

Nina and her Pocket sand dragon



At Sunday's Pocket School Winter Festival, Nina shows how to tame your sand dragon, created by Sandology's Steve Machell. Photo Jeff 'Sand Sculptures' Dawson

Council candidates jostle for position

Paul Bibby

It was the type of motion that comes up at Byron Council quite regularly – a broad, uncontroversial political statement that is unlikely to make a difference in the grand scheme of things.

But when there's a local election coming up, the typical can very quickly become political.

And so it was with a motion put by Deputy Mayor and Greens mayoral candidate, Sarah Ndiaye, at last week's Council meeting.

Cr Ndiaye moved that Council note the findings of a year-old report on food security, write to six different state government ministers asking them to take action, and explore what might be done to address the issue locally.

Seems pretty benign, right? Yet, five minutes after moving it, Cr Ndiaye's motion had become the forum for a jostling match among the key candidates in the upcoming local council election.

'This is a real indication of where we're at,' Cr Ndiaye said after an amendment to her motion made by mayoral opponent Michael Lyon was passed instead of her own.

'We get to a point here where you're close to an election... this is quite shameful,' Cr Ndiaye said.

'Shame on you.'

The discussion began in fairly uncontroversial fashion with Cr Ndiaye speaking in support of her motion.

'I think we're all aware, other than Cr Hunter, that there is some degree of challenge in terms of food security,' Cr Ndiaye said.

'This motion before us is an opportunity not just to advocate, but participate in a more sustainable food future in the Northern Rivers region.

'We can join Clarence Valley, Ballina, Lismore and Kyogle in working toward better food security.'

But not everyone agreed.

Cr Alan Hunter, who will not contest the upcoming election, said he did not support the motion, and that the motion was akin to 'dancing before the crowd because there's an election coming up'.

This kicked off a spiteful 15 minutes of debate which was less than edifying.

Mayor Michael Lyon, who is battling Cr Ndiaye to retain his current leadership position at the September 14 election, agreed with Cr Hunter and described the motion as 'virtue signalling'.

Virtue signals

'I'm not here to virtue signal, I'm here to get things done,' Cr Lyon said.

Cr Lyon and Hunter moved an amendment which effectively amounted to a substantially cut-down version of Cr Ndiaye's motion, proposing that Council note the findings of two recent food security reports and write to the NSW agriculture minister requesting a response.

They had the numbers, with Cr Lyon's running mate Cr Mark Swivel (independent) joining Labor Cr Asren Pugh and independent Cr Peter Westheimer in voting for the amendment.

On the other side was Cr Ndiaye, outgoing Greens councillor Duncan

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Have your say on Byron Bay's foreshore

How would you like to see Byron Bay's foreshore improved?

Council staff have proposed options and a ten-year vision for the much-used space, including the removal, or partial removal, of the carpark overlooking Main Beach.

A multi-storey carpark behind the pool and an upgrade of Apex Park is also proposed, along with the planned retreat (relocation) of the Beach Byron Bay cafe at Clarkes Beach.

The plans, now on Council's website until July 31, drew ire from some locals on social media, especially surfers, who use the carpark to check the surf.

Mark 'Mono' Stewart wrote, 'It's time for Byron Bay locals to stand up and make some noise if you want to retain the only vehicle-accessible view area of our Bay'.

'Say no to these current suggestions. Say yes to improving the area without losing half the carpark. Improve the beachfront areas east of the surf club, so those who want to walk to view the bay, without being near cars, can sit comfortably and take in our beautiful bay.

'The pictures they paint in this proposal are pretty, but beware, you think it's hard to get a park now, it will be near impossible if this goes through!

'Get active on this, as we only

have until the end of July'.

On page 19 within the 47-page document is the disclaimer that the Coastal Management Program (CPM) is yet to be completed, which could change any plans adopted by councillors.

CMP yet to be adopted

The Byron Foreshore Landscape Concept says a CMP entails the 'removal, or not, of spur groynes, landward realignment or not'.

'This foreshore concept plan has been designed to the existing rock wall structure, but will be updated if required, once the preferred design option for coastal protection has been determined'.

Byron business perspectives during a tough winter ► p4

Unanswered questions over Mullum's water strategy ► p6

Inequity underpins solar-battery rebates ► p14

Positive choices for your health and wellbeing in Byron Healing ► p20

Tasty morsels in The Good Life ► p22

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Bruns, the fishing town, becomes a musical!

Paul Bibby

'All the old salts have moved on... All the old salts have moved on... I'm wondering where they've gone...'

These were the song lyrics that came to local musical producer and historian, Ollie Heathwood, one day as she looked in the windows of the old Brunswick Heads fishing co-op building.

Having once been at the very heart of the town, the co-op has lain empty for more than six years, a silent reminder of a time when fishing was the lifeblood of Bruns.

It was a bittersweet moment, but one that inspired Ms Heathwood to research and create a musical based on the history of the Bruns fishing fleet.

The outcome was a remarkable work called *The Wake*, which will premiere at the Brunswick Heads Picture House on June 22 and 23.

The Wake tells the stories



Stu Anderson, Neil Mulvenna, John Howard, Ashley Gittens, Paul Cook, Chris Morgan, and Al Hughes are part of *The Wake* musical. Photo Jeff 'Salty Dog' Dawson

of the fishing folk and the industry that sustained the town for around 35 years, from 1954 to the late 1980s.

'There was no other industry... everyone was connected to, related to, or involved in it. All the teens worked in the co-op for their first jobs. It was a fishing town...'

While rewards for the fishing folk were great, the risks were as well. The Bruns bar was, and remains, one of the most dangerous in NSW, and as safety rules tightened, so did the opportunities for the crews to collect their catch.

'By the end of the 1990s, there were only about five boats left,' Ms Heathwood says. 'The fishermen were getting older, and the sons weren't taking over any more... Instead, they were heading away to the mines.'

'There were hardly any boats left by 2000, and in 2002, they were forced to close the co-op because there weren't enough active boats to sustain the licence.'

The eventual closure of the fish and chips shop at the Bruns Marina in 2017 marked the unofficial end of the

Bruns fishing industry, with tourism well and truly taking over the economic reins.

But there are still many in the town who remember those sweet and salty times, and many more who desire to learn about them.

It was a desire to preserve this folklore that led Ms Heathwood into a deep dive of this period of Bruns' history, interviewing sailors and collecting dozens of amazing images and other artefacts.

'Many of the fishing blokes and families are still among us', she says.

'There's a deep river of knowledge and history running under the town that many people don't know about. My hope is that this project will help bring some of that to the surface.'

While tickets to the show have all sold out, the rich stories and knowledge that Ms Heathwood has collected will become part of an oral, visual, and written history project that will make its way to local museums and libraries in the coming months.



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Food security motion watered down

► Continued from page 1

Dey, Independent Cr Cate Coorey and Cr Sama Balson, also an independent.

Cr Ndiaye was less than impressed about her original motion being amended.

'This is what you've got to look forward to,' Cr Ndiaye said in relation to her political opponents.

'These people who are all willing to butter each other's bread and wipe the crumbs off each other's faces and make each other look good. Shame on you.'

'It's really good to see whether you want to have a collaborative Council that's willing to work on values and principles, or whether they're all just willing to back each other for each other's advantage.'

'Shame on you.'

The other councillors did not respond to Cr Ndiaye's comments.

The amended motion was passed by five votes to four.

A watered-down motion by the mayor was adopted after the following items from Cr Sarah Ndiaye's motion were removed. It asked Council to:

- Include questions regarding food and water security in the Community Strategic Plan engagement process to understand community lived experience in the Byron LGA.
- Advocate to the NSW Reconstruction Authority for future possible use of buyback properties for urban and small-scale agriculture in the Byron LGA.
- Provide a briefing to Council by August 2024 outlining current constraints and the mechanisms that could be considered to enable small-scale urban agriculture in the Byron LGA. (Ndiaye/Dey)

The mayor's adopted motion notes the findings and recommendations of various food security studies and plans, and asks Council to write to the minister for agriculture requesting the government's response to the inquiry.



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Who's on the Writers Festival bill?

A vibrant program packed with high-profile literary luminaries, and new voices to discover, has been released by the Byron Writers Festival, to be held August 9 till 11.

Organisers say 160 Australian and international guests will converge over three days at Bangalow Showgrounds for panel discussions, writing workshops, book launches, children's programs. There are also satellite events at various locations.

In curating the program, incoming Artistic Director, Jessica Alice, reflected on the theme, 'From the ground up'.

'From the ground up springs new life, new ideas, and new possibilities. It's where communities mobilise and movements are born'.

'This festival program explores our histories and the seeds of the futures that we begin to build today.'

Big guest list

International guests include: two time Booker Prize finalist, US-based Nigerian writer, Chigozie Obioma, with his new novel *A Road to The Country*; major Irish literary voice, Caoilinn Hughes, author of *The Alternatives*; and UK-based novelist, Leo Vardiashvili, whose debut *Hard By a Great Forest* follows a family fleeing post-Soviet Georgia.

The festival also welcomes Indian activist, Meena Kandasamy, whose latest work of political poetry is *Tomorrow Someone Will Arrest You*; and award-winning Maori poet, Tayi Tibble.

Trent Dalton features in conversation with Julia Baird, Charlotte Wood explores grief and forgiveness with Ailsa



Executive Director, Shien Chee and Artistic Director, Jessica Alice, with this year's Writers Festival program. They are pictured at the leafy Bangalow Showground, which is again home to this year's festival. Photo Jeff Dawson

Piper, and Richard Flanagan will discuss his powerful memoir *Question 7*. David Marr will examine re-writing colonial myths, and comedian Steph Tisdell will share how she writes with humour. A contingent of crime writers includes international best-seller Jane Harper, Candice Fox, Matthew Condon and actor-turned-novelist, Bryan Brown. They will be in conversation with Jennifer Byrne.

Chair of ABC

Kim Williams AM, new chair of the ABC, will discuss with Kerry O'Brien the future of the public broadcaster, and leading Aboriginal affairs journalist Amy McQuire, *ABC 4 Corners* investigative journalist Louise Milligan, Nick Bryant and Julianne Schultz will discuss press freedom in the annual Mungo MacCallum Panel.

Bob Brown will appear in a special feature event, as well as in the panel 'For the Earth' with fellow Tasmanian Richard Flanagan, forest ecology expert, David Lindenmayer, and poet Ali Cobby Eckermann. Greens MP Sue Higginson,

Bruce Pascoe and Lyn Harwood will also share inspiring lessons of Indigenous cultivation from their farms.

■ For more info check out the festival program with this edition of *The Echo*, or visit www.byronwritersfestival.com.

Have your say on Bangalow tree removal/succession plan

Bangalow residents and businesses are being asked for their thoughts on a plan to replace seven trees in the main street (Byron Street) and two in Station Street.

Council staff say the succession plan involves staged removal and replacement of the trees, and is on exhibition until July 14. The plans are to replace five mature leopard trees and two Bangalow

palms on the southern side of Byron Street and two liquidambar trees on the eastern side of Station Street.

'Continuing hazards to pedestrians and recurring maintenance costs require a more sustainable strategy,' says Malcolm Robertson, Manager Open Space and Facilities. For more info, visit the *Your Say* page on Council's website.



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Byron business perspectives in a tough winter

Hans Lovejoy

Having traded in Byron Bay for 47 years, Skallyrags owner, Rob Bass, said he's never seen a winter like this one.

'It's been atrocious', he said, adding he has been closing at 2.30-3pm on some days from a lack of foot traffic.

The locally-owned clothing retail outlet is located at the top end of Byron, opposite the Beach Hotel on Jonson Street.

Mr Bass is well known for his colourful assortment of men's and women's casual and beach clothing.

'Last summer wasn't too bad, however', he said.

The issue, he says, is that 'many local retailers can't afford to trade because of the high rents'.

Having traded in the town for decades, Mr Bass has a unique insight into Byron's fluctuating economic climate.

Mr Bass says he is aware of many shops struggling around the town.

'I am lucky because I own my building', he says.

'I just want to make local



After 12 years of operations, the NightOwl Convenience Store on Jonson Street store is closing. Manager, Bradley Schnierer, is a long-time Byron local, and told *The Echo* the main reason for closure was high rent. 'Foot traffic is clearly down', he added. And after 11 years at the job, Bradley is ready for a break before looking for another job. Photo Jeff 'Night, Knight Or Nite?' Dawson

landlords aware that with high rents, they change the demographics of the town'.

'I've had visitors ask where all the cute little shops have gone? It's sad.

'Rain keeps customers away', he said, 'there's more shoppers around with sunnier weather'.

Asked what would

improve trading conditions, he immediately says, 'Events like Splendour in The Grass!'

Cyprus Tree

Another long-term Byron institution is the Cyprus Tree, a Greek restaurant which is family operated and located in Bay Lane.

Co-owner, Andrew

Kyprianou, says that he hasn't experienced any recent economic downturn, and that after 28 years, 'we are still growing'.

And Mr Kyprianou says after all those years, 'we still love what we do'.

'I was told by a customer the other day that their holiday doesn't start until they

have had dinner with us'.

'A family was eating with us recently, and we found out that their young children are the third generation to eat at our restaurant!'

'It's the best thing about this industry', he said, adding that 'traditionally it is quiet this time of the year, and it starts to pick up with whale watching'.

Mila Meli

Melanie Sainsbury owns children's clothing shop Mila Meli, which has just relocated across the street to 3/6 Jonson Street, opposite Bella Rosa Gelato.

After 18 years trading in Byron, she agrees with Skallyrags owner Rob Bass that it's the quietest winter she's ever seen.

'Byron tries to remake itself every five or six years', she says. 'Generally the feedback I am getting from people who have come here for years, is why are there are so many big mainstream shops? It's not what people have come here for. We have lost so many little boutique shops over the years'.

Ms Sainsbury said the high cost of parking impacts

her business, and for small retailers, the high rents are a big factor.

'The rent became crazy for us before we moved', she said. 'Now we pay less, and have more space'.

'I've loved the move; it was huge after 18 years, but the space is great, and we have a local landlord that actually lives here, and is in touch with what's happening in our town, this is a huge bonus'.

Numbers down, says Chamber

Byron Chamber president, Matt Williamson, told *The Echo*, 'Tourist numbers are down by as much as 40 per cent in Byron from last year, and those that do come are spending less'.

'While the big celebrity names and massive house sales might grab the headlines, the reality is those folks are not what drives our local economy.

'The businesses in Byron rely on visitor dollars getting spent in their shops, restaurants and bars, and right now that spending is way off the levels needed to sustain them'.



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Emergency tower works stopped

MP raises concerns over unique biodiversity at popular lookout

Hans Lovejoy

Installation of an emergency services mobile tower on a popular visitor look-out in Wilsons Creek is on hold, after a local NSW MP raised concerns that the area had been misidentified as regrowth.

According to ecologist James Barrie, NSW Telco Authority had begun drilling concrete footings at Teales Lookout, near Boogarem Falls, on Koonyum Range Road in Mount Jerusalem National Park.

Greens MLC, Sue Higginson wrote to consent authority, National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS), and NSW Minister for Environment and Heritage, Penny Sharpe (Labor) to ask that works be stopped immediately, as she believed unique and rare ecosystems were at risk.

A NPWS spokesperson told *The Echo*, 'The matters raised are currently under examination by the NPWS'.

'No further work on the site is being carried out while these matters are being considered'.

The Echo understands



Teales Lookout foliage. Photo James Barrie

the site was selected for a Government Radio Network (GRN) after extensive testing by the Rural Fire Service (RFS) communications unit, as it gave the best coverage to all the surrounding valleys.

Rubbish, camping

The location was also chosen because a security camera could be installed on the tower given illegal camping, campfires and rubbish dumped at the lookout.

Ms Higginson said in her letter, 'These reports suggest that the works being carried out in Mount Jerusalem National Park

are undertaken on an at-risk vegetation community, montane heathland, that exists nowhere else in the world'.

'The main plant in the understory is a clumping sedge that doesn't occur anywhere else in the whole region...'

'I recognise the tremendous public importance of enhancing the Public Safety Network, but we must undertake its expansion only with a clear and legal understanding, assessment and approval of the ecosystems we are impacting'.

The NSW Telco Authority, who proposed the tower, was contacted for comment.

Building for the Future

Byron Bay welcomes a groundbreaking addition to its real estate landscape with the launch of 14 innovative units at 12 Wollongbar St. Byron Bay. Branded as "Thrive!" These units are meticulously designed to cater to the future needs, offering a blend of sustainability, modern amenities, and artistic flair.

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- **Climate Control:** Each unit is equipped with air conditioning.
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- **Parking and Charging:** The property includes 33 car spaces for tenants and visitors, alongside 14 fast EV charging stations.
- **Solar Power:** The largest solar installation in the area, with a capacity of 10 Kw, complemented by a 50 Kw blackout-proof solar battery, ensuring uninterrupted power supply and the lowest electricity prices.
- **Accessibility:** The units are designed with disabled access to accommodate all needs.

Artistic Highlight: Adding a unique cultural touch to the property, renowned artist Matt 'Adnate' Last, the current winner of the Archibald Packers Prize, has created a stunning mural that enhances the aesthetic appeal of the units.

For more information contact Rick at 0408 857 185 or email: rickhultgren@gmail.com.



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June 19, 2024 The Byron Shire Echo 5

Finding freedom concert for refugees June 30



MC Mick O'Regan, organiser Janet Swain and Marilyn, President of Northern Rivers for Refugees.
Photo Jeff 'Tiny Tonsils' Dawson

More than 80 Northern Rivers singers and musicians will perform on June 30 at the Mullumbimby Civic Hall in a massive fundraiser to help settle refugee families in the region.

The concert is the signature event for Ballina Region for Refugees (BR4R) to mark Refugee Week in Australia. BR4R has already helped four refugee families settle locally and is about to welcome more.

The Finding Freedom Concert is under the creative direction of Janet Swain of Song Dynasty Music; she

says her Big Voice Choirs from Brunswick Heads and Murwillumbah will combine for the first time on the night. Topping it off will be the anthemic song, 'Finding Freedom', composed by Janet.

Big line-up

Janet says, 'The line-up includes the fabulous The Material Girls from Bangalow, Elliott Orr and Zormiwasa African Drum Ensemble, as well as Bangoura Ke from Guinea'.

For tickets, visit events.humanitix.com/finding-freedom-a-benefit-concert.

Questions unanswered over Mullum's water strategy

Hans Lovejoy

Residents with water engineering expertise who advise Council say that their questions about Mullum's future water strategy remain unanswered by Council staff.

Public submissions are now open for the future of Mullum's water supply, which is currently sourced from Wilsons Creek. Council staff are pushing to disconnect it, in favour of the town being supplied instead by Rous County Council via its Rocky Creek Dam near Lismore.

Council's Water and Sewer Advisory Committee (WSAC) members Ben Fawcett and Elia Hauge told *The Echo* their questions were included in the agenda of the Extraordinary Meeting of the WSAC on September 28, 2022, where the consultant Hydrosphere's report (2021) was discussed.

The Echo asked staff, 'If correct, is there a reason why their concerns were ignored?'

Cameron Clarke, Manager Utilities, replied, 'A number of the questions raised are addressed in the Hydrosphere report'.

'Further efforts to address the questions were made during discussions at the

WSAC meeting and in a presentation by Rous County Council to the committee in May 2023'.

Yet Cr Duncan Dey said fellow WSAC members 'raised their questions after reading the Hydrosphere report. To say the answers are in the report is insulting'.

'We were told that investigating the off-stream storage option would be a waste of \$200,000. Off-stream storage would make the Lavertys Gap source a gem of ecologically sustainable water supply', he said.

Concerns dismissed

WSAC member and Greens councillor candidate, Elia Hauge, told *The Echo*, 'There is a general approach of dismissing our concerns on the WSAC'.

She said, 'Best practice water management involves integrated assessment – looking not just at a single supply, but at water systems as a whole'.

'I asked a number of questions about demand management, leakage management and recycled water strategy that were never answered'. I also asked how Hydrosphere/Council

established "community acceptance" of different options – this was not explicitly answered.

'I also don't recall a satisfactory answer to the questions about why different criteria were used at the long list and short list option phases – the criteria selected placed less emphasis on environment at the long list stage than at the short list, potentially skewing the outcome of the assessment.'

'One question that was answered, but I believe needs to be reemphasised: "Has Council or consultant Hydrosphere approached DPE for their updated hydrological and climate models? (i.e. the ones used for the recent Regional Water Strategies)"'.

'I recall the answer was no. So, to assess our next generation's water supply, we are using climate models that are woefully outdated and leave us unprepared for the climatic extremes we may face in coming decades'.

Multi-Criteria Assessment

Mr Fawcett told *The Echo* his concerns were around consultant Hydrosphere's

Multi-Criteria Assessment (MCA), which is summarised as Appendix 4 of their report.

'As I noted there, MCAs should be robust, transparent and defensible. The WSAC is a key stakeholder in this debate, being a group of local people with relevant professional skills, who act as a bridge between Council staff and councillors, and the Byron Shire community. The WSAC has never had any discussion in which Hydrosphere are asked to defend their MCA, including the data used, in all three criteria, the weightings and the scores.'

'Since the MCA is the key component of the report on which recommendations are made about the various scenarios under discussion, this lack of debate and defence is crucial. Staff set the agendas for our meetings and have avoided the essential debates. Without such thorough debates, decisions made by Council are dubious, to say the least'.

Mayor Michael Lyon was asked whether he supports staff's position.

A reply will be published when/if received.

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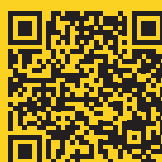
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Grab ya wettie! New surf art by Potts



Mullumbimby artist, Potts, has a new exhibition. *Salt, Surf and Sand* is now gracing the walls of the Byron Library until August 30. He is pictured here with his 'Last Surfer's Supper'. Photo Jeff 'Endless Summer Not Bummer' Dawson

Curtains up on Byron High's debut musical

After many months of hard work and rehearsing, Byron Bay High School students and staff are about to perform their musical whodunit on June 25, 26, 28, and 29. *Curtains* is described as a murder-mystery comedy, and was originally produced on Broadway by the makers of *Chicago* and *Cabaret*. Adrienne Megan Lester (Meg) from Umbrella Theatrical Productions and co-founder of the Bangalow Theatre Company, is director. She told *The Echo*, 'The cast have embraced the project and every rehearsal with more gusto than I have seen a group collectively offer in over 20 years!' *Curtains* is set in the late 1950s in Boston, with a production cast and crew on the cusp of staging their debut performance. A faded and bitter film star makes enemies quickly, and after she is mysteriously murdered on opening night, police keep the crew sequestered in the theatre to solve the crime. Doors open at 6pm for a 6.30pm show. For tickets, visit www.trybooking.com/CSHTN.

Broken Head Quarry DA refused

Plans to build a housing estate on part of the old Broken Head Quarry site were rejected last week by Byron Shire councillors. Owners sought a rezoning, to pave the way for around 92 residential lots and a host of associated road, water, and sewerage infrastructure. Staff recommended against the proposal on environmental, cultural, and planning grounds. Councillors not only elected to oppose the plan, but also added an additional clause in a bid to prevent further applications. 'I'm trying to stop a DA from happening on this site,' said Cr Peter Westheimer (Independent) who moved that the additional clause be added. 'It's a big site, and a very important and precious site in terms of the Byron Shire. I don't want [residential Development Applications] to keep bobbing up.'

Complaints

The site of the former quarry, located on Broken Head Road, has a long history, having been the subject of community complaints since the 1980s. The proposal is now set to proceed to the DPE for determination.

Wallum developer welcomes arrests

The developer behind the beleaguered Wallum urban subdivision on rare and sensitive land in Brunswick Heads welcomed the recent arrests of protectors who have blockaded the site over the last four months. Yet Clarence Property's CEO Simon Kennedy declined to say whether his company asked police to intervene. As reported last week, former magistrate David Heilpern raised concerns that police had used their discretionary resources to pursue the activists. Recent court cases over the blockades were dismissed in the Byron local court. Mr Kennedy said, 'We are pleased to see that some of the activists who have been engaged in illegal and criminal activities at the site for months are being brought to account by police and the judiciary.' **Security threatened** 'We've seen residents, local contractors, our staff and our security threatened, abused and worse by these activists since February, so it's reassuring to see that the police have been able to take action against some of those responsible. 'Clarence Property will continue to assist the police with the ongoing illegal and criminal activity at the Wallum site and within the broader Bayside Brunswick estate, with a view to ensuring safety for residents, Clarence Property staff and contractors as they go about their lawful daily activities.' While Kennedy claims his development is 'ecologically sensitive', evidence to the contrary has been presented by those who insist the rare and endangered ecology is irreplaceable. Negotiations by Mayor Michael Lyon are yet to yield any concessions.

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Time to balance and bend, *hard!*

Spaghetti Circus crew from the adult circus fit class are in rehearsals for their annual show this weekend.

The theme of the show this year is ‘Harder, Faster Stronger’, inspired by the Paris Olympics and the determination of Olympic athletes.

Shows are Saturday, June 22, and Sunday June 23, at 11am and 3pm at the Mullumbimby Showground. For tickets visit www.spaghetticircus.com.



From left to right is Polly, Chiara, Asko, Deryn, Finia and Isi. Photo Jeff ‘Bent And Contorted Since 1986’ Dawson

Vale musician, Ian Walsh

Anna & Zoe Walsh

Local muso, Ian Walsh, passed away peacefully at home recently with his long-time partner, Faye, and loyal dog, Louie, by his side.

Born in Brisbane and raised in Murwillumbah in the ‘50s, at the age of 13, Ian spent three years at the Royal Naval College before returning to Murwillumbah to become a journalist, while also taking part in local theatre productions. He then moved to Sydney with plans to study jazz,

Buddhism and philosophy.

In 1967, Ian played keyboards with Jeff St John and The Id, one of Sydney’s premier soul/r&b bands.

He enjoyed fame on the hit parade, with the success of the album *Big Time Operator*. A career highlight was playing with The Id as opening act for Roy Orbison and The Yardbirds at the Sydney Stadium.

In the early 1970s, like many of his tribe, he left the city, arriving in the Byron Shire where he went on to teach and play piano locally for over 40 years. There were

memorable gigs, including The Blue Birdy in Lismore and Dintie’s and The Railway Hotel backbar in Byron.

Ian loved music and was a talented artist who cared deeply for his family and friends. He was a gentle man who will be missed. A celebration for all who loved Ian will be held at his home in Myocum on Sunday, June 23 (Ian’s 83rd birthday) from 12pm onwards. Instruments welcome.

■ Anna and Zoe are Ian’s daughters.



Mullumbimby's water supply – have a say

Mullumbimby's water supply needs to be upgraded to meet future demand.

Byron Shire Council is seeking community input on the options that have been identified for securing Mullumbimby's water supply up to 2050 and beyond.

For more information and to take part in the survey please visit Your Say Byron Shire.

Submissions close on June 30

Make a submission

- www.byron.nsw.gov.au/Mullum-Water-Strategy
- council@byron.nsw.gov.au
- PO Box 219 Mullumbimby NSW 2482
- 02 6626 7000



www.byron.nsw.gov.au

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MP and Cr call for inclusion of social housing in Ballina

Aslan Shand

Ballina Shire Council will receive \$210,000 through the NSW government's \$100 million Resilient Lands Program (RLP) to help support the delivery of a range of housing options across the Ballina Shire.

However, both local MP Tamara Smith and Ballina Shire Councillor Kiri Dicker have said they are concerned over the potential lack of social and affordable

housing being included in the mix.

The money will go towards the planning and design of medium-density housing on Council-owned land at Hutley Drive, Lennox Head and assist in unlocking housing capacity in the Ballina CBD, including shop-top living, and to advocate for investment in centrally located housing.

'The Resilient Lands Program is about giving options to families to gain access to

affordable land where they want to live,' said Acting CEO of the NSW Reconstruction Authority Mal Lanyon.

Member for Ballina Tamara Smith said: 'It is my hope that any council land that comes under the Resilient Lands Program has a significant portion dedicated to either social or affordable housing.'

'We need genuine affordable housing for residents in our community, not expensive housing stock that is of

more interest to property investors.'

Cr Dicker, agreed telling *The Echo* that she had concerns that Ballina Council would sell the land to private investors rather than include key worker and social and affordable housing in the same way they have with the Wol-longbar residential housing project that is currently on exhibition.

'It is in our housing
► Continued on page 11

Occupants of empty buyback homes face eviction day

Mia Armitage

Members of Lismore's Reclaim our Recovery (ROR) community group called for a last-minute gathering of supporters on Monday morning as people continued to occupy otherwise abandoned houses in North Lismore.

Locals and travellers alike were said to be living in houses on Pine Street and elsewhere that officially belonged to the NSW Reconstruction Authority (RA) thanks to their former owners' participation in the Resilient Homes Program's buyback scheme.

RA head Mal Lanyon last week told ABC North Coast listeners that bought-back homes would be managed on a case-by-case basis.

Owners of flood-damaged homes also had the option of gifting the properties to others, Mr Lanyon said, but recipients were expected to prove to the RA they could shift the homes onto flood-free land within a year.

Dr Elizabeth Mossop at the Living Lab, meanwhile, told BayFM's Community Newsroom that houses deemed unsuitable for relocation were to be checked for any salvageable parts, such as locally sourced so-called

'Big Scrub' hardwood and heritage features.

'Rather than allow these homes to waste away, a community of locals, artists, travellers and land carers are taking peaceful action – occupying and protecting the properties to prevent them from being boarded up,' RoR's media release read.

RoR said the RA was trying to forcibly evict the occupants.

The continued dispute featured a police visit to at least one house on Pine Street earlier this month, which RoR member Andrew George said was 'an interesting encounter' that did not result in any arrests.

RoR members wanted the RA to issue 'licences to occupy' to the unofficial residents, as has reportedly happened in other scenarios, but a recent meeting between the two groups failed to reach resolution on the request.

It's understood the RA has only so far issued licences to people selling their damaged homes to the agency, allowing the former owners extra time to work out where they will live.

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

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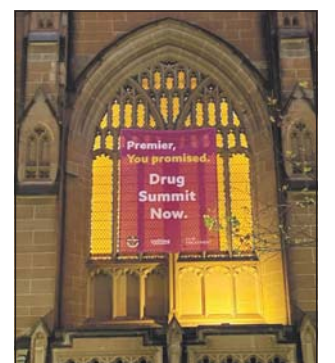
Why have NSW Labor failed to hold their promised drug summit?

Aslan Shand

In the lead-up to the 2023 NSW elections, NSW Labor promised the state a drug summit. This followed the detailed Special Commission of Inquiry into the Drug 'Ice' report, the results of which the NSW Liberal and National parties had failed to release until a motion calling for the release of the report was likely to pass the upper house.

Yet Labor has failed to announce their promised drug summit and the frustration could be seen yesterday when Uniting NSW dropped a banner across from NSW Parliament stating 'Premier, you promised. Drug Summit Now.'

'We took this action to appeal directly to Premier Minns, on Budget eve, to set a date for the long-promised drug summit in NSW. We need to make clear our frustration at the level of inaction we are seeing on what was a key election promise,'



Banner drop across from NSW Parliament: 'Premier, you promised. Drug Summit Now.' Photo supplied

said Emma Maiden, General Manager External Relations and Advocacy at Uniting NSW-ACT.

'It's clear, even as we wait to hear when NSW will be given a date for a drug summit, that real, meaningful drug reform has broad and overwhelming political and community support and is urgently needed.'

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



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Australian Government

Bruns garden for community under threat

Aslan Shand

Bruns local Toni Storer thought one way to help her neighbours and other locals to survive the economic downturn was to stop mowing and weeding the Council strip at the front of her house and to pop in a veggie garden.

‘A friend of mine was saying how expensive vegetables are, \$17 a kilo for tomatoes, and I thought why not put a veggie patch out the front that anyone in the community can access,’ Toni told *The Echo*.

‘Gardening is something I love doing, so it just seemed like a good idea in these tough times.’

However, a recent complaint from a neighbour has meant that Byron Shire Council has told her to remove the garden.

‘I’ve lived in this house for 62 years and I was trying to



Toni Storer just wants to help feed her community for free. Photo Jeff Dawson

be community-minded and neighbourly,’ she explained.

‘The garden is neat, clean, there are no dangerous sharp objects sticking out. You can sit on the edge of it if you need a seat for a while. There’s even cat and dog grass for the animals.

‘I put in vegetables that people would most likely use like lettuce, tomatoes, cauliflower, broccolini – nothing fancy. We might use one per cent, the rest is for people to

help themselves to. They can take as much or little as they want. I just don’t understand why someone would object to that?’

Toni said she hoped the people objecting to the community garden can come and talk to her and work out what their concerns are.

‘Council staff said if there had been no complaints then they wouldn’t have had to ask me to remove the community veggie garden.’

RLP should provide social and affordable housing

► Continued from page 10 strategy and the Lennox Head Strategic Plan that we explore opportunities to support affordable housing for key workers,’ she said.

‘It’s public land owned by the people so it should only ever be affordable housing in my opinion. I’ll be fighting tooth and nail for that in the next term of Council.’

The NSW Reconstruction Authority was contacted regarding the mix of public, social, and affordable housing but were unable to respond by deadline.

HOW TO VOTE TO RETAIN MULLUM’S INDEPENDENT WATER SUPPLY

Use this Guide to fill out Byron Shire Council’s Have Your Say survey questions by 30th June

The key question is basically a referendum on connecting to Rous & thus abandoning Mullumbimby’s independent water source at Lavery’s Gap.

COUNCIL’S SURVEY QUESTIONS & OUR SUGGESTED ANSWERS:

Q. How important is it to you that the town remains on a separate local water supply? Best answer: Extremely important.

Q. Which issues are most important for you when considering Mullumbimby’s future water supply? Best answer: Respond as best reflects your values.

Q. Maintaining a secure water supply for Mullum will require significant investment. These are fear-based questions; we recommend answering “neutral” to both.

Q. Do you support the recommendation to connect Mullumbimby to Rous? Best answer: NO. (This is the critical referendum question)

Q: Councils invitation for you to explain your first answers

Your possible answers:

- Mullum has had a century of independent water supply - we value our autonomy.
- Adding off-stream storage for Lavery’s Gap supply will make our system resilient against future disasters.
- Rous is still considering the Dunoon Dam; we oppose this destructive dam and don’t want to contribute to demand for it.

Q. Council asks you to rank 4 scenarios

Best answer:

Scenario 1 (minor repairs) - select 3; Scenario 2 (off-stream storage) - select 1; Scenario 3 (close Lavery’s Gap) - select 4; Scenario 4 (find ground water source) - select 2

Q. Council asks if there is anything else you wish them to consider?

Optional - use points from Background Info on waternorthernrivers.org

Use this QR CODE to go to Council’s Online Survey Or google: Byron Council Have Your Say



Prepared by Mullumbimby Residents Association. More info at waternorthernrivers.org



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Hazards Near Me

Receive notifications when a natural disaster is approaching



Live Traffic NSW

Plan ahead and see what hazards are impacting your route



Emergency Plus

The ‘what 3 words’ feature gives your precise location for emergency services



BOM Weather

Check for weather forecasts and warnings



Get Ready NSW

Visit nsw.gov.au/GetReadyNSW to download these four apps.





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

Housing waiting lists jump over 100 per cent for Northern Rivers

The number of people seeking priority housing, because they are at risk of homelessness, has increased by well over 100 per cent across the Northern Rivers.

Are you a thinking of running for council? Time for women to step up?

Council elections are coming on September 14 and there is a call for women to step up and stand for local government.

Ballina Council join study to understand how we use water

Ballina Council has joined Bathurst, Dubbo and the Murray River Council areas to participate in a cutting-edge artificial intelligence (AI) technology that aims to identify how people use water across regional NSW.

Maive takes on illiteracy in the Northern Rivers

Maive McKenzie will be a World Literacy Foundation Youth Ambassador for 2024 and will serve as a local advocate in the Northern Rivers.

Murwillumbah's Budd Park – what do you want to see there?

Tweed Council is seeking community feedback on a draft concept plan to upgrade Budd Park at Murwillumbah, a popular meeting point beside the Tweed River.

www.echo.net.au

Mullet fishers destroy dunes and native plants at Gawandii Beach, Shaws Bay

Aslan Shand

Locals and Tuckombil Landcare have expressed concerns over damage to the dunes at Gawandii Beach at Shaws Bay by fisher people who are accessing the beach for the mullet harvesting season between April and July.

‘They really made a mess of the dunes this year,’ Garry Stanger, spokesperson for Tuckombil Landcare told *The Echo*.

Mr Stanger said he believed that previously the fishermen hadn’t brought their vehicles to the old Missingham Bridge end of the beach where they have been working for the last three years to regenerate the dunes. Each weekend, for the last three years, up to a dozen members of the Tuckombil Landcare have been working on the dunes at the old Missingham Bridge end of the beach removing weeds including coral trees to encourage the growth of native species and rehabilitate the dunes.

‘There are over 350 bank-sias that have self-seeded in the dunes with our care of removing the weeds. There are also pandanus palms, some naive figs and little lillies. There are a whole range of native plants that have started growing there because we’ve got rid of the weeds. I’d say there are over 400 trees along there. It is disappointing that we’ve given up our time voluntarily and then the fisherman just come in and drive over the dunes without a thought, creating significant damage. It is sad to see all this work being driven over.’

Local Richard White has also written to *The Echo* expressing his concern over the damage to Gawandii Beach.

‘Again, they have left their mark, at both ends this time,’ he said in his letter about the mullet fishers.

‘The lovely shaded, grassy end, used by families for picnicking, is now even more scarred as they have decided to utilise it for parking their extra boats as well as accessing the beach to park more boats.’

State licence

Luke Marshall, Acting Manager – Open Spaces for Ballina Shire Council (BSC) told *The Echo* that the fishing activity is carried out ‘under a commercial fishing licence and authorised by the NSW state government with additional management through Council’s Commercial Activities on Public Land Policy.’

‘The activity has been carried out at the beach, using the same access for many years,’ he explained.

Call for restoration

Mr White has called on licence holders and BSC to ensure that the sites are restored saying that previously they have not made any attempt to restore the damage they create each year.

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



Dune and plant destruction at Missingham Bridge end of the beach at Shaws Bay. Photo supplied

What is the future of Lismore? Here are some ideas for what it could be

Aslan Shand



South Lismore. Illustration by Mark Gerada

After the devastating floods of 2022 the future of Lismore was thrown up in the air and it was time to take a long hard look at what the future of the town would be.

Bringing together community, local, and international design experts through the Look Ahead co-design process, Living Lab Northern Rivers has generated a range of innovative ideas about what the future of Lismore could be.

Some of the innovative ideas include: a revitalised floodplain that includes cultural land management, recreational trails, gardens and markets; commercial flood resilient retrofits in the Lismore CBD; new urban villages created above the floodplain; and a naturalised Brown’s Creek forming the spine of a new greenway connecting the CBD and urban villages.

Next steps

Until 3 August, Living Lab Northern Rivers will be sharing these future scenarios in their Lismore shopfront, and online at www.llnr.com.au.

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

Ballina Council blacklists wrong tree

the “*Macaranga tanarius*” native tree from the list of accepted tree species being planted by Council and local community groups’.

‘We are deeply concerned that councillors chose to accept internet research conducted by amateurs, and the personal beliefs put forward by some, over the professional opinion of Council’s qualified staff,’ they stated in their letter.

Councillors Stephen McCarthy and Phillip Meehan put forward the motion to ban the planting of the native tree, however, they misidentified the tree and showed photos of *Hibiscus tiliaceus* not *Macaranga tana* to the April Council meeting.

The *Hibiscus tiliaceus* grows with impenetrable masses of branches which inhibit the growth of other plants. *Macaranga tanarius*, forms a single trunk.

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

Illawarra and Tweed in NSW police sting

NSW Police say they have arrested five people and seized over \$3 million worth of MDMA across the Illawarra and Tweed regions as part of a multi-agency investigation into the manufacturing and mass supply of illicit drugs.

The investigation was launched after ABF officers in Queensland examined a number of packages that were found to contain approximately 50 kilograms of a precursor to MDMA.

Kingscliff meth lab

During the search of a Kingscliff property, police and ABF officers located a large clandestine laboratory. Specialist police from the State Crime Command Chemical Operations Team were deployed and dismantled the lab, locating and seizing over one thousand litres of a precursor for MDMA and methamphetamine.

During the search of a Flagstone property, in the Illawarra several electronic devices were found.

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



Byron Bay, there’s a new way to skill up

With purpose-built facilities supported by mobile training units, the Byron Bay Connected Learning Centre offers a range of certificates, diplomas and short courses to give you real skills for real jobs.

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The cost of living with fire ants

Fire ants are considered one of the world's most invasive pests and they can have devastating impacts on our environment, economy, human and animal health, and our outdoor way of life.

If we don't stop them, fire ants could infest all of Australia – resulting in our green spaces becoming unusable and surpassing the combined damage done each year by our country's worst pests.

Fire ants could ultimately cost Australia up to \$2 billion annually across community, industry and government, forever.

In the United States, the far-reaching impacts of fire ants cost approximately US\$6.7 billion each year in medical care and damage repair alone – a hefty bill that our National Fire Ant Eradication Program is trying to help Australia avoid.

Due to fire ant infestations, American farmers can only use small portions of their land. The rest has been taken over by fire ants to the point it's beyond treatable, and in many cases, unusable. Residents are unable to walk to their washing lines or spend time in their backyards without being stung.

Simply put, fire ants have become a part of the American landscape, spreading so far that they have given up trying to eradicate the pest.

Without a national effort to eradicate fire ants, this pest could spread across all of Australia.

More than 97% of Australia is suitable for fire ants to flourish in.

Thankfully, our fire ant management strategies have protected us from the devastation experienced overseas.

Without our program, it is estimated that fire ants could be impacting communities across 100 million hectares by now, reaching as far:

- west as Longreach
- north as Bowen
- south as Canberra.

It will take a collective and whole-of-community approach to stop this invasive pest in its tracks.

Identify fire ants

Fire ants are copper brown with a darker abdomen and measure 2–6 mm in size. They:

- are aggressive in nature
- swarm when disturbed
- appear in a range of sizes within one nest.

Their tendency to swarm when threatened makes fire ants easier to distinguish from other species.

Fire ant nests have no obvious entry or exit holes and they can appear as mounds or flat patches of loose soil.

The shape and size of a nest will depend on the soil type and size of the fire ant colony.

Nests are usually found in warm, open areas such as:

- lawns, pastures and garden beds
- near water sources
- on roadsides
- in newly developed areas
- next to or under objects on the ground – timber, logs, rocks, pavers and bricks
- near utility pits, water and gas meters.

On rural properties, the most common sightings are near dams, along irrigation and fence lines, edges of cultivated land, in cropland and in piles of organic matter.

It is everyone's responsibility to **look for and report fire ants within 24 hours** of sighting them, and we need you to be our eyes on the ground.

Check your yard, work site, local sporting grounds, parks and playgrounds, and report suspect ants or nests.

If you are located in New South Wales you must report to NSW Department of Primary Industries by visiting dpi.nsw.gov.au or calling **1800 680 244**.

All reports are important, even if you're not sure it's fire ants.

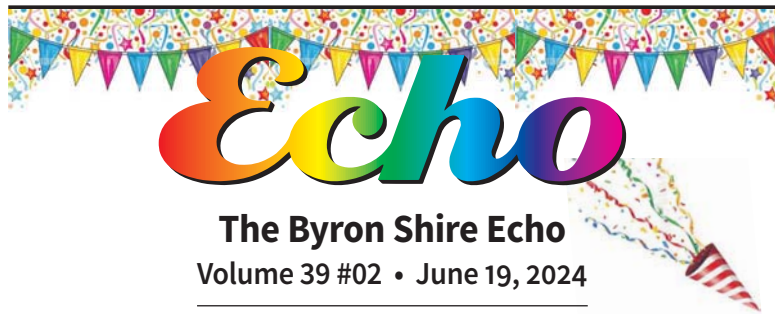
Reports of fire ants beyond the eradication treatment area receive priority. We also prioritise detections that pose a risk to public safety – schools, childcare centres, parks and sporting fields, and those with the greatest chance of spreading fire ants.

By investing in fire ant eradication now, we can avoid astronomical costs in the future and protect our Australian way of life.

For more information visit fireants.org.au or call **13 25 23**.



A photo of fire ants on a 10 cent coin shows their mixed sizing.



Inequity underpins solar-battery rebates

Over 3.2 million Australian households now have solar systems, and NSW leads, with a million systems (rooftop, heated pool or hot water).

So the recent announcement by NSW Climate Change Minister, Penny Sharpe, of a new solar-battery rebate to make better use of existing systems makes a lot of sense – we can expand solar by leveraging what we have to work better.

The perennial problem of solar is it's a very lumpy form of energy production.

Solar systems are confined to daylight hours, and to maximise effectiveness, most panels are tilted north to catch the most sun.

So that's a lot of energy production in the morning, dropping off in the afternoon, and ceasing at night.

Solar batteries are the logical way to smooth out that huge morning power bump, and reduce evening demand for coal-fired power.

The need for subsidies is owing to the high cost of batteries – until prices come down, it makes little financial sense for most households to invest.

The NSW rebate to be offered from November is between \$1,600 and \$2,400 upfront, plus a \$250–\$400 connection subsidy.

The big question is will that be enough reduction in cost to make investment in batteries financially rational?

With the price of a Tesla Powerwall 2 estimated at \$13–15,000, I can say for sure our family will not be taking it up. We would love battery storage, and even the maximum subsidy does not alter the maths. So we will just continue to wait for as long as it takes for technology to mature and prices to come down.

I am pretty sure this thinking will be similar to most homeowners with solar. So I am predicting the solar-battery rebate in its current form will be a fail, and this time next year, the state government will be looking to change it to improve the uptake.

I am a big Penny Sharpe fan, but I am really disappointed in this battery rebate scheme, which is so



'Every solar subsidy scheme needs a public housing component – and Labor MPs should insist on that as a minimum.'

– Catherine Cusack

low-risk for the government, the only thing it is going to deliver is significant underspending of funds for renewable energy.

It's a scheme that will be patchwork and underutilised by households. One alternative is for the NSW government to incentivise energy wholesalers (rather than households) to utilise battery storage. Wouldn't it make more sense to do this on an industrial scale, and reduce power bills to all consumers, not just those fortunate enough to have solar panels?

Non-home owners don't benefit from subsidies

There is another bigger problem that has been in the too-hard-basket for too long, and that is the lack of access to non-homeowners of solar power subsidies, and the energy savings these schemes offer.

I am talking about millions of lower-income folk who rent, live in public housing, or intensive strata schemes where energy prices are hurting the most, and access to solar subsidies and savings is next to zero.

The *Echo* reported in March on an ACOSS report that surveyed 1,007 Australians and found 80 per cent are enduring homes that are too hot in summer. Overwhelmingly, these were people suffering financial and social disadvantage.

Elderly, disabled, working poor – many were suffering health impacts like nosebleeds and vomiting owing to hot homes in summer.

A staggering 14 per cent reported episodes requiring medical attention owing to heat stress. 94 per cent said they could not sleep properly on hot nights, and 60 per cent said they were already struggling to pay their bills.

Solar energy schemes have always been targeted to homeowners, because it is so simple for owner-occupiers to make the maths work, and decide to invest – these households are very responsive and fast in take-up of a program designed to stimulate investment.

But it's been 15 years since NSW's first 'solar bonus' incentive scheme, and exclusively targeting homeowners for these subsidies has become profoundly unfair.

Every solar subsidy scheme needs a public housing component – and Labor MPs should insist on that as a minimum.

Strata law reform and subsidies to make it easier to source cheap green energy would bring immediate relief to hundreds of thousands living in housing schemes, where there are legal barriers to installing solar systems.

Complex and targeted

Yes, this is complex, but targeted policy-making by the NSW government has largely been neglected.

These are problems really worth solving.

With the battery storage scheme set to have low uptake, a silver lining could be the opportunity for ministers and bureaucrats to think about how surplus funds can be reallocated into more targeted policy for vulnerable citizens, including favouring regional locations where heat stress and high energy prices are biggest.

We can transition to renewables, and we can absolutely be fair about how we do it.

It is time for smarter policy and more targeted policy – all these problems have solutions.

■ Catherine Cusack is a former NSW Liberal MLC.

Let's learn about govt housing!

With all the noise and fury over the lack of 'affordable housing', it might be useful to define what different types there are in Australia's market-based housing system.

Affordable housing advocate, House You, says clarity is needed around public, social, community and affordable housing terminology.

And *The Echo* agrees.

But beware! The terminology is vague and there are crossover definitions. Generally, all types of government-funded housing are aimed at assisting low-income households, those who are homeless, or those at risk of domestic violence.

Social housing covers both public and community housing

According to Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (www.ahuri.edu.au), social housing is an umbrella term for two types of government-subsidised short- and long-term rental housing: **public housing and community housing**.

Public housing

It helped build Australia! Public housing is entirely government-owned and -managed, which means no third-party entities (who benefit financially) are involved.

It offers the lowest-cost entry point for those in need of a home.

While there is no public housing included in Labor's \$10b Housing Australia Future Fund (HAFF), the NSW Labor budget, released on Tuesday, promises to 'rebuild public housing after a decade of neglect'.

'Public housing is the gold standard we should be striving for,' states Chels Hood Withey of House You.

She says, 'It provides lifelong leases and rent based on income,

typically set at just 15 per cent to 25 per cent of a household's wage or pension amount. This ensures housing remains truly affordable'.

Public housing is owned or leased by the NSW Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC), and managed by the Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ).

Community housing

Community housing is managed (and often owned) by Community Housing Providers (CHPs), according to www.ahuri.edu.au. Some of the main providers in the region are Northern Rivers Housing (NRH), Homes North, and Evolve Housing.

Given the lack of historical investment in public housing, CHPs are instrumental in providing community housing.

Affordable housing

Broadly, affordable housing is developer-led rentals offered at a discounted market rate.

Community housing providers are also involved in this space.

Developers can receive affordable housing concessions by meeting the criteria of the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Housing) 2021* (SEPP).

In NSW, affordable housing is usually rented at 20 per cent to 25 per cent below the market rent.

As it is not tied to median wages, it is not that affordable.

NSW Labor had the chance to reform the SEPP metrics so that, for example, speculating developers would be required to provide longer leases and more of a percentage of floor space as 'affordable', yet they squandered that opportunity.

Presumably wealthy developers know what's best for those who can't afford affordable housing?

Hans Lovejoy, editor



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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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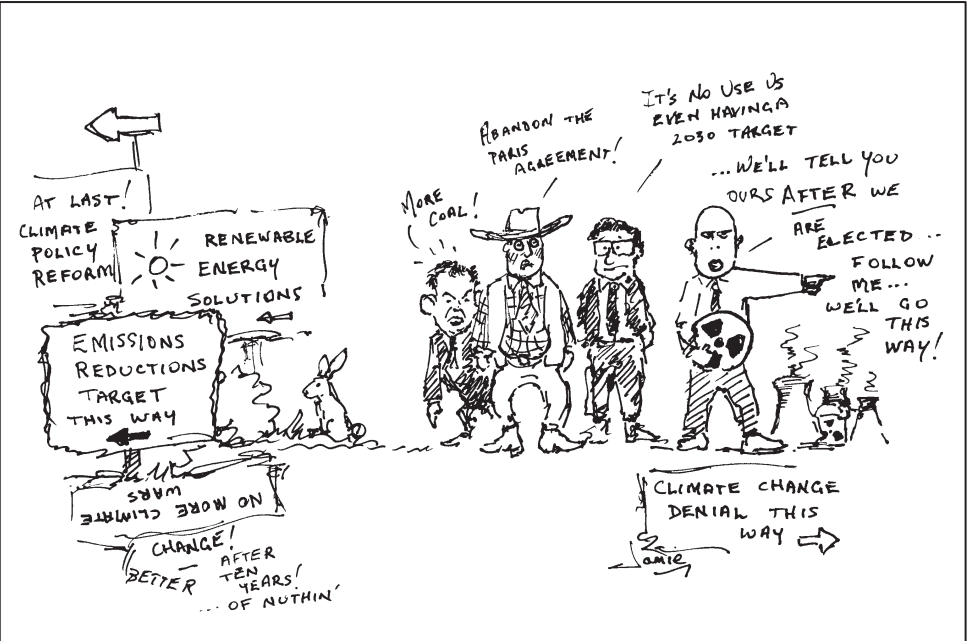
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Cartoon by Jamie Hoile

Contradicted council

Local government elections are scheduled for 14 September 2024 and ‘Team Cadwallader’ of Ballina Shire Council have scored an own goal in promoting a report on the health of the Richmond River by Dr Matt Landos (Echo, 5 June, 2023). Have they been drinking from the purple pipe (recycled water)?

Dr Landos did not hold back in pages 56 to 60 of his report (available at <https://ipen.org/documents/> pristine-polluted), where he explained that the river cannot recover because our governments prioritise development and economic growth over the environment. He suggested on page 63 that real change would require ‘a societal shift in how humanity views the natural world’.

Ballina Shire Council has a poor record on protecting the environment. In particular, the incumbent Council voted to abolish environmental zones (‘deferred matters’) on 28 September 2023. Councillors Cadwallader, Bruem, Buchanan, Ramsey and Johnston voted for that motion, which passed with the casting vote of the mayor. Those same councillors voted to promote the report by Dr Landos on 23 May 2024, except that Councillor Buchanan was absent.

The motion by Councillor Bruem to promote the report by Dr Landos appeared to pass the buck to state and federal governments in stating that ‘many of the approaches to improve catchment health... are areas of state and federal government responsibility’. He may

have ignored the fact most of the Richmond River estuary is within the Ballina Shire, where those habitats have been severely degraded. Dr Landos noted on page 57 of his report that ‘around the township of Ballina development of urban and industrial areas through in-filling of former wetland areas is continuing’.

Dr Landos made it clear on pages 58 and 59 of his report that ‘words alone do not deliver aquatic ecosystem protection’. Come September, those in Ballina Shire who want a healthy river are reminded to vote carefully.

Stephen Totterman
Empire Vale

Mullum phone tower
In response to Paul Taylor re: the Mullum phone tower.

Paul, perhaps you might gain more understanding of ‘belligerent mobs’ if you looked a bit closer to home at the ‘belligerent mob’ that is holding native forest logging in place at all costs.

Too bad that the forests are being destroyed, too bad that most reputable, upstanding ecologists and forest scientists agree it needs to stop, too bad it is costing NSW taxpayers millions per year in subsidies. According to the belligerent mob with which you are closely acquainted, none of that matters, only that you keep doing what you’ve always done, and bloodily ignore the huge amount of help that is available to forestry workers and capital to transition out of the forestry industry right now.

Virginia White
Goonellabah

Koalas? Act now
The Forestry Corporation’s Planning Portal shows that forest compartments are on the chopping block before the Great Koala National Park (GKNP) boundaries are finalised. Even a moratorium has been ignored.

This was an election promise by the Labor government: ‘To protect koala habitat on the Mid North Coast of NSW’. Such a promise is yet to manifest.

Thus the rights of nature are wilfully violated and koala extinction is ensured by the NSW government. Put another way, the GKNP will be logged, thus ensuring koala extinction before the park is legally protected. Currently 95 per cent of the proposed park is vulnerable to logging.

At this critical time it is obvious that civil society is not represented by the NSW Labor government. Political spin is just so much part of the culture.

There is an answer. The extraordinary work of Bangalow Koalas and private landholders, who have planted more than 377,000 trees across the region. Fragmented habitat exists all over the Byron Shire. Time for citizens’ action to follow the example of Bangalow Koalas. This group of activists have inspired international activists to fly to Australia and plant massive habitat for koalas. It can be done. Let groups of folk restore habitat for persecuted sentient life. We owe it to future generations of all sentient beings.

Jo Faith
Newtown

Clarence at Wallum
Clarence Property like to accentuate their green credentials, however they are pressing ahead with their housing development on the Wallum heathland regardless of the ecological impact under today’s environmental guidelines.

In my opinion, if they really cared about the environment they would lodge a new DA and respect the current guidelines. They might even consider lessening the impact of their footprint by decreasing the number of lots.

Graeme Batterbury
Brunswick Heads

Yogaing out
Sadly, two of Byron’s best yoga studios close this month. Bamboo Yoga has been providing a beautiful space and authentic teachers for over 15 years but closes June 30. I understand they had to vacate their space and could not find an appropriate alternative location. Body, Mind, Life closed 12 June after a few years of operation despite well-attended classes and great teachers.

We will miss you and heartfelt thanks for what you have given our community (in my case, sanity!).

Louise O’Connell
Byron Bay

Assange appeal
Yet another year has passed and Wednesday, 3 July is Julian Assange’s 53rd birthday.

It will be the sixth birthday he has spent in Belmarsh Prison, where high-profile terrorists and murderers are held.

► Continued on next page

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AND THE FAMOUS RAILS KITCHEN

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THU 20 JUNE	SWAMP CATS
FRI 21 JUNE	EPIC
SAT 22 JUNE	ADAM HOLE BAND
SUN 23 JUNE	MAJESTIC KNIGHTS
MON 24 JUNE	TIM STOKES
TUES 25 JUNE	JAMEL BOUKABOU
WED 26 JUNE	ISAAC FRANKHAM

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Letters to the Editor and cartoons

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

► Continued from page 15

He has been imprisoned for all these years without charges of any crime in the UK.

Assange has made available to the public information passed onto him by others.

In a world that constantly talks about democracy, the public interest and the need for an informed public to sustain that democracy, Assange has suffered deprivation of his liberty for 15 years for revealing what is being done in the public's name by governments.

In February 2024 the UK High Court rejected US assurances that Julian would not face the death penalty and that he would receive the same First Amendment rights that US citizens are entitled to under the US Constitution.

Julian was then granted the right to appeal against his extradition from the UK to the US.

After almost four months of what can only be imagined as prolonged agony in prison, he has now been given 9 and 10 July as the court dates for his appeal.

Julian Assange's case is essentially a political case.

There is now, for the first time, an opportunity for the many issues and principles

surrounding the years of persecution of Assange to be put before a court.

An ABC TV poll last week showed that 71 per cent of Australians think Julian Assange should be allowed to return home to Australia.

After many years of campaigning and advocating, it is ultimately public pressure that has brought us to a point of some hope and possibility that Julian Assange will finally be free.

We now think that in these remaining weeks before the hearing, apart from the principles Julian Assange has sacrificed so much for, it is now a matter of saving his life.

We trust that a final decision in the name of justice will bring good news for Julian to mark this birthday like no other.

Roy Drew
Mullumbimby

Teething problem

I think it's really stupid and potentially dangerous that the concept of an absorption period of charging a lead acid battery has been transferred across to charging of lithium batteries.

Lithium batteries don't need an absorption period, and in fact the absorption period, with its raised

voltage, is likely to overfill the negative electrode with lithium ions. This overfilling can create cracks in the crystal structure of the electrode which will decrease the battery's lifespan.

On top of that, in extreme circumstances the absorption period can risk the formation of dendrites that can cause a short circuit. Fortunately, lithium iron phosphate batteries have a significantly higher ignition temperature than other lithium-ion batteries. That's probably why we haven't been having too many problems.

In my opinion the absorption voltage provided by charge controllers should be reset at the same voltage as the resting voltage (54.4V for a 16 cell LiFePO4 '48V' battery; 13.6V for '12V'; 27.2V for '24V').

It's just teething problems for new energy.

Sapoty Brook
Main Arm

Yes, peace is the solution

Both Duncan Shipley-Smith and John Scrivener yet again display the same responses that I talk about over, and over and over again. They do not mention even one word about the unspeakable

atrocities that were committed against Israeli civilian men, women and children on 7 October, or the massacres against the Jews in the region of Palestine for the many hundreds of years before the rebirth of Israel, it's all one-sided.

You will also notice that they have not contested EVEN ONE of my specific statements, because they know them to be factual. One-sided views NEVER, EVER lead to a solution, they just lead to more war.

Israel has not 'brutally oppressed' the Palestinian people for more than 76 years displacing over 700,000 refugees in 1948. Israel accepted the partition plan and begged for peace, but the Arabs refused to accept even the smallest Jewish state, and waged a war of total annihilation against the Jews in 1948. The Jordanian army told the local Arabs to leave the towns so the killing of the Jews would be easier and that is why most of the 700,000 Arabs who agreed to leave did so, with the promise that they could also take over the property of the murdered Jews when they returned. The Arabs that remained are all citizens of Israel with full equal rights. Almost 1,000,000 Jews

from Arab lands who were there before Islam was even created were expelled or murdered after Israel won the war of independence, but these guys will never mention that, and today those same Jews are living in Israel or abroad and have moved on with their lives regardless of their devastating losses. There are consequences for the Arabs starting wars, and many millions of people have been displaced over the world but the only ones that are still claiming refugee status are the Palestinians and the UN has not resettled EVEN ONE Palestinian because they [Hamas] are flooded with money. The poor Palestinian civilians see nothing of this money but BILLIONS of dollars keep rolling in year after year, and they [Hamas] don't want the gravy train to EVER stop.

Aside from the 1948 war, the Arabs initiated every war since, including the Palestinian 'leaders' Hamas initiating this current war. Hamas leaders are all billionaires and are the wealthiest politicians in the entire world, all from stolen money that was meant to the poor Palestinian civilians and they definitely don't want the gravy train to stop as they

live it up daily in five-star hotels in Qatar, not giving a shit about their people. I could contest every point in their letters, but the word count won't allow for it. If you want to actually help the Palestinian people, address these issues for once! This war is horrendous, and the poor Palestinians are indeed suffering more than anyone else but it is not a genocide, that is a complete and utter lie, and that will be proven.

Danny Wakil
Billinudgel

Drones not detonation

The extraordinary popularity of the Vivid light shows in Sydney has exploded this year, but quietly, thanks to the 'Love is in the Air' drone presentations. Beautiful, colourful figures light up the sky, without the detonations of fireworks that cause such distress to so many.

Celebrations like New Year and Australia Day could be so much better without the sudden explosions that horrify dogs and cats and cause terrified birds to abandon their nests and fly into buildings, and other animals to flee their burrows or run into traffic.

Dr Desmond Bellamy
PETA Australia

An Award-Winning Documentary

"What we would see if we were really serious about understanding consciousness."
— Jeffrey J. Kripal, PhD
Scholar of Comparative Religion

"A film beautiful in its simplicity yet brilliantly profound."
— Ray Lynch. Three Time Billboard award-winning musician/composer/producer

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Call for immediate ban on logging in the proposed Great Koala National Park

Aslan Shand

There will be no more koalas in the wild in NSW by 2050 if we don't take action to preserve their habitat, according to a NSW state parliamentary inquiry in 2020, but the Nature Conservation Council (NCC) say NSW Labor still aren't doing enough.

Added to this, forest protectors have highlighted that the NSW Forestry Corporation (NSW FC) is failing to mark and preserve trees for protection in the areas they are logging and that the NSW FC appear to have earmarked up to 19,000 hectares of forest in the proposed Great Koala National Park (GKNP) for destruction before April next year.

Interactive map

The Forestry Corporation's Planning Portal shows the forest compartments that are proposed for logging in the proposed GKNP once boundaries are finalised.

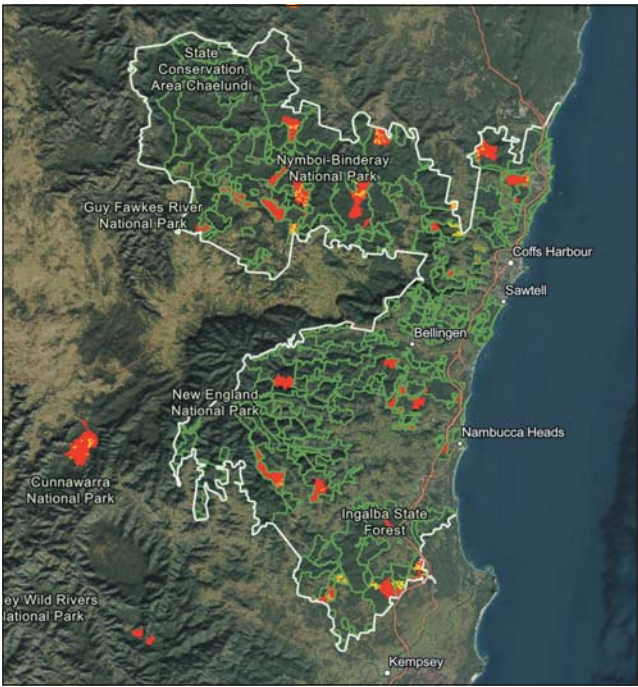
The NCC, the state's leading environmental advocacy organisation, has released the analysis showing the proposed logging of 19,000 hectares via an interactive map that shows past and planned logging in the proposed park by NSW FC.

'Forestry Corporation have been destroying vast swathes of habitat in the proposed new GKNP, right as it's being assessed for inclusion,' NCC NSW Chief Executive Officer Jacqui Mumford said.

'The fact is that this is some of the most important intact koala habitat in the state and it should be protected, not put on the chopping block, while decisions are made about the national park.'

'It is untenable that so much has been destroyed, and will be destroyed, in the coming year, before these areas have been assessed. We don't want to see one more hectare destroyed in this park. We need to see a moratorium on logging in the proposed park now.'

'The new analysis reveals Forestry Corporation is continuing its desperate attempt to take as much timber as possible before the park is protected and are attempting to make the park unviable as koala sanctuary,' said the press release from the NCC.



The Nature Conservation Council NSW interactive map showing the compartments in NSW Forestry Corporation's harvest plan is available at: <https://tinyurl.com/3deyftxu>. Click layer, 'logging since 2003' to view a comprehensive logging history. Image supplied

Koala trees not identified

The call for the moratorium on logging in the proposed GKNP areas has come directly on the heels of the community reporting the NSW FC to the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) for their failure to identify koala trees legally required to be retained at the Orara East State Forest, near Coffs Harbour in their pre-logging survey. Only 27 per cent of trees required for retention were marked for protection.

Greens MP and spokesperson for the environment Sue Higginson said, 'It is disgraceful, although not surprising, that the NSW FC has only protected a quarter of the trees that are required to be protected for koalas – especially in a forest that [NSW] Premier Minns has promised will become a national park.'

'This forest is critical koala habitat and the mis-identification of koala trees means that there will be far fewer trees available for this threatened species.'

'This failure by the NSW FC means that the logging in the forest is in breach of the law and will reduce the number of koalas remaining in the GKNP. It is only thanks to the quick and diligent work of the community that this pre-logging survey has been revealed as unlawful and catastrophic for the koalas.'

'The EPA needs to step up immediately. The planned

logging should not be allowed to go on. If this forest is logged over the coming days, then koalas will be killed and the area will see a massive reduction in koala habitat,' Ms Higginson said.

Keep your promise

'NSW Labor came to power more than a year ago with a key election promise – to protect koala habitat on the Mid-North Coast of NSW, and we are still yet to see it,' said Ms Mumford.

'Over the past year NSW FC has continued to decimate the forests that are being considered for inclusion in the park.'

'This area will become a national park and we need to be protecting its values.'

Last year after sustained community pressure, Environment Minister Penny Sharpe declared a moratorium on logging within 'koala hubs', effectively protecting five per cent of the proposed park.

'Leaving 95 per cent of the proposed park vulnerable to logging is simply not good enough to ensure the survival of koalas in the wild. If we don't stop them, NSW FC will destroy the park before it is protected. This is an area that is home to one in five of the state's surviving koalas.'

'With this species on the brink of extinction, we can't afford another year of destruction of this key koala habitat, otherwise come 2050 we might have a GKNP without any koalas,' Ms Mumford said.

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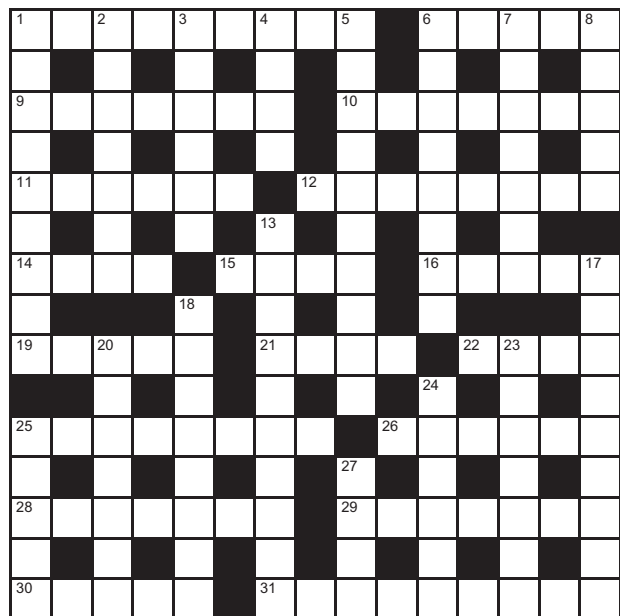


Yet in the US they have enforceable maximum contaminant levels in their water at four parts per trillion.

But don't worry. Our governments are onto it. It's only taken decades of lobbying and pressure from people dying of hideous cancers. By 1 July in 2025 those 'FOREVER' chemicals will be banned in Australia. See, they really do care!

They are in us.

#8



ACROSS

1. Sauna made to be adaptable far into the future (2,7)
6. Graduate so simple (5)
- 9,8d. Music legend, fat, keeping time with firm pecker (7,5)
10. Not quite proper to hide beer from New World coloniser (7)
11. Able to move to craft hotel! (6)
12. Songster rocks her swing! (8)
14. Study for audition, on wind instrument perhaps? (4)
15. Timber trade (4)
16. Thousand bucks found in strange type of country (5)
19. Kenya hoon all over yob (5)
21. Stench of Corinthian, perhaps not good (4)
22. Mythical monster doesn't get on with Yank (4)
25. Mutations of tinea (Delta) to result in a cure (8)
26. Cattle catcher has atrial fibrillation (6)
28. Sound effect made by fiddling with older pennies (7)
29. Problem with communicating origins of assisted public housing and services in America (7)
30. Took part in protest about material (5)
31. Periods of respite for the lungs (9)

DOWN

1. Opposition MP bound by flawed treaty, then set free (2,7)
2. Kind of light tea brewed for youngster (7)
3. Customs in America king a very long time (6)
4. Old poems religious scholar found in English article (4)
5. Blemishes on one seen among French girls in Mediterranean port (10)
6. Posts rage about article (8)
7. Place for launching underwear fashion (7)
8. *See 9 across*
13. Vital sign of matinee idol? (10)
17. Drunk plugs stingy people (9)
18. Singer in boy band mad about overture to *Lohengrin* (3,5)
20. Desire and dope in expedient connection (7)
23. New series about university put out again (7)
24. Tom loses heart but bears pain with distinction (6)
25. Posed naked, swung around to reveal big range (5)
27. Price for transport of food (4)

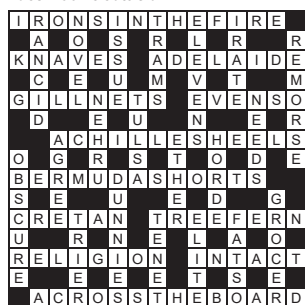
ACROSS

1. Over and over again (2,7)
6. A computer language (5)
- 9, 8d. Musician who wrote the novel *Beautiful Losers* (7,5)
10. Elizabethan statesman (7)
11. On-water accommodation (6)
12. He composed *Rhapsody in Blue* (8)
14. Tall stiff water or marsh grass (4)
15. Distribute cards (4)
16. Most populous of Arab nations (5)
19. Exclamation of joy, excitement (5)
21. Pong (4)
22. Bore (4)
25. A counter-active to poison (8)
26. A tethering rope (6)
28. Austrian physicist; phenomenon used to measure velocity of stars (7)
29. Inability to express thoughts (7)
30. Lustrous cloth (5)
31. Rests in between exercises (9)

DOWN

1. Not constrained (2,7)
2. Newly born (7)
3. Practices; utilisations (6)
4. Collection of early Scandinavian mythological and heroic songs (4)
5. Capital of Région Sud (10)
6. Small pillar supporting a stair rail (8)
7. Pier in a dock or shipway that slopes down into the water (7)
8. See 9 across
13. Person who arouses widespread affection (10)
17. Skinflint (9)
18. Won 2016 Nobel Prize in literature (3,5)
20. An area of potential trouble, especially military or political (7)
23. Send forth once more (7)
24. Prestige (6)
25. World's longest continental mountain range (5)
27. Get on, manage (4)

Last week's solution #7



STARS BY LILITH

As the sun, Venus and Mercury race for the comfort couch in the sign of the home-loving, family-oriented Crab, this week settles into the annual season of resting, nesting and guesting...



CANCER THE CRAB

GEMINI: Note to self: your mentor planet Mercury, currently in mind-changing mode, advises that your thinking aloud could be challenging for others this week. If you find people unduly crabby or cranky, itchy and scratchy, it's best not to subject them to every pro and con you're currently considering.

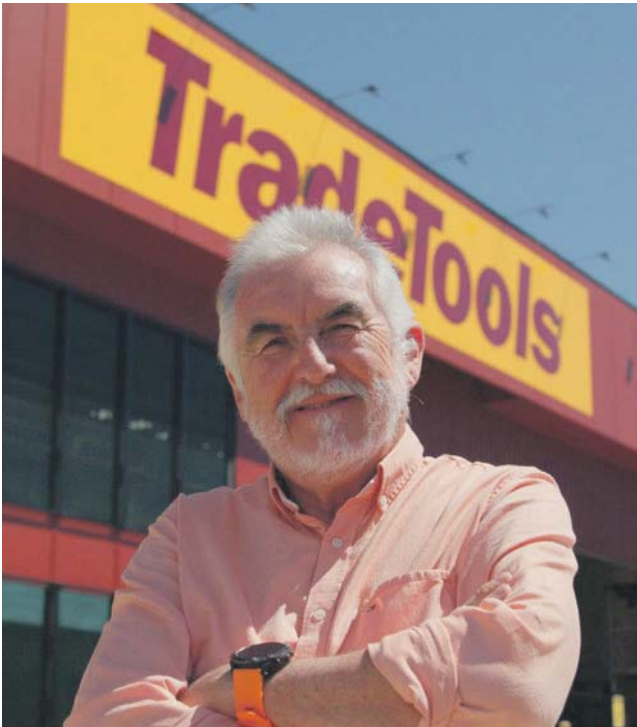
VIRGO: Your mentor planet Mercury moving into its most emotional, receptive and empathetic placement makes it easier to speak about your feelings in this week's intimate conversations. Also, to be more sympathetic and understanding in the possibly edgy family discussions which are likely to surface at this time.

SAGITTARIUS: A trio of planets in one of the zodiac's touchiest signs means this week's people could be easily offended by how opinions are presented, and super-sensitive to criticism. They're also likely to be caring, sharing, cuddly and considerate – or all of the above, the whole package. Best tread carefully.

PISCES: It's been a brain-bogglingly busy and information-packed month, and this week's full moon on June 22 brings sweet relief when celestial energies, in a fellow water sign, settle into an increasingly fish-friendly flow. Tender emotions are likely to surface during this transit: be choosy about who you share them with.

TradeTools

Our Everyday Prices Are What The Others Call A Sale!



Hi, I'm the guy that started TradeTools way back in 1987 &, just a few years ago, I bought 145 acres in the Northern Rivers area, not far from Nimbin. Since then, I've been building a place on my land on which to retire & it soon became obvious to me that the entire area needed a company like TradeTools with its unique range of tools & equipment. No other company that we know of has anything like our range of air compressors [many of which we still make ourselves] pressure washers, workshop equipment, tool storage, ute canopies, air tools, nail guns or hand tools that so many of us good folk in regional areas like this one always need & usually have to search for far & wide.

You can go to a major hardware store, or even another tool company, but over half of what we stock they simply don't have &, in the rare event that they do, their prices are often outrageous! TradeTools is a major importer of much of what we sell, particularly our very own exclusive Renegade Industrial brand of tools, machinery & equipment so, when you buy from us, you are mainly dealing directly with the national importer with over 1000 containers annually flowing through our Gold Coast warehouse alone.

We also carry a huge range of major brand Cordless Tools & Equipment, all at great prices rarely seen outside of the major cities. TradeTools has a fully qualified fitter onsite at Lismore so, even if you buy major brand power tools from elsewhere, you'll often find that TradeTools is your nearest warranty & repair agent covering Milwaukee, Makita, DeWalt, Hikoki, Metabo etc.

This article is showing you just a small sample of all that we sell, so feel free to come down & meet the guys at TradeTools Lismore anytime, you're always welcome! TradeTools is a private family business, run more like a cooperative than a traditional company, where the people that serve you are often the very people that actually own the enterprise; old fashioned yes, but we all really like it that way, & we hope you do too!

Thanks for your time..... Greg Ford, TradeTools Director & Founder.

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- 440 Litres Per Minute Of Free Air Delivery
- Solid Cast Iron Triple Cylinder Pump
- Large 75 Litre Tank Capacity
- High Quality Water Trap



Renegade Industrial 1800mm Aluminium Ute Canopies

- Dimensions: 1800mm x 1800mm x 860mm
- 3 Easy Access Gull Wing Style Doors
- Heavy Duty 2.5mm Thick Reinforced Flat Aluminium Construction



Location: 23 Habib Drive, South Lismore 2480 (Former Lismore Joinery Works Building)

Phone: (02) 5645 7000 Trading Hours: Weekdays 7am - 6pm & Saturdays 8am - 4pm.



DEWALT

Makita

Milwaukee

EGO

Hikoki

metabo

health & healing



www.byronhealing.com.au

byron healing

UPCOMING BYRON HEALING CLIENT EVENTS

Hypnosis Training

Held by: Judith Asal
Date: Friday, 12 – Sunday, 14 July
Address: online
Contact: judith-asal.de/en/hypnosis-training/

Qigong Fitness Course - Martial Arts Exercise

Held by: Heart Mind Centre
Date: 6 x Wednesdays, 24 July to 28 August
Time: 8.30 – 10am
Address: The Moller Pavilion, Bangalow Showgrounds
Contact: shirsha@heartmindcentre.com.au
heartmindcentre.com.au/qigong/

Face Yoga

Held by: Byron Community College
Date: Saturday, 29 June
Time: 10am – 3pm
Address: Mullum Campus
Contact: byroncollege.org.au/courses/?ax_s=face+yoga

Reiki Level 2

Held by: Byron Community College
Date: Saturday 6 – Monday 8 July
Time: 9am – 4pm
Address: Mullum Campus
Contact: byroncollege.org.au/courses/?ax_s=reiki2



TRUE NATURE YOGA

New studio at The Figs Byron

In a partnership forged breath by breath on their yoga mats over 19 years, Hugh Jack and Elisha Gazdowicz have recently relocated from the Currumbin Valley with a wonderful core group of yoga practitioners, founding True Nature Yoga in the Byron Shire, with the primary focus of helping others lengthen and deepen their breath.

Yoga teaches us to appreciate the feeling of love within ourselves and in others, and to honour the truth of each moment. The ability to be aware and present comes from the centre point of the self. Providing its own light, it guides us intuitively. Through remaining connected to this understanding, yoga allows us to access a deeper level of peace and wellbeing.

Hughie 0433 413 988

www.truenatureyoga.com.au

66 Hyrama Crescent, Brunswick Heads (near the Mullum Gateway)



BANGALOW & BALLINA REMEDIAL MASSAGE

Remedial massage is safe and effective for everybody and has many benefits for the body, mind and emotional states. It promotes health and physical wellbeing; relieves stress and tension; strengthens immune system and circulation; manages muscular pain; improves flexibility, range of movement and rehabilitation after injury; improves emotional states; relieves neck and back pain and other musculoskeletal dysfunctions; and much more!

Bangalow and Ballina Remedial Massage therapists are committed to the highest standard of care in all of their treatments. Treatments are reasonably priced as they believe massage should be part of everyone's lifestyle.

Mention this ad to receive \$10 off your next treatment at the Newrybar clinic.

Book online. Gift vouchers available.

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bbrmassage.com.au

[@bbr_massage](https://www.instagram.com/bbr_massage)



O'MEARA DENTAL

O'Meara Dental warmly welcomes General Dentist Dr Roy Gamma and Oral Health Therapist Ms Cathy Elliott to their practice. With a combined 26 years of providing dental care to the Byron Shire community they are a very experienced and caring addition to our team. Appointments at our Mullumbimby practice are filling fast.

'At O'Meara Dental we are acutely aware of the role your mouth plays in overall systemic health. A healthy mouth is vital to a healthy body and a happy life. We are caring, considerate and put our heart into all we do. Our approach is balanced, practical and holistic. We will provide treatment that is personalised, individual, transparent and scientifically proven.'

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60 Stuart Street, Mullumbimby
02 6694 3083
omearadental.com.au



CONSCIOUS LIGHT

Conscious Light offers a penetrating glimpse into the remarkable life and enlightened teachings of Avatar Adi Da Samraj and his work. It draws on extensive archival film, photography and audio recordings, as well as interviews with students who lived with Avatar Adi Da and continue to practise the way that he revealed.

The film captures candid, often humorous, and spiritually profound exchanges between Avatar Adi Da and his students over the course of more than three decades, including transcendent moments of sublime silence and spiritual transmission. Viewers are drawn into a deeply intimate experience of Avatar Adi Da's living spiritual presence.

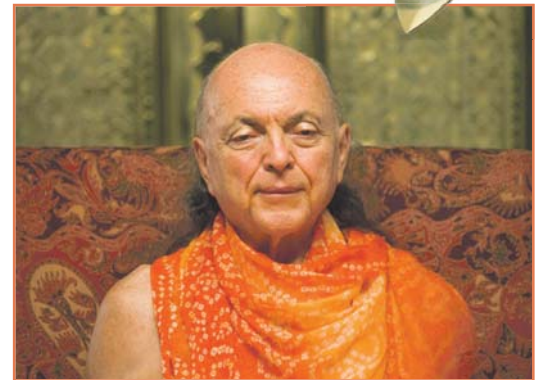
Screening at Byron Community College campuses.

Mullumbimby: Thursday, June 27, 7pm / Byron Bay: Thursday, July 4, 7pm.

Admission: \$10 or donation

Mullumbimby campus: 6/8 Burringbar St, Mullumbimby

Byron Bay campus: Level 1, 107 Jonson St



BYRON COLLEGE

Become a qualified Massage Therapist fee-free* at Byron Community College

Imagine a career where you can choose where, when and how you work! That takes your passion for helping others and sets you up with a rewarding career in the booming health & wellness industry.

At Byron Community College you can graduate from the nationally recognised HLT42015 Certificate IV in Massage Therapy as a qualified therapist with the skills and clinic hours to take on clients and run your own business.

'Not only did the massage therapy course provide me with a brand-new career later in life, it also gave me the confidence to start my own business.' – Marcus

*Fee free and subsidised places are available for most NSW residents. This training is subsidised by the NSW Government.

Learn more www.byroncollege.org.au or call 6684 3374. RTO: 90013





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

The 2024 magazine is out now – see the list of amazing businesses included here and go to the website: byronhealing.com.au to read their full profiles and contacts.

Medical & Allied Health

Ananda Clinics, Endocannabinoid Medicine
Specialising in a scientific approach to health and vitality through plant-based medicine.

Byron Bay Equine Therapy & Psychology
Offering psychology and equine-assisted therapy sessions on an 80-acre farm-based clinic in Fernleigh, NSW, with psychologists who are fully certified, qualified and experienced.

Coastal Counselling Walk & Talk Therapy
Embrace nature, movement and courageous conversations with Coastal Counselling Walk and Talk Therapy. Discover healing along the coast of Northern Rivers, NSW.

Graeme James, Counsellor, Therapist, Supervisor
Graeme James, integrative therapist, provides individual and relationship counselling and therapy for people wishing to explore their lives, reflect, learn and grow from their experience.

The Allergy Clinic, Byron Bay
Environmental Allergy Skin Prick Testing. At the Allergy Clinic they test and treat for environmental inhalant allergies caused by pollens, grasses, house dust mite, animal dander (cat, dog, horse) and mould.

Wahini Health – Women’s Clinic
We believe in the profound connection between body, mind and spirit, especially when it comes to women's health through comprehensive obstetrics, gynaecology, midwifery, nutrition, psychology, lactation consulting, pelvic floor health and more.

Dental

Oasis Dental Studio, Pottsville
Many people feel anxious about the dentist, and Oasis Dental Studio is on a mission to change that perception. With state-of-the-art facilities, they transform the dental experience, removing negative stigma.

Massage

Artemis – Unique & Unusual Bodywork & Massage Infused with Essential Oils
Experience ancient healing traditions combined with massage and essential oils, as a unique and powerful way to reconnect, indulge, pamper and ignite your senses. Private sessions and practitioner training.

Byron Massage Centre
Surrender your stress, release muscular tension and energise yourself with relaxation, remedial/deep tissue and pregnancy massage, as well as energy healing and chakra balancing to raise your consciousness.

Byron Massage Clinic
A multi-modality clinic offering osteopathy, remedial massage and acupuncture in the heart of Byron Bay. Client-focused, experienced practitioners offering health fund rebates / HICAPS.

House of Shemana
Ritual wellness studio – a temple space for exquisite rituals of massage and healing arts

Thai Sabai Traditional Thai Massage & Foot Spa
Take quality time out to de-stress, relax, rejuvenate & re-align your life force maintaining your health & vitality through massage & therapeutic manipulation through ancient Eastern techniques.

Exercise & Movement

Body Language Byron Bay
A meeting place of connection and communication through movement: • Pole • Calisthenics • Strength and conditioning • Heels • Latin • Barre • Yoga • Pilates • Mobility • Personal training • Shibari • Somatics • Breathwork • Recovery • Meditation • Workshops • Studio hire.

Bodyworkz / Bodyhealz
Pilates, reformer, yoga, exercise-based physiotherapy, infrared sauna and Airpod hydroxy therapy.

Shirsha Marie – Tai Chi, Qigong & Body Psychotherapy
Cultivate vital life energy, mindful awareness, inner strength and natural self-expression with Tai Chi – moving meditation art, Qigong – healing exercise art or Body Psychotherapy – somatic approach to emotional wellbeing. Classes, sessions, retreats and online courses.

Education & Training

Byron Community College – Study Massage Therapy
Create Your future at Byron Community College with the nationally recognised and subsidised* HLT42015 Certificate IV in Massage Therapy course.

Ikon Institute - Study Arts Therapy or Counselling and Psychotherapy
Ikon Institute. Education with purpose.

Judith Asal – NLP and Hypnosis Trainings
With a training in NLP and hypnosis, you can awaken your potentials and abilities - for a successful and self-determined life.

Mind Medicine Australia: Psychedelic-Assisted Therapies
Advocating and educating on psychedelic-assisted therapies to treat mental illness and addiction in Australia.

Moni Jowsey - Ambassador for the Avatar® Course
Avatar is a powerful and speedily effective course based on the simple truth that your beliefs will cause you to create or attract situations and events that you experience as your life.

Southern Cross University – Bachelor of Counselling
Step into a career where support and care make a lasting impact on the lives of others. Gain a solid foundation in psychology, assessment and intervention techniques, counselling theory and practice.

Healing Practitioners
Ancestral Bio Decoding
Aligning spirit and biology, integrating ancient wisdom and contemporary insight to address a wide range of physical and emotional challenges.

Blue Mind Health – Hypnosis & Neurofeedback
Clinical Hypnotherapy, Psychotherapy, Neuro Linguistic Programming (NLP), Neurofeedback. Blue Mind Health can help you with: sleep, smoking, tinnitus, addictions, anxiety, weight loss, sports performance, PTSD and more.

Dean Benson: Shamanic Practitioner, Family & Soul Constellations, Empowerment Courses
1:1 Clearing Sessions with Spirit, Entity and Energy Removal, Family & Soul Constellations, Men's Inner Alchemy, Inner Child Work , Qigong, Womb Clearing & Pre-Conception Preparation.

Dr Adam Osborne, Japanese Acupuncture and JAB Cosmetic Clinic
Cosmetic injections utilising meridians to keep you looking like you, just fresher and more chilled AND Japanese acupuncture to realign body and soul to look great, feel better!

Dr Jon Veranese BDS – Conscious Dental Solutions
A holistic approach to the health of the mouth, teeth and gums. Integrating left / right brain consciousness and healing with health and wellness through the body mind spirit connection.

Jacinta McEwen ND – Om Healing, Naturopathic and Ayurvedic
Jacinta McEwen ND OmHealing Ayurveda and Naturopathic. Naturopathic consultations, Ayurvedic consultations, Balances, Kinesiology, Pranic healing, Ayurvedic treatments, Breath work, Ayurvedic counselling, massage therapy. Pulse, tongue and iris diagnosis included in every consultation.

Jake Gallon, Certified Detoxification Practitioner
Helping people heal from any dis-ease without drugs or supplements. If you have tumours, digestive issues, constipation, balding, skin problems or decaying teeth: Jake can help you!

Joanne Farrell – Quantum Wellbeing, Kinesiology and Energy Medicine
Release the old, dream the new, build the change. Kinesiology, Breathwork, transformational life coaching, yoga therapy, retreats.

Kate Messenger – Kinesiology & Crystal Healing
Kate Messenger offers Kinesiology and Crystal Healing sessions and readings, assisting you to release stuck energy, clear issues creating pain, stress and imbalance on all levels, and create positive new experiences!

Lin Bell, Kinesiologist, Trauma Counsellor, Somatic Healer, Kinesiology Training
Lin Bell, one of Byron Bay's most experienced kinesiologists, trauma-counsellor, past lives, shamanic spiritual healer. Intuitive; 40+ years practising in a wealth of healing modalities; Inner Self Guidance Cards creator.

Liza Atherton Kinesiology, Neuro-Energetic Kinesiology for Families
We wholeheartedly embrace a holistic approach, dedicated to nurturing individuals through diverse challenges. With unconditional positive regard we prioritise well being, uncovering root causes for transformational healing with genuine care.

My Gut Store – Belle Eder, Gut Specialist, Herbalist
Belle has created a truly unique practice focussing on helping patients take charge of their health and nourish their bodies with good food, herbs and supplements.

Natwah Petruszka, Holographic Kinetics Practitioner
Holographic Kinetics acknowledges Aboriginal ancient Lore from the past which is the healing of the future. Healing Spirit – nothing has to be the way it was.

Selin Ebeci, Hypnotherapist, NLP Practitioner
Selin helps you become your most authentic self and live the life you want using the power of hypnosis.

The Way Of Healing
A place to retreat when the weight of the world becomes too heavy. Embracing traditional natural medicine practices, energy work and idolising holism as best practice. Offering herbal medicine, nutrition, reiki healing and workshops.

Trevor Wills, Pioneer of BioEnergetic DeArmouring
Trevor precision tracks and guides you at the level of your trauma, wounding and any correlated resistance, dis-ease and hypervigilance. Supporting you to reclaim your body(mind) with genuine healing states.

Vicki Veranese, the Oracle
Using the deck and runes she created, Vicki gives unique insight and clarity as well as an experience in consciousness connecting you with your intuition, desires, and authenticity.

Wildforest Folk – Transformative Forest and Nature Therapy
Discover transformative experiences in nature that integrate ecological awareness with spiritual and mental well-being with Wildforest Folk.

Retreats, Spas & Venues

Byron Bay Detox Retreats
Experience a life-changing transformation on an exclusive group or personalised 1:1 retreat, escape for a weekend reset or book in to the beachside clinic for a range of wellness treatments.

Gaia Retreat & Spa
Surrender to the beauty and healing power of Australia's most awarded boutique wellness retreat, situated on 25 acres in the Bundjalung Country hinterland of Byron Bay.

Retreats Byron Bay – the Mind Body Spirit experience
Come for a few hours or a few days to: Uplevel your MINDset, Worship the BODY temple, Ignite your SPIRIT with unique curated experientials and retreats.

Sweet Retreats at Sugar Beach Ranch
Sugar Beach Ranch is one of the most secluded treasures – offering a variety of services including retreats, equine wellness, stays, events, and more – everything a rural heaven can offer.

Healing & Wellness Centres

Bangalow Wellness Hub
A locally-owned, doctor-led cosmetic clinic specialising in skin and body rejuvenation. Aesthetic Medicine, Infrared Sauna, IV Vitamin Infusions and hair restoration.

Bluefern Osteopathy and Holistic Health – Lismore and Byron Shire
Osteopathic care for all ages: adults, the elderly, babies and children. Their modalities include general osteopathy, Osteopathy in the Cranial Field (OCF) – also known as craniosacral, and paediatric osteopathy.

North Coast Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation
A non-invasive and evidence-based treatment for depression, TMS uses targeted magnetic pulses to stimulate brain regions responsible for mood regulation, aiming to reduce symptoms of depression and improve mental health without medication.

The Rainbow Health Centre Lismore – Naturopathic Health Clinic
The aim of The Rainbow Health Centre is to empower their clients with insights and tools to assist them in achieving and maintaining optimal health and wellness.

White Feathers Holistic Therapies
New Beginnings with Nicole Haberecht – raising your vibration through working with the angels, to bring your mind, body and spirit into alignment for self healing.

Health Food & Wellness Products

Flannerys Organic Wholefood Wellness Market, Murwillumbah
Real people with a real commitment to better health and wellbeing. Certified organic produce, wholefoods, chemical-free household products and skin care, local organic meat, fresh bread, milk and eggs. Gluten-free and plant-based options.

Go Vita Byron Bay
Your one-stop, locally-owned health food shop offering a range of vitamin, mineral and herbal supplements, practitioner range dispensary products, sports and performance supplements, high quality beauty products and more.

Life Cykel® – The World’s Most Trusted Mushroom Extracts
The World’s Most Trusted Mushroom Extracts™

Mullum Herbals
Mullum Herbals in Mullumbimby, and Bruns River Herbals in Brunswick Heads also have an online shop and post parcels five days a week.

Nimbin Herbs
Transforming health and consciousness through plant and herbal wisdom. Join our community toward embracing an earth-centred, life-affirming journey through our quality herbal products and educational workshops.

The Remedy Room – Naturopathic Dispensary, Byron Bay
Their integrative team of certified Naturopaths and Clinical Nutritionists are available online and in-store to assist you with a comprehensive range of evidence-based, high-quality herbal and nutritional medicines.

Online

Andreas – LGBTQ+ Men’s Tantra & Sacred Sexuality
Deeper connections for men who love men. Men's Retreats | Nude Yoga | Private Tantric-Mentoring | Spiritual Guidance.

Rob Sanasi – Lion Tamers ADHD Coaching
ADHD can be a superpower, but you have to tame the lion. ADHD Coaching with The Lion Tamers. They'll show you how to tame your ADHD lion for good!

Good Taste

Eateries Guide

BYRON BAY



Loft Byron Bay

4 Jonson Street,
Byron Bay

6680 9183

Book online:
www.loftbyronbay.com.au

Signature cocktails, and casual dining with ocean views.

Happy Hour | 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

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

Hours:

Wednesday – Sunday

Brunch 7:30am–1:30pm

Local food, for locals, carved out by the ocean-shore
It's a must!

Come in and try the new taste experience

Local seasonal produce.....fermented and pickled
food....house cured and smoked fish.

10% off for all locals!

Fully licensed



Bonito Byron Bay

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Ground Floor, Hotel Marvell
4 Marvell Street, Byron Bay

Breakfast Daily 8am – 12pm
Laneway light lunch Daily 12pm – 5pm
Dinner Tuesday – Saturday From 5pm

Book hotelmarvell.com.au/restaurant
Call 6685 7385 | @bonitobyronbay

Enjoy breakfast, coffee or light lunch
in our casual dog-friendly laneway or
treat yourself to a comfortable elegant
seafood dinner experience.



Horizon Rooftop

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC 7 DAYS

Horizon Rooftop, Hotel Marvell

4 Marvell Street, Byron Bay

Open Daily | 3pm – 9pm

NO BOOKINGS REQUIRED

Call: 6685 7385

@horizonbyronbay

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Byron's newest rooftop bar.**

Enjoy hinterland views, stunning sunsets
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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
@therocksbyronbay

Happy Hour 6pm–8pm

\$6 Beers & \$7 Wines

\$12 selected cocktails

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



Commune Canteen

1 Porter St, Byron Bay

Open Monday to Saturday,
6:30am to 3:00pm

@commune.byron

www.nourishinghabitat.com

Mediterranean daytime eatery.

Healthy colourful salads, bone broths,
hot slow-cooked meals,
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Tucked away community courtyard.

Eat / Play / Work

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Bangalow Bread Co.

12 Byron St,
Bangalow

6am–3pm weekdays.
7am–2pm weekends.

6687 1209

www.bangalowbread.co
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small batch pies, house made cakes.

Your local artisan bakery, specialising in all things
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bread, hand rolled pastries, award winning pies and
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Open 7 days

Lunch: 12–2pm

Pizza & drinks only: 2–5pm
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Views, Brews, Cocktails, Beats, and Eats!

Live Music Friday, Saturday, Sunday.

Bookings essential.

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Open for brunch and lunch,
seven days 8am–3pm

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empiremullum.com.au

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

CATERING



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lizzijackson@gmail.com

0414 895 441

GLUTEN FREE AND SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS CATERED FOR.



Forrest Organics

Victoria Cosford

At the Forrest's stall while Dave serves and chats to customers, wife Sue is showing me the magazine she's been editor of for five years. *Going Organic* is the mouthpiece of TROPO, the Tweed Richmond Organic Producers Organisation, established, as it says on its front page, 'in 1989 as a grassroots local action group dedicated to fostering organic agriculture and gardening on the NSW North Coast.'

Dave was one of the people who started it up in Lismore all those years ago and it comes out biannually, chockful of fascinating articles by both members and contributors. The latest edition includes a useful guide to building raised wicking beds and fascinating stuff about dingoes, which 'still play a crucial role as apex predators in maintaining ecosystem function and diversity.'

So much to learn, so much inspiration from a single visit to the farmers' market! Dave and Sue have always been there, available to talk about the best crops to

plant, when, what's currently flourishing, and how to be a better gardener.

Aside from the magazine, Sue's showing me bottles of the two drinks they sell, the Firecider and the Jamu, both at this particular time of year perfect ways to ward off colds and flu. An antiviral, the former is apple cider vinegar combined with horseradish, garlic, ginger, lemon and honey – 'it's also a terrific salad dressing', Sue says, 'or in a marinade for meat.' As for the vibrant orange Jamu, it's an anti-inflammatory, supercharged with turmeric, galangal and lemon, and Sue makes 60 litres of it a week, all of it going to the farmers' markets, made fresh the night before.

Other nutritional delights include the new season ginger ('its very soft skin makes it great for juicing'), citrus, brassicas, kale, turmeric – and son Dougal's beautiful little Dutch creams. All of it certified organic, naturally!

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



Budding young musicians hit the stage at Byron Farmers Market

There will be a special appearance at Byron Farmers Market tomorrow morning! Along with the freshest locally-grown produce, the market will feature the next generation of budding local musicians as the Byron Bay Public School bands take centre stage.



Jedi, Rosie, Lara and Frankie. Photos Louise Beaumont

The bands, which include the senior band, the intermediate band, and a very new beginner band, will perform two sets at the northern end of the market, under the fig tree, between 8am and 9am.

Band coordinator Ray Moynihan says, 'It's such a pleasure for me to be able to help bring two great local institutions together - Byron Bay Public School and Byron Farmers Market - to celebrate the music-making of the next generation.'

According to Ray, the senior band has been playing together for several years and is very polished, while the beginner band, which includes students as young as eight years old, was only formed in April.

Byron Farmers Market has been a long-time supporter of local musicians, with two

acts appearing at the market every Thursday morning and one at Bangalow every Saturday morning. But tomorrow's performance will be extra special.

Market manager, Tom Carey says it is a great opportunity to give young local musicians a chance to perform in front of a supportive audience and get their music out to the public.

'We love having music at the markets and will always support local acts, so it made perfect sense to support the school bands and our local young musicians,' says Tom. 'We are really looking forward to having the schoolkids here.'

Ray says the important role music plays in young lives cannot be underestimated.

'Learning an instrument as a child can be a passport to a lifetime of pleasure,' he says. 'Seeing the concentration, the determination and the connection among band members at such a young age is phenomenal.'

The band program at Byron Bay Public School is run in collaboration with the Northern Rivers Conservatorium of Music with band leader and multi-instrumentalist, Nic Campbell.

Over 40 students will take part in the performance at the market tomorrow, playing everything from flute, clarinet and saxophone to trombone, bass guitar and drums. Don't miss it!

Byron Farmers Market is held every Thursday from 7-11am at Butler St Reserve and Bangalow Farmers Market is every Saturday from 7-11am behind the Bangalow pub.

The Village Grocer is shutting down

The supermarket near the roundabout in Byron, formerly known as Five Star, Handimarket, Spar Express and more recently as the Village Grocer, is shutting down, and with it a little bit of history, as it's been run by Ed Ahern, something of an identity around Byron over recent decades. Here Moni Jowsey shares something of the story of Ed Ahern, and the business.

'Let me take you on a journey, a story of a bright young ambitious business man. As a young surfer with a love for music, Ed chased a beach life dream,' says Moni. 'Germi-nated in the Brisbane suburbs and having gleaned the gifts of confidence, gratitude and good ethics - he soon found a crack in the armour of his religious schooling and jumped the border.'

'His keen eye for profit led him through property development and the challenge of farming into the wisdom of weather and old-fashioned country-kitchen yield.'

'Byron Bay gained a strong reliable and positive anchor from every investment move made by Edward John Ahern. With respect for others and a sword of honesty he drew on his father's inheritance early to get ahead in life.'

'He signed up as a tenant on the main roundabout of Byron and put in the convenience-based supermarket: Food Store. Name changes on this site started with Handimart, then Five Star, SPAR and in 2023 it became The Village Grocer.'



Moni Jowsey and Ed Ahern

'Having operated 24-hours a day, seven days a week this supermarket maintained a solid operation, employing all the local kids, supplying tourists with convenience goods for nearly 30 years. Of course the famous business glitch presented by COVID-19 completely melted this business venture. With attempts to change the stock, offer deliveries, shift the brand and to approach the Chamber of Commerce about the limitations presented by parking fees and a lack of tourism-drive, nothing has offered any traction to shift the commercial reality of being a tenant in the centre of Byron.'

'The land tax landing on the desk of commercial tenants with the swollen

property values struck another dud chord, given the scale of debt here. Add to this cocktail interest rates and the riddle of a penalty-loaded payroll - this business had to minimise its trading hours just to survive.'

'The Village Grocer (aka SPAR) is closing its doors with the final day on June 27. Come on in during the last week and say goodbye to the team. Give Ed a friendly, warm farewell and help this page-turn in the book of Byron with a positive, grateful, connected smile for each other. This feels like such an end of an era for the middle of town - pop by and say hi!'

The Village Grocer is at the roundabout, corner of Lawson St and Jonson St, Byron Bay.



Open 6am - 12pm
Monday - Saturday
Shop 6/108 Stuart Street
Mullumbimby.
@bimbi_coffee_shop
ALLPRESS ESPRESSO



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JUNE 21st
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with Wandering Folk
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SeVen



WIGGLE IT FOR THE SOLSTICE

A full moon 'Winter Wiggle' is on **Saturday** as the solstice tribe connect. They will be rocking **Durrumbul Hall** from **6pm** till midnight with local legendary DJs: **Pob, Halo, Ria Listic** and **4 Eyes**; plus special guests **Daddy Issues** – making a road trip from the Central Coast; and **Avaxa** – will be slipping in a wiggle in her world festival schedule, flying up from Melbourne.

This is a top-shelf, hi-vibe party featuring epic world-class production with five-way monster Void sound system, next-level moving head lights, lasers and projection mapping wizardry c/o **Crystal Grid & Spectacle Art**. There will be fire and dance performances, live art c/o **Rady J Blackcrab** and decor c/o **Katsu & Coda**. Dress fancy, check out Rady's live art, cuddle on a couch, hang by the fire, catch up and wiggle with friends.

This is an 18+ event – bring ID if you look young. Limited tickets \$40 + booking fee and GST from events.humanitix.com/full-moon-winter-wiggle.

MAX TO THE MAX

As a young man who grew up in the Byron Shire, **Max McAuley** discovered his talent for dance and performance at an early age. When his parents saw him playing music videos over and over again and copying the choreography, they decided it was time to enrol him in formal dance lessons.

As a teenager, he joined Sprung Dance Theatre and over the past 10-plus years has developed his dance and performance skills across a range of genres. He has also had leading roles in numerous ensemble performances with Sprung and has been invited to perform individually both locally and further afield: most recently for Cheeky Cabaret (2019 and 2024); The Golden Pineapple Awards in Newcastle (2023); Stars of the Northern Rivers for the NSW Cancer Council (2023); and auditioned live for Australia's Got Talent (2022).

Max has recently taken the huge leap into working as an independent artist and in collaboration with Ché Pritchard has spent many months developing his first solo work **Max to the Max** to be performed at the **Brunswick Picture House**.

As an artist with Down syndrome, Max has a number of challenges to overcome in order to produce his best work, so with this in mind the rationale for the project was that it would not be bound by traditional creative processes but

would instead be informed by Max's unique strengths and weaknesses and introduce techniques to support him with his stagecraft.

The show offers audiences a unique perspective into the capacity for people with disability to create and deliver art that is entertaining, professional and provocative. It also breaks down stereotypes around sexuality, social engagement and capacity for people with disability to make meaningful contributions to society.

Most importantly, the show is clever, entertaining and enormous fun – Max and Ché have developed characters that Max is passionate about and showcase his many talents as a dancer and performer. There are moments of tenderness and bursts of cheekiness as well as humour, sass and attitude.

Enjoy some time in the courtyard at the Picture House to browse Max's beautiful, handmade ceramics and photography before and after the show. There will also be a brief **Q&A session** with Max and Ché after the performance for a deeper insight into the creative process.

Tickets are on sale now at the Brunswick Picture House – brunswickpicturehouse.com/max-max-29-30-jun

To learn more about Max and his many achievements, you can visit his website: www.maxmcauley.com.au

STAR STUFF III

SPACE - SCIENCE - ASTRONOMY
BYRON BAY AUSTRALIA 2024

SATURDAY 6th JULY 2024
ELEMENTS OF BYRON RESORT
TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE
www.starstuff.com.au

100% SCIENCE
NOT ASTROLOGY

- › All Day & Night
- › 6 Speakers
- › Book Signings
- › Giveaways
- › Meteorites
- › Telescopes
- › Solar & Night Astronomy

Trevor Jones (CAN - Astrobackyard YouTube)
Dr Kirsten Banks PHD (AUS - Astrophysicist TikTok)
Dr Lisa Harvey-Smith (AUS - Astronomer, Author)
Terry Lovejoy (AUS - Comet Discoverer)
Dr Annie Handmer (AUS - Space Science Theorist)
Dylan O'Donnell (AUS - Byron Bay Observatory)

FULL MOON WINTER
WIGGLE 2024
SOLSTICE TRIBE CONNECT

AVAXA POB DADDY ISSUES HALO RIA LISTIC 4EYES
EPIC CRYSTAL GRID PRODUCTION PERFORMERS BONFIRE FOOD & DRINKS DRESS FANCY

SAT JUNE 22 DURRUMBUL HALL
TOP SHELF HI VIBE PARTY TIME 6PM TILL MIDNIGHT LIMITED TIX @ HUMANATIX 18+ EVENT



THE STUFF OF STARS

Australia's favourite gathering of astronomers, space enthusiasts and science-forward friends is finally back again in 2024. The organisers are bringing back many of the speakers they had planned before the pandemic cancelled the last event.

Founded by YouTuber, **Dylan O'Donnell** in 2017, **Star Stuff** is a full day of presentations from the world's brightest and most engaging minds in space and astronomy, followed by a famous gala dinner at the incredible **Elements of Byron Resort**.

There will be some stellar (see what I did there?) speakers on the day, including: **Trevor Jones** is a renowned astrophotographer who captures stunning images of the cosmos from his backyard, Jones is best known for his website and YouTube channel *AstroBackyard*; **Kirsten Banks** is a fascinating figure in the world of astrophysics, equally captivating as an Indigenous Australian researcher and a passionate science communicator; **Dr Lisa Harvey-Smith** is a British-Australian astrophysicist, Australia's Women in STEM Ambassador and a Professor of Practice in Science



Communication at the University of NSW; **Terry Lovejoy** is best known as the discoverer of some of the brightest comets of the past decade, including the 'The Great Christmas Comet of 2011' which passed through the sun's corona on December 16, 2011; and **Dylan O'Donnell**, an Australian IT entrepreneur and amateur photographer, whose astrophotography has been featured by the European Space Agency, and NASA.

There will also be mind-expanding presentations, an on-site astronomy and book store with a range of astronomy equipment on display for sale and demonstration, and there will be meteorites for sale.

Every ticket is a laser-cut artwork, required for proof-of-entry, but also doubles as an actual space ruler. Using the moon for calibration, by holding the ticket in front of you, you can measure up to four degrees for visual distance estimation.

To cap the day, there will be a special gala dinner – **VIP tickets** are limited but if you want to pay the extra, you'll be invited to a wonderful fancy gala dinner with an extra bonus presentation, and where the high-end prizes from sponsors will be drawn! This is an amazing dinner from one of the finest kitchens in Byron Bay. Imagine you're at a celebrity wedding, except all the guests have super high-IQs – it's a bit like that. Dress up in your finest if you're up for a bit of extra luxury.

This event is on Saturday, July 6 from 8.30am. For tickets and more information visit: starstuff.com.au.



EXCITING LIVE ACT

One of Australia's hottest slide guitarists, **Adam Hole** is one of the most exciting live acts on the circuit today.


Adam has a real and raw gutsy sound with foot stomping grooves, and audiences are captured straight away. His awesome slide guitar, driving, and experimental rhythms have been wowing audiences all over Australia. He delivers songs with a powerful edge and an engaging stage chemistry that is captivating crowds from everywhere.

In recent times Adam has shared the stage and played alongside some of Australia's top artists including Jeff Lang, Angry Anderson and Phil Emmanuel, just to name a few.

You can see him on Saturday night at The Rails.

Steve Banks and

The SIDEMEN



X

Jo Jo Zep / Max Merritt

John Butler Trio / Black Sorrows

Procol Harum / Mondo Rock


JJ Cale / Renée Geyer

Ariel / Alex Lloyd

The Sea Benz

TICKETS


eventfinda.com.au



Mike MILLS - Grant GERATHY - Tony SLAVICH - Jeff BURSTIN - Geoff WRIGHT

with Steve BANKS out front - and special guests Guy KACHEL and Chloe WEST

7:00pm Saturday July 6 @ The Brunswick Picture House / Brunswick Heads



Seven

entertainment



DRIVEN WITH SOUL

Under a different stage name **Milo Green** is an award-winning songwriter and musician who has supported iconic artists like Diesel, Dragon, Josh Pyke, Glen Shorrock (Little River Band) and more. With true artistry and a warm nature, Milo has built his current project, to perform well-known songs and some of his own, driven with soul.

Whether it's versions of Amy Winehouse tunes or the Rolling Stones done with just an acoustic guitar, audiences are never disappointed.

The Byron hinterland musician has performed at the region's premiere music and event venues and you can catch him on **Saturday from 6pm at the Ballina RSL.**



CINEMA

SPANISH FILM FESTIVAL

It's fiesta time as the 2024 HSBC **Spanish Film Festival**, presented by **Palace Cinemas**, prepares to set screens alight with a superb selection of the finest new films from Spain and Latin America. The festival's largest lineup to date opens nationally in June at Palace Cinemas.

The Spanish Film Festival will open with a stunning homage to cinema and profiles Spain's finest female filmmakers.

Based on a popular novel and directed by multi award-winning director **Lone Scherfig**, *The Movie Teller* (La Contadora de Películas) is this year's star-studded opening night selection – a moving tribute to cinema and the magical power of storytelling.

The film follows a young woman's coming-of-age in a Chilean mining town and stars **Bérénice Bejo, Antonio de la Torre, Daniel Brühl** and brilliant newcomer **Alondra Valenzuela**.

The 2024 Special Presentation brings together female-led films exploring the themes of 'Liberation, Sexuality and Empowerment'. In the comedic, yet sensual drama *Mamacruz*, **Kiti Mánver** delivers a compelling central performance as a religiously devout woman in late-middle-age who rediscovers the transformative power of her own sensuality.

Channelling the voices of three women over 65 into one, *Memories Of A Burning Body* (Memorias de un cuerpo que arde) is a heartfelt drama exploring pleasure and desire.

The sixth feature from talented director **Juana Macías**, *The Girls At The Station* (Las chicas de la estación), is a powerful drama inspired by real events starring three outstanding newcomers as friends entering adulthood who face incredible obstacles.

This is just the tip of this festival's iceberg – there are so many really good movies to see, you need to check out the website and make a list!

The Spanish Film Festival will screen from June 21 to July 10 at Ballina Fair Cinemas and Palace Byron Bay. Tickets are now on sale from palacecinemas.com.au. For updates and more information, visit www.spanishfilmfestival.com.

funky bus
single launch tour

FUNKATU

All free shows!

JUNE 14th The Rails - Byron Bay
15th Sheoak Shack - Fingal Head
16th Uki Markets
21st Metropole - Lismore
23rd Music Mountain Cafe - Mt Burrell

www.linktr.ee/funkatu



BYRON OPEN MIC AT YULLI'S

Byron's newest **Open Mic** afternoon is on every Sunday at **Yulli's** on Carlyle St. Yulli's want to welcome all acoustic musicians and singer/songwriters to come on down and showcase their talent. Yulli's is great place to perform whether it's your first time or you're a seasoned artist keen to have a little play in a cool and welcoming environment.

This event kicks off again this Sunday from 3pm. Follow them on socials and DM for more information @byronbayopenmic.



Help bring home our biggest ever fundraiser!

We're 18 months into our urgent mission to raise the \$250,000 needed to give our studios a 20-year update. We're now over 60% of the way there and our Studio 1 and Control Room are done. Thanks so much community!

We now need to refit Studio 2 and soundproof both studios. Another \$100,000 is needed. It's still massive – but with your continued help we can get there!

Please help us at bayfm.org/donate

All donations over \$2 are tax-deductible.

Not-for-profit, volunteer-run, 100% independent community radio.



bayfm.org

DAVID BOWIE

PERFORMED BY **SOFT TREADLY**

SUNDAY JUNE 23 - BEACH HOTEL - BYRON BAY

FREE SUNDAY ARVO SHOW

CHE PRITCHARD PRESENTS

MAX TO THE MAX
ARTIST SHOWCASE

DANCE

featuring **Max MacAuley**

7pm Saturday 29th & 4pm Sunday 30th June

TICKETS: BRUNSWICKPICTUREHOUSE.COM

BRUNSWICK PICTURE HOUSE



IF is screening at Palace Cinemas in Ballina and Byron Bay.



GIG GUIDE

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

WEDNESDAY 19

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM
TRILLAH
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM
MATTHEW ARMITAGE DUO
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6PM
INO PIO
- BANGALOW BOWLO 7.30PM
**BANGALOW BRACKETS OPEN
MIC**

THURSDAY 20

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **THE SWAMP CATS**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 7PM **JORDY QUINN + BUTTERMELLO + NANA'S PIE**
- THE ROCKS, BYRON BAY, **JORDY QUINN**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6PM **MATTHEW ARMITAGE**
- LENNOX HOTEL HOTEL STAGE 8PM **THURSDAY JAM NIGHT**
- THE LEVEE, LISMORE, 5PM **ANDY JANS-BROWN**
- LISMORE CITY BOWLO 7PM **THE SUPPER CLUB**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE SHOWROOM 7.30PM **NIGHT AT THE PROMS**

FRIDAY 21

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **EPIC**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **MICKA SCENE + JEROME WILLIAMS BAND + DJ ZAC EWING**
- PALACE CINEMAS, BYRON BAY, **SPANISH FILM FESTIVAL**
- PLAYGROUND, BYRON BAY, 3PM **EARTH, JAM & FIRE**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6PM **OLE FALCOR**, 7PM **BATTLESNAKE**, 10PM **KANE MUIR**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 6PM **MATT BUGGY**
- OCEAN SHORES TAVERN 8PM **DJS POKKI, JAXXX AND MINOIX**
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM **DJ AFRODESIA**
- ST JOHN'S SCHOOL HALL, MULLUMBIMBY, 7.30PM **ECSTATIC DANCE MULLUM WITH DJ PEACH**
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY, 8PM **KRAPPYOCKEE WITH JESS**

- CLUB LENNOX 7PM **GUY KACHEL**
- LENNOX HOTEL 8.30PM **DONNY SHADES BAND**
- BALLINA FAIR CINEMAS **SPANISH FILM FESTIVAL**
- CHERRY STREET SPORTS CLUB, BALLINA, 7PM **THE DIRTY CHANNEL DUO**
- ELTHAM HOTEL 7PM **BONNY DOON**
- METROPOLE, LISMORE, 7PM **LOUEY HOWELL AND THE FUNKATU COLLECTIVE**
- THE LEVEE, LISMORE, 7.30PM **DJ MURRAY**
- FEDERAL HOTEL, ALSTONVILLE, 7PM **SABOTAGE**
- THE CHANNON TAVERN 7PM **GOOD MEDICINE**
- MURWILLUMBAH SERVICES CLUB 6.30PM **STEPHEN LOVELIGHT**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 5PM **MARK CROTTI**
- SALTBAR, KINGSCLIFF, 6PM **MEL SCARLETT**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE SHOWROOM 8PM **12 GOLD BARS**

SATURDAY 22

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **ADAM HOLE BAND**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 2.30PM **MARSHALL OKELL + JACK SCOTT + SIN & BROOK W/ DAVE QUENDO + THE 420 SOUND & FAZZ**
- BYRON THEATRE 7PM **A PORTRAIT OF LOVE FEATURING A Q&A WITH ROBERTO MEZA MONT**
- PALACE CINEMAS, BYRON BAY, **SPANISH FILM FESTIVAL**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6PM **GUSTAVO DOMINGUEZ**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 4.30PM **SATISVIBES**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 2PM & 7PM **THE WAKE**
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM **DJ ROB SYDNEY**
- ST JOHN'S SCHOOL HALL, MULLUMBIMBY, 6.30PM **BYRON KIRTAN WITH SHIVA SHAKTI**
- CLUB LENNOX 7PM **UNCLE BOB**
- LENNOX HOTEL 9PM **SUPERCHEEZE**
- BALLINA FAIR CINEMAS **SPANISH FILM FESTIVAL**

- BALLINA RSL BOARDWALK 6PM **MILO GREEN**
- HEART BEAT STAGE, LISMORE, 12PM **LANTERN PARADE – CONCERT**
- THE LEVEE, LISMORE, 7.30PM **DJ MURRAY**
- MURWILLUMBAH SERVICES CLUB 6PM **LEIGH JAMES**
- THE CITADEL, MURWILLUMBAH, 7.30PM **QUARTET CHICKEN N' CHIPS**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 5PM **BEN WHITING**
- SALTBAR, KINGSCLIFF, 6PM **JOCK BARNES**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE SHOWROOM 8PM **THE ROCK OZ SHOW**
- SOUNDLOUNGE, CURRUMBIN, 8PM **BRITISH INDIA**
- NATURAL BRIDGE, SPRINGBROOK NATIONAL PARK, 3PM **LOUEY HOWELL & THE FUNKATU COLLECTIVE**
- DURRUMBUL HALL 6PM **FULL MOON WINTER WIGGLE**
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL 8PM **SUNBOYS SHAKIN – SUNNYBOYS SHOW**

SUNDAY 23

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **THE MAJESTIC NIGHTS**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 4.30PM **SOFT TREADLY – THE MUSIC OF BOWIE**, 7PM DJ **YAZMIN**
- PALACE CINEMAS, BYRON BAY, **SPANISH FILM FESTIVAL**
- YULLI'S, BYRON BAY, 3PM **YULLI'S OPEN MIC**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6PM **ALEX BOWEN**, 7.30PM **STEPH STRINGS**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 4PM **ROOTS OF BRAZIL**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 4PM & 7PM **THE WAKE**
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY, 3PM **OPEN MIC WITH THE SWAMP CATS**
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 3.30PM DJ **ABEL EL TORO**
- BALLINA FAIR CINEMAS **SPANISH FILM FESTIVAL**
- BALLINA RSL BOARDWALK 2.30PM **SUNDAY BLUES CLUB** FEAT **GREG LYON'S HIP OPERATION**

- SHAW'S BAY HOTEL, BALLINA,
3PM **SHAW'S BAY SUNDAY
SESSIONS FT SOUL'D**
- THE CHANNON TAVERN 2PM
OPEN MIC
- MUSIC MOUNTAIN CAFE,
MT BURRELL, 11AM **LOUEY
HOWELL AND THE FUNKATU
COLLECTIVE**
- SALTBAR, KINGSCLIFF, 1PM
MATTHEW ARMITAGE
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS,
THE SHOWROOM 2.30PM **THE
ROBERTSON BROTHERS**

MONDAY 24

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **TIM STOKES**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **INO PIO**
- PALACE CINEMAS, BYRON BAY, **SPANISH FILM FESTIVAL**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 7PM **MARK USHER**
- BALLINA FAIR CINEMAS **SPANISH FILM FESTIVAL**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 12PM **ACOUSTIC BEATLES**

TUESDAY 25

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **JAMEL BOUKABOU**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **AKOVA**
- PALACE CINEMAS, BYRON BAY, **SPANISH FILM FESTIVAL**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 7PM **MARSHALL OKELL**
- BALLINA FAIR CINEMAS **SPANISH FILM FESTIVAL**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE SHOWROOM 11AM **THE LONG AND THE SHORT OF IT**

WEDNESDAY 26

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **ISAAC FRANKHAM**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 5PM **LEIGH JAMES**
- PALACE CINEMAS, BYRON BAY, **SPANISH FILM FESTIVAL**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6PM **DAN HANNAFORD**, 8PM **FELIPE BALDOMIR**
- BANGALOW BOWLO 7.30PM **BANGALOW BRACKETS OPEN MIC**
- BALLINA FAIR CINEMAS **SPANISH FILM FESTIVAL**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 6.30PM **KINGY COMEDY – FEAT HARLEY BREEN**

Session Times

Thurs, June 20 – Wed, June 26

PALACE CINEMAS 

108 Jonson St, Byron Bay

SPECIAL SCREENINGS

A SILENCE (MA15+) ADVANCE SCREENING
Fri, Sat, Sun: 4:00PM

PARIS OPERA BALLET: LA FILLE MAL GARDEE (CTC)
Sun: 1:00PM.
Wed: 11:00AM

**THE THREE MUSKETEERS
DOUBLE FEATURE** (M)
Sun: 2:00PM

ALL FILMS

BAD BOYS: RIDE OR DIE ^(MA15+)
Mon, Tues, Wed: 1:50PM,
4:20PM, 8:30PM.
Thurs: 11:00AM, 1:50PM,
4:20PM, 8:30PM.
Fri: 11:00AM, 1:30PM, 8:30PM.
Sat: 1:30PM, 8:30PM.
Sun: 11:20AM, 8:15PM

DIVERTIMENTO ^(PG/NFT)
Daily: 1:00PM, 3:10PM, 7:00PM
Thurs: 10:30AM, 1:00PM,
7:00PM

FURIOSA:
A MAD MAX SAGA ^(MA15+)
Daily except Sun: 11:00AM,
3:00PM, 7:30PM.
Sun: 11:00AM, 3:40PM, 7:30PM

**KINGDOM OF THE
PLANET OF THE APES** ^(M)
Daily: 7:00PM

THE CONVERT (MA15+) NFT

Daily except Thurs, Fri:
 3:30PM, 6:00PM.
 Thurs, Fri: 1:40PM, 3:30PM,
 6:00PM
THE FALL GUY ^(M)
 Daily: 6:50PM
THE PROMISED LAND ^{(M&T-F) (N)}
 Daily except Sun: 1:30PM,
 4:15PM, 5:45PM.
 Sun: 10:45AM, 1:20PM, 5:45PM
THE SITTING DUCK ^(M)
 Mon, Tues, Wed: 11:5AM.
 Mon, Tues: 11:5AM, 4:15PM.
 Fri: 10:45AM, 4:15PM.
 Sat: 10:45AM
THE THREE MUSKETEERS:
MILADY ^(M)
 Daily except Sun, Wed: 11:00AM
THE WATCHERS ^(M)
 Daily: 8:30PM
THE WAY, MY WAY ^(P)
 Daily except Sun: 12:50PM

Session Times

Thurs, June 20 – Wed, June 26

Ballina Fair Cinema

47/84 Kerr St, Ballina

BAD BOYS: RIDE OR DIE
(MA15+)
Thurs, Fri: 12:20PM, 7:30PM.
Sat, Sun, Mon, Tue, Wed:
4:30PM, 7:45PM

DESPICABLE ME 4 (K12) (C1)
Thurs, Fri: 10:00AM, 12:10PM
2:20PM, 5:30PM.
Sat, Sun, Mon, Tue, Wed:
10:00AM, 12:10PM, 2:20PM,
3:30PM, 5:40PM

FURIOSA
A FEAR MAX SAGA (MA15+)
Thurs, Fri: 4:30PM, 7:10PM.
Sat, Sun, Mon, Tue, Wed:
7:00PM

IF [PG] FINISHES FRIDAY
Thurs, Fri: 2:45PM

INSIDE OUT 2 (PG) (K12)
Thurs, Fri: 10:30AM, 12:50PM
3:10PM, 5:00PM, 7:40PM.

Sat, Sun, Mon, Tue, Wed:
10:30AM, 12:50PM, 3:10PM,
5:20PM, 7:30PM

THE GARFIELD MOVIE
Thurs, Fri: 10:10AM.

Sat, Sun, Mon, Tue, Wed:
10:45AM

SPANISH FILM FESTIVAL

A MOROCCAN AFFAIR ^(C)
Mon: 1:00PM

IDOL AFFAIR ^(C/T)
Tues: 1:00PM

**SOMETHING IS ABOUT
TO HAPPEN** ^(C/T)
Mon: 1:00PM

THE MOVIE TELLER ^(M)
Tue: 1:00PM

UN AMOR ^(MAYIS-)
Sat: 1:00PM

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

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PALACE CINEMAS

June 19, 2024 The Byron Shire Echo 27

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9

4

7

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3

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AGENTS

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Stuart Aitken 0419 242 432

McGrath

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\$700 per week + outgoings

This space is ideal for a multitude of businesses including a cafe and/ or restaurant to create a unique destination dining experience, and ability to partner with an additional business such as a giftware or bookstore etc. Enjoy the immediate benefit of thousands of visitors who visit the site annually as this space is located within the Grafton Regional Gallery and Clarence Valley Information Centre. The ideal lessee will work closely with the GRG staff to ensure a cohesive relationship which provides mutual benefit.

- 37.5m² commercial kitchen
- Cool room - 5m²
- Indoor dining - 38m²
- Alfresco dining front - 36m²
- Alfresco dining rear deck - 45m² (space shared with Gallery)
- Alfresco dining courtyard - 35m² (space shared with Gallery)
- Seating capacity for 90 patrons
- The lease holder will have use of catering and event equipment including umbrellas, chairs, heaters, tables, warmers, freezers, display units and more.

ENQUIRIES

Elders Lifestyle Group – Grafton
70 Pound St, Grafton NSW 2460
02 6642 1122

KAREN GORTON

0437 867 243

EMILEE WALL

0434 528 485



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- Meticulously designed for ease of living
- Generously sized bedrooms, the main featuring an ensuite, walk-in wardrobe and a private deck
- Private courtyard, with covered BBQ area
- Prime location, walking distance to the center of Byron

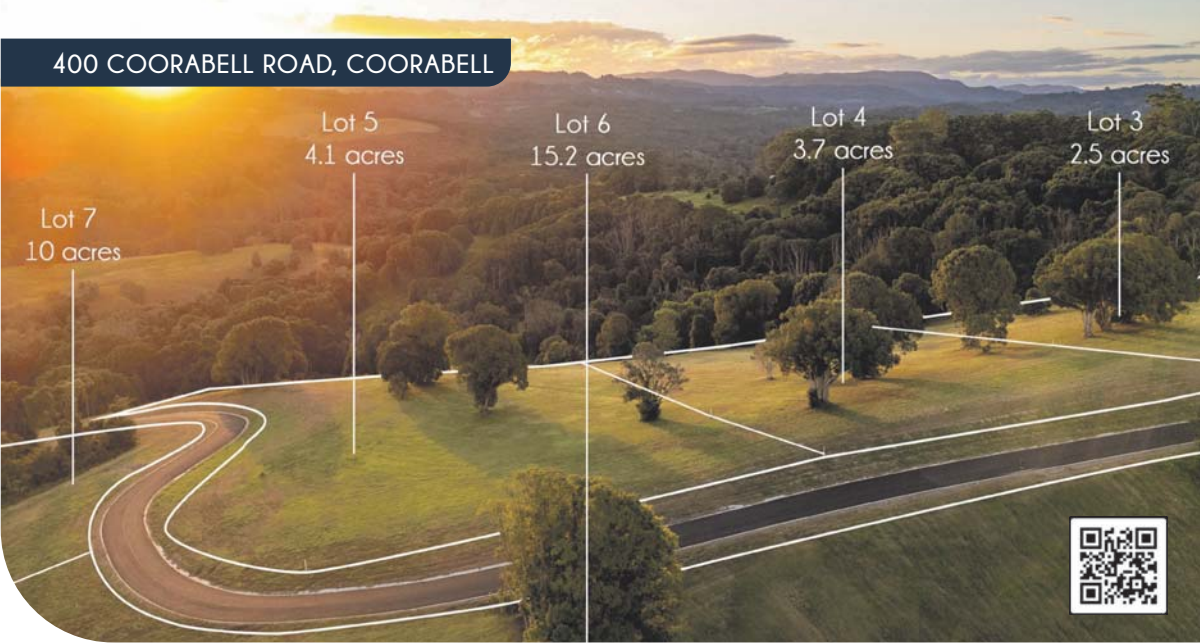
PRICE | \$1.8M - \$2M
OPEN | Sat 22nd June 1 - 1:30pm



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PRICE | \$1.1M - \$1.6M
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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.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

SENIORS AFRICAN DANCE CLASSES
Mondays, 10.30am.
Byron Community Theatre.
0417546382

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



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

DISCLAIMER

Advertisements placed in *The Byron Shire Echo* do not reflect the views or opinions of the editorial staff.
The Byron Shire Echo does not make any representations as to the accuracy or suitability of any content or information contained in advertising material nor does publication constitute in any way an endorsement by *The Byron Shire Echo* of the content or representations contained therein.
The Byron Shire Echo does not accept any liability for the representations or promises made in paid advertisements or for any loss or damage arising from reliance on such content, representations or promises.

PROF. SERVICES

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10am to 12pm In the Ballina Presbyterian Hall

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

Proposed Road Disposal Section 152D Roads Act 1993

In accordance with section 152D of the *Roads Act 1993*, notice is hereby given of the proposed sale of the Crown public roads listed in Schedule 1. If a sale proceeds, the road(s) will cease to be a public road upon transfer of the road to freehold land in accordance with section 152H of the Act.

Schedule 1:
• Crown road at Mooball, adjoining 200 Warwick Park Road. (File Ref: 24/02464, Cluster: 630888)

All interested persons are hereby invited to make submissions concerning the proposal to Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure—Crown Lands, PO Box 2215, DANGAR NSW 2309 within twenty-eight (28) days of the date of this advertisement.

Any person is entitled to make submissions with respect to the sale or disposal of the road. Please note that submissions may be referred to third parties (such as council or the applicant) for consideration in accordance with the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009*.

For the Manager, Business Centre Newcastle

For further enquiries please visit the website
roads.crownland.nsw.gov.au or contact Cath Dee by email at cath.dee@crownland.nsw.gov.au or on (02) 4925 4106 quoting file references above.

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Fully insured • Free quotes

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Byron Bay & Surrounding Areas
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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

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GARAGE SALES

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Illustration of a cockroach.

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BIRTHDAYS

Happy 50th love, Dani-Benji

PETS

TILLY Tilly is a pretty little sweet natured black and white 4 year old girl. She is outgoing and loves attention. She is just waiting for her special person. She came into the shelter with her more timid sister, Layla.

All cats are desexed, vaccinated and microchipped. No:953010004365538.

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

SARI! Meet Sari! A beautiful dark tortie girls with big owlsh eyes. She's a quiet & unassuming cat but with a big heart. She's been waiting a while for a family as people seem to favour kittens. Sari is not even 2 years old and all cats need a fair go.

To meet Sari, 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

Byron Dog Rescue (CAWI)

ROSIE & ONSLOW Rosie - 6.3-year-old desexed female Jack Russell (MC: 900164001290038) Onslow - 9.6-year-old desexed male Miniature Fox Terrier (MC: 900006000250381) This little pair of sweet rascals adore people and lots of attention, but can be reactive to other dogs. We are looking for one or two homes. Neither dog is a hunter and once they've alerted you to visitors or passing walkers, dogs or noisy birds, they quieten down quickly. Contact Shell on 0458 461 935.

ECHO is a 5 month old, English Staffy/Bull Arab X. She and her siblings were surrendered to FOP as an unwanted litter. This little girl loves a cuddle and is so chilled out. She is sure to make a wonderful family dog.

#99100300244222 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/ Visit friendsofthepound.com to view other dogs and cats looking for a home. ABN 83 126 970 338

SUN, MOON & TIDES - TIMES FOR NEXT 2 WEEKS

DATE (June / July)	DAY, MOON PHASE	SUN RISE / SET	MOON RISE / SET	HIGH TIDES, height (m)	LOW TIDES, height (m)
19	W	6:37 16:57	14:25 3:39	0555 1.23 1851 1.68	0030 0.62 1146 0.39
20	TH	6:38 16:57	15:07 4:40	0642 1.21 1932 1.76	0117 0.56 1224 0.36
21	F	6:38 16:57	15:56 5:43	0728 1.20 2015 1.82	0202 0.49 1304 0.33
22	SA	6:38 16:57	16:54 6:45	0813 1.20 2058 1.86	0246 0.44 1345 0.31
23	SU	6:38 16:57	17:58 7:44	0900 1.20 2143 1.89	0330 0.41 1430 0.30
24	M	6:38 16:58	19:06 8:36	0948 1.20 2227 1.88	0416 0.38 1517 0.31
25	TU	6:39 16:58	20:14 9:22	1039 1.21 2313 1.85	0504 0.37 1607 0.35
26	W	6:39 16:58	21:21 10:02	1132 1.23 1132 1.23	0552 0.37 1701 0.40
27	TH	6:39 16:59	22:26 10:38	0000 1.79 1231 1.26	0641 0.37 1800 0.48
28	F	6:39 16:59	23:30 11:11	0049 1.69 1335 1.31	0730 0.37 1909 0.56
29	SA	6:39 16:59	11:43	0142 1.58 1443 1.39	0819 0.37 2026 0.62
30	SU	6:39 17:00	0:33 12:15	0238 1.46 1550 1.49	0908 0.36 2149 0.64
1	M	6:39 17:00	1:38 12:51	0341 1.34 1654 1.61	0958 0.35 2310 0.61
2	TU	6:39 17:00	2:43 13:30	0445 1.25 1752 1.71	1047 0.33
3	W	6:39 17:01	3:50 14:15	0549 1.20 1845 1.79	0021 0.55 1136 0.32

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

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
2nd SUN The Channon	02 6688 6433	FARMERS/WEEKLY MARKETS	
2nd SUN Lennox Head	02 6685 6807	Each TUE New Brighton	0424 168 672
2nd SUN Chillingham	0428 793 141	Each TUE Organic Lismore	
2nd SUN Coolangatta		Each WED Murwillumbah 7-11	0415 328 672
2nd SUN Tabulam		Each WED Nimbin 3-6pm	0418 940 653
3rd SAT Mullumbimby	02 6684 3370	Each WED Newrybar Hall 4-7pm	
3rd SAT Murwillumbah	0415 328 672	Each THU Byron 8-11am	0414 595 169
3rd SAT Salt Village Market, Casuarina		Each THU Lismore 2.30-6.30pm	0459 309 223
3rd SUN Federal	0433 002 757	Each FRI Mullum 7-11am	0424 168 672
3rd SUN Uki	0487 329 150	Each FRI Evans Head 2.30-6.30	0428 291 068
3rd SUN Ballina	0422 094 338	Each SAT Bangalow 8-11am	0414 595 169
4th SAT Evans Head	0432 275 765	Each SAT Duranbah Rd 8-11am (Tropical Fruit World)	
4th SAT Kyogle Bazaar kyoglebazaar.com.au		Each SAT Uki 8am-1pm	02 6679 5438
4th SUN Bangalow	02 6687 1911	Each SAT Lismore 8.30-11am	
4th SUN Nimbin	0475 135 764	Each SAT Wadeville 8am-12pm	
4th SUN Murwillumbah	0415 328 672	Each SAT Byron Twilight Market 4pm Oct-Apr	
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.

MUSICAL NOTES

GITARS, RECORDS, HI-FI WE BUY AND SELL 66851005

SEEKING DRUMMER for established reggae band 0434 438706



IN MEMORIAM



RONALD SWINBOURNE 10/10/1927-21/6/2012

'Thoughts of you bring memories that help to keep you near'

Sadly missed by his Wildflower

DEATH NOTICES

The family of KATHY ROSE announce, with great sadness, her passing at age 82 from complications due to cancer. She lived a full life and is survived by four children: Eric, James, Danya and Marissa, and one grandchild Elina, who will all miss her dearly.

ONLY ADULTS

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

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TOUCH of JUSTINE 3 Way Play For Couples Safe Consensual Exploration 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.

On The Horizon

DEADLINE NOON FRIDAY

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

Antique & Collectables exhibition

The Northern Rivers Collectors Club in conjunction with the Rotary Club of Mt Warning AM Murwillumbah are holding their 32nd Antique & Collectables exhibition & Trading Fair on Sunday, 11 August at the Murwillumbah Civic Centre from 8.30am to 2pm. There will be thousands of antiques, vintage and retro items, as well as modern collectables for sale. There will be a sausage sizzle and refreshments. Proceeds donated to Tweed Palliative Support. Details 0439 779 577.

Book lovers

Exciting news for book lovers and literary enthusiasts... Annie O'Moon-Browning, the creative genius behind the compelling new Australian novel, Rosanna, will be in conversation with the fabulous Talulah Rae, offering insights into her writing process, the inspiration behind the book and more. Mullumbimby Library, Wednesday, 3 July at 10am. Get your hands on a signed copy of Rosanna, and immerse yourself in a morning of literary delight. This event will be followed by a fun immersive 90 minute Creative Writing Workshop from 12.30-2pm, where Annie will bring meditation and sensory exploration to open your creative juices. Bookings are essential for this workshop by phoning the library on 6684 2992.

Lismore Rainforest walk

Guided walk in Lismore Rainforest Botanic Gardens through the Uncommon or Rare and Threatened Plants Garden on Sunday, June 30 at 10am. Peter will show you the plants which are now very difficult to see in the wild. Bookings essential at

Regular As Clockwork

DEADLINE NOON FRIDAY

Please note that, owing to space restrictions, not all entries may be included each week. Email copy marked 'Regular As Clockwork' to editor@echo.net.au.

Mullumbimby District Neighbourhood Centre

Mullumbimby & District Neighbourhood Centre is open Monday-Friday 9am-4pm (closed 12.30-1.30pm for lunch). We offer a variety of services. Everyone is welcome. Call reception on 6684 1286. Some of our services include: Flood recovery support service: personalised, long-term support for those impacted by the floods. Community support: food parcels, meals, showers, assistance with electricity bills. Work Development Orders. Listening Space: free counselling. More Than A Meal: free community lunch Tuesday-Thursday 12.30-1.30pm. Financial counselling Staying Home, Leaving Violence program: Information, referral, and advocacy. Gulganii affordable pantry shop: located at 3 Bridgeland Lane. Orange Sky: free laundry service Mon morning & Wed afternoon. To enquire about accessing any of these services call reception 6684 1286, check our website www.mdnc.org.au, or follow us on Facebook or Instagram. @mullumbimbyneighbourhoodcentre.

Byron Community

The Byron Community Centre provides community services and programs including meals, advocacy and counselling for locals in need. Fletcher Street Cottage: A welcoming, safe and respectful space



publicity@friendslrbg.com.au. \$5 per person, children free. Cash only. Join us for morning tea in the Visitor's Centre.

Richmond-Tweed Family History Society

The next monthly meeting of the Richmond-Tweed Family History Society is on Saturday, July 6, 2-4pm, at Players Theatre, 24 Swift Street, Ballina. Topic 'Connecting with Family Online' presented by Rosemary Kopittke. For enquiries ring Victoria (Vicki) Evans on: 0467 573 282 or email: presidentrtfhs1@yahoo.com.

Climate Justice Alliance

The Climate Justice Alliance will host Newcastle coal port blockers 'Rising Tide' on Saturday, June 22 from 11am until 3pm as they tour Australia building momentum for their next blockade this November. This Community Climate Convergence will be a fun, family day of music, stalls, speakers and workshops. Mandy Nolan will MC, and speakers include Sue Higginson and a First Nations panel. To get involved email: northernrivers@risingtide.org.au.

Community Pickleball

Come along to find out more at an open day being hosted by Byron Bay Pickleball on Saturday, June 22 between 9am and 12pm on the outdoor courts at Cavanbah Centre. If the weather looks uncertain contact.

Bangalow Historical Society

If your interested in making new friends, supporting your local Museum and Historical Society through volunteering, think about joining Heritage House team. We are open Wednesday to Saturday so come along anytime and meet the

volunteers, there is lots to do from cataloging, exhibits, meet and greet visitors and if you have a particular skill that you think will be used here then please call in or phone Trisha on 0429 882 525. Find us on Facebook or contact us bangalowhistorical2479@gmail.com.

End-of-Life Choices

Voluntary Euthanasia End-of-Life Choices are discussed at Exit International meetings held quarterly. Meetings are held at Robina, South Tweed and Ballina. Attendees must be Exit Members. For further Information www.exitinternational.net or phone Catherine 0435 228 443 (Robina & South Tweed) or Peter 0429 950 352 (Ballina).

Byron seniors program

Connect with your community at Byron Community Centre through the Byron Community Centre Seniors Program. It now offers African dance, drama and a computer club. Find out more by calling: 6685 6807 or look at: www.byroncommunitycentre.com.au.

Tough guys book club

The Tough Guy book club for the thinking man. You don't need to be tough. Meets at Ballina Sports Club, 7pm on the first Wednesday of every month. Completely free: https://www.toughguybookclub.com/.

Bruns crafty women

The CWA Brunswick Heads crafty women meet each Friday between 10am - 2pm, corner of Park and Booyun Street, Brunswick Heads. Join us for a chat, a cuppa and bring along your craft projects including sewing, knitting, crocheting, memory books or quilting. Women are always welcome, please bring a gold coin donation. If you would like more information please email: brunswca@gmail.com. Our members meeting takes place the first Friday of the month at 9am.



range of clients throughout the Byron, Ballina and Lismore shires. Donations welcome: Ph 6685 1921, email fundraiser@byronrespite.com.au, website: www.byronrespite.com.au.

Alateen meeting

Alateen meeting every Thursday at 5-6pm. Do you have a parent, close friend or relative with a drinking problem? Alateen can help. For 8-16-year-olds meet St Cuthbert's Anglican Church Hall, 13 Powell Street, corner of Florence Street Tweed Heads. Al-Anon family groups for older members at the same time and place. 1300 ALANON 1300 252 666 www.al-anon.org.au.

ACA

Adult Children of Alcoholic Parents and/or Dysfunctional Families (ACA) help & recovery group meets in Lismore every Friday 10-11.30am, Red Dove Centre, 80 Keen Street. Byron meetings are on Tuesdays at 7pm via Zoom - meeting ID 554 974 582 password byronbay.

Drug support groups

Call Alcoholics Anonymous 1800 423 431 or 0401 945 671 - 30 meetings a week in the Shire - www.aa.org.au. Are you experiencing difficulties and challenges because of the alcohol or drug use of someone close to you? Learn coping skills and gain support from others. Narcotics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women for whom drugs had become a major problem. We are recovering addicts who meet regularly to help each other stay clean. For information and meetings call 1300 652 820 or text your postcode to 0488 811 247. www.na.org.au. Are you concerned about somebody else's drinking? Al-Anon Family Groups meetings held Fridays at 2pm by Zoom. 1300 252666 www.al-anon.org.au.

270 ready to contest Seas The Day women's surfing at Kingscliff



The number of female surfers taking part in this year's event is way up on last year's inaugural effort. Photo Andy Morris

The world's largest female participation surf event Seas The Day is returning for its second year at Kingscliff Beach this weekend June 22-23.

There are 89 teams ready to go, up from 61 last year, involving 270 competitors.

'Current and former Championship Tour surfers are set to join professional longboarders, free surfers, icons of the sport, and female athletes from across the country at the festival. Many will be speaking in the festival hubs as well as

competing in the celebrity surf challenge and fun tag team competition,' Surfing Australia boss Chris Mater said.

'We hope that this event will inspire more girls and women to get involved in surfing in a pressure-free

environment and encourage all females to come together to share their passion for the ocean'.

Last year 12,000 people attended Seas The Day from across Australia and a bigger turnout is expected for this year's event.

Winter cricket for over-45s gets underway with some big hitting



Clear skies and a good pitch helped batsmen to post good scores in Ballina on Saturday. Photo supplied

The inaugural Far North Coast over-45s winter cricket league got off to a great start with over 400 runs scored and a win for the Red-necked Pademelons over the Forest Dragons.

Playing at Kingsford Smith Oval in Ballina the Forest Dragons were sent in to bat and scored 205 off 36.2 overs. Dave Dirou scored at more than a run a ball for his 39, as did Brett Crawford (41no) and Brett McPhail (28). Sonny Singh (28) and Nigel Dornan (23) kept the runs coming.

Paddy Wilde was the best bowler for the Pademelons taking 4/40, supported by

Kev Walker (3/38).

The Pademelons came out firing with Brad Walker (23) and Nathan Croft (23) moving the score along quickly. It took the fourth bowling change to get a much-needed wicket, however the middle order continued to hit runs.

At the 20-over drinks break, the game was evenly poised. But the strong middle order of Mal Hamcock (34no) and Matt Dickens (41no) laid the foundation for the chase which was reached in the 37th over.

Players of the match were Kev Walker and Brett Crawford.

Sunshine brings football back to the Northern Rivers



The sunshine let the MBVFC (blue) U/11 girls take on the Pottsville Wild Cats earlier this month. Photo supplied

After weeks of relentless rain washing out every game, the sunny days of June have allowed local football to get back on track, including for the Mullumbimby Brunswick Valley Football Club's (MBVFC) U/11 girls' team that are now getting their chance to shine on the field.

'Despite the wet weather our girls remained incredibly patient and have kept their spirits high. Their determination and hard

work has truly paid off as they have been playing their hearts out,' MBVFC Minirosos manager Rulan Cadiogan said

'Each one of them put in an incredible effort, showing fantastic teamwork, skill, and sportsmanship.

'We're so proud of how well they played and the patience they've shown throughout the season so far. Here's to more games and sunny days ahead.'

South Lismore on top in local premiership football

There were plenty of goals scored in the Far North Coast Football's premier division last weekend where the South Lismore Thistles and Lennox Head have established themselves as the competition's front runners.

The Thistles beat Ballina, playing in Ballina on Saturday 4-0, and have four wins from their five games so far in the 2024 rain-affected season. Their run in the premier league follows on from their triumph in the pre-season Anzac Day Cup.

Lennox Head also had a good 2-0 win at home against Richmond Rovers on Friday night that leaves them second on the table with four wins from six games.

Byron Bay only has one

loss to their name but two draws, including a 1-1 result against Mullumbimby Brunswick Valley (MBVFC) last Sunday, leaving them in third place on the ladder.

Richmond Rovers sit in fourth place on equal points with MBVFC, which is having one of its betters starts to a season.

Next week MBVFC can help extinguish any lingering doubts on their potential when they travel to take on last year's premiers, Bangalow Blue Dogs, who sit in sixth place, but have games in hand.

Bangalow only have one loss (and two draws) for the season and will be keen to dominate the home game, from 2.30pm on Sunday.

Young runner qualifies for regional championships



Thea with her zone championship medal. Photo supplied

Year four student at Goonengerry Public School Thea Ramsay has qualified for the North Coast Regional Cross Country Championships after finishing first at the zone championships held earlier this month at Bilambil.

Thea has previously won

the Valley of Small Schools and Headlands District Cross Country Junior girls' events.

'Thea always gives 100% into everything that she does and is a gifted runner. The entire school and community are very proud of Thea's achievements,' her teacher Ms Jonston said.

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There was pot luck in Mullum's streets last week – at around 5pm opposite Santos, a charitable human dumped free cannabis into the garden beds, which were cleaned up promptly. Ah, Mullumbimby.

Last week's Labor councillor ticket announcement claiming that candidate, Peter Doherty, is the founder of Bangalow Koalas was incorrect. A correction sent in on deadline was missed. Bangalow Koalas president, Linda Sparrow, told *The Echo* that Mr Doherty is a co-founder, along with her. 'It was started by a handful of concerned neighbours', she said.

Britain's Judicial Office has announced that persecuted whistleblower/journalist Julian Assange's final appeal against being extradited to the US will take place on July 9 and 10. For more visit www.assangecampaign.org.au.

Snowy Hydro has suspended its cloud-seeding operation, reports *SMH* (Nine), 'which over a decade has thrust at least 366 kilograms of silver iodide into storm clouds to precipitate more snow onto the peaks of the Snowy Mountains and boost the production of hydroelectricity'. The reason? A spokesperson from Snowy Hydro said, 'The low frequency of cold fronts and warmer-than-average temperatures in winter 2023 impacted both natural snowfall, as well as the opportunities for snowfall enhancement via cloud seeding'.

Congrats Bluesfest, they have won the prestigious title of Best Australian Music Festival at The Brag Media's inaugural Live Business



Byron Bay Croquet Club members got their night vision gear on last Friday next to the Byron Tennis Courts. Member Gerd Modlich told *The Echo* it was the first time for the club, 'because there are no lights'. It was a great success he says. To get involved, just turn up. 'We play every Monday afternoon 2–5pm, Wednesday morning 9–12pm, Friday afternoon 2–5pm and Sunday afternoon 2–5pm. Photo Jeff 'Goggle Giggles' Dawson

Breakfast, presented by Variety Australia and Twilio.

CNN reports, 'The Great Barrier Reef just experienced its worst summer on record, and the US-based National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) announced last month that the world is undergoing a rare global mass coral bleaching event — the fourth since the late 1990s — impacting at least 53 countries'.

'The only time unemployment benefits rose above the poverty line was in the middle of the Covid crisis, because we thought middle-class people might become unemployed. It's government choices that cause inequality' – Executive Director of the Australia Institute, Richard Denniss.

Belated congrats to Stewart's Menswear in Mullum who were finalists in the Roar Awards Business Excellence category.

Vale Cockatoo Paul, from the Australian Bush Survival School, who died this week.

Byron Bay High are about to perform their first musical! See page 8 for more info.



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