestra** sees performances of *Classical Gems* conducted by Chen Yang in two shows with concert one on **Sunday, 24 September** at the **Murwillumbah Civic Centre** and concert two on **Sunday, 8 October** at **Bond University**.

This is the GCCO's second full orchestra concert as Orchestra in Residence at Bond University and will feature works; 'Moorside Suite' (last movement) by Gustav Holst; 'Elegy' for solo viola, string quartet and strings by Herbert Howells; 'Little Suite for String Orchestra' by Peter Sculthorpe; 'Serenade for Strings' by Suk; 'Sextet arranged for String Orchestra' by Krug, and; 'Fuga y Misterio' for strings by Piazzolla.

For more info, visit gcco.com.au.

A RECORD COLLECTOR'S DREAM

Record collectors and sellers will fill the **Bangalow Moller Pavilion** this weekend for the inaugural **Northern Rivers Record & Music Market**. Stall holders from Queensland and New South Wales will present over 10,000 vinyl records and CDs from pop to hard rock and more for collectors to add to their record stacks!

A special feature of this awesome market will be a private collection of records and a rare radio collection from a Queensland collector.

The fair is open to the public from **Saturday 9am to 5pm**. Entry fee is **\$6 for adults – children under 14 years are free**.

For more information, contact 0488 197 167 or visit www.aussiefairs.com.

PUTTING A LITTLE SPRING IN YOUR WIGGLE

It's time for a spring wiggle with **Equinox Tribe Connect** at **Durrumbul Hall** this **Saturday**. This is a six-hour, six DJ adventure with **Shaunti, Bhakti The Nectar Cow, Halo, Nick Taylor, Moe Aloha** and **Avaxa**. Top-shelf, hi-vibe party with epic world-class production with **Void** sound system, next-level moving head lightshow, projection mapping and lasers by **Crystal Grid** and **Spectacle Art**. Performance art by **Enasni Puppetry** and decor by **Katsu**. Have some fun with the dress code: **flowers and feathers**, get your glitter on with **Sparkle Party**, try some **Discopig** smoking teapot mocktails, hang by the fire, catch up and wiggle with friends.

This **Saturday** from 6pm at **Durrumbul Hall**. This is an **18+** event – bring ID if you look or feel young. Limited tickets **\$45 + BF & GST** at <https://events.humanitix.com/spring-wiggle>.

THOUGHT PROVOKING STUFF

Every weekday BayFM has shows to fire your synapses, including **Make a Change, Eco Futures, Wirritjin, Belly, In the Driver's Seat, Roadtrip, Bohemian Beat** and **Arts Canvass**. Check our online Program Guide for details.

More at bayfm.org

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

23 SEP **All Ages**

SPRING EQUINOX Spirit Fest

Featuring **3form BadManners**

THE NEW LANGUAGE | BHAKTI | JATTA
AKARI TAMURA | BRAJI | DARIUS MOON
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Workshops & Stalls
GLO TATTS | KARUNA PLANT BASED | DANCE YOGA
COSMIC EARTH SOUND | KUNDALINI SOUND HEALING
MANA ALOHA HULA TROUPE | RED CLAY
KIDS LEARN & PLAY

MURWILLUMBAH LEAGUES CLUB



CINEMA



THE MUTANTS ARE BACK!

They're teenagers and they're mutants! The turtles that rose to fame in the 80s are back (again) in the 2023 edition of reptilian ninjas – this chapter is computer-animated and ready for kick-butt fun.

In case you didn't know...

In *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem*, Techno Cosmic Research Institute (TCRI) executive Cynthia Utrom sends a squad to hunt down rogue scientist Baxter Stockman, who has created a mutagenic ooze with which he intends to form his own mutant animal family, starting with a housefly. Baxter is interrupted by Cynthia's strike force and killed in the resulting explosion, while the mutagen falls into the sewers of New York City. The mutagen turns four turtle brothers – Michelangelo, Leonardo, Raphael and Donatello – and a rat named Splinter, into humanoid mutants, whereupon Splinter adopts the turtles. Splinter distrusts humanity – particularly after one encounter where he and the turtles are chased away – and trains his sons in the art of ninjutsu, instructing them to only leave their sewer home to steal supplies. Over the years, the Turtles long to live with and like humans their age, much to Splinter's dismay.

Fifteen years later, the Turtles defeat a gang of criminals to recover a stolen moped belonging to a teenager named April O'Neil, revealing themselves and their origins. April, an aspiring journalist struggling to move past a viral incident of vomiting on camera, has been investigating a series of robberies of TCRI technology by a criminal known as 'Superfly' – the rest is history but the kids will love it.

Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem is screening this week at Palace Cinemas in Byron Bay and Ballina. Visit their website for screening times: www.palacecinemas.com.au.

GIG GUIDE

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



WEDNESDAY 20

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **DAN HANNAFORD**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **JAMES ALEXANDER**
- BYRON THEATRE 7PM **HANS – DISCO SPEKTAKULAR**
- BANGALOW BOWLO 7.30PM **BANGALOW BRACKETS OPEN MIC**
- ELTHAM HOTEL 7PM **IRISH FOLK JAM**

THURSDAY 21

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **PHIL & TILLEY**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **RAISSA HARI**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 6PM **NURAINI ALSTON**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 7PM **CHEEKY CABARET**
- LENNOX HOTEL HOTEL STAGE 8PM **JAM NIGHT**
- THE LEVEE, LISMORE, 5PM **ROD MURRAY – A TRIBUTE TO JAZZ**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH HOTEL 7PM **ARRIVAL AUSTRALIA: ABBA TRIBUTE**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE SHOWROOM 8PM **MARK MCCONVILLE**

FRIDAY 22

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 8PM **KANE MUIR BAND**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 8PM **JOSH LOVEGROVE + THIRST TRAP + THE COLLIFLOWERS + LAZY GHOST**
- NORTH BYRON HOTEL 5PM **DJ YASMIN**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 9PM **LATIN NIGHT**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 6PM **THE DIRTY CHANNEL DUO**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 7PM **CHEEKY CABARET**
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY, 5PM **KRAPPYOKEE WITH JESS**
- ST JOHN'S SCHOOL HALL, MULLUMBIMBY, 7.30PM **ECSTATIC DANCE MULLUMBIMBY WITH DJ LO QI**

- CLUB LENNOX 7PM **JEFF MASSEY**
- LENNOX HOTEL HOTEL STAGE 9PM **MICKA SCENE**
- BALLINA RSL BOARDWALK 6PM **JOCK BARNES**
- TINTENBAR HALL 7.30PM **PAT TIERNEY**
- METROPOLE, LISMORE, 7.30PM **ROO AND RENEE + DJ THE WHO'S WHO**
- MURWILLUMBAH SERVICES CLUB 6.30PM **JADE STODDARD**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 5PM **MARK CROTTI**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH HOTEL 7PM **DJ NIGHT RIDER**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE SHOWROOM 8PM **SYDNEY COMEDY FESTIVAL SHOWCASE**

SATURDAY 23

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 8PM **HARRY NICHOLS BAND**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 8PM **MICKA SCENE DUO + DJ JAMIE LOWE**
- BYRON THEATRE 5PM & 8PM **SYDNEY COMEDY FESTIVAL SHOWCASE**
- NORTH BYRON HOTEL 1PM **BEN WHITING, 1.30PM TIAGO FREITAS**
- YOUTH ACTIVITY CENTRE (YAC), BYRON BAY, 7PM **STEREO – UNCANNY VALLEY EP LAUNCH FEAT. THE TIN HEADS, CALYPSO CORA AND CRUMBS IN THE BED**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 9PM **CENTRAL SONICS + DJ QUENDO**
- THE GREEN ROOM, BLUESFEST SITE, 6.30PM **THE CAT EMPIRE**
- MOLLER PAVILLION, BANGALOW SHOWGROUND 9AM **BANGALOW RECORD MARKET**
- BANGALOW HOTEL 4PM **PHANTOM LIMBZ**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 3PM **BRAZILIAN TROPICALIA**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 4PM & 7PM **CHEEKY CABARET**
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM **DJ MATTY P**

- DURRUMBUL HALL 6PM **SPRING WIGGLE – EQUINOX TRIBE CONNECT**
- CLUB LENNOX 7PM **FELICITY LAWLESS DUO**
- LENNOX HOTEL HOTEL STAGE 8.30PM **LENNOX GROOVE**
- BALLINA RSL BOARDWALK 6PM **NATHAN KAYE**
- THE LEVEE, LISMORE, 7PM **DAVEY BOB RAMSEY**
- METROPOLE, LISMORE, 7.30PM **GOOD MEDICINE + DJ ORION**
- MURWILLUMBAH LEAGUES CLUB 1PM **SPRING EQUINOX SPIRIT FEST**
- MURWILLUMBAH SERVICES CLUB 6.30PM **FIRE N ICE**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 5PM **TAHLIA MATHERSON**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE SHOWROOM 8PM **NEIL DIAMONDS HOT AUGUST NIGHT THE CONCERT**

SUNDAY 24

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 2PM **PASSPORT TO AIRLIE**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 4.30PM **BULLHORN + DJ REIFLEX + DJ QUENDO**
- NORTH BYRON HOTEL 4.30PM **ANIMAL VENTURA, 5PM DJ KAI NOON**
- KARKALLA, BYRON BAY, 5.30PM **JOE CONROY**
- THREE BLUE DUCKS, EWINGS DALE, 1.30PM **UPBEAT**
- YOU BEAUTY, BANGALOW, 3PM **RECORDS WITH FRIENDS**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 4PM **ALLENSWORTH**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 2PM **LIL' CHEEKY, 6PM CHEEKY CABARET**
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY, 3PM **OPEN MIC WITH THE SWAMP CATS**
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 3.30PM **DJ ROB SYDNEY**
- CLUB LENNOX 3PM **YOLAN**
- BALLINA RSL BOARDWALK 2.30PM **JAMIE ASHFORTH BAND**

- SHAW'S BAY HOTEL, BALLINA, 3PM **PUSH**
- ELTHAM HOTEL 2PM **MANDY HAWKES**
- THE LEVEE, LISMORE, 4PM **SOUL FISH**
- ALSTONVILLE PLATEAU BOWLO & SPORTS CLUB 3PM **STUKULELE'S 'STRUM 'N' SING'**
- MURWILLUMBAH CIVIC CENTRE 2.30PM **GOLD COAST CHAMBER ORCHESTRA – CLASSICAL GEMS**
- CITADEL, MURWILLUMBAH, 7PM **KYLE LIONHART + OLLIE TWHILL**
- CHINDERAH TAVERN 2PM **PINK ZINC**

MONDAY 25

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 8PM **LEIGH JAMES**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 4.30PM **CHRIS CAVILL**

TUESDAY 26

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 8PM **GUY KACHEL**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **DEVU**

WEDNESDAY 27

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 8PM **FELICITY LAWLESS**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **KANE MUIR DUO**
- BYRON THEATRE 10.30AM **SHORTY'S NEON SPLASH PARTY**
- BANGALOW BOWLO BANGALOW BRACKETS **OPEN MIC**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 6PM **SCREENING: LIVING IN THE TIME OF DYING**
- LISMORE CITY BOWLO 7PM **AUSTRALIAN SONGWRITERS ASSOCIATION WAX LYRICAL**
- METROPOLE, LISMORE, 7.30PM **COMEDY COMMUNE OPEN MIC**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 6.30PM **KINGY COMEDY – FEATURING JULIA WILSON**

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Session Times PALACE CINEMAS
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SPECIAL SCREENINGS DUMB MONEY (MATS-1) PREVIEW Fri: 8:30PM	BLUE BEETLE (M) NFT Daily: 3:45PM, 7:00PM	THE EQUALIZER 3 (MATS-1) Daily except Sun, Wed: 11:40AM, 7:00PM. Sun, Wed: 7:00PM
10 CORTI ITALIANI (CTC) ITALIAN FF SHORT FILMS Sun: 11:00AM	LAST FILM SHOW (M) Daily: 12:00PM	THE NUN II (M) Daily except Sun: 2:00PM, 7:30PM. Sun: 7:30PM
LA FENICE: SYMPHONY NO. 9 (CTC-1) Sun: 1:00PM Wed: 11:00AM	MY BIG FAT GREEK WEDDING 3 (PG) Daily: 1:30PM, 3:30PM, 5:30PM	FAMILY FILMS PAW PATROL: THE MIGHTY MOVIE (PG) NFT Daily except Sun: 11:30AM, 1:50PM, 4:00PM. Sun: 11:00AM, 1:50PM, 4:00PM
THE CREATOR (M) PREVIEW Wed: 6:30PM	OPPENHEIMER (MATS-1) Daily: 11:00AM, 6:30PM	RUBY GILLMAN, TEENAGE KRAKEN (PG) NFT Daily: 11:00AM, 1:00PM, 3:00PM, 6:00PM
ALL FILMS A HAUNTING IN VENICE (M) NFT Thurs, Sun, Mon, Tues: 1:45PM, 4:00PM, 6:20PM. Fri, Sat: 1:45PM, 4:00PM, 6:20PM, 8:30PM. Wed: 1:45PM, 4:00PM	PAST LIVES (M) Daily except Sat: 11:30AM, 2:15PM, 4:30PM, 6:15PM. Sat: 11:30AM, 2:15PM, 4:30PM, 6:15PM, 8:30PM	TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES: MUTANT MAYHEM (PG) Thurs, Fri, Sat, Sun: 11:15AM, 1:30PM, 3:45PM, 5:00PM Mon, Tues, Wed: 11:15AM, 3:45PM, 5:00PM
BARBIE (PG) Daily except Fri, Sat: 11:00AM, 1:30PM, 4:00PM, 7:15PM. Fri, Sat: 11:00AM, 1:30PM, 4:00PM, 7:15PM, 8:30PM	RETRIBUTION (M) NFT Daily except Fri, Sat: 2:30PM, 4:30PM, 6:30PM. Fri, Sat: 2:30PM, 4:30PM, 6:30PM, 8:00PM	SOUND OF FREEDOM (M) Daily: 4:20PM
	SCRAPPER (PG) Daily: 11:30AM	

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

Session Times Ballina Fair Cinema
Thurs 21 – Wed 27 September 47/84 Kerr St, Ballina

ALL MOVIES	PAW PATROL: THE MIGHTY MOVIE (PG) NFT Daily: 10:00AM, 11:45AM, 1:45PM	To receive the absolute lowest ticket price and special offers, be sure to join our Free Movie Club!
A HAUNTING IN VENICE (M) Daily: 4:45PM	RUBY GILLMAN, TEENAGE KRAKEN (PG) NFT Daily: 10:15AM, 12:15PM	
BARBIE (PG) Daily: 2:15PM, 6:00PM	TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES: MUTANT MAYHEM (PG) Daily: 9:45AM, 12:00PM	
BLUE BEETLE (M) Daily: 2:00PM	THE CREATOR (M) PREVIEW Wed: 6:30PM	
DUMB MONEY (MATS-1) PREVIEW Friday: 6:30PM	MY BIG FAT GREEK WEDDING 3 (PG) Daily except Fri, Wed: 4:30PM, 6:30PM Fri, Wed: 4:30PM	THE NUN II (M) Daily: 3:45PM, 7:00PM

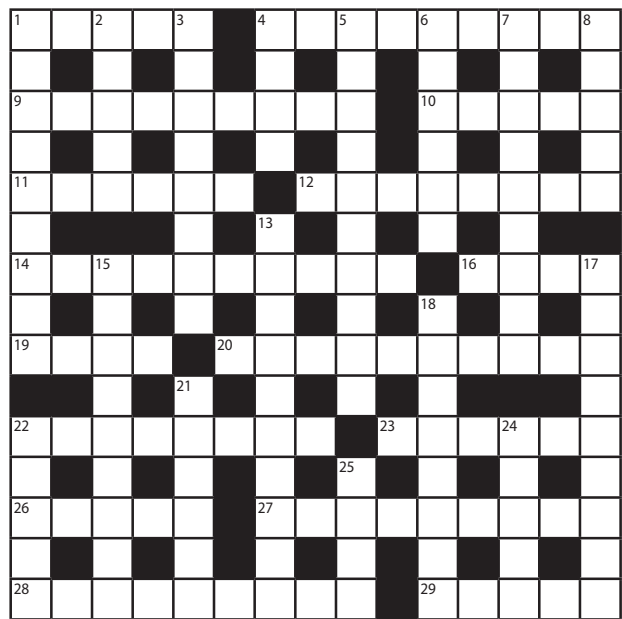
*NFT = No Free Tickets

Palace Cinemas is proud to be preserving Ballina's cherished community cinema, where we'll continue bringing exceptional movie experiences to the vibrant Ballina audience!

Ballina Fair Shopping Centre FREE parking Book Online at palacecinemas.com.au

PALACE CINEMAS

Mungo MacCallum's Crossword #509



Cryptic Clues

ACROSS

- Succeeded dead Indian princess – and territory (3,2)
- Footballers label English behind a platform for the performance of players (9)
- Mythical state where they hang liars peremptorily (7-2)
- Get out of bed for pay increases (5)
- Makes demands on former performances (6)
- Supervisors of a way with English municipal divisions (8)
- Spice provides vitality for every bit of bad humour (10)
- Pleased good boy (4)
- Shake Hudson (4)
- Herb needs rockmelon and marihuana... (10)
- ...melon is a substitute for a starchy staple (8)
- Tall narrow buildings bring on sweats – but not for everyone (6)
- Grabs and keeps (5)
- Adore Mac's tomato (4,5)
- Left Martin a line for representation (9)
- Prison sentences, or school periods? (5)

DOWN

- Princess's mood can be fatal for dogs (9)
- Work in the theatre for physician and her associates (5)
- Assembled to snatch that woman (8)
- Seethe the lump (4)
- Fry cocoa-based sweetmeats in dough, Spooner suggested to one who talks too much (10)
- Fasteners for prison warders (6)
- Gore arrives in one country from another (9)
- Englishman caught in rough seas, but relaxes (5)
- A script to hide 2 down (10)
- He controls the race – or the heart (9)
- Princess's flowers can be catastrophic (9)
- Urge the factory to produce aubergine (8)
- The final event is nearer (6)
- Get out of your chair and exercise (3,2)
- More mature queen follows the rent (5)
- Exist to back sin (4)

Quick Clues

ACROSS

- Accomplished the task (3,2)
- In the wings (9)
- Beautiful, imaginary place (7-2)
- Ascends (5)
- Compels (6)
- Flight attendants (8)
- A nominal amount paid as rental (10)
- Happy (4)
- Boulder (4)
- It adds citrus flavour in many Asian dishes (10)
- Coarse flour from durum wheat (8)
- Steeple (6)
- Film scenes in the making (5)
- Pomme d'amour (4,5)
- Depiction (9)
- The conditions that are part of an agreement (5)

DOWN

- Viral canine disease (9)
- Histrionics (5)
- Jointly (8)
- Carbuncle (4)
- Blabbermouth (10)
- Swindles (6)
- New Holland (9)
- Assuages (5)
- Scenario (10)
- Front-runner (9)
- Calamities (9)
- Melanzana (8)
- Alongside (6)
- Tummy crunch (3,2)
- Juicier (5)
- Wicked (4)

Last week's solution #508



www.echo.net.au/soap-box

Big Polluters are Getting Off

MANDY NOLAN'S SOAPBOX

Offsets don't work. They have become a licence to pollute. What we actually need is a reduction in carbon emissions, not carbon-emitting industries to greenwash their impact by investing in a solar farm or planting saplings. While it's nice to know that big polluters are keen to invest in green industry it would be better if they just stopped polluting. You know what's better than offsets?

Transition to non-carbon emitting solutions.

We are living in unprecedented times.

Climate change according to world experts is now out of control, and with data that shows average world temperatures the hottest on record it's clear we are moving towards catastrophe.

Climate change doesn't care about your offsets.

The temperature doesn't stop rising because a coal company has carbon offsets.

The whole concept of offsetting just seems nuts to me.

It's like an alcoholic who has a ginger beer once a week thinking that helps them get sober.

You can't offset alcoholism. You just have to stop.

Capitalism has nurtured emission-addicted climate denying corporations, who come home drunk. Every night. Then they buy us flowers.

It's like a cigarette company donating to a lung cancer charity every time some poor bastard buys their ciggies.

It's like setting fire to your suburb but sponsoring the fire service who have to put it out.



Climate change doesn't care about your offsets. The temperature doesn't stop rising because a coal company has carbon offsets.

90% of their rainforest offset credits – among the most commonly used by companies – are likely to be 'phantom credits' and do not represent genuine carbon reductions.

It's like being a paedophile who sponsors a child in Africa through World Vision.

All the good will in the world doesn't stop the *actual* harm. It doesn't assuage your guilt.

Why are we letting perpetrators of our own extinction, the corporations who steal from our children's future, offset their profits with their fuzzy, feel-good projects?

And why are we making the extractive villains the heroes in the story?

A story earlier this year in the *Guardian* stated that according to a new investigation, the forest carbon offsets approved by the world's leading certifier and used by Disney, Shell, Gucci and other big corporations are largely worthless and could make global heating worse.

Verra is the world's leading carbon standard for the voluntary offset market. The article reported that based on analysis of a significant percentage of the projects, more than

Sadly, that's no surprise. I don't have faith in extractive capital-driven corporations, who use their wealth to run roughshod over government and community, to do anything except refine and update ways to decimate the environment in return for their dirty blood-soaked billions.

Offsetting is what has been used to fool us into allowing coal companies to keep emitting.

They are criminals. The dirty emitters who foul the future.

Offsetting is what allows us to accept forest and old growth trees to be felled.

Don't worry, the developer is offsetting with some tree plantings.

Here's an offset idea I quite like. We live in a nation with enormous empty houses worth tens of millions. Maybe we just knock them down. And we can offset them.

With public housing.

STARS BY LILITH

With its natural balance of light and dark, this week's spring equinox announces the birthday month of Libra, sign of equilibrium...



LIBRA THE SCALES

ARIES: Aries don't tend to let herd mentality limit their thinking. But with the sun and Mars activating your opposite and complementary sign on the astro-wheel, being diplomatic and receptive to other peoples' ideas this week could help you broker more equitable deals at the negotiating table.

TAURUS: It's sometimes said that too much is only just enough for robust bulls. But with balance this week's celestial imperative, you might find it worth exploring the concept that less may actually be preferable to more: as in easier to manage, healthier, even perhaps more attractive.

GEMINI: Some astrologers consider it easier for a camel to dance through the eye of a needle than a Gemini to focus on just one thing. But you are the sign of twins, so decide which two things are most important this week, and focus on giving them both the highest priority.

CANCER: Been guarding that tender part of your heart? This week encourages you to speak up on the subject of love. Romantic love, family love, everyday love, unrequited love, tough love, unconditional love, love in all its many-splendored manifestations, contradictions and practical applications.

LEO: You know that slight problem your majesties sometimes have trying to synchronise those two archetypes, the lover and the fighter? This week they both delightfully combine into one dynamic superpower as vivacious Venus in Leo offers you some juicy opportunities to fight for love.

VIRGO: As planetary peristalsis relaxes from contraction into expansion, from lean and clean to why not enjoy more of life's pleasures, this week's star map recommends adding a little vino to the bean curd, a little social syncopation to your to-do list. Even, dare we say, a little artistic disarray.

LIBRA: Spring equinox ushering in Libra's birthday month is your cue to reset that sweet spot between business and pleasure, luxury and economy, efficiency and quality, discipline and spontaneity. This week's celestial energetics help you make some adjustments to enrich your life.

SCORPIO: If this week's trivial pursuits seem a touch lightweight for your Scorpionic intensity, Mars in the sign of giving things a fair go recommends keeping an open mind to different types of people you might not ordinarily consider. Take the time to listen and you might be surprised.

SAGITTARIUS: Had enough of culling and decluttering? Now Mercury's out of retrograde and the sun's moving from organisational to creative mode, this week's moon in Sagittarius suggests you could have more success with a problem by approaching it from a fresh perspective or entirely different angle.

CAPRICORN: It's an old astrological joke that Capricorns don't really enjoy social intercourse, and only fake it till they can get home to their own hermit company. Untrue of course, especially this week when you'll want to forsake the lure of the lone comfort zone for some simply irresistible socialising.

AQUARIUS: The current astrological constellation suggests it's time to carpe diem, to seize the day and make it pay. Even better, take it out to play. So enjoy the inviting entertainments on offer this week, and set more taxing, less appealing issues in the too hard basket for now.

PISCES: Some times are better for review and revision, others for shifting gear. In recent weeks minimalism reigned supreme, now the celestial pendulum swings towards elegance, artistry and beauty. This week asks how might you bring more style and grace into your working day and your personal life?

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51 TRISTANIA STREET, BANGALOW



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Price Guide: \$1,300,000-\$1,400,000 3 2 2
Open: Sat 23 Sept 9:15 to 9:45am 668m2

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A classic home offering peace and privacy



amir prestige

1 THOMPSON CRESCENT, EAST BALLINA

4 3 2

Disclaimer: * = approx.

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Both levels offer privacy for family members or overnight guests. On the ground floor there is a dream kitchen with quality appliances, open plan living and dining area that spills into a bright and breezy sunroom. The master bedroom has an oversized ensuite, 4th bedroom/study and a two car extra-large garage housing the newly renovated laundry with plenty of storage.

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Contact the Listing Agent

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oliver@amirprestige.com.au



amirprestige.com.au



20 TAYLORS LANE, EWINGSDALE

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with Endless Possibilities

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PRICE | Contact Agent
OPEN | Sat 23rd September 12-12:30pm

Scan QR code for more
details on this property



Helen Huntly-Barratt
0412 332 232



4/6 KEATS STREET, BYRON BAY

Newly Built Designer Home
in Desirable Location

🛏️ 4 🛋️ 2 🚿 3 🚗 3 🏠
387M²

PRICE | Contact Agent
OPEN | Sat 23rd September 10:30-11am

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Denzil Lloyd
0481 864 049



Maggie Kelly
0416 013 788



111 BURNETTS ROAD, NASHUA

Soulful Byron
Hinterland Retreat

🛏️ 8 🛋️ 4 🚿 9 🚗 8 🏠
2.35 HA

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
OPEN | By appointment

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Su Reynolds
0428 888 660



Luke Elwin
0421 375 635



15/58 ARMSTRONG STREET, SUFFOLK PARK

Owners instructions:
"This property must be sold!"

🛏️ 3 🛋️ 1 🚿 2 🚗 1

ONLINE TIMED AUCTION
ENDING | Thurs 28th September 12pm
STARTING BID | \$950,000
OPEN | Thurs 21st September 1-1:30pm
Sat 23rd September 11-11:30am

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register to follow this property



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12.09HA

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179 MAIN ARM ROAD, MULLUMBIMBY



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Convenience of Town Living

4 2 3 2
18210M²

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3/64 KINGSLEY STREET, BYRON BAY



Sunlit Apartment in Byron
Bay's Golden Grid

2 1 1 1

PRICE | \$1.295m - \$1.355m
OPEN | By appointment

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Su Reynolds
0428 888 660



Chris Hanley
02 6685 8466

7/6-8 NORLYN AVENUE, BALLINA



7/6-8 Norlyn Avenue

Fantastic Waterside
Two-Bedroom Apartment

2 1 1 1

PRICE | \$450,000
OPEN | By appointment

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WHY WAIT?

Ray White Byron Bay | 02 6685 6222

4 🚗 2 🚿 2 🚗 879 🏠

Sale
Expressions Of Interest
Closing Thursday 12 October



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

View
By Appointment



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

rwbyronbay.com



SALE

429 Wilsons Creek Road, Wilsons Creek

Perched above Mullumbimby, this charming home is set on two acres with stunning panoramic views of Mt. Chincogan and the Pacific Ocean. This character-filled home enjoys a relaxed atmosphere making it easy to unwind and entertain.

WHY WAIT?
Ray White Byron Bay | 02 6685 6222

3 🚗 2 🚿 2 🚗 8093 🏠



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



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

rwbyronbay.com



AUCTION

13 Argyle Street, Mullumbimby

Discover the charm of this Mullumbimby gem! Solid timber frames, hardwood floors, and future development potential (STCA). Motivated seller! Enjoy Mount Chincogan views, a spacious shed, and more. Your vintage-modern home awaits! Schedule a viewing today!

WHY WAIT?
Ray White Byron Bay | 02 6685 6222

3 🚗 1 🚿 3 🚗 797m² 🏠

Auction
Fri 6 Oct 2:30pm onsite



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

View
Sat 16 Sept 11-11.30am
or by appointment



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

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31 RIVER STREET

MACLEAN

3 2 3

1,472 SQM

SPACIOUS HOME WITH AWESOME RIVER VIEWS

- Big three-bedroom home
- Impressive hardwood timber floors
- Additional sleeping accommodation downstairs
- Rumpus and study
- Large shed with three bay carports
- Large block, fenced with side access

AUCTION - MACLEAN AUCTION ROOM
Thursday, 5 October, 6:30 pm

VIEW
Saturday 12:00 pm - 12:30 pm

AGENT
Travis McConnell 0407 450 007
Scott Johnson 0484 852 222

LJ Hooker Maclean 66452222
229 River Street

81 WITONGA DRIVE

YAMBA

4 2 2

888 SQM

EXCLUSIVE WATERFRONT RESIDENCE

81 Witonga Drive is one of Yamba's premier waterfront homes, with a range of fantastic features and boasting a stunning location overlooking the water, with easy access to the main arm of the Clarence River. It offers the perfect blend of comfort and convenience for those seeking a premium, waterfront, lifestyle property.

AUCTION
Saturday, 7 October, 12pm
(unless sold prior).

VIEW
By appointment or attend the upcoming OPEN HOME on Saturday, 12 - 12:30pm

AGENT
Angus Suttor 0436 006 717

LJ Hooker Maclean 66452222
229 River Street



13 SUNSET CLOSE

ASHBY

6 4 3

1.5 HECTARES

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Welcome to 13 Sunset Close Ashby, a magnificent high-end property nestled on an elevated parcel of land with breath taking views. Prepare to be swept away by the stunning vistas of The Clarence River, The Broadwater and the lower reaches of The Great Dividing Range, stretching out as far as the eye can see.

AUCTION
Saturday, 14 October, 11:30am

VIEW
By Appointment or Open Homes on Saturday 10 - 11am until Auction

AGENT
Angus Suttor 0436 006 717

LJ Hooker Maclean 66452222
229 River Street

1068 SOUTH ARM RD

SOUTH ARM

3 1 5

1,068 SQM

WOODFORD ISLAND LIVING ON THE CLARENCE RIVER

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AUCTION - MACLEAN AUCTION ROOM
Thursday, 5 October, 6:30 pm

VIEW
Saturday 1- 1:30 pm

AGENT
Travis McConnell 0407 450 007

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229 River Street



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*(approx.)

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Account enquiries phone 6684 1777.

DEADLINE TUES 12PM

Publication day is Wednesday, booking deadlines are the day before publication.

RATES & PAYMENT

LINE ADS:

\$17.00 for the first two lines

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\$17 for two lines is the minimum charge.

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per column centimetre

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PUBLIC NOTICES



South Ballina Beach: fox and wild dog control to protect priority threatened species

The Department of Planning and Environment - Crown Lands is running a targeted Fox-baiting program at South Ballina beach using sodium fluoroacetate products, also known as '1080' baiting. Baiting will be done from **Monday 25 September 2023** until **Monday 18 December 2023** on Crown land (Lot 7303 DP 1163711 – including the beach and some dunes) between Boundary Creek Road in the south and Richmond River Nature Reserve in the north. Departmental contractors will place 1080 baiting signs at all beach entrances along the beach where baits have been laid.

The program aims to protect the breeding of threatened shorebirds by strategically managing Fox pests – which is a priority action of the NSW Fox Threat Abatement Plan.

Keep dogs and pets safe

During and after 1080 fox baiting, visitors to Crown land between Boundary Creek Road in the south and Richmond River Nature Reserve in the north should keep domestic dogs on a leash and prevent them from eating any unknown items on the ground. Muzzling your dog while in the area can help prevent accidental poisoning. If you suspect your dog has taken a 1080 bait, contact your vet immediately.

For more information, call DPE - Crown Lands on 1300 886 235.



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The work tends to suit a semi-retired or underemployed person/couple who just want a reliable job to do at their own pace at the same time every week. The successful applicants will have an ABN, a reliable vehicle, a strong throwing arm, and it's normally more lucrative if you live near the distribution area. They will collect the papers/inserts from Ballina (before 7am) or Mullumbimby (7.30-8am) or Byron A&I Estate (around 10am) on Wednesday and will have delivered all the papers by 6pm Wednesday. Suit mature or stable person. Commencing asap. Email simon@echo.net.au or phone/text 0409324724

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Contact Craig 02 6684 2484

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MUSICAL NOTES

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BIRTHDAYS



HAPPY BIRTHDAY GLORIOUS ZIGGI...
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Happy Birthday to the Echo's very own rocket scientist!!
Love from the Echo crew

Happy Birthday to the Echo's very own rocket scientist!!
Love from the Echo crew



Happy 10th Birthday Indigo.
Lots of love from Mum, Dad & Marli xxx

DEATH NOTICES

PHIL TOWNSEND
5 Jan 1959 - 12 Sept 2023



A much loved gentle giant has left the building. He had a penchant for fast cars, motorbikes, rock and roll and lingerie. He despised tofu. He was an unashamed Sydney Westie, a long term Byron resident and he was born to be wild.

He is survived by his kids Hayley and Dennis, his sister Jane and countless adoring and heartbroken fans. He will be sorely missed by everyone who was lucky enough to know him.

Life is short. Find happiness where you can.

In memory of my Dad WAYNE HAMMOND
19.9.1952-8.8.2023



Passed away on 8 August, sadly and suddenly. Always in my heart.

Thinking of you and missing you, Dad.

Love always, Anthea.

IN MEMORIAM

Herb Jefferson
"Jefferson Flyer"
27/06/1942-06/09/2023



It is with great sadness and heavy hearts we share the news that Herb passed away peacefully at his home at the age of 81. Herb lived a full life of fun and adventure, racing bikes, travelling the world, surfing, and settling in Broken Head. He was much loved and would spend his time telling a lifetime of stories, having a laugh, sharing a coffee or sometimes a sneaky sake or beer. Herb will forever be in our hearts and will be dearly missed.

All are welcome to attend a memorial service to celebrate Herb's life at the Byron Bay Golf Club from 2pm on the 27th of September.

Please RSVP to bjefferson@gmail.com by the 24th.

LIFE CELEBRATIONS

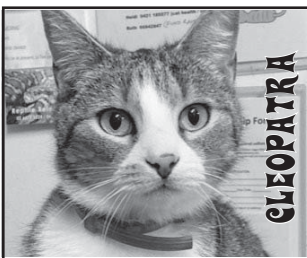
Richard Daw

Passed away unexpectedly at home. Loved father of Michael, David, Naomi, Philip and Tabitha. Richard will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

Family and friends are invited to attend a celebration of Richard's life to be held at the South Golden Beach Hall, Pacific Esplanade, South Golden Beach on Thursday (September 21, 2023) commencing at 2.30 pm.

Michael Currie at Brunswick Valley Funerals Mullumbimby

PET



Cleopatra is the absolute perfect package. She's a super friendly girl and so very pretty. She'd love a forever home where she is adored and cherished and made to feel like the Queen that she truly is. To meet Cleopatra & our other cats & kittens, please visit the Cat Adoption Centre at 124 Dalley Street, Mullumbimby.

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

SUN, MOON & TIDES

- TIMES FOR NEXT 2 WEEKS

DATE (Sept/Oct)	DAY, MOON PHASE	SUN RISE / SET	MOON RISE / SET	HIGH TIDES, height (m)	LOW TIDES, height (m)
20	W	5:38 17:40	8:19 22:26	1128 1.45 2318 1.15	0440 0.31 1733 0.52
21	TH	5:37 17:41	8:59 23:29	1216 1.43	0515 0.36 1839 0.58
22	F	5:36 17:41	9:47 23:29	0008 1.04 1318 1.41	0600 0.42 2008 0.60
23	SA	5:35 17:42	10:43 0:33	0124 0.95 1439 1.43	0707 0.47 2143 0.55
24	SU	5:33 17:42	11:47 1:33	0301 0.94 1600 1.51	0835 0.47 2257 0.44
25	M	5:32 17:43	12:56 3:19	0428 1.02 1708 1.62	1000 0.40 2350 0.32
26	TU	5:31 17:43	14:07 3:19	0532 1.14 1804 1.72	1108 0.30
27	W	5:30 17:44	15:18 4:01	0626 1.27 1854 1.79	0034 0.21 1206 0.19
28	TH	5:29 17:44	16:27 4:40	0715 1.40 1939 1.81	0115 0.12 1300 0.12
29	F	5:27 17:45	17:35 5:16	0800 1.52 2021 1.75	0152 0.07 1349 0.09
30	SA	5:26 17:45	18:41 5:50	0845 1.60 2101 1.65	0228 0.05 1439 0.11

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS BEGINS 1 OCT 2:00AM

1	SU	6:25 18:46	20:48 7:24	1030 1.65 2240 1.49	0403 0.06 1629 0.19
2	M	6:24 18:46	21:54 8:00	1115 1.66 2319 1.32	0438 0.11 1720 0.29
3	TU	6:23 18:47	23:00 8:40	1159 1.63 2358 1.15	0513 0.19 1816 0.40
4	W	6:21 18:47	9:24	1245 1.56	0547 0.29 1921 0.51

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

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

AMBULANCE, FIRE, POLICE 000

AMBULANCE Mullumbimby & Byron Bay 131 233

POLICE Brunswick Heads 6629 7510
Mullumbimby..... 6629 7570
Byron Bay 6685 9499
Bangalow..... 6629 7500

STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE
Storm & tempest damage, flooding 132 500

BRUNSWICK VALLEY RESCUE
Primary rescue 6685 1999

BRUNSWICK MARINE RADIO TOWER
6685 0148

BYRON CENTRAL HOSPITAL 6639 9400

BYRON COUNCIL: EMERGENCY
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Meets daily 6680 7280

NORTHERN RIVERS GAMBLING
SERVICE 6687 2520

HIV/AIDS - ACON
Confidential testing & information 6622 1555

ANIMAL RESCUE (DOGS & CATS)
6622 1881

NORTHERN RIVERS WILDLIFE
CARERS 6628 1866

KOALA HOTLINE 6622 1233
WIRES - NSW Wildlife Information & Rescue Service 6628 1898

Bangalow wins men's premiership grand final

The Bangalow Blue Dogs have won the 2023 premiership league football grand final with a 3-2 win over Byron Bay last Saturday afternoon in Bangalow.

Byron Bay jumped out of the blocks, taking advantage of opportunities in the first half and went to the break with a 2-0 lead.

'We didn't take our chances in the first half, but they did. To be honest we were in shock,' Bangalow coach Joel Rudgley said. 'We used the break to reset and fix a few things, make sure we were doing the simple things well.'

Bangalow went on to score three unanswered goals and take the game.

The second half from the Bangalow side 'was as good as we've been all season. Byron didn't have an answer,' Joel said.

'It was very satisfying as the coach and really good for the boys. Byron have been our nemesis over the last



Bangalow got the last laugh over Byron Bay winning the grand final 3-2 last weekend. Photo supplied

few years, so to finally turn it around was very satisfying.'

There was more bad news for the Byron Bay Football Club as their championship league side also lost their grand final, losing 4-3 to the Richmond Rovers.

Womens football

The Lennox Head Football Club had teams competing in the grand finals of the top two grades of local women's football.

But the premiership

league side had to take on last year's champions and this year's minor premiers Alstonville, at Alstonville. It was a tough, close game and despite beating Alstonville two weeks ago, they couldn't repeat the result.

Alstonville won 1-0. But there was joy for Lennox Head in the women's second grade where their minor premiership-winning side went on to dominate the grand final beating Dunoon United 3-0.

Local footballer selected for Australian School Boys

Ballina Coast High School student Jacob Carre has been selected to tour with the Australian School Boys side after a successful run at the All Schools National U/18 competition.

Jacob was joined by Byron Bay High School's Aaron Spry when they competed at the All Schools Nationals in Sydney during August. Both players are members of Byron Bay Football Club.

In Sydney they represented the NSW Combined High School team that played games against Queensland, South Australia and the ACT.

'The boys agreed, the skill level and intensity of playing against the best 18-year-olds in the country was something they will never forget,' Aaron's mum Michelle Spry said. 'They learnt a lot about what it takes to compete at the highest level of school-boy football.'



Aaron Spry (L) and Jacob Carre took on the country's best U/18 footballers in Sydney last month. Photo supplied

'Jacob is a striker and after scoring four goals over the tournament, was rewarded by being selected in the National School Boys U/18 Team to tour England and Ireland in 2024.'

The journey started at the grass roots level with both players being selected to represent public schools, and then eventually in to the NSW Combined High School

team that included the best players from Catholic and independent schools as well.

'Many of the players that competed at the Nationals are already tied to major clubs and have huge training schedules. Aaron and Jacob brought raw talent,' Michelle said.

'Jacob is obviously delighted and very excited,' she said.

Basketballers head to the Cavanbah Centre for carnival

Byron Bay Basketball Association held their senior carnival at the Cavanbah Centre last weekend in preparation for hosting Sunshine Conference games this week.

'It was a much smaller carnival this year, team numbers were down, but we still had players from Melbourne, Tasmania, Brisbane and the Sunny Coast,' Byron Bay's Jenny Ogle said.

'They come to meet old friends every year and all teams went away saying they love coming to this carnival and will be back next year.'

'The winning women's team was the Rimshots while the Rusty Trombones took out the men's category.'

'The Rimshots won the carnival for the third year running. They played our less experienced Byron Beez



The Rimshots and the Byron Beez celebrate after their final. Photo supplied

team who were playing for the first time together.

'They showed a great team effort over the whole weekend winning three out of four games to get to the finals.'

'The Trombones once again showed up in numbers to support this event, taking the win from our local team the Spangled Drongos by a

winning margin of 44-32.'

The major senior basketball competition in the Northern Rivers, the Sunshine Conference, got underway earlier this month.

The Byron Bay team has won both of its opening games, beating the Valley Braves Black 94-75 and then taking a 88-87 victory over the Coffs Harbour Suns.

This weekend the men have a double header taking on the Valley Braves on Saturday and then the Ballina Breakers on Sunday.

The Byron Bay women Beez have their first game of the season on Sunday at 11am against the Ballina Breakers.

All the action is at the Cavanbah Centre.

Calling all local cricketers

The start of a new cricket season is fast approaching so new and returning players are welcome at the Byron Bay, and other local, cricket clubs.

Junior competition season is starting on Saturday 14 October.

'We run a learning cricket program on Wednesday afternoons for beginners and also have an U/12 team in the Saturday morning competition,' Byron Bay Cricket Club's Jason Trisley said.

'This season we are also hoping to field an U/11s team that will play after school games, home and away against local clubs,' he said.

Seniors

Senior cricket competition across at least three grades

will start on 7 October.

Players of all abilities are also welcome to join their local clubs that include Ballina, Byron Bay, Lennox Head, Ballina, East Tintenbar-Ballina, Alstonville and Mullumbimby-Brunswick Heads.

For more information contact your local club via websites, Facebook or Jason directly on 0488 996166.

Send us your sport stories!

We would love to run all kinds of local sport on these pages so please send your photos and stories to sport@echo.net.au.

CALLING ALL SPORTS

The Echo wants to support you.

Please send stories, pics, match reports, upcoming events, tall tales (not too tall mind you), results and anecdotes to sport@echo.net.au.



Record Buy & Sell Market

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The artwork for the Adventures of Edward Herring, which concluded last week in *The Echo*, was provided by local author and illustrator Stephen Axelsen, who also drew Edward in the early days of the newspaper.

■■■■■
 Mandala Diehl from the Federal Community Children's Centre says someone has taken the large love heart from their front gate. 'To do this they had to have special tools,' says Mandala. 'We designed the loveheart gate to create a welcoming entrance for the children and families. We are heartbroken someone would do this to a not-for-profit centre that is committed to community'. Anyone with any information can contact the school on 6688 4371.



Jesus, would you look at the time?

■■■■■
 The next Plan C Facing Up event will screen *Living in the Time of Dying* by Michael Shaw and Michelle Walter on Wednesday, September 27 from 5.30pm at the Brunswick Picture House. This will be followed by a conversation with Richard Hil and then Q&A. Organisers say, 'As a trauma-informed event, we're mindful of the challenges that such conversations present.'

We'll be there, side-by-side alongside you, listening to and supporting each other as we envision a life worth living; a life of connection, bonding, and ecological wisdom and compassion'. Tickets available from: <https://tinyurl.com/2b7kjw6z>. For more info visit www.livinginthetime-ofdying.com.

■■■■■
 Anti-establishment UK commentator/comedian, Russell Brand, has been accused of historical rape, which he strenuously denies. Interesting that BBC ran with the story, despite no one contacting the police over the matter prior.

■■■■■
 Correction to last week's page 3 story, Hands On Learning Project at Mullumbimby High School. The full names in the photo were Finn Brittain, Taylor Simpson, facilitator/teacher Lachlan Humphreys, Uncle Scotty, James Ward and Rocco Jones.

■■■■■
 What's the odds that we just experienced the warmest three months on the planet in over 100,000 years... until next year?

■■■■■
 NSW Greens MP, Sue Higinson, says the Labor government's announcement around the Great Koala National Park has revealed that '58 per cent of the reported koala population within the area of the proposed park will not be protected from logging operations, and that the plan to create the park has been delayed until 2025'.

■■■■■
 'Clothes make the man. Naked people have little or no influence in society' - Mark Twain.



Taylor Miller reads *The Echo*, even in Venice! Photo @emicataldi

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