

# Echo

DESPITE THE HIGH COST OF LIVING IT REMAINS POPULAR  
The Byron Shire Echo • Volume 38 #50 • May 22, 2024 • www.echo.net.au



With this issue!

## Flood recovery agency update

Hans Lovejoy

The most recent data from the Resilient Homes Program (buybacks, house raising and retrofits), administered by the NSW Reconstruction Authority (RA), shows Byron Shire has just three buyback purchases completed, as of May 10, 2024.

Byron Shire also has had six buyback offers approved, six buyback offers accepted, and four buyback contracts issued.

The overwhelming majority of offers approved, accepted, contracts issued and completed purchases are in Lismore, with Tweed and Richmond coming in behind. In Lismore, 311 three buyback purchases have been completed.

### Online stats removed

Without notice, RA has removed its online Resilient Homes Program dashboard that provided the public with stats on how the program was progressing.

The Echo asked RA why it was removed, and a spokesperson replied, 'The RA regularly updates these figures in various channels including the Community Leaders Forum, the RA's Community Update and in responses to media enquiries.'

The program was initially presented to cabinet at a cost of \$1.5b, yet after flood mapping was released, the figure was halved.

This is despite thousands of flood-affected residents making applications in good faith.

Local MP Tamara Smith previously told The Echo she expects very few people in Byron Shire to be eligible for the programs.

■ See page 7 story.

## Bangalow's all downhill from here



On Sunday, around 5,000 people headed to Bangalow to enjoy the Billycart Derby, a popular yearly attraction for the town. Greg Nash, Bangalow Lions Club President, told The Echo that it was a 'glorious autumn day, and after all the rain we've had, we were very grateful to the weather gods - it made the day'. The Billycart Derby ran in conjunction with the Bangalow Primary School Pitstop Carnival which was also a runaway success. Photo Jeff 'René Des-Billi-Cartes' Dawson

## Homelessness service funded – but only for a year

With 2024 Street Count data indicating a 16 per-cent increase in rough sleepers in Byron Shire, the NSW government has responded to say that the previously-announced Assertive Outreach team will receive \$1.3m in funding for a year.

Mayor Michael Lyon said he was 'gutted' to find out Byron Shire had, for the second year in a row, topped the 2024 NSW Street Count

with the most rough sleepers.

The NSW government announced the outreach service on October 12, 2023, yet there was scant information around the project at the time.

Tuesday's media release from Minister for Homelessness Rose Jackson says, 'Homes NSW has partnered with local service providers Social Futures and Momentum Collective to form the new cross-agency

team, delivering intensive case management and outreach patrols to drive down homelessness'

### Patrols started in March

'The approach is based on the successful Tweed Assertive Outreach model, which employs staff with expertise in complex case management.

'The group started the first of its

regular Assertive Outreach patrols in the Byron area in March 2024.'

Ms Jackson says it is in addition to \$11m pegged for homelessness services in the region for 2023-24.

The Echo asked the office of Labor MP Rose Jackson why the funding was only for a year, considering the success of the Tweed program. A reply will be published if received.

Dissolving into the universe with a toad  
▶ p4

Plan your death  
▶ p7

Legal system fails to keep kids safe  
▶ p8

Dust off your pleasure craft for the Mullum to Bruns paddle ▶ p18

Check out a world of arts and industry  
▶ p20



# BYRON REWARDS

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## Crazy capers continue this week



Cathy Toka, Caper Fest Creative Director Abbie Gibson, and Cheryl Gurski, with the Versace Boys at The Brunswick Picture House, just before the doors opened for Rock The Casbah, one of the many events at the Caper Festival. Caper Festival continues all this week – see last week's *Echo* for program details or visit [www.caperbyronbay.com](http://www.caperbyronbay.com). Photo Jeff 'Camels In Tow' Dawson

## Secret MoU adopted for flood co-operation

Mayor Michael Lyon downplayed the secrecy surrounding his request that councillors support a non-binding memorandum of understanding (MoU) with flood recovery agencies and the body that represent local councils, the Northern Rivers Joint Organisation (NRJO), at last week's Council meeting.

The mayor told the chamber his intention was to make it public, yet it was a confidential document at the time of adoption by councillors.

Greens Cr Duncan Dey was the only dissenting vote opposing the *Northern Rivers Compact*, saying he couldn't support it as 'the public knows nothing of

it, and it doesn't need our endorsement'.

The mayor described its as a 'vanilla document' which was coming before the NRJO. 'The NSW Reconstruction Authority (RA) have a huge funding presence here in region... this is about us all working together in a non-binding way'.

## Byron Shire roads update

The Rifle Range Road intersection upgrade has begun in Bangalow, says Council staff, after a false start last month.

The works include widening Lismore Road, drainage upgrades, new bus bays and shelters on both Lismore Road and Rifle Range Road 'and beautiful new shared paths connecting the bus bays to Tristania Street'.

Meanwhile, resident Scott Tulloch contacted *The Echo* to say that the Saint Helena

Road at McLeods Shoot has been 'close to undrivable' for the last three months.

'We have witnessed three cars over the edge, only to be saved by tree stumps otherwise they would end up in Ewingsdale'.

Director, Infrastructure Services, Phil Holloway told *The Echo*, 'St Helena Road will be addressed with funding received via Immediate Restoration Works following April's rain event.

'This funding has just come through, and works should happen within the next six weeks (weather dependent)'.

Regarding a new patch of road that is failing on Prince Street in Mullum (near the pod village), Mr Holloway says 'further geotechnical investigations are expected in the coming weeks to determine the underlying issues'.

Visit [www.byron.nsw.gov.au](http://www.byron.nsw.gov.au) for more info.

## Five hours spent last Thursday

Hans Lovejoy

If you need a fix of local government decision-making, you could dip into the odd five-hour online recording of what occurred at last Thursday's Council meeting.

Or, you could peruse this; a brief summary of selected big ticket items:

### Dual occ deferred

Councillors voted to defer the decision around a detached dual occupancy at 541 Federal Drive, Federal over landslip concerns.

The successful amendment by Greens Cr Sarah Ndiaye will ask the proponent to relocate the dwelling 50 to 80 metres 'to avoid land slip areas and the water bore/well'.

During debate, Cr Mark Swivel said he wanted to 'instil and preserve certainty in the process' and rely on expert advice 'where no alternative advice is provided'.

Greens Cr Duncan Dey's motion to support staff advice was voted down. Instead Crs Balson, Westheimer, Ndiaye, Dey and Pugh voted in favour. Crs Swivel and Mayor Michael Lyon voted against the amendment.

### Push for more accessible beaches

Councillors unanimously voted to develop a plan to provide fully accessible beach access on all Byron Shire beaches.

Greens councillor Duncan Dey's motion states it will seek to provide upgrades at 'three beaches with lifeguard services and one dog beach within the next three years'.

A budget of \$20,000 will be allocated 'to facilitate engineering and environmental studies'.

It followed morning



Byron Council HQ. Photo Hans Lovejoy

access, where surfing champ, Pauline Menczer, told councillors there are over 5,000 people living with a disability in the Shire.

'Beaches are not accessible for them', she said. 'The message is that they are not as valued as those who can access the beach'.

She also highlighted the dangerous potholes in Bruns, which are a especially a danger for those with a disability using their vehicles.

A meeting with Reflections Holidays Parks is requested, and staff will explore 'any available federal and state funding streams for accessibility upgrades'. Crs Alan Hunter and Sarah Ndiaye were not present for the vote.

### Flood study motion unsupported

There was no appetite from any councillor to second Cr Dey's motion to ask staff to investigate solutions for the flood-prone area east of Mullumbimby.

While staff say they have no budget for the project, Cr Dey described his motion as a simple pilot project to get an understanding of how stormwater behaves, and the resulting template could apply to other larger projects such as Byron's CBD.

During morning access, residents asked councillors why nothing has been done to alleviate the issue.

Resident for 20 years,

Amelia, said she was gob-smacked at the inaction.

'An elderly man told us he used to be able to jump into the creek, now you can stand in it. Why are our drains looking shabby and the drains so shallow? Why is there no funding? Isn't this important?'

Henry Stenning told councillors that he owns one of the properties that the Council drain traverses, and said it 'was regularly cleaned out, but that stopped a few years ago'.

'We are willing to provide an easement to Council if it is piped, which requires little or no maintenance'. He suggested a flood gate at Kings Creek. 'This would mean two landowners would be left to negotiate with'.

### Gaggin St DA refused

The elderly owners of a Gaggin Street property in New Brighton have had their plans for alterations and additions to a dwelling refused. Earlier in public access, a neighbour claimed unauthorised works were undertaken with 'wilful disregard for the role of EPA and Council'. Town planner and former councillor, Sol Ibrahim, argued on behalf of the proponent, saying it was not contrary to Council approvals, and said the staff report around encroachments was incorrect. Crs Lyon, Dey, Swivel, Westheimer, Balson and Pugh voted in favour of refusal, while Crs Hunter and Ndiaye voted against.

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# Rally demands action over Gaza

As the crisis in Gaza continues to escalate, a march through Byron's streets last Saturday demanded immediate action from the Australian Labor government to stop the genocide and mass starvation of the Palestinian civilian population in Gaza.

Organisers say the protest was under the banner of 'unity and solidarity' and featured impassioned speakers, live music, t-shirt printing and a fair trade stall.

Speakers and musicians include Nasser Mashni (APAN), Remah Naji (Justice for Palestine), Subhi Awad (NRFOP), Juman (Palestinian singer), Lucy Gallant, Immuna Flo, and Ella Bancroft.

A Northern Rivers Friends of Palestine spokesperson said, 'We stand firmly for equal rights for all people,



Saturday's rally also demanded that federal Labor stop the Australian weapons trade with Israel. Photo Dean Jefferys

and any form of discrimination and hate speech will not be tolerated. Let's remember

our shared purpose: alleviating the suffering of innocent people facing grave danger.

Through our collective advocacy, we can make a difference and save lives'.

# New attractions for Mullum2Brunns Paddle

There's new free activities to enjoy at Banner Park in Brunswick Heads after this year's Mullum2Brunns Paddle, which will be held this Sunday, May 26, from 9.30am till 2.30pm.

Paddlers are still encouraged to register for the family day event by Saturday - visit [www.mullum2brunspaddle.com.au](http://www.mullum2brunspaddle.com.au) for more info.

Organisers say the finish line will again be at Prue's Point, just past Massy Greene Holiday Park.

The Mullumbimby Giants junior under 16 rugby league team will be looking after craft at Memorial Park.

They say, 'Banner Park for the first time will be the

site for the presentation of awards as well as live music, fun activities and information stalls'.

'From 9.30am to 2.30pm, free shuttle buses provided by CDC NSW and Mullumbimby Ex-Services Club will run from the bus stop near the visitor centre in Park Street to take paddlers back to Mullumbimby.

'For the first time, you can experience a taste of the B3 fitness and recovery options offered by Social Remedy, including an ice bath and compression boots in a dedicated space at Banner Park.

'Have a try yourself, or find out all about their soon

to be launched facility'.

'The much-loved Spaghetti Circus team is offering a free circus play space between 11am and 1pm, where children can try stilt walking, hula hoops, tumbling, parachute play and more under the watchful eye of the experts.

## Kids circus, face painting, art

'Inside the housie shed, Ocean Pearl will be painting beautiful faces for free between 10am and 12pm and running free arts and crafts between 9.30am and 12.30pm. 'A new feature of the

Mullum2Brunns Paddle is the Mullum Cares 'wash instead of waste' initiative. Sasha and her team are encouraging everyone to use the plates and cups provided and take them to the wash station next to the Information tent.

'Let's Go Surfing are running their traditional free stand-up paddle workshop during the day and Vision Walks Eco-Tours will spark your interest in a great range of local wildlife experiences'.

There are prizes on offer and the day is a fundraiser for the Brunswick Surf Club, Marine Rescue Brunswick and the Brunswick Heads Visitor Centre.

# Mullum SEED Eco Hub gets \$600k

A \$600,000 federal grant for the community facilities at the Mullumbimby Sustainability Education and Enterprise Development Inc (Mullum SEED Eco Hub) will see new facilities, including a Men's Shed, environmental centre, performance stage and a commercial kitchen.

Local Labor MP, Justine Elliot, made the announcement last week and says the federal funding will be delivered under Round 1 of the Growing Regions Program.

'I'm proud, as your strong voice in the Albanese Labor government to be delivering this important funding for

Mullum SEED Eco Hub.

'This funding from the Albanese Labor government will allow Mullum SEED to grow and expand the important, wonderful work they do for the environment and the community.

'Mullum SEED supports not-for-profit organisations and projects that protect and enhance our natural environment.

'What grew out of Mullumbimby Community Garden later became Mullum SEED, and from the very beginning I've been a big supporter of the work they do for the environment and the community', said Mrs Elliot.

# Byron biz digs in for BayFM

The Byron business community gathered at Fishheads for their new menu launch and a fundraiser for Bay FM last week, with \$1,360 being raised for the independent radio station.

Executive officer, Izzy Durbin, says the morning provided a unique opportunity for local businesses to connect and foster relationships within the community.

Fishheads owner, Ralph Mamone, said, 'Collaborating with the Byron Bay Chamber of Commerce enhanced our reach and strengthened our community's business network.'

Nick Mercer, Bay FM member and co-host of Beats n' Business show added, 'We are immensely



From left: Diego Trigo, Erle Astrup, Mindy Woods and Moni Jowsey. Photo Lyn McCarthy/Niche Pictures.

thankful for the support from Fishheads and the local business community. This contribution will help us continue our work and deepen our

community engagement'.

This Thursday from 6pm, the Chamber will hold its quarterly open forum board meeting at the Byron RSL.

# Fired out of a cannon into the heart of God

Dean Jefferys' new doco sees him dissolve into creation with the whales, the sun and toad DMT

Hans Lovejoy

Are you ready to explore the secrets of the universe through the use of the most powerful psychedelic known to humankind?

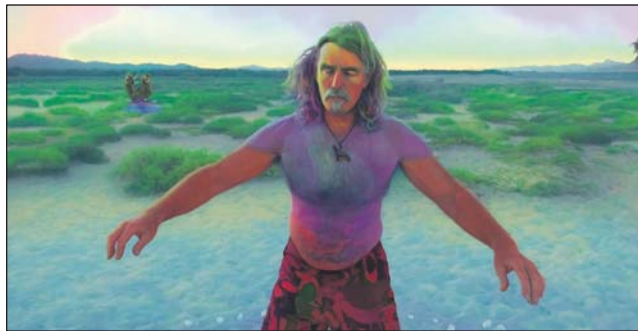
And what role do whales and the sun have in humans' evolution away from conflict and fear?

Psychonaut Dean Jefferys has laboured for the last eight years on his new documentary, *The Toad, The Whale, And The Sun*, and will be screening the world premiere at the Byron Bay Community Centre on May 31 from 5pm, with another screening directly after at 8pm.

Jefferys has combined two passions – the first is his long association with exploring spirituality through mind-altering substances – this includes numerous visits to the Amazon over the last 32 years to learn about and experience the shamanic ayahuasca ceremony.

Twenty-five years ago, he released his doco, *Shamans of the Amazon*.

Secondly, he's known as an avid sailor, who sails his *Migaloo 2* yacht and raises awareness around whaling



From Dean Jefferys' new doco: *The Toad The Whale And The Sun*. Image supplied

and marine conservation through his activism.

And the sun?

He says, 'We wouldn't be here without it. It channels energies from the galaxy, and reflects them to Earth and gives us energetic upgrades.'

He says the doco 'explores my vision that the psychedelic toads, the whales and the sun are offering insights to humanity in this critical time of a quantum shift in consciousness.'

Yet tampering with one's slim grip on the physical realm has its dangers – as with all psychedelics – and Jefferys is quick to point out that the psychedelic toad ceremony is not a path for everyone.

5 MeO-DMT is regarded as the 'God molecule', and

comes from glands of the Sonoran desert toad in Mexico, called *Bufo alvarius*.

Jefferys says, '5 MeO-DMT is also made in a laboratory, and many are choosing to take the pressure off the toad.'

'It's a close cousin of the cane toad', he says of the *Bufo alvarius*. 'It's been described as 100 times stronger than ayahuasca', he says, 'and is known to break down the illusion of the ego. It's not like N,N-DMT from the ayahuasca brew. 5 MeO-DMT doesn't have strong psychedelic visuals, or pretty patterns. Instead, you dissolve completely into creation.'

'Some describe the experience like being fired out of a cannon into the heart of God.'

## Experienced facilitator essential

Jefferys says, 'If people fight the experience, resistance can be problematic. So having a trusted and experienced facilitator with this ceremony is essential.'

Jefferys emphasised that the toad ceremony is not like kambo, which is burning poisonous secretions from the Amazonian tree frog into the skin.

'Instead, the toad's glands are squeezed, like popping a pimple, and when the secretion is smoked, it's non-toxic, and quickly and

easily absorbed. The toad is massaged and not harmed in the milking process, whereas kambo frogs are often distressed while collecting secretions for kambo ceremonies.'

## Not like kambo

'The experience is completely different from kambo. It is not a body cleanse experience, but more of a spiritual cleanse', he says.

Jefferys says, 'There is no proven evidence of any shamanic lineage of the ceremonial use of *Bufo alvarius* in ancient or modern times.'

'With this medicine, there is no issue with cultural appropriation like with ayahuasca or kambo.'

'Yet this comes with its own problems, as there are no shamans to learn from, or to explain how to use the toad sacrament safely.'

'This is one reason I made this film, to point out potential dangers, and share my eight years of experience with the toad sacrament.'

'While the toad ceremony is still underground in some countries, elsewhere, such as Mexico, the toad secretion and the African shrub *iboga* are being used to treat heavy drug addictions and depression, with very positive results.'

'Also, there are clinical trials underway in the US with 5 MeO-DMT. Like all psychedelics, they are demonised at first in the West.'

Jefferys adds, '*The Toads The Whales and the Sun* have showed me that we don't need to buy into fear and a separation spiral. We can choose to do the work, look into our own shadow, opt out of the capitalist system, and become empowered, sovereign, loving human beings.'

For more info visit [www.toadwhalesun.com](http://www.toadwhalesun.com).

# The Red Heart project helps African women recycle pads

Aslan Shand

Something that we don't always stop to think about is how African women access menstrual and hygiene products – pads, tampons, moon cups, sponges or other ways to manage that monthly bleed.

For many African women, the traditional way of managing their menstrual bleeding is to use grasses to absorb the blood, but this can lead to infections and other issues.

While local Jo Morrish was in Kenya, she got talking to Edith, who lives in Masai Mara and works with women to create work opportunities.

They decided to look at how to make reusable pads.

With the help of some creative local friends in Mullumbimby, they researched and then created a prototype for a reusable menstrual pad.

Jo says, 'I then took a sewing machine that was donated by friends, and the prototype, and headed back to see Edith in Kenya. The women were so excited.'

'They took the idea and then created a version of the reusable and washable pad that met their needs.'

'I want to go back to their school and work with the girls to teach them how to make a basic, material, reusable pad,' Jo said.

## Mad about pads

'I am looking to demonstrate how they can make their own menstrual pads and hope to source local materials so that this is something they can continue to do.'

'I hope this will make their lives easier and it is also a reminder that they can do things for themselves, by making their period pads they are taking care of themselves and they can do this into the future.'

'In a sense it is symbolic of being in control of their own lives, now and tomorrow.'

## Gofundme

To contribute to The Red Heart Project you can donate at [www.gofundme.com/f/red-heart-project](http://www.gofundme.com/f/red-heart-project) or contact Jo on 0439 492 804.

# Contaminated fuel claims

A man who says a petrol station in the southern Tweed Heads area sold him contaminated fuel is seeking any other motorists who may have experienced the same.

Chad Hamill told *The Echo* he has commenced legal proceedings against a petrol station franchisee.

He says that on April 10, he filled his vehicle up with what he believed was diesel at southern Tweed Heads petrol station. He says he then broke down soon after

near Sleepy Hollow and is still unable to get it going.

'The operator has a legal obligation to close off the diesel pumps to the public and do testing, which they never did!' He also thinks there may be more than one petrol station that has carried contaminated fuel.

If you have had issues with your car, and suspect petrol stations, contact [chadhmo78@gmail.com](mailto:chadhmo78@gmail.com) to add your name to a possible class action.

# What's Going On May 27

The latest 'What's Going On' event, to be held at the Byron Bay RSL Club on May 27, will tackle climate, renewable energy and environment.

Organiser David Wrath says there will be updates on digital IDs, e-safety, misinformation, the formation of The Peoples Assembly, 'and our very own new means of exchange, The Bobb'.

Following that, there will be an important conversation, he says.

'We live in extraordinary times and the "business as usual" approach is out of touch. More than ever, there is a need for communities

to determine their own responses to important issues. There will be coverage of the impact of wind farm construction projects on the environment in north Qld.'

## Film screening

A brief talk on the history of climate will be followed by the screening of *Climate – The Movie*. The movie has been criticised by Science Feedback as offering opinions without supporting data and spreading misinformation around the impacts of human induced climate change. The night begins at 6pm for a 6.30pm start.



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## Knitting Nannas off to Canberra



Knitting Nannas Den Smart, Rosie Lee and Jally Hawthorn.  
Photo Jeff 'Knitting Knots Since 1986' Dawson

In the week the community celebrated its win a decade ago against proposed coal seam gas (CSG) fields in Bentley, in the Northern Rivers, Knitting Nannas were 'incredulous' at the federal Labor government's 'capitulation to the gas industry' with its new *Future Gas Strategy*.

Labor's gas strategy has been roundly condemned by climate scientists, economists and academics.

Spokes-Nanna, Rosie Lee, said, 'After 12 years of informing themselves, writing

submissions, blockading, sitting in on Senate enquiries, study tours travelling to gas fields and listening to experts and impacted residents, the Knitting Nannas from all over NSW are converging on Canberra on May 30'.

### Kitchen table cabinet

'We have secured a meeting with Chris Bowen, Energy and Climate Change Minister to raise concerns. Energy is a kitchen table issue that affects

us all and future generations'.

'This gas plan flies in the face of global action on climate change, and lacks common sense. Nannas will host a kitchen table cabinet on the lawns of Parliament House, where The Australia Institute's Polly Hemming will present the institute's reports on climate change, and a number of Independents will join to hear Nannas' testimonies from the front lines and discuss solutions'.

They will be on the lawns on May 30 from 10am to 2pm.

## BYRON GREENS CAMPAIGN KICKOFF



**MEET OUR EXCITING CANDIDATES FOR MAYOR AND COUNCIL: SARAH NDIAYE, ELIA HAUGE, DELTA KAY AND MICHELLE LOWE**  
With MC Mandy Nolan, Greens MPs Tamara Smith and Sue Higginson

Music from Jesse Witney, and food & drinks available



**6 to 9 pm, Friday 7 June**  
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Authorised by A. Croft for The Greens NSW. 19a/1 Hordern Place Camperdown

# BRADS

## Butchery

ORGANIC MEATS



**Byron Bay has a new organic butcher in town at 130 Johnson St, next to the RSL**

Specialising in organic beef, lamb and chicken. While also offering dry aged meats and a wide range of wagyu products. New owners Brad and Tanya have experience in retail butchering with three other stores in Lismore, Ballina and Goonellabah.

Brad started his trade making traditional small goods, ham, bacon, jerky, salami, etc. with award winning nitrate free ham and bacon.

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**Echo**

News from across the North Coast online ► [www.echo.net.au](http://www.echo.net.au)

## Bodies of man, child found in East Lismore home

A report will be prepared for the information of the NSW Coroner following the death of a man and a child in Lismore overnight.

## What do young people want and what do they think needs to change?

The 'Your Voice, Our Future' survey has been launched and is asking young people to put forward their views on what is important to them.

## No room for koalas in budget?

Friends of the Koala is not impressed by the lack of provision for wildlife protection in the federal budget as species including the koala move closer to extinction.

## Commemorating ten years since V Day at Bentley

It's ten years today since a wave of relief spread through Camp Liberty at Bentley, when those gathered discovered that the riot police would not be coming, and gas company Metgasco was being referred to ICAC by the NSW government.

## North coast fire fighter honoured

Senior Deputy RFS Captain John Holmes was honoured posthumously for his long-term service and bravery.

## Clive Hamilton to speak in Lismore June 13

Celebrated author and professor, Clive Hamilton, will discuss the notion of how to prepare for, and manage, the challenges of a warming climate in Australia.

## Crime 'cluster' spikes spread across region

Local police are calling on residents to keep their doors and windows locked, including when they're at home, in a bid to address the spike in car break-ins and thefts taking place in and around local shires.

[www.echo.net.au](http://www.echo.net.au)

## Broadwater floodplain development meeting terminated

Aslan Shand

Richmond Valley Council (RVC) refused a development application (DA) for a 60-lot residential development on flood-prone land on Rileys Hill Road, Broadwater, close to the Richmond River in October 2023.

The application was from Ardill Payne & Partners. The proposal was 70 metres from the Richmond River on a site that according to locals flooded extensively during the 2022 flood, with many houses across the road from the proposed site being flooded up to, and including, the first floor.

Following the refusal, Ardill Payne and Partners made application to the Land and Environment Court (L&EC) appealing RVC's decision.

A conciliation meeting was set up by the L&EC for 15 May at the proposed site and there were more than 50 people in attendance. As part of that process the community was invited to address the conciliation conference.

## Current effluent load destroyed National Park

Six local residents put the views of the community, objecting to the development on a number of grounds. These included the



House in the floodplain adjacent to the Old Pacific Highway in Broadwater. Photo supplied

impact of sewage from the development on the Salty Lagoon complex in Broadwater National Park.

'Partially treated effluent from the Evans Head STP has previously led to a fish and bird kill in the lagoon. Despite attempts at rehabilitation, the complex remains out of bounds some 18 years later,' explained a speaker.

Other topics covered by the local residents included: the effects of the development on the local koala population; the effects of the 2022 flood on locals; insurability of properties; capacity of the SES to deal with future emergency events; current unfinished developments approved by RVC; future flooding risks; limits to the flood modelling used; and evidence showing that the Northern Rivers was already past its 'carrying capacity'.

Criticism of the 2023 flood study also included the fact that the testing of the model included validation against

flooding events only going back to 2008 and not earlier events such as the very large 1954 and 1956 floods which had major impacts on the Mid Richmond. A newspaper account of flooding in 1891 including the breakthrough of floodwaters at Broadwater's Boundary Creek from the river to the sea which lasted for weeks and was 400 feet wide and more than 10 feet deep was also raised.

At the end of the presentations the community was dismissed and the parties to the case then inspected the site and met out of the public view with the commissioner to see if some agreement might be reached.

Community members were informed at the end of the day that the conciliation meeting had been terminated and that now a full hearing of the appeal would be arranged for the L&EC in the near future.

■ Read full story in *The Echo* online: [www.echo.net.au](http://www.echo.net.au).

## First baby born at new Tweed Valley Hospital



The Espie family with Midwife Rebecca Thorne and Student Midwife Carrie Rollings. Photo supplied

The new Tweed Valley Hospital opened on 14 May at Kingscliff and it saw its first baby born that day at 8.53pm.

The little boy was born to Tweed Shire locals, the Espie family, and he weighed in at 2.958 kilograms (approximately 6.5 pounds).

Tweed Valley Hospital Midwifery Unit Manager, Michelle Brinkman, said both mother and baby are doing well.

'I want to extend my congratulations to the Espie family on the arrival of their gorgeous baby boy,' Ms Brinkman said.

Parents Johannah and Martin Espie said they are over the moon.

'It's often said that it takes a village to raise a child. We now consider the midwifery and obstetric team at Tweed Valley Hospital a very special part of our village,' Ms Espie said.

## Homicide investigation – Wardell

Police are appealing for information as a homicide investigation is launched following a fatal crash near Wardell earlier this year. Shortly after 5.45am on Saturday, 24 February emergency services were called to Back Channel Road, Wardell, following reports of a crash.

Officers located a blue

Mazda BT50 utility that had crashed. All occupants of the vehicle died at the scene. Detectives determined a second vehicle is believed to have been involved in the incident.

Anyone with information contact Crime Stoppers: 1800 333 000 or <https://nsw.crimestoppers.com.au>.

## Is Kyogle Council misrepresenting changes to Private Native Forestry approvals?



Rojech Pty Ltd, who were operating under a PNF plan, were fined \$15,000 and cautioned over illegal logging activities by the EPA. Photo supplied

Aslan Shand

Kyogle Council has stated that the process of applying for a Private Native Forestry (PNF) approval from both Local Land Services (LLS) and the Kyogle Council 'essentially duplicates the assessment'.

However, this statement has been challenged by the Kyogle Environment Group (KEG) who told *The Echo* that the development application (DA) for a PNF approval

through council addresses a different set of criteria than approval via LLS.

## LLS limited scope

A Council brief in 2022 explained that 'In determining whether to approve a PNF plan for a subject property, LLS only considers matters on the subject property such as the presence of protected environmental or heritage areas and infrastructure required on-site to conduct forestry operations

(e.g. internal roads, erosion and sediment control, snig tracks, etc).'

The brief highlighted that the LLS do not look at 'Council and community interests including impacts on infrastructure (roads, bridges and haulage routes), local amenity, water quality and areas of local environment or heritage significance.'

'The assessment does not have regard to existing strategies or policies relevant to the subject land or the cumulative impact of PNF across a landscape' and 'councils are not consulted during the assessment process and only receive notification from LLS when a PNF plan has been approved.'

## 160,000 hectares

Kyogle Shire has one of New South Wales' largest private native forestry estates, covering 160,000 hectares and the KEG is asking why the Kyogle Council want to drop the dual consent process for PNF.

In Council's *Kyogle and Villages Community Newsletter* Council highlight the fact that 'Once a PNF Plan is approved by LLS, the NSW Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is responsible for conducting checks to ensure landowners and forestry operators are complying with the approval issued and the PNF Code of Practice.'

## Compliance failures

However, it is well documented that existing regulations lack stringent requirements for on-ground assessments, particularly regarding threatened ecological communities.

'As a result, most private lands lack documented records of threatened species, enabling landowners to undertake forestry activities without adequate consideration of their impact on local wildlife,' said Tori Bail from KEG.

'The absence of oversight mechanisms to ensure compliance exacerbates the

problem. The development application process must consider the impact the proposed development is likely to have on the natural environment, the built environment and the local community, any submissions made by neighbours, the wider community and government agencies.'

## Have your say

Community can review the full Planning Proposal on Council's website: <https://www.kyogle.nsw.gov.au/council-engagement/council-business/on-public-exhibition/>.

Submissions can be made on the Planning Proposal until 4pm, 7 June. Submissions must be in writing and addressed to the Director Planning and Community Development, PO Box 11, Kyogle or emailed to: [council@kyogle.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@kyogle.nsw.gov.au).

■ Read full story in *The Echo* online: [www.echo.net.au](http://www.echo.net.au).

## MP Saffin clarifies claims around flood recovery

Hans Lovejoy

The office of Lismore Labor MP, Janelle Saffin, has made the claim that 'No government, state or federal, has cut the funding promised for Resilient Homes and Resilient Land programs' for 2022 flood recovery – see letters page 11.

And despite campaigning along with other north coast leaders for the promised \$1.5b, which was presented to parliament – her office blamed the former head of the Northern Rivers Reconstruction Corporation, David Witherdin, for making that figure public.

*The Echo* asked Ms Saffin if she had given up on securing the \$1.5b, as promised?

She replied, 'I am still advocating to get to the \$1.5b for the Northern Rivers and the seven mayors, and four MPs sought the additional \$350m in tranche 2, as we called it, and we secured \$100m of that from the NSW Premier'.

'There is some commentary about having to spend it first. I have asked since then, and we as a group are asking collectively again'.

Additionally *The Echo* asked 'How can the public

have trust in this government and its RA corporation (now the third incarnation after the last two were a disaster), given the long list of blunders, lack of progress and lack of transparency?'.

She replied, 'I have made it clear that the [former flood agency] NRRC was a basket case, and the NSW Reconstruction Authority inherited that, and is doing some good work, but has been a failure in terms of communications and public information.'

'They have doorknocked some 5,000 people though'.

### Still \$600m short

Local Ballina MP Tamara Smith (Greens) told *The Echo* the \$1.5b commitment was backed by both the Perrottet government and then Labor opposition leader, Chris Minns, in the 2023 NSW

election lead-up.

'In the months since the 2023 election, it has become clear that Witherdin was either mistaken or misled.'

'The fact is that we are still \$600m short on the money our community was promised by a senior bureaucrat, that was neither corrected or revised by the premier of the day at the 2023 election, nor revised by the then opposition leader, who is now premier.'

'Even on conservative estimates, and with high inflation, you would have to concede that \$600m would assist several thousand households'.

'I raised with the premier last week that most flood-affected homeowners have either moved on, done the retrofitting or house raising themselves, or left the area'.

## Free surfing classes for kids with autism

Kids on the autism spectrum are being offered free surfing lessons in Lennox Head on May 25 and Byron Bay on May 26. Both days run from 10am-2pm.

It will be run by Ocean Heroes, a not for profit organisation which was

set up by a group of West Australian surfers. Places are limited to 50, and bookings are essential via [www.oceanheroes.com.au](http://www.oceanheroes.com.au).

For any questions not answered on the website, contact Sam on 0431 930 284 between 9am and 5pm.



Get your giggles on, May 30

Comedy Festival Directors, Mel Coppin and Zara Noruzi, say they are excited to have The Great Northern Hotel as the new home of The Byron Comedy Fest. 'The new venue gives us the chance to have lower ticket prices for our punters, as well as a weatherproof venue to keep everyone dry, cosy and laughing. All eight shows (two are already sold out) are handpicked from the Melbourne International Comedy Festival. There is something for everyone!' For more info visit [www.byroncomedyfest.com](http://www.byroncomedyfest.com). Photo Jeff 'Tragedy Plus Time' Dawson

## Death and Dying expo May 25

On Saturday May 25, a free Death and Dying expo will be held at the Mullumbimby Civic Hall from 10am-2pm.

This year's event is being organised by local death walkers, Gina Trengove, Chi Chi Menendez, and celebrant Susie Figgis. Organisers say, 'It is a great opportunity for the community to connect

with local death care providers and ask any questions that they may have about death and dying. There will be a great series of talks and Q&A opportunities.'

'We believe that death literacy means empowerment when it comes to death and dying'.

'We should all know what

choices are available to us'. 'We plan our births and weddings, but we don't plan for our deaths'.

They added, 'The event includes local palliative care and hospice services, holistic funeral and deathcare services, celebrants, grief care, death planning, creative death care and more'.

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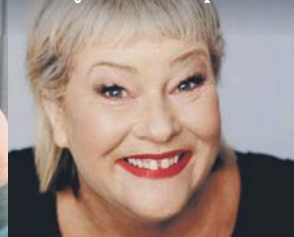


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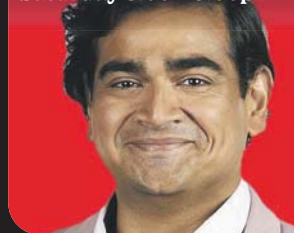
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# Optics vs reform

One of the more hyped elements of last week's federal budget was a \$300 handout to every homeowner to alleviate the increase in energy costs.

Presumably the government thinks the cash will provide the optics that it is trying to help with the rising cost of living.

Yet let's dive into the logic. This is a message that those who have spent money to have off-grid power are not valued, for example. So much for doing the right thing and reducing your carbon footprint.

Perhaps the signal is to reward those connected to rapidly ageing coal-powered plants?

If you stop to think – that \$300 still goes to the fossil fuel corporations. The Labor government has given our taxpayer money back to us, to give to the power companies. It encourages energy prices to remain high.

Where's the meaningful structural reform? Perhaps they have given up.

Or, given the dominance of old conservative mainstream media in the country, Labor have decided to appease them.

Once governments and corporate interests have fully merged, there is nothing but band-aids, token hand-outs and added layers of unneeded bureaucracy.

As David Lowe's opinion piece on the budget points out (available at [echo.net.au](http://echo.net.au)), fossil fuel subsidies will grow well beyond spending on renewables, and the Petroleum Resource Rent Tax (PRRT) will be revised down even further.

The Echo asked local MP Justine Elliot of the \$300 rebate: 'Why are the wealthy in need of government handouts, and will those who are off-grid be compensated in any way?'

She replied, 'Our \$300 energy bill rebate is being delivered through people's energy bills, via the retailers. Once you go beyond providing this energy bill rebate, like we did in the last Budget for people who are on pensions and payments, you must design a whole new system because the energy retailers don't have income information for people. So, the most straightforward, most efficient way is to provide this energy bill relief for every household'.

She added that other cost-of-living help includes a 'tax cut for every taxpayer, cheaper medicines, reducing student debt, extending the higher rate of the JobSeeker Payment, increasing Commonwealth Rent Assistance by a further 10 per cent, and paying superannuation on Paid Parental Leave'.

## Punter's Politics

A clever 1.30 minute online primer on the \$300 rebate has been produced by Punter's Politics, a relative new actor on the scene.

It's available across all social media platforms.

Much like Juice Media or the Friendly Jordies, Punter's Politics delves into the political spin and hypocrisy and delivers informative, concise and witty observations.

Punter's Politics say Australia pays the most on the planet for its gas (it's three times cheaper in the US), and points out that Australia is the world's largest supplier.

And we mostly give it away to large corporations for free – Chevron's earnings just tripled to \$12b, according to *The West Australian*.

If it isn't their cosy relationship with the energy cartels, then Labor are terrible negotiators on behalf of this country.

Hans Lovejoy, editor

# Legal system fails to keep kids safe

Fifteen years ago, Karen Bell's three children – Bon 18 months, Maddie 5, and Jack 7, were found with their dead father Gary Bell in a vehicle at Perico – a collapsed hippy colony on the NSW far south coast.

Australia was utterly horrified by the murder suicide.

There was a blaze of media coverage, including reports that Karen had unsuccessfully tried – on two occasions prior to their deaths – to get police assistance in checking on the children.

Karen was a victim of domestic violence and had fled the family home – leaving her children. She was unable to return and urgently needed help ensuring their welfare.

It is very clear the police would not intervene on the basis the welfare of children is a DOCS matter, and the issue of child custody is a matter for federal courts.

At the time Karen Bell – speaking through her siblings – called for urgent reform to domestic violence laws to protect children of victims who are forced to flee their homes.

I have no insight into this case – only vivid memories of my shock and incomprehension that three beautiful young lives could be ended by their own father.

Why wouldn't the police help?

Well that was clear – family law and custody is most definitely federal jurisdiction, and NSW Police have no power to act in such matters.

I get that – but here is the problem.

There is no Family Court or federal police in isolated rural communities like Perico – only state police who are powerless.

So at the time, I thought it is screamingly obvious that when a mother in abject terror for the lives of her children goes to NSW Police asking for help – they need to be empowered to act on the report. Surely three dead infants is proof enough this needs to happen?

But nothing was done.

Nothing – it was as if those children never existed, their forfeited lives had zero impact on our pompous legal system.



*'There is no Family Court or federal police in isolated rural communities like Perico – only state police who are powerless.'*

– Catherine Cusack

In 2014, 11-year-old Luke Batty was murdered by his own father Greg Anderson at cricket practice.

His mother Rosie Batty was present and saw the whole thing. She went on to become Australian of the Year with a powerful message about domestic violence flaws in our family law system and unacceptable risks to children.

I have heard Rosie Batty speak many times, and she emphasises how unexpected her husband's shocking crime was, both to her and the police. Importantly, it differs in this regard to the earlier murders of the Bell children.

However, Rosie's profile on child safety in relationship breakdowns led her to champion a Women's Legal Services Australia (WLSA) campaign 'Safety First in Family Law'.

It is a five point plan that recognises Family Law Courts who determine child custody matters were never designed to deal with domestic violence.

There are processes where child abuse is alleged. But as the cases of the Bell family and Luke Batty show – a man violently abusing his partner, but not his children, can still be a significant risk to his own kids when the partner flees.

This is a massive gap in family law and child safety legislation which is regarded as state jurisdiction and not the concern of those federal courts.

## Plan in summary

The plan in summary includes: strengthen family violence response in the family law system; provide effective legal help for the most disadvantaged; ensure family law professionals have real understanding of family violence; increase access to safe dispute resolution models; and overcome the gaps between the

family law, family violence and child protection systems.

Rosie Batty called for action on this when the plan was launched in May 2016. This common sense plan has recently been relaunched by WLSA, and can be found on their website: [www.wlsa.org.au](http://www.wlsa.org.au).

Here in the Northern Rivers, our children are sadly as vulnerable as any others to violence, mental illness and relationship breakdowns.

Last year in Yamba, in another murder/suicide, a father, Wayne Smith killed his 11-year-old son Noah after being identified as having mental health issues, but was nevertheless cleared to have his guns returned.

This week, we learn a Lismore man has killed his 2-year-old son and himself in yet another murder/ suicide.

I suspect there is no coherent answer as to why or how this keeps happening.

The better question is: what are we doing about it?

It is a genuine question because these tragedies are happening on a loop and frontline services seem hamstrung to make any changes at all.

My best suggestion is to prioritise the lives of our children ahead of legal perversity, and jurisdictional niceties to ensure children's lives are more important than glacial legal paperwork.

And as for the WLSA's 'Safety First in Family Law' – this has been designed by people inside the system who get the problems and have solutions. It deserves to be implemented – like yesterday.

■ Catherine Cusack is a former NSW Liberal MLC.



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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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# Kinship Festival returns Saturday 25 May to Murwillumbah

Belle Budden

The Kinship Festival – a free North Coast cultural festival led by First Nations people – will be held in Knox Park, Murwillumbah on Saturday, 25 May, just ahead of National Reconciliation Week. The kinship theme for 2024 is ‘Yabulgu – Together as one, Unity for our children’s future.’

‘The Kinship Festival has always been about unity, and this year we wanted to inspire our community to come together for the shared future of all our children,’ said Festival Coordinator Lara Lei.

## Connecting together

The Kinship Festival is an offering from the Aboriginal community, with the aim of connecting all families with a sense of belonging to country, community, and culture.

The Kinship Festival showcases local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture including cultural dancing, music, art, and a free lunch for all. A core value of the festival is equality and access for all members of the community.

‘Food is a very important part of our culture, the Kinship Festival struggles to find a way but we always do, to ensure that we can share in a meal together as a community, it is an important part of the ceremony,’ Lara continued.

Events start at 10am with a Welcome to Country and smoking ceremony, followed by a corroboree with ten different dance groups from across the Bundjalung nation and beyond celebrating kinship connections through dance.



Kinship Festival MC Alred Summers. Photo supplied



Corroboree at the Murwillumbah Kinship Festival. Photo Tommy Byrnes

## Hip hop artist JK-47

There will be a large-scale interactive community sand art installation, language workshops, weaving, children’s nature crafts and traditional games, live music, and a youth space along with the always popular Aboriginal Artisan Market. Minjungbal hip hop artist JK-47 will be running workshops with local young people who will be invited to perform alongside him on the day.

Kinship committee member and Bundjalung woman Aunty Charline Emzin-Boyd (Aunty Char) is greatly excited about the festival.

‘This is an exciting time of the year for us mob here on the North Coast with Bundjalung Jugun celebrating our ninth Kinship Festival. Our Elders come along with family to enjoy the festivities of the day.’

They give back to the festival with their stories within the Story Telling Tent.

‘The festival is a great place to catch up with family and long-time friends and share in all the cultural items of the day of dance, song, weaving activities, children’s art and craft activities, the list goes on. Our language tent was a great success last year, so it is happening again with Bundjalung language activities from our local mob sharing songs, bingo, greetings and much more,’ she said.

‘There is so much to do and see culturally, meeting up with mob, so be a part of Kinship Festival 2024, come join the mob, you’ll really have fun, reconnecting with our wonderful local Bundjalung mob sharing culture,’ Aunty Char continued.

Bundjalung woman, and director of The Returning, Ella Noah Bancroft is a huge supporter of the Kinship Festival and is looking forward to having a stall at the event to promote The Returning. A local Aboriginal community-controlled organisation and event.

‘Kinship Festival is a place of cultural thriving, it’s a place of deep connection and allows our community to show their offerings. It’s a place where we can gather, keep culture alive and keep our community connected,’ Ella said.

Minjungbal song woman Aunty Deirdre Currie has been a part of the Kinship Festival since its inception. She works hard with the other volunteers on the kinship committee to ensure this important cultural event continues to grow in strength.

‘We love to keep our culture alive, accessible, and strong and teaching our ways of life to our wonderful jarjums (children), so they find and maintain their connection, strength and laughter, that is our people and being on country, it is so special and contributes to our belonging and if our jarjums continue our teachings and learnings the future and future generations of our people will be in good hands,’ Deirdre said.

The Kinship Festival is in Knox Park in Murwillumbah Saturday, May 25 from 10 am.

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## Flood 2022

I congratulate Lismore's Trinity College work experience student Bella Clay on her article (*Echo*, April 26), relating her family's lived experience since the 2022 floods.

My heart goes out to Bella and so many of our community members severely impacted then and still today.

I agree with Bella that the Resilient Homes program needed to improve.

However, I need to set the record straight on funding for this project. No government, state or federal, has cut funding promised for Resilient Homes and Resilient Land programs.

Initially the Albanese federal government and Perrottet state government jointly committed \$700 million for Resilient Homes. The Perrottet government committed another \$100 million for the Resilient Lands project and the Minns Labor government later added another \$100 million to Resilient Homes.

The former head of the Northern Rivers Reconstruction Corporation used the \$1.5 billion figure in the media when talking about the projected cost of buy-backs, retrofits and relocations – but no government, state or federal, promised that amount.

Meanwhile, I remain united with my fellow Northern Rivers MPs and local mayors in pushing for further funding.

**Janelle Saffin MP**

NSW Parliamentary Secretary for Disaster Recovery

■ See story p7

## Causes of death

There's been a lot of talk about an epidemic of violence against women lately, including Dr Ray Moynihan's article in the last *Echo*.

I like to put these things in perspective, so I made a perusal of some statistics about causes of death from the Australian Bureau of Statistics. These are for 2022.

Most deaths are caused by diseases or health conditions, of course, but let's put those aside. I was surprised to find the leading cause, by far, of non-disease deaths was accidental falls, at 4,084.

Drug overdoses caused 1,693 deaths. Alcohol caused 1,742. Motor vehicle accidents caused 1,267. It was interesting, and to me surprising, that accidental falls caused nearly as many deaths as these three

together. The falls were 2,046 men and 2,038 women.

Assaults caused 228 deaths, of which 70 were women and 158 men. Assaults are more upsetting, of course, because these are done deliberately by one person to another, unless some form of insanity is involved. These 70 women make up somewhat less than 1 in 100 of the 9,014 sad deaths listed above.

For a woman, the chance of dying by an accidental fall is just about 30 times as much as assault.

Dr Moynihan states: 'The NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics estimates over 40,000 people in NSW suffered at least one episode of physical violence at the hands of an intimate partner or family member in the past year.' It's not clear if this refers to men and women assaults, or whether two brothers or two sisters fighting would qualify. NSW has 8,153,000 people, so this means about 1 in 200 people experience at least one assault in the course of a whole year.

**Charles MacFarland**  
Ewingsdale

## Shambolic roads

With regards to *The Echo* article, 'Let's dive deep into potholes' (May 15), I am appalled at the attitude and the utter sense of a lack of responsibility of Byron Shire Council and local MP Tamara Smith.

Our local roads are an absolute disgrace! And not just the hinterland backroads – roads through Byron's CBD, even the road to Rae's at Wategos is in an abhorrently embarrassing state of disrepair.

While the article focuses on the dire state of Main Arm's roads, it's abundantly apparent Byron Shire cannot seriously fund any sort of meaningful roads repair program with the current level of funding. It's time for our local MPs (including Justine Elliott MP) to take some serious responsibility and start relentlessly knocking on doors in Macquarie Street and Capital Hill, today! Stop passing the buck and fix our dilapidated roads!

**Tasman Brown**  
Lennox Head

## Potholes deep dive

While Byron Council tells residents there's no funding to repair flood-damaged roads and vital access to peoples' homes, or fix the dangerous craters in the roads we have to drive on, it seems funding can be found for Byron Council staff

to investigate the feasibility of ripping up the valuable train line for a bike track for 'cycling tourism' in Byron Shire. There also seems to be funds for staff to investigate the availability of federal and state government funding for 'cycling tourism'.

In an area where people are constantly complaining about the traffic in our towns, the state of roads and lack of parking, as well as the lack of affordable, accessible, cost-effective public transport, and thousands have been calling for sustainable train services on the train line, there seems to be something terribly wrong with Council's priorities.

So far 13 kilometres of bike track from Casino to Bentley, and 24 kilometres of track from Murwillumbah to Crabbes Creek has cost taxpayers \$22 million, or about \$600,000 per kilometre. That's not good value for taxpayers when repairs to the train line in Byron cost \$660,000 to run the solar train.

At the very least, before Council spends another cent on 'cycling tourism' there needs to be a genuine evaluation of the environmental, social, and economic benefits of the Tweed section of track. Tweed locals are reporting little, if any benefits from 'cycling tourism', just more traffic in once-quiet towns. Tourists have to drive to the track, many in huge gas-guzzling SUVs, as there's no alternative. Locals who live next to the track also question the numbers of cyclists reportedly using it.

For many years, both Labor and the state LNP promised funding for trains and a commuter train service on the line. They also promised to start planning for the rail connection to be built to the Queensland rail system at Coolangatta. It's impossible for 30,000 Byron ratepayers to continue funding roads and other infrastructure for 2.5 million tourists. We pay some of the highest rates in the country, but still can't get a park at the beach or shops.

You'd think in Byron Shire at the very least our council would be demanding the state government provide the vital funding for trains as promised, and the train line used to provide the social, environmental, and cost-effective public transport needed by locals and 2.5 million tourists, while reducing traffic and emissions in our towns.

**Louise Doran**  
Ocean Shores

► More letters on page 12

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**Housing: too important to leave to private market**

It saddens me every time I get to the back of *The Echo* and see all the real estate ads, so I was mortified to see the whole mini magazine of Property inside my *Echo* a couple of weeks ago. We all know that locals can't afford these properties. Who in Mullumbimby can afford a million-dollar mortgage on small town wages?

There were articles written about how investment properties are so hot right now and how getting in on the action is a smart move. Yuk. It feels like our home is being pimped out. It seems hypocritical that we can read endless criticisms for a mayor that supports the Wallum development, when in just years from now that same Wallum development will probably feature in one of *The Echo's* property mags, paying their wages with advertising dollars.

We need to get real if we want to save our town from being swallowed up by greed. Houses should not be used as investments. They are not pieces of gold. They should not sit empty or be used as holiday lets while so many sleep in their cars.

They are structures for providing shelter, and they are needed now more than ever. If you build more they will just get swallowed up by the greedy rich. Laws need to change around housing. *Echo*, you are our voice. Please use it for us and not to benefit the parasites.

**Sheri Buob**  
Mullumbimby

**A long story**

I see that Israel supporters take exception to the expression 'from the river to the sea' as meaning that all Jews should be wiped out. I thought the next line was 'shall be free' but I could be wrong.\*

Of course the older expression that applies in this context is 'wiped off the map'. That could be achieved bloodlessly by simply changing Israel's name to 'Palestine', then emphasising that all within those borders are equal. Will never happen of course!

Any Israeli leader who proposed it would be at risk of assassination by ultra-orthodox extremists; it's happened before.

Of course there are those who argue that 'Palestine' is a made-up name, and doesn't really exist. That would have to mean that

that word 'Philistine' as it occurs in the Old Testament, would be made up too. Oh yes, if the Oxford Dictionary (and website for that matter) says that the two names are historically connected then that's where I'd put my money. Apparently the Jews and Palestinians were at each other's throats in southern Israel since well before Jesus.

The Palestinians/Philistines are thought to be non-semitic migrants from Crete or Cyprus, but then the Jews in truth came from Egypt (and incidentally wiped out the Cannanites, who weren't worshipping the correct gods). And those who call themselves 'Australians' came from elsewhere too, right?

**Fast Buck\$**  
Coorabell

\*Ed: it's 'From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free'.

**Danny's world**

John Scrivener, yet again, in his latest incredibly biased anti-Israel letter in last week's paper shows us nothing new. Again, people who can't even bring themselves to feel compassion for the suffering of both Palestinians and Israelis are the problem, and

are irrelevant in the debate and the solution. I on the other hand am pro-Palestine, pro-Israel, and pro-peace and that seems to really get under these people's skin, even though I have been critical of both sides.

As a proud Australian, I was cheering on Electric Fields with our entry in the Eurovision contest, but was shocked at the amount of Israel hatred that was being expressed both outside and within the Eurovision complex from some people in the audience and even some of the fellow competitors.

Here again, the noisy and aggressive minority around the world are very audible but it is very clear how the silent majority around the world feel. They are sick and tired of these external antagonists organising the ongoing anti-Israel (not pro-Palestinian) protests on the streets and university campuses, and the silent majority, including in Australia, went out of their way to vote for Israel en masse, putting them in fifth place out of the 37 countries represented. The majority of the world does not want the destruction of Israel, they can see through the incredible amount of biased,

and anti-Israel, lies reported as news, it's as simple as that. Peace now.

**Danny Wakil**  
Billinudgel

**Live animal export**

For well over 20 years, the government has been promising to stamp out the horrendous cruelty and abuses fundamental to the live export of Australian sheep and cattle. They have utterly failed.

A shocking new PETA exposé shows that workers in Indonesia are still butchering live, conscious animals from Australia, even though the Australian government repeatedly promised to stop the gruesome practice.

A PETA Asia investigator recorded video of two cows with Australian ear tags writhing after workers slashed their throats. Both animals were still kicking and one was gurgling as they were dragged by their legs across filthy floors and hoisted. One of the cows continued to struggle until a worker cut deeper into her throat.

A similar PETA exposé of seven randomly selected slaughterhouses in 2021 found the same, even though some were registered with the Australian government's

Exporter Supply Chain Assurance System (ESCAS). While exporters are required to comply with ESCAS, Australia's meat industry still ships cattle overseas to countries where they are killed in ways that would be illegal in Australia.

The Labor Party has finally set a date (2028) to phase out the live export of sheep, but the abuse of cattle has been ignored.

We're closer than ever to stopping boats crammed with terrified animals from leaving our shores, but we need your help. The live-export industry is the meat and leather corporations. Stop buying meat and leather and you'll stop paying for this cruelty.

**Mimi Bekhechi**  
PETA

**Who is responsible?**

Teenage (stabbing) crime. Here I go again! Why are these kids allowed out of the house before their parents take stock of their kitchen knives? This may appear to be an unreasonable suggestion, but by the same token, why are those parents similarly not responsible for the resultant actions of their offspring?

**Peter Walters**  
Ballina

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# First observations of meltwater eating away at Antarctic ice shelves

Cosmos Magazine

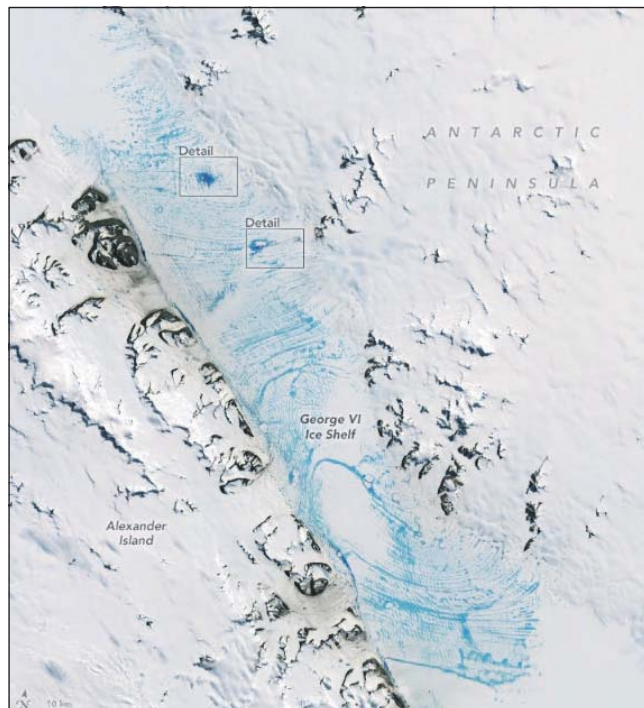
Scientists who have witnessed Antarctic ice shelf decay are escalating concerns that rising air temperatures will push these frozen masses to unprecedented fractures.

The effect of meltwater on ice shelves has long been discussed by glaciologists. Increased global temperatures due to unprecedented carbon emissions from human activity cause ice to thaw. This can lead to water pooling on the ice surface. This in turn strains the structure below, causing it to buckle and, potentially, split apart.

## Rising sea levels

Fractured ice shelves are a critical threat to rising sea levels. While sea ice forms from cold oceans during the southern hemisphere winter, their meltdown in warmer months makes only a minor change to sea levels.

But large ice sheets, shelves and glaciers fixed to the Antarctic landmass pose a far larger threat. At the extreme, melting all of Earth's ice sheets and



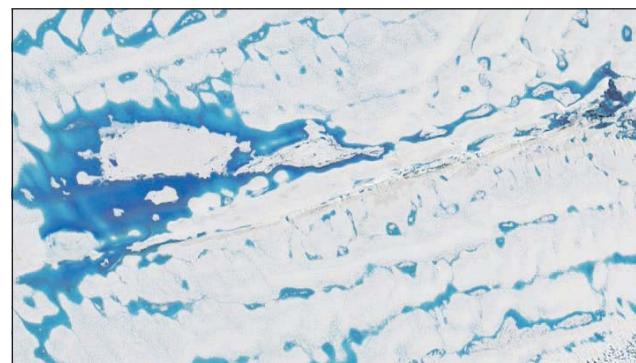
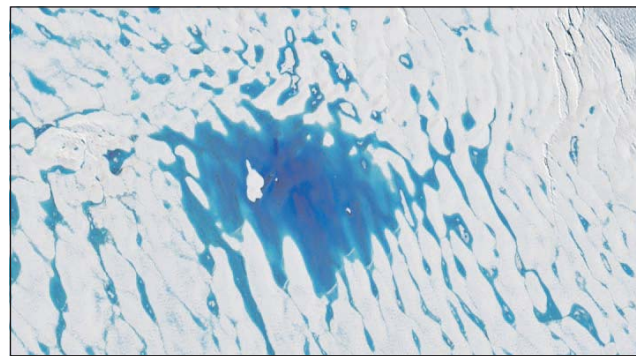
NASA Earth Observatory images by Lauren Dauphin, using Landsat data from the US Geological Survey.

glaciers would raise sea levels by at least 60m.

## The breakdown of George VI

in 2019, a team of UK and US researchers travelled to the George VI Ice Shelf and identified a region they believed would be susceptible to future meltwater pools.

There, they set up time-lapse cameras, water pressure and GPS sensors to monitor changes in the depression along the ice surface. With the GPS sensors measuring fluctuations in ice elevation, water pressure sensors monitoring the depth of the lake and cameras snapping images of the



Ice sheet melt details from large image.

region every 30 minutes, they saw what happened to the ice shelf as that new meltwater pool formed.

That pool formed during a then-record season for Antarctic ice melt and sea ice decline. When the group returned to study their data after the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic, they found that the water

caused the ice beneath the centre of the pool to buckle around 30cm.

## A breakthrough in meltwater knowledge

And this process repeats as the pool drains through tiny cracks in the basin ice, with the repetitive flexing

causing the depression to widen by about 30cm.

The study, led by glaciologist Alison Banwell from the Cooperative Institute for Research In Environmental Sciences at the University of Colorado Boulder, could help explain ice shelf collapses like the sudden split of the Larsen B Ice Shelf in 2002.

That event was marked by the emergence of meltwater lakes on top of the shelf's surface ice.

'Scientists have predicted and modelled that surface meltwater loading could cause ice shelves to fracture, but no one had observed the process in the field, until now,' says Banwell.

'We believe these types of circular fractures were key in the chain reaction style lake drainage process that helped to break up the Larsen B Ice Shelf.'

'These observations are important because they can be used to improve models to better predict which Antarctic ice shelves are more vulnerable and most susceptible to collapse in the future.'

■ The research is published in the *Journal of Glaciology*.



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Drop in to Byron Shire Real Estate  
 Cnr Tweed & Fawcett St, Brunswick Heads.  
 Fee is \$10 before the day, and \$20 on the day.

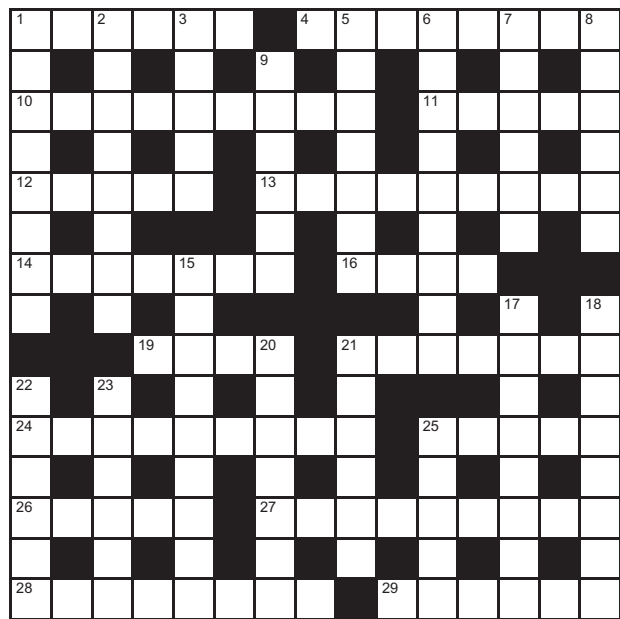
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**Cryptic Clues**

**ACROSS**

1. Football score initially counted incorrectly (6)
4. Random pattern beginning to surface on server (8)
10. Burning mass in the heavens and the earth (9)
11. Clean starts to marathons often performed under pressure (3,2)
12. Joint article on deer rejected (5)
13. Begin hour scrapping with guy who's close to you (9)
14. Train echoes around bike one abandoned (7)
16. Base core of silver alloy (4)
19. *Gilgamesh* perhaps presented in five pictograms (4)
21. After big match tea is brewed with a will (7)
24. Duo perhaps cut engine (3-6)
25. Nick on way to lunch, maybe without the entrée (5)
26. English writer, surrealist originally, is out of order (5)
27. Buffoon in tights seen in unfinished part of New York - one of five (9)
28. Police officer's hair causes anguish (8)
29. More compact bolt? (6)

**DOWN**

1. Philosopher from Greek island set up by judges (8)
2. Expire at point of sale? (5,3)
3. First Lady pins notice on hedge (5)
5. Dear old lover quits thinking (7)
6. Comfortable places for theorists? (9)
7. Kill Harry, numero uno (3,3)
8. Member turns up in a sexual frenzy with poet Brooke (6)
9. Intended sponsor rejected knight (6)
15. Dad about to have respite arranged, and a little something before dinner (9)
17. Conclusions drawn from restaurants? (8)
18. German and Pooh abandoning a ship (8)
20. Chloe's in a tizz about bar wear (7)
21. Harper's first novel hypothesis: Penny must sub for Oscar (3,3)
22. Seaside desert (6)
23. Tactics one's seen in pictures (6)
25. Tsiolkas' last character, a disgraced priest, is a bit of magic (5)

**Quick Clues**

**ACROSS**

1. Sport in which Perth is represented by Glory (6)
4. A gory movie genre (8)
10. A way to dispose of remains (9)
11. Clear away; dispose of (3,2)
12. Part of lower limb (5)
13. Resident of Ramsay Street? (9)
14. Improve; develop (7)
16. Infamous (4)
19. Of heroic proportions (4)
21. Having expressed posthumous wishes (7)
24. Type of internal combustion machine (3-6)
25. Pinch (5)
26. Wrongly (5)
27. Stock character, a comical servant, in *Commedia dell'arte* (9)
28. Artificially age timber (8)
29. In greater propinquity (6)

**DOWN**

1. He was accused of corrupting Athenian youth (8)
2. Investigate; inspect (5,3)
3. Dodge (5)
5. Meditative, possibly in a sad way (7)
6. Items of furniture (9)
7. Dominant person (3,3)
8. Media baron? (6)
9. Party to an engagement (6)
15. Amuse bouche (9)
17. Conventional bids in bridge calling on your partner to make a bid (8)
18. Iced doughnut with a jam filling (8)
20. Clobber (7)
21. Celebrated Australian crime novel (3,3)
22. Run aground (6)
23. Medium of entertainment (6)
25. Enchanting formula (5)

**Last week's solution #3**



# Why are we so blasé about violent pornography?



Why is it a turn on to hurt us?

Recent intersectional studies have shown that online misogyny and violent pornography are contributors to a sharp rise in domestic violence. In NSW alone, police attend 500 incidents every day. If there were 500 threats or incidents at banks, or to the government, we would be in a state of emergency. Instead we stop, shake our heads, we listen to good men in government speak empty words, make a few promises, and move on. If you've ever lived through violence, it's pretty well what your abuser does after hitting you.

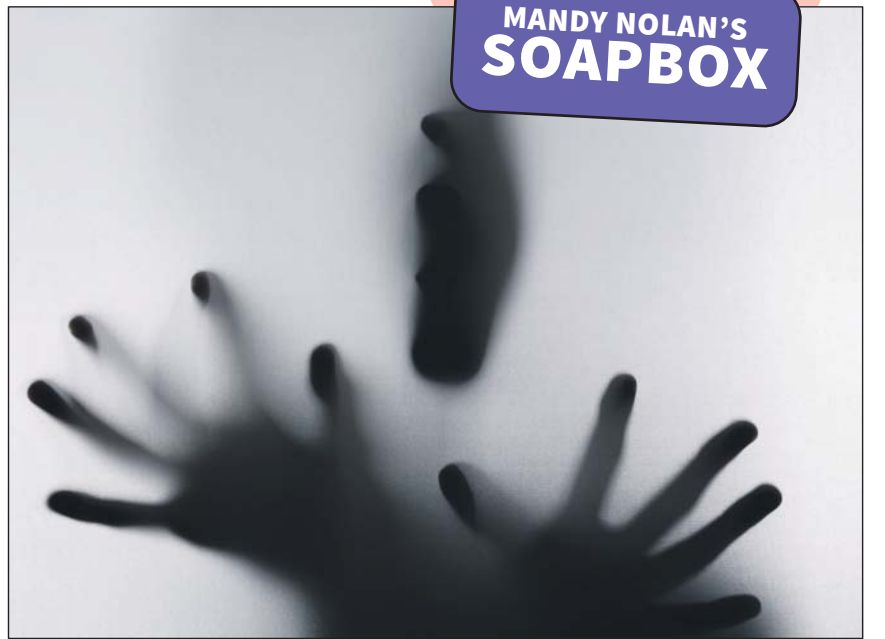
At National Cabinet, one of the measures workshopped to address the abuse and killing of women, or as I prefer to call it 'gender terrorism', was age verification to stop kids accessing porn online.

Age verification is fraught with numerous privacy concerns, like who stores the data? Porn Hub? Service NSW? Age verification means ALL people accessing pornographic sites are age verified so that data has to go somewhere. Your porn passport will be a digital record of your kink.

No one asked WHY? Why are kids accessing violent pornography? And why is ANYONE watching it?

Violent pornography can be defined as 'the portraying of violence or coercion that is juxtaposed with, or an integral part of, explicit sexual activities with an underlying theme of dominance.' (Gruman, 2016).

Violent pornography depicts rape. It normalises choking. Slapping. Hitting. Spitting. A friend told me recently a guy she'd been with spat on her while they were having sex. Apparently like choking, this is becoming normal sexual play. I can't think of any circumstance I'd like to



**Violent pornography can be defined as 'the portraying of violence or coercion that is juxtaposed with, or an integral part of, explicit sexual activities with an underlying theme of dominance.' (Gruman, 2016)**

be spat on. Spitting on someone is a sign of disgust. It's degrading. It's a sign that someone is worthless. But this is a sweet little spitty sex game? And we are all okay about this?

Why aren't we asking why rapey-porn is so popular? Why choking seems to have become a pedestrian sexual activity? Violent pornography normalises hurting women. It creates a slave/master relationship where there is no consent. This isn't BDSM, this is pornographised abuse and rape. This is online sexually explicit and wildly accessible instruction manuals on how to hurt women. How to degrade and devalue.

When your fantasy kink is to rape or simulate killing a woman you're a candidate for actually hurting and killing real women.

I want to know why? We are in a digital age that most of us don't have the sufficient tech or ethical skills to navigate. We face dystopian truth decay. We need to work this out.

As women become more powerful, as we step into leadership roles in our families, communities, workplaces and government, we are being raped and murdered in online pornography AND in our homes. We can't stop it in our real world, if we don't stop it in the digital one. The veil between our worlds is becoming thinner, and soon it will be indistinguishable.

Maybe it's not age verification we need, but porn verification. End violence.

End violent pornography.

## STARS BY LILITH

As genial Jupiter joins the sun and Venus in the socialising sign of the twins for his year-long stay in Gemini, this week's annual full moon in chatty Sagittarius puts the world on loudspeaker...



GEMINI THE TWINS

**ARIES:** Full moon's excellent recommendation on 23 May to expand your viewfinder and assess things from a wider perspective is this week's number one gamechanger. So stretch your mental horizons with informative podcasts, your emotional parameters by reaching out, your body with different dance or exercise routines.

**TAURUS:** With Venus flitting into social butterfly mode, expect flirty chit-chat, witty exchanges and increased online interactions. Jupiter entering your money zone opens up a new financial cycle, so start considering this week what new options are likely to go the distance: fact check, crunch numbers, develop project plans.

**GEMINI:** The radiant sun and charming Venus beaming their welcome vibes into your social sign during the last week of May illuminate this year's glorious cosmic birthday present: Jupiter is making its once in 12 year visit to Gemini until June 2025. Welcome to an exciting, expansive new cycle!

**CANCER:** Jupiter spending the coming 12 months in your personal zone of closure assists in de-cluttering your life of outdated habit patterns and connections no longer beneficial to your well-being. Which might include telling the good, the bad and the truth when full moon on 23 May hands you the mic.

**LEO:** With Jupiter heading this week into your zone of friendship and the collective for the coming 12 months, get very clear about what you want to put out to the world. Gemini season is all about communicating and connecting, so look for ways to amplify and broadcast your message.

**VIRGO:** Welcome to a busy new Jupiter cycle. As the red-spotted giant begins its yearlong trek through a fellow mutable sign like yours, supported by this week's sun and Venus, the exchange of information ramps up to the point where sanity suggests limiting online input.

**LIBRA:** With Venus in the sign of the twins, get ready for plenty of mixed messages. Full moon on 23 May could stimulate the urge to stand up and speak out, so it's worthwhile identifying beforehand where you need to turn up the volume and question conventions that aren't working for you.

**SCORPIO:** With Venus in curious mode, the urge to experiment could be strong, and the likelihood of meeting someone interesting through a mutual connection high. Scorpios are intense, so you might want to know that in the time of the twins there's a definite bias to keep things light and airy.

**SAGITTARIUS:** Sagittarius full moon on 23 May opens a portal for connecting with loved ones at a distance, and your ruling planet Jupiter makes its annual move, this year into your relationship zone, asking: have you possibly been thinking too small in the partnership department? This is your time to dream big, archers.

**CAPRICORN:** When tearaway full moon on 23 May issues your ticket to ride beyond the comfortable and familiar, a getaway from your everyday routine is wholeheartedly encouraged. If actual travel isn't possible, take an internal trip to a fresh mindset, a new perspective, another way of thinking. Do something different.

**AQUARIUS:** As this week's astral energetics spark ideas and dialogue in fellow mind-sign Gemini, which loves all things local and new, explore what's on offer in your neighbourhood. Or maybe experiment with a seasonal style-over in that signature Aquarian way of naturally drawing attention without looking like you're trying.

**PISCES:** The planetary triad of the sun, Venus and Jupiter coming online in the sign of communication invite you to reach out and connect, to upgrade your tech skills if necessary. And this week's visionary Sagittarius full moon beckons you to explore beyond the borders of what's comfortable and familiar.

# Articles

## The Darling Muffs of May need your help to reach fundraising target

Raising money to support frontline services for women who are homeless or at risk of homelessness has been the driving force behind the Darling Muffs of May's fundraising this year.

'The project is a little tongue in cheek and while we are looking at a serious issue we also wanted to bring a little laughter to the world at the same time,' said social muff Elle Marinucci.

'We have now reached our halfway fundraising mark and we have two weeks to go until the grand gala opening of the Great Wall of Muff exhibition in Mullumbimby on Friday, May 31. People have been really innovative in how they have approached fundraising as not everyone, understandably, is willing to show their muff in the final exhibition. Last weekend we had the Main Arm Muffia hold a high tea at the Main Arm store where people entered their muffins that they had made to raise money for



The Main Arm Muffia raised over \$150 for women's homelessness on Saturday. You can sponsor them at: <https://darling-muffs-of-may.raisely.com>. Photo Aslan Shand

the cause. There were some pretty fantastic muff-inspired muffins on the table.

'If you know someone or a group who is raising funds for the Darling Muffs of May you can go to our website (<https://darling-muffs-of-may.raisely.com>), click "donate" and donate to them. All the money raised will go to these six charities working on the front line: Mullumbimby District Neighbourhood Centre, Fred's Place in Murwillumbah, The SHIFT Project, Liberation Larder, Women Up North in

Lismore and Fletcher Street Cottage in Byron Bay.'

### Gala opening night

If you aren't into showing your muff, making muffins or sponsoring people to show their muffins in the Great Wall of Muffs you can support the 'muffment' by buying a ticket to the exhibition opening night on Friday, May 31 in Mullumbimby. Mandy Nolan will be MC, and you will be entertained by Mutton the band, Spaghetti Circus, DJ Laine Godiva and some special surprise acts. To pick up a ticket and enjoy a free glass of wine book here: <https://events.humanitix.com/the-great-wall-of-muff-opening-night>.

The Great Wall of Muff exhibition is being held at the old Chincogan Mowers building, 4 Burringbar Street, Mullumbimby. You can visit the exhibition for free on Saturday and Sunday 10am to 4pm.



## Are you a young person wanting to learn about renting?

Come along for a free information session on the basics of getting a rental property

Find out about rental applications, tenancy rights and responsibilities, and more!

Delivered by The Family Centre in partnership with Byron Shire Council for young people aged 16-21 years old

**When:** 10-11am Saturday 1 June 2024  
**Where:** Mullumbimby Civic Memorial Hall, 55 Dalley Street, Mullumbimby NSW 2482

Registration required by 30 May 2024.

[www.byron.nsw.gov.au](http://www.byron.nsw.gov.au)

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In rainy weather, give your indoor plants a little time sitting in the rain to refresh the foliage. Just make sure you don't leave them out in the sun.

When plants have outgrown their pots, re-pot them in a pot that's just one size larger than their existing pot and use premium potting mix.

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## Pro Solar

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# Good Taste

## Eateries Guide

### BYRON BAY



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Enjoy hinterland views, stunning sunsets and signature cocktails showcasing local distilleries and breweries.



#### Success Thai

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

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

BYO only.  
Welcome for lunch, dinner and takeaway.

Menus available on Facebook.



#### The Rocks

Brunch 6.30am–1pm  
Dinner 5pm–10pm  
14–16 Lawson St,  
**5642 0149**

[therocksbyronbay.com.au](http://therocksbyronbay.com.au)  
@therocksbyronbay

**Happy Hour** 6pm–8pm  
\$6 Beers & \$7 Wines  
\$12 selected cocktails

**Live Music Thursdays & Latin Night Sundays**  
Open for dinner Wed–Sun



#### Loft Byron Bay

4 Jonson Street,  
Byron Bay  
**6680 9183**  
**Book online:**  
[www.loftbyronbay.com.au](http://www.loftbyronbay.com.au)

Signature cocktails, and casual dining with ocean views.

**Happy Hour** | Every day from 4–6pm.  
\$8 loft wine or lager, \$10 spritzer,  
\$14 margaritas & \$30 house wine bottle  
Half price deli board & \$2.50 fresh oysters

**Espresso Martini Nights** | Every day 9pm–close,  
2 for \$25 Classic Espresso Martini.  
**Open 7 days from 4pm. Sat lunches from Noon.**



#### North Byron Hotel

61 Bayshore Drive, Byron Bay  
**6685 6500**  
Open:  
11am Mon–Fri & 8am Sat–Sun  
Kitchen hours: 11:30am–late daily  
Breakfast: 8am–11am Sat & Sun  
[www.northbyronhotel.com.au](http://www.northbyronhotel.com.au)

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

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

Eat Drink Discover



#### Main Street

Open for takeaway daily,  
12 midday until dinner.  
Menu, more details –  
@mainstreet\_burgerbar  
18 Jonson Street  
**6680 8832**

Open for takeaway daily, 12 midday until dinner.

Menu and more details  
@mainstreet\_burgerbar

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



10/8 Fletcher Street, Byron Bay  
@kahakai\_byronbay  
[www.kahakai.com.au](http://www.kahakai.com.au)  
**Hours:**  
Wednesday – Sunday  
Brunch 7:30am–1:30pm

**Local food, for locals, carved out by the ocean-shore**  
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[www.bangalowbread.co](http://www.bangalowbread.co)  
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### MULLUMBIMBY



#### The Empire

20 Burringbar St, Mullum  
**6684 2306**  
Open for brunch and lunch,  
seven days 8am–3pm  
FB/Insta: EmpireMullum  
[empiremullum.com.au](http://empiremullum.com.au)

The seasonal menu features classic and modern dishes with innovative twists.  
Find something for all tastes, from epic burgers to vegan delights. Enjoy delectable treats and good vibes at this Mullum icon.

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#### Celebrations Cakes by Liz Jackson

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## Spice Palace: a mecca for Middle Eastern dips and spice mixes

Victoria Cosford

The business was a natural fit for Bec and Tom, new owners for the past few months, of this successful little operation.

Spice Palace, mecca for Middle Eastern dips and spice mixes, has long been a familiar presence at the farmers' markets – but regular customers need have no fear that a change of ownership translates as changed offerings.

'It felt like an honour,' Bec tells me, 'to take on something so established... we were very aware the products were gorgeous.' The natural fit owes to the fact the couple has long been making their own yoghurt, bread, sauerkraut and sauces; Tom, originally from Sydney's Bondi, has always been 'passionate about organics, food co-ops, food I



L to R: Basil, Tom, Bec and Wren – the Jacksons are the recently-installed down-to-earth royalty at the Spice Palace.

could trust,' he tells me.

Based at Main Arm, they ran the Mullumbimby Commons for six years,

right up until the floods, operating it as a community centre, offering lots of home-schooling programs. They'd

always known of Spice Palace, Bec being a regular pecan buyer, so when the opportunity presented itself

they seized it. That many of the ingredients in the dips and mixes could be grown by them in their own garden

was another drawcard. 'We've been growing garlic for eight years,' Bec says. 'It's exciting to be growing for the business rather than just for us.' The next batches of basil will be 'our own basil', she says. Pumpkin, coriander and parsley seedlings are all in the ground and 'we just planted a whole load of citrus.'

My eye is caught by a favourite Spice Palace product, the red harissa. I'd only recently emptied a jar of it, having used it in so many ways: dolloped alongside poached eggs or stirred into scrambled ones; plopped atop pizza; spooned beside grilled fish; whisked into mashed potato...

Spice Palace is at New Brighton Farmers Market every Tuesday from 8 to 11am and Mullumbimby Farmers Market every Friday from 7 to 11am.

## We Like to Tiki: Caper festival closing party this Sunday



Louis Tikaram and Jedd Rifai cooking up a storm.

North Byron Hotel is the official watering hole of Caper Byron Bay Food & Culture Festival 2024. To celebrate what is set to be an epic ten-day long gastronomic love affair, the hotel is throwing a

'We Like to Tiki' festival closing party, and you're invited.

On Sunday, 26 May, a star-studded line-up of chefs that have been showing their faces over the festival are all coming together around the

fire to create a paradisiacal island buffet-style meal like no other. Festival Food Curator, Louis Tikaram, who heads up The Stanley in Brisbane will be working alongside the joyous Ross



Magnaye of Serai Kitchen in Melbourne, Jedd Rifai the lead man at everyone's favourite local, North Byron Hotel and much-loved local Hawaiian legend, Karl Kanetani from Beach, Byron Bay. We're talking stacked plates of traditional dishes like succulent Kahlua Pig and juicy Lomi Lomi and much more! Festivities kick off at 4pm with a thirst-quenching welcome cocktail on arrival and live tunes from talented

a loud outfit and head down

Star-studded chef line-up, island buffet-style meals and fun!

Jerome Williams and band. The team are ready to bring island vibes to the Rainbow Region, Caper style. It's the perfect excuse to let those salty locks loose, whack on

to North Byron Hotel for the finale we've all been waiting for. Come and luau the night away.

For more information visit [caperbyronbay.com](http://caperbyronbay.com) and checkout the Caper calendar for must-hit events, such as the free family day on Saturday, 25 May at the North Byron Hotel from 12pm, with live music in the garden and fun for the kids and adults!



Open 6am – 12pm  
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# MULLUM 2 BRUNS PADDLE

## SUNDAY MAY 26

**Paddle fun and challenges down the Bruns River**  
**Festival fun at The Terrace in Brunswick**  
[mullum2brunspaddle.com.au](http://mullum2brunspaddle.com.au)

**BENEFICIARIES**

**Brunswick Heads** Visitor Centre.

## PROGRAM

**PADDLE FUN & CHALLENGES 8.00-10.15**  
Coffee cart, water, T-shirts, programs from 7.00am  
All events from Heritage Park. Register 30 mins before start time  
8.00-9.30 Echo Fun Paddle Register from 7.30am, start 8am  
9.15 The Sails Motel Best Decorated Craft  
9.30 Sun Protection Australia Stand Up Paddle Challenge  
10.00 Print Rescue Dragon Boats - Heritage Park Ramp 2  
10.00 Hotel Brunswick Paddle Challenge  
10.15 Suzuki Marine Double Paddle Challenge

After finishing, paddlers must exit at the beach at Memorial Park  
Craft minding 9.30-2.30 on Memorial Park, gold coin donation  
Free shuttle buses to Mullum from the VC 9.30-2.30 with entry fees

**BRUNS BANNER PARK FUN 9.30-2.30**  
Visitor Centre, Marine Rescue & Surf Club food stalls, info, t-shirts

9.30-2 Positive Change for Marine Life River Clean Up  
9.30-2 Mullum Cares free filtered water & wash station  
9.30-12.30 Oceana Kids Art & Craft FREE workshop  
10-12 Seaside Holidays FREE face painting by Oceana  
11-1 Spaghetti Circus FREE play space  
10-2 Let's Go Surfing FREE SUP clinic & stall  
10-2 Social Remedy B3 fitness recovery & ice bath  
11 ish Decorated dragon boats arrive at Massy Greene wall  
12.30 **OPENING & Welcome to Country** by Damien Farrell  
Awards presentations, including Bill McDonald Award  
Reflections Holiday Parks Participants Draw  
Mona Apartments Raffle Draw  
Mullumbimby Comprehensive Health Centre Duck Race

"Wash not waste" event. Wash station to clean provided plates and cups (donate a keep-cup or mug)

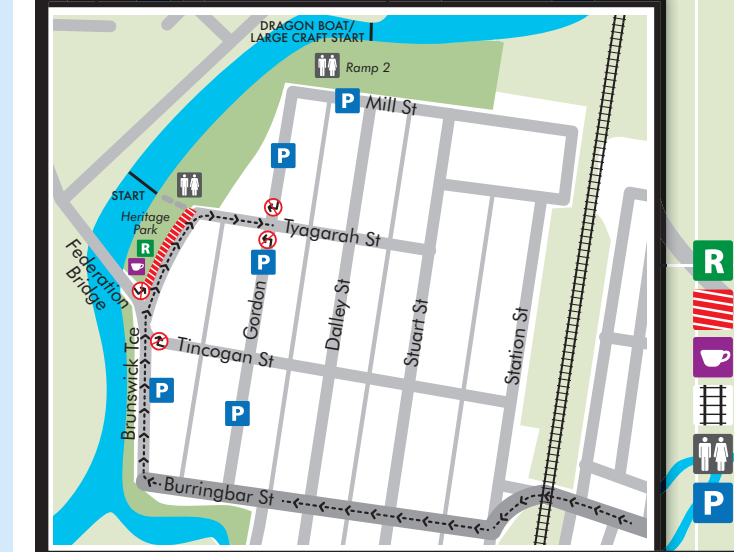
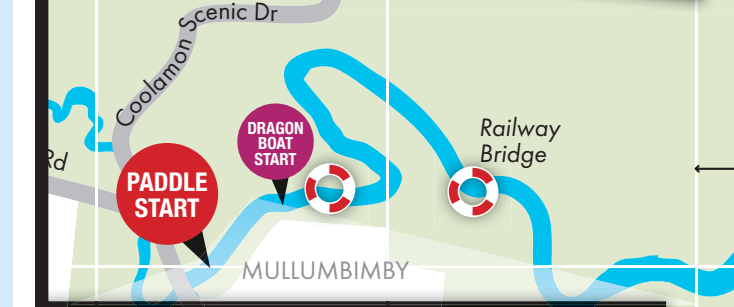
**LIVE MUSIC PROGRAM 10-2** Sponsored by Kennard's Hire

10.00 One Two Many  
11.20 Concrete Gold  
1.00-2.00 Unsuspected

**REGISTRATIONS**  
Enter online by 9.30pm Sat 25 May. Fun Paddlers only on the day  
Pre-registrations & T-shirt pick up at Hotel Bruns 25 May 2-8pm

**ECHO FUN PADDLE**  
Adults \$25 online, \$30 on the day; U15 \$8 online, \$10 on the day  
**THE SALES MOTEL BEST DECORATED CRAFT**  
Adults \$25 online, \$30 on the day; U15 \$8 online, \$10 on the day  
**BRUNSWICK HOTEL OPEN PADDLE CHALLENGES**  
Entries \$50 online  
**SUN PROTECTION AUSTRALIA SUP CHALLENGES**  
Entries \$50 online  
**SUZUKI MARINE DOUBLE PADDLE CHALLENGE**  
Entries \$65 online  
Life jacket requirements & all other info on the website

[mullum2brunspaddle.com.au](http://mullum2brunspaddle.com.au)



**REFLECTIONS HOLIDAY PARKS PARTICIPANTS DRAW 1pm**

- Reflections accom voucher + Crystal Castle voucher (Value \$350)
- Reflections accom voucher + Sun Protection Australia cap (Value \$290)
- Bunnings Byron Bay Aurus 600 low smoke firepit (Value \$249)

*You must be present to win these fabulous prizes!*

**THE SALES MOTEL BEST DECORATED CRAFT**  
*Get creative & decorate your craft to win great prizes!*

- The Sails Motel 2 nights + Sanctum Gift Box
- The Sails Motel 2 nights + Circus Arts voucher

**Best Decorated Dragon Boat Award - In the Pink vouchers**

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COMMUNITY GROUP THANKS

Brunswick Heads Chamber of Commerce • Cancer Council • Positive Change for Marine Life  
Brunswick Heads Nippers • Library of Stuff • Mullum Cares • Mullumbimby Ex Services Club • Mullumbimby Giants RL Under 16s

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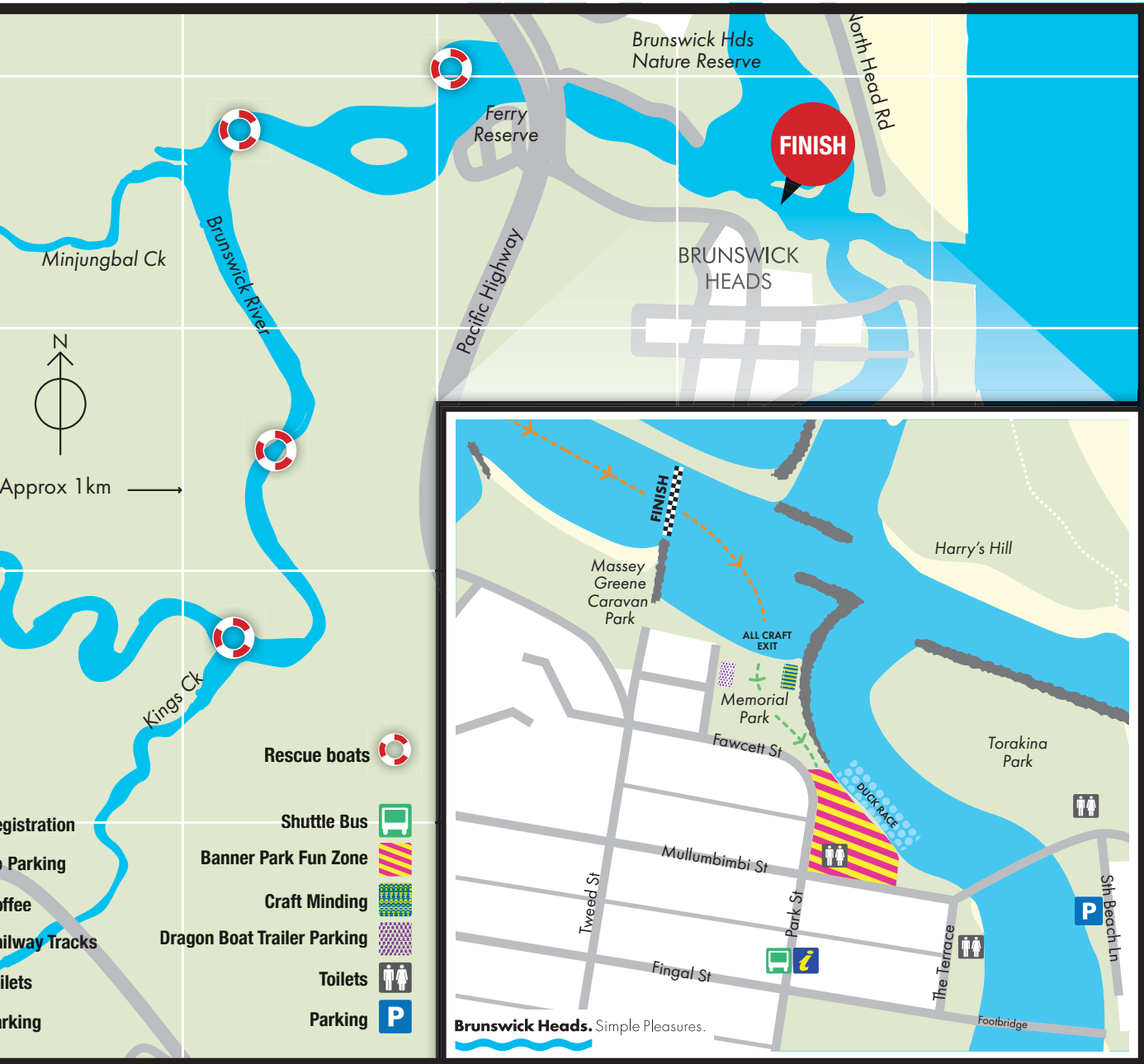
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Map showing the route from Minjungbal Ck to the finish line in Brunswick Heads. Key locations include Kings Ck, Ferry Reserve, Pacific Highway, North Head Rd, Harry's Hill, Torakina Park, and various streets in Brunswick Heads.

Legend:

- Rescue boats
- Shuttle Bus
- Banner Park Fun Zone
- Craft Minding
- Dragon Boat Trailer Parking
- Toilets
- Parking

**STARTS 2pm**



**MULLUMBIMBY COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CENTRE DUCK RACE**

\$5 Ducks from VC, Marine Rescue & Surf Club before or on the day

- HOLIDAY PACK** – 2 nights @ Brunswick River Inn + Vision Walks Eco Tour for 2 + Let's Go Surfing lesson + Crystal Castle voucher + \$50 BK's voucher
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- PAMPER PACK** – Ozone Beauty & Medi Spa oxygen facial + Sanctum pack + Michaela's Hair & Beauty + 1.5hr BH Massage + Electric Mermaid haircut

**MONA APARTMENTS RAFFLE DRAW 2pm**



- MONA APARTMENTS** family holiday for a week (\$3,500)
- SUZUKI DFDA** 5hp outboard motor (\$2,200) + wOut of the Blue Adventures Trip
- \$600 SHOPPING SPREE** – \$50 vouchers from Torakina Daze, Son of Drum, Bruns Health Foods, Beach Bait & Tackle, Mahashe, Body Peace Bamboo, Brunswick Surf, Bernardi's Gelato + \$100 Bruns Books & Crystal Castle vouchers

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# Byron Arts & Industry Estate



## 1. VAMPT VINTAGE DESIGN

Sourcing from Scandinavia for over 20 years, and more recently from Italy and Brazil, Vampt has a diverse range of quality original vintage furniture, lighting and collectables. Also located in Surry Hills. Vampt offers styling options for property and events, and is also available for hire.

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The perfect space for eating, drinking and relaxing in the garden with friends and family, even your dog! Enjoy Mediterranean delights, wood-fired Napoli pizzas, Open Skies BBQ's, classic Sunday roast, sports bar with pool table, cocktail lounge, kids' playground, and kids' pizza and pasta cooking classes. Plus laid-back vibes with live music under fairy lights, and locally-sourced produce.

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## 3. LOYAL CRUSH

Loyal Crush has moved! You can now find them upstairs in their brand new store. Drop in and try their range of perfumes, pick up your favourite journal; or try out their range of makeup and skincare.

Shop their range of completely cruelty-free beauty and wellness products. Open 8.30am to 4pm, Monday to Friday.

The Depot

02 7204 0630

23/73 Centennial Circuit

[www.loyalcrush.com](http://www.loyalcrush.com)



## 4. MCTAVISH SURFBOARDS

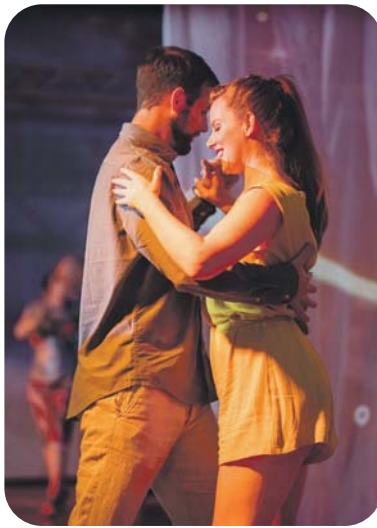
McTavish is the ultimate destination for all things surf. Grab a pre- or post-surf coffee and browse the range of handcrafted surfboards (all made on-site in the factory behind the showroom), surf accessories and apparel, or borrow a demo board for the weekend.

Surfboard Factory, Surf Shop & Cafe

91 Centennial Circuit

[www.mctavish.com.au](http://www.mctavish.com.au)

@mctavishsurf



## 5. GO TANGO

Go Tango's new studio is now open for business, offering weekly social Argentine Tango lessons at all levels. Beginner 4-week courses are available every month. Teaching is focused on ease and enjoyment.

Join the fun - get out, move, smile and feel good!

Bookings essential - contact Esther

0431 130 465

1/102-104 Centennial Circuit

[www.gotango.com.au](http://www.gotango.com.au)



## 6. BYRON BAY CAMPING & DISPOSALS

Have you found them in the Arts & Industry Estate yet? Byron Bay Camping & Disposals moved from the old Woolies Plaza site last year into their new building, located on the corner of Tasman Way and Centennial Circuit.

They stock popular brands and are regularly introducing new products to their store.

They have parking spaces out the front exclusively for customers and are open seven days.

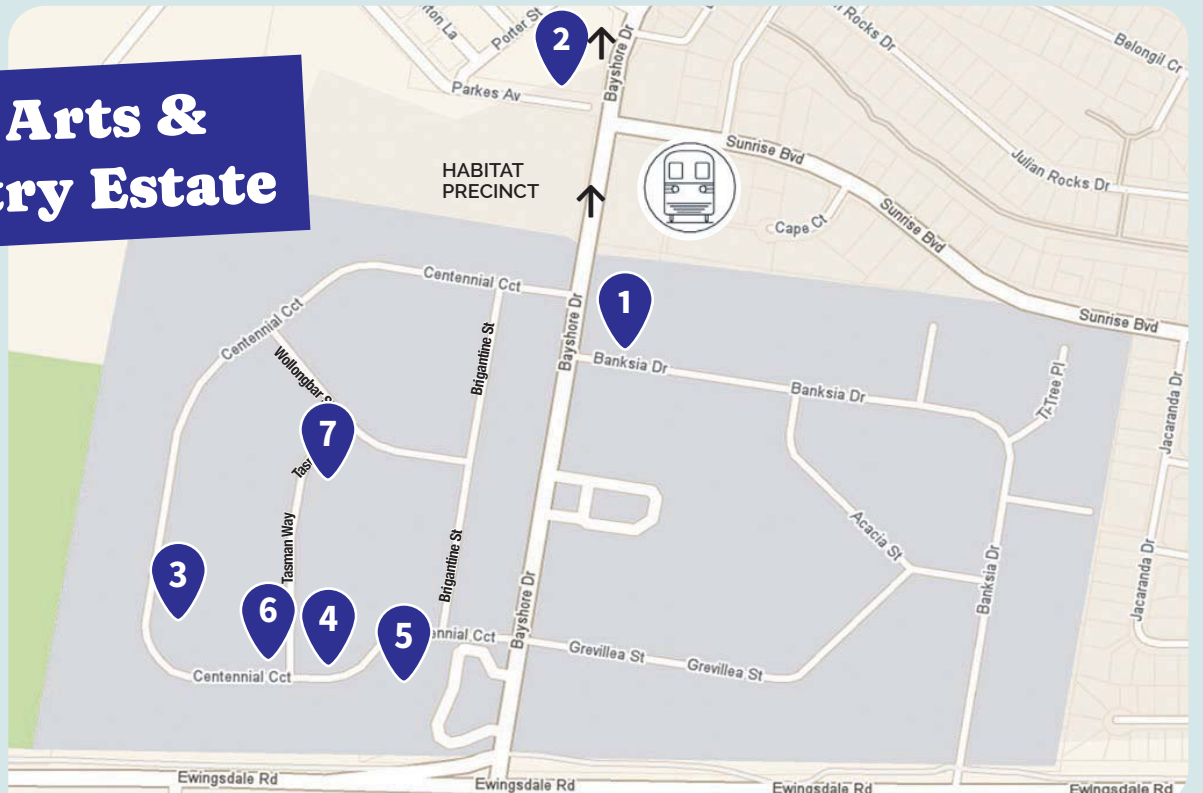
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## Byron Arts & Industry Estate





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[www.bodylanguagebyronbay.com](http://www.bodylanguagebyronbay.com)

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3/12 Tasman Way

@ bodylanguagebyronbay



## 8. THE SECRET BYRON BAY

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## 10. BYRON FAMILY LAW

Byron Family Law is a boutique family law firm established in Byron Bay. Through collaborative and resolution-focused practices, they support clients to separate more kindly and to rebuild following divorce or separation. They work in collaboration with local counsellors, conveyancers, accountants, mediators, and health and wellness professionals to support you and your family to not only survive but thrive following a separation.

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Get out of town! Visit Habitat where you can shop, eat, drink and recharge, all in one place. They've carefully curated every flagship store, independent boutique and fashion label, so you can find the iconic style you'd expect from Byron, hassle free.

Plus, they've got all your favourite health and wellness studios and good food galore.

Habitat, Byron Bay

## Habitat Precinct



Habitat is a CLEVERLY DESIGNED village in Byron Bay, where you can live, work and play, all in one place. Over 20 years in the making, Habitat combines the best of old-school byron (community, creativity, respect for the environment) with the LATEST in DESIGN and THINKING (renewable energy, car sharing, hybrid live + work spaces) along with plenty of GOOD TIMES (bars, cafes, fitness, shopping) to create a little oasis within one of the most BEAUTIFUL places on Earth.

# seven

seven entertainment

Volume 38 #50  
 22-28 May, 2024  
 Editor: Eve Jeffery  
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 P: 02 6684 1777  
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## DANCE FOR BRAZIL

The **Mahico** and **Aruanda** crews are joining hands to invite the entire community to be a part of Dance for Brazil – a day to flood Brazil with support, **this Sunday in Byron Bay.**

In the past few weeks, Brazil has experienced a massive natural disaster, the largest flood in the country's history, affecting more than 2.1 million people in over 350 towns and leaving 618,000 people homeless. Following the wave of support and compassion from both Brazilians and international communities, the Mahico and Aruanda crews are joining hands to invite the entire community to be a part of a fundraising event.

The entire proceeds from the event will be redirected to one of the organisations in Brazil actively involved in reallocating families and managing the essential supplies people need. Think globally, act locally and dance your support. Music at the event will include sets from **Groove Bahia, Batukanum, Darlan, Monsieur Diop, Pumah, Salve Jorge** and **Xuja**. There will be a kids' space, food and market stalls.

Organisers are asking for a \$30 donation – or more! Kids are free.

**Sunday, 10am to 9pm at Playground, Byron Bay – 4 Grevillea Street, Byron Bay.**

**Tickets from [eventbrite.com.au/e/dance-for-brazil-tickets-906338231047](http://eventbrite.com.au/e/dance-for-brazil-tickets-906338231047).**



## EMBARKING ON ADVENTURE

The **2024 Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour** comes to Brunswick Heads and the **Picture House** is calling all adventurers, thrill-seekers, and lovers of the great outdoors.

With only two screenings scheduled for **23 and 24 May**, tickets are selling fast.

Featuring a meticulously curated collection of 'world firsts' in the realm of outdoor sports, this year's festival promises to be nothing short of extraordinary.

From heart-pounding tales of exploration to awe-inspiring feats of courage, each film offers a glimpse into the limitless possibilities of the human spirit.

At the heart of this year's festival is a special tribute to Australian legend Dr Glenn Singleman, whose world record BASE jump from Pakistan's Trango Tower in 1992 continues to inspire adventurers around the globe. His story, captured on the big screen, serves as a reminder of the boundless potential that lies within each of us.

But the excitement doesn't end there. From the discovery of vast cave systems in Canada to the pioneering spirit of tandem cross-country skiing, over 80 films have been carefully selected. Each screening promises to be a thrilling adventure from start to finish.

For those in Brunswick Heads, the opportunity to experience this unforgettable cinematic journey is fast approaching – it's time to secure your tickets.

Tickets for the Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour are now available for purchase, offering audiences the chance to immerse themselves in the world of outdoor exploration and fuel their adventurous spirit.

Don't miss your chance to be part of this exhilarating cinematic experience – book your tickets today and get ready to embark on the adventure of a lifetime.

**Visit [banffaustralia.com.au/tickets/](http://banffaustralia.com.au/tickets/) for more information and tickets now.**



## Thank you Fishheads and Byron Bay Chamber of Commerce!

BayFM survives and thrives on the generosity of our community.

So we were delighted last Tuesday to be the beneficiary of a fundraising breakfast hosted at Fishheads by the Byron Bay Chamber of Commerce.

Thanks to Ralph from Fishheads and Matt from the Chamber for your support.



[bayfm.org](http://bayfm.org)

Support us at [bayfm.org/donate](http://bayfm.org/donate)

Grigoryan Brothers  
**Amistad**

Thursday June 13, 7:30 pm  
 Byron Theatre  
 69 JONSON ST, BYRON BAY

Bookings at [www.byrontheatre.com.au](http://www.byrontheatre.com.au)  
 Further info: [grigoryanbrothers.com/concerts](http://grigoryanbrothers.com/concerts)

Elizabeth Coleman's  
**secret**  
 bridesmaids'  
 business

May 30-31  
 June 1-2, 6-9

[drillhalltheatre.org.au](http://drillhalltheatre.org.au)



### GETTING GROOVY WITH INO

Originally from NZ, **Ino Pio** is proud to have called the Northern Rivers home for the last decade. When visiting Byron Bay or Ballina you will be sure to see him playing around town.

Ino warms the sounds of acoustic excellence, with his one-man band show, looping up all your favourites. From your top-40 to new renditions of old, whether it be with his duo or the five-piece band, Ino will get you grooving!

**Friday at Ballina RSL Boardwalk from 6pm.**



### SHH - IT'S SECRET BRIDESMAID'S BUSINESS

It is the very eve of Meg's wedding – her mother is fussing over every detail and her best friends are doing little to help. The wedding is the gala event that Meg has dreamed of since she was a girl and one that has taken far too long to come true. But, anything that can go wrong does until the veil is lifted on an unhappy secret, and Meg's dream is rocked by a revelation she doesn't want to be true.

Director **Mike Russo** has chosen this hugely successful Australian play to feature his acting workshop students and promises an enjoyable night at the theatre.

*Secret Bridesmaid's Business* also features a cast of experienced actors including **Veronica Lovejoy** and **Leah Van Ewijk**.

***Secret Bridesmaid's Business* plays on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 7.30pm and Sundays at 5pm from 30 May to 9 June. Tickets are \$20 and \$15 – book online at [drillhalltheatre.org.au](http://drillhalltheatre.org.au).**



### LOST IN PRONUNCIATON

**Ivan Aristeguieta** is ridiculously funny. What's better is watching people try and pronounce his name – and then of course, it's his deep dive into Aussie culture.

Ivan has lived in Australia for ten years – as he says 'living amongst you, observing you, learning about you' – and now he makes a very good living taking the piss out of you. 'I am a true blue, dinky-di Venez-stralian. Nah, she'll be right! (Who is she by the way?)'

So why did he come here?

'I left Venezuela after I was carjacked at gunpoint (true story!). Thank you for giving me a citizenship, Australia!'

He's a Venezuelan-born comedian, who often gets mistaken for being Mexican. He says, with understanding and a deep sense of irony, 'I get it, we all sound the same.'

He's not just brought his humour to Australia, he's a whizz in the kitchen. Most comics are lucky to manage Uber Eats. Ivan goes home after a gig and makes a three-course meal.

He is also a trained cook, food technologist and brewer. 'I'm a loud and proud food nerd. When I'm not performing, I'm probably making my own chorizo at home, or experimenting switching Vegemite for miso paste. Don't tell anybody this, but I was making bread at home before Covid. During the pandemic I hosted "About This Much – Live" an online "follow-along" cooking party, where I bring my kitchen to yours, via Zoom.'

Nominated for Most Outstanding Show at Melbourne International Comedy Festival, and a featured guest on *Have You Been Paying Attention* and *Hughesy, We Have a Problem* and his own ABC sitcom *Lost in Pronunciation* – no one does a deep dive on Aussie culture better than Ivan Aristeguieta.

**Aristeguieta performs at Byron Comedy Festival at the Hotel Great Northern on Friday, 31 May at 9pm. Tix on [byroncomedyfest.com](http://byroncomedyfest.com)**

## MAHICO FESTIVAL

SATURDAY JUNE 8TH

JUNE LONG WEEKEND



**CHANCHA VIA CIRCUITO** DJ SET (ARG)  
**BARRIO LINDO** (LIVE) (ARG)

MOONTIDE (LIVE) ♡ MIA KOBER (NZ)  
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THE GREEN ROOM - BLUESFEST SITE - TYAGARAH



# GIG GUIDE

It's free to list your gigs in the gig guide.  
 e: [gigs@echo.net.au](mailto:gigs@echo.net.au)  
 w: [echo.net.au/gig-guide](http://echo.net.au/gig-guide)  
**DEADLINE 5PM ON FRIDAYS**



## CINEMA

### THE FALL GUY

Ryan Gosling and Emily Blunt are being silly in a film take of the '80s television series: *The Fall Guy*.

He's a stuntman, and like everyone in the stunt community, he gets blown up, shot, crashed, thrown through windows and dropped from the highest of heights, all for our entertainment. And now, fresh off an almost career-ending accident, this working-class hero has to track down a missing movie star, solve a conspiracy, and try to win back the love of his life while still doing his day job. What could possibly go right?

Colt Seavers, a Hollywood stunt performer, works as the stunt double for famous action star Tom Ryder. However, he is severely injured during a stunt gone wrong and he abandons his career and his girlfriend Jody Moreno, a camerawoman.

Eighteen months later, Colt, now a valet for a small Mexican restaurant, is contacted by Gail Meyer, Tom's film producer. She tells him that Jody is directing her first film, a science fiction epic titled *Metalstorm*, and wants Colt to join the production in Sydney. After arriving on set, Colt learns that Jody never asked for him and is still angry about their breakup.

Gail reveals that Tom has disappeared after getting into trouble with drug dealers, and she wants Colt to find him before his absence causes the already overbudget film's cancellation. Not wanting Jody's directorial debut ruined, Colt starts to track down Tom.

From real-life stunt man and director **David Leitch**, Oscar® nominee Ryan Gosling (*Barbie*, *La La Land*, *Drive*) stars as Colt Seavers, as the battle-scarred stuntman, and his ex, Jody Moreno, is played by Golden Globe winner Emily Blunt (*Oppenheimer*, *A Quiet Place*, *Sicario*).

Inspired by the hit 1980s TV series, *The Fall Guy*, the film also stars **Winston Duke** (*Black Panther* franchise) and Academy Award® nominee **Stephanie Hsu** (*Everything Everywhere All at Once*).

**Check out *The Fall Guy* at Palace Ballina and Byron Bay.**

### WEDNESDAY 22

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **JAMEL BOUKABOU**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **HAYLEY GRACE**
- PALACE CINEMAS, BYRON BAY, **GERMAN FILM FESTIVAL**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6PM **INO PIO**
- BANGALOW BOWLO 7.30PM **BANGALOW BRACKETS OPEN MIC**

### THURSDAY 23

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **MARSHALL OKELL**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **BEN WALSH**
- PALACE CINEMAS, BYRON BAY, **GERMAN FILM FESTIVAL**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6PM **DAN HANNAFORD**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 7PM **BANFF MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL WORLD TOUR 2024**
- LENNOX HOTEL HOTEL STAGE 8PM **THURSDAY JAM NIGHT**
- BALLINA RSL BOARDWALK 2.30PM **BALLINA BLUES CLUB WITH GREG LYON'S HIP OPERATION**
- KELP BAR, BALLINA, 6PM **JAY & LYNDEY**
- THE LEVEE, LISMORE, 5PM **ADAM HARPAZ**
- LISMORE CITY BOWLO 7PM **THE SUPPER CLUB**

### FRIDAY 24

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **THE WHISKEYS**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 9PM **THE VYBEZ BAND + DAVE QUENDO**
- PALACE CINEMAS, BYRON BAY, **GERMAN FILM FESTIVAL**
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM **DJ XUJA**
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY, 8PM **KRAPPYOKEE WITH JESS**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 6PM **JET**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 7PM **BANFF MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL WORLD TOUR 2024**
- CLUB LENNOX 7PM **LEIGH JAMES**

### LENNOX HOTEL 8.30PM ISAAC FRANKHAM BAND

- CHERRY STREET SPORTS CLUB, BALLINA, 7PM **FAT ALBERT DUO**
- THE LEVEE, LISMORE, 7.30PM **DJ BIG RED & FRIENDS**
- THE CHANNON TAVERN 7PM **THE HOOCHERS**
- UKI HALL 7PM **UKI MOON THEATRE - SUMMER OF HAROLD**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 5PM **ROCKIN' RON**
- SALTBAR, KINGSCLIFF, 6PM **HAYLEY GRACE**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH HOTEL 7PM **DJ NIGHT RIDER**

### SATURDAY 25

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **THE LONESOME BOATMAN**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 3PM **ANNA STANTON + KANE MUIR & THE HOWLERS + DJ ZAC EWING + BILLY GUDGEN**
- BYRON THEATRE 7.30PM **THE BIG CHILL LIVE EVENT**
- PALACE CINEMAS, BYRON BAY, **GERMAN FILM FESTIVAL**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 4.30PM **SOUTH WALL + CHEYNNIE MURPHY**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 7PM **ASH GRUNWALD**
- MULLUMBIMBY CIVIC HALL 6PM **BYRON KIRTAN WITH SHIVA SHAKTI**
- CLUB LENNOX 7PM **JOCK BARNES BAND**
- LENNOX HOTEL 8PM **SHYBABY**
- BALLINA RSL BOARDWALK 6PM **HARRY NICHOLS**
- CHERRY STREET SPORTS CLUB, BALLINA, 7PM **PISTOL WHIP**
- ELTHAM HOTEL 7PM **JESS RIBEIRO & LEAH SENIOR**
- THE LEVEE, LISMORE, 8PM **DRAG NIGHT WITH FOXY BROWN-EYE**
- UKI HALL 7PM **UKI MOON THEATRE - SUMMER OF HAROLD**
- MURWILLUMBAH SERVICES CLUB 6PM **MERLIN**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 5PM **MEL SCARLETT**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH HOTEL 10PM **DJ BAILEY**

### SUNDAY 26

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **SARAH GRANT**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 4.30PM **LATE FOR WOODSTOCK**
- PALACE CINEMAS, BYRON BAY, **GERMAN FILM FESTIVAL**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 4PM **SOUL'D + YAZMINDI**
- LENNOX HOTEL 1PM **SARAH GRANT**
- BALLINA RSL BOARDWALK 2.30PM **SUNDAY BLUES CLUB SESSIONS FEAT LIZ KARSKI TRIO + ADAM BROWN**
- SHAW'S BAY HOTEL, BALLINA, 3PM **LIVE BABY LIVE: THE INXS TRIBUTE SHOW**
- THE LEVEE, LISMORE, 4PM **LIL' FUNK**
- THE CHANNON TAVERN 2PM **OPEN MIC**
- SALTBAR, KINGSCLIFF, 1PM **LEIGH JAMES**
- CHINDERAH TAVERN **JB'S BLUES BREAKERS**

### MONDAY 27

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **GUY KACHEL**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **TAHLIA MATHERSON**
- PALACE CINEMAS, BYRON BAY, **GERMAN FILM FESTIVAL**

### TUESDAY 28

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **BEN WALSH**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **ALLY PALMER**
- PALACE CINEMAS, BYRON BAY, **GERMAN FILM FESTIVAL**

### WEDNESDAY 29

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **ALLY PALMER**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **BEN WHITING**
- BYRON THEATRE 7.30PM **PRINNIE STEVENS**
- PALACE CINEMAS, BYRON BAY, **GERMAN FILM FESTIVAL**
- BANGALOW BOWLO 7.30PM **BANGALOW BRACKETS OPEN MIC**

### Session Times

Thurs, May 23 - Wed, May 29

### PALACE CINEMAS

108 Jonson St, Byron Bay

#### SPECIAL SCREENINGS

HIGH & LOW - JOHN GALLIANO (M)

Daily: 12:50PM, 3:45PM

Wed: 6:30PM

NT LIVE: NYE (C13)

Sat, Sun: 3:00PM

Mon, Tues: 6:00PM

ROYAL BALLET: SWAN LAKE (C13)

Sun: 1:00PM

Wed: 11:00AM

THE THREE MUSKETEERS: MILADY (M) ADVANCE SCREENING

Sun: 1:00PM

Wed: 6:15PM

FAMILY FILMS

IF (PG) NFT

Daily except Tues, Wed:

10:45AM, 1:50PM, 5:00PM

Tues: 10:30AM, 1:50PM, 5:00PM

Wed: 10:30AM, 1:50PM, 5:15PM

KUNG FU PANDA 4 (PG)

Daily: 10:50AM

#### ALL FILMS

A GREAT FRIEND (PG) NFT

Daily: 12:50PM, 3:45PM

BACK TO BLACK (M15+) (1)

Thurs, Fri, Sat: 12:50PM, 6:00PM

Sun: 6:00PM

Mon, Tues, Wed: 12:50PM

CHALLENGERS (M)

Thurs, Fri: 1:45PM, 8:30PM

Sat, Sun: 8:30PM

Mon, Tues: 12:50PM, 8:30PM

Wed: 12:50PM

FURIOSA: A MAD MAX SAGA (M15+) (1) NFT

Daily: 11:00AM, 1:00PM

3:00PM, 4:00PM, 6:00PM

7:00PM, 8:00PM

KINGDOM OF THE PLANET OF THE APES (M) (1) NFT

Daily except Sun, Wed:

11:00AM, 2:00PM, 6:50PM

Sun: 10:30AM, 1:15PM, 6:50PM

Wed: 10:00AM, 1:15PM, 6:50PM

RADICAL (M) (1) NFT

Thurs, Fri, Sat: 11:00AM

3:20PM, 6:00PM

Sun: 10:30AM, 3:20PM, 6:00PM

Mon: 10:15AM, 3:20PM, 6:00PM

Tues, Wed: 10:50AM, 3:20PM, 6:00PM

THE FALL GUY (M)

Daily except Sun, Wed:

1:40PM, 4:15PM, 8:30PM

Sun, Wed: 4:15PM, 8:30PM

THE TASTE OF THINGS (PG)

Thurs, Fri, Mon, Tues: 10:45AM

7:15PM

Sat, Sun: 11:45AM, 7:15PM

Wed: 10:20AM, 7:30PM

THE THREE MUSKETEERS: D'ARTAGNAN (M) (1) NFT

Thurs, Fri: 11:00AM, 4:30PM, 7:00PM

Sat: 11:00AM, 6:30PM

Sun: 10:30AM, 6:30PM

Mon, Tues: 10:30AM, 3:30PM

6:00PM

Wed: 10:30AM, 3:30PM, 8:40PM

THE WAY, MY WAY (PG) (1) NFT

Daily except Wed: 10:45AM

3:50PM, 5:50PM

Wed: 1:30PM, 3:50PM, 5:50PM

WICKED LITTLE LETTERS (M15+) (1)

Daily except Wed: 1:30PM

Wed: 3:00PM

### Session Times

Thurs, May 23 - Wed, May 29

### Ballina Fair Cinema

47/84 Kerr St, Ballina

FURIOSA: A MAD MAX SAGA (M15+) (1) NFT

Daily: 12:15PM, 3:15PM

6:15PM, 7:15PM

IF (PG)

Daily except Sat, Sun:

10:00AM, 5:00PM

Sat: 10:00AM, 12:15PM

Sun: 10:00AM, 1:00PM

5:10PM

KINGDOM OF THE PLANET OF THE APES (M) (1) NFT

Daily except Sun, Wed:

1:00PM, 4:00PM, 7:00PM

Sun: 10:00AM, 7:00PM

Wed: 12:30PM, 3:30PM

THE FALL GUY (M)

Daily except Sun: 2:30PM

Sun: 3:30PM

THE THREE MUSKETEERS: D'ARTAGNAN (M) (1) NFT

Daily except Wed: 10:30AM

Wed: 10:00AM

THE THREE MUSKETEERS: MILADY (M) (1) PREVIEW

Sun: 1:00PM

THE WAY, MY WAY (PG)

Daily except Sat, Sun: 10:10AM

12:20PM

Sat: 10:10AM

Sun: 3:00PM

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\*NFT = No Free Tickets

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OPEN | Sat 25th May 10 - 10:30am



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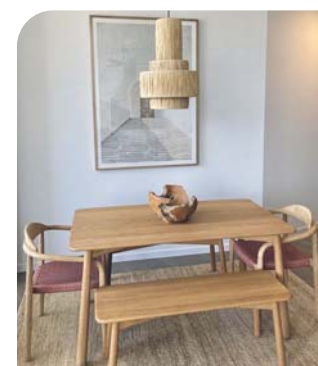


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# Service Directory



## SERVICE DIRECTORY RATES, PAYMENT & DEADLINE

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**LINE ADS:** \$99 for 3 months or \$340 for 1 year prepaid.

For line Service Directory ads email [classifieds@echo.net.au](mailto:classifieds@echo.net.au).

**DISPLAY ADS:** \$70 per week for colour display ad. Minimum 8 week booking 4 weeks prepaid.

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The Echo Service Directory is online – [www.echo.net.au/service-directory](http://www.echo.net.au/service-directory)

**ACCOUNTS & BOOKINGS: 6684 1777**

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## SOLAR INSTALLATION

Pioneers of the solar industry Serving Northern NSW since 1998

**SUNBEAM SOLAR**  
 Your local, qualified team. Specialists in standalone & grid interact system designs.

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 m 0428 320 262  
 e sunbeamsolar@bigpond.com  
 w sunbeamsolar.com.au  
 Electric Lic 124600c

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DIGITAL ELECTRONICS REPAIR & SERVICE TV, Audio, Antennas ..... 66843575 or 0414 922786  
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## TILING

WALL & FLOOR TILER/WATERPROOFER/STONEMASON Lic 24418C. ....Ph Karl 0439 232434  
 AJ'S TILING all aspects. Bathrooms, kitchens, walls, floors, waterproofing. Lic 239988C 0416 345202

## TRANSPORT

**BYRON BUS CO**  
 Door to Door Charter Services  
 Call **0490 183 424**  
 arrive@byronbuscompany.com.au



Get a Quick Quote Now  
 Airport Transfers | Tours | Nights Out | Coastal Walks  
 Events | Parties | Weddings | Corporate | Festivals

## TREE SERVICES

### CHOPPY CHOP TREE SERVICES

The Fully Insured Professionals

- Stump Grinding
- Bobcat
- Cherry picker
- Crane Truck
- 18" Chipper

Mark Linder Qualified Arborist  
**0408 202 184**  
 choppychoptrees@bigpond.com



EST 2011

### SENTINEL TREE CARE

QUALITY, PROFESSIONAL ADVICE & EXPERTISE YOU CAN TRUST

Expert Pruning • Habitat Creation & Monitoring  
 Cleaning & Removal of Palms • Tree Removal

Phone or Text **0421 435 620**  
 www.sentineltreecare.com.au



### HART TREE SERVICES

PRUNING ~ REMOVALS ~ STUMP GRINDING

- 20 years local knowledge and experience
- Fully insured / free quotes
- 19 inch chipper
- Bobcat
- Cherry picker
- Crane truck

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**0427 347 380**



**Tallow TREE SERVICES**

- Professional Tree Removal, Surgery & Maintenance
- Stump Grinding
- Weed Control
- Arborist Reporting & Consultancy
- EWP Cherry Picker Hire
- Mulching of Green Waste
- 24 Hour Emergency Call-Out
- Professional, Reliable Service

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**0401 208 797**

qualified ARBORIST

Martino TREE SERVICES  
 Byron Bay & Beyond  
**0435 019 524**



TREE CARE SPECIALISTS

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**0402 487 213**



BYRON TREE SERVICES Qualified, insured. Call Alex ..... 0402 364852  
 MARTINO TREE SERVICES ..... Martino 0435 019524  
 LEAF IT TO US 4x4 truck/chipper + crane truck. Local, qualified, insured. Free quotes ..... 0402 487213  
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## TRUCK HIRE & HAULAGE

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## UPHOLSTERY

BANGALOW UPHOLSTERY Now at Billinudgel. Re-covering specialists..... 66805255

## VALUERS

BYRON BAY VALUERS NSW & QLD registerd. Chartered Valuers ..... 0431 245460 or 66857010

## VETERINARY SURGEONS

MULLUM VET CLINIC: Richard Gregory, Bec Willis, Mark Sebastian – After hours avail ... 66843818  
 NORTH COAST VETERINARY SERVICES Dr Lauren Archer ..... 66840735

## WATER FILTERS

The Water Filter Experts

for home, commercial and rural properties  
**6680 8200** or **0418 108 181**



## WELDING

WELDING & FABRICATION Structural, General, Repairs: Steel, Aluminium & Stainless .. 0408 410545

## WINDOW CLEANING AND REPAIRS

CLEAN VIEW Prompt, professional, insured. Phone David ..... 0421 906460

## WINDOW TINTING

SUNRISE W. T. 3/19-21 Centennial Cct, Byron. Cars, homes, offices, etc. High quality .. 0412 158478  
 SURFWAGON - Car/Home/Office tint. Lifetime Warranty. W/sale price..... 0434 875009



Find  
**The Echo**  
 Service  
 Directory  
 online anytime at  
**echo.net.au/  
 service-directory**



# ECHO CLASSIFIEDS – 6684 1777

## CLASSIFIED AD BOOKINGS

### PHONE ADS

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

### AT THE ECHO HEAD OFFICE

Ads can be lodged in person at the Mullum Echo office:

**Village Way, Stuart St, Mullumbimby**

### EMAIL ADS

Display (box ads) and line classifieds, email:

**classifieds@echo.net.au**

Ad bookings only taken during business hours: Monday to

Friday, 9am–5pm. Ads can't be taken on the weekend.

Account enquiries phone 6684 1777.

## DEADLINE TUES 12PM

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

## RATES & PAYMENT

### LINE ADS:

**\$17.00 for the first two lines**

**\$5.00 for each extra line**

\$17 for two lines is the minimum charge.

**DISPLAY ADS (with a border): \$14 per column centimetre**

These prices include GST.

**Cash, cheque, Mastercard or Visa**

Prepayment is required for all ads.

## CLASSIFIEDS THAT WORK ALL WEEK!

Echo Classies also appear online:

**www.echo.net.au/classified-ads**

**HART TREE SERVICES**  
20 years local experience  
• 19 inch chipper • Stump grinding  
• Cherry picker • Crane truck • Bob Cat  
**Fully insured • Free quotes**  
**0427 347 380**

## FOR SALE

### MIELE WASHERS

Dryers and dishwashers available at Bridglands Mullumbimby. 66842511

### ARCHIBALD'S CHEAP QUARRY PRODUCTS

Road base, gravel, blue metal and metal dust. ALL SIZE DELIVERIES.  
Phone 66845517, 0418481617

## FIREWOOD FOR SALE

**CALL MARK**

**0427 490 038**

## BYRON BAY FIREWOOD

**Pick-up / Delivery Seasoned Firewood**

Kindling, bags, trailer, tonnage. Residential / Commercial / Wholesale Prompt and reliable service.

**0401 739 656**

**byronbayfirewood.com.au**

## White Horses and Dark Knights

Could poetry ever be a matter for calculation? Could chess be inspired by a Muse? In this story two very different worlds collide.

David Lovejoy's book is available at *The Echo* office \$20

## WANTED

LP RECORDS: good condition, no op shop crap! Matt 0401955052

### TREE FERNS

Any shape, size. Royalties paid. Ongoing supply needed. 0414904396

I HAVE A RAIN LEAK IN MY CAR Can you fix it! Desperate! No joke 0413608927

## Secondhand, old, rare BOOKS

**BOUGHT FOR CASH**

Email books@haymes.com or call Haymes Bookdealers on 1300 431 736

## CARAVANS

CARAVANS We buy, sell & consign. All makes & models. 0408 758 688



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## DISCLAIMER

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## PUBLIC NOTICES

### WHERE TO GET THE ECHO

If you live in Lennox Head or Ballina, but outside our current home delivery area, you can pick up an Echo from many locations, including: Richies IGA Ballina, Ballina RSL, One Stop Shop Ballina, Ballina Golf Club East Ballina, Brighton St Takeaway near the Shawsy, Seagrass Lennox, Lennox pub drive-through, Station St Grocer Lennox.

## ART SALE

Two local artists.  
25th and 26th May.  
10am–4pm.  
30 Killarney Crescent,  
Skennars Head.  
**Bargains galore**

## COMMUNITY HOT BRUNCH



### FIRST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH

- Sausage sizzle • Hot dogs • Sandwiches
- Coffee & tea • Fruit Salad

### EVERYONE WELCOME

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

**10am to 12pm**  
**In the Ballina**  
**Presbyterian Hall**



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



## Road Closures:

### Proposed road closing under section 38B Roads Act 1993

In pursuance of the provisions of the Roads Act 1993, notice is hereby given that Byron Shire Council proposes to close the following council public roads listed in Schedule 1.

### Schedule 1:

- Part road reserve adjoining Lawson Street Byron Bay Lot 383 DP 728202

Upon closure of the road, council intends to sell the land to the adjoining landowner.

All interested persons are hereby invited to make submissions concerning the proposal to the General Manager Mark Arnold, Byron Shire Council, PO Box 219 Mullumbimby NSW 2482, within twenty-eight days of the date of this advertisement. Please note that under the provisions of the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009, such submissions may be referred to third parties for consideration.

Once the submission period is completed, Byron Shire Council will consider all duly made submissions before deciding whether to continue with the road closure proposal.

**Council Ref: #E2024/54406**  
**Enquiries: Tracy Armstrong**  
**Telephone: 02 6626 7201**

This document will be available on Council's website at [www.byron.nsw.gov.au/Public-Notice](http://www.byron.nsw.gov.au/Public-Notice).

**Submissions Close: Friday 28 June 2024**



[www.byron.nsw.gov.au](http://www.byron.nsw.gov.au)



Mullumbimby & District Neighbourhood Centre  
*Connecting the Byron Shire Community*

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- Kitchen Hands -
- Retail Assistants -
- Drivers and Co-driver -
- Community Support Assistants -

MDNC is in needs of dedicated volunteers to be part of a big loving family. All skill sets welcome.

**Contact Sylvia - Volunteer Coordinator**  
**Mon-Fri**  
**6684 1286**

## AGMs

**BRUNSWICK WOOD CHOP** 4 June, 6.30pm, Brunswick Heads Bowling Club.

**FEDERAL COMMUNITY CENTRE AGM**  
Thurs 13 June, 6pm, at Federal Hall. All welcome.

## PROF. SERVICES

### DENTURES

LOOK GOOD

FEEL GOOD

Free consultation. **SANDRO 66805002**

## HEALTH

### HAWAIIAN MASSAGE

Ocean Shores, Michaela, 0416332886

### KINESIOLOGY

Clear subconscious sabotages. Reprogram patterns and beliefs. Restore vibrancy and physical health. De-stress. 0403125506  
**SANDRA DAVEY, Reg. Pract.**

### HYPNOSIS & EFT

Simple and effective solutions. Anxiety, Cravings, Fears & Trauma. **Maureen Bracken 0402205352**

### BEETU FULL BODY MASSAGE

A divine experience. Nurturing & healing. 28 yrs experience. Lucy 0427917960

### Mindfulness @ Work

Bring greater focus, clarity and calm into your workplace.

Certified Mindfulness Educator Paul Bibby  
0401 926 090

## HYPNOSIS & NLP

[www.wendypurdey.com](http://www.wendypurdey.com)

33 years experience.

Call Wendy

0497 090 233

## Body Based Psychotherapy

Somatic Practice

Julie Wells  
Anne Goslett (nee Mannix)

Dip.Som.Psych, Clinical PACFA Reg. Individual and Couple Therapy Supervision and Coaching

(02) 6685 5185

9 Fletcher St, Byron Bay

## KINESIOLOGY STUDENT CLINIC SESSIONS

Mullumbimby

Available throughout May.

Contact Kate Messenger to enquire or book.

Kate@crystalsanddreaming.com.au

**0413 003 301**

[crystalsanddreaming.com.au](http://crystalsanddreaming.com.au)

## TRADEWORK

## Septic Waste Removal Summerland Environmental

The Liquid Waste Specialists!

- Septic tank cleaning
  - Grease trap servicing
  - Oily Liquids
  - Portable toilet hire
  - 24 hour service
- 6687 2880**

## TREE SERVICES

Leaf it to us 4x4 truck/chipper, crane truck, stump grinding. Local, qualified, insured, free quotes. 0402487213

## SUMMERLAND TREE SERVICES

- Arborist • 15" Wood Chipper • Stump Grinder • Fully Insured

Byron Bay & Surrounding Areas

**6681 3140**

Mobile 0417 698 227

## GARAGE SALES

**5 INDERWONG AVE, O/S Sat 7.30am.** Massive dining table and 6 chairs, art, plants, BBQ, old bikes, lots of quirky stuff!

**11 YANGARUP PLACE, Ocean Shores.** Loads of vintage clothing and artefacts, linen sheets, kitchen and homewares, designer shoes and clothes, Crosby record player, furniture and rugs. Saturday 25 May, from 7.00am.

## Tip Runs & Rubbish Removal

**0408 210 772**

## BUSINESS FOR SALE

**4-PERSON MOBILE BUNGEE TRAMPOLINE.** \$18,000. Fully licensed, all compliance certificates up to date. Many extras; this jumper is as new. Excellent cash business for motivated, fit person/s. 0421440461.

**SERVICE BASED, 15YRS GOODWILL**  
Top ranking website. Contact appsbyronbay@gmail.com

## SHORT TERM ACCOM.

**STUNNING PROPERTY** 4-5 bdr with studio overlooking Brunswick River. 10 mins walk to beach and cafe. No smoking or pets. Available immediately. 6-8 weeks, \$600p/w. 0410206627.

## SHARE ACCOM.

**SUNRISE** Large room, 3 bedroom townhouse. \$270p/w. No pets. 66856760.

## TO LET

**CABIN ROSEBANK** quiet acres for 1 working person \$225pw. Needs a little fix up in lieu of rent. No pets. 0493460985

**OCEAN SHORES STUDIO RETREAT** Ocean & forest views. Suit quiet, working single. N/S, D/F. Furn or unfurn. \$375p/w. Sorry no pets. 0404036620.

## LOCAL REMOVAL

& backloads to Brisbane. Friendly, with 10 years local exp. 0409917646

## BALLINA SELF-STORAGE UNITS

Secure. From \$22p/w. Ranging from 10-44 m3. Across 3 locations. 66867011

**SUFFOLK PARK** 3bdrm/2bthrm house, pool, long-term \$1800p/w. 0455720038

**Two, 2 bedroom 1 bathroom unfurnished apartments for rent in Byron Bay.** 5 min walk from centre of town. Plenty of free on-street parking. \$650-\$700/week.

If interested, please email: property@byronbayentertainment.com

## TO LEASE

**STORAGE OR WORK SPACE** Byron A&I Estate. 45sqm, access to bthrm. Parking. \$240 per week. Ph 0421990785.

**OFFICE SPACE / WAREHOUSE** Billinudgel Industrial Estate. Possible live/work space. 142sqm ground floor plus approx 80sqm mezzanine. Reasonable rent. John 0488551190.

## POSITIONS VACANT

**GENERAL GARDENING** Looking for a reliable person, long-term position, two days per month. Own transport essential. 0419177120.

**LADIES WANTED, MUST BE 18+** Work available in busy adult parlour. Travellers welcome. 66816038 for details.

## THE ECHO

The Echo has just one contract position available immediately, delivering papers to:  
**WATEGOS BEACH & PATERSON ST**  
500 papers.

This position involves inserting, folding and (in wet weather) bagging and delivery of papers & throwing them accurately to driveways from a car. The work tends to suit a semi-retired or underemployed person/couple who just want a reliable job to do at their own pace at the same time every week. The successful applicants for these runs will have an ABN, a reliable vehicle, a strong throwing arm, and ideally they will live near the distribution area. They will collect the papers/inserts from Ballina or Mullumbimby early Wednesday morning or Byron A&I Estate on Wednesday and will have delivered all the papers by 6pm Wednesday. Suit mature or stable person.

Commencing asap.  
Email [simon@echo.net.au](mailto:simon@echo.net.au)  
or phone/text 0409324724

## TAXI DRIVERS WANTED

Flexible work hours - perfect 2nd income  
Email [operations@byronbaytaxi.com](mailto:operations@byronbaytaxi.com)

## WAREHOUSE POSITION, BILLINUDGEL

2-3 days, locals preferred for long-term work. [goodstuff@greenpack.com.au](mailto:goodstuff@greenpack.com.au)

## SCT LOGISTICS HC OR MC DRIVERS

National Transport & Logistics company looking for experienced HC or MC drivers at Condong Broadwater or Harwood Sugar Mill sites.

Competitive pay rates.  
Please send resume to [wendy.keel@sctlogistics.com.au](mailto:wendy.keel@sctlogistics.com.au) or during office hours 0409 568 795



Shearwater, the Mullumbimby Steiner School currently has the following exciting opportunity available:

Accounts Administrator (Part time, Maternity relief)

Please refer to our website for the position description and details on how to apply at

[shearwater.nsw.edu.au/work-at-shearwater/](http://shearwater.nsw.edu.au/work-at-shearwater/)

## WORK WANTED

**WORDPRESS WEBSITE CREATION**  
Fair rates [info@wordpressit.com.au](mailto:info@wordpressit.com.au)

**HANDYMAN / LABOURING** Byron Shire. Insured. 0439735817.

## TINA'S CLEANING SERVICES

Thorough and reliable  
Regular bookings  
One-off appointments  
End of lease cleans  
\$55 an hour (3 hrs minimum)  
95% Eco-friendly/low-tox products used  
Servicing Byron Shire & surrounds  
Call Tina on 0400 015 939

## TUITION

**FRENCH - ITALIAN - GERMAN**  
Eva 0403224842  
[www.language tuitionbyron.com.au](http://www.language tuitionbyron.com.au)

## Adobe Tutoring Experienced Professional Tutor

- Photoshop
- Indesign
- Illustrator

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[www.thinkblinkdesign.com](http://www.thinkblinkdesign.com)

## MUSICAL NOTES

**GUITARS, RECORDS, HI-FI**  
WE BUY AND SELL 66851005



**SEEKING DRUMMER**  
for established reggae band  
0434438706



## DEATH NOTICES

**GEOFFREY ANDERSON** of Brunswick Heads, died peacefully on 7 May 2024, aged 74. He will be greatly missed by his brother Warwick and all of his extended family. He was a sweet, kind and generous soul and much loved by a diverse range of people. Geoff's memorial will be held beside the Brunswick River, next to the Ferry Reserve Holiday Park at 11am on Friday 24 May 2024.

## IN MEMORIAM



**RONALD WILLIAM KING**  
1.11.1939-21.5.2014  
Ten years have passed.  
Always loved and remembered.  
Kaye, Margot, Matt & Will.

## ONLY ADULTS

**JUSTINE ROUX**  
**TANTRIC MASSAGE & PLAY**  
[touchofjustine.com](http://touchofjustine.com) 0407013347

**BALLINA EXCLUSIVE**  
34 Piper Dr. Open 7 days 10am till late. In & Out Calls. 66816038. Ladies wanted  
Find us on Facebook and Twitter!

**KRYSTAL ADULT SHOP**  
Large variety of toys and lingerie  
6/6 Tasman Way, A&I Est, Byron Bay  
66856330

**TOUCH of JUSTINE**

**3 Way Play For Couples**  
Safe Consensual Exploration  
[www.touchofjustine.com](http://www.touchofjustine.com)  
0407 013 347

## SOCIAL ESCORTS

**LOTS OF GORGEOUS LADIES** available for your pleasure nearby. Spoil yourself. In-house & outcalls. 7 days. 0266816038.

## SUN, MOON & TIDES - TIMES FOR NEXT 2 WEEKS

DATE (May/June)	DAY, MOON PHASE	SUN RISE / SET	MOON RISE / SET	HIGH TIDES, height (m)	LOW TIDES, height (m)
22	W	6:25 16:59	15:52 4:53	0713 1.34 1956 1.73	0131 0.54 1301 0.35
23	TH	6:26 16:59	16:29 5:52	0751 1.30 2033 1.78	0214 0.50 1333 0.34
24	F	6:26 16:59	17:14 6:53	0830 1.26 2113 1.81	0256 0.48 1407 0.34
25	SA	6:27 16:58	18:06 7:56	0911 1.22 2153 1.82	0340 0.47 1444 0.36
26	SU	6:27 16:56	19:05 8:56	0955 1.18 2237 1.80	0428 0.48 1525 0.39
27	M	6:28 16:58	20:09 9:52	1045 1.15 2325 1.77	0519 0.48 1611 0.44
28	TU	6:28 16:57	21:16 10:41	1141 1.13	0614 0.49 1705 0.50
29	W	6:29 16:57	22:23 11:24	0017 1.73 1246 1.14	0711 0.49 1809 0.55
30	TH	6:30 16:57	23:28 12:02	0115 1.69 1359 1.19	0808 0.47 1923 0.59
31	F	6:30 16:57	12:36	0215 1.65 1510 1.29	0902 0.43 2042 0.61
1	SA	6:31 16:56	0:32 13:08	0315 1.60 1615 1.42	0953 0.38 2159 0.59
2	SU	6:31 16:56	1:36 13:41	0415 1.55 1714 1.57	1039 0.33 2310 0.55
3	M	6:31 16:56	2:41 14:15	0513 1.49 1808 1.71	1123 0.29
4	TU	6:32 16:56	3:47 14:52	0607 1.41 1858 1.82	0015 0.50 1205 0.26
5	W	6:32 16:56	4:55 15:34	0659 1.34 1945 1.90	0115 0.45 1246 0.25
6	TH	6:33 16:56	6:04 16:23	0748 1.27 2032 1.93	0212 0.42 1329 0.27
7	F	6:33 16:56	7:10 17:18	0836 1.22 2116 1.92	0303 0.40 1410 0.30
8	SA	6:34 16:56	8:12 18:18	0923 1.17 2200 1.87	0353 0.41 1452 0.35
9	SU	6:34 16:56	9:05 19:20	1008 1.14 2242 1.80	0441 0.44 1534 0.41
10	M	6:35 16:56	9:51 20:21	1053 1.11 2322 1.72	0526 0.48 1617 0.49
11	TU	6:35 16:56	10:29 21:20	1141 1.10	0609 0.52 1704 0.56
12	W	6:35 16:56	11:02 22:16	0002 1.63 1234 1.10	0652 0.54 1757 0.64

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

## PETS

### CLAUDINE

Claudine is a sassy, silver & black tabby. She's affectionate towards



people but lets the other cats know she's a diva. She's a pretty girl and boy does she know it!

To meet Claudine, please visit **the Cat Adoption Centre at 124 Dalley Street, Mullumbimby.**  
**OPEN: Tues 2.30-5.30pm, Thurs 3-5pm / Sat 10am-12 noon**  
Call AWL on 0436 845 542

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



### BEAR

Bear is a 2 year old chilled, laid back cat who gets on with everyone - other cats included - likes affection and is very responsive. A very cool cat indeed. He has beautiful black and grey marking on his predominantly white fur.

All cats are desexed, vaccinated and microchipped.  
No: 9530101000332220. PETS FOR LIFE

Please make an appointment  
0403 533 589 • Billinudgel  
[petsforlifewillumbah.net](http://petsforlifewillumbah.net)

### Byron Dog Rescue (CAWI)



### OPAL

Sweet, strong 2-year-old desexed female Dalmatian x Staffy 'Opal' has a shy, sensitive, quiet demeanour, is great with other dogs and children and has lived with a cat. Very intelligent and highly intuitive, Opal will thrive with leadership and consistent training. She'll need a good couple of hours of off-leash exercise per day. In the right home, Opal will reward you with her loyal, fun-loving and affectionate self. Contact Shell on 0458 461 935. MC: 953010005792889



**ELLIOTT**  
Elliott is a 3 month old Staffy/Bull Arab X. He has a lovely nature and is very chilled out. With his loving Staffordshire Bull Terrier temperament, he will make a wonderful family dog.  
Microchip: #991003002444229  
Location: Murwillumbah  
For more information contact Yvette on 0421 831 128.  
Interested? Please complete our online adoption expression of interest.  
[friendsofthepound.com/adoption-expression-of-interest/](http://friendsofthepound.com/adoption-expression-of-interest/)  
Visit [friendsofthepound.com](http://friendsofthepound.com) to view other dogs and cats looking for a home. ABN 83 126 970 338

## MONTHLY MARKETS

1st SAT Brunswick Heads	0418 400 415	5th SUN Nimbin	0475 135 764
1st SUN Byron Bay	02 6685 6807	5th SUN Lennox Head	02 6685 6807
1st SUN Lismore Car Boot	02 6628 7333	<b>FARMERS/WEEKLY MARKETS</b>	
2nd SUN The Channon	02 6688 6433	Each TUE New Brighton	0424 168 672
2nd SUN Lennox Head	02 6685 6807	Each TUE Organic Lismore	02 6636 4307
2nd SUN Chillingham	0428 793 141	Each WED Murwillumbah 7-11	0415 328 672
2nd SUN Coolangatta		Each WED Nimbin 3-6pm	0418 940 653
2nd SUN Tabulam		Each WED Newrybar Hall 4-7pm	
3rd SAT Mullumbimby	02 6684 3370	Each THU Byron 8-11am	0414 595 169
3rd SAT Murwillumbah	0415 328 672	Each THU Lismore 2.30-6.30pm	0459 309 223
3rd SAT Salt Village Market, Casuarina		Each FRI Mullum 7-11am	0424 168 672
3rd SUN Federal	0433 002 757	Each SAT Bangalow 8-11am	0414 595 169
3rd SUN Uki	0487 329 150	Each SAT Duranbah Rd 8-11am (Tropical Fruit World)	
3rd SUN Ballina	0422 094 338	Each SAT Uki 8am-1pm	02 6679 5438
4th SAT Evans Head	0432 275 765	Each SAT Lismore 8.30-11am	
4th SAT Kyogle Bazaar	<a href="http://kyoglebazaar.com.au">kyoglebazaar.com.au</a>	Each SAT Wadeville 8.30am-12pm	
4th SUN Bangalow	02 6687 1911	Each SAT Byron Twilight Market 4pm Oct-Apr	
4th SUN Nimbin	0475 135 764		
4th SUN Murwillumbah	0415 328 672		
4th SUN Coolangatta (in a 5 Sunday month)		Each SUN Ballina 7-11am	

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

## EMERGENCY NUMBERS

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

## Northern Rivers will host the 2025 and 2027 NSW Bowls Championships



Cherry Street bowls players will have a lot to do next March when they will help host the 2025 NSW Bowls Championships over 16 days from March 25. Photo supplied

Ballina is set to host the 2025 and 2027 State Bowls Championships that will see over 900 competitors vying for honours at the tournament's three Northern Rivers venues.

Cherry Street Sports, Club Lennox Sports and Alstonville Bowls Club have all secured hosting rights according to Bowls NSW CEO Tim Rowe.

'We have made a concerted effort to adjust the way we deliver our major events with a stronger focus on regional areas of NSW.

'An event like this delivers

over \$1.5m in economic impact to a community and it is important that we look to support regional Australia by moving these events to areas that will benefit significantly from them.

'I should also note the incredible state of the greens in this region and the facilities that the clubs here offer,' he said.

Cherry Street Sports will be the main host venue for the 2025 State Championships, and Club CEO Tere Sheehan cannot wait for the opportunity. 'This recognition allows us to represent

our region and showcase our top-notch facilities to the entire state. Our profit-for-purpose business model is centred on giving back to our community, and by hosting this prestigious event, we continue to support the foundational values of our club.'

The 2025 State Championships will attract thousands of players and spectators to the Ballina area over a 16-day period (Tuesday March 25, 2025 through to Wednesday April 9, 2025), including some of the best bowlers in Australia and the world.

## Garry Simes racks up 25 finishes at Australia's oldest ironman triathlon

Ballina Triathlon Club member Garry Simes has achieved the milestone of finishing the Port Macquarie Ironman Australia race, one of Australia's premier events, for the 25th time.

The Port Macquarie Ironman Australia event is the country's oldest, and also is a qualifying event for the Ironman World Championships.

'It took me 27 years because of Covid and the floods,' he said. 'Overall I've competed in 43 events across the country.'

The race involves a 3.8km swim, 180km cycle and a 42km run.

Gary is 66.

'I was too tired after the cycling, so I had to walk the run,' he said. 'But I finished it.'

All up he was on the track for over 16 hours, easily beating the 17 hours cut-off by 40 minutes or so.

Garry has been doing triathlons for 40 years and



Garry enjoying his trophy for completing 25 Ironman Australia triathlons at Port Macquarie. Photo supplied

decided to have a go at Port Macquarie Ironman because 'I hadn't done it before'.

He has always been active and just tries to do some sort of training every day.

One of the hardest parts of doing an ironman is the lead up to the race when

you start to think: 'why am I doing this?' he said.

'It's very daunting thinking about what you are going to do,' he said. 'When the race starts you just have to take it one kilometre at a time and try not to get too excited.'

Garry will attempt his 44th ironman next month.

## Outdoor pickleball courts for Alstonville

Alstonville now boasts tournament-standard pickleball courts that opened to an enthusiastic crowd and players earlier this month.

The eight new tournament-standard outdoor courts have been developed by Alstonville Tennis Club at a cost of over \$350,000, and were largely financed by the NSW government, complemented by \$131,000 from the club itself.

'Pickleball is emerging as an extremely popular sport Australia-wide. The Northern Rivers has an increasing number of indoor courts,



The courts in action at the official opening. Photo supplied

but major tournaments are played outdoors, so our club wanted a top-class outdoor facility,' Club President, Nathan Kempshall said.

The club's membership has grown substantially in recent months, largely due

to pickleballers, or 'picklers', joining. The new courts have already been tested by picklers from across the region, and leading local and Queensland players put on an exhibition match at the opening.

## Byron Rebels continue strong run in local rugby union

The Byron Shire Rebels put on 83 unanswered points against Lismore Rugby Club last weekend at Shultz Oval, capping a good day for the club.

In the first-grade romp Reuben Shepherd, Will Seymour and Darcy Woods all scored a hat trick of tries while Loel Little converted nine.

The firsts remain undefeated for the season.

The Rebel second graders had another strong win beating the Mullumbimby Moonshiners 53-0.

The Byron Shire women's team got the day off to a good start beating Lismore 20-12.

The win was the side's



The Byron Shire women on the charge against Casino. Photo Jeffrey Massey.

second from two games for the season, and leaves them on top of the table.

This Saturday, May 25, the men's teams head south to Williams Reserve to take on the Lennox Head Trojans, while the women have a bye.

### Send us your sport stories!

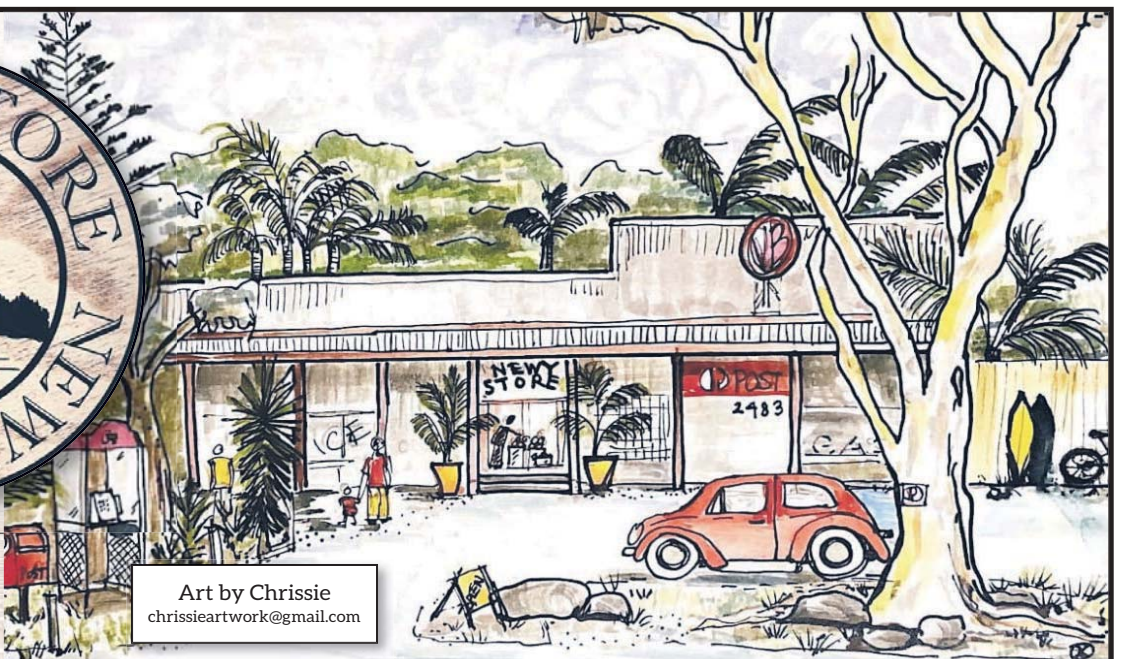
We would love to run all kinds of local sport on these pages so please send your photos and stories to [sport@echo.net.au](mailto:sport@echo.net.au).

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The Echo is not known for our strong support of monarchs, yet we will be happily observing the King's birthday public holiday on Monday, June 10. God save public holidays.

FFS: Essential Energy is going to charge local customers if they produce too much solar energy, according to SMH (Nine).

Attention Newrybar residents: telecom project company, Aurecon, is managing Telstra's proposal to put a 40m mobile phone tower and compound near the town. There will be no DA owing to the equipment being classified as 'Exempt or Complying Development'. The proposal is located on 161 Broken Head Road, Newrybar, and the site number is 2479006. Comments are open till June 12 and can be addressed to Garrett Wong, Aurecon Australasia, PO Box 23061, Docklands, VIC, 8012. Email: [garrett.wong@aurecongroup.com](mailto:garrett.wong@aurecongroup.com).

About time: The Walkley Foundation, who lavish awards on mainstream journalists for all their wonderful work, say they will not renew their major sponsorship deal with fossil fuel giant Ampol. Now, what else can they do to get our confidence back?

Well-known resident, Robin Harrison, is seeking new digs in Byron or surrounds. His long-term accom has fallen through, and living in Rosebank is not ideal for a 78 year old who is on a veteran's pension. If you can help, contact Alana on 6688 2162.

The Anglican Parish of Byron is hosting a Biggest Morning Tea to raise money for the



Support organisation, Queer Family, and crew from the Paddock Project painted the LOVE sign rainbow over the weekend, to show support for the local LGBTQ+ community and celebrate Pride Month. Photo Jeff 'Rainbows Everywhere Since 1986' Dawson.

Cancer Council on Friday, May 24 from 10am at St Paul's Anglican Church, 14 Kingsley Street, Byron Bay.

A new electric vehicle (EV) fast charging station is now available at the new Cabarita Beach station. 'Multiple EVs can charge from 10 to 80 per cent, in as little as 10 to 15 minutes' the NSW government media release claims.

In celebration of National Volunteer Week (May 20-26), the Byron Community Centre is recognising the incredible contributions of their volunteers and inviting more community members to join. To get involved visit [www.byroncentre.com.au](http://www.byroncentre.com.au).

Esther Rockett's memoir, *Universal Predator: A Lone Woman's Fight to Expose Serge Benhayon and his Universal Medicine Cult - The Inside Story*, is now available - visit [books2read/universal-predator](http://books2read/universal-predator). For those new to

the drama, Benhayon sued Rockett for defamation in the NSW Supreme Court, which backfired spectacularly.

'The future, the present, and the past walk into a bar. Things got a little tense.'

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**GROW FEST! 2024**  
 PROGRAMME ON FB

TIME TABLE - SUNDAY MAY 26 TH 9AM - 4PM

PLACE	9:30am	10:30am	11:30am
ROTUNDA	MELLO MEDITATION	SARAH RATH YOGA	FALUN GONG
SYNTROPIC- HELP CREATE A GARDEN BED	TARNIE SYNTROPIC GARDENING	TARNIE SYNTROPIC GARDENING	TARNIE SYNTROPIC GARDENING
ELDERS SPACE	ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY	NADIA REGEN WALK AND TALK	MARKET GARDEN TOUR
CHILDREN'S GARDEN	FACE PAINTING & SLACK ROPE (ALL MORNING) HAIR WEAPS	ROSE PUPPET SHOW/ STORY TELLING HAIR WEAPS	PAUL CREBAR STORY TELLING HAIR WEAPS
FOOD FOR EXCHANGE	MEETING AT THE FRONT DESK	KAYE- BIODYNAMIC COMPOST	MELLO MYSTICAL SEED PLANTING
LEARNING CURVE	TBA	ANEIRA KIMCHI AND NUTRITIONAL MEDICINE	EMMAL NATURAL FACIAL

STALLS	WORKSHOP STALLS
STEVE CHILLI & JAM	KIM P. PORTRAIT CLASS
MAPLE MOON CAROB	BANGALOW PALM PLANTERS
SAVE WALLUM	BENNY'S CLAY WHISTLE WORKSHOP
FREEDOM FLOTILLA FUNDRAISER FOR SUTRA MCKEWEEN	ELI - BUSHCRAFT
PLANT STALL	MARKET GARDEN TOUR

PLEASE BRING CASH - WASTE FREE EVENT

**LIVE PERFORMANCES**

1:00pm	1:30pm	2:30pm
DJAMILEH OLIVE TREE PLANTING & KIANS GARDEN OPENING	MOHANI (30m) EGYPTIAN DANCING NINAH (30m) DABKE (ARAB DANCING)	HAPPY AFRICA

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