

Discovering beautiful, functional art

Last weekend's Mud Trail saw 21 of the region's potters open their studios to enthusiastic crowds. Pictured is Alex Draper of Muddy Clay Play, Byron Bay. See Paul Bibby's story on page 2. Photo Jeff 'Potted And Muddied Since 1986' Dawson

All Council candidates announced!

► See page 8, 9 and 11 for as much local politics as you can stomach! Oh and page 6. And then there's page 12, and...

Mullum to lose its local water source

Paul Bibby

Mullumbimby will get its water in the future from the Rous regional supply, rather than the local Lavertys Gap Weir it has been using for the past 85 years, under a decision made by Byron councillors last week.

But with Council elections just weeks away, and no irreversible action on the issue planned for months, it is possible the decision could be overturned by the next group of councillors.

The decision to shift from the Lavertys Gap Weir to the Rous supply was made at last week's Council meeting following years of debate over the issue.

Councillors were ultimately faced with four options: keep using Lavertys Gap with no additional water source, build an off-stream reservoir to supplement this source, permanently move to the Rous regional supply (which currently supplies the rest of the shire), or find a new ground water source to supplement Lavertys Gap.

► Continued on page 3

Last Bluesfest announced – a closer look

Hans Lovejoy

Last week, Bluesfest director Peter Noble OAM announced the end of an era for the much-loved annual event, held in Tyagarah.

He said, 'After more than 50 years in the music business, Bluesfest has been a labour of love, a celebration of music, community,

and the resilient spirit of our fans.

'But after the 2025 festival, as much as it pains me to say this, it's time to close this chapter.

'This final edition is not just the end of an era; it's a celebration of everything that Bluesfest has stood for over the past 35-plus years – music, community, and unforgettable experiences.'

Among the first artist

announcement for 2025 is Crowded House, Vance Joy, Ocean Alley, Tones I, Gary Clark Jr, Rag'n'Bone Man, RY X, Allison Russell and Christone 'Kingfish' Ingram.

Recognised globally, the locally-owned, independent festival has earned numerous accolades, making it the most-awarded music festival in the Australian entertainment industry.

While festivalgoers have enjoyed global headline acts and up-and-comers over those decades, the underlying local economic loss is significant.

An economic impact report, which was commissioned by Bluesfest, showed in the year prior to Covid restrictions in 2020, Bluesfest 2019 generated 858 full-time

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Sleeping rough raises much-needed funds



Di Campbell from Bangalow CWA was on hand to supply the sleepers with a pot of chilli con-carne on Saturday night. Photo Jeff Dawson

Last Saturday night saw around 40 people rug up and sleep rough for one night for the inaugural Big Byron Sleepout, which was held to raise money for frontline service, the Fletcher Street Cottage.

Organiser Mandy Nolan says she was thrilled with the good weather, but adamant that the sleepout would have happened regardless.

She said, 'One night can't show us what it's like to sleep rough, but we know that many people with chronic illness and health complaints face bad weather and lack

of safety every night. This shouldn't be the job of community – we need government to step up and fully fund services like Fletcher Street Cottage and public housing! Homelessness is something we could solve tomorrow. It just needs the political will.'

She says the Big Byron Sleepout has raised close to \$25,000, with donations still coming in.

Fletcher Street Cottage provides essential support to those experiencing, or at risk, of homelessness. It offers food, showers, laundry

facilities, social work, support services, and a sense of community.

The Byron Community Centre runs the service, and to remain fully operational, requires \$800,000 per annum to operate four days a week.

According to the latest NSW Street Count data, the Byron community has more rough sleepers than Sydney. Despite this, Fletcher Street Cottage is not fully funded and relies heavily on fundraisers and donations to meet its operational budget.

For more info, visit www.byroncentre.com.au.

Mud Trail gathers momentum

Paul Bibby

At a time when local festivals seem to be a threatened species, one major Northern Rivers event appears to have bucked the downward trend over the weekend.

The North Coast Mud Trail sprang to life on August 17 and 18 with double the number of ceramic artists compared to last year.

Twenty-one studios across the region opened their doors this year, showing the wares of 26 local potters. And the punters responded, with the annual 'pilgrimage of the plate' attracting thousands from across the region.

'With all of the extra artists and the economic climate being as it is, I have to admit I was a bit worried,' the president of North Coast Ceramics, Jacqui Sosnowski, said.

'But anecdotally, and from my own experience, most of us did just as well as last year and many did even better.'

The event attracted a significant number of visitors from interstate and overseas this year, but the majority were locals, Ms Sosnowski said. 'I think it's



Jacqui Sosnowski of SOS Ceramics, based in Mullumbimby. Photo Jeff 'Muddsy' Dawson

just a beautiful way to spend a day... cruising around the hinterland to all these beautiful little spots you might never have visited to see the amazing work of our ceramicists.'

'Unlike a lot of events you get to engage directly with the artist at the Mud Trail – ask them about their process, their work. Maybe take part in a workshop, and buy something you'll keep for decades.'

The popularity of the hands-on events at the Mud Trail reflects the region's growing love affair with clay.

'Generally, ceramics has really seen a major uptake

locally in the past ten years,' Ms Sosnowski said.

'We're particularly seeing a lot of young people getting involved. Clay is incredibly addictive, and it's also therapeutic,' Ms Sosnowski said.

The wheel will keep on turning in the coming months, with small events taking place across the region, culminating with a big Christmas market at the Mullum Civic Hall on December 7 and 8.

North Coast Ceramics awards are also on again with entries closing in December. This year the theme will be 'Endurance'.

For more info, visit www.northcoastceramics.com.

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Getting flexed for circus fest



Joel Salom juggles a few clubs with the aid of daughter and mother, Chiara Anastasia and Deryn Evans. Photo Jeff 'It's That Easy' Dawson

Organisers of the National Circus Festival have unveiled their 2024 program, to be held at the Mullumbimby Showground October 4-6.

Festival Director, Alice Caldwell, says the three-day program will feature world-class entertainment with hundreds of events taking place over four venues, including The Famous Spiegeltent.

Ms Caldwell says, 'From awe-inspiring acrobatics, world-class circus, and sensational cabaret, the festival offers something for everyone, celebrating the diversity and magic of the world of circus.'

► See page 25 for more info

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Permanent outdoor chess area to feature in Byron Bay

Mia Armitage

A permanent, undercover, oversized chess set, and surrounding regular-sized chess tables are to be installed overlooking Byron's Main Beach - but

not any time soon.

Chess Club founder Peter Hanna recently took a petition around Byron Bay, managing to accrue more than 1,100 signatures and the support of outgoing Independent Byron Shire

Councillor Cate Coorey.

Her plans were adopted by councillors, which supports a permanent sheltered spot at either Apex or Denning Park, with the chess club's willingness to raise project funds noted.

But if you're impatient to get down to the beachfront for a game, Mr Hanna can often be found on fine-weather Sundays playing or teaching chess in between the swing set and the surf club at Apex Park.

Mullum to move its local water source to Rous

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Reflecting the bitter division among councillors over the issue, the final vote was deadlocked at 4-4, with Mayor Michael Lyon using his casting vote to seal the deal for option 3 - a permanent move to the Rous supply at Rocky Creek Dam.

Tie-breaking vote

The vote tie breaker was necessitated by the absence of Cr Sama Balson.

On the mayor's side of the debate were councillors Mark Swivel (Labor), Asren Pugh (Labor) and Alan Hunter (Independent).

Drawing on the advice of Council staff and the findings of Council's independent consultant, Hydrosphere, they argued that shifting to the Rous supply was the best move economically, environmentally, and socially.

This argument held that, with Mullumbimby's population growing rapidly, the ageing local weir and water treatment system would not be able to meet demand, particularly with climate-change-induced droughts such as the one experienced in 2019 a very real concern.

While building a local, off-site water storage facility to supplement supply might address the demand issue, it

was argued that this option would cost far more than shifting to Rous, and have a more significant environmental impact.

'Look, I understand the romance of a local water supply, but it's time to let go,' Cr Lyon said in his final speech following hours of debate in the Council chamber.

'Lavertys Gap will always be there. If it stacks up financially in the future, we can always go there. But it doesn't stack up right now.'

But those on the other side of the debate strongly disagreed.

Backed by the vast majority of respondents to a local survey on the issue, councillors Sarah Ndiaye (Greens, Deputy Mayor), Duncan Dey (Greens), Cate Coorey (Independent) and Peter Westheimer (Independent) argued that Lavertys Gap should be retained, and significant funds invested now to make it viable into the future.

Financials contested

They contested the financial figures demonstrating that switching to the regional supply was the most viable option, pointing out that pursuing this course means that Council (and by extension its ratepayers) will have to buy water from Rous

County Council for generations to come rather than having its own supply.

'Yes, keeping our little local independent and resilient water supply needs upfront capital expenditure,' Cr Dey said.

'But after that it's quite likely that it will provide water for another 80 years.'

Overwhelming resident support for local supply

Cr Dey also asserted that there was virtually no support for switching to the Rous supply from Mullumbimby residents, with just five per cent of 411 respondents to a recent survey in favour of the move.

Of the 225 respondents living in Mullumbimby, just five households said they wanted to move to the Rous supply.

'Imagine... you've asked hundreds of Mullum locals their opinion and just a handful said they wanted to connect to Rous,' Cr Dey said.

'They all said "stick with Lavertys" but we are now considering doing what just five of them wanted. Come on, where's the social licence here?'

Cr Dey supported an alternative motion put

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Police asked to be more lenient toward nude bathers

Paul Bibby

Has Byron Council finally thrown in the towel when it comes to finding a new clothes-optional beach in the Byron Shire?

With Tyagarah Beach set to be officially stripped of its clothes-optional status on August 30, a motion came before last week's Council meeting seeking to continue the search for a new location.

Debate predictably ensued, with local naturists facing off against those who say that the shire's clothes-optional beach has become a honey pot for sexual violence and antisocial behaviour.

But when the sand finally settled, councillors had resolved to simply ask the police to be more lenient toward nude bathers, rather than taking steps to find them a new home.

Council will request the police to be 'more accepting of nudity when it is not associated with antisocial behaviour' and to take 'action to proactively address antisocial behaviour in problematic locations'.

In an apparent



The Nude Olympics were held at Belongil Beach in 2015. Photo supplied

acknowledgment of the fact that police are bound by laws prohibiting public nudity in relation to nude bathing, councillors also asked parliament to 'review' and 'modernise' the laws in relation to nude bathing.

'This is taking a different approach to how we could facilitate the desire of people, including myself, to be naked at the beach,' said outgoing Green Cr Duncan Dey who moved the amendment which ultimately became the motion.

'What we're talking about here is to ask the police to not book people for being nude, but to book people for antisocial behaviours.'

It was a somewhat limp

ending to a fiery debate over the issue during the meeting, which included the original mover of the motion pointing out the apparent 'injustice' of the shire having five dog beaches but none for nude bathing.

'I just think it's extraordinary that we put our dogs ahead of our own personal welfare,' outgoing Cr Peter Westheimer said.

'It's a reflection of where Byron's going and where it's gone. It's become more prudish and more responding to negativity... The Byron brand is damaged by us not having a clothes-optional beach.'

The NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service

evidently disagrees. Earlier this year, the department announced that Tyagarah would no longer be a nudist beach because it was not in keeping with its policies and values.

This followed a land mapping survey undertaken by NPWS, which found that a large area of the beach was under the jurisdiction of NPWS, rather than Council.

In response to outrage from local naturists, NPWS twice delayed the date when Tyagarah would be stripped of its clothes-optional designation. But the sunscreen will finally hit the sand on August 30, when the clothing-optional area will be officially closed.

Mayor Michael Lyon accused of 'harassment and bullying'

Aslan Shand

Allegations of harassment and bullying have been made against the Byron Shire Mayor, Michael Lyon, by The Mullumbimby Residents Association (MRA) following the August 1 Council meeting.

Dale Emerson and Ben Fawcett were speaking on behalf of the MRA on the issue of the Mullumbimby water supply during public access, when they say the mayor's questioning 'left Mr Emerson feeling unjustly blamed, humiliated and judged'.

The formal complaint reads, 'Of particular concern was an incident where the Mayor asked Mr Emerson a question, but would not allow him to complete his answer without interruption. This occurred twice during the exchange.'

'We believe this behaviour may constitute and was experienced as harassment/ bullying as defined in the Council's *Code of Conduct for Councillors 2022*, specifically Section 3.6/3.7 relating to harassment and 3.8/3.9 relating to bullying.'

Responding to the

allegation, Cr Lyon told *The Echo*, 'I completely refute the suggestion that I bullied or harassed Mr Emerson. I asked some pointed questions about the complete lack of financial information provided in their "submission guide" and why they thought it right to omit this relevant information.'

'You will need to check with staff as to the status of the complaint, but I have been told I have not in any way breached the code of conduct. It is shameful an association purporting to represent residents would omit relevant cost information from a submission guide and that was the point I was making.'

Council staff told *The Echo* that an investigation will take place 'as per the code, all complaints are dealt with in accordance with the procedures for administering the *Code of Conduct for Councillors 2022*, as adopted by Council.'

'Council will be commencing its investigation of the complaint shortly, and will make a determination on whether or not there has been a breach.'

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SAE opens its doors Aug 24

SAE University College, located on Ewingsdale Road, Byron Bay, is giving future creatives a chance to get up close and hands-on with its course offerings at its open day on Saturday, August 24.

Event organisers say SAE Byron Bay is the only University College in the country offering a suite of creative courses nationally, including animation, audio, design, film, games and music.

'Former SAE student Fernanda Gerdes will be joining us to share her expertise on making a name for herself in the design industry.'

'She channelled her passion for design into a qualification with SAE, where

she was able to develop a professional portfolio packed with real-world examples of her skills.

'Thanks to the design briefs she worked on during her studies, Fernanda scored herself a placement at Bluesfest, that turned into a paid designer role (before she'd even finished studying!).'

The open day will include food, drink, and music from Concrete Gold and DJ Abel Mezzomo. They add expert practitioners, current students and alumni will be on hand to talk about SAE courses and demonstrate state-of-the-art equipment and facilities.

For more information, visit www.sae.edu.au.

Council staff warn of spike in unapproved building

Random audits are one of the measures executive Council staff are looking at around what they say is an increase in unauthorised development.

Council's Director Sustainable Economy and Environment, Shannon Burt, issued a 'friendly reminder' last week, and said, 'if you're planning to build, renovate or change the use of a building on your property - it is illegal to proceed without the proper approvals in place.'

Ms Burt said, 'We're observing an increase in unauthorised development and that information is coming to us from both staff and the wider community.'

'In response to community concerns, Council is now looking to implement a random audit process for

Complying Development Certificates issued by private certifiers,' Ms Burt said.

'Complying development is a combined planning and construction approval for straightforward residential, commercial, and industrial development that can be determined through a fast-track assessment process. It can be assessed and determined by a council or a registered certifier without the need for a full DA.'

'In recent times, we have started to see complying development certificates that have been issued and that do not satisfy the requirements for, or meet the predetermined development standards of, complying development,' Ms Burt said.

For more information visit www.byron.nsw.gov.au.

Men's Shed meeting Aug 28

The Byron Bay Men's Shed invites all local men to join them for a general meeting on Wednesday, August 28, from 10.30am at the Byron Bay Bowlo located at 18 Marvell Street.

Co-organiser Garry

Eastburn says, 'This is your opportunity to learn more about the Men's Shed movement, which provides a space for men to connect, share skills, and work on projects that benefit the community.'

Council bans balloons and single-use decorations

Byron Shire Council staff say they have banned the use of balloons and other single-use decorations in all Council buildings, parks and outdoor areas from June 1.

Staff say, 'The move is the first stage of a new Single-Use Packaging and Materials Policy for the Byron Shire which will help to phase out

unnecessary waste from Council operations, facilities and open spaces.'

Council's Litter and Illegal Dumping Prevention Officer, Jordyn de Boer, said, 'It's just about changing your thinking and getting a bit creative, which I know the Byron Shire is renowned for.'

Final Bluesfest announced for 2025

► Continued from page 1

equivalent (FTE) jobs in the Northern Rivers and 1,333 in NSW. In terms of gross revenue, Reuben Lawrence Consulting found pre-Covid Bluesfest 2019 generated \$163m in the Northern Rivers, and \$277m in NSW.

As for the future of the Tyagarah event site, Mr Noble told *The Echo* he wants to 'retain it as an arts precinct'.

'In this, my 60th year in music, I still feel the fire, and look forward to where the path may take me.'

'Bluesfest is such an institution, and I am proud to be able to say the amazing team, the artists and our incredible patrons have elevated it to world's best standard and beyond my wildest dreams. Thank you, with utmost gratitude to allow me to musically dance among the heavens.'

'We are planning to go out on a high', he says enthusiastically, adding that the huge response received to the



Bluesfest director Peter Noble giving Kasey Chambers a lifetime achievement award in 2019. Photo Jeff Dawson

2025 finale has been humbling. Next year's final four-day festival event will be the last chance to experience the magic, the music, and the memories

that have made Bluesfest a beloved institution.

Tickets can be purchased at www.bluesfest.com.au.



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Gage's body discovered near crashed car

A body found by volunteer searchers is believed to be missing Mullumbimby man, Gage Wilson.

The discovery was made one kilometre from where his crashed car was discovered.

Mr Wilson's family said in a statement, 'It is with heavy hearts that we announce the loss of our beloved Gage Wilson, cherished son, brother, uncle, grandson, nephew, cousin, and dear friend. Gage was found deceased on Sunday, August 4, 2024, leaving us in profound disbelief and sorrow.'

'Gage disappeared on May 18 after a car accident on Koonyum Range Road in the Mullumbimby area in Byron Bay's hinterland. For over ten weeks, an exhaustive search led by close family



Gage Wilson. Photo supplied

friends ended in the heartbreaking discovery of his remains near Left Bank Road.

'Our hearts are shattered, but we are deeply grateful for the overwhelming support we've received from the wider community, the Byron Shire Police, and

friends and family, who searched tirelessly for him. As a family, we wish to bring Gage back to the Northern Rivers, to lay him to rest in the place he called home.

'Gage was a gentle, free spirit, with a deep love for peace, nature, and humanity. We can only hope that his final moments were as serene as his soul. His story, though short, touched so many lives, and he will forever be remembered.

'We hope to give him a peaceful farewell — a burial or cremation, a live-streamed funeral service, and a beautiful celebration of his life'.

A GoFundMe has been launched to bring his body home from Newcastle after forensic autopsy and DNA testing. For more info, visit www.gofundme.com/f/Bring-gage-wilson-home.

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'Times are bad. Children no longer obey their parents, and everyone is writing a book.'

Cicero (106 BC–43BC), Roman philosopher

Mayoral candidates Lyon, Warth support rail trail

Further to last week's story where *The Echo* asked Byron's mayoral candidates their position on rail trail or rail, we offered the other two mayoral candidates their say over the future of the disused railway, i.e. a return to rail or a rail trail.

David Warth

Mr Warth replied, 'After considering other options for the beneficial use of the rail corridors existing in our shire, I feel that the rail trail initiative offers the most cost effective and practical way of bringing social and economic value to our community'.

'The rail trail experience has been very positive in neighbouring shires. It has the potential to invigorate our beautiful hinterland communities with minimum impact on the environment

and rural life style.

'Visitors to the Byron Shire are constantly looking for ways to enjoy the area.

'The rail trail would cater very well for families and individuals. It would be great to be able to explore our beautiful hinterland without spending a lot of money and have a healthy and enjoyable experience.

'I feel there are a lot of benefits to this initiative and it seems we are lagging behind our neighbours in moving forward with this'.

Mayor Michael Lyon

Do you support the future of the rail trail through Byron Shire? Why?

'My leadership of the Byron Council this term has seen us declare support and apply for funding for the rail trail for the first time. It is clear that the rail trail can bring many benefits to locals and visitors alike, and I pushed through significant opposition in order to do the right thing by our shire.

'The economic,

connectivity and health benefits to our community are clear and we needed to join our regional neighbours and get onboard'.

If yes, in what format, rail trail only or multi-modal?

'The rail line between Mullum and Byron is straight and flat with only three bends along the entire section. This is the only section that could support both rail and trail, however, despite many opportunities, including the potential to extend the existing solar train from Bayshore Drive to town, no realistic proposal has been brought forward.

'To construct the trail beside the rail will cost another \$6 million extra, compared to on-formation in this section. This does not represent a good spend if no realistic option is brought forward, so time is almost up. While I have always seen the potential for rail in this section, given the growth in population in Mullumbimby, state government will not

invest in it and there has been no solid business proposal brought forward'.

How will you achieve the completion and in what time frame?

'We have joined forces with Lismore City Council already to secure funding for Mullumbimby to Crabbes Creek and from Bangalow to Binna Burra. As a council we have invested in our grants team and that has borne significant fruit in recent years, with amazing projects like the Byron Skate Park and road upgrades delivered around the shire. I have a track record of delivering and I will be proud to deliver a rail trail from end to end in Byron Shire. At 48km, it will be the largest section of the Northern Rivers, but we need to be shrewd to ensure that we do not end up with a liability from the ongoing maintenance. This will require careful negotiation with state government to ensure our interests as a Council are protected, and we are able to generate income to cover the costs'.

Pressure still on NSW Reconstruction Authority

Community organisations from the Northern Rivers region say they have presented evidence to the Joint Select Committee as part of the public hearing for the statutory review of the *NSW Reconstruction Authority Act 2022*.

In a media release, the group say they comprise Resilient Lismore, Community Disaster Action Group (CDAG), Northern Rivers Community Legal Centre (NRCLC) and the Nimbin Neighbourhood and Information Centre Inc (NNIC).

The statement reads, 'With over 5,000 of the 6,000 homes who applied under the Resilient Homes Program still awaiting assistance (Response to Questions on Notice - 26 April 2024), and only \$890 million delivered of the promised \$1.5 billion for recovery through the Resilient Homes Program, (leaving a \$610 million shortfall), the program is one example of the considerable recovery still ahead of us and the need for strong community engagement'.

'The groups are

advocating for increased community involvement in decision-making processes, echoing sentiments expressed by the prime minister in a letter on 13 February 2024'.

Chels Hood Withey from the Community Disaster Action Group said, 'The NSW RA Act, in its current form, fails to recognise the importance of community-led recovery. By sidelining the very people it aims to serve, the authority is perpetuating the trauma our community has already endured'.

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Who's who in the local political zoo



Group A – Labor: Peter Doherty, Diana James, Cr Asren Pugh, Janet Swain and Cr Mark Swivel.

Hans Lovejoy

Strap in peeps, the candidates for the Council election are locked and loaded for September 14!

Overall, there are 23 candidates vying for nine Byron Shire Council seats (one of which is mayor).

Of the four Byron Shire Council 2024 mayoral candidates, three are incumbent councillors, including Mayor Michael Lyon.

He was elected as an independent after quitting the Greens in September 2020.

Incumbent Greens

councillor, Sarah Ndiaye, has served twice as deputy mayor, a position elected by fellow councillors.

She has served alongside Cr Lyon for over eight years – both were elected under previous Greens mayor, Simon Richardson.

Incumbent Labor councillor, Asren Pugh, ran for mayor in 2021 and lost to Cr Lyon, but won a seat on Council in his first local government campaign.

Independent candidate David Warth, meanwhile, ran for the federal seat of Richmond in 2022 against Labor's



Group B –Byron Shire Compass: Nyck Jeanes, Susie Figgis, David Warth and Patricia (Trisha) Gizas-Barker.

Justine Elliot and the Greens' Mandy Nolan, among others.

All four mayoral candidates are also running as the number one candidates in groups nominated for ordinary Council seats: this way, if their group wins enough votes, they are guaranteed to win a seat.

Five groups and one ungrouped candidate

The other 19 Council candidates are divided between five groups, except for one ungrouped candidate, newcomer Lucy Vader.

There is a fifth group running for councillor seats, led by Independent Jack Dods.

Neither Mr Dods, nor any of his three fellow group members are running for mayor.

Some group tickets have changed in the final days leading up to last week's registration deadline.

Both Cr Mark Swivel and Meredith Wray quit the mayor's ticket and joined Labor and Jack Dods's team respectively.

The incumbent mayor now has Rhett Holt on his team, who previously ran



Group C – Byron Independents: Max Foggon, Cr Michael Lyon, Jeannette Martin and Rhett Holt.

unsuccessfully on the conservative ticket of (retiring) councillor, Alan Hunter.

The Greens now have five all-female candidates, with the addition last week of well-known broadcaster, Nell Schofield.

The candidate groups are as follows, and are in their own words (not ours!):

Group A – Labor

Asren Pugh (Bangalow) is a lifelong environmentalist, having worked for the Australian Conservation Foundation setting up their national Community

Organising Program. He lives in Bangalow with his family, runs a local food manufacturing business and has an Executive MBA from UNSW.

Janet Swain lives in Ocean Shores and will be a big voice for the 'North' on Council.

She is an artist, singer, songwriter and teacher. Janet wants to bring new, creative ideas to the problems our community faces.

Mark Swivel (Byron Bay) is committed to our community as a councillor and lawyer, in the arts and in sport. Along with Maree Eddings, Mark led the



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Get set

Go!

for September 14 Council elections?



Group D – The Greens: Nell Schofield, Delta Kay, Cr Sarah Ndaiye, Michelle Lowe and Elia Hauge.



Group E – Jack Dods: Dr Niamh Dove, Jack Dods, Dr Meredith Wray and David Michie.



Ungrouped candidate Lucy Vader.

space of time. Following the worst floods in recorded history, Michael led the response to provide temporary homes in three pod villages in the shire and has fought hard for the funding to complete repairs like Federal Drive and Huonbrook Road.

Max Foggon (Wilson's Creek) is running for Council to make a tangible impact and become a pillar in his community. He brings fresh perspective, innovative ideas and takes on issues that matter to younger generations. Growing up in Mullumbimby, he's experienced the challenges youth and families face in our region.

Rhett Holt (Byron Bay) is the founder of a global software firm and a former risk coordinator for the Queensland state government.

His key priorities are the financial sustainability of local government, making tourism work for the shire, helping local farmers to ensure local food quality and security and ensuring small businesses are supported in tough times.

► Continued on page 11

► campaign to save Feros Village and is the principal lawyer at Barefoot Law.

Peter Doherty is a long-time Bangalow resident and co-founded Bangalow Koalas a number of years ago to replant a koala corridor behind his home. Pete works in aged care and understands what [life] is like for working-class people, living paycheque to paycheque.

Dr Diana James lives in Byron Bay and is passionate about integrating cultural and environmental values into the planning for our communities to support

the development of diverse community enterprises in the arts, cultural heritage and ecotourism.

Linda Watson lives at Ewingsdale and has a daughter and grandson in Ocean Shores. She has worked as an early childhood teacher and tutor and wants to see a community where her new grandson has somewhere affordable to live when he grows up.

Group B – Byron Shire Compass

David Warth (Suffolk Park) is a wildlife filmmaker

with a background in business, tourism and primary industry. 'I love living here and now that the challenges that we must face are mounting, I feel that my team and I must act decisively to create and implement a strong vision that will be in the best interests of our community'.

Susie Figgis (Ocean Shores) is a parent, business-woman, and passionate natural lover. She is standing for practical, people-driven policies, with a commitment to decisions that reflect the local community's best interest.

Patricia (Trisha) Gizas-Barker (Byron Bay): My vision is that Byron Shire is, and will always be, a place of opportunity, lifestyle and endless discovery. My mission is inspiring our community to embrace the possibilities that strengthen a healthy, caring and happy community. My values are creating and maintaining safe spaces for our multicultural community to pursue their passions and achieve future success.

Nyck Jeanes (Byron Bay) has been a Byron Shire resident for 36 years.

Broadcaster, writer, counselor, peace activist, musician, father, grandfather, gardener, and lover of nature. We need more open dialogue with residents on many issues, a new, fresh beginning, new process to old problems, and kindness and care for each other and all creation.

Group C – Byron Independents

Michael Lyon (The Pocket) has been mayor of the Byron Shire for three-and-a-half years, and has achieved much in a small

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Echo

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

Body of missing Ballina man located

A body, believed to be that of a man missing from Ballina, has been located.

Kingscliff students focus on preventing domestic violence

Kingscliff Rotary Club has taken on the challenge of working with young people on how to define and build respectful relationships in their lives.

Grow your own cannabis? Cannabis inquiry underway

Will you be allowed to grow up to six marijuana plants in NSW? A NSW Parliamentary inquiry into cannabis is taking place in Lismore today chaired by Legalise Cannabis MP Jeremy Buckingham and this is one of the proposals they are looking to put forward to the drug summit in November.

Armed robbery at Tweed Heads South

Two men are to face court in October over an alleged armed robbery in Tweed Heads South last week.

Candidate question time on Lismore's housing future

The future of housing in Lismore and its surrounds is a serious question following the 2022 floods and Housing Justice Lismore is hosting a forum for Lismore Council candidates to talk about their vision of Lismore's housing future.

Ballina RSL Club announces new CEO

Guy Diven has been announced as Ballina RSL's new Chief Executive Officer, following an extensive recruitment process.

www.echo.net.au

Who's standing up to represent you on your local council?

The NSW Electoral Commission has published a list of everyone who is standing for the positions of mayor and councillor in the forthcoming local government elections on September 14.

Ballina Council

Ballina Shire has a popularly-elected mayor and a system of three wards; each ward elects three councillors.

Mayor: There are five candidates for mayor: Sharon Cadwallader, Kevin Loughrey, Kiri Dicker (The Greens), Phil Meehan and Andrew Broadley (Labor).

A Ward: there are eight candidates for three positions: Erin Karsten (The Greens), Kay Oxley, Damian Loone, Mark Paterson, Kevin Loughrey, Phil Meehan, Steve McCarthy and Maria Marshall (Labor). **B Ward:** there are seven candidates for three spots: Alexander Sharkey, Eva Ramsey, Sharon Cadwallader, Kiri Dicker, Michelle Bailey, Andrew Broadley and Tom Berry. **C Ward:** there are five candidates for three positions: Simon Kinny, Simon Chate (The Greens), Shona Barrett, Lois Cook and Therese Crollick.

Lismore Council

Mayor: Lismore City Council has five candidates for mayor: Vanessa Ekins (The Greens), Big Rob, John Jenkins, Steve Krieg and Harper Dalton-Earls (Labor).

Ten councillors will be elected altogether.

Tickets: There are six **Greens** candidates: Adam Guise, Virginia Waters, Luke Robinson, Shae Salmon, Lindall Watson and Binnie O'Dwyer. **Big Rob's** group includes Mr Rob, Shaen Springall, Luke Tanttari, Christopher Knight and Stella Coleman. **Steve Krieg's** group includes Mr Krieg, Jerilee Hall, Andrew Gordon, Electra Jensen, Andrew Bing, Gianpiero Battista, Nardia Pidcock, Chris King, Tara Coles, Mitchell Dowse and Richelle Weekes. **Labor's** group are made up of Harper Dalton-Earls, Jasmine Knight-Smith, Kevin Bell, Joy Knight-Smith, Lewis Taylor, Glenys Ritchie and William Harrison. **Individual candidate:** John Jenkins from Goonellabah.

Tweed Council

In Tweed Shire, the mayor is elected by the councillors once they are elected. With seven councillors to be elected, these are the candidates:

The Greens: Nola Firth (lead candidate), Mary-Jayne Johnston, Hilary Green and Julianne Sandison. **Liberal:** James Owen (lead candidate), Rhiannon Brinsmead, Thomas O'Connor and Freda Wilding. **Brady Turner group:** Brady Turner (lead candidate), Dirk Brouwer, Peter Weaver and Susan Mole.

Chris Cherry group: Chris Cherry (lead candidate), Lindy Smith, Julie Boyd and Trevor White. **Labor:** Reece Byrnes (lead candidate), Judith Choat, Russell Logan and Marie-Antoinette Rogers. **Meredith Dennis group:** Meredith Dennis (lead candidate), Jennifer Hayes, Gillian Cooper, Zachary Hoade and Edna Gorton.

Colin Usher group: Colin Usher (lead candidate), Belinda Dinsey, Jerami Grassi and Peter Sibilant. **Kimberley Hone group:** Kimberley Hone (lead candidate who formerly ran for the National Party), Warren Polglase, David Allen and Hannah Easton.

Ned Wales is running with Kimberley Lloyd. **Pryce Allsop** (former councillor who previously ran with Warren Polglase now Independent) is running with Bill Larkin. **Animal Justice Party:** Susie Hearder, Nicola Stone, Cheryl Tompson, and Sheraden Robins. **Individual**

candidates: James McKenzie, and Mitch Dobbie.

Richmond Valley Council

Mayor: There are four candidates for mayor: John Walker (yes, the former GM of Lismore and Richmond Valley Councils), Robert Mustow, Robert Hayes and Lyndall Murray.

Tickets: There are 22 people going for six positions on council, across four groupings: **Robert Mustow group:** Robert Mustow, Stephen Morrissey, Sandra Duncan-Humphrys and Samuel Cornish. **Robert Hayes group:** Robert Hayes, Debra McGilgan, Rachel Arthur, Tracey Knox, Neale Genge and Daniel Simpson. **John Walker group:** John Walker, Stuart George (yes, of Metgasco fame), Kylie O'Reilly, Scott Brereton and Anne Toohey. **Lyndall Murray group:** Lyndall Murray, Bianca Rayner, Simone Barker, Samuel Allis, Kylie Maunder, Nathan Scully and Hanabeth Luke. **Individual candidate:** William Drew (Independent)

Kyogle Council

In Kyogle Shire, the mayor is elected by the council. These are the candidates for each ward (three councillors to be elected per ward):

A Ward: Janet Wilson, Kieran Somerville, Naomi Worrall, Doug Layton and Brett McNamara. **B Ward:** Olivia Taylor, Glenn Robinson, John Burley, Neil Summerville and Robert Cullen. **C Ward:** Danielle Mulholland, Ian Murrell, Tom Cooper, Simon Dejoux, Earle Grundy, Robin Harley and James Murray.

Clarence Valley Council

Finally to Clarence Valley, where the mayor is elected by the council. Nine councillors will be elected.

The candidates are: Greg Clancy (The Greens), Allison Whaites, Andrew Baker, Justin James, Des Schroder, Cristie Yager, Peter Johnstone, Lynne Cairns, Steve Pickering, Ray Smith, Amanda Brien, Karen Toms, Debrah Novak, Melissa Hellwig, Shane Causley, Phillip Provost and James Allen.

■ Find out more information on your local council candidates and what they stand for in *The Echo* online: www.echo.net.au.

■ NSW local government elections will be held on Saturday, 14 September.

Somersaults for Tweed's Liberal and Labor councillors

Aslan Shand

The recent extraordinary meeting of Tweed Shire Council saw the Liberal and Labor councillors, (James Owen, Rhiannon Brinsmead and Reece Byrnes) backflip on their backflip. They are now supporting the council to defend the appeal by Gales Holding who want to alter their development application (DA), and fill the Kingscliff floodplain with unspecified material, and

change the haul method to bring in the fill.

'Thanks to Mayor Cherry, Deputy Mayor Dennis and Councillor Firth for raising the rescission motion and standing firm for community throughout the whole DA consideration process. Thanks to Councillors for voting for the rescission motion and thanks especially to the many community members who contacted councillors directly,' Peter Newton, President of the Kingscliff Ratepayers and

Progress Association (KRPA), told *The Echo*.

This means that the council will no longer support 'a negotiated approval' for fill to be used on the Kingscliff floodplain and will now defend the decision they made to insist that Gales Holdings use the sand fill as specified in the 2008 in the Land and Environment Court (L&EC) approval of the DA.

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

Close Evans Head-to-Ballina beach to 4WDs

Ongoing abuse of the beach by 4WD users has seen locals call for a closure of the beach to 4WDs and motorbikes.

Richmond Valley Council (RVC) has repeatedly warned beach users that they need to respect the beach and no-go zones or it will be closed.

Locals are pointing out that, 'There are flagrant violations of the rules all the time and not just during holiday periods. Quite apart from speeding, a significant number of 4WD users are: driving through the dunes, a prohibited activity; letting their dogs off their leads past the clearly designated "no-go sign" for dogs to the north of the Airforce Beach entrance; driving through the prohibited black rocks area to the north all the way to the White Sandhill at Broadwater Beach; driving dangerously near other beach users; driving through flocks of roosting birds, some of them endangered, at the entrance of Salty Creek to the ocean at the Salty Lagoon complex in Broadwater National Park; camping illegally and lighting



Airforce Beach, Broadwater National Park. Photo supplied

fires, a prohibited activity; and, leaving their rubbish behind including smashed beer bottles, empty tin cans and plastic and materials.'

Close the beach

Evans Head Residents for Sustainable Development Incorporated (EHRSDI), and the Coastal Defenders Network are now insisting that RVC lives up to its word and closes the remainder of the Evans Head-to-Ballina Beach to 4WDs and motorbikes because of the damage being done, loss of amenity to other beach users, and clear violations of the rules.

'The problem's been unfolding for years on the Evans Head-to-Ballina Beach,' said a spokesperson for EHRSDI.

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

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Who's in the local political zoo?

► **Continued from page 9**
Jeannette Martin (Mullumbimby) is passionate about the Northern Rivers and in particular Byron Shire. Jeannette served on Council from 2016 to 2021 and is a team player, known on Council as a voice of reason.

Group D – The Greens

Sarah Ndaiye (Mullumbimby): Jingi Walla. I'm Deputy Mayor and have served on Council since 2016 and have a deep understanding of local issues.

I'm asking for your support as a mayoral and councillor candidate.

As mayor, I will bring my years of experience to champion our community and the issues that are important to you.

As a feminist and activist, I've fought for equality, media freedom, environmental protection, and improved public spaces.

Elia Hauge (Main Arm): I'm a long-time local and was raised here. As an engineer, educator, and environmentalist, I'm running to represent our community and

Byron Greens as a councillor. My values are Greens values; to create a sustainable future for our people and our planet.

I specialise in water sustainability, climate adaptation, water security for regional communities, and sustainable urban infrastructure.

Delta Kay (Byron Bay): Jingi Walla. I'm a proud Arakwal Bundjalung woman who grew up here on Country.

My mother, Lynda Vidler is an Arakwal Elder who lodged native title in 2004 and signed the heads of agreement with Byron Shire Council in 1998.

I'm passionate about environmental and cultural education. I'm the owner of Explore Byron Bay Aboriginal Tours and an Aboriginal student support officer at TAFE NSW.

Michelle Lowe (Byron Bay): I'm a Bundjalung woman from Baryugil on Bundjalung country. I'm a long-time local and raised my children here.

I'm a high school teacher and have been the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander academic and cultural mentor and coordinator at

Byron Bay High School for ten years.

Nell Schofield (Mullumbimby): I've been a surfer, an actress, a broadcaster and a writer, and now I'm proud to join the Byron Greens ticket as the fifth candidate for the upcoming local election, bringing a wealth of experience in media, arts, and public advocacy, including board memberships with Sydney Festival and Australian Design Centre, as well as producer and presenter roles with ABC and Showtime.

Group E – Bright Future Byron

Jack Dods (Ewingsdale) is a 34-year-old designer who was born and raised in Bangalow, and has a deep passion for and commitment to improving the built environment in Byron Shire.

His work specialises in urban design, masterplanning, building design, and development management.

David Michie lives in South Golden Beach and has been one of the shire's strongest advocates for the rail trail, cycleways, and walkable towns.

Dr Meredith Wray (Byron Bay) has a PhD in sustainable tourism and lives in Byron Bay. She will contribute to improved destination management planning and sustainable tourism planning.

Dr Niamh Dove (Eureka) is a doctor and new mum from Eureka with a passion for improving local healthcare, education and childcare.

Ungrouped – Lucy Vader

A born and bred local, I'm a true independent candidate with no party affiliations, my only interests are those of the Byron Shire.

Some of you may know me through my art, or from the 2022 floods, saved by the mystery kayaker. However, there is more to me than that.

I have more than 20 years' experience in building design and working alongside the associated disciplines.

My experience could help create better outcomes for towns, villages, people, the region and the environment.

■ See more election coverage at www.echo.net.au.

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MONDAY 2nd SEPTEMBER 6-8pm, BYRON THEATRE

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Hear from the mayoral candidates, group leaders and maybe more.

Do you represent a local group or cause and have a local government question for the candidates?

If so, email TWO questions to: communitynewsroom@mail.com for a chance to be heard on the night.

Time is strictly limited as this event is to be live broadcast by Bay FM 99.9 FM and audio streamed at bayfm.org.

Entry free/donation. Registration soon via Humanatix.



Expression of Interest

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Access point staff may also confirm identity documents we require.

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We also provide training and equipment.

Go to servicesaustralia.gov.au/agentaccesspointhosts to view:

- the selection criteria
- general information on access point services
- how to obtain the terms and conditions for this opportunity.

For more information please contact Michelle Walker, Agent Coordinator, on **07 5569 6634**.

Expressions of Interest close **Friday 5 pm, 30 August 2024**.

Email your Expression of Interest to: Michelle Walker, Agent Coordinator, NAAPT.SERVICE.DELIVERY@servicesaustralia.gov.au with subject header: North West New South Wales - Coraki EO

0577AR 5005



Pay parking is coming to Brunswick Heads

Pay Parking will begin in Brunswick Heads on Monday 30 September.

Pay Parking will apply to the majority of the Brunswick Heads commercial zone and includes South Beach Road and Torakina Car Park.

Cost is \$5 an hour. Capped at \$25.00 for all day parking.

Up to two new Shire Resident Parking Permits are on offer FOR FREE, per household (rateable property), for all eligible Byron Shire residents.

Applications open on 16 September. These are shire-wide permits for residents and can be used to park in Council's pay parking areas in Byron Bay, as well as Brunswick Heads from 30 September.

More information

View a map of the pay parking zone and further details at:

🌐 www.byron.nsw.gov.au/bruns-pay-parking





The Byron Shire Echo
Volume 39 #11 • August 21, 2024

Remember Wallum?

Just to recap, property developer Clarence Property have approvals to build on low-lying land in Bayside, Brunswick Heads.

Located near Simpsons Creek, 123 residential lots and three small-medium density sites were approved by a government-appointed planning panel, with a subsequent Council works certificate approved by Mayor Lyon's casting vote on February 8.

The conservative block within Council, Mayor Lyon, Crs Pugh and Swivel, went to great lengths to defend their decision in online forums, claiming that they had no powers around its approval, despite ironically voting to approve the works certificate.

While Clarence Property claim the 'carefully considered development will see almost 60 per cent of the site protected and rehabilitated', ecologists disagree, and have highlighted the importance of old-growth trees and threatened species that are at risk.

A blockade by activists has been in place for months, and has prevented works from commencing.

Public relations spin

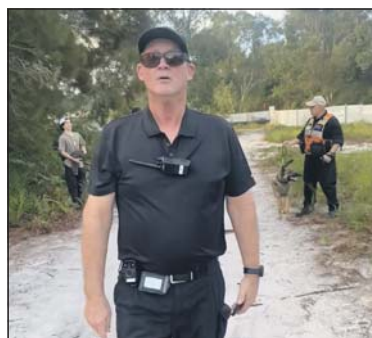
Suffice to say, the public relations spin from the developer and conservative councillors is failing to cut through, and the more it drags on, the worse it looks.

Meanwhile, the public relations spin from Wallum protectors has been focused and constant.

Bob Brown visited Wallum during the Writers Festival weekend.

Last week, pro surfer and environmental activist, Dave Rastovich, who is renowned for his ocean advocacy, visited the site, along with Greens Federal Senator, Peter Whish-Wilson.

Rastovich said in a statement,



A video still from Eli Adamek's online footage

'We are so close to the beach here, we are so close to a water system that people love and bring their children to, everyone is being affected by this issue.'

Aggressive security

Also last week, online footage emerged of what appeared to be very aggressive security staff with guard dogs accusing young men of trespass. One guard said, 'You sit down or I'll put you down.'

Eli Adamek posted the video, and wrote, 'Been coming down through this path since I was a kid, haven't been in years so I decided to go explore it with a friend after work, we park the car and walk through the tent setup, don't see any signs about trespassing and we hop the gate to follow the path I have always walked on.'

'Security emerge from the bushes yelling at us telling us to get down or they will sic the dog. They held us there for a solid hour and a half, during which they kept trying to accuse us of planning something with the people in the tents and telling us that they recognised us.'

Wallum, much to the discomfort of conservative councillors, continues to be an election issue.

Hans Lovejoy, Editor

Where is the current mayor taking us?

We are gathered here in the year of our Lord 2030 to mourn the passing of Byron Bay.

It is sad to see the death of one so beautiful, especially when that death was so cruel, so pointless, so profit-driven, and Byron could have lived on for so many more years giving joy to those blessed to live here or visit.

But it had to die. Make no mistake, this was necessary.

The mayor said so.

In 2021, there were about 16,000 dwellings in Byron Shire. We could cope with this, but barely. Traffic jams were common, parking a mess and over two million tourists peed in Byron dunnies every year.

But then, in 2024, a knife was plunged into the heart of heaven with the Byron Shire Land Strategy proposing 5,300 new dwellings.

This mass population growth was compulsory, according to the mayor, 'to house our people', especially those living rough.

To cater for this we all must live in smaller spaces, and shed our 'heyday' of the last few decades.

The height limit will go up, density parameters will increase, and we will have 'to do more with less'. So, team, tighten your boot straps, gird your loins, lie back and think of subdivisions and prepare for the tough times ahead, for King, country and the homeless.

There is an inherent falsehood at the heart of this - that by increasing the raw numbers in Byron Shire there will be lower prices. Have prices in the Gold Coast gone down? Or in Ballina? Are they suddenly affordable?

In the background, I hear the mantra 'supply and demand, supply and demand' echoing around the shire as developers and surrogates support the vomit that more dwellings will mean cheaper homes for our people. However, supply and demand only works if there is a limit to the demand. There is not.

Every single person in the world wants to live in Byron Shire (okay, a slight exaggeration) and so you could build five thousand or 20 thousand houses in our hood



'Supply and demand only works if there is a limit to the demand. There is not.'

David Heilpern

and the demand would stay the same. Well maybe there would be some drop, because it would become such a shit-hole place to live. Supply does not affect endless demand because it is, well, infinite.

The next false hope is that this increase will house 'our people'. Says who?

There has never been a mass housing development in Australia that had a geographic prerequisite for purchasers. So, every one of those 5,300 houses will be available to the highest bidder. Unless of course they are one of the very few that actualises under Council's affordable housing policy, (or a Brandon Saul special) and thus get a leg up. Even then, affordable housing is rarely limited to locals.

So, hardly one purchaser will be 'our people' unless they have the deepest pockets.

Sleeping rough

As for sympathy for those who are sleeping rough, I reckon that's a great thing. But the vast majority would need social housing and there is simply none of that in this plan. To suggest that a spasm-produced number does anything for homeless people is cynically using their desperate existence to line pockets. If we build 5,300 new places, there will be just as many people sleeping rough as before.

As for density, I love a big house. We fill it with refugees, and family and friends and visitors. I can play banjo loudly, build kayaks, screen print NIMBY t-shirts, and yell at the television.

We provide spaces to nuns and inland folk who need a beach hit. But of course, the mayor doesn't actually mean 'us'. Phew.

He really means the 'others' who can be crammed in. Because the 'heyday' is not over for those

who are already housed in houses. That's a relief.

There is certainly a housing crisis, for renters and buyers. But it is not a local crisis. It is a national crisis accentuated here, driven by mass immigration, stupid taxation rules, irregulated holiday letting, and the unfettered proliferation of multiple home ownership.

Young people can't borrow because they are burdened with debt for daring to study, job insecurity and rampant mental ill-health. We have returned to the dark ages where the key criteria for home ownership is nepotism and family money. Byron Shire is so myopic we pretend to claim the crisis as our own as if we can solve it.

So, if 5,300 homes is not good for the homeless, or for affordable housing, or the environment, or our amenity who is it good for? I guess the newly squished-in imported rich. And property developers.

And so here we are at the funeral for Byron. Brunswick Heads is now blighted by huge satellite towns, parking is impossible(r) everywhere and there is talk of a supermarket built over the water. In Ocean Shores, there is no room for children to play, and the roads are as impassable as the industrial estate.

Ye Olde Mullum hospital site is a rabbit warren of the white shoe brigade. I wanted to go to Suffolk Park the other day, but gave up after an hour in traffic. In downtown Byron Bay, the new McDonald Towers compete with the lighthouse.

And the prices, well they are as crazy as they ever were. Thank the goddess in 2030, the mayor is promising more housing to lower prices. But Byron is mort. That's what happens when you drip feed an insatiable beast.

■ David Heilpern is a former magistrate and is now Dean of Law at SCU.



The Byron Shire Echo
Volume 39 #11 August 21, 2024
Established 1986 • 22,000 copies every week

www.echo.net.au

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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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Get the most out of family life on the North Coast

Family

INSIDE: Parenting together for all the family - page 8
Where is my kid going to attend school? - page 16
Mob supporting Mob - page 25

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Echo

Loving green Byron

Weeds are important, and I decided to write this letter when my 83-year-old neighbour was visited by Rous Water and advised if he did not do anything about removing giant devil's fig weed from his property, he may be fined.

Twenty years of work by the previous owner and my 12 years has produced 15 acres of land our council has now zoned land of high conservation value, yet each year I purchase at least four 20-litre drums of herbicide (poison to me and the environment) to control the never-ending battle with weeds. My property is located on a poorly-maintained gravel road with a splendid selection of weeds that are allowed to seed year-in year-out, with maybe a prune by Byron Council just to keep them healthy.

When it rains the seeds from these weeds together with loose gravel, travel through my block by open drains, keeping me in work trying to maintain my high-conservation-value property, but surprise, three new weeds have appeared, via way of the flooded Wilsons River, the worst of which is the giant devil's fig, this has now already seeded and is growing in all corners of my property.

Being curious, I drove up to the end of Wilsons Creek Road to Council's water supply, to see where the figs, tobacco bushes and elephant ears might have



originated from, and of course there they were, looking very healthy, with nothing seemingly being done.

Alas, do not worry about the environment, we must heat Mullumbimby's swimming pool.

Graham Leech
Federal

Truth-telling

'Truth-telling', of Australian history, was featured at the Byron Writers Festival last weekend. How refreshing it is to have the many gaps in our shared past filled in by First Nations writers, journalists, playwrights, broadcasters, novelists and documentary makers.

So many were there and so large their audience was, listening intently.

It is the brave, creative next generation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders that we can depend on to let us know what really happened since the invasion. And, of course, David Marr.

Congratulations to the festival organisers for restoring a sense of pride in our country which has been lacking since the referendum. Truth-telling is on our agenda that's for sure. It's where we all need to be.

And thank you to Delta Kay, local Byron Council candidate, for her work in bringing people together.

Noelle Lynden-Way
Ewingsdale

3G closure

How many thousands of mobile phone users (including me) have been conned into buying new 4G phones only to find that the telcos are now delaying the 'switch off' for at least another month?

I sense yet another spruik to enrich their profits to the detriment of their clientele. This old chap is becoming sick of today's commercialism.

Peter Walters
Ballina

Mayoral candidates, Who is going to fix the drains?

Walk around Mullumbimby after a day of rain and the drains are overflowing, footpaths are engulfed.

Travelling by car, where are the drainage canals at Uncle Tom's?

Before more houses, before a new swimming pool, fix the drains.

And as a tip, water flows downhill, the 'new' drain at the front of the Petria Thomas pool doesn't drain.

Fix the drains first and foremost.

Kate Anderson
Mullumbimby

Nude beach

Thanks for the sensitivity you showed to the alternative Byron culture and 'brand' at Thursday's Byron Council meeting.

It certainly became clear to most observers during public access, which nearby resort has contributed to the problems nudists have faced trying to protect their clothing-optional beach at Tyagarah of late. It was also interesting to note how the mayor attempted to rush and shut down the later debate as soon as said business appeared to get what they wanted. He even became frustrated at Council members and the public for continuing to voice their clear need for beaches where one won't get arrested just for just being naked without

► Continued on next page

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- Stacy, May 2024



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

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► Continued from page 13 causing a public nuisance. The overall outcome seems good, except, my fear is that 'asking' police to 'consider being more accepting' doesn't really allow folk to relax and feel safe being naked on any beach in Byron without fear of being booked or arrested.

A clear ruling needs to be made that 'nudity is now permissible on Byron Council beaches on the condition that the naked person is not being a public nuisance'.

In reality there are not a lot of Council-controlled beaches, and in practice, it will just be the quiet times and places that will be used. Obviously nudity between the flags and the like would likely be seen as a public nuisance.

Taking away the honeypot phenomenon of having only one nude beach will spread out nudity and dissuade 'creepy pervs', claimed by some to be attracted to the Tyagarah area, so Council is moving in the right direction, but skinny-dippers do need more certainty about their legal status on Byron beaches.

Rohan Anderson
Suffolk Park

Trump – card him
Trump denigrating Kamala Harris? That doesn't surprise me. He's a misogynist, racist, and a criminal, so why would anyone vote for him? For example, Afro-American people, women – and he should be in jail, eh?

Paul Brecht
Maclean

Global climate war
Do this by 2030 to reduce the risk of runaway climate catastrophe...

We should treat our global predicament as we would a global war. At least 50 per cent of global business should be immediately directed to renewable energy, building up electricity supply and storage.

All houses required to have panels on roofs, house batteries and insulation. Cars, trucks and all vehicles converted to electric.

Renewable energy to make aircraft fuel. Increase flight ticket prices times ten. Destroy cattle and other red meat sources. Switch to white meats, fish, and vegan protein.

All industrial machinery – switch to electricity. Any source of CO₂ must pay for complete sequestration. Heavy fines on people

breaking the new laws. Illegal emitting items confiscated. Massive action on CO₂ removal to take CO₂ down to 350ppm.

Sapoty Brook
Main Arm

Jo Immig's column
Just to say thanks, thoroughly enjoyed your column.

Virginia White
Goonellabah

Bank service
Bank customer service? Basically there is none.

There has been an overall closure of branches to deposit and withdraw cash. Most banks also have decided not to deal with the drawing of cheques and depositing cheques with deposit slips.

To me if banks do not wish to deal with cash and cheques it is time for them to surrender their banking licence. They are not a bank any longer, all they are now is a finance company.

Before the introduction of forced card usage we thought it was very bad for one just to lose their wallet, which usually contained a heap of cash, but in hindsight it can be seen it is nothing compared today with one losing their card. If

this happens as we all know one could be absolutely financially ruined.

No longer can one say a bank has customer service, but only bank profits.

Once I thought it risky giving my children cash to purchase their lunch from the school canteen – now a cut lunch is the only safe option.

Come on banks, give us a fair go!

Wilf Sprengel
Ocean Shores

Thriving colony
Are we being occupied? Of course we have feeling, the colony still thrives in the great southern land and we have so much to do. The seemingly endless pursuit of the bills of exchange, promissory notes, and coin of the realm.

Note: coming soon only electronic digital transactions in the colony, overseen by the military occupation power who initiate usury to have their way. The digital transaction instead of coin and paper will mean someone controls our money before we can use it. Where they don't ask us, where they make and take interest, (usury) with what belongs to us.

This is already being done before we pay our way (we

don't have control, it's not ours). Most of our money is already being owned and occupied with this digital system. It is given back to us by buying something, only if we have purchased the digital equipment to access it and comply, (usury).

Imagine using digital toilet paper, if you can't get your hands on it, there will be plenty to keep us occupied. At present this is already happening when the electronics intentionally gets turned off, or by the hackers and when the equipment is faulty.

R Podhajsky
Ocean Shores

Halt development in Mullumbimby

I am still in shock after the council meeting I attended on 16 May regarding flooding infrastructure. Several residents spoke on being flooded. Councillor Duncan Dey proposed a motion for a feasibility study to be carried out. It was no surprise not ONE of the other councillors would second his motion.

I am asking again for flood prevention to prevent further flooding at the east end of Mullumbimby. It has been two-and-a-half years with still no resolution in place.

How about no more new

projects until the drainage problem is sorted?

Councillors are now organising \$40 million to rebuild Mullumbimby pool and \$20 million for Byron Bay pool. It seems money is available but none to solve the flooding in Mullumbimby?

We live on a floodplain. Every time we have a heavy downpour I am up through the night checking for rising water. I had 60cm of water through my home, I am still finding mud.

A neighbour informed me we live on an island. When we have lots of rain, Kings Creek and Saltwater Creek join up. These waterways have not been cleared of rubbish and vegetation since 2007. Oldies who were born here let me know that in the past these waterways were cleared fairly often.

In November 2023, Byron benefited from \$9 million in government grants to address the 2022 flood. \$7 million will be used for the Byron Bay Drainage Strategy and \$2 million for improving community facilities there.

With every second property building a granny flat and density in the area increasing, infrastructure needs to be updated.

Marie Oliver
Mullumbimby

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Echo

Peace is the only 'non-deadly' way forward

■ Violent barbarity attempts to create subjugation, but violent responses dwell beneath, heading to further rounds of violence.

Peace initiatives build peace, but are a harder road filled with kneejerk potholes. But peace initiatives are what the Israel/Palestinian conflict needs, both there, and here.

Gaza, at just 75km long, is too small for an independent country. The West Bank has a better capacity, but frankly as many of the residents have Jordanian citizenship and Jordanian family links, its incorporation back into Jordan is an option.

In my opinion, rather than progressing an attempted two-state solution, a federated states of Israel, where Gaza and the West Bank are independent states of Israel, would be the best shared solution for all the peoples of Israel/Palestine.

I've contacted local activist Benny Zable, who travelled to Israel and engaged with the Palestinians, including by painting a 'Palesrael' mural on the Bethlehem side of a dividing wall, illustrating a proposal, with the working name of Palesrael, for a one-state solution of federated

states of Israel, with state governments in Tel Aviv, Ramalla in the West Bank, and Gaza, with Jerusalem as its capital (along the lines of Australian and US states).

We are looking to hold an event in Byron later this year to present and workshop the idea, and then to engage the idea with the Israeli/Palestinian peace groups.

Interested? email: jahlazarus@yahoo.co.uk or bennyzable@gmail.com.

John Lazarus
Byron Bay

■ Esther Berkon (Letters, 14 August) asserts that Israel is not fighting Hamas in Gaza but rather is attempting to destroy the Palestinian people. Reality and facts tell otherwise.

This is a war, not a one-sided attack, and like in other wars, many innocent lives are lost, despite Israel's efforts to minimise civilian casualties.

An urban guerrilla war has been ongoing in Gaza for months, as tens of thousands of Hamas militants have embedded themselves within the civilian population and openly acknowledge that civilian casualties are a welcomed result.

Since October, over 19,000 missiles have been fired at Israel, predominantly targeting civilian areas, approximately half of them from Gaza.

For Esther, Israel is an example of settler colonialism, just like Australia. The two cases cannot and should not be compared. Unlike the British colonists, Jews were always present in these lands.

There is nothing wrong with holding a minority opinion. However, presenting the conflict in a way that robs it of depth and complexity does an injustice to reality and does not promote honest and open discourse. It is legitimate to criticise Israeli activities but let's not paint it as a binary issue.

Michal Schiff
Mullumbimby

■ Thank you, Esther Berkon, for your letter in last week's *Echo*. Letters and opinions that are biased and one-sided are nothing more than noise.

Your Facebook group 'Jews for Palestine Northern Rivers' is not newly active, it has been active for around three months, peace-loving Jewish people are clearly not interested.

You made a valid point saying that peace without truth, justice, and liberation is an illusion and the volume of anti-Israel lies that are accepted as fact, including in your letter, is a major fuel for the ongoing war.

I am devastated by the deaths taking place in Gaza and in Israel, even the deaths of the Hamas terrorists, because most humans are born as good people. However, the level of constant brainwashing that Palestinian children in Gaza and the West Bank endure is completely unacceptable, encouraging them to kill Jews from the age of five.

Countless millions of moderate Muslims worldwide are calling it out. Google Mosab Hassan Yousef (son of one of the Hamas leaders) who wants Israel and the West to kill his father for the future of the Palestinian masses.

This shitfest just has to end. Peace is the only solution for a better world Esther.

Danny Wakil
Billinudgel

■ A full copy of these letters is available in *The Echo* online: www.echo.net.au/ letters.

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The creep of far right ideas

Dr Jeffrey Lewis & Dr Belinda Lewis

The Australian Intelligence and Security Organisation (ASIO) has recently raised the terror threat to 'probable'.

As well as religious extremism, Australian governments have become increasingly concerned about Right Wing Extremism (RWE).

While followers of RWE vary considerably, they tend to share certain beliefs. These include an ideological commitment to: violent social revolution, a hatred of Islam and other forms of cultural diversity, homophobia, a deep suspicion of the democratic state, and a contorted exaltation of the principle 'survival of the fittest'.

There is also a deep hatred of nature and green-progressive politics.

The difficulty for governments and security agencies is that these beliefs are not in themselves illegal. Agencies can only constrain RWE followers when they act on their beliefs and breach the law.

Camouflage

Violence and hate speech, in fact, are merely the surface of a more treacherous promulgation of ideas and aspirations.

RWE affiliates spread their ideas through visible and less visible media systems, as well as more conventional political processes.

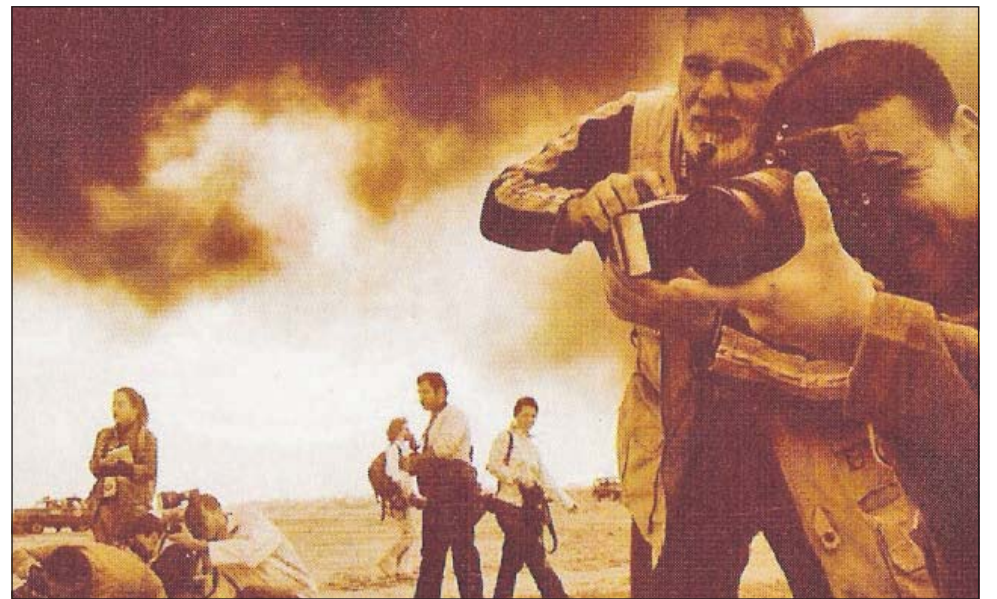
Camouflaging their violent core, RWE affiliates present themselves as rational and legitimate political players – that is, as the far right.

Far-right politics, therefore, represent the true power and danger of RWE.

Such power may be evident in the electoral popularity of US and European far-right politicians like Donald Trump, Marine Le Pen, Giorgia Meloni and Alice Weidel. Presenting itself as a slap and tickle celebrity like Trump or in the nurturing guise of womanhood, the far-right deftly obscures the insidious violence of its core.

This power is also evident in the assemblage of far-right policies, ideas and politics within Australia.

While many of the political parties who contested the 2022 federal election might reject the 'far-right'



Cover image from *Language Wars*, written by Dr Jeffrey Lewis.

label – their policies often parallel the aspirations of RWE.

These far-right ideas may have been camouflaged by the specific party's more conventional or centred policies.

Even so, we can see the tracts of far-right ideas in a range of electoral options. These include Pauline Hanson's One Nation (727,000 primary votes); United Australia Party (604,000); The Great Australia Party (30,000); The Informed Medical Opinions Party (20,000); Australian Christians (20,000); Katter's Australian Party (56,000); Shooters and Fishers (18,000).

Individual 'freedom' and 'liberty'

Like violent RWE, much of the far-right rhetoric is coded into a particular conception of 'freedom'.

RWE and far-right politics exalt the individual as a 'sovereign citizen' who should be permitted to determine his or her own life choices without interference by governments and their oppressive majorities.

This politics of individual freedom is conjured around a discourse of 'rights'. For example – the right to exclude Asian, African or Muslim migrants; the right to shoot ducks, exclude transgender children from your school, annul vaccination controls, or avoid paying tax.

Freedom is therefore conceived in terms of individual prosperity and power beyond any sense of social responsibility or justice.

The far right, that is, perverts the ideals of 19th century liberalism and the more restrained politics of the contemporary centre right.

Even in its democratic guise, far-right politics endorse the right of powerful individuals to dominate and deny the freedom of other humans and non-human life forms.

As Nazis and other military states demonstrate, this radical individualism is a deception. The seizure of power by RWE relies on alliances between violent individuals and groups. These alliances lead to the formation of violent elites and a complete corruption of the 'individual liberty' they claim to represent.

In this way, the 'freedom' that is espoused by Trump, Le Pen and others is simply an illusion. It's a way of promising something that can never be delivered because it can never exist.

Nevertheless, the far right has always evinced a genius for convincing vulnerable citizens that their grievances and suffering can be resolved by an affiliation with the power of an élite.

So how do these far-right politicians attract believers?

Reducing complexity

The French philosopher Jacques Derrida pointed out that western languages evolved through 'binary structures' e.g. good-evil; right-wrong; us-them; perpetrator-victim; success-failure; freedom-constraint.

As language functions in a complex world of action, the limitations of these structures become exposed as gaps in meaning. This is where ideology rushes in to fill the void with its force of conviction and simplified truths.

Far right ideology, specifically, creates a meaningful

truth narrative which is deftly welded onto real or imagined grievances and social anxieties.

Once these grievances are impounded by ideology, potent far-right leaders offer solutions which the vulnerable citizens can easily comprehend and embrace.

The far-right narrative, therefore, is able to blame government, the rule of law, outsiders, the state, and expert systems like medical science.

All of this takes place within a broader social context where hierarchy, deception, self-interest, exclusion and violence are actually normalised.

With high poverty rates (15-20 per cent) and a deep-rooted devotion to the ideals of freedom, the Northern Rivers might seem particularly susceptible to far-right conspiracy theories, ideas, and ideology.

The region has also experienced consistent assaults by state and federal governments which impose their development objectives over local interests and ecological priorities.

It's not surprising, therefore, that many residents in the region feel deeply cynical about democracy and state power.

The problem is: this cynicism can so easily turn on itself, leading to far-right solutions and the popularity of politicians like Donald Trump.

■ Dr Belinda Lewis is a health anthropologist from Monash University. Professor Jeffrey Lewis is an anthropology professor. He is a former Research Dean at RMIT and Professorial Fellow at the London School of Economics.

What glitters is a surf fest



As if echoing the catchcry of Greenough's classic surf film from 1970, *The Innermost Limits of Pure Fun*, last weekend's Byron Surf Fest took the competitive edge out in this party wave at Wategos last Sunday. The surfers showed how to have fun, even when the waves are knee-high to a grasshopper. Stylin' are Lauren Hill, Tom Carroll, Thomas Bexon, Pauline Menczer and Robbie Warden, two world champions on one wave, and another champion, Rusty Miller, dogging it on the wave in front. Photo Jeff 'Dropped In And Dropped Out' Dawson

Part of last weekend's Byron Bay Surf Festival (BBSF) was the Inaugural SurfAid Women's Cup, in which four teams competed in a surf tag format.

A number of events at the Beach Hotel and the BBSF Art Show followed afterwards.

Saturday's logging competition saw 32 blokes and 24 mermaids invited to show off

their skills. This was followed by The Old Mal comp, where surfers rode boards made pre-1968, along with the U/18 girls and boys events.

On Sunday, the McTavish Trim event returned, which showcased nine of the best men and nine of the best women longboard surfers in Australia – household names like Josie Prendergast, Elise Trigger, Jared

Mell, Josh Williams and Matt Chojnacki.

In addition to the McTavish Trim, legendary shaper Maurice Cole hosted an 'Icons of Surf' heat, featuring some legends of the sport, including local shredder Danny Wills, Neal Purchase Jnr, Brad Gerlach, Pauline Menczer, Rusty Miller, Bob McTavish and the big bear himself.

Red Devils travel to Ballina for rugby league semi-finals

Ross Kendall

Byron Bay Red Devils have two teams competing in this weekend's semi-finals of the NRRRL, being played at Ballina's Kingsford Smith Oval this Sunday August 25.

Byron Bay's U/18s get the day started when they take on the Tweed Coast Raiders from 11.30am.

Byron Bay were the minor premiers, and will be looking for the win to take them straight through to the grand final two weeks later.

If they lose, they will play the winner of the other semi-final being played between Tweed Heads and Bilambil.

Byron's reserve-grade side finished second in the regular competition, and will take on

minor premiers, the Tweed Heads Seagulls, from 1pm.

The winner will proceed straight to the grand final due to be played on September 8.

The losing side will play the winner of the other semi-final, between Murwillumbah and Bilambil, next week.

In A grade NRRRL, the Ballina Seagulls take on Cudgen.

Taylor retains his para-surfing title



Joel Taylor celebrates his latest win. Photo supplied

Lennox Head's Joel Taylor, 43, has successfully defended his Australian para-surfing title at the 2024 Australian Surfing Championships.

He told *The Echo* he won on August 8 in clean 2-to-3-foot waves at North Haven, just south of Port Macquarie on the Mid North Coast of NSW.

He says, 'By winning, I have qualified to represent Australia and the Irukandjis

again and can now defend my World Title at the ISA World Para Surfing Championships in Huntington Beach, California, this November'.

'Until then, my next stop is Oceanside, California, in early September, for the fourth and final event of the world adaptive surfing tour in which I am in the running to win the tour championship in my rookie year'.

Cross country runner to race Australia's best

Byron High School year-12 student Wyana de Pietramale-Sewell has had a stellar season and has qualified for Athletics Australia's National Cross Country Championships later this month in Tasmania.

In recent months, she has kicked into form with a bronze medal finish in the public school section of All Schools NSW Cross Country Championships, held in Sydney in late July.

The achievement was a 'real credit to her dedication to training and perseverance this year,' Byron High's sports coordinator, Kelley Coayonan told *The Echo*.

'Throughout her entire secondary school journey, Wyana has dedicated herself to competing, culminating in a remarkable achievement in her final year'.

Taking into account all schools, including independent and religious, Mayana

came ninth, and missed out on qualifying for the All Schools Nationals.

But she had a better performance in the Queensland state finals, which she qualified for as a member of an Athletics Queensland sanctioned club – the Queensland Victory. Myana finished fifth in this event and did earn a chance to take on Australia's best in Tasmania.

'I'm really happy, it's great,' she said of the result and qualification. 'I raced a few days before the Queensland event and was happy to finish the race feeling good'.

Wyana will compete against a national field in the 6km U/20 race in just a few weeks' time. This makes it a busy juggle for the student who is also grappling with HSC trials. 'I'm really busy but I just have to stick to my training schedule and try and stay consistent with it,' she said.



Byron High School year-12 student Wyana de Pietramale-Sewell.

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enquiries@threeblueducks.com
threeblueducks.com/byron
Open 7 days from 7am.
Mon-Thurs: breakfast & lunch
Fri-Sun: breakfast,
lunch & dinner

Delicious new winter dinner menu, live jazz every Sunday arvo, happy hour 3-5pm Friday to Sunday & our famous Sunday roast.
Enjoy a wander in the fields, meet the pigs, and picnic in the sun... there really is something for everyone.



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](https://www.instagram.com/mainstreet_burgerbar)
18 Jonson Street
6680 8832

Open for takeaway daily, 12 midday until dinner.
Menu and more details
[@mainstreet_burgerbar](https://www.instagram.com/mainstreet_burgerbar)
'Make a meal of it'
Add chips and a drink, just \$5.



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](https://www.instagram.com/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](https://www.instagram.com/horizonbyronbay)

**Welcome to Horizon,
Byron's newest rooftop bar.**
Enjoy hinterland views, stunning sunsets and signature cocktails showcasing local distilleries and breweries.

BANGALOW



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

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

LENNOX HEAD



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

Views, Brews, Cocktails, Beats, and Eats!
Live Music Friday, Saturday, Sunday.
Bookings essential.
Head to lennoxpizza.com
Follow on Insta: [@lennoxpizza](https://www.instagram.com/lennoxpizza)

MULLUMBIMBY



The Empire
20 Burringbar St, Mullum
6684 2306
Open for brunch and lunch,
Mon-Fri 8am-3.30pm
Sat & Sun 8am-2pm
FB/Insta: [EmpireMullum](https://www.instagram.com/empiremullum)
empiremullum.com.au

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

CATERING



**Celebrations
Cakes by
Liz Jackson**

lizzijackson@gmail.com
0414 895 441

GLUTEN FREE AND SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS CATERED FOR.



Raes on Wategos

Our booking was for 4:00pm on a Sunday, so I was surprised to see the restaurant almost full, particularly as it was pouring with rain.

2024 marks 30 years for Raes and the Argentinian-style beauty has received a number of facelifts since Vincent Rae sold to the Catalano family in 2014. Her energy is elegant and fresh, works from local artists like Todd Hunter and commissioned pieces from Dinosaur Designs (including huge blue sculptured door handles) complement original features like antique Italian and Spanish tiles. The killer north-facing ocean view overshadows all this.

Our lovely waiter Christine advised that the wine we ordered needed some extra chilling. So she brought us complimentary glasses of a stunning white from Santorini that had been grown in baskets on the vine. My husband ordered the dishes I had been raving about since my last visit, including the 'cornetto' snack (\$15) - miniature cornetto pastry filled with finger lime and caviar - and the market fish. This is a dish that delivers to all five senses and one I am not likely to forget. Brought to the table on burning coals by Executive Chef Jason Saxby, the fish lay above paperbark and lemon myrtle. You can imagine the aroma, it's like fine dining in the bush.

Every dish we ordered was delicate and exquisite, from the house-made bread with

caramelised wattleseed to the dry-aged and spiced honey-glazed duck 'a l'orange' with carrot, mandarin, persimmon, native ginger and cinnamon myrtle. Which I guess is what you would expect from a venue awarded Two Hats in the 2024 Sydney Morning Herald Good Food Guide. Food writer John Lethlean commented: 'NSW chef Jason Saxby's arrival in Byron Bay was bound to produce something special,' when, in 2019, Raes won Hottest Regional Restaurant in The Australian Hottest 50.

We left inspired and immensely satisfied. Our region is fortunate that Raes is cared for by a family who has what it takes to deliver best-in-class experiences.

Raes Cellar Bar, with a snack menu from \$5.50 to \$30, is open from midday until sunset daily on a walk-in basis. Raes Dining Room offers lunch from midday and dinner from 6:00pm Monday to Saturday. On Sundays a long lunch is offered with the final sitting at 4:00pm. \$95 two courses (\$85 vegan/vegetarian). Entrée or dessert can be added for \$30. Reservations are recommended.

Locals are invited to a special celebratory lunch on 28 August by Jacob Davey of LVN Adelaide Hills and Jason Saxby of Raes with wines from Bird in Hand. \$195 per person. Go to raes.com.au for more information.



Bringing A Little Peace (of Cake) to Byron



Louise Hackett's passion for baking is clearly evident in her perfectly petite and pretty-as-a-picture cakes on offer at her stall, A Little Peace of Cake, at Byron Farmers Market every Thursday morning. In fact, it seems calling them simply 'cakes' is a bit of a disservice as they are more like mini pieces of art!

But what really sets Louise's range of sweet treats apart is that they are a celebration of local seasonal produce and made with no artificial colours, flavours or preservatives.

'Most of my fresh ingredients come from directly from the farmers at Byron Farmers Market and if it is in season then I am usually showcasing that produce in a cake,' Louise says. 'I use local eggs, nuts, local dairy and honey from the market and I also only use Australian sugars and flours.'

Louise, who has studied at Le Cordon Bleu in London, says she draws inspiration from the local seasonal produce, so as the seasons change, so too does her offering.

'One of the main benefits of sourcing ingredients from the local farmers is that I am only using what is in season and when that season is over, it is time to move onto another ingredient,' she says.

'Berries are a good example of this and I tend to use a lot in my cakes - and only when they are in season. So when customers ask, for example, why I don't have raspberries or blueberries in any cakes, my response would be that they are not in season at the moment, even though you can get berries 24/7 at shops.'

'I feel it is great way to educate the general public about seasonality and to eat locally, and support local farmers rather than supporting large supermarkets. I feel



Some of the range of sweet treats on offer at A Little Peace of Cake.

very strongly about food mileage and that is why the farmers markets are integral for a local community.'

Louise's range of cakes include: strawberry; kefir & vanilla with passionfruit icing; beetroot, ginger & walnut; lemon poppy seed; apple, oat & sultana streusel; and lemon & blueberry drizzle.

You can find Louise and her range of homemade cakes at

the Little Peace of Cake stall at Byron Farmers Market every Thursday morning.

Byron Farmers Market is held Thursdays 7am to 11am at Butler St Reserve and Bangalow Farmers Market is held Saturdays 7am to 11am behind the Bangalow pub.

Why choose to reuse?

Paula Williams

You may have seen our recent article (*Echo* 14 August, page 17) on the problems associated with 'compostable' packaging. While many of us feel we're doing the right thing by getting takeaway coffees and food in 'compostable' containers, the truth is that without the facilities in Australia to process them, we're actually contributing to more greenhouse gas emissions produced at landfill and causing more harm to the environment.

The reality is that single-use cups and takeaway containers come at a much higher cost to our health and

our planet than many of us realise.

The only real and effective solution to this problem is by 'choosing to reuse' and to BYO a cup for your takeaway hot drink from home, or 'borrow' one for a refundable deposit from participating cafes.

At Santos Organics we are currently offering two options for borrowing keepcups so you can avoid single-use cups: Pottery For The Planet ceramic cups and The Good Cup. Both can be used for a small deposit that is fully refundable on return. Various other cafes have come on

board with The Good Cup including Three Blue Ducks, Never Never Café, Bay Grocer, Bangalow General Store, The Paddock Kiosk, and many more coming soon! The Good Cups can be returned to any of these participating cafes.

If you have any keepcups that you are not using at home, please bring them to our Santos Organics cafes and we'll give you a \$1 in exchange—we'd like to build a plentiful supply, making it super easy for customers to 'choose to reuse'!

■ Paula Williams works for Santos Organics.

Here are three very compelling reasons why we should always bring our own reusable cups and containers from home and NOT choose single-use takeaway cups:

■ YOUR HEALTH

Single-use takeaway cups are lined with a thin plastic or plant-based plastic lining to prevent leaks. This means that when hot liquids are poured into these cups, chemicals like BPA, phthalates, and potentially PFAS, leach into your drink.

■ OUR ENVIRONMENT

In Australia, 2.7 million single-use cups are thrown into landfill every day. This adds up to over 1 billion cups each year as they cannot be recycled or composted, despite false information on the cups saying that they are 'compostable' or 'degradable'. Improper disposal of these cups can also lead to microplastics contaminating our environment.

■ OUR PLANET

Every year, over 20 million trees are cut down globally to produce single-use cups. The process of harvesting trees, manufacturing paper, and adding the plastic lining all contribute to environmental degradation.



MULLUM



A WORD FROM THE MULLUMBIMBY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Mullumbimby Chamber of Commerce and Community does exactly what our name implies, we support everything Mullumbimby. We just helped to host a Brazilian BBQ at the Paddock where money was raised for the installation of a toilet.

Our next community event is the celebration of the centenary of Fire House Station 388, followed by the Chiny Charge in September.

We drive to support all things Mullumbimby, and share the love between the businesses and the community groups.

www.mullumbimby.org.au



UPCOMING EVENTS

Chiny Charge

Sat 21 September

Mullumbimby Show

8, 9, 10 November



1. STUDIO SUVIRA

Visit Studio Suvira's beautifully revamped gallery, with stacks of new ceramics for the table, walls and garden. The studio was recently featured in the annual North Coast Mud Trail.

0402 125 922
Suviramcdonald.com
 @studiosuvira



2. MULLUMBIMBY NEWSAGENCY

Father's Day is just around the corner! Looking for that special something? Pop in and see Mullum Newsagency's great range of gifts – their friendly staff are always happy to help!

02 6684 2127



3. LINEN HOUSE

Create your dream space for less at Linen House Mullumbimby. At this outlet, you can enjoy 30-70% off RRP on beautiful loungewear, quilt covers, kids' bedding, luxe towels and alfresco dining essentials.

02 6684 645233



4. STEWART'S MENSWEAR

Father's Day is 1st September. Stewart's Menswear is your destination for Father's Day gifts, offering a range of unique presents with prices starting from just \$9.99.

02 6684 2148
www.stewartsmenswear.com.au



5. BIMBI COFFEE SHOP

A hidden gem, Bimbi serves Allpress Espresso, sandwiches, pastries and tasty treats. Open Mon to Sat, 6am to 12 midday. Grab a takeaway or sit in the sunny courtyard.

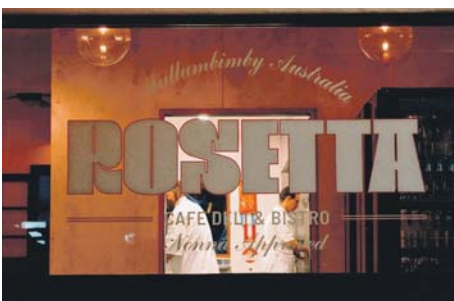
@bimbi_coffee_shop



6. THE PADDOCK PROJECT

Nestled in stunning gardens, the new Paddock Kiosk invites you to stop by for hot coffee, chai, freshly-made snacks, meals, and daily harvested salads. A true paddock-to-plate experience!

www.paddockproject.com
 0400 348 20964



7. ROSETTA DELI & BISTRO

Rosetta Deli & Bistro invites guests to experience nostalgic Italian charm with Gabriel coffee, classic focaccia deli sandwiches and rich natural gelato. Visit Tuesday to Saturday for a taste of tradition.

0461 435 150
www.rosettadeliandbistro.com.au



8. TRANSFORM ACTIVE GYM

Transform Active offers 20 group classes, state-of-the-art Technogym equipment and expert trainers to reconnect body and mind. With a recovery sauna and diverse memberships, they foster a supportive, local fitness community.

0432 583 716
www.transformactive.com.au



9. LULU'S CAFE

Nestled in Mullumbimby's heart, Lulu's organic vegetarian cafe offers fresh, vibrant dishes and quality food. Locally-sourced ingredients, no preservatives, and no seed oil define their pride in serving the community. Newly licensed.

02 6684 2415
lulus-cafe.com.au
@lulus.cafe.mullum



10. BABA EMMA'S

Traditional Russian recipes passed down from the family in Russia, all made fresh daily and served with love. GF, vegan options. Licensed. Indoor or outdoor dining and takeaway. Open Mon-Friday, 4-7pm.

0432 195 545
@babaemmas



11. HEMP CULTURE

Discover Hemp Culture, your destination for eco-conscious living. Our sustainable hemp products span nutrition, cosmetics, clothing, self-care, and more, ensuring your daily routine is natural and green.

hempculture.com.au
@hempculture_au



12. ARTISTS & MAKERS COLLECTIVE

Made in Mullum is an amazing collective of 64 local artists and makers sharing one shop. Open seven days a week, they have everything from handmade clothes, toys, ceramics and jewellery to original art, tie-dye kits and perfume.

Instagram/Facebook: Made in Mullum



13. OPEN SKY WELLBEING

Connect to your body, move with awareness. Anchor yourself in the practices of yoga, qigong, pilates, strength, meditation, tea ceremony, breathwork and sound. Embrace the wisdom of timeless teachings with modern modalities.

openskywellbeing.com.au



14. MAVEN DENTAL

From routine checkups to Invisalign and everything in between, Maven Dental Mullumbimby provide comprehensive dental services tailored to your unique needs.

We can't wait to see you smile!
02 6684 2644
mavendental.com.au/Mullumbimby



15. BYRON BAY PORK

A local, family-owned business that sources premium quality pork, beef, lamb, and goat from their family farms. Call in and see their friendly team. Open Monday to Saturday.

02 6684 2137



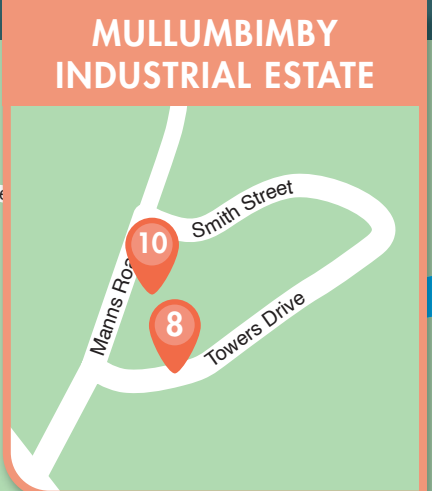
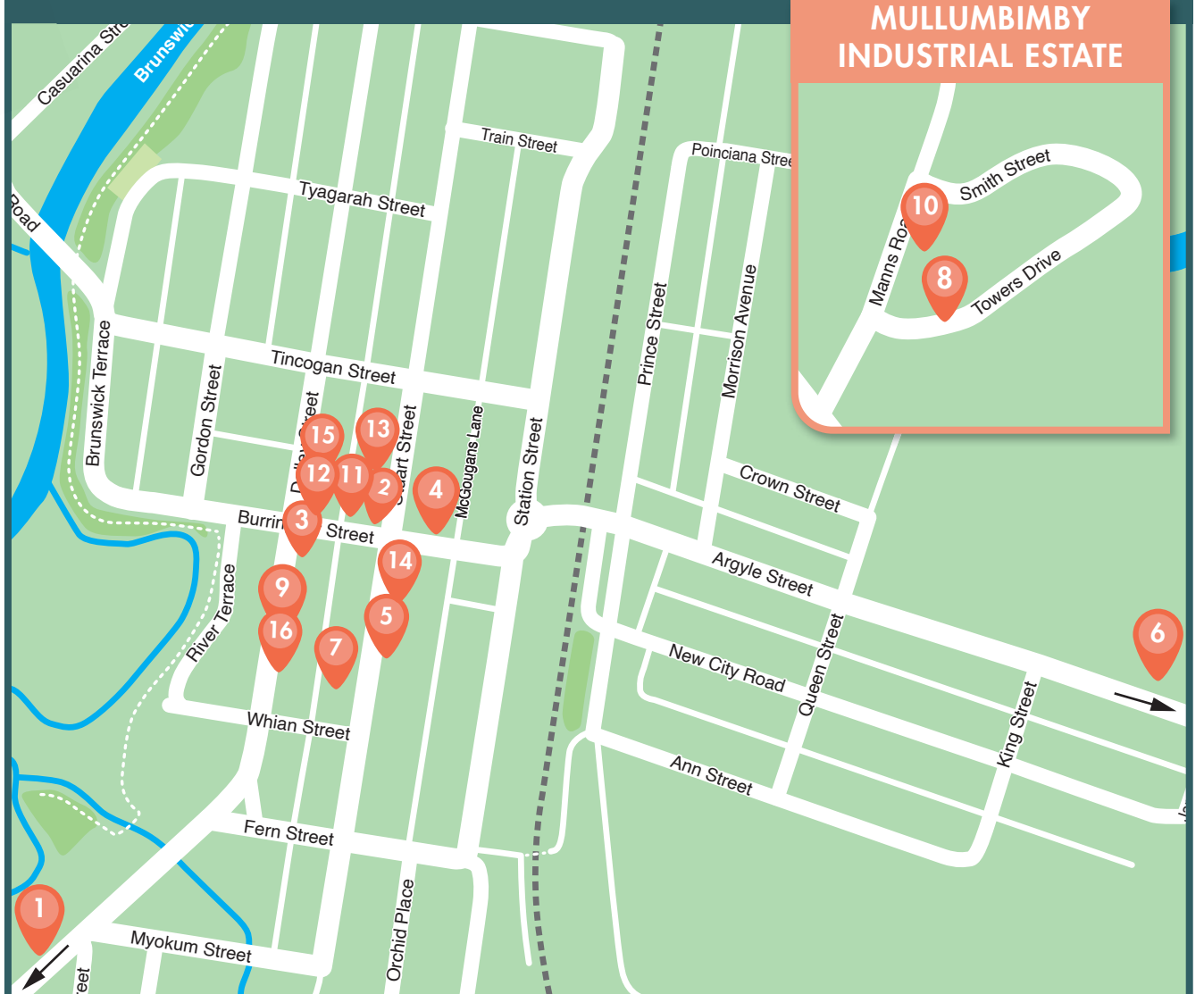
16. THE MULLUMBIMBY CHOCOLATE SHOP

Old-fashioned fun, where you'll be dazed and amazed at the selection of mouth-watering treats! Offering artisan chocolate, gelato and a lolly bar where you can choose from over 100 lollies. Open seven days.

02 6684 4825
@themullumbimbychocolateshop



MULLUMBIMBY CBD



- 1. Studio Suvara • 28 Left Bank Rd
- 2. Mullumbimby Newsagency 44 Burringbar St
- 3. Linen House • 33 Burringbar St
- 4. Stewart's Menswear • 52-54 Burringbar St
- 5. Bimbi Coffee Shop • 6/108 Stuart St Arcade
- 6. The Paddock Project • 64 Argyle St
- 7. Rosettas Deli & Bistro • 105 Stuart St
- 8. Transform Active Gym • 4/4 Towers Dr
- 9. Lulu's cafe Shop • 8/104 Dalley St
- 10. Baba Emma's • 25 Manns Rd
- 11. Hemp Culture • 40 Burringbar St
- 12. Made in Mullum • 22 Burringbar St
- 13. Open Sky Wellbeing • 1/63 Stuart St
- 14. Maven Dental • 100 Stuart St
- 15. Byron Bay Pork • 70 Dalley St
- 16. The Mullumbimby Chocolate Shop • 1/104 Dalley St

health & healing

O'MEARA DENTAL

'A healthy mouth is vital to a healthy body, and a happy life!'

As the gateway to the rest of your body, issues in your mouth can affect your overall systemic health.

Protecting and rejuvenating your mouth can promote overall health and prevent disease.

At O'Meara Dental they use technology to improve treatment and patient outcomes, making the process more comfortable while lessening the impact on the environment. They use the best and most bio-compatible material appropriate for your teeth and gums.

An air filtration unit filters the air in the surgery 12 times an hour, ensuring the air you breath is clean and pure.



With a balanced, practical and holistic approach, O'Meara Dental's caring, compassionate team provides personalised, individual and scientifically-proven treatment.

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

THE BYRON BATHHOUSE

Opening this October, The Byron Bathhouse redefines the bathhouse experience with a new standard of care and purity. They've eliminated chemical hazards and enhanced their water therapy to provide 'medical grade' water suitable for medicinal use. Their approach amplifies your contrast bathing experience by integrating true wellness principles into the design and complimentary extras—those thoughtful before and after steps that ensure you get the most out of each session. Don't miss The Byron Bathhouse October promotions!

[@thebyronbathhouse](https://www.thebyronbathhouse.com.au)



REBALANCING HEALTH

Where holistic health meets personalised care

Guided by Giovanni Ginocchio, a C.H.E.K Level 3 certified practitioner, Rebalancing Health offers a holistic approach to personal training, exercise rehabilitation, bodywork and fitness for health and longevity.

Whether you choose personal training or holistic rehabilitation, every program begins with a comprehensive assessment to address your unique needs. Giovanni provides customised strength and conditioning, massage therapy and corrective exercise rehabilitation to enhance your well-being and performance. Whether you seek in-person guidance or the convenience of virtual sessions, Rebalancing Health offers the expertise to help you achieve your wellness goals and improve your quality of life.

Call 0414 921 982 now to book your free 45-minute consultation. www.rebalancinghealthfirst.com



SEPTEMBER AT OSPREY SPA

This September, Osprey Spa at Elements of Byron welcomes spring with a nature-inspired sensory adventure. Their Forest Immersion Body Ritual features a neuro-adaptogen foot soak, full body exfoliation and soothing massage with a botanical balm. Each session is complemented by a revitalising adaptogen elixir. The Forest Immersion Couples Ritual offers a shared journey into nature's embrace.

The Forest Immersion Face and Body Treatment includes a foot soak, full body brush and rejuvenating body wrap, all grounded in mineral clays and infused with the calming aromas of sandalwood and frankincense.

This Father's Day treat Dad to the Mankind Ritual - a luxurious full body exfoliation and cleanse for ultimate relaxation. Osprey Spa is a tranquil retreat with expert therapists and a bespoke menu of indulgent treatments. Gift vouchers available.

elementsofbyron.com.au • 02 6639 1500
Elements of Byron, 144 Bayshore Drive, Byron Bay



SANTOS ORGANICS

For over 40 years, Santos Organics has provided a trusted source of health advice and an optimum selection of natural health products for our community. Their friendly, experienced naturopaths offer free 15-minute consultations to guide you towards the most effective and affordable options to improve your health, including: lifestyle and dietary advice; herbal medicines; dietary supplements; superfoods; homoeopathic and bush flower remedies; essential oils; and natural skin care advice.

Visit them for quality ongoing support for your health journey with people and products you can trust.

105 Jonson St, Byron Bay • 02 6685 7071
51-53 Burringbar St, Mullumbimby • 02 6684 3773
3/7 Brigantine St, Byron A&I Estate • 02 6685 5685
www.santosorganics.com.au/pages/health-wellness

BLACK SHEEP FARM OILS

At Black Sheep Farm they believe in the healing power of nature, and their best-selling Hemp, Comfrey & Arnica Balm is a testament to this belief with over 15,000 jars sold. Expertly crafted, this balm provides effective relief for arthritis, bursitis, bone damage, bruises, sprains, nerve pain and post-surgery recovery.

Founded by Mac McGauley, a Nimbin local and aromatherapist for 35+ years, their products are rooted in real-life experiences and genuine care. This potent balm is perfect for athletes, seasoned citizens and those seeking natural pain relief. Customers have reported significant improvements in pain management and overall comfort.

They love hearing from their customers so call them, drop in to their factory, or visit the website.

'To good health.' - Mac McGauley



02 6689 1095
Unit 10 / 195 Lundberg Drive,
Murwillumbah NSW 2484
www.blacksheepfarmoils.com.au/hca

BYRON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Byron College, courses and workshops to support your wellbeing.

Provide First Aid: nationally accredited 1-day training.

Crystal Awakening Level 1: awaken and develop your own individual healing powers working with the potent energy of crystals.

Reading Psychic Energy: explore the realm of psychic energy, how to open up and connect, and also how to ground and anchor your energy

Mental Health First Aid: 2-day internationally recognised training, assist an adult who may be experiencing a mental health problem or crisis.



Myofascial Release Part 1: learn to identify, manipulate and release myofascial tissue that holds chronic, painful, and exhausting stress and tension.

Reiki Level 2: explore the ancient gentle Japanese method of hands-on energy healing.

Don't miss out! Learn more at www.byroncollege.org.au or call 02 6684 337

health & healing

LOCAL PSYCHOLOGIST GEMMA MCKENZIE

No Waiting List

Gemma is a dedicated psychologist bringing a local perspective to those seeking guidance and support.

Whether you're looking to develop coping mechanisms for recent stressors or address long-standing life patterns, Gemma can assist. Her approach centres on understanding what brings you contentment and meaning, using the therapeutic relationship to explore deeper questions and promote self-awareness. This is the key to long-lasting, enriching, and meaningful transformation.

Gemma's areas of expertise include anxiety; depression; trauma; PTSD; assault; transition and adjustment difficulties; self-esteem and self-development; stress management and relaxation; relationship challenges; the perinatal period; grief and bereavement; gender and sexual identity.

Medicare rebates available. Other practitioners are also available via video conference.



1300 244 692
44 Granuaille Road, Bangalow
reception@vcps.com.au
www.vcps.com.au

MERCATO MEDICAL RETURNS WITH A FRESH APPROACH

If you've tried to visit a doctor in Byron Bay recently, you know the struggle—skyrocketing numbers of tourists and residents have left the clinics overcrowded and wait times unbearable. But amidst this healthcare crisis, there's a turnaround in sight.

After a two-year hiatus, Mercato Medical has reopened its doors right in the heart of Byron Bay, bringing a much-needed breath of fresh air under the new management of GP Collective, a family-based clinic from Hobart.

Currently, Mercato Medical is offering bulk billing services for everyone with three dedicated general practitioners



taking on new patients. For the first time in a long while, everyone can receive care without worrying about out-of-pocket expenses. Reliable and accessible healthcare is finally here, and it's about time.

Level 1 Mercato, 108-114 Jonson Street,
Byron Bay. 02 5632 1260
www.mercatomedicalbyronbay.com.au



byron healing

www.byronhealing.com.au

Byron Healing is a go-to website featuring informative and entertaining articles on health and wellbeing. It features a host of practitioners and businesses in the industry, offering a range of modalities and services across the Northern Rivers.

Free guide
out now.
See website
for details.

Provide First Aid

Date: Monday 26 August

Time: 9.30am – 3.30pm

Address: Byron College (Byron campus)

Contact: www.byroncollege.org.au/ or 6684 3374

Crystal Awakening Level 1

Date: Saturday 31 August

Time: 9am – 4pm

Address: Byron College (Byron Campus)

Contact: www.byroncollege.org.au/ or 6684 3374

Reading Psychic Energy

Date: Saturday 31 August

Time: 10am – 5pm

Address: Byron College (Mullum campus)

Contact: www.byroncollege.org.au/ or 6684 3374

Mental Health First Aid

Date: Saturday 7 and Sunday 8 August

Time: 9am – 5pm

Address: Byron College

Contact: www.byroncollege.org.au/ or 02 6684 3374

UPCOMING BYRON HEALING CLIENT EVENTS

Embody Radiate

Held by: Vicki Veranese, The Oracle

Date: Saturday 21 September

Time: 10.30am

Address: CasaVeras Myocum

Booking contact: Vicki 0412 400 085

www.i-of-ra.com/claim-embody-radiate

connecting@i-of-ra.com

Angelic Sound Bath

Held by: White Feathers Holistic Therapies

Date: Thursday 22 August

Time: 6 – 7pm

Address: Cawongla Community Centre

5325 Kyogle Road, Cawongla, NSW, 2474

Contact: To confirm you spot text 0438 408 183

Kinesiology Taster Sessions

\$30 for 30 mins

Held by: Kate Messenger Kinesiology

Date: Thursday 29 August, 8 sessions only

Time: 9am - 3pm

Address: Mullumbimby

Booking contact: 0413 003 301

www.crystalsanddreaming.com.au

kate@crystalsanddreaming.com.au

Three Day Hypnosis Training

Held by: Judith Asal, Intensive seminar

Date: 13 – 15 September

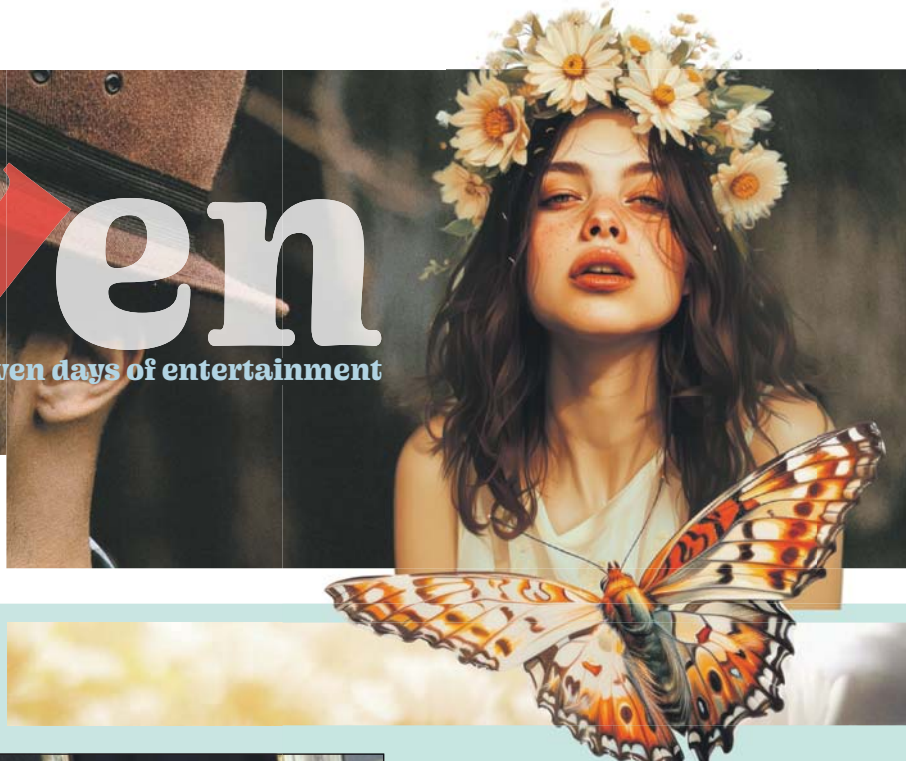
Address: online

Contact: www.judith-asal.de/en/hypnosis-training

Volume 39 #11
 21 July–28 August, 2024
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 Gig Guide deadline: 5pm each Friday
 Advertising: adcopy@echo.net.au
 P: 02 6684 1777
 W: echo.net.au/entertainment

seven

seven days of entertainment



Eclectic Selection

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK



ADAM HARPAZ

✿ **Adam Harpaz** is a Byron Bay-based musician who paints pictures of hope for his listeners through heartfelt performances and lyrical integrity. Harpaz has been featured on Triple J, performed at major festivals and has sold out intimate shows across the country. After the recent successes of a second European tour and reaching over a million streams on Spotify, Adam is busy, busy, busy as he continues to record, co-write, produce and tour.

Thursday 5pm at The Levee, Lismore. Free show

✿ **Marshall Okell** has emerged with a new level of addictive, heart and mind-altering musical energy. This guy doesn't just make music – he's a roaring powerhouse of a man, whose music will get under your skin, into your blood and course through you like a visceral super-high of the likes you won't come down from easily.

Tuesday from 7pm at The Northern. Free show

Listening to **Jimmy Dowling** is like stumbling across a lovingly built artefact in some out-of-the-way store – something you can cherish but which others might never have the joy of witnessing – and, if you were wavering, he can make you believe in the power of music again.

Friday from 7.30pm at the Tintenbar Hall. Tickets \$20 from tintenbarupfront.com

✿ **Francis 'Frank' Roberts** spent his entire life fighting. A boxing champion, he was the first Aboriginal Olympian, and respected for his contribution to the 'sweet science' in Australia. Outside the ring, the man they called 'Honest Frank' fought tirelessly for his family and culture.

Join **Rhoda Roberts AO** for an evening of personal storytelling as she shares tales of her first cousin Frank, a Widjabul Wia-bal and Githabul man from Cubawee.

My Cousin Frank – Saturday 2pm and 7.30pm at the Star Court Theatre, Lismore. Tickets \$30-\$59 at norpa.sales.ticketsearch.com



✿ **Leigh James** sings and plays guitar effortlessly, as if music was as natural to him as breathing.

James just loves to make beautiful music, whether writing or interpreting other musos and styles.

Be entertained by one of the finest singer/songwriter/guitarists on the North/Gold Coasts – if there's a great lyric and melody and a great groove to a tune you're thinking of, try him – he may just know it.

Sunday from 3pm at Salt Bar, Kingscliff. Free show



✿ **The Sunshine Club** tells the story of Frank Doyle, an Aboriginal serviceman who has come home from World War II to find that although the wider world may have changed, attitudes back home in Brisbane are just the same.

This energetic and engaging musical play has a variety of music styles and is written and directed by proud Noonuccal Nuugi man **Wesley Enoch AM**, an acclaimed creative force in Australian Theatre.

Live theatre on Friday at the Byron Theatre at 6.30pm. Tickets from byroncentre.com.au



✿ **The Big Bike Film Night** is on a mission – bringing the best cycling short films from around the world together for you!

Their 2024 collection (would you believe their tenth collection!) has a breathtaking range of short movies that are original, informative, entertaining and most importantly of all – inspirational; all celebrating the fun, adventure, and joy that cycling enables, with human-powered stories.

Thursday from 7pm at the Brunswick Picture House. Tickets \$21 to \$30 from eventfinda.com.au

WE DANCE FESTIVAL

6 - 8 September 2024
 Byron Community Centre & Other World

Multi-Genre Dance Festival featuring Swing, HipHop, Latin, Afro, Belly Dance, Contemporary, Ecstatic, Jazz & more ... !

all-level workshops - immersive performances - learn to dance hubs
 activated dance floor - roving dancer
 interactive dance carnival

Movement, Connection, Community

www.wedancefestival.com.au

Nexas Quartet

MICHAEL DUKE, ANDREW SMITH, NATHAN HENSHAW, JAY BYRNES

SOME OF THE CLASSICS LIKE YOU'VE NEVER HEARD THEM!

SUNDAY 8 SEPTEMBER | 3PM
 A&I HALL BANGALOW

INCLUDING WORKS BY FRANCK, RAVEL, GERSHWIN AND MORE

PRESENTED BY BYRON MUSIC SOCIETY

10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY TOUR

DELINQUENTE WINE Co

FEATURING

HIDDEN SPHERES (UK)

SUPPORTED BY LOSTBOY LUDO | BOO MOJO

BANGALOW A&I HALL
 FRI 6 SEP 5PM — 11PM

seven days of entertainment



It's new and it's earth

New Earth is a one-day multicultural event dedicated to connection, sharing, healing, growth, transformation and celebration.

This event brings together a diverse community of healers, leaders, wisdom keepers, practitioners, musicians, artists, and visionaries to harmoniously co-create a new Earth.

Experience a day filled with intercultural connection, wisdom sharing, ceremony, music, movement, inspiration and healing.

What can you expect at New Earth? Intercultural connection: engage in meaningful dialogues, panels and ceremonies that celebrate our shared humanity and multicultural diversity; wisdom sharing: learn from transformative speakers who will share insights on the old ways, holistic living, sustainable practices, community

engagement and spiritual growth; music and movement: enjoy live music and participate in dance and movement workshops; healing and workshops: explore various healing modalities including meditation, yoga, breathwork, shaking, sound healing, bodywork and more; and sustainable practices: discover regenerative approaches to land care and holistic living, fostering a deep connection with the Earth's rhythms and cycles.

Featured activities include experiences with healers, psychics, and mediums, holistic birth and death-care practitioners, meditation and yoga, breathwork and sound healing, bodywork and sustainable practices, as well as panels and Q+As with community leaders.

Highlights will be local and ethical vendors, holistic living, community building and live music.



New Earth festival is more than just an event; it's a movement towards a more conscious and interconnected world. By participating, you are contributing to the co-creation of a harmonious and sustainable future for all.

Don't miss this opportunity to be part of a transformative experience. Join in at the New Earth festival for a day of healing, learning, and celebration. Together, we can restore balance and harmony to our lives, our communities, and our planet.

Saturday, September 14 from 9am to 9pm at Murwillumbah Showground. This is a drug- and alcohol-free event. Tickets \$30 and First Nations People are free. Tickets: facebook.com/share/rTfQu6NPVz3Q7ZmG/



THE FAMOUS SPIEGELTENT. PHOTO BY HAMISH MCCORMICK, CARNIVAL CINEMA.

Spectacular line-up at Circus Festival

The National Circus Festival (October 4 to 6) is set to turn Mullumbimby Showground into a spectacular circus wonderland with the country's best circus artists delivering a world-class program of unforgettable experiences for audiences of all ages.

From awe-inspiring acrobatics, to international circus, and sensational cabaret, the festival offers something for everyone, celebrating the diversity and magic of the world of circus.

Among the many standout acts is **YUCK Circus**, making waves with their show *Naughties*, a hilarious tribute to the 1990s. Fresh from their Edinburgh Fringe success, YUCK Circus promises a vibrant blend of throwback energy featuring influences from Backstreet Boys and Britney Spears.

Also featured is **Casus Circus**, returning with their critically-acclaimed production *You & I*. This international company is celebrated for their breathtaking acrobatics and poignant storytelling, exploring themes of love and identity with profound artistry.

Melbourne's *Escalate* by **Throw Catch Collective** offers a thrilling fusion of rhythm, movement and juggling, and the Belfast-based **Snatch Circus** delivers *Snatch and Grab*, a chaotic yet captivating show filled with dangerous juggling and absurd acrobatics.

There's also plenty of family fun with a wonderful line-up of kid-friendly acts including *Fritz* featuring an eccentric magician's rabbit; *Ding Dilemmas*, a comedy set in the whimsical Ding Hotel; an interactive circus dance party for kids *Disco Fiasco*; **The Pitts Family Circus**; **Corie Hurry** with his fun-filled *Planet Lava*; and **Scott Hone** entertains with his *BMX Trick Bike Show*.

Taking place across four venues in the Mullumbimby Showground, a highlight is the return of **The Famous Spiegelent**, a 1920s Art Nouveau marvel renowned for hosting the world's greatest cabaret, circus, and burlesque artists. The Spiegelent will host a range of sensational performers, including **Jake Silvestro** (CIRCA, Circus Oz), **Anna Fisher**, **Mario Queen of the Circus**, and **Clare Bartholomew** (Die Roten Punkte).

The **Brunswick Picture House** will also present their popular *Cheeky Cabaret* and *Lil' Cheeky*, offering a blend of sophisticated cabaret and thrilling circus acts.

Jazz Family, a roving jazz club of some of the Northern Rivers' most exciting musicians are on hand to put the dance in the party with a swampy, riverside juke joint energy led by trumpeter **Harry James Angus** (The Cat Empire) and featuring many special guests. You can also sing your heart out with **Shire Choir's** unique collective singing experience led by **Melia Naughton**.

National Circus Festival tickets are affordably priced, with one-day passes for children at \$25 and adults at \$70. For more details and tickets visit www.nationalcircusfestival.com. The festival sold out in 2022, so don't hesitate!

www.echo.net.au

BROUGHT TO YOU BY



NATIONAL CIRCUS FESTIVAL

MULLUMBIMBY SHOWGROUND



2024 PROGRAM OUT NOW



YUCK CIRCUS
NAUGHTIES



SNATCH CIRCUS
SNATCH AND GRAB



EMILIE BLOOM
FRITZ



CASUS CIRCUS
YOU & I

A GOOD CATCH CIRCUS
FOR THE LOVE OF
THE WORLD



THROW CATCH COLLECTIVE
ESCALATE
IN THE STUDIO



NATIONALCIRCUSFESTIVAL.COM



Art on the walls

The Coorabell Hall Art on the Walls program launches its 2024-25 program with Coorabell-based artist **Charly Wrencher** featuring his series of works titled 'The Hills Are Alive', an exhibition of small paintings inspired by Coorabell and its surrounds.

Charly Wrencher says it's exciting, but also meaningful, to be exhibiting at Coorabell Hall this month. 'It will give me a happy and welcome opportunity to connect to the community that my wife Jane and I have been a part of for 22 years. Our four kids went to Coorabell School and grew up here.'

Charly will be exhibiting two large feature artworks alongside a series of smaller works at grabbable prices for art lovers who have lusted for a Wrencher and can now get an affordable Charly.

Charly says he hasn't painted this many small works before. 'I am stoked with the outcome – they are around 30cm x 45cm, oil on canvas /linen and all inspired by the theme of Coorabell and the land I love.'

Charly will be in conversation with Dee Tipping on Saturday at 2.30 pm. Hear about Charly's art practice, life in the Byron hinterland, his passion for surfing, his family and of course his passion for the brush and canvas. There will be onscreen images and footage.

This is a wonderful all-round art experience.

Art on the Walls **opening night** at Coorabell Hall with special guest on stage, **Dane Tucquet** at **5.30pm** on **Friday**. In Conversation with Charly at 2.30pm on Saturday.

The exhibition is open on weekends from 10am to 4pm, August 24 and 25, and August 31 and September 1. A percentage of all sales goes to the Coorabell Hall Fund.



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INTERVIEW

seven days of entertainment

Read more entertainment articles online www.echo.net.au/entertainment



ZOUK WITH JOE-Y AND JENNA

WE DANCE FESTIVAL

The brainchild of two dance enthusiasts, **Christina Covington** and **Michelle Williams** have collaborated to bring you **We Dance Festival**. Together, alongside a dedicated team of dance lovers, **Christina and Michelle** are committed to creating a space where people can connect through movement, discover the joy of dance, and unleash their inner rhythm.

Seven spoke to **Christina Covington** who has explored a multitude of dance styles – from free-flowing movements to Latin rhythms. Her infectious passion for dance is the driving force behind the festival.

Tell me what you love most about the festival?

We're bringing people together in dance for the celebration of moving the body, for the healthy body, mind and spirit.

Everyone's body speaks a different dance language and different languages of dance fit into different people's bodies.

The festival offers many different genres of dance and gives a person an opportunity to feel what language, what form of dance, fits into their body to help them move, and it's also good for our spirit. When we learn new pathways, like learning new languages, we are helping our whole system, not only just for the movement of the body, but it's also for mental health.

I'm bringing all the forms together to see what expression comes from that.

What was the seed that made you think of creating this festival?

My love for dance and bringing all the different forms of dance together – I have seen so many

amazing different forms and no forms, as in free dance, which also has a form, from around the community, but we're not really doing it together. Byron used to be a hub for dance, like we used to dance in the streets. The big music festivals were made by people dancing. I want to honour the dancing that's there, because that's what created joy in people's hearts. And you know when you don't have a dance – whether it's dancing in the rain or dancing on the streets or just dancing along the beach, your heart feels good when you dance. It brings joy to your heart.

Do you think dancing is something people are more willing to do in a group?

Yes, definitely, definitely! And a whole lot of the festival is about you feeling like you want to go to a dance class or learn a different dance, or really want to learn partner dancing. 'Which partner dance will I learn?' or 'I really want to learn a style of dance, I don't know whether it's street dance, but I don't know the difference between cranking and twerking', and then you end up not doing it at all.

The festival is giving us a smorgasbord of all these different styles. A friend said she was confused and wouldn't know which partner dance to do. I say come and

see which one fits in your body.

The first partner dance class we've got is all about just the connection and just learning to actually partner dance, not about steps, not about anything like that, just actually learning what it is to meet in partner dance. And then you can go and try tango and swing and salsa and bachata and zouk, or try them all and see which one you really like. It's like having a tasting plate.

What are going to be the highlights of performance?

Well, one of the highlights is our Friday night showcase where we're installing the dancers in Otherworld as art installations. I think it will be quite a unique experience for people. And then on Saturday night, it's about interacting with them, and everybody coming together. I really, really am looking forward to seeing it come alive.

It's a vision of all the different forms interacting together in one place of joy – of dance.

We Dance Festival will be held at the Byron Community Centre and Otherworld from Friday, September 6 to Sunday, September 7. For more information and to purchase tickets visit wedancefestival.com.au.

seven days of entertainment

CINEMA



Alien: Romulus

In 2142, a Weyland-Yutani space probe investigates the wreckage of the USCSS Nostromo, collecting an organic object containing a Xenomorph – yes. It's back.

In true one-terrifying-mouth-inside-another-terrifying-mouth-*Alien*-style, the sci-fi/horror thriller returns to the iconic and sometimes (mostly) horrible franchise with *Alien: Romulus* – its terrifying 'origins'. While scavenging the deep ends of a derelict space station, a group of young space colonisers come face-to-face with the most horrifying and dangerous life form in the universe.

At the creative helm are horror experts, director **Fede Alvarez** (*Evil Dead*, *Don't Breathe*) and screenwriter **Rodo Sayagues** (*Don't Breathe 2*). Rising star **Cailee Spaeny** (*Priscilla*, *Civil War*) leads a dynamic cast, promising to reinvigorate the phenomenal *Alien* franchise by returning to its anxiety-inducing claustrophobic roots.

Rain Carradine, an orphan, works with her adoptive brother Andy, a reprogrammed synthetic human, at the colony Jackson's Star. After her contract is forcibly extended by Weyland-Yutani, she agrees to join her ex-boyfriend Tyler in travelling to a derelict spacecraft to retrieve cryostasis chambers. These chambers will allow Rain and her friends – Tyler, his pregnant sister Kay, cousin Bjorn, and Bjorn's girlfriend Navarro – to escape to the planet Yvaga ('sisters' and 'cousins' – you just know people are going to die).

Things you can be sure of – creatures will sneak into people's mouths and jut out of people's chests.

The tagline says 'In space... no one can hear you scream – but in the audience, everyone will'.

Alien: Romulus will screen at Ballina Fair and Byron Palace Cinemas this week – find out more at palacecinemas.com.au.

GIG GUIDE

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



WEDNESDAY 21

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **MATTHEW ARMITAGE**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **INO PIO**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6PM **ALEX BOWEN**

THURSDAY 22

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **SARAH GRANT DUO**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **LOS ANTONIOS + DJ MECHE ROMEO**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6PM **INO PIO**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 6PM **JOCK BARNES**
- THE LEEVEE, LISMORE, 5PM **ADAM HARPAZ**
- THE SUPPER CLUB AT THE BOWLO, LISMORE, 7PM **THE SUPPER CLUB SOUL BAND**

FRIDAY 23

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **THE WHISKEYS**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **HONEY & STONE + JEROME WILLIAMS BAND**
- BYRON THEATRE 6.30PM **THE SUNSHINE CLUB**
- GITANA SPANISH BAR, BYRON BAY, 5.30PM **SALTY SWING**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6.30PM **DAN HANNAFORD + DJ OREN SELECTA**, 7PM **TELENOVA**
- HOWL & MOAN, BYRON BAY, 7PM **MC'S SAX, TELKA, JACK RAM1REZ, MARXUSS, HUIE MARLEY & KING XRARE**
- COORABELL HALL 5.30PM **ART ON THE WALLS OPENING NIGHT W/ SPECIAL GUEST DANE TUCQUET**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 6PM **BOO SEEKA + FREINDS OF FRIENDS + DÉVU**
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM **DJ XUJA**
- ST JOHN'S SCHOOL HALL, MULLUMBIMBY, 7.30PM **ECSTATIC DANCE MULLUMBIMBY WITH DJ ISHWARA**

- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY, 8PM **KRAPPYOKEE WITH JESS**
- TINTENBAR HALL 7.30PM **JIMMY DOWLING & MATT GREEN**
- CLUB LENNOX 7PM **GUY KACHEL**
- LENNOX HOTEL 9PM **DONNY SHADES**
- THE LEEVEE, LISMORE, 7.30PM **DJ NAT WHITE**
- THE CHANNON TAVERN 7PM **PISTOL WHIP**
- MURWILLUMBAH SERVICES CLUB 6.30PM **STEPHEN LOVELIGHT**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 5PM **RICK BARRON**
- SALTBAR, KINGSCLIFF, 6PM **OLE FALCOR**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE SHOWROOM 8PM **DISCO REVOLUTION**

SATURDAY 24

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **PASSPORT TO AIRLIE**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 3PM **TIAGO DE LUCCA + KANE MUIR & THE HOWLERS**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6.30PM **ISAAC FRANKHAM TRIO + DJ OREN SELECTA**
- COORABELL HALL 2.30PM **ART ON THE WALLS IN CONVERSATION WITH DEE TIPPING AND CHARLY WRENCHER**
- BANGALOW HOTEL 2PM **ANIMAL VENTURA**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 4.30PM **THE DETECTIVES + DJ LORDY WARDY**
- CLUB LENNOX 8PM **HARRY NICHOLS BAND**
- LENNOX HOTEL 9PM **DJ SLIM RUSTY**
- BALLINA RSL BOARDWALK 6PM **TIM STOKES**
- STAR COURT THEATRE, LISMORE, 2PM & 7.30PM **MY COUSIN FRANK**
- MURWILLUMBAH SERVICES CLUB 6PM **STOCKADE**

- CHILLINGHAM STORE 3PM **BASSIX**
- CABARITA SURF CLUB 4PM **ROD MURRAY**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 5PM **ROO MACKERRAS**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH HOTEL 5PM **THE HINDLEY STREET COUNTRY CLUB**
- SALTBAR, KINGSCLIFF, 6PM **INO PIO**

SUNDAY 25

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **HARRY NICHOLS**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 4.30PM **SOFT TREADLY + DJ CAKKOU**
- YULLI'S, BYRON BAY, 3PM **YULLI'S OPEN MIC**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 7PM **JASON DELPHIN**
- THREE BLUE DUCKS, EWINGS DALE, 12PM **JAZZ FACTORY**
- BANGALOW HOTEL 2PM **ROB SARIC**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 4PM **TIJUANA CARTEL**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 6PM **URZILA CARLSON**
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 3PM **DJ DARLAN**
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY, 3PM **OPEN MIC WITH THE SWAMP CATS**
- LENNOX HOTEL 1PM COASTAL ROAD TRIO, 1PM **COASTAL ROAD**
- BALLINA RSL BOARDWALK 2.30PM **SUNDAY BLUES CLUB SESSIONS FEAT. SAM BUCKLEY TRIO**
- WHARF BAR, BALLINA, 3PM **ANGEL & ALI**
- ELTHAM HOTEL 2PM **THE LONESOME BOATMAN**
- ALSTONVILLE PLATEAU BOWLO & SPORTS CLUB 2PM **STU'S STRUM & SING**
- THE CHANNON TAVERN 2PM **OPEN MIC**
- SALTBAR, KINGSCLIFF, 3PM **LEIGH JAMES**

MONDAY 26

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **LEIGH JAMES**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **ALISHA TODD**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 7PM **URZILA CARLSON**
- CHERRY STREET SPORTS CLUB, BALLINA, 7PM **PINK ZINC DUO**

TUESDAY 27

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **OLE FALCOR**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **LILLIAN FAIRFAX**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 7PM **MARSHALL OKELL**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 7PM **URZILA CARLSON**
- OCEAN SHORES COUNTRY CLUB 3PM **OPEN MIC WITH DR BAZ**
- CHERRY STREET SPORTS CLUB, BALLINA, 8PM **SOUNDTRAP**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE SHOWROOM 11AM **GEORGE HARVEY & LAURA DOOLAN**

WEDNESDAY 28

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **JON J BRADLEY**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **JASON DELPHIN**
- BYRON THEATRE 6.30PM **SCREENING – ICE AND FIRE: PROTECTING AUSTRALIA'S HEARD AND MCDONALD ISLANDS**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6PM **KANE MUIR**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 7PM **THE BIG BIKE FILM NIGHT 2024**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 6.30PM **KINGY COMEDY – FEAT GORDON SOUTHERN**

Session Times

Thurs, August 22 – Wed, August 28

PALACE CINEMAS

108 Jonson St, Byron Bay

FAMILY FILMS	DEADPOOL & WOLVERINE (MA15+)	TAKE MY HAND (M) (NFT)
200% WOLF (PG)	Daily except Sun: 10:45AM, 12:50PM, 3:20PM, 5:40PM, 8:20PM.	Daily: 11:15AM, 4:00PM, 6:15PM
Sat, Sun: 1:20PM	Sun: 10:45AM, 12:50PM, 3:20PM, 6:10PM	THE BLIND SEA (PG)
DESPICABLE ME 4 (PG)	IRIS AND THE MEN (M)	Daily except Sun: 10:45AM, 3:30PM, 8:30PM.
Daily except Sat, Sun: 10:45AM, 1:20PM.	Daily except Sat, Sun: 11:30AM, 3:30PM, 6:10PM.	Sun: 10:45AM, 3:30PM
Sat, Sun: 10:45AM	Sat, Sun: 3:30PM, 6:10PM	THE TEACHER WHO PROMISED THE SEA (M)
INSIDE OUT 2 (PG)	IT ENDS WITH US (M)	Daily: 11:00AM
Daily except Sat, Sun: 1:20PM.	Daily except Thurs, Sun: 10:45AM, 1:30PM, 4:10PM, 5:40PM, 7:00PM, 8:20PM.	TOUCH (M) (NFT)
Sat, Sun: 11:30AM, 1:20PM	Thurs: 10:45AM, 1:30PM, 4:10PM, 5:40PM, 8:20PM.	Daily except Thurs: 11:00AM, 1:40PM, 4:20PM, 6:00PM, 7:00PM, 8:30PM.
ALL FILMS	Sun: 12:50PM, 3:20PM, 5:50PM	Sun: 11:00AM, 1:40PM, 4:20PM, 5:45PM, 6:45PM
ALIEN: ROMULUS (MA15+)	BLINK TWICE (MA15+) (NFT)	TWISTERS (M)
Daily except Sun: 12:50PM, 3:20PM, 5:50PM, 8:20PM.	Daily except Sun: 11:15AM, 1:30PM, 3:45PM, 6:00PM, 8:10PM.	Daily: 1:30PM
Sun: 12:50PM, 3:20PM, 5:50PM	Sun: 11:15AM, 1:30PM, 3:45PM, 6:50PM	LONGLEGS (MA15+)
BLINK TWICE (MA15+) (NFT)	LONGLEGS (MA15+)	Daily except Sun: 1:40PM, 4:00PM, 8:20PM.
Daily except Sun: 11:15AM, 1:30PM, 3:45PM, 6:00PM, 8:10PM.	Daily except Sun: 1:40PM, 4:00PM, 8:20PM.	Sun: 1:40PM, 4:00PM
Sun: 11:15AM, 1:30PM, 3:45PM, 6:50PM	Sun: 1:40PM, 4:00PM	

Please check online for ALL films screening.
Mercato Complex 3hrs FREE parking Validation for all Palace Cinemas customers.
Session times subject to change – check web for most up to date sessions.
*NFT = No Free Tickets.

Book Online at palacecinemas.com.au

Session Times

Thurs, August 22 – Wed, August 28

Ballina Fair Cinema

47/84 Kerr St, Ballina

200% WOLF (PG)	IT ENDS WITH US (M)	To receive the absolute lowest ticket price and special offers, be sure to join our Free Movie Club!
Daily except Thurs, Fri: 10:10AM	Daily except Thurs: 11:00AM, 4:20PM, 7:45PM.	
ALIEN: ROMULUS (MA15+)	TAKE MY HAND (M) (NFT)	SCAN TO JOIN FOR FREE
Daily except Thurs: 12:45PM, 2:30PM.	Daily except Thurs: 10:30AM, 5:30PM.	
BLINK TWICE (MA15+) (NFT)	DEADPOOL & WOLVERINE (MA15+)	
Daily except Thurs: 12:15PM, 3:15PM, 7:40PM.	Daily except Thurs: 1:40PM, 5:00PM, 7:00PM.	
DEADPOOL & WOLVERINE (MA15+)		
Daily except Thurs: 1:40PM, 5:00PM, 7:00PM.		
Thurs: 1:50PM, 5:00PM, 7:10PM		

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

Ballina Fair Shopping Centre FREE parking

Book Online at palacecinemas.com.au

*NFT = No Free Tickets

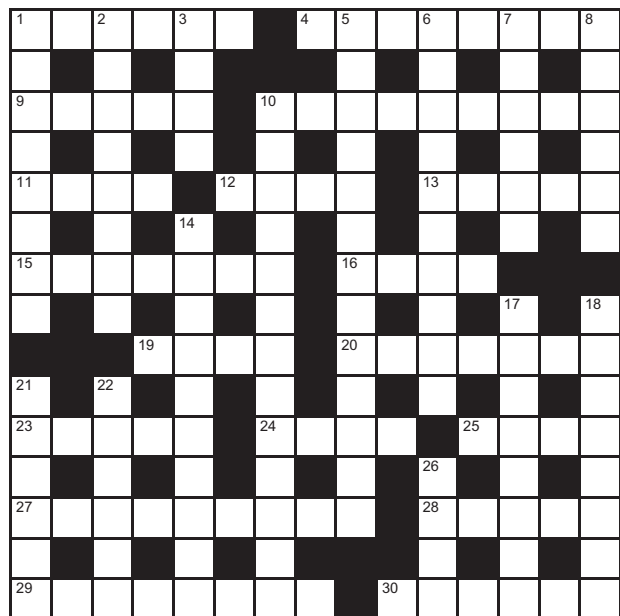
PALACE CINEMAS

HAVE YOU SENT US YOUR GIG?

gigs@echo.net.au



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



Cryptic Clues

ACROSS

1. Glutton has a lot of time for bird (6)
4. Theban is smashed on liqueur (8)
- 9, 25. Conservative Party presents military order (5,4)
10. Weirdly, *Echo* so afraid of what's already been announced (9)
11. Indian bread and potato pancake, but no second (4)
12. Chopped, topped and frozen (4)
13. Perhaps watch as post is returned (5)
15. Middle Eastern jet turns back, with seizure by terrorists seconds away (7)
16. Skippy perhaps died on cross (4)
19. Yankee misses turn with a good-humoured expression (4)
20. Little bird has fight with another (7)
23. How 20 might send a message? (5)
24. Libertine misses golf with scoundrel (4)
25. See 9 across
27. Game bird trap sprung on trip around German capital (9)
28. Big beast in noir novel astride horse (5)
29. Commercial edition of bible King gives improviser (2-6)
30. Brief urge to have medal flipped into drink (6)

DOWN

1. Picture left unfinished at property (8)
2. Comedians and crooks spurned by knight (8)
3. Boundless hate and vulgarity (4)
5. Family demand a measure of health (5,8)
6. One gets a dial tone that's complicated and conceptual (10)
7. One running on lines around university gets a shock (6)
8. Last to finish, certain not to begin (6)
10. Uniform used in operation by Bond? It's a game! (7,6)
14. Attractive individual shows sign of life! (5,5)
17. A university friend upset by this kind of analysis (8)
18. Chews over issue inherent in last performance (4,4)
21. Ideal place for start of unusual new style of patio (6)
22. Sea bird has dear little aunt? (6)
26. Mythical monster doesn't get on with bore (4)

Quick Clues

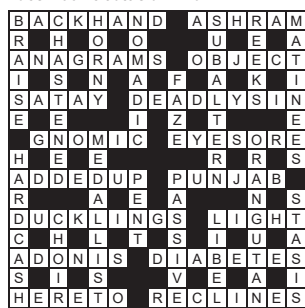
ACROSS

1. Stout-bodied bird, family *Columbidae* (6)
4. Spirit known as 'The Green Fairy' (8)
- 9, 25. A parade ground command (5,4)
10. Previously mentioned (9)
11. In Indian cuisine, a kind of sandwich (4)
12. Coated with a sweet topping (4)
13. Clock-like device (5)
15. E.g. Ehud Barak, Gal Gadot (7)
16. 1.10117 ha, or a quarter of an acre (4)
19. A broad smile (4)
20. Finch-like bird of genus *Passer* (7)
23. Chirp (5)
24. Profligate (4)
25. See 9 across
27. Ground-feeding bird of genera *Perdix* (9)
28. Large ungulate of Africa and S Asia, characterised by a horned nose (5)
29. One who extemporises (2-6)
30. Drink combining egg and spirits (6)

DOWN

1. Image of a person (8)
2. People who tell jokes (8)
3. Pledge (4)
5. Ideally, 120 on 80 (5,8)
6. Of the power of the mind for creating ideas (10)
7. Injury (6)
8. Bear (6)
10. Card game full of tricks! (7,6)
14. Object of romantic affection (5,5)
17. Relating to a branch of psychoanalysis (8)
18. Final act, publication or appearance before retirement or death (4,4)
21. A state of perfection (6)
22. Bird of family *Procellariidae*, related to albatrosses (6)
26. Device on a fishing reel that reduces possibility of line breaking (4)

Last week's solution #16



Advance Think Women are Stupid

Mandy Nolan

Advan Australia are coming after me. They've publicly declared they are raising \$5 million for the war chest to smash a few hand-picked Greens – and lucky me, I'm one of them!

You might remember Advance from the evil work they did on the 'No' campaign at the Voice referendum. They deliberately used racism and misinformation to sway the vote. In an ABC article it's reported that they asked their volunteers to flat out lie to convince voters to tick 'No'. They used fear and misinformation as a deliberate tactic. In fact it's also reported Advance vollies were told, in their calls to voters, not to identify themselves as calling from the 'No' campaign. That's very misleading and we all know how the referendum turned out.

Lobby groups should use all reasonable endeavours to satisfy themselves of the truth and accuracy of all material and information they use. It is undemocratic to knowingly lie and coerce for a political outcome.

Let me remind you who Advance Australia are. A conservative political lobbying group with Tony Abbott as a strategic cheerleader, launched in 2018 to counter progressive lobbying group GetUp. They believe climate change is a hoax. They hate Net Zero. They are big fans of the fossil fuel industry. Ironically they run a narrative about the 'elites' but receive funding from the rich and powerful and won't say where that comes from. It's the darkest Trumpian money in town. And it's coming to destroy a democracy near you.

Inferring progressive lobby groups have anywhere near the clout of established lobby groups is just more lies and misinformation. Sadly, our democracy has long been dominated by the interests of lobby groups like The Australian Bankers Association, fossil fuel lobby groups like Minerals Council of Australia and the Australian Petroleum & Exploration Association. And then of course



They intend to scare women and coerce them with misinformation. That's perpetrator behaviour. And saying women 'don't know anything else', infers women are stupid.

there are the big lobbying firms. We are talking billions of dollars defending industry's right to continue making billions of dollars – regardless of the social or environmental cost.

Progressive lobby groups like GetUp give people a chance to speak to their values and concerns around issues and decision-making. They remind government that principled people are watching and they care about what and how decisions are made. Groups like Advance don't like that. They believe it's destroying freedom. Hmm. Define freedom? Freedom to extract? Freedom to exploit? Freedom to profiteer? I think I understand the 'freedom' they talk about and who it belongs to. Clearly not us.

There are already lots of hugely financed conservative lobby groups. So the only role it seems there is for Advance is to seed misinformation,

fear and hatred. Stoke up the fires on a culture war. Just like in the US.

And they're quite open about it. When it comes to their tactics ahead of the next election, Advance were quoted in the *Saturday Paper* this weekend saying, 'we'll use the same sort of techniques we used during the Voice [referendum], where we can geotarget messaging to predominantly target women between 33 and 49 who are persuadable, who do think Greens are doing the right thing about the environment, but don't know anything else. We think we can persuade quite a lot of them'. Basically they intend to scare women and coerce them with misinformation. That's perpetrator behaviour. And saying women 'don't know anything else', infers women are stupid. It's shocking to me that they've targeted women as vulnerable to their messaging. That they intend to scare and coerce us. Great. We are already being murdered at the rate of one woman every four days. Now Advance Australia are targeting us too.

Violence really is everywhere. And who really is Advance? This group committed to misinforming and lying to women? Just a few scared old blokes hiding behind a curtain, holding hands with Tony Abbott, praying to have things the way they used to be. Just lingering dark shadows.

We need to bring them into the light. **Because they aren't lobbying government. They are 'lobbying' us.**

STARS BY LILITH

This week's sun joining Venus in the sign of simple and elegant solutions is the year's finest transit for implementing practical projects, refining living arrangements and rebooting wellness routines...



VIRGO THE VIRGIN

ARIES: Excess is fine and enjoyable every now and again. Now this week issues a celestial wake-up call to downsize, simplify and declutter the life of Aries by upgrading storage systems and organising daily routines. Be alert for some interesting clues to sustainable living during late week Aries moon.

TAURUS: This week's solar radiance amplifying your planet ruler Venus in the zodiac's most adaptable earth sign shifts life into a less stubborn, more functional and negotiable mindset. Under this planetary line-up it's advisable to regulate your energy by focusing, concentrating, and not spreading yourself too thin.

GEMINI: Conversations could get deadlocked if this week's star map tips some peoples' communication style towards passive-aggressive. Stellar recommendation? With Venus and el Sol in nature-loving mode, take space from the rat race and go al fresco: a bike ride to a beach swim, a walk in the park, anything outdoors.

CANCER: Feeling like you've slipped into a holding pattern, like we all do sometimes? With Mars and Venus in mutable – meaning movable – signs this week suggesting you extend yourself. As in stretching beyond Netflix on the comfort couch and making the changes you already know you need to make.

LEO: Mercury retrograde in your sign offers opportunities to practice the fine line between confidence and vanity. If you can use this week to accept some possibly humbling feedback, you'll be ably equipped to power into service mode when the cosmic communicator moves forward next week.

VIRGO: As this week's solar rays illuminate Venus in Virgo for your annual season in the sun, we wish Virgo readers a serene and relaxed, stylish and joyous birthday. In a perfect Virgo world, your planet mentor Mercury wouldn't be retrograde in your sign, but stay patient, it's only till next week.

LIBRA: Mars, Jupiter, Saturn and Neptune all in dual signs could render decision-making a nearly impossible feat for this week's Librans. So listen to the counsel of sensible Venus in her most practical placement and hold-off on making major commitments until next week's more favourable conditions.

SCORPIO: This week's planetary frictions could incline people towards the judgmental or fault-finding end of the spectrum, which isn't likely to build bridges. Fortunately the upside of Venus in pragmatic, practical mode advises focusing on solutions rather than pointing out mistakes or what's been done wrong.

SAGITTARIUS: With four planets in double zodiac signs there's power in numbers, and this week favours collaborative effort. So team up to champion a cause you care about. Speak out if you see an injustice. And remember to give your crew due credit, because what goes around comes around.

CAPRICORN: If recent weeks have demonstrated the practical benefits of breaking free from the confines of habit, getting experimental and doing things differently, this week calls for putting these new routines and regimens into practice, and assists with anchoring them in as part of your everyday life.

AQUARIUS: This week is celestially tailored to digest, dissect, and discuss events that may have surfaced during the recent Aquarius full moon. It invites you to share your unusual ideas, and supports your refusal to give up on humanity or the technology that keeps you connected with your broader community.

PISCES: A visionary idea is a beautiful thing when it's backed by a clear-headed plan for manifesting it into reality. If agendas have escalated somewhat towards the grandiose side recently, this week's earthy and efficient energetics bring them back to a more balanced and workable perspective.

ECHO CLASSIFIEDS – 6684 1777

CLASSIFIED AD BOOKINGS

PHONE ADS

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

AT THE ECHO HEAD OFFICE

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

Village Way, Stuart St, Mullumbimby

EMAIL ADS

Display (box ads) and line classifieds, email:

classifieds@echo.net.au

Ad bookings only taken during business hours: Monday to

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

Account enquiries phone 6684 1777.

DEADLINE TUES 12PM

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

RATES & PAYMENT

LINE ADS:

\$17.00 for the first two lines
\$5.00 for each extra line

\$17 for two lines is the minimum charge.

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

These prices include GST.

Cash, cheque, Mastercard or Visa

Prepayment is required for all ads.

CLASSIFIEDS THAT WORK ALL WEEK!

Echo Classics also appear online:
www.echo.net.au/classified-ads

TUITION

Adobe Tutoring

Experienced Professional Tutor

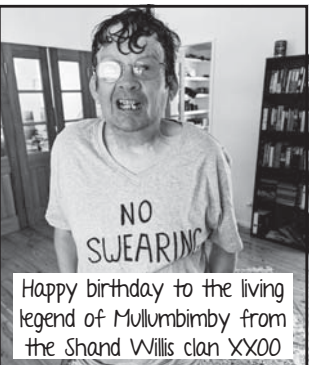
- Photoshop
- Indesign
- Illustrator

contact@thinkblinkdesign.com
www.thinkblinkdesign.com

BIRTHDAYS



Happy birthday beautiful Tams!
Lots of love from the Echo crew xxx



Happy birthday to the living legend of Mullumbimby from the Shand Willis clan XXXO

LORRY DRIVER



Happy Birthday!
... and happy 9 years of throwing The Echo!
from The Echo Crew.

DISCLAIMER

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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.

PUBLIC NOTICES

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

PROF. SERVICES

DENTURES

LOOK GOOD
FEEL GOOD

Free consultation. **SANDRO 66805002**

HEALTH

KINESIOLOGY

Clear subconscious sabotages. Reprogram patterns and beliefs.

Restore vibrancy and physical health. De-stress.

0403125506

SANDRA DAVEY, Reg. Pract.

HYPNOSIS & EFT

Simple and effective solutions. Anxiety, Cravings, Fears & Trauma.

Maureen Bracken 0402205352

HYPNOSIS & NLP

WendyPurdy.com. Ph 0497 090 233

KINESIOLOGY CRYSTAL HEALINGS & READINGS

Mullumbimby

- Physical & emotional issues
- Stress & pain relief
- Posture & flexibility
- Fears & phobias
- Enhanced performance
- Concentration & focus + much more!

Kate Messenger
0413 003 301

crystalsanddreaming.com.au

Mindfulness @ Work

Bring greater focus, clarity and calm into your workplace.

Certified Mindfulness Educator Paul Bibby
0401 926 090

TRADEWORK

Septic Waste Removal Summerland Environmental

The Liquid Waste Specialists!

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

TREE SERVICES

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

HART TREE SERVICES

20 years local experience

- 19 inch chipper • Stump grinding
- Cherry picker • Crane truck • Bob Cat

Fully insured • Free quotes

0427 347 380

SUMMERLAND TREE SERVICES

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

Byron Bay & Surrounding Areas

6681 3140

Mobile 0417 698 227

FOR SALE

MIELE WASHERS

Dryers and dishwashers available at Bridglands Mullumbimby. 66842511

ARCHIBALD'S CHEAP QUARRY PRODUCTS

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

FIREWOOD FOR SALE

CALL MARK

0427 490 038



White Horses and Dark Knights

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

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



WANTED

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

TREE FERNS

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

MOTOR VEHICLES

MITSUBISHI ASX ASPIRE 4WD diesel 6 speed manual, rebuilt by expert mechanic. Near perfect. Mega score \$12k. Details: Michael 04239295428 (ah)

TO LET

BYRON BAY 2 bdrm bright sunny unit. LUG, large balcony, views, aircon. For 55+ only. \$600pw Ph 0437859933

MULLUM CABIN 7km to Mullum P.O. Furnished, wood fire, clean, neat & special. Suit single mature worker. \$450 pw. 66841288

LOCAL REMOVAL

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

BALLINA SELF-STORAGE UNITS

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

TO LEASE

STORAGE OR WORK SPACE Byron A&I Estate. 45sqm. Access to bthrm. Parking. WiFi & elect included. \$250 per week. Ph 0421990785.

STORAGE/WORKSHOP 6x3 incl elec. \$95p/w. Billinudgel. Elders RE 66851206

MULLUM: STATION ST STUDIOS
Studio 1 – 136sqm funky warehouse-style studio. 3 large workspaces, kitchen, bathroom, separate entrance & front garden. Plenty parking. Aircon, 24/7 access, avail Sept 10th \$770pw incl GST + elec. TEXT 0419 887 775

BEAUTIFUL THERAPY ROOMS

The Centre for Mind Body Wellness is welcoming new therapists to join our collective in the heart of Mullumbimby.

To apply visit centreformindbodywellness.com.au/join

CARAVANS

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

BUSINESS FOR SALE

LOCAL CONCRETE GARDEN EDGING BUSINESS FOR SALE

Good money to be made. No franchise fees. Genuine enquires only. Would suit existing landscaping or concreting business. Ph 0426 842 958

LAND FOR SALE

SHARE (1/14) in established freehold tenancy in common landholding adjacent to Mt Warning National Park. Superb aesthetics, environmental zonings. Council building restrictions - not for the faint-hearted. Ph Michael 0423929548 ah.

SHARE ACCOM.

SUNRISE: Room in 3 bdrm townhouse. \$270pw incl bills. No pets. 66856760.

GARAGE SALES

HUGE GARAGE / MOVING SALE
Saturday August 24th 10am-2pm
GENUINE, HIGH QUALITY Designer Clothes incl. Collette Dinnigan, Camilla & Gucci. Gorgeous Vintage Silk Slips. New High Quality Household goods. AMAZING BARGAINS FROM \$2 14 Fawcett Street Brunswick Heads

BIG GARAGE SALE 46 Tuckeroo Ave Mullum 9am. Furniture, clothes & more

Tip Runs & Rubbish Removal

0408 210 772

POSITIONS VACANT

EXPERIENCED DENTAL ASSISTANT required for South Tweed Dental Surgery. Position is permanent with set days and can be full-time or part-time dependant on applicant's availability. Ph 0407713878 or email gavanmit@bigpond.com

TOWER CRANE OPERATOR FALCON CRANES

We are looking for an experienced tower crane operator for a Kingscliff project commencing mid-September. HRWL CT ticket / White Card, drivers licence and own transport required. Please call 1300 668 799 or email your CV to info@falconcranes.com.au

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

TAXI DRIVERS WANTED

Flexible work hours - perfect 2nd income
Email operations@byronbaytaxi.com

WORK WANTED

HANDYMAN SERVICES No job too big or too small. Free quote. Servicing the Byron Shire \$60ph. Insured. 0439735817.

MUSICAL NOTES

GUITAR STRINGS, REPAIRS
Brunswick Heads 66851005

R.I.P. PETS

Vonnie's Bella Rose



Passed away peacefully in Huonbrook on the 7th of August from a heart tumor.

I would like to thank Bell's vet and friend Dr Richard and the staff at Mullumbimby Vet, for 8 1/2 years. And to all who loved her, thank you.

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&E Est, Byron Bay
66856330

SOCIAL ESCORTS

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

SUN, MOON & TIDES - TIMES FOR NEXT 2 WEEKS

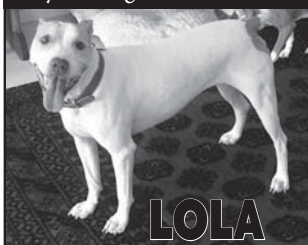
DATE (August/Sept)	DAY, MOON PHASE	SUN RISE / SET	MOON RISE / SET	HIGH TIDES, height (m)	LOW TIDES, height (m)
21	W	6:11 / 17:26	19:06 / 7:08	0919.1.42 2145.1.88	0323.0.14 1500.0.10
22	TH	6:10 / 17:27	20:13 / 7:42	1006.1.48 2226.1.76	0401.0.12 1549.0.16
23	F	6:09 / 17:27	21:20 / 8:16	1055.1.52 2307.1.59	0440.0.14 1643.0.27
24	SA	6:08 / 17:28	22:27 / 8:51	1145.1.53 2349.1.39	0519.0.20 1741.0.41
25	SU	6:07 / 17:28	23:35 / 9:29	1243.1.51	0600.0.27 1853.0.54
26	M	6:06 / 17:29	10:11	0038.1.19 1350.1.49	0647.0.35 2025.0.62
27	TU	6:05 / 17:29	0:42 / 10:58	0144.1.03 1509.1.49	0745.0.42 2205.0.61
28	W	6:04 / 17:30	1:46 / 11:51	0316.0.95 1625.1.52	0858.0.46 2326.0.54
29	TH	6:03 / 17:30	2:45 / 12:49	0445.0.96 1728.1.57	1015.0.46
30	F	6:02 / 17:31	3:37 / 13:50	0548.1.03 1818.1.62	0019.0.46 1119.0.41
31	SA	6:01 / 17:31	4:22 / 14:50	0636.1.11 1901.1.65	0059.0.40 1212.0.35
1	SU	6:00 / 17:32	5:01 / 15:49	0716.1.18 1939.1.66	0131.0.35 1255.0.30
2	M	5:59 / 17:32	5:34 / 16:45	0752.1.24 2012.1.66	0201.0.32 1332.0.27
3	TU	5:57 / 17:32	6:03 / 17:39	0826.1.29 2043.1.64	0230.0.29 1408.0.27
4	W	5:56 / 17:33	6:30 / 18:32	0858.1.33 2111.1.59	0256.0.28 1442.0.28

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



PETS

Byron Dog Rescue (CAWI)



Lola is a desexed female 8.8-year-old Staffy x in excellent health and condition. She is very loving & loyal, adores humans of the big and little kind, loves cuddles and being included in family life. Lola is fine with other dogs if introduced correctly but doesn't really want or need doggy friends. She is best suited to walks on a (long) lead. Please contact Shell on 0458461935. MC: 953010001248784



Eywa is a 8 month old, Kelpie X. She is an energetic and clever pup who is great with kids and other dogs. Eywa would be the perfect companion for an active family, especially one with a big property where she can run and play
M/C # 953010100637287
Location: Murwillumbah
For more information please contact Yvette on 0421 831 128 or please complete our online expression of interest form at: www.friendsofthepound.com/adoption-expression-of-interest
Visit friendsofthepound.com to view other dogs and cats looking for a home. ABN 83 126 970 338



Echo
VIGILANT SINCE 1986

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
FARMERS/WEEKLY MARKETS			
2nd SUN The Channon	02 6688 6433	Each TUE New Brighton	0424 168 672
2nd SUN Lennox Head	02 6685 6807	Each TUE Organic Lismore	
2nd SUN Chillingham	0428 793 141	Each WED Murwillumbah 7-11	0415 328 672
2nd SUN Coolangatta	0422 094 338	Each WED Nimbin 3-6pm	0418 940 653
2nd SUN Tabulam		Each WED Newrybar Hall 4-7pm	
3rd SAT Mullumbimby	02 6684 3370	Each THU Byron 8-11am	0414 595 169
3rd SAT Murwillumbah	0415 328 672	Each THU Lismore 2.30-6.30pm	0459 309 223
3rd SAT Salt Village Market, Casuarina		Each FRI Mullumbimby 7-11am	0424 168 672
3rd SUN Federal	0433 002 757	Each FRI Evans Head 2.30-6.30	0428 291 068
3rd SUN Uki	0487 329 150	Each SAT Bangalow 8-11am	0414 595 169
3rd SUN Ballina	0422 094 338	Each SAT Duranbah Rd 8-11am (Tropical Fruit World)	
4th SAT Evans Head	0432 275 765	Each SAT Uki 8am-1pm	02 6679 5438
4th SAT Kyogle Bazaar kyoglebazaar.com.au		Each SAT Lismore 8.30-11am	
4th SUN Bangalow	02 6687 1911	Each SAT Wadeville 8am-12pm	
4th SUN Nimbin	0475 135 764	Each SAT Byron Twilight Market 4pm Oct-Apr	
4th SUN Murwillumbah	0415 328 672	Each SUN Ballina 7-11am	
4th SUN Coolangatta (in a 5 Sunday month)			

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

EMERGENCY NUMBERS Please stick this by your phone

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

On The Horizon

DEADLINE NOON FRIDAY

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

Amateur beekeeping

Northern Rivers Amateur Beekeeping Association Inc (NRABA) notice of Annual General Meeting will be held at 12.30pm on Sunday, 1 September at Ruthven Hall, 900 Coraki Rd, Ruthven.

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).

Men's Shed Byron

The Byron Men's Shed is holding a general meeting on August 28 at 10.30am at the Byron Bowlo, 18 Marvell Street. to attract more members and get the community involved. This meeting is crucial for us to build momentum and ensure the Shed becomes a valuable resource for local men. For more information, contact Garry Eastburn at garry.eastburn@byronmensshed.org.au or 0428 402 780.

Dying at home

Last Aid, care for the dying at home will be presented by Amitayus Home Hospice Service September 12 and 21, 6.30-8.30pm info@amitayus.org.au or register with Byron Community College.

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/>.

Brunswick Heads crafty women

The CWA Brunswick Heads crafty women meet each Friday between 10am and 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: brunswickcwa@gmail.com. Our members meeting takes place the first Friday of the month at 9am.

Bangalow Historical Society

If you're 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.



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.

Gulgani 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.mdcn.org.au, or follow us on Facebook or Instagram. @mullumbimbyneighbourhoodcentre.

Byron Community
The Byron Community Centre provides community services and programs including meals, advocacy and counselling for locals in need. **Fletcher Street Cottage:** A welcoming, safe and respectful space where people who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness can come to get practical relief opportunities, find connections and access broader support. Fletcher Street Cottage services are open Tuesday-Friday. **Breakfast:** Tuesday-Friday, 7-9am. **Showers and laundry:** Tuesday-Friday, 7am-12pm. **Office support:** Tuesday-Friday, 9am-12pm. **Support**

appointments: Individual support appointments with community workers or specialist services. For bookings please call 6685 6807. Fletcher Street Cottage, 18 Fletcher St, Byron Bay. More info: www.fletcherstreetcottage.com.au. **Byron Community Cabin:** Seniors Computer Club (school term only), 9-11am, Friday, Carlyle Steet. More info: www.byroncentre.com.au Phone: 6685 6807.

Low-cost or free food
Food Box Thursdays 9.30-11.30am at Uniting Church, Mullumbimby. You may purchase cheap food, obtain free veges, and enjoy a cuppa. **The Hub** Baptist Church in Ocean Shores has food relief available for anyone doing it tough, please contact us on 0434 677747 if you find yourself doing it tough. No ID or Concession Card required. NILS referral service also available. Check Facebook page The Hub Baptist Ocean Shores for details. **Liberation Larder** Takeaway lunches and groceries Monday and Thursday 12 till 1pm. Fletcher Street end of the Byron Community Centre.

Respite Service
Byron Shire Respite Service delivers high-quality respite care to a broad range of clients throughout the Byron, Ballina and Lismore shires. Donations welcome: Ph 6685 1921, email fundraiser@byronrespite.com.au, website: www.byronrespite.com.au.

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

ACA

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

Drug support groups

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

Support after suicide

StandBy provides support to people who have lost someone to suicide. They provide free face-to-face and telephone support and are accessible 24/7. Follow-up contact is available for up to one year. Find out more at: www.standbysupport.com.au or call 13 11 14. If you, or someone you are with, are in need of immediate support please call an ambulance or police on 000.

Volunteer call out

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

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DEADLINE: For additions and changes to the Service Directory is 12pm Friday.
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 The Echo Service Directory is online – www.echo.net.au/service-directory

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MANA is accepted into Australasia's leading independent real estate network

Julie-Ann Manahan and the team at MANA real estate agency are thrilled to be accepted into the exclusive Real Estate Results Network (RERN). MANA is the only agency selected in the Northern Rivers and Tweed regions, and with its strong customer focus, client commitment and impressive sales and leadership qualities, it's no surprise.

Developed by Australia's leading real estate business strategist and real estate coach Michael Sheargold, RERN offers a select group of independent real estate professionals access to the most advanced learning and development systems in the world today.

Representing the most progressive independent agencies across Australia and New Zealand, RERN works with more than 40 agencies, over 70 offices and 1,300 professionals. It is the largest independent real estate network in the Australasia region.

"MANA demonstrates a real commitment to excellence in real estate sales and service, a strong customer focus and a proven record of producing outstanding



Julie-Ann Manahan at MANA Real Estate

results in the Northern Rivers and Tweed regions," Michael said.

"We're thrilled to have them onboard. We know they are doing great things for their clients and the larger community and they

can now take the business another step in the right direction and prosper from the benefits that are gained by all RERN members."

Being a member of RERN means MANA is connected with

like-minded real estate professionals, all committed to growth and development.

MANA Principal Julie-Ann Manahan said her team is excited to be a part of the network.

"We are delighted and somewhat humbled to be part of this outstanding group and incredibly excited that our valued clients will reap the rewards," she said.

RERN is committed to performance excellence and business development through ongoing professional training and peer interaction throughout Australia and New Zealand.

"Prioritising training and development is so important, and our entire team will have the opportunity to explore the latest innovations across negotiation, effective buyer management, property marketing, client reporting, communication, and beyond," explained Julie-Ann. "Networking with top industry professionals is a win-win for everyone involved."

Unlike major franchise players, RERN supports the independence and branding of individual businesses and

fosters entrepreneurialism.

"This is a crucial milestone for us," Julie-Ann emphasised. "We intentionally moved away from the franchise model to offer tailored marketing campaigns for our clients. We don't believe in a cookie-cutter marketing model. Instead, we have our own in-house marketing team dedicated to strategic, targeted efforts to optimise exposure."

MANA looks forward to leveraging its membership in the Real Estate Results Network to enhance service offerings, expand its network of industry professionals, and continue delivering exceptional outcomes for its valued clients. This partnership signifies a new chapter of growth and opportunity for MANA, reinforcing its commitment to excellence in real estate.

Contact Julie-Ann Manahan at MANA Real Estate on 0411 081 118 or jam@manare.au www.manare.au



22 Cabbage Gum Road Cudgera Creek



5 bed 4 bath 6 car P pool

- Main residence: 2 ensuited bedrooms, games room, & 2 offices
- Self contained studio
- 2 carports & 2 large workshops
- 15m solar heated pool & outdoor shower
- Large spring fed dam w/ observation deck
- Superb covered outdoor entertaining area w/ heating, built in BBQ & sink
- 3 Bedroom guesthouse
- 10mins to Pottsville / 30 mins Byron Bay

Land Size
5 Acres
Buyer Range
\$2.5M-\$2.750M
David Stringer
0418 150 731
david@djstringer.com.au



Iconic Bangalow Home



98 BYRON STREET, BANGALOW 4 bed 1 bath 1 car

Four bedroom character home in the main street of Bangalow village. Zoned R2 Low Density Residential, the property suits a variety of purposes, from a family home, to an investment property, or a commercial venture subject to council approval.

There is a good size eat-in kitchen and family room and a separate lounge room with a slow combustion wood fire perfect for winter nights. The bathroom has a bathtub, separate toilet and separate laundry. Fenced yards to the front and back plus a large garage/shed.

Located opposite the Police Station, 200m level walk to Bangalow Primary School, and 300m to the bustling Bangalow shops, restaurants and cafes. Directly opposite the Heritage House Museum and Piccabeen Park, great for the kids.

Suitable for a business, family, couple or investor – this property should be inspected. Motivated vendor will meet the market.

*Agent declares interest.

Price:
\$1,375,000

Contact:
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0448 550 988



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- Short 10-minute stroll through the national park to Tallow Beach
- 10-minute walk to the town centre

PRICE | \$1.18M - \$1.25M
OPEN | Sat 24th AUG 9:30 - 10am



Oliver Aldridge
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297 LEFT BANK ROAD, MULLUMBIMBY CREEK



Rural Homestead with Stunning Views

4 2 3 3

24HA

- Elevated, prime grazing land with northerly aspect and views over the Koonyum Ranges
- Expansive home with 3m-high ceilings and wooden framed glass sliding doors opening onto the 3m-wide wrap-around patio
- Established gardens and 13m swimming pool
- Machinery shed, dairy bales, and self-contained cottage

PRICE | \$4M - \$4.4M
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Tara Torkkola
0423 519 698



Helen Huntly-Barratt
0412 332 232

326 BOOYONG ROAD, NASHUA



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12 2 4 4

108 ACRE

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- Circa 1900's farmhouse with original timber floorboards, VJ panelling and ornate details
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- Lagoon style pool

PRICE | Contact Agent
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21 CLIFFORD STREET, SUFFOLK PARK



Coastal Entertainer's Dream Home in Suffolk Park

4 2 3 2

758M²

- Open plan interior with vaulted ceilings and an abundance of natural light
- Copper 'naked' pool and Swim Gym
- Self-contained studio with independent access to the street, ideal for a supplementary income or multi-generational living
- Walking distance to Suffolk Park amenities and beach

PRICE | Contact Agent
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Denzil Lloyd
0481 864 049



Jane Johnston
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Property Business Directory

Tweed Broadwater Village

Site 186, Tweed Broadwater Village – Tweed Heads South
 2 1 2 \$520,000



Positioned in a sought-after location on the village perimeter, this spacious renovated home features a fabulous alfresco deck. Spacious, light & airy, generous sized open plan living/dining area with modern vinyl timber planked flooring connects to the delightful outdoor deck via a sliding glass door. Outdoor deck ready to use all year round to entertain family & friends or simply relax. The refurbished kitchen offers ample storage cabinets, excellent bench space and includes a Chef stove, decorative splash back, stainless steel sink and breakfast bar. The adjoining carport runs the length of the home & easily accommodates 2 vehicles as well as small boat or trailer. Energy efficient home featuring a near new 6.4Kw Solar System and a Heat Pump HWS. Retirement living at its best without the associated costs of exit fees and No stamp duty. Situated just minutes from Tweed Heads/Coolangatta the 'Pet Friendly' over 50's Lifestyle village is just a stroll to the Tweed River and there is public transport at the entrance to the park. Village amenities include a swimming pool, club house, social club and library.

Inspect: By appointment
Contact: Kelvin Price 0423 028 468 / Heike Wilson 0403 713 658
 Mr Property Services

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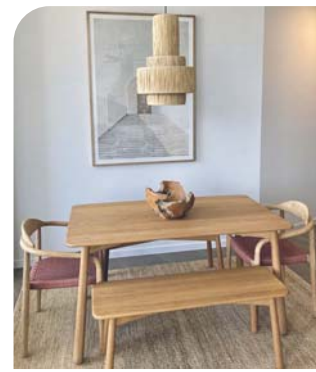
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- 6181 Tweed Valley Way, Burringbar. Sat 12-12.30pm

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- 160 Reardons Lane, Swan Bay. Thurs 11-11.30am
- 4 Wright Place, Bangalow. Thurs 12-12.30pm
- 1/14 Keats Street, Byron Bay. Thurs 1-1.30pm
- 1/34 Lawson Street, Byron Bay. Thurs 2-2.30pm
- 1 Settlement Road, Main Arm. Fri 10-10.30am
- 5/20-21 Pacific Parade, Lennox Head. Fri 2-2.30pm
- 1/6 Sallywattle Drive, Suffolk Park. Sat 9-9.30am
- 6 Victor Place, Lennox Head. Sat 9-9.30pm
- 4/3-7 Glasgow Street, Suffolk Park. Sat 9-9.30am
- 50/11-19 Cooper Street, Byron Bay. Sat 9.30-10am
- 15/24 Scott Street, Byron Bay. Sat 9.30-10am
- 1 Settlement Road, Main Arm. Sat 10-10.30am
- 5/37-39 Bottlebrush Crescent, Suffolk Park. Sat 10-10.30am
- 14 Sherringtons Lane, The Pocket. Sat 10-10.30am
- 47 Currawong Way, Ewingsdale. Sat 10-10.30am
- 56 Parrot Tree Place, Bangalow. Sat 10-10.30am
- 28/11-19 Cooper Street, Byron Bay. Sat 10-10.30am
- 797 Fernleigh Road, Brooklet. Sat 10-10.30am
- 1 Driftwood Avenue, Byron Bay. Sat 10-10.30am
- 'Flindersia' 39 Bilin Road, Myocum. Sat 11-11.30am
- 1 Park Street, Brunswick Heads. Sat 11-11.30am
- 45 Corkwood Crescent, Suffolk Park. Sat 11-11.30am
- 4 Wright Place, Bangalow. Sat 11-11.30am
- 1363 Main Arm Road, Upper Main Arm. Sat 11-11.30am
- 4/113 Paterson Street, Byron Bay. Sat 11-11.30am

- 22 Coachwood Court, Federal. Sat 11-11.30am
- 1/34 Lawson Street, Byron Bay. 11.30am-12pm
- 37 Gloria Street, South Golden Beach. 11.30am-12pm
- 34 Helen Street, South Golden Beach. 11.30am-12pm
- 1/14 Keats Street, Byron Bay. 12-12.30pm
- 10 Armstrong Street, Suffolk Park. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 6/51 Belongil Crescent, Byron Bay. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 124 Alcorn Street, Suffolk Park. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 62 Possum Creek Road, Bangalow. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 440 Dorroughby Road, Dorroughby. Sat 12:15-1pm
- 35 Bencluna Lane, Eureka. 12.30-12pm
- 15 Plantation Drive, Ewingsdale. Sat 1-1.30pm

Harcourts Northern Rivers

- 52 Riverview Avenue, West Ballina. Sat 10-10.30am
- 79 Burnet Street, Ballina. Sat 10-10.30am
- 26 Bridge Drive, Wardell. Sat 10-10.30am
- 337 Hermans Lane, Pimlico. Sat 11-11.30am
- 6 Princess Avenue, Ballina. Sat 11-11.30am
- 6 Rifle Range Road, Wollongbar. Sat 11-11.30am
- 26 Clavan Street, Ballina. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 10 Eider Quadrant, Ballina. Sat 1-1.30pm
- 73 Lagoon Drive, Myocum. Sat 2.30-3pm

Lorimer Estate Agents

- 28 Coachwood Court, Federal. Sat 11-11.30am

MANA RE

- 67 Commercial Road, Murwillumbah. Sat 9-9.30am
- 119 Commercial Road, Murwillumbah. Sat 10-10.30am
- 16 Eloura Court, Ocean Shores. Sat 10-10.30am

- 142 Bakers Road, Dunbible. Sat 11-11.30am
- 26 Robin Street, South Golden Beach. Sat 11-11.30am
- 7 Bulgoon Crescent, Ocean Shores. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 261 Tunnel Road, Stokers Siding. Sat 12.30-1pm

North Coast Lifestyle Properties

- 1/23 Royal Avenue, South Golden Beach. Sat 9-9.30am
- 9 Kolora Way, Ocean Shores. Sat 10-10.30am
- 1/15 Boondoon Crescent, Ocean Shores. Sat 10-10.45am
- 1/35 Fingal Street, Brunswick Heads. Sat 11-11.30am
- 284 The Pocket Road, The Pocket. Sat 12-12.30am

Ray White Byron Bay

- 9 Heritage Court, Suffolk Park. Wed 11.30am-12pm
- 9 Heritage Court, Suffolk Park. Sat 9-9.30am
- 11 Browning Street, Byron Bay. Sat 10-10.30am
- 243 Broken Head Road, Suffolk Park. Sat 10-10.30am
- 42 Tuckeroo Avenue, Mullumbimby. Sat 10.30-11am
- 1 Hayters Drive, Suffolk Park. Sat 11-11.30am
- 101 Alcorn Street, Suffolk Park. Sat 11-11.30am
- 109-111 Broken Head Road, Suffolk Park. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 154 Old Bangalow Road, Byron Bay. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 898 Main Arm Road, Main Arm. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 13/183-205 Broken Head Road, Suffolk Park. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 15 Little Burns Street, Byron Bay. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 271 Goremans Road, Eureka. Sat 1.15-1.45pm

Real Estate of Distinction

- 81 Harwood, Burringbar. Sat 10.30-11am
- 79 Bayview Drive, East Ballina. Sat 2.30-3pm

Ruth Russell Realty

- 73 New City Road, Mullumbimby. Sat 11-11.45am

Tim Miller Real Estate

- 1271 Lismore Road, Clunes. Thur 12-12.30pm
- 94 Fernleigh Road, Tintenbar. Thur 1.15-1.45pm
- 94 Fernleigh Road, Tintenbar. Sat 9.30-10am 1271 Lismore Road, Clunes. Sat 12.30-1pm
- 1 Wickham Place, Clunes. Sat 2.15-2.45pm

New Listings

North Coast Lifestyle Properties

- 1304 Main Arm Road, Upper Main Arm. Contact agent
- 70 Burringbar Street, Mullumbimby. \$2,150,000
- 1/15 Boondoon Crescent, Ocean Shores. Contact agent
- 1/35 Fingal Street, Brunswick Heads. Contact agent

Auction

Tim Miller Real Estate

- 94 Fernleigh Road, Tintenbar. Sat 10am on site
- 1271 Lismore Road, Clunes. Sat 1pm on site

Property Business Directory

AGENTS



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Byron Bay

With the local government election candidate line-up locked in, the circus festival have also released their acts. Coincidence?

Marine activist Paul Watson remains in Danish prison in Greenland, and according to Bob Brown Foundation, the charge is 'based on a vengeful and politically motivated red notice from Japan'. They say, 'The real criminal is the Japanese whaling fleet that continues to slaughter whales, despite a global moratorium on whaling in 1982. Watson's only crime is that he stopped Tokyo slaughtering thousands more whales'. A www.change.org petition is calling on the federal government to boycott Danish products.

Greek member of parliament, Vassiliki Katrivanou, will visit Byron Bay to share the challenges of being a female politician and how EU austerity measures affected the country. She will talk at the Byron Bay Scout Hall on Saturday, August 31 from 2pm.

Further to the gambling debate, Stephen Mayne tweeted: 'News Corp shares hit a record high this month. They are the biggest recipient of gambling advertising revenue in Oz, primarily through Foxtel, but also the papers plus Lachlan's Nova radio network. The Murdochs are worth \$30b. They'll be okay if gambling is treated like tobacco'.

Sht Towns of Australia has had a dig at Mullum, claiming its inhabitants are 'deodorant dodgers' and it's the 'ideal place to do some tantric yoga while writing



A Brazilian barbecue evening was held at The Paddock Project on Saturday in Mullum, with delicious food, vibrant music, and fun activities for all ages. The event raised funds for an accessible toilet so that everyone, regardless of their abilities, can enjoy the tranquillity and beauty of the project's syntropic gardens. Photo Jeff 'Sinned In The Tropics' Dawson

a snarky tweet about how microwave popcorn causes schizophrenia?

Heads up – filmmaker David Bradbury's doco, *Road to War*, will be screened at Mullumbimby's Uniting Church on Friday, August 30 from 6pm. He says entry is by donation, and all proceeds will go to the kids and mums of Gaza.

Motorists, please slow down for wildlife. Moji the koala was killed this week crossing Broken Head Rd near the CrystalBrook resort. Friends of the Koala and WIRES volunteers say the eight-year-old healthy koala was in the prime of his breeding life and will be a loss to the local population.

Slow clap for conservatives: Mayor Lyon, Crs Swivel, Hunter and Pugh, for ignoring public submissions and voting to remove Mullum's local water supply (see page 1). So building resilience is not a

priority? Meanwhile, the state government just announced it will fund expansion of the

small north coast Urbenville Water Treatment Plant.

Coorabell Hall Art on the Wall presents
Charly Wrencher
The Hills are Alive
An exhibition of small paintings
Inspired by Coorabell and its surrounds.

"The Hills are Alive" Artist's Opening Night
Coorabell Hall, 5.30pm, Friday, August 23.

- *Special guest musician Dane Tucquet.
- *Complimentary glass of bubbles or beer.
- *Friday Curry Menu and Bar Open.
- *In Conversation with Charly 2.30 pm, Sat. 24, with onscreen footage
- *Viewing weekends 10-4 pm, Aug. 24-25th* 10 - 4pm Aug 31 - Sept 01
- *Queenies coffee cart open 8am Sat. Aug. 24
- *a % of sales goes to Coorabell Hall Building Fund

Kate Messenger
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