

# Echo

STILL PAYING MORE TAX THAN EXXON, SANTOS, VIRGIN AND AMCOR  
The Byron Shire Echo • Volume 39 #13 • September 4, 2024 • www.echo.net.au

## 'Council doesn't have the resources' election special



On stage on Monday night were four mayoral candidates, three of which are already on Council: Greens Cr Sarah Ndaiye (second from left, front), Labor Cr Asren Pugh (third from right front) and independent Mayor Michael Lyon (third from left, front). Independent David Warth (far right, front) is also contesting the mayoral spot.

Joining them were independent councillor candidates Jack Dods (far left, front) and Lucy Vader (second from right, front). Bay FM's Mia Armitage was MC (centre), with *The Echo's* Aslan Shand (sitting next to her) vigilantly preventing all candidates from speaking past their allocated time. Photo Jeff 'Pabulum and Platitudes' Dawson

**M**onday's 'meet the candidates' event at the Byron Theatre saw a full house, with Council aspirants for the September 14 election well supported by their supporters.

Questions from the community included how to increase services for local Aboriginal people, giving youth a platform, improving public transport, animal welfare and providing a space for LGBTQIA-plus people.

The issue of electric bicycles posing a danger to the public was also discussed.

### Short-term rental accom

The question of how to enforce the new short-term rental accommodation (STRA) regulations, which are about to come into effect, was also canvassed. Candidate Lucy

Vader joked she would inspect every home with her pet dog, and added that the laws are not stringent enough and too punitive in some areas.

Most candidates agreed enforcement will be an issue, given Council's cash-strapped finances.

Cr Lyon warned that the powerful Airbnb lobby are planning to undermine the new regulations and want to push for a national code.

Cr Ndaiye invited the community to be a part of the solution, while David Warth said he had an affordable housing plan for a rural residential park.

### Floodplain development

Asked whether candidates would oppose floodplain development and add the 2022 flood data into

planning instruments, all candidates agreed. David Warth added that the Shire is no better prepared for the next big event.

'I was in South Golden Beach recently, and nothing has been done, except spending enormous funds on consultant fees', he said.

Cr Lyon supported updating the data, adding that the state government leads such projects.

Cr Ndaiye deferred to her fellow candidate and flood engineer, Elia Hauge, who said that all Council's climate modelling needs updating.

### Housing

As for developing on Council-owned land, Jack Dods said while he wanted to retain ownership of the Mullum Hospital land, he conceded that Council will need

to partner with a developer unless the NSW government steps in.

Cr Lyon went further, claiming that he will sell half of the valuable land to pay for the land's \$5m remediation debt. Cr Pugh agreed Council has no expertise in building houses, and wanted to tap into the NSW government's \$5b social housing fund and \$100m fund for innovative solutions for homelessness.

Cr Ndaiye wants to retain all public land as much as possible, but said that an expression of interest process can specify which developer Council partners with.

Lucy Vader made the point that any development needs to be underpinned by infrastructure, something which she is not sure is in good condition.

### Biz support, or lack of

With Lawson Street businesses claiming they will be forced to close if planned road/drainage works proceed during the busy spring and summer trading period, candidates predictably expressed concern.

Byron Chamber president, Matt Williamson, asked how councillors can improve processes and communications around such important decisions.

David Warth said as a commercial landlord, he lost a tenant after Council road works prevented them from trading.

'There was no parking, and then no trade for three months.'

'This needs better timing', he said.

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# Fire season starts – permits now needed

Paul Bibby

‘How good is this weather!’  
It’s a common refrain among locals of late.

And why not? Some days in the Shire it feels like the weather gods have hit fast forward on spring and gone straight to summer.

But not everyone is dancing through the daisies. Our local fires are quietly viewing the continued clear skies with a hint of concern.

After an unseasonably wet winter, the grass is growing like the clappers and the undergrowth isn’t far behind.

It’s creating a large fuel load that significantly increases the risk of local



Byron Bay Fire Station Deputy Captain, Matt Crisp says anyone can register interest in being a firefighter. Photo Tree Faerie

fires as things dry out.

The fire permit season has just begun, meaning that locals are forbidden from burning-off on

their properties without authorisation.

Captain of the Main Arm RFS brigade, Lance Hopson, says doing the right thing is

particularly vital given the drying conditions.

## Growing season

‘We’re probably two-to-three weeks ahead in terms of the growing season, so it does change the equation a bit,’ he says.

‘People are loving the beautiful warm weather which is great, but having it so early in the season is a bit of a concern.’

‘It means things could happen quickly and in multiple areas at once.

‘But we’re ready and we’ll deal with any incident with the same level of professionalism as we always do.’

Fortunately, from a fire perspective, the long-term

weather forecast is not for the dry weather to continue deep into spring.

The Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) is predicting above-average rainfall for October and November.

## Regrowth concern

But Mr Hopson is nevertheless asking people not to burn-off without a permit and to mitigate risks by addressing potential fire hazards on their properties.

‘I’ve been chatting to the other fires and everyone’s concerned about the regrowth,’ Mr Hopson says.

‘We’ve already seen some early fire activity with a number of grass fires down south and some of us are definitely looking at the high grass around here with a bit of concern.’

‘If you’re on property you can slash the paddocks and keep your grass short,’ he said.

‘You definitely need to check your fence lines. People often revert to spray in those spots which only kills the grass so you’re not getting rid of the fire risk.’

## Vollies needed

Those interested in volunteering for the RFS are also being encouraged to do so now, so that they’ll be trained and ready to tackle fires early in the new year.

‘If you’re keen to join up don’t wait until you smell smoke to sign up, do it now,’ Mr Hopson says.

‘That way your local station can get you through the training.’

For more information on RFS volunteering and fire mitigation strategies, visit the RFS website: [www.rfs.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au). For up to date information on bushfire threats in your area, download the Hazards Near Me app.

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## Second Hand Saturday registrations open

Worried about the cost of living? Join the reuse revolution on Saturday, September 21 as we welcome the North Coast’s largest day of garage sales - Second Hand Saturday!

Since 2005, North East Waste has been organising Second Hand Saturday across the Northern Rivers region to support community reuse and repair.

They say, ‘with over 400 garage sales at last year’s

event, 2024 is shaping up to be bigger and better than ever.’

Organisers say, ‘It’s one huge organised day of garage sales with residents across the North Coast taking part to make extra cash on items they no longer need, or find bargains at a fraction of the cost of buying new.’

To join the reuse revolution on Saturday, September 21, visit [www.secondhandsaturday.com.au](http://www.secondhandsaturday.com.au)

## ‘Meet the candidates’ wrap up

### Continued from page 1

Cr Ndaiye added that she supports DAs being published again in *The Echo*, and committed to a regular podcast or similar to get the word out.

‘In recent times, the conversation (from Council) has narrowed’, she said.

Cr Lyon supported the works, saying it was essential. He added that Byron needs promotion.

‘Noosa is doing well, having crafted their brand’, he said. Night works are being considered, he added.

Cr Pugh said it was a failure of notification and more consultation should have occurred.

‘It’s about the mayor stepping up’, he said.

### Byron’s Main Beach

All candidates agreed that plans put forward by Council staff around the future of Byron’s Main Beach and a multi-storey carpark behind the pool needs to be put on pause. It emerged that public feedback was the largest ever, with around 800 comments received. Jack Dods said the feedback was roughly split in half around whether the carpark should remain. ‘We don’t need a carpark in the most beautiful part of Australia’, he said. Cr Pugh said we can ‘find carparks in other parts of town’, adding ‘we wouldn’t design it like this if we started from scratch’.

■ For more info on candidates, visit [www.echo.net.au](http://www.echo.net.au).



Author Patrick Morrissey with students and teachers from Goonengerry Public School. The school celebrates its 125th year this Saturday. Photo Jeff 'Dress Ups' Dawson

Inspired by early settlers who shared old maps and books, former Byron Shire councillor, Patrick Morrissey PhD, has chronicled the history of Byron's hinterland with a book he says is 'within the grand sweep of colonial history.'

*Conquer or Conserve – Goonengerry & the Byron hinterland*, will be launched at the Goonengerry Public School's 125th celebrations on Saturday, September 14, from 11am.

Celebrations for the school run until 3pm.

The longtime Goonengerry resident told *The Echo*, 'As pioneers cleared the Big Scrub, the challenges of living side by side played out – and have continued during the past 50 years as wave after wave of settlers take up residing, abiding and hiding on their piece of country.'

### Parish of Jasper

'The village of Goonengerry, in the middle of the Parish of Jasper, emerged as a sweet spot on an elevated table-top with commanding views of Cape

Byron and the Pacific Ocean in the headwaters of the Richmond River.

'The land has since borne witness to intense social, political and environmental upheaval, corresponding with the rise and demise of primary industries, guilds and fraternities, axemen and hermits, hippies, investors, developers and tree changers, and village and farm life interacting with a panoply of diverse – and at times conflicting – cultures.'

He says the book was a painstaking historical

reconstruction with personal reflections, spanning 35 years.

'This is a tale of colourful characters, family dynasties, political intrigue, banquets and balls, cricket on the green, horse racing and harvest festivals. And – eventually – the gradual emergence of a casual style of rural renaissance, mixed with an uneasy and at times volatile coexistence and Native Title.'

The book is available at local bookshops, Federal shop and online at [www.pjmpublications.com.au](http://www.pjmpublications.com.au).

## Mayor accused of lying around his DV case

Councillor Mark Swivel has accused Mayor Michael Lyon of lying around the details of his domestic violence (DV) case.

Cr Swivel abandoned the mayor's Byron Independents team shortly after news broke that Cr Lyon was facing criminal charges.

Mr Swivel told *The Echo* he was appalled by Cr Lyon's comments outside the court house on August 27, in which Cr Lyon claimed the matter was 'driven by police' and resulted from a 'misunderstanding'.

'He should have shown – as the mayor – that he understands how important domestic violence is in this community', Cr Swivel said in last weekend's August 30 *SMH* article.

In the same article, the mayor is quoted as saying 'What it was, was highlighting that [the alleged victim] has never rung to make a complaint, and didn't ever want any criminal matters or an Apprehended Violence Order (AVO). It's never

something she wanted.'

In response to those comments, Cr Swivel told *The Echo* that this statement could seriously mislead people into thinking that the mayor's wife never complained about his behaviour at all.

Cr Swivel says, 'The mayor's wife called the police, and they came to the house.'

'He told me himself. The statement misleads the community during an election, in a serious legal process.'

'We all want to run a positive campaign. We have a lot of great candidates in this election. But it's important to get things in perspective because some issues like DV are so much bigger than local politics.'

'The mayor also says he didn't criticise the police.'

'He did. He told media the process should be "reviewed" because it had "cataclysmically failed his wife".'

'He says the police were "driving" the process when his wife called the police.'

'By making all these claims, the whole sad story is

now in the public domain for discussion and criticism.

'The mayor says his wife did not contact the police. He told me she did – and must have. Otherwise, there is no basis for the provisional Apprehended Domestic Violence Order (ADVO), which is in place until March 2025. An ADVO like that can only be based on a report to police and the report can only have been made by the protected person – the alleged victim – the wife. If not, then by whom?'

'The mayor is entitled to a fair hearing and procedural fairness. But he seems to have lied. He is not entitled to do that. He has undermined confidence in the police, who have a tough and thankless job to do.'

'The mayor has failed the community by making this about him... The women who struggle to get DV taken seriously deserve much better than this.'

'We all want a positive campaign and to do our best for this community. We need to understand the much

bigger picture of DV in this community and everywhere.'

### Mayor replies

Cr Lyon told *The Echo*, 'I have not lied at all, nor am I criticising police. I was disappointed outside the court that the magistrate accepted we had good grounds for a suppression order, but then declined to grant it. My wife has filed a statement of no complaint.'

'I cannot comment on the detail any further because of the legalities involved, however I fully expect my name will be cleared in due course.'

'Most of all my family wants privacy at this time and I am not sure why Mark Swivel feels it is his right or his responsibility to provide endless comment on this matter. What we need to be discussing is the Byron Shire and what is needed over the next four years.'

■ If you, or someone you know, is in need of help from domestic violence, call 1800 799 7233 or the police.

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# A closer look at what's at stake on September 14

Paul Bibby

Looking through the images and bios of the brave locals raising their hands to serve on the next term of Council brings up a mix of emotions.

The first is a feeling of sincere admiration. I don't just mean that in a 'better you than me mate' kind of way. I honestly believe that being on Council is an act of community service and that most, if not all, of the candidates are standing because they want to have a positive impact on our Shire.

And when you consider the criticism and even abuse that Byron councillors get from the many passionate and opinionated people in this community (including from this publication), I think admiration is definitely deserved.

The second feeling that comes up is curiosity. I'm curious because I've spent enough time covering Byron Council to know that what we see on the how-to-vote pamphlets dished out on September 14 is not necessarily what we're going to get. I don't mean to imply that these candidates are phoney or duplicitous. It's just that I'm curious to see what they'll actually be like when it comes to governing.

You see, right now all but one of the 23 candidates for Byron Council are organised into five neat little

groups. And most of those neat little groups have made neat little statements about what their group stands for.

In my experience, by about six months into the Council term, a completely different dynamic will be playing out. The concept of voting along party lines might be reliable in state and federal politics, but in Byron, it's a sandcastle waiting to be swept into the sea.

## Changing landscape

The last Council term is a case in point. It was characterised by a changing landscape of power in which decisions had little or nothing to do with the candidate blocks most of us voted for. For example, for about three quarters of the term, Mayor Michael Lyon (Independent) and Deputy Mayor Sarah Ndiaye (Greens), voted the same way on the vast majority of motions, including passing many large Development Applications (DAs) and the *Byron Residential Lands Strategy*, which paved the way for up to 5,300 new houses.

On multiple occasions, their votes were different to Cr Ndiaye's Greens colleague Duncan Dey.

Cr Dey was following a more traditional Greens policy of seeking to limit development, while Cr Ndiaye had an approach that put

social concerns such as affordable housing first.

This wasn't some kind of outrageous betrayal or political coup.

As an outside observer, it simply seemed that Cr Lyon and Cr Ndiaye had served on Council together for a while, shared similar views about what needed to be done at that time, and had an approach that involved accepting the advice of Council staff and letting developers build things.

Toward the later part of the term, however, this unofficial alliance crumbled, with Cr Lyon and Cr Ndiaye taking very different positions on key issues such as the campaign to Save Wallum, and the decision to find a new source for Mullumbimby's water supply.

As this shift happened, a new voting alliance formed, with Cr Lyon voting alongside Asren Pugh (Labor), Mark Swivel (Independent-turned-Labor) and Alan Hunter (Independent-conservative).

While all this was happening, Cr Lyon's running mates from the last election had gone their own way and were either voting differently or, in the case of one councillor, not coming to Council meetings at all.

Again, this wasn't some dramatic political power play, it simply reflected the way Byron Council tends to work.

So, what does this mean for the upcoming elections? Here's three things I've learned:

## The mayor matters

Voting alliances may shift and change, but the mayor has significant powers that remain in place no matter what. The position comes with many delegated powers, such as allocating key Council resources in emergency situations (like floods). Secondly, the mayor has a voice in the key conversations with senior Council staff and state government bureaucrats, where much of the day-to-day work of Council governance is actually done. Lastly, the mayor chairs all Council meetings, which gives him or her the casting vote if things are locked at 4-4. As we saw during the last term, this casting vote is potentially crucial.

## Glance down the ticket

Voter research clearly shows that the vast majority of people vote above the line in NSW council elections, i.e. they are voting for the group of councillors that they like, rather than individual councillors (the latter requires voting below the line).

Given that councillors often don't vote with their block in Byron, the individuals who are sitting in the chairs are just as important as

their group affiliations. So, if you are voting above the line, at least have a look down the list to make sure that you're okay with all of those people making decisions on your behalf for the next four years.

## Personality, not policy

Vote for the personality of the individual candidate rather than the stated policies of their group.

Having covered Council for a while, I would say that policy is some way down the list of things which determine decisions.

Unless a particular ticket is swept to power and has a majority of seats, decisions are made on the basis of personal politics, the shifting dynamics of the councillor group over time, and the broader context in which the decisions are being made.

The vast majority of decisions involve very localised planning matters, small but important rules and regulations, and the allocation of scarce resources to capital works projects involving roads, parks, footpaths and rubbish collection.

You might like to ask yourself, can this candidate put their ego aside and collaborate to get a good outcome? And crucially, does this person know anything about governance, or are they going to be stumbling around blindly like a September lamb?



**Go!** and vote

2024 NSW local council elections are Saturday, 14 September. **Voting is compulsory.** You must vote within your council area or ward.



Find your nearest polling place



Election day is Saturday, 14 September  
Visit [elections.nsw.gov.au](https://elections.nsw.gov.au)

Get ready

Get set

Go!

# Mullumbimby Ex-Services Club gives back to community



From left: Andrew Spice (Club GM), Bella Cogle, Alanah Ramsay, Karen Gross, Jye Payne, Lachlan Smith, and Stephen Williams (Club Director). Karen is from The Paddock Project. Photo supplied

Local community groups have been given a cash injection into their operations, with the Mullum Ex-Services Club handing out funds last Friday.

GM Andrew Spice told *The Echo*, 'The purpose of the NSW ClubGRANTS program is to support projects and services that improve the welfare and quality of life of local communities, particularly in areas related to health, social services, sport,

education, and culture.' 'Clubs that earn gaming machine revenue are required to contribute a portion of their profits back into their communities through this program'.

The organisations benefiting are the Mullumbimby Agricultural Society (\$5,025); Mullumbimby RSL Subbranch (\$5,000); Mullumbimby Junior Rugby League (\$4,000); Marine Rescue Cape Byron (\$3,750); Mullumbimby CWA (\$2,750); The

Paddock Project (\$2,000); Mullumbimby Chamber of Commerce – Chippy Charge (\$2,000); Mullumbimby Ambulance (\$1,115); Mullumbimby Brunswick Valley Football Club (\$1,000); and Brunswick Byron Netball (\$500).

Mr Spice added, 'It is our way of acknowledging and assisting those key organisations that work tirelessly to make such a positive difference in our community'.

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Lucy Vader - independent candidate for the Byron Shire local election - 14th Sept 2024

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Authorised by Lucy Vader 35B Argyle St Mullumbimby NSW 2482

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# Taking a jog for ya prostate

Paul Bibby

If you've noticed people in your town or suburb jogging or exercise-walking with particular purpose this week, it could be because they're taking part in The Long Run.

It's not some sort of spring-based fitness challenge, well, not exactly. It's a nation-wide event that's raising awareness and funds for the fight against prostate cancer.

Participants aim to walk or run 74km during the month of September and seek donations which go to the Prostate Cancer Foundation

of Australia (PCFA).

Prostate cancer is currently the most common cancer in Australia and the most commonly diagnosed cancer among Australian men.

Around 72 Aussie men are diagnosed with prostate each day and around 11 die each day from the disease.

With such a high diagnosis rate, most people in the Northern Rivers have a friend, relative or colleague who has been touched by the disease, even if they're not aware of it.

While stigma surrounding the condition is gradually being broken down, some

men remain reluctant to talk about it.

'The first few weeks after I was diagnosed I didn't tell anyone,' local prostate cancer survivor Shane said.

'Then in September last year, I joined The Long Run, and after that, everyone knew and got behind me, including the team at work.'

'My message is, get checked, get in front of it, and help us get the message out there. You just never know whose life you might save.'

Visit [www.thelongrun.org.au](http://www.thelongrun.org.au) to register, or visit [www.prostate.org.au](http://www.prostate.org.au).



The ever popular annual Byron Orchid Society Show returns to the Mullum Ex-Services Club on September 13 and 14. Those in the know can get in early to grab some of the more exotic plants. Pictured are Stephen Wedd, Julia Bambery, Terry Mc Paul, Laurie Mills and Frank Corndale. Jeff 'Still In Orchid Situations' Dawson

## Meet the candidates event: Let's talk Byron business

The Byron Bay Chamber of Commerce will host a free 'meet the candidates' event, specifically aimed at Byron businesses, on Monday, September 9, from 4.30pm to 5.30pm at the Byron Community Centre (Wategos meeting room).

Matt Williamson, President of the Byron Bay Chamber of Commerce, says, 'This essential gathering offers a unique opportunity for the Byron Bay business community to engage directly with

candidates vying for seats in the upcoming Byron Shire Council elections'.

'In an open and inclusive forum, candidates from all political parties will be present to discuss their visions and plans for the future of business in Byron Shire.'

'This event is not only a chance to hear from the candidates but also a platform for the community to voice their questions and concerns directly to those seeking office.'

'This is a pivotal moment for our town, and it's important that our local businesses have their voices heard', he added.

For those unable to attend in person, the event will also be livestreamed on the Byron Bay Chamber of Commerce Facebook event page, allowing even broader participation from the community.

Questions are also welcome at [info@byronbay-chamber.com](mailto:info@byronbay-chamber.com).

## Homelessness funding commitment by Nolan

Hans Lovejoy

Greens candidate for the federal seat of Richmond, Mandy Nolan, says her party 'will fight for a commitment of \$1 million in annual funding for Byron Bay homelessness support service Fletcher Street Cottage if elected at the upcoming federal election'.

She says, 'This funding commitment follows a successful community sleep-out I co-organised on August 17,

which raised \$33,000 for the vital homelessness service'.

*The Echo* asked Ms Nolan to confirm whether this is a 'non-core election promise', owing to the unknown influence the Greens will have on parliament until after the election?

Her media advisor replied: 'Mandy's committing to what she'll fight for if elected, and if she's elected it will almost certainly be a minority parliament, which will make her vote

incredibly powerful'.

'There has been a real lack of genuine commitment by politicians to funding for this region, and Mandy is showing that she intends to work for this region and address the specific issues we face here.'

'Mandy's already managed to raise \$158,000 for Fletcher Street through community advocacy, so imagine what she'll be able to do if she's elected!'

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# ASREN PUGH FOR MAYOR



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Authorised by Asren Pugh, 4/3 Acacia Street, Byron Bay 2481

# An Echo Q&A with political newbies on

Hans Lovejoy

With any election, political hopefuls enter the race as insiders (already in the 'political tent' and seeking reelection), or being outsiders, meaning they generally are not experienced with how government works (legislation, policy and regulations for example).

Nor have outsiders spent endless closed-door meetings being coached by executive staff, for example.

The following Q&A is from those seeking to be elected who are not part of the establishment; however, it should be noted that Jack Dods has been active within Council's committees, giving him some advantage around the knowledge needed to be part of a governing team.

**Would you have delayed the decision on the future of Mullum's water supply until after the election, or support the mayor's casting vote to abandon the local source for bulk supplier Rous?**

**David Warth:** 'Yes I would definitely have delayed the decision on the future of Mullum's water supply. I would have held public meetings to determine what our community wanted to do about this issue and what expenditure was justified. In my opinion for a town to have its own dedicated water supply coming out of the rainforest is absolute gold. To decommission this facility without thorough community consultation is extremely concerning to me.'

**Jack Dods' team:** 'We feel the timing of the decision (being brought to the last Council meeting before the election) was ill-considered. It would have been in the public



David Warth

interest to have delayed the vote until a new Council was elected.'

'That said, our group have read the staff and background reports in depth, and we believe connecting to Rous Water was the best decision.

'We have no reason to believe the staff recommendation was flawed. The estimated \$67m cost differential to ratepayers, plus the need to construct an additional off-stream storage reservoir and water treatment plant, are both reason enough to support connection to Rous.

'We take a pragmatic, prudent approach to such matters, and in our opinion the financial and environmental trade-offs required to keep Lavertys Gap are not justifiable. Given the Rocky Creek Dam catchment's suitability for the broader Byron Shire, we believe it's reasonable to consider it a viable option for Mullumbimby's needs as well.'

**Lucy Vader:** 'At the meeting prior to the vote, it was clear the councillors did not understand the full details of what they were voting for, and information of costings and types of water retention had been brought and revised only five days prior to the meeting.

'This lack of clarity saw Cr Cate Coorey express that there was obviously not enough understanding on the topic for either the councillors, nor the public,



Jack Dods

and she would be choosing to switch her vote from changing Mullumbimby's water supply over to Rous, to remaining with the current Lavertys Gap supply.

'She said she felt more time was needed. I would have delayed the vote, yes, as the public deserve the respect to have the information and costings and detail drawings made fully and clearly accessible to them (not found somewhere deep inside a Council website), so that a fully informed decision can be made.'

**Would you have put more pressure on Wallum developer Clarence Property by refusing the works certificate, which may have incurred legal costs, or would you have supported the mayor's casting vote and approve the works certificate and then attempt to negotiate after?**

**David Warth:** 'I was not involved in the Wallum controversy. Without having taken on board all the information I cannot take a stance on what I would have done. I can see that all future planning must take into account an accurate assessment of environmental values.'

'If environmental requirements are met, then there must be assurance that work can commence without undue delays.'



Lucy Vader

**Jack Dods' team:** 'We understand the long, complex history behind the Wallum development. The site has been zoned for low-density residential development since the 1988 LEP.'

'The planing minister approved a concept DA for the site in 2013. In an alternate history, if the site had never been rezoned, we would not support development here. We recognise the environmental qualities of the site, especially at the eastern periphery where the development footprint covers several mature scribbly gums.

'However, historic zonings and approvals are in place and they are legally binding. We might not like that fact, but we accept it.

'We also understand the commercial realities surrounding the project. Clarence Property purchased the site for \$36m with an approved concept DA, and an approved lot yield in place.

'These facts make it extremely unlikely that Clarence will significantly amend their plans to accept a smaller yield. These are material considerations that are unavoidable and must be understood when seeking a better outcome.

'Jack Dods (the lead candidate on our team) donated his time and expertise to draft an alternate scheme for the mayor's negotiations

with Clarence Property. That scheme was considered in the March 28 Mayoral minute, and supported by councillors Coorey and Pugh.

'The scheme reduced the development footprint by over 1 hectare, saving the scribbly gums, and adding significantly more parkland to the proposal.

'The only tenable solution that would be considered by the developer involved keeping the proposed lot yield. This was achieved by introducing more diverse housing and lot types, which better suits the needs of our community by offering better, more affordable housing options for young families and down-sizers.

'The standard model of 450-500m<sup>2</sup> suburban land development is something we believe should be phased out.

'We want to see more diverse, walkable, pro-social development models for all new neighbourhoods, making them as sustainable and people-friendly as possible.

'Regarding delaying the subdivision works certificate: our understanding is that this is not usually a function of elected councillors, but a procedural step undertaken by staff.

'And that the February 8 report was not explicitly to approve or reject the works certificate, but a report responding to Councillor Dey's Notice of Motion from October 12, 2023, requesting certain management plans be updated and resubmitted for review by state and federal departments'

**Lucy Vader:** 'For a site already protected under state legislation, a refusal would have been my preference, based on ecological, cultural, and community values. Recommendations that a Council

fund be kept in reserve for legal proceedings taken out by dissatisfied developers is good and wise for well-grounded cases such as this. Sometimes developers do put in inappropriate designs for urban development that need modifications and need to be challenged. These types of cases in court, reflecting these ecological values, have a good success chance, and [it] would [have] been worth refusing the works certificate.'

'Allowing for the threat of legal proceedings by developers as the main priority over community values and development that threatens species and critical habitat: the balance of power and values system is askew and needs to be challenged and can, and could have been, reasonably done so.'

**Council's Housing Options Paper (HOP) was adopted in December 2023 and heavily criticised by community groups, not only for its secrecy, but because of the poor process that underpinned it. That HOP document 'informed' the subsequent adopted Residential Strategy. Mayor Lyon refused to provide the public submissions to The Echo (a request that was supported by the community groups). Instead, the mayor supported staff's view that it was too expensive to do so. Would you have released the public submissions?**

**David Warth:** 'With such an important issue as the Housing Options Paper I would require transparency and community engagement. I would have provided the public submissions to The Echo.'

**Jack Dods' team:** 'We see no reasons why public

**CHOOSE TO REUSE ...**

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# hot button topics

► submissions, or at very least, a summary of public submissions should not be made public’.

**Lucy Vader:** ‘The public submissions would be of public interest, yet I feel that including names could create division between friends for stating personal or group views. So I would support publishing the submissions, and not the names of the people who submitted, and with any defamatory statements omitted.’

‘However, the publishing of the submissions is of critical importance to prove what public sentiment exists around the Residential Strategy, as Council has made claims that the community “wants” certain types of developments that have been included in the Housing Options Paper’.

**As reported last week, local small businesses in Byron’s CBD say they face likely closure after Council staff’s insistence that road and drainage works need to be done now, in the lead up to Christmas. If you were**

**currently a councillor, what would you do to ensure these local businesses will not end up closing?**

**David Warth:** ‘The timing of the Lawson Street upgrade is questionable’.

‘As it is about to commence, I would fully inform business owners of the timeframe and stages of the work. I would ensure that access to the businesses affected is maintained and I would personally regularly visit the business premises to help with any problems that occur’.

**Jack Dods’ team:** ‘As members of the Byron Masterplan Group, Jack and Meredith are familiar with the proposed drainage upgrade works, and have advised Council staff on the need for maximum engagement with businesses’.

‘These works, while disruptive, will create a more robust and resilient drainage system to mitigate flooding, and redirect stormwater to better reflect the natural flows in Byron’s town centre. Jack attended a Chamber of Commerce event last week to hear the concerns of local

businesses on the potential impacts of construction.

‘We aim to work with staff on taking every possible step to ensure businesses stay as accessible and visible as possible. We would also seek advice on whether timing was flexible, and if works could be staged to allow businesses to operate fully over busy trading periods like Christmas’.

**Lucy Vader:** ‘Byron Bay’s retail is struggling. The fact that Council has planned these works for several years does not take into account the changes that have taken place in recent times in Byron Bay, and its rapid trading decline and Council should adapt to this change accordingly, and not contribute to the decline further’.

‘I would postpone renewal of the road pavement and streetscape until a dry and quiet period, and work with drainage teams on non-impacting work periods also’.

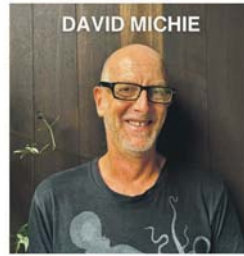
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JACK DODS



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# Making a real difference with a bequest

Aslan Shand

Have you ever wondered how you could make a difference in the world?

Perhaps there is an issue that you feel passionate about where you would like to make a lasting difference?

Two locals who have been on the ground making a difference throughout the Northern Rivers for years are Paul Jameson and John Bennett, and they have set up a long-term approach to making a difference both now and into the future.

John is a founding member of the Northern Rivers Community Foundation (NRCF), while Paul wrote the first business plan.

NRCF celebrates its 20th year in 2024.

And now they are the driving force behind developing and building the NRCF's bequest and gift giving fund.

'Over 20 years, the NRCF have donated \$10.5 million to over 600 organisations across the seven local government areas on the Northern Rivers,' explained Paul.

'Following the 2022 flood, we took donations of \$1.8 million over a matter of months and much of that was hitting the ground for flood-affected communities in a matter of weeks.'

## Tony Narracott – the beginning

The NRCF's bequest and gift giving fund began with a bequest from well-known Byron Bay local, Tony Narracott.



NRCF members Paul Jameson, John Bennet and Sandra Duncan. Photo Jeff 'Bequeathed But Not Dead Yet' Dawson

## Tony Narracott memorial

Barry Wallace and John Bennett are organising a Tony Narracott memorial on September 13, from 2pm at the Byron Bay Golf Club. It was the scene of his notorious living wake, held there in 2007. All those who knew Tony and would like to join in remembering him are welcome.

'Tony and Barbra moved here in the late 1980s and he was instrumental in building up the Byron Bay Chamber of Commerce from around 30 to 100 members,' said John.

'In around 2007, Tony was diagnosed with terminal cancer, and when his time was near, I took him to lunch and told him that the NRCF would like to recognise his contribution to this area. He was our first bequestor, and gave his son Andrew a cheque for \$20,000 to start the Tony Narracott Youth Fund.'

'This fund has since grown to over \$250,000, with major contributions from his son Andrew, and other friends that recognise Tony's contribution to youth, and remember Tony.'

'John and I are now focusing on bequests, and are looking for people who have some assets – when they die a proportion of their estate comes to the NRCF,' explained Paul.

## Morning tea

Paul and John are both big contributors, with John having bequeathed \$1 million to the NRCF, and Paul having left 100 per cent of his estate to the foundation.

'We are arranging morning teas with up to ten people to discuss the option of leaving the NRCF a bequest,' Paul said.

'We are being proactive about talking to people about the idea of leaving a bequest,' said John.

'When like-minded people sit down and talk in a round table discussion it gives people a chance to really consider if this is an option they would like to look at.'

Paul explained that, 'the money you leave is invested and then the interest from that is distributed as grants. You can leave money to the general fund, or look at leaving a specific fund that supports a particular area of the community like youth, the environment, disability, LGBTQI+ etc.'

'You need to look after your family first,' said John. 'My principle is to give your kids enough money for them to have a bed to sleep in, but not enough that they don't get out of it,' he said with a laugh.

To find out more about the bequest fund, look online at [www.nrcf.org.au/giving/bequests](http://www.nrcf.org.au/giving/bequests).

You can get your friends together to create a morning tea with Paul and John, or ask to join one they are running.

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## Tasty new whisky crafted in Byron

Launched on Sunday, Cape Byron Serendipity is a silky smooth single-malt whisky. It was lovingly nurtured in the hills behind Byron Bay by Eddie Brook, under the guidance of legendary master distiller, Jim McEwan. Pictured on Father's Day is Eddie and his dad, Martin Brook, both of Brookfarm. Photo Jeff 'Silky & Smooth' Dawson

# Mullum defibrillator – used or stolen?

Aslan Shand

Just a few weeks ago, the defibrillator in the Mullumbimby Industrial Estate was used to save a man's life.

Without it, paramedics said he would have died.

Recently, the defibrillator on the wall outside the Mullumbimby Newsagent went missing, and Mullumbimby Chamber member and newsagent owner, Jenelle Stanford, is asking for it to be returned.

'If someone has taken it and used it, that is great, and we hope that it has been able to save a life.'

'But once they have been used, they need to be recalibrated to be used again.'

## Needs to be recalibrated

'We are putting the call out to the community to return the defibrillator so we can get it recalibrated and back on the wall for anyone

who needs it in the future.'

Ms Stanford said the defibrillator machines were purchased by the Mullumbimby Chamber of Commerce, and they are placed at key locations in Mullumbimby and surrounding areas.

## Locations

These include outside the Mullumbimby Newsagent, at both industrial estates, the tennis courts, museum, Mullumbimby Golf Club and

at the Main Arm and Federal stores.

'We believe that the defibrillator was taken around Tuesday, August 28,' she said.

'It has yet to be returned, so if anyone knows about the defibrillator's whereabouts could they call me on 6684 2127? We have notified the police that the defibrillator is missing, and hope that it can be returned, as we would like to get the defibrillator back on the wall in case anyone needs it again.'

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# Union raises concerns over Cr Pugh backing rail trail

The Australian Rail, Tram and Bus Industry Union (RTBU) have voiced concerns around Labor candidates running for the Byron Shire Council election who are committed to turning the disused railway into a rail trail.

According to an August 30 letter to NSW Labor Minister for Regional Transport and Roads, Jenny Aitchinson, the RTBU say, 'Despite their popularity and obvious recreational benefits for communities, the proposal... is short sighted, contrary to long-term planning, and

inconsistent with NSW Labor Party policy.'

RTBU Branch Secretary Toby Warnes writes, 'The NSW Labor policy platform includes: "NSW Labor is committed to developing regional rail throughout NSW. It will actively investigate the prospect of reopening closed lines and instigate a business case for expansion into areas not currently serviced by rail"'

'By removing the track and associated infrastructure, the area will likely lose the opportunity to enjoy rail transport

in any form. Particularly in an age when rail transport is enjoying new focus owing to its obvious benefits to the environment, and as an efficient means of mass transit of goods and people.

## Contrary to policy

'Given the commitment of Labor to develop regional rail, permanently depriving a region of rail transport is contrary to current policy and broader public policy.'

'Further, there is no coherent reason that rail trail ought to replace rail track,

rather than complement it. 'Despite various assertions by rail trail advocates, there is no reason why the trail cannot be laid next to existing rail track, with special measures being put in place to deal with tunnels.

'For example, for tunnels, concrete surfaces can be laid between the tracks and on either side.'

During the 'meet the candidates' meeting, held on Monday night at the Byron Theatre, Labor Cr Asren Pugh reaffirmed his commitment to a rail trail.

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Authorised by A. Croft for The Greens NSW, 19a/1 Hordern Place, Camperdown, NSW 2050.

## Applicant defends large Wategos DA in littoral rainforest

Public submissions have been extended until September 10 around a large development slated for Wategos.

As reported last week, applicant Rae's Residents Pty Ltd are seeking Council approval (DA 10.2024.230.1) to build two homes which would require the removal of littoral rainforest, and a Threatened Ecological Community (TEC).

The \$28.7m proposal is located at 2 Brownell Drive on 4,223.52m<sup>2</sup> of native vegetated area.

On behalf of the proponent, Melbourne-based architect Pete Kennon told *The Echo*, 'The two sites cover over an acre of land. Only two family homes (with no commercial activity) across the entire parcel is a low intensity outcome'.

'135 trees exist on the site, predominantly a monoculture of tuckeroo. The scheme proposes removal of 55 trees, retention of 74 trees, transplanting onsite of six palms and the addition of 9,908 Indigenous native trees and plants.

'The proposal actively restores the far north littoral rainforest endangered ecological community with two littoral rainforest rehabilitation zones of 275sqm and 518sqm either side of the main dwelling, providing protection in perpetuity via a restriction on title.

### Improvements to ecology, says consultant

'These outcomes will greatly improve the ecological integrity of the site.

'The building site coverage represents 26.8 per cent of the total site area, with the deep soil planting area at 57



Photo from DA 10.2024.230.1 - Environmental Impact Statement.

per cent (the requirement is 25 per cent). This is linked to the deliberate plan to reduce the perception of bulk above ground to maximise neighbourhood beauty and amenity and preserve nature and green spaces.

'The option exists to move some of the area located below ground to above ground and still remain compliant with FSR controls.

'The floor space ratio currently is compliant at 0.4.

'There is no height breach on the main family home and only a minor height exemption sought on the smaller family home for a carport to comply with engineering recommendations for vehicular access.

'This poses no visual impact to any neighbour. It is required purely to create safe vehicular access from the street which is a reasonable expectation for a home.

'The project team have consulted the Arakwal People of Byron Bay, who have reviewed the plans and given their approval to construct the two homes on this land', Kennon added.

### Residents present their review

*The Echo* was provided with an ecology and hydrology review by ecologists and

hydrologists, on behalf of concerned residents.

Within the 13 points raised, the ecologist claims the consultant's reports downplayed the environmental significance, and opted to omit best practice biodiversity information.

Of particular note was the Streamlined Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (SBDAR), which the authors claim needs further surveys and historical context.

'This community is listed as critically endangered on the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC), one step away from extinct.

'It is also listed on the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* as endangered', the authors wrote. They added, 'Minimising biodiversity impacts have not been considered in full. 0.34ha (85 per cent) of the TEC will be lost and only 0.06ha retained. Under the required Biodiversity Offsets Scheme (BOS) and Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM) a proponent, and their consultants, must show they are minimising biodiversity impacts - this is not the case on this lot considering 85 per cent of the native vegetation on the lot will be cleared'.

The DA is on exhibition until September 10 at Council's website.



## Balloon Free Byron Shire

Balloons are one of the most lethal types of plastic debris affecting Australian Seabirds and other marine life.

Byron Shire is making the move to ban balloons and other single-use decorations on Council owned and managed sites.

### More information

Find out more about the Policy, and sustainable alternatives at:

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



**BYRON SHIRE COUNCIL**

## Mayor accuses Heilpern of 'ill-informed waffle' over housing

Mayor Michael Lyon has defended his housing and development policies from a recent *Echo* column by former magistrate, David Heilpern.

The following statement was provided by Cr Lyon:

'David Heilpern's piece about the death of Byron asks a pointed question about where I, the current mayor (and it should be said, seven out of eight of the other councillors) have been taking us. Unfortunately, he hasn't been listening, or he wouldn't have written such ill-informed, lock-up-the-Shire waffle on election eve.'

'You will not solve the housing crisis by not building housing. Supply is not the only factor, but it is the critical factor. I advise David to attend an information session from a skilled demographer on population trends in Australia and where people in the future are going to want to live. It does make for scary viewing as the housing crisis is only set to deepen in regional coastal areas. We have an opportunity to embrace and use this trend to help pay for the low-cost housing that is

so desperately needed on the ground right now.

'Byron Shire is the first regional council in NSW to be granted an affordable housing contribution scheme. We have just completed a second scheme to correspond with all the lands in the newly-endorsed residential strategy. This will see between 10 and 20 per cent of all new developments 'contribute' lots to Council for the purposes of affordable housing.

'Getting the land for free, and then utilising schemes like a community land trust will enable a new model of in-perpetuity affordability to take hold. It will also facilitate social housing outcomes, because we actually have the lots ready to go for state government to then provide the additional funding to convert some into social housing, rather than starting from scratch.

'We can establish criteria to ensure that any housing provided under the scheme can only go to Byron Shire residents who have lived here for say five out of the last seven years, as one idea', he said.



Clothes-compulsory bathing is now in place for Tyagarah Beach. Law-abiding naturists gathered over the weekend to highlight their lost freedoms. Photo Jeff 'Togs Back On' Dawson

Saturday, August 31 marked the first day of clothes-compulsory bathing at Tyagarah Beach.

Bradley Benham from the Northern Rivers Naturists Inc told *The Echo*, 'To legally skinny dip, you'll now need to go to Samurai Beach, 622km away in Tomaree National Park, near Port Stephens'.

'A group of us gathered in peaceful protest, with genitals covered

(somehow more indecent than simple nudity!).

'We spoke to police officers who attended to check things out, a friendly interaction, they're just doing their job and no fines were issued'.

While the clothes-compulsory bathing status is seen as a win for locals wanting to maintain their amenity and safety, Benham said, 'NPWS has stripped Tyagarah of its

clothes-optional status after 25 years of operation as a legal clothes-optional beach, owing to a jurisdictional error'.

'NPWS manage the beach, not Byron Council as was previously thought.

'The reason given was "physical violence" on the 800 metres of clothes optional beach.

'This is unsupported by obtained FOI Police CAD statistics, and the experience of beach users', said Benham.

# BYRON INDEPENDENTS

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Authorised by Rhett Holt, Suite 1917, 61 Jonson Street Byron Bay NSW 2481

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**120 years of healthcare in Murwillumbah**

Northern NSW Local Health District is inviting the community to attend a week of celebrations at Murwillumbah District Hospital (MDH) to acknowledge 120 years of providing healthcare to the local community.

**Extra paramedics to be based in Ballina and Lismore**

Ballina will see an extra five paramedics and Lismore will see an extra 12 paramedics working out of their respective ambulance stations.

**Age no barrier to competing on the sporting field**

A team of 11 from the Gold Coast and Tweed in their 50s to 80s will be entering the sporting field on the Sunshine Coast on September 5 and 6 for the GemLife Games.

**Charges laid after cemetery theft**

A man will face court after being charged with stealing plaques from the Tweed Heads Lawn Cemetery earlier this month.

**Appeal to locate elderly man missing from Ballina**

Jason Hillis, aged 78, was last seen at an aged care facility on North Creek Road, Ballina, about 12.30pm on Saturday, 31 August, 2024.

**Saffin comes out fighting for Norco**

Lismore MP Janelle Saffin has come out swinging at conservative National Party representatives who have chosen not to support restoring local milk producer Norco's contract to supply North Coast hospitals and health services.

www.echo.net.au

**Richmond Valley Council reserves its right to appeal Iron Gates decision**

Last Friday Richmond Valley Council (RVC) announced that it has lodged a Notice of Intention to Appeal the recent judgement made by the NSW Land and Environment Court in favour of Goldcoral Pty Ltd's Iron Gates development at Evans Head.

Council's General Manager Vaughan Macdonald said the Notice of Intention did not commit RVC to proceeding with an appeal, it reserved its appeal rights so the incoming

elected Council could consider the matter.

The Land and Environment Court's judgement overturned the Northern Regional Planning Panel's previous refusal of the Iron Gates development application and paved the way for stage one of the development to proceed, including 121 community title residential lots, a public open space lot and a community building which would act as

a refuge from bushfire and floods.

'Council is conscious of the wide-ranging community views on this longstanding matter and the need to ensure the legal and procedural aspects of this case are thoroughly examined and the interests of all residents are fully considered,' said Mr Macdonald.

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

**Need forestry panel balance**

The North East Forest Alliance (NEFA) says the NSW government's Independent Forestry Panel is not independent. NEFA is calling for the appointment of a forest ecologist.

Spokesperson Dailan Pugh says the three member panel cannot be considered independent as Peter Duncan AM was once the chief executive officer of the Forestry Corporation and Mick Veitch was previously the ALP's shadow forestry minister.

**Lismore's mayoral candidates on issues for Lismore**

Lismore will soon elect 11 councillors including a popularly-elected mayor.

There are four candidates running for mayor.

Former mayor Vanessa Ekins is running for the Greens and is focusing on the key issues of affordable medium-density key worker housing, relocating homes to flood-free land in Goonellabah and seeing 'thousands of trees planted in the upper catchment to make our rivers healthy again,' she told *The Echo*.

With 20 years experience as a councillor and former

mayor she says she has a demonstrated work ethic, extensive networks, a long history of volunteering and is keen to listen.

Harper Dalton-Earls brings a wealth of experience in social work, including trauma-informed care, drug and alcohol recovery, and flood recovery and is running for mayor on behalf of Labor.

Harper's main priority is to build a resilient Lismore that is prepared for the future. This means fighting for better flood mitigation infrastructure, ensuring that housing is safe and affordable, and

making sure that waste services are transparent and serve the needs of the community.

Harper is opposed to the Dunoon Dam project.

John Jenkins is running as an independent and says he wishes to serve and support and advocate for the Lismore City Council electorate and that he has approximately 15 years of successful experience in governance.

Mr Jenkins says the flood response has been far too slow and is promoting a 'staged retreat from high-risk flood areas'. He is yet

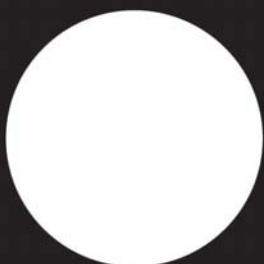
to form a position on the Dunoon Dam and sees the biggest risks to Lismore as future floods, housing and homelessness.

Current mayor, Steve Krieg, whose last election campaign was enthusiastically supported by National Party members, has not responded to questions so far.

■ Go to *The Echo* Online for a full outline of the candidates running for election to the Lismore City Council on September 14: www.echo.net.au.



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## Tweed Shire Council: summary of candidates

Aslan Shand

Tweed Shire residents will soon elect seven councillors who then elect the mayor.

The current 2024 Tweed Shire Council is made up of one conservative, Warren Polglase, who has said he is retiring and is throwing his support behind Nationals candidate Kimberly Hone.

There are two Liberal councillors, James Owen and his partner Rhiannon Brinsmead; Greens councillor Dr Nola Firth; Labor councillor Reece Byrnes; and the two independent councillors – Mayor Chris Cherry and Deputy Mayor

Meredith Dennis. Apart from Cr Polglase they are all running again.

Ned Wales is a new independent candidate who is throwing his hat into the ring this election. He has significant experience in urban planning and land use management.

Colin Usher is running a ticket and says he has skills in change management and appears keen to open up rural properties for more housing.

Mitch Dobbie is running as an ungrouped candidate and is keen to balance the needs of housing and the environment in the Tweed.

Ungrouped candidate James Mckenzie and Nationals candidate Kimberly Hone both have Mt Warning in their sights. Ms Hone is in favour of reopening it to the public. Ms Hone (who has not responded to questions from *The Echo*) is a member of the Pentecostal church, and said that her 'ultimate goal' in politics was to 'bring God's kingdom to the political arena' as reported by *The Guardian*.

■ Go to *The Echo* Online for a full outline of the candidates running for election to the Tweed Shire Council on September 14: [www.echo.net.au](http://www.echo.net.au).

## WardellCORE limited by Ballina Council

David Lowe

A packed-to-overflowing gallery of WardellCORE supporters was not enough to sway Ballina Shire Council in its last meeting for this term to allow the group's current range of functions to continue.

Crs Nigel Buchanan and Kiri Dicker absented themselves from the discussion due to conflicts of interest. Ballina Council staff sought to impose a number of



WardellCORE's premises. Photo David Lowe

conditions on the DA to formalise the ongoing operation of WardellCORE.

This comes after WardellCORE was earlier prevented

from continuing to operate in the much larger venue Wardell Memorial Hall, following pressure from some members of the community.

In the end, Ballina Council's original staff suggestions were adopted, meaning WardellCORE's future activities will be constrained as a result, to the great disappointment of those present in the public gallery and those councillors who had fought for WardellCORE's side of the argument.

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# Ah, renewable energy



The most common method of lithium production is brine extraction, according to water tech corporation, [www.samcotech.com](http://www.samcotech.com). Image [www.samcotech.com](http://www.samcotech.com)

Renewable energy!

It's the great hope – humans will make the leap from using dirty polluting fossil fuels to being on board the Star Trek *Enterprise*.

And sure, it's a better use of energy than burning stuff up, and it beats paying greedy corporations for that privilege.

Part of the renewable energy make-up is of course rare metals, which are mined in basically the same manner as coal, oil and gas.

What a drag!

Lithium, for example, is a rare metal, and is essential for the future of renewables – it's used in everything from phones to EVs.

It's a highly reactive alkali metal that offers excellent heat and electrical conductivity.

Last week, a sharp young Aussie news vlogger team made the point on social media that no Australian media had reported on nationwide protests in Serbia, opposing a new lithium mine by Aussie miner, Rio Tinto.

Punters Politics is a duo of Konrad and James, who describe themselves as 'navigating the divisive world of Australian politics on a quest to make it simple for the

everyday punter'.

Their clever short video on the protests outlined that, 'most of Australia's news outlets are owned by just three billionaires, all with significant stakes in various mining industries. Coincidence or conspiracy?'

They refer to *Ground News*, a news aggregator app that allows users to compare media coverage from across the political spectrum.

According to that app, plenty of other news organisations from around the globe covered the story.

And thankfully, so did the ABC, except their story was from January 2022: 'Serbia backs out of controversial Rio Tinto lithium mine'.

That was the search result from 'Serbia Rio Tinto lithium mine'.

Fun fact: Australia is the world's largest lithium producer, and four of our five lithium mines are in WA, with the other in the NT.

Given we have such a stake in the sector, are reasonable safeguards in place around the potential contamination of water supplies and habitat destruction from open-pit lithium mining?

Hans Lovejoy, editor

# What if everyone paid their fair share?

With the PM away in Tonga at the Pacific Islands Forum, and the Liberals talking about defunding signature ALP policies so wealthy people can pay less tax, Greens leader Adam Bandt took to the National Press Club stage last week to suggest a very different way of dealing with the nation's financial problems.

Mr Bandt pointed out that since 2022, the price of food in Australia has risen 10.5 per cent on average, rent 31 per cent, and mortgages \$1,667 each month.

More than three million Australians are now living in poverty. 'People are drowning,' he said.

At the same time (and ever since Covid), the wealth of the richest billionaires has massively increased, while big banks and supermarkets continue to rake in unprecedented earnings as a result of price gouging and profiteering.

Amazingly, trickle-down economics is continuing to show no signs of being an actual thing.

In the absence of revolution, what can be done?

How about a tax on excessive profits of companies with an annual turnover of \$100 million plus?

Mr Bandt suggests that this and other reforms could raise \$296 billion.

He said the Australian economy is presently 'rigged by design' in favour of big corporations, by both major parties.

'Labor has lost themselves,' the Greens leader says. Labor have resisted doing anything to break up the supermarket duopoly, and relied too much on the RBA to address inflation, 'using everyday people as cannon fodder' instead of taking on the big corporations who caused the crisis and were then rewarded by interest rate rises.

In his Press Club speech, Mr Bandt next moved on to taxation. 'Despite billions in revenue, one in three big corporations does not pay tax,' he said, with that number rising to two out of three when it comes to coal and gas corporations.



*'Is there any reason to think Exxon would abandon this country if they had to share some of their profits with the people of Australia?'*

David Lowe

He gave the example of Danielle, the nurse from Allan Fels' price-gouging inquiry, who was paying more tax than Exxon, Santos, Virgin or Amcor.

'Big gas corporations are parasitic leeches,' said Mr Bandt.

'They suck out gas, public subsidies and profits, leaving nothing but dangerous pollution and a degraded host, sending revenue offshore and paying little, if any tax.'

## Major parties are subsidiaries of the coal and gas corporations

'Labor, like the Liberals, is now a fully-owned subsidiary of the coal and gas corporations. That's why Labor has approved 23 coal and gas projects since coming to power in the middle of a climate crisis.'

Adam Bandt said that he and his merry band of men and women in the Greens would be announcing a series of 'Robin Hood reforms' between now and the 2025 election aimed at securing long held prizes, including bringing dental into Medicare, free university and TAFE education for all, the decriminalisation of climate protests, and ending tax handouts for wealthy property investors, all to be funded presumably by putting the hard word on the most profitable corporations.

## Goodbye fossils?

As to whether fossil fuel companies would take their toys and go elsewhere if forced to pay a reasonable amount of tax, it's worth remembering that petroleum executives made similar threats in Norway before the government there imposed a 78 per cent tax rate.

Those threats proved empty, and Norway now has a sovereign

wealth fund worth almost 2.5 trillion Australian dollars.

Exxon, likewise, operates in countries including Norway, the Netherlands and the UK, all regions where they pay significant tax, although in Australia they are by some calculations the biggest tax avoider of all.

Recent Australia Institute research shows that federal taxes on Exxon, Woodside, Shell and Chevron combined contribute less to the Commonwealth government than beer excise.

Is there any reason to think Exxon would abandon this country if they had to share some of their profits with the people of Australia?

Unfortunately, none of this was explored in the hysterical mainstream media reaction to Adam Bandt's speech, if it was reported at all.

For me, the problem with Bandt's argument lies more with the internal contradiction of calling for more money to be raised from an industry which Greens policy (and mainstream science) says needs to be wound down ASAP for the survival of life on Earth.

Meanwhile, since Anthony Albanese returned from Tonga (the land of hot mics, rising sea levels and embarrassing outfits), he's announced new cost-of-living band aids 'to help Australians doing it tough'.

Commonwealth Rent Assistance is to increase by another ten per cent, with more medicines to be available via 60-day prescriptions.

Still no word from Albo on going after those dastardly multinational corporations though.

■ David Lowe is an award-winning filmmaker, writer and photographer with particular interests in the environment and politics.



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**Nicholas Shand**  
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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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**Tips for workers**

Years ago, while studying at Southern Cross University, I worked several hospitality jobs. Though I was always paid minimum wage, tips made the effort worthwhile.

Recently, some friends in the industry shared their frustration with Byron Bay employers who pocket tips rather than distributing them among staff.

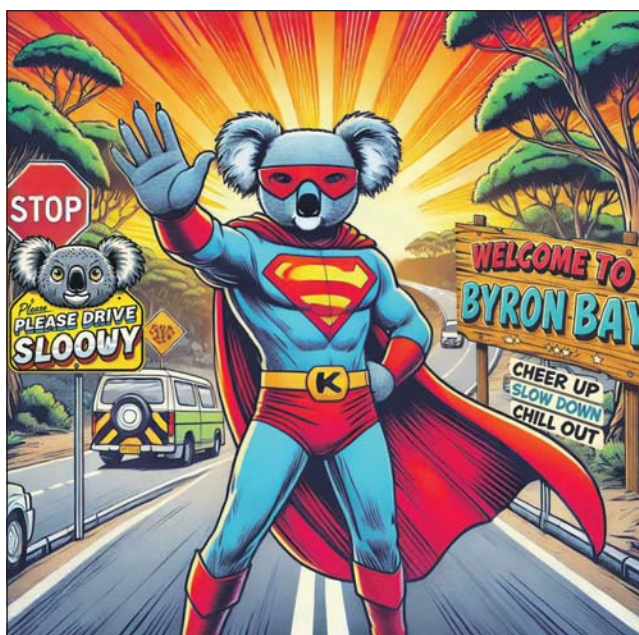
This raises a few concerns: patrons tip with the expectation that their money goes directly to the workers, but with the rise of electronic payments and the decline of cash transactions, it's easier for employers to obscure incoming tips. Are tips becoming a relic of the past? Should hospitality workers shift their focus from relying on tips to advocating for a sustainable wage that allows them to pay rent and maintain a healthy lifestyle?

**Jaemen Jamieson**  
Mullumbimby

**Goodbye Moji**

People are traumatised, devastated, and heartbroken over the death of a beloved koala lovingly named Moji.

I saw him the Saturday afternoon before, beautifully cuddled up in the tree, all fluffy ears. Unfortunately the huge flashing sign saying



No more Moji the koala deaths on the road. Slow down and let them live. Image Ewan Willis with Midjourney AI

'please slow down, koala in the area' did not protect Moji. He was found dead on the road on Monday morning, in front of the Byron Bay Golf Course after being hit by a vehicle.

Now the huge flashing sign says 'we lost a koala here, please slow down'. No more 'PLEASE!' I am angry!

We need to do something more. Do you have any suggestions? I think speed cameras are worth a try. What do you think Council, Transport for NSW?

**Gina Nichols**  
Byron Bay

**Crushed koalas**

Is it reasonable to suggest that speed bumps be introduced in sections of road crossed by koalas? There could be brightly coloured steel tube speed bumps, across the surface of the road, locked down on concrete blocks at the edges of the road. They could be fastened during the breeding season.

**Sapoty Brook**  
Main Arm

**Floods, weeds**

I feel for Graham Leech (Letters, August 21) who suffers from weeds spread by flood

waters. He observes that no one is doing anything about the very healthy-looking weeds at Wilsons Creek. Unfortunately, the truth is that weed problems would be vastly worse had nothing been done.

I have lived in Wilsons Creek for 45 years and am aware of massive weed management efforts by Landcare groups, government, NGOs and responsible landholders.

Giant devil's fig first appeared in 2006 when birds and bats brought seed from sources beyond the neighbouring national parks. It also spreads in flood waters. Post-flood, there were attempts to stem the predicted surge in black taro (elephants' ears) before they took root. There was too much material.

Support is hideously underresourced and often short-term. Political lobbying? Election issue? Weed management should be a solidly funded everyday business. Is there a better way than fining an 83-year-old for hosting giant devil's figs?

**Barbara Stewart**  
Wilsons Creek

▶ More letters on page 20

**Letters to the Editor**

Send to Letters Editor Aslan Shand, email: editor@echo.net.au, fax: 6684 1719. 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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## Commercial activities on Byron Shire beaches

Tricia Shantz

The most precious amenity in our shire is our beaches. They are of great value to people who live here and visit. So that this amenity is maintained, Byron Shire Council, the NPWS/Cape Byron Headland Trust and NSW Marine Parks Authority, regulate commercial activities on these crown reserves. They are state-owned but mostly managed by Council. We appreciate that they have done this for the betterment of the community's use of our beaches.

What this means is that anyone deriving income from using the beaches must be licensed by Byron Shire Council, Marine Parks Authority and in some areas by NPWS/Cape Byron Headland. This regulation has been operating for approximately 20-plus years now. It includes surf schools, kayaks and horse riding. While Byron Shire residents might not necessarily be, by nature, people who like to be regulated, in this situation if it wasn't, then it would be a commercial free-for-all on our beaches.



Beach in the north of Spain. Photo supplied

Think Bali beaches: massages, hair braiding, food, yoga – anything you want. We don't believe this is what people want on our beaches.

There are six licensed surf schools, two kayak businesses and one horse-riding business. All tender their licence, pay fees to Byron Shire Council and some pay fees to NPWS, as well as a royalty fee for every person who partakes of any of these activities in the National Park. Two surf schools are licensed to teach at The Pass and Wategos Beach and elsewhere, as low volume, personalised teaching. The high volume surf schools can teach on any of the other beaches.

In recent years there have been numerous, unlicensed

people teaching surfing on Byron's beaches. It has got to an untenable situation. They are teaching directly at The Pass in numbers up to ten people. It is creating the situation that both Council and NPWS did not want, nor likely the people who use those beaches want. As unlicensed operators they don't pay any fees (that go back into our beaches) and are as such, uninsured. What happens when one of their young clients gets injured? They're not covered. It's bound to happen with the number of unlicensed surf teaching occurring.

If this were not a regulated industry we would be like Portugal and Spain where, on one Spanish beach, as many as 3,000

people learn to surf in just one day! Is this what Byron residents want? This is not about the moms and dads teaching their own kids or their friends' kids to surf. This is about commercial business – people being paid to teach people surfing.

So, when you are out and about on your walks on the beach or in the water ask the person teaching what school they are with. Equally, if you see people doing ice baths, teaching yoga, or whatever, where someone is being paid, gently mention to them that commercial activities are regulated on our beaches. Or if you're on social media and there is a post from someone who has just arrived in town and asks where to get a surf lesson, advise them to go with a licensed school.

Our beach amenity is constantly under natural threat with natural occurrences and climate change, which we might feel powerless to do anything about. But it is under commercial threat and we all can do something about that.

■ This article is supported by the six licensed surf schools in Byron Shire.

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**Chess in Byron Bay**

Congratulations to Byron's chess enthusiasts, Peter Hanna, Byron Shire Councillor Cate Coorey, and the Byron Shire councillors, on the decision to establish a permanent location for 'chess by the sea'.

This initiative is a wonderful opportunity for both locals and visitors to engage in outdoor chess, fostering friendships and community spirit through the ancient game.

At the Lennox Head Pavilion in Ross Park the Lennox Head Chess Club hosts games every Saturday from noon.

**Jim Gilchrist**  
Lennox Head Chess Club Inc

**Rail trail action**

As a part-time resident I read again, in recent issues of *The Echo*, that all councillors/candidates questioned were in favour of the rail trail through the Byron Shire. It has been years of positive words, yet no evident action.

So Byron Shire remains cut off from accessing the amazing (and safe) rail trail to our north. Currently users would know that at the southern end the Northern Rivers rail trail ends abruptly at Wooyung Road, where if you wish to continue cycling

or walking south you run the gauntlet on the Tweed Valley Way. This is an extremely unsafe piece of road.

Yet, the remedy is so simple. If (when) the rail trail is extended from Wooyung Road to Billinudgel these few kms instantly enable safe access to residents from Billinudgel, Ocean Shores, New Brighton, South Golden Beach, The Pocket, Main Arm and Mullumbimby. It would connect up with the existing cycle paths in/ around Ocean Shores. From Mullum, cyclists could access a Billinudgel rail trail point by using Coolamon Scenic Drive.

This would be an interim step, prior to the entire length of a Byron Shire rail trail being completed, however it would be a great stage 1. What is stopping this from happening now? It is already way overdue. Which councillors will stand up and get this to happen?

**Andrew Bloxham**  
South Golden Beach

**Local furphies**

Bravo David Morris on underlining the furphy of Byron Bay having a 'unique culture'. What a sham of a claim - used to beguile, and believed by the credulous. When used as a statement of

fact it does my head in. (This view from a resident whose family settled here over 150 years ago).

Another thing that does my head in is the Greens mayoral candidate for the next Byron Shire Council (BSC) election promoting herself as 'distinctly collaborative' and anti ego-driven politics. Sounds good, and it may be on her own wish-list, but again I have to say it's a sham of mammoth proportions.

I earnestly, and I repeat earnestly, tried to work with Sarah on Council for five years. Others may have a different opinion but after this experience I have to say that I found her to be at the top of my list of non-collaborative, ego-driven grandstanders I have had the misfortune to engage with - and I've been on countless committees and forums in my career as a senior public educator.

**Jan Hackett**  
Byron Bay

**Anti-war action**

Anti-war and climate activists, will be coming together in Melbourne on 8-14 September to 'disrupt land forces'. For further info see [www.disruptlandforces.org](http://www.disruptlandforces.org).

**Bobbi Allan**  
Mullumbimby

**Chased by a whale?**

Last Tuesday, I was paddling from the east towards Julian Rocks and a whale came straight for me.

I stopped paddling and it went under me but then turned around and came straight back at me, went under me, and then turned and came back at me again. It then stopped under my kayak and I could see the barnacles on its head directly underneath me.

I then got a bit worried as I thought it might surface under me or flick its tail so I paddled off and again it turned and came straight at me. About five times it turned and came straight back at me. Twice it just lay under my kayak. I was definitely getting worried by this stage and so I decided to paddle very close into the rock so that it couldn't go under me again. The whale followed me all the way to the rock and then seemed to be just waiting out there for me!

There was no calf around so don't know what was going on.

**Andrew Wilson**  
Mullumbimby

■ More letters are available in *The Echo* online: [www.echo.net.au/letters.online](http://www.echo.net.au/letters.online).

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# Q&A with David Heilern on DV

## - charges, suppression orders, bail, and why complainants can't unilaterally 'withdraw' charges

One woman dies every four days in a domestic and family violence situation in Australia and of the 112 women who were killed by an intimate partner between 10 March 2008 and 30 June 2016 in NSW, 111 were victims of coercive control.

The first woman to be murdered in a domestic violence (DV) incident in 2023 in Australia was Ballina Woman Lindy Lucena. It is an issue that impacts every level of society. In a recent DV case high-profile barrister Ertunc Ozen had a request for a suppression order refused by Magistrate Robin Denes (previously a magistrate in the Northern Rivers for ten years).

Ms Denes said to the court, 'These charges of domestic violence do have publicity in the community at the moment. It's important to note that all parts of the community, whether the most disadvantaged to the most advantaged, that the public knows that these

allegations can arise in the course of all walks of life,' as reported by the *Daily Telegraph*.

Former magistrate David Heilern here clarifies a range of issues and questions that commonly arise when DV charges are in progress.

### Is bail normal in domestic violence offences?

It is not always the case that defendants are arrested and put on bail - usually this occurs where the police believe there may be an ongoing risk to the complainant (a legally accurate but awful term) or the community unless certain conditions are imposed. These conditions will often include the same conditions as the Apprehended Domestic Violence Order, but may include limiting drug or alcohol use or reporting to police.

### Can complainants withdraw charges?

The short answer is that this is the wrong question. The complainant is not

a party to proceedings, so cannot withdraw charges - they are police charges, and only the prosecutor can withdraw them. The same with DV orders - they can only be withdrawn by the police or DPP. The complainant is often described as merely a witness to the proceedings. It is a myth perpetrated by American or English cop shows that proceedings depend on the cooperation of a victim.

### Is it usual for the DPP to be the prosecutors in domestic violence offences?

No, it is very unusual, and in fact I have never seen this occur. Under the legislation the DPP can take over summary matters in the local court, and this can occur at the DPP's own initiative, or at the request of the police. The only exception I have encountered is if the defendant is a police officer where clearly there would be a conflict for the police prosecutor in the matter. ▶

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► **What is the point of continuing on where a complainant does not want to?**

There are all sorts of pressures to be balanced in DV allegations and it is not at all unusual for complainants to want the proceedings to cease. This can be for a range of reasons, and sometimes the complainant's position changes by the time it gets to a hearing. Generally, the prosecution proceeds right up to the hearing date, and sometimes even calls reluctant complainants to the witness box so that they are given every opportunity to have their version put before the court.

**What test do the prosecuting authorities apply to proceedings about whether to proceed?**

The test to be applied is if there are reasonable prospects of a conviction. Obviously charges are not laid without a complaint being received and an evaluation is then made about how that is going to stack up in court. This can be a moving feast, but in DV matters, my experience was that the decision is made based on the strength of the evidence on the hearing date. Prosecutors are reluctant to withdraw charges solely on the basis of an early indication that the complainant may not be cooperative.

**DV resources and support**

- Mullumbimby and District Neighbourhood Centre Women's Resource Services 6684 4299, email: admin1@MDNC.org.au
- Women's DV Court Advocacy Support 1300 888 529, www.legalaid.nsw.gov.au
- NSW Sexual Assault Hotline 1800 424 017 (free call), www.nswrapecrisis.com.au
- Lifeline 13 11 14, www.lifeline.org.au
- Momentum Collective 1300 900 091, www.mymomentum.org.au
- Domestic Violence Hotline NSW 1800 656 463 (free call), www.familyrelationships.gov.au
- 1800RESPECT, 1800 737 732 (free call) www.1800respect.org.au

**Why are DV matters not private and subject to suppression orders protecting the alleged victim?**

There is a strong presumption that all court proceedings are public and open. Where someone continues to hold public office, that presumption tends to be even harder to shift. I know in my time on the bench I never made a suppression order in a DV matter, except where the alleged victim was a child, and even then only as to matters that would identify the child. One determinative factor is often whether the matter had already been reported in the

media. There is no point closing the court where the horse has already bolted.

**Why would a hearing in the local court not be for months after the charge?**

Resourcing. In an ideal world a DV case should be able to be heard almost immediately so that those involved can have a quick resolution and get on with their lives. However, courts are under-resourced, and have been as long as I have been involved. Immediately post Covid the delays were even longer. Even within DV matters, some cases have more priority such as where a

defendant is bail refused and in custody or the charges are more serious.

It is desperately unfair for a defendant to have to wait months to potentially clear their name, and makes a mockery of the concept of 'innocent until proven guilty'. The stain of allegation is enormously stressful for all.

**What is assault, and what is intimidation?**

Assault has two varieties. The first is a physical assault such as a push or a punch. The second involves deliberately causing a person to fear a physical assault, such as raising a fist or swinging a bat. You cannot tell from the bare charges which type of assault is alleged. However, an assault charge does not include injury beyond the trifling. Greater injury would be an aggravated assault such as wounding. The word 'intimidation' in the DV legislation is very broad, and can include threatening or harassing. Again, there can be really serious examples, or very minor. Assault carries a maximum penalty of two years imprisonment, and intimidation a maximum of five years.

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

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## U/8 Shores Crocs end on a high



The U/8 United Shores Crocs boys. Photo supplied

In a spectacular showdown, the Ocean Shores Crocs Under 8 soccer team finished the season by claiming a hard-fought victory over Pottsville, a team that had previously bested them twice.

The Crocs' defence was rock-solid, led by Banjo, who was outstanding as goalkeeper. Darcy made his presence known with some big kicks, while Harry, Tex, and Chilli consistently broke through Pottsville's defences.

### Baffled opponents

Beau left the opponents baffled with his fancy footwork and unforgettable

goals. Elis, Benji, and Seb wowed the crowd with their great teamwork, energising the field.

Under the guidance of their dedicated coach Glen, this year's newcomers, Hercules and Fergus, quickly found their stride and played key roles in this unforgettable win against an amazing Pottsville side.

However, the Crocs will soon say goodbye to key player Beau, who everyone agrees will one day run on with a representative team, and his legacy will inspire the Crocs for seasons to come.

# AFL junior Magpies win premierships against well-resourced Gold Coast



Grand final winners, U/13 girls. Photo supplied

### Janine Owen Koorey

Over the weekend, two out of three of our AFL junior competitive teams (U/13 girls and U/15 boys) won the grand final, making them premiers of their competitions.

We play in the SEQ AFL comp against much bigger and better-resourced Gold Coast clubs, and yet both the Byron teams finished minor premiers and then major winners.

The girls team has an

incredible story. Last year, we could only recruit six girls, and in the end, merged with Lismore and Murwillimbah to form a Northern Rivers team.

We lost every game and barely scored points the entire season.

This year, we had 24 girls register for Byron Magpies as its own club; 19 of these girls had never played AFL or even watched a game.

Under the leadership of coach Colin Hussey the girls formed one large, solid



Grand final winners, U/15 boys. Photo supplied

team both on and off the field winning 13 out of 18 games they played all season.

They beat Coomera in a nail-biter grand final in 32-degree heat.

To have a small developing regional club that can head up the M1 motorway and compete against much larger Gold Coast clubs – and win – is a remarkable achievement.

The U/15 boys merged with Ballina junior AFL club to make a Ballina/Byron

team, and much like the girls, they dominated their competition finishing as minor and major premiers, beating Broadbeach in the grand final.

We would love to see our club continue to grow and have plans for three girls teams next year: U/11s, U/13s and U/15s, as well as multiple mixed teams in the U/9s, U/11s, U/13s and U/15s.

To join our pre-season training, keep an eye on our socials on Instagram.

## New dragon boat blessed



2024 Community Teams Champs, The Healthy Minds Club. Photo supplied

Last weekend, the Rainbow Region Dragon Boat Club's annual regatta at Shaws Bay, East Ballina, enjoyed perfect weather and exhilarating races.

The event kicked off on Saturday with a vibrant boat blessing and eye dotting ceremony, led by Tsunma Gosha, marking the debut of the *Mary D* dragon boat.

## Stalwarts take minor premiership double

### Ross Kendall

Wollongbar-Asltonville Rugby (WAR) has won the Far North Coast Rugby Union first and reserve grade minor premierships after picking up twin victories playing away against Ballina last weekend.

First grade wrapped up the regular season and maintained their undefeated status for the season by beating Ballina 35-24, rebounding after being down five points at halftime.

WAR'S Hamish Mould scored two tries, while Louis Hollman, Thomas Parker and Ben Damen also crossed over, with Bodi Smith converting five.



WAR will be hard to stop as they close in on another rugby union premiership. Photo Vicki Kerry

For Ballina, try scorers included Jack Kindred (two), Reece Noble and Stephen Paskins.

WAR finished the regular

season with 86, points ahead of Byron Shire Rebels (73), Casuarina (67), Ballina (67) and Casino (44).

The elimination final will

see Ballina travel to take on Casino at Albert Park in Casino on Sunday afternoon.

On Saturday the Byron Shire Rebels take on Casuarina Beach at Quays Reserve in Ballina. The winner will take on WAR the following week for a spot in the grand final.

## Send us your sport stories!

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



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# Magic Murwillumbah

## Murwillumbah is a town of revitalisation

### Post-flood; accompanied by the excitement of the rail trail opening last year.

This has led to an increase of people visiting the town and enjoying a range of activities and engagement throughout the town and surrounding areas.

Murwillumbah also has a significant history in the region – a key part is being celebrated with the recognition of the Murwillumbah Hospital that was established 120 years ago. Between Monday, September 9 to Saturday, September 14 there will be a range of activities on site including displays of staff stories, volunteering through the years and historical photos.

‘This anniversary is not only a celebration of our history but also a tribute to the many generations of healthcare professionals who have worked tirelessly to serve our community with compassion and excellence,’ said Murwillumbah District Health Executive Director and Director of Nursing, Tracey Lea.

From street parties celebrating 20 years of the museum, and Friday night DJs at M-Arts, there is an increasing diversity of live music and activities happening throughout the town on evenings and weekends that is complimented by a great range of restaurants and cafes, and of course the celebrated Tweed Regional Gallery & Margaret Olley Art Centre. The gallery has both permanent and travelling

exhibitions and you can currently enjoy ‘Monet in Murwillumbah’ and see Claude Monte’s *Meules, milieu du jour* [Haystacks, midday], 1890. This is the first of five works that are to be shared with the Tweed Regional Gallery.

The warmer days has seen the early opening of the kids section at the Murwillumbah Swimming Pool and the slide will open from 14 September for everyone to enjoy. The centre also has a eight lane 50m swimming pool, two diving boards, a 12m by 8m teaching pool and a purpose-built hydrotherapy pool.

Flood recovery has been a key part of the work being done around the town with river bank respiration, work on rejuvenating Budd Park

and flood pumps being installed both at the Brothers Leagues Club and in the CBD.

From great restaurants like the Tweed Rivers House, or renting a bike for the rail trail, to enjoying the art deco Imperial Hotel, the farmers market, live music and looking forward to the upcoming Murwillumbah Show, there is plenty to engage visitors and locals alike in this beautiful historic town. The opening of the rail trail has opened up the surrounding areas and is ensuring that Murwillumbah has become an exciting hub for people to enjoy and use as a base to explore the world-renowned, heritage-listed, hinterland that surrounds it.

## Tweed Regional Museum

The Tweed Regional Museum’s latest exhibition, ‘Omnia: All and Everything’, marks the museum’s 20th anniversary with a groundbreaking display that reimagines the museum experience. Featuring over 200 unique objects, many previously unseen, Omnia invites visitors to explore the Tweed Shire’s vibrant past, dynamic present, and hopeful future. The exhibition challenges traditional displays with themes that provoke thought on community resilience and hidden stories. Highlights include the interactive rainbow gallery, where guests can enjoy a zoetrope, vintage rotary phones, and a giant magnetic map. Step into Mini-Murwillumbah to experience a vivid portrayal of local legends against the majestic backdrop of Wollumbin. Omnia is a playful, sensory journey through time and imagination, making history both accessible and exciting. See website for more details and events.

2 Queensland Road, Murwillumbah  
@TweedRegionalMuseum  
museum.tweed.nsw.gov.au

## Knit Happens

Knit Happens is a vibrant haven for knitting and crochet enthusiasts, nestled in the heart of Murwillumbah at Shop 3, 132 Murwillumbah Street. This charming store offers a treasure trove of high-quality, sustainable yarns, threads, and tools that inspire creativity and eco-conscious crafting. From easy knitting and crochet patterns to an array of books and magazines, Knit Happens caters to both novices and seasoned crafters. With a commitment to quality and sustainability, Knit Happens is the go-to destination for all your knitting and crochet needs. Creative Kids Vouchers are happily accepted.

Shop 3, 132 Murwillumbah Street, Murwillumbah  
www.knithappens.com.au  
040 8321 209

## Tweed River House

Located on the banks of the Tweed River in Murwillumbah is the Tweed River House, an exquisite bistro offering panoramic hinterland views.

Whether you choose to enjoy a meal in the elegant dining room or on the river verandah, a lighter bite with shared plates at the casual riverside Lawn Bar, or a relaxing afternoon tea in the Palm Lounge, the ambiance evokes the gentler pace and charming style of the Northern Rivers.

The century-old, restored plantation river house is a haven for those seeking an escape to a serene and captivating dining experience, making Tweed River House a true gem in the heart of the Tweed Valley and a perfect complement to riding or walking the rail trail.

131 River Street, South Murwillumbah  
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FEATURE

# Magic Murwillumbah



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## Tweed Regional Gallery and Margaret Olley Art Centre

Housed in a large, modern, architecturally award-winning building with stunning views to Wollumbin (Mount Warning).

The Gallery's seven exhibition spaces present a dynamic program of historical to contemporary touring exhibitions, alongside exhibitions showcasing the work of regional and national artists presented exclusively at the Tweed Regional Gallery.

Claude Monet's famous painting, *Meules, milieu du jour [Haystacks, midday]*, 1890 is one of five works from the National Gallery of Australia's collection that has been shared with the Gallery and is currently on display as part of the 'Sharing the National Collection' initiative. The Margaret Olley Art Centre (MOAC) celebrates the career, life and legacy of Margaret Olley, Australia's most celebrated painter of still life and interiors. MOAC combines exhibitions, interactives and the permanent re-creation of areas of Olley's famous home studio.

Free daily guided tours start at 11:30 am. arriving at Claude Monet's *Meules, milieu du jour [Haystacks, midday]* at 12pm for Monet at midday, and then continuing the tour of the Gallery.

The Gallery also features the Gallery Shop and café – Apex Dining.

Open Wednesday to Sunday, 10am to 4pm. Free admission.

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## Tweed Regional Aquatic Centre's Murwillumbah, Tweed and Kingscliff Centre's



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**Saturday 14th September the slide will open for the Qld and NSW school holidays.**

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Please see website for opening times:  
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Photo: Tweed Tourism Co/Kiff & Culture

**TWEED REGIONAL GALLERY & MARGARET OLLEY ART CENTRE**

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The Tweed Regional Gallery & Margaret Olley Art Centre is a Tweed Shire Council Community Facility

FEATURE

# Magic Murwillumbah

## Tweed Regional Aquatic Centres

### Get ready for summer!

As the weather warms up get ready for the summer season. The outdoor 50m pool, toddler area, BBQ and slide at Murwillumbah pool will be open from 14 September ready for the QLD school holidays.

The slide will run from 10am to 3pm every day until Sunday, 13 October. During term 4 the slide will run every Saturday and Sunday.

### Learn to swim and squad

Our learn to swim lessons and squad sessions are getting busy across the three centres. Please come in and meet our friendly staff and book-in to improve your swimming skills this summer.

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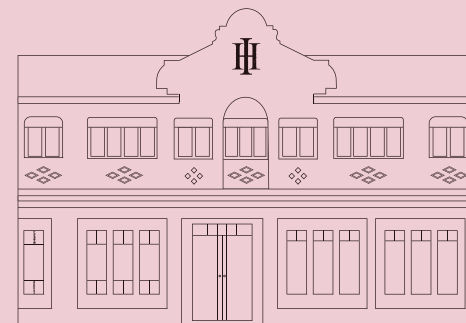
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4 Marvell Street, Byron Bay  
Open Daily | 3pm – 9pm  
NO BOOKINGS REQUIRED  
Call: **6685 7385**  
[@horizonbyronbay](https://www.instagram.com/horizonbyronbay)

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



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

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



**The Rocks**  
Open daily  
7am - 1pm  
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**5642 0149**  
[therocksbyronbay.com.au](http://therocksbyronbay.com.au)  
[@therocksbyronbay](https://www.instagram.com/therocksbyronbay)

Locally sourced ingredients  
amazing coffee  
dog friendly  
delicious smoothies  
fresh juices  
outdoor seating in the sun



**Sefa Kitchen**  
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[www.nourishinghabitat.com](http://www.nourishinghabitat.com)

Rustic yet refined Middle Eastern cuisine.  
Generous share platters.  
Wood-fire oven and open-flame grill.

## BANGALOW



**Bangalow Bread Co.**  
12 Byron St,  
Bangalow  
6am–3pm weekdays.  
7am–2pm weekends.  
**6687 1209**  
[www.bangalowbread.co](http://www.bangalowbread.co)  
[info@bangalowbread.co](mailto:info@bangalowbread.co)

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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.

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Live Music Friday, Saturday, Sunday.  
Bookings essential.  
Head to [lennoxpizza.com](http://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](http://empiremullum.com.au)

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

## CATERING



**Celebrations Cakes by Liz Jackson**

[lizzijackson@gmail.com](mailto:lizzijackson@gmail.com)  
**0414 895 441**  
GLUTEN FREE AND SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS CATERED FOR.

## Lambruk Pantry: stocking exclusively local quality products

Lambruk Pantry isn't just a brand; it's a celebration of sustainable living, local flavours, and the enduring bonds of family and community.

Founded by Paige Brierley, Lambruk Pantry is a family-run business who have opened shop in Bangalow selling a delightful array of homemade sauces and chutneys, and their newest edition – an organic tea range.

Lambruk Pantry began with a simple idea: to create preservative-free, flavour-packed delights while supporting local farmers from all over Australia. The company is committed to preserving local traditions while fostering community connections.

When you meet Paige Brierley at the shop you can see that she is the creative force behind Lambruk Pantry, beginning her culinary journey as a passionate home cook, now a thriving entrepreneur, driven by her love for cooking and preserving cherished family traditions. Her aversion to food additives led her to craft wholesome sauces, chutneys, and relishes, giving birth to Lambruk Pantry.

A battle with endometriosis in 2014 prompted a transformative shift, she found solace and gained invaluable business insights in her father's workshop. In 2016, Paige's sweet tooth led to a revelation – a blend of creativity and culinary skills paying tribute to moments with her 'nonna', aunty, and mother, who ignited her passion for cooking.

Locally-sourced, nourishing creations make Lambruk different. Paige sources ingredients exclusively from Byron Bay and its surrounding



Paige Brierley is the creative force behind Lambruk Pantry

areas, ensuring that every condiment and hamper is made from the freshest and most wholesome produce. This commitment to local sourcing guarantees a level of quality and authenticity that sets Lambruk apart from competitors.

Lambruk Pantry is family-owned, and takes pride in its Australian roots. Because Lambruk exclusively use the finest Australian-made products, customers can trust in the quality and integrity of every item. This dedication to supporting local businesses and using premium ingredients underscores Lambruk's commitment to excellence.

# The Good Life



## Tuckshop: something special and unique in Bangalow

At Woods Cafe in Bangalow, they pride themselves on their strong community connection, offering honest food, and providing a welcoming space for locals and visitors. Their latest venture, Tuckshop, takes the spirit to the next level with a fresh new vibe.

Step into Tuckshop and immerse yourself in a lively atmosphere adorned with vibrant botanical greenery, playful contemporary local art, and unique retro Australian decor. The playful cuisines offer a dynamic range of fun, taking you on an adventure of daily specials, nostalgic desserts, themed nights, and exciting pop-up chef events that add a touch of excitement to this vibe.

The menu celebrates vibrant, worldly flavours with a mix of European, Mediterranean, and Asian with special attention to locally-sourced, farm-fresh produce. Expect delicious plates of Middle Eastern lamb with burnt eggplant, wagyu flank steak and an old-school knickerbocker sundae.

The Wednesday Family menu and Thursday's Chef Feast offer incredible value and a weekly changing menu; banging snacks like

potato scallops in a green herb dip, fresh sourdough with lashings of spices and pecorino, locally-caught fish with artichoke cream and crisps, Bangalow pork katsu and the best fried Brussel sprouts dolloped with labneh, date dressing and macadamia dukkah!

At Tuckshop the beverage menu is as vibrant and eclectic as the food. You can explore a curated selection of global and local wines, Bangalow's Common People beer and Moonshine coffee from nearby Federal. For those looking for something unique, try some innovative cocktails crafted with local blends and Japanese sake, combining classic influences with a modern twist.

For the younger ones, there are old-fashioned creaming soda spiders and local gelato from Good Goog, Mullumbimby ensuring everyone can enjoy something special.

The array of offerings is designed so that the local community, and visitors, can come together and either tuck in over a special and unique experience, duck in for a quick bite to eat, or duck out with a delish takeaway meal.

## Grow your own lunchbox

Victoria Cosford

Growing wheat, turning it into flour, then making bread. Creating seed-raising pots out of newspapers. Constructing hotels for bees and frogs. Raising crops of rain-fed rice. Making beeswax wraps and chook tractors.

These are just some of the exciting, innovative ideas that local primary school children have come up with over the past eight years as part of the annual Grow Your Own Lunchbox event. An initiative of the Mullumbimby Farmers Market, it was launched in 2015 and, barring a three-year break necessitated by Covid and the floods, has been eagerly anticipated – and planned for – each year since then.

Around seven Byron Shire schools participate, coming together on the day to showcase the hard work and preparation they have poured into it. The brief was to encourage schools to create gardens in order that children could grow their own food, understand its provenance, and find ways to transform it into meals or preserves or pickles. The actual day culminates in the Grow Your Own Lunchbox Challenge, whereby groups of students compete good-naturedly against each other to

come up with a healthy lunch box on the spot, using as ingredients the produce sourced from their own gardens.

Here, too, over the years, the results have been impressive: frittatas, Vietnamese rice paper rolls, and orange polenta cupcakes, have been produced alongside lamb on rosemary skewers with flatbreads, cassava cake, sweet potato crisps with ginger and turmeric hummus, mulberry muesli bars, and herb-infused salts and oils.

In addition, the schools must compete in categories for a box of vegetables from the school garden; for preserved, pickled or dried products; and for garden fundraising ideas.

Over the course of a Friday morning in the glorious grounds of the Mullumbimby Farmers Market, these resourceful children – future farmers? future chefs? – engage in amicable rivalry, share the fruits of their kitchen gardens and their stories, and highlight the importance of healthy, local and fresh food.

This year's event is on Friday, 6 September at the Mullumbimby Farmers Market, which is on every Friday from 7am to 11am.



The Grow Your Own Lunchbox event culminates in the 'Grow Your Own Lunchbox Challenge', whereby groups of students compete good-naturedly against each other.

VISIT THE HISTORIC  
**BILLINUDGEL HOTEL**



KITCHEN OPEN DAILY! \$25 MEAL & DRINK SPECIALS ON MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS AND THURSDAYS

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Thursday - Monday  
8am til 11am

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NORTH BYRON HOTEL  
Presents  
**GREAT GRAPE DEBATE**  
KANGARILLA WINEMAKERS  
FATHER-SON SHOWDOWN

MATCHED Perfectly

SUNDAY SPRING LUNCH  
10 WINES Win 4 COURSES

SUNDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER  
From 2-5pm

# sample

## Food Festival 2024

BYRON BAY & NORTHERN NSW

THIS SATURDAY  
8am-4pm

BANGALOW  
SHOWGROUND

## TASTING PLATES

V = VEGAN | GF = GLUTEN FREE | DF = DAIRY FREE | VEG = VEGETARIAN

### AZTECA MARGARITA

Margarita Mixes, cocktail garnishes, Mexican salsas

### BERLIN BANGERS

\$10 Frankfurter in a Roll with sauerkraut and onion GF | DF  
\$15 Bratwurst or Kransky with sauerkraut and onion in a fresh roll GF | DF

### BONITO PERUVIAN EATERY

\$10 Causa with pulpo al olivo GF  
\$15 Ceviche with crispy squid GF

### BRUNOS

\$10 Pork skewer, pomegranate glaze  
\$10 King oyster mushroom skewer, Toum  
\$5 Pickle cup

### BUSH ICECREAMERY & HONEY

\$5 Fresh honeycombe lollipop GF  
\$10 Beeswax sorbet GF  
\$15 Apple & Blueberry Pie/ Macadamia Strussel & Beeswax Sorbet

### BYRON BAY PRETZELS

\$5 Pretzel Twist- choice of Orange Pecan Delight or Lemon Maca Madness  
\$10 Festival Pretzel with cheese dip or chocolate VEG  
\$15 Bacon & Cheese Pretzel Baguette with herbal spread VEG OPTION

### CASA LUNA

\$5 Pick an item from our Casa Trio  
\$10 Fire Roast Cabbage - romesco, kohlrabi crema, ancho chilli oil V | GF  
\$15 Casa Trio - Kingfish Tartare-buttermilk, fennel pollen; Salt Cod Croquette - nduja, truffle manchego; Confit Squid- lime curd

### CHARCOAL BAY

\$5 Gochujang Tofu | Pickle Cucumber | Fried Shallots | Seaweed Dust V GF  
\$10 Chicken Roll | Coleslaw | Pico De Galo | Smoked Tomato Mayonnaise  
\$15 Marinated Lamb Pack | Pickle Zucchini | Pico De Galo | Chimichurri GF

### DUMPLING YUMCHA

\$15 Jian Bing - Traditional Chinese pork and egg street food breakfast  
\$10 Bangalow Pork Gyoza

### ÉCLAIR AT THE BAY

\$5 Vanilla Profiterole filled with chantilly cream, chocolate glaze and rose petals  
\$15 Craquelin - Rose & White Chocolate Craquelin or Mango & Mascarpone Craquelin

### FOREST BYRON BAY

\$10 Honey Lemon Myrtle Olive Oil Cake - pistachio cream  
\$15 Chargrilled Kangaroo Skewer - wattle seed macadamia & citrus

### KELP RESTAURANT

\$15 Kelp & Kafir lime cured fish, coconut dressing, chilli jam  
\$10 Potato & Fennel chowder, clams, fish, crouton soldier  
\$15 Grilled Ballina prawns, mango bbq, asian slaw

### MATCHA BYRON BAY

Matcha Latte - Iced and Hot  
Hojicha Latte - Iced and Hot  
Strawberry Matcha Latte - Iced only V OPTIONS

### NIMBIN VALLEY DAIRY

\$15 Cheese Platter & Crackers

### NO BONES

\$10 Smoked Mushroom Scallop V | GF  
\$15 Sesame Prawn Toast V

### NORTH BYRON HOTEL

\$5 Hispi Cabbage Skewers(2)- yoghurt sauce, hot honey, nuts & seeds VEG | GF  
\$10 Charred Pineapple Skewers(2)- Birds of Isle Rum Caramel, Whipped Coconut Cream VEG | GF  
\$15 Brown Butter Roast ¼ Chook-chicken glaze, gremolata, smoked chats GF

### OMG DONUTS BYRON BAY

\$10 Dusted Donuts (3)  
\$15 Dusted Donuts (5)  
All dusted in any of our 12 delicious flavours  
All donuts are vegan, DF, GF, Nut Free, Wheat Free, Yeast Free, artificial free VDF GF

### RADIANCE KITCHEN

\$10 Handmade Organic Dumplings, 3 flavours (Vegetarian, Chicken, Prawn) GF  
\$15 Braised Beef with Noodles

### SHELTER

\$10 Beef tartare, toasted sourdough, kimchi mayo DF  
\$10 Raw fish, rhubarb ponzu, umeboshi, lemon balm GF | DF  
\$15 Local grilled baby octopus, lime, chilli, crispy garlic GF | DF

### SHOZA GYOZA

\$5 Vege gyoza v or free-range Pork gyoza (2)  
\$10 Vege gyoza v or free-range Pork gyoza (5)  
\$15 Karaage Chicken with kewpie mayo GF

"I didn't know I could be a Foster Carer"

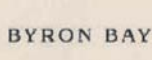


Most people are a bit unsure about who can be a Foster Carer. The truth is, there is not just one type of Foster Carer.

Find out more at [allambicare.org.au/foster-care](http://allambicare.org.au/foster-care)

ALLAMBI CARE

PROUDLY PRESENTED BY



## ISLAND LUXE

Two distinct locations, two unique experiences.



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02 6687 1605 [info@islandluxe.com.au](mailto:info@islandluxe.com.au)

ISLAND LUXE TRIBE BYRON BAY

1/11 Marvell Street, Byron Bay  
02 6680 9600 [tribe@islandluxe.com.au](mailto:tribe@islandluxe.com.au)

ENJOY A HIATUS.  
NON-ALC PREMIUM LAGER

LIVE MUSIC  
CHAI CAFE  
KIDS PLAY AREA

# founde.

VINTAGE CLOTHING EVENT

7TH SEPTEMBER

A&I HALL, BANGALOW

8AM - 3PM

WWW.FOUNDE.COM

STOREHOLDER APPLICATIONS OPEN



# SAMPLE BAR

## THAI MARQUEE

- \$5 Vegetarian or Vegan Spring roll with plum sauce
- \$10 Chicken or Vegan Curry puffs with cucumber dip (3)
- \$15 Pad Thai Chicken, Pad Siew - eggs tofu & vegetables, Green Curry Chicken with bamboo shoot, Red Curry Pumpkin and Hang Lay (Northern Thai Curry) with Bangalow Pork

## THE SPOTTED PIG

- \$15 Wild Venison or Wild Boar hotdogs + Relishes + native chutneys

## VUTCHER

- \$10 Butter Chicken v
- \$15 Cubanos Sandwich v

## YAMAN

- \$5 Yeman Falafel Ball & Tahini
- \$15 Yemenite Pastry Roll with feta egg tomato & zaatar

## YULLI'S

- \$5 Kratong Tong - crispy wonton cup filled with water chestnuts, peanuts, corn, coconut jam & fresh herbs GF | V
- \$5 Sesame crumbed shiitake mushroom with spiced walnut mince, pickled cucumber, capsicum emulsion and tomato salsa GF | V
- \$5 San Choy Bow with crispy rice, tofu, fresh herbs, bamboo, chilli & fried shallots GF | V
- \$5 Edamame and coconut money bag with sweet chilli sauce v
- \$5 Tiramisu Ice Cream v
- \$5 Ribena Slushie GF | V

## LORD BYRON DISTILLERY

- Pina Colada
- Negroni
- Pineapple Old Fashioned
- Rum Punch
- Rum & Dry
- Kokomo & Pineapple
- Gin & Grapefruit
- Gin & Tonic

## CAPE BYRON DISTILLERY

- A selection of Brookies cocktails plus a classic Brookies Gin & Tonic
- Cape Byron Whiskey Tropical High Ball

## STONE & WOOD

- Northern Rivers Beer - 4% ABV - 330ml can - \$8
- Stone & Wood Green Coast Lager - 3.5% - 350ml cup - \$8

## THE CELLAR

- Natus Wine Range (Margaret River)
- NOW- Natural Order Wines (SA)
- Limoncello spritz
- French Champagne
- Sparkling Wine

## Introducing

## BIRDS OF ISLE MENU



- Bunya Nut Rum
- Negroni
- Mai Tai
- Margarita
- Rum & Grapefruit Highball
- Grapefruit soda (non-alcoholic)

## Birds of Isle



SCAN FOR TICKETS



## MOLLER PAVILION

### KIDS CORNER

#### KIDS COOKING CLASS

For the first time our little foodies will have the chance to roll up their sleeves and learn the art of crafting delicious gnocchi from scratch. Under the guidance of local chef Jedd Rifai of the North Byron Hotel, they'll mix, shape, and cook their very own lunch. 60-90mins duration

10.15AM \$46.95 LUNCH INCLUDES DRINK, & DESSERT  
Pre-book your little foodies ticket at [www.samplefoodevents.com](http://www.samplefoodevents.com)

#### KIDS CREATIVE CORNER

ALL DAY \$10 PER CHILD

#### FACEPAINTING

#### ROAMING PERFORMERS

SOCCER WITH RAINBOW ROOS STALL 55

WILDLIFE EXPERIENCE WITH BYRON BAY WILDLIFE SANCTUARY STALL 53

KIDS EXCITEMENT GAZEBO STALL 58

### AROUND THE STALLS

## COOKING & MUSIC STAGE

8.00AM - 9.30AM

MEL SCARLET

9.40AM - 10.30AM

JEROME WILLIAMS

10.30AM - 11.50AM

NORCO CAPE BYRON ULTIMATE SCOOP COMP

WITH JASON SAXBY RACES ON WATERGOS JORDAN STANIFORD LAPHOGE ALLY WADDELL FRODA'S FIELD

11.55PM - 12.15PM

GOLDEN FORK PRESENTATION

12.15PM - 12.30PM

LORD BYRON COCKTAIL MASTERCLASS

12.35PM - 12.50PM

CAPE BYRON DISTILLERY MASTERCLASS WITH EDDIE BROOK

1.00PM - 3.30PM

MY MAYOR RULES

IN THE BAR

12.30PM - 4.00PM

PHIL & TILLY

# sample Food Festival



Bangalow Community Children's Centre



Proudly belonging to the Bangalow Community and ensuring quality education for over 40 years.

Valuing and nurturing children's creativity and interests through natural play spaces that inspire curiosity, imagination and a sense of wonder.

Taking enrolments for 2025.

1 Raffons Rd, Bangalow | 02 6687 1552

# REAL FARMERS, REAL FOOD



BYRON BAY  
Thursdays 7-11am  
Butler St Reserve

BANGALOW  
Saturdays 7-11am  
Behind the hotel

• SATURDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER •

# SAMPLE FOOD FESTIVAL

OFFICIAL AFTER PARTY FROM 1PM

MUSIC • ENTERTAINMENT FROM 4PM  
JOE GHATT | EARTH TO JOSH | MIDNIGHT JAZZ CLUB  
FREE BAREFOOT BOWLS • FOOD & DRINK AVAILABLE

Mercedes and her team at Castrikum Adams Legal and Bangalow Conveyancing are passionate about our local community and will be sampling the tasty offerings at Sample Food Festival!

Our practice areas include:  
Conveyancing | Building and Construction Disputes  
Property Matters | Contract Disputes | Estate Planning  
Leasing | Business Transactions | Commercial Law  
Probate and Contested Estates

Bangalow Conveyancing and Castrikum Adams Legal, work together to achieve your goals, no matter how complicated they may seem.

If you find yourself in a legal predicament, or need to talk about anything property related, we are your one stop shop.

Castrikum Adams Legal 6687 1167  
Bangalow Conveyancing 6687 0548  
Suite 2, 5 Lismore Road, Bangalow

## WHAT'S ON

- MON POKER
- TUES PASTA NIGHT
- WED RAFFLES
- THU SCHNITZEL NIGHT
- FRI RAFFLES
- SAT LIVE MUSIC & HAPPY HOUR
- SUN CHILL OUT SESSIONS ON THE DECK

# THE ARTS

## Artist in focus



### Spring ceramic market near Byron

Join Clay Northern Rivers from 8am to 3pm on Saturday, 14 September, for a spring market featuring work by 23 local ceramic artists.

Held in the historic Ewingsdale Hall, this will be a great day out for the whole family, with coffee, gelati and delicious Spanish food available to be enjoyed under the enormous fig trees in the beautiful hall grounds.

The makers have been busy creating new work and will bring handmade pieces in lots of different styles and colours – all made here in the Northern Rivers.

There will be beautiful tableware such as mugs, bowls and plates, as well as unique ceramic jewellery including necklaces and earrings. Decorative ceramics such as vases, planter pots, sculptural pieces and lamps will also be on sale.

The market will be a great opportunity to meet the artists and find something special to take home.

This is the fifth market held by Clay Northern Rivers, a collective of ceramic artists from the Northern Rivers Region with about 80 members. Their previous markets were held in Clunes, Lismore and Bangalow.

Clay Northern Rivers celebrates the artistic diversity of their members, engaging with the community through special events, markets and exhibitions.

**Clay Northern Rivers Spring ceramic market**  
**Ewingsdale Hall, William Flick Lane, Ewingsdale**  
**Email: [markets.claynorthernrivers@gmail.com](mailto:markets.claynorthernrivers@gmail.com)**  
**Instagram or Facebook: @claynorthernrivers**

**HART**  
GALLERY

Art in the heart  
INSPIRED LOCAL ART

**Mullumbimby**  
Comprehensive Health Centre

**OTHERWORLD**  
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SEE | TOUCH | HEAR  
IMMERSE YOURSELF IN LIGHT

Byron's Immersive Art and Light Gallery  
Featuring Over 20 Interactive Exhibits  
All Ages - All Weather

**Wednesday to Sunday**  
**Please check website for opening hours**

Tickets available at  
**[otherworld.live](http://otherworld.live)**

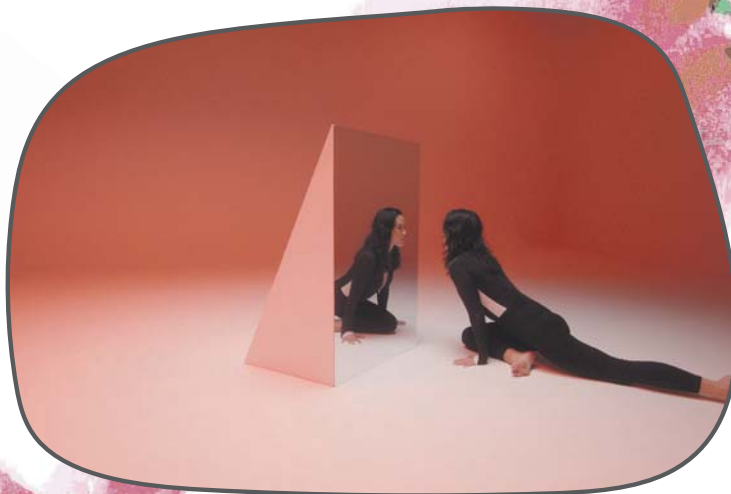
**wollumbin art award 2024**

**6 September – 24 November 2024**

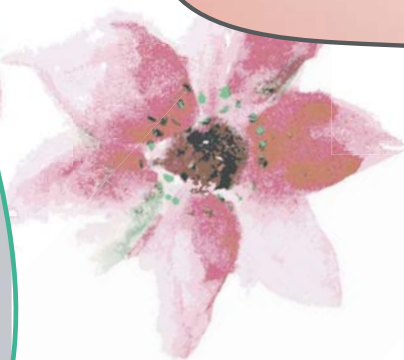
Stephen Bird Man with an abstract nose smelling a realistic flower (detail) 2024

**TWEED REGIONAL GALLERY**  
& MARGARET OLLEY ART CENTRE

Open Wed – Sun | 2 Mistral Rd, South Murwillumbah | [gallery.tweed.nsw.gov.au](http://gallery.tweed.nsw.gov.au)



Amrita Hepi, *Scripture for a smokescreen: Episode 1 Dolphin House 2022* (film still). Commissioned by ACMI and Samstag Museum of Art. Courtesy the artist.



## Lismore Regional Gallery

**Official reopening on Friday, 27 September, from 6pm.**

Save the date to celebrate the official reopening of the newly restored Lismore Regional Gallery. The official opening starts with formalities at 6pm and features a range of performances, installations and music for all to enjoy. Across the weekend, 28 and 29 September, there will be a lively program of workshops, artist talks and musical performances.

The reopening program includes exhibitions The ArtHitects Gary Carsley and Renjie Teoh: *Hannah Halle, Buruugaa Garaa Buruu Garaa Budgeramgali (Saltwater people Freshwater people stories)*, Nell Pearson and Matthew Brooks: *Blue island, Sprung!!* Ensemble: *Sprung News* and Chloe Smith: *Unbearable Incandescence*.

Complementing the exhibitions are responsive programs such as talks, tours and immersive experiences designed to expand the understanding and enjoyment of art for everyone.

Lismore Regional Gallery (est. 1954) is one of the longest-running cultural organisations in the Northern Rivers. The 16-month restoration project was made possible through special Federal Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements and the NSW Government through Create NSW.

**Visit: [lismoregallery.org/official-reopening](http://lismoregallery.org/official-reopening)  
11 Rural Street, Lismore**

## 2024 Wollumbin Art Award Finalist Exhibition

The exhibition of the 2024 Wollumbin Art Award (WAA), the Gallery's biennial \$30,000 prize, will be on display at Tweed Regional Gallery from Friday, 6 September to Sunday, 24 November.

The Award, named after the mountain the Gallery overlooks, celebrates the calibre and diversity of artists of the region.

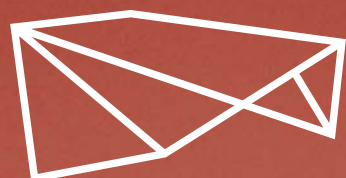
The 2024 guest judge is Director of Hazelhurst Arts Centre and proud descendant

of the Burrumattagal people of Western Sydney, Sebastian Goldspink.

The Wollumbin Youth Art Award (WYAA) will be on display from Friday, 6 September to Sunday, 17 November.

All winners will be announced on Saturday, 7 September.

**Gallery open Wednesday to Sunday,  
10am to 4pm. [gallery.tweed.nsw.gov.au](http://gallery.tweed.nsw.gov.au)**



**LISMORE  
REGIONAL  
GALLERY**

**OFFICIAL  
REOPENING  
FRIDAY 27  
SEPTEMBER  
FROM 6PM**



Image credit: Amrita Hepi, *Scripture for a smokescreen: Episode 1 Dolphin House 2022* (film still). Commissioned by ACMI and Samstag Museum of Art. Courtesy the artist.

# ART! GALLERIES

## ART KIND

Contemporary art gallery and studio providing engaging exhibitions, art classes and workshops  
3/18 Centennial Circuit, Arts & Industry Estate, Byron Bay  
Open Wed – Sat 10am – 2pm  
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@artkindbyronbay  
www.artkind.com.au

## ARTIST STUDIO GALLERY

Belongil Beach  
Open by appointment  
0409 604 405  
www.janrae.com.au

## ARTIST'S HOME GALLERY

Byron Bay  
Landscape inspired works imparting a 'spirit of place'  
Open by appointment  
02 6685 5317  
jaypearse.com

## GALLERY COSMOSIS

2/22 Brigantine St  
Arts & Industry Estate  
Byron Bay  
0431 331 205  
gallerycosmosis.com  
linktr.ee/gallerycosmosisbyronbay

## H'ART GALLERY

Local art in the heart of Mullumbimby  
Mullumbimby Comprehensive Health Centre,  
60 Stuart Street, Mullumbimby  
0401 647 325

## KARENA WYNN-MOYLAN, FINE ART

World award-winning contemporary realism  
art direct from the artist at her Bangalow studio  
Phone or text 0414 822 196

## LENNOX ARTS COLLECTIVE GALLERY

painting | photography | woodwork | ceramics  
jewellery | classes | workshops  
2/72 Ballina Street, Lennox Head  
Open 7 days 10am – 3pm  
lennoxartscollective@gmail.com  
FB & Insta: @lennoxartscollective

## LONE GOAT GALLERY

28 Lawson St, Byron Bay  
(located in the Byron Library building)  
Open Wed – Sat 10am – 4pm  
lonegoatgallery.com.au

## MIST GALLERY

Shop 1B-51 Tweed Coast Rd, Cabarita Beach  
0419 870 305  
mist.gallery.cabarita@gmail.com  
FB & Insta: @mistgallery

## MULLUMBIMBY CLAYWORKERS GALLERY

Drill Hall Complex,  
2 Jubilee Ave, Mullumbimby  
Open Thurs – Sat 12 – 4pm  
mullumclayworkers.com

## MZ GALLERY

Byron Bay Contemporary Artspace  
57 Tennyson Street, Byron Bay  
0468 718 045  
www.byronartspace.com.au

## NIMBIN ARTISTS GALLERY

47 Cullen Street, Nimbin  
Opening hours 10am – 4pm daily  
02 6689 1444  
www.nimbinartistsgallery.org

## NORTHERN RIVERS COMMUNITY GALLERY

Cnr Cherry & Crane Sts, Ballina  
Open Wed – Fri 9am – 3pm, Sat – Sun 9.30am – 1pm  
02 6681 0530  
nrcballina.com.au

## TWEED REGIONAL GALLERY & MARGARET OLLEY ART CENTRE

Gallery hours: Wed – Sun 10am – 4pm  
Cafe open 10am – 4pm  
2 Mistral Rd, Murwillumbah  
02 6670 2790  
gallery.tweed.nsw.gov.au

# THE ARTS



## A.C. Grayling: Who Owns the Moon?

Byron Writers Festival presents eminent British philosopher A.C. Grayling, who will discuss his latest book *Who Owns the Moon?*, calling for a global consensus to protect the resources of our solar system. With Mick O'Regan.

As Earth's resources dwindle, the world's superpowers and wealthiest corporations are turning their eyes to the stars for valuable raw materials. As this new Space Race begins, A.C. Grayling asks: who, if anyone, owns the moon, or other bodies in near space? And what do those superpowers and corporations owe to Planet Earth and its inhabitants as a whole?

Tuesday, 10 September, 6.00pm

Byron Theatre

\$38.80 / \$33.80 members

Book now via [byronwritersfestival.com](http://byronwritersfestival.com)

## Art in the heart of Mullumbimby

Art lovers need look no further than the Mullumbimby Comprehensive Health Centre, home to the H'Art Gallery. Featuring more than 30 artworks by 10 local artists, the gallery is an absolute must-see.

Graphic impressionist Solveig curates the two-floor gallery and rotates the exhibition every six months. The space provides local artists a platform to display for an extended period and sell their work.

Visitors to the health centre are greeted by the art, which provides a distracting escape from stress and concern while creating a vibrant, healing atmosphere.

Conveniently located on Stuart Street, the H'Art Gallery is art in the heart of Mullumbimby.

Enquire at [info@solveig.com.au](mailto:info@solveig.com.au)

Byron Writers Festival | Special Event



Tuesday 10 September  
6pm, Byron Theatre  
\$38.80 / \$33.80 members  
Book now via  
[byronwritersfestival.com](http://byronwritersfestival.com)



CLAY NORTHERN RIVERS PRESENTS...

# Ceramic Market

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 14

8.00AM-3.00PM  
EWINGSDALE HALL

CERAMICS FOOD  
FLOWERS COFFEE

@CLAYNORTHERNRIVERS



Diana Miller: Photo by Katie Holmes

## GEOMETRICA at Art Kind Gallery

Artists Diana Miller, Andrea Portela Moreno, and Jenn Johnston each incorporate geometric forms, shapes, and lines into their artistic practice. Within their diverse approaches, they are united by a shared passion for geometric design and the sense of calm and stillness it brings. GEOMETRICA offers a visual and sensory experience, celebrating abstract and sculptural art while highlighting the lines that bind us.

**Opening event 5pm,  
Friday, 6 September**  
RSVP via QR code below  
or at [artkind.com.au](http://artkind.com.au)  
**Art Kind Gallery,  
18 Centennial Circuit,  
Byron Bay**

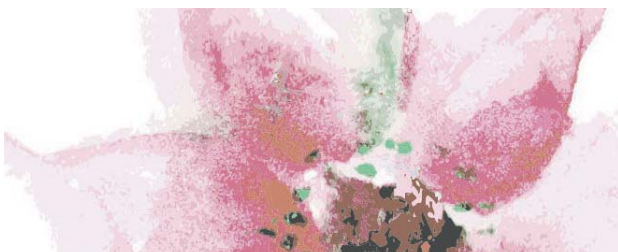


## OTHERWORLD

OTHERWORLD is an immersive art and light gallery that promises a sensory journey beyond imagination. Blending cutting-edge art and technology, OTHERWORLD offers an interactive experience for all ages, transporting visitors to a realm of wonder and magic. The mesmerising features include responsive video walls, giant glowing flowers, pulsating art installations and the only 360 VR Dome in the Northern Rivers. Come see our new exhibits incorporating the latest in AI technology.

Inspired by light and featuring works from national and international artists, OTHERWORLD is a visionary landscape where visitors can directly engage with the art and make the canvas come alive.

**OTHERWORLD is open from Wednesday to Sunday, check website for opening hour.**  
[www.otherworld.live](http://www.otherworld.live)  
**102 Jonson Street, Byron Bay**



Cracker by Andrew Cullen

## Brunswick Nature Sculpture Walk is back

**3-9 October, 2024**

Brunswick Nature Sculpture Walk is a triennial event, in its fourth installation, created along the foreshores of Brunswick Heads, where the river meets the sea.

Over 7 days from 3 to 9 October, 40 incredible sculptural installations will be on display from both local and interstate artists.

Held in the picturesque parklands of Brunswick Heads, sculptors showcase works that reflect nature.

The previous Nature Sculpture Walks have generated a passion for outdoor art installations

It presents work from the popular, to the conceptually demanding and provides much needed opportunities for regional artists.

In addition to the interactive sculpture walk, there will also be a series of art-based workshops, artist talks, tours and performances making it an unforgettable experience for the North Coast region.

As a not-for-profit organisation they rely on, and are seeking, funding in the Shire to support this event so they can bring local and nationally recognised artists to share stories through art and nature.

**For more information on becoming a sponsor or volunteer register through their website or email at:**

[www.brunswicknaturesculpturewalk.com](http://www.brunswicknaturesculpturewalk.com)  
[brunswicknaturesculpturewalk@gmail.com](mailto:brunswicknaturesculpturewalk@gmail.com)



**Welcome to our 4th Triennial  
Brunswick Nature Sculpture Walk  
3-9 OCTOBER  
7 DAYS · 40 SCULPTURES**

Enjoy the wonder of sculpture, set amongst the parklands and rivers edge of Brunswick Heads.

Explore the way artists highlight a connection with NATURE.

Experience and participate in performances  
• workshops • artist talks • eco walks  
• kayak tour • drawing in the landscape plus more.

Checkout the website  
[www.brunswicknaturesculpturewalk.com](http://www.brunswicknaturesculpturewalk.com)

**Get in early to book a workshop  
LIMITED PLACES**

**GEOMETRICA**  
6 SEPTEMBER - 4 OCTOBER 2024

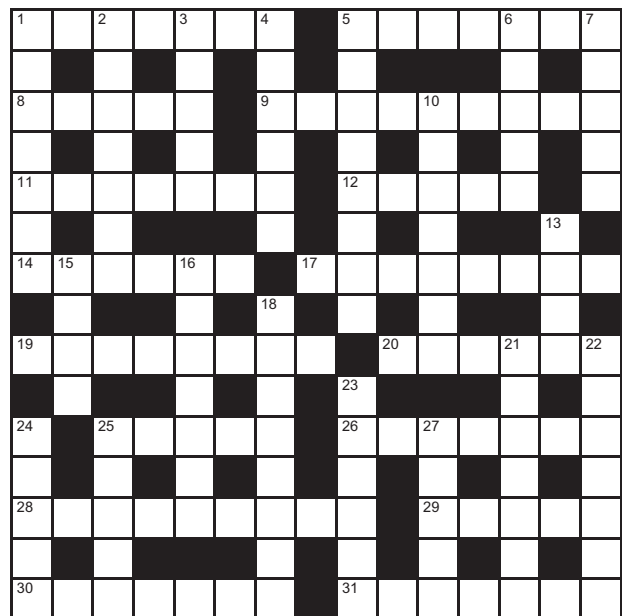
ANDREA PORTELA MORENO  
DIANA MILLER  
JENN JOHNSTON

**OPENING  
EVENT**  
FRIDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER  
5PM - 7PM

18 CENTENNIAL CCT  
BYRON BAY NSW  
[ARTKIND.COM.AU](http://ARTKIND.COM.AU)

QR code with text: **RSVP HERE**

**art kind**



**Cryptic Clues**

- ACROSS**
- Elizabethan poet writes in short series (7)
  - Mistake to drink after dance party (5-2)
  - Bail one out with this defence? (5)
  - Horrible thin man (i.e., mostly) (2,3,4)
  - Crime boss collars and roughs up Phil, a swimmer (7)
  - Snoopy and the yes/no anomaly! (5)
  - Aligned with half of cricket field (2,4)
  - European society embraced by posh school student (8)
  - A royal maiden among the celebrities, one like Cassandra? (8)
  - Upset by rotten outcome (6)
  - Fit? Could be lighter (5)
  - Australia admits a couple of domestics (2,5)
  - Cooked oil and garlic yield little smoke (9)
  - Passing eastern wine around has become a recurrent theme (5)
  - Detectives left to frolic (7)
  - Old journalists who won't stop until the end? (7)
- DOWN**
- Nasty piece of work - nothing special to embrace, as well (2-3-2)
  - Deli's arranged to stock bacon and egg entrees - things you can eat! (7)
  - Smart expensive part of London - and quiet (5)
  - Rules and restraints when on air (6)
  - Banks, for example in Bosnia, ordered to keep Territory time (8)
  - Like a sauna, but no time for rough? (5)
  - Old veep takes gaol over church (5)
  - Lighten load of letters read out on leaving (4,3)
  - Most important part of lion, so they say (4)
  - Start-ups for new international loan extension, one that's held by banks (4)
  - Greek goddess put off when Middle Eastern leaders are admitted (7)
  - Bulb displayed in dilapidated old chalets (8)
  - Archetype of long unfinished book (7)
  - Drives away, pissed off when learner gets in (7)
  - American novelist putting dad back into shelter (6)
  - Gloomy when stripped by investigators, that's clear (5)
  - Wise guy strangely amusing, but not at home (5)
  - House, whichever way you look at it (3,2)

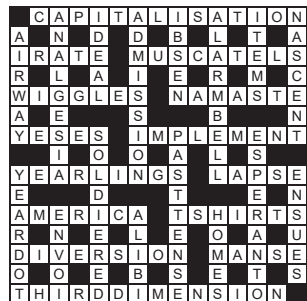
**Quick Clues**

- ACROSS**
- Author of *The Fairie Queene* (7)
  - A right mess (5-2)
  - Defence based on claimed whereabouts (5)
  - For the most part (2,3,4)
  - Small-toothed whale (7)
  - Meddlesome (5)
  - In agreement (2,4)
  - Inhabitant of a Baltic republic (8)
  - Fearmonger (8)
  - Get one's goat (6)
  - Competitive sporting event (5)
  - People from abroad offering service in return for lodging (2,5)
  - Small cigar (9)
  - Word or expression used in a figurative sense (5)
  - Make merry (7)
  - Articulate; high-speed (7)
- DOWN**
- A disliked person (2-3-2)
  - Comestibles (7)
  - Prolonged sibilant sound, such as made by wind in trees (5)
  - Governs; prevails (6)
  - A student of plants (8)
  - Sordid; disreputable (5)
  - Coins, once worth one twelfth of a shilling (5)
  - Gradually slacken (4,3)
  - Major (4)
  - A major African river (4)
  - Mother of Persephone (7)
  - Small, sweet species of onion (8)
  - Embodiment; personification (7)
  - Allays; routs (7)
  - Author of *In Cold Blood* (6)
  - Comprehensible; brilliant (5)
  - In ancient Persia, a priest (5)
  - Arranged in a deceptively plausible way (3,2)

**DOWN**

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**Last week's solution #18**



# Soapbox

## Because Everybody Counts

Mandy Nolan

Not counting trans and intersex people, as they specifically identify, in the Census is a form of bureaucratic erasure. For an exercise that is chiefly about creating a data-driven snapshot of who we are and how we are changing, not including the full spectrum of the LGBTQI+ community is both insulting AND unscientific. So that makes the decision to knowingly not include specific groups of people as political - quite frankly it feels like an act of erasure.

Someone on a Facebook group asked: Who cares? What even is the Census?

It echoes a general sense of suspicion about the once-in-five-years national survey, and queries what purpose it actually serves. It's not government overreach. Of all the surveys you fill out, this one is important. It's where we find out powerful information about the big picture of how we live, from the little snapshots of who we are.

For instance, at the last Census it was ascertained that there were one million empty homes. In the middle of a housing crisis, the data told us that it's not necessarily only, or even, a supply issue. There are other market forces at play which means while record numbers are homeless, record numbers of homes were people-less. And yes, homeless people are included in the Census. Although they could do much more in collecting data from this group to feed back to the government as well.

So why is the Census important? It helps us understand what we need now and into the future. The data is used to make important funding decisions and to allocate resources and planning for schools, health care, transport, housing and infrastructure. The Census is used to obtain accurate information for subdivisions of the population. Trans and intersex people are a subdivision of the population. So why aren't they included?

A Labor minister has said they wanted to keep it 'simple'. Wow. That's insulting on many levels. Exclusion has been 'keeping it simple' for years. It harks back to a world with no disabled access to buildings, where women



MANDY NOLAN'S SOAPBOX



**Exclusion has been 'keeping it simple' for years. It harks back to a world with no disabled access to buildings, where women and Aboriginal people don't vote, with no social security support for disadvantaged people.**

and Aboriginal people don't vote, with no social security support for disadvantaged people. Simple times. Where the dominant culture centred themselves in all their decision making. Inclusion is a key and necessary value of a progressive and humane society. Nobody should be left behind. Sometimes the 'simple' pathway is the wrong one. Especially if not all Australians can travel along it.

And does the minister believe the very community who authored the language they choose to describe themselves can't understand it? That doesn't make sense. Or are they implying that the good people at the Australian Bureau of Statistics are struggling to comprehend what happens when you break the binary?

The trans and intersex community are overrepresented in nearly every area of social vulnerability. More likely to experience poor mental health and suicidality, and afraid to access mainstream services. A survey found almost half of all trans people experience thoughts of self-harm and suicide. One in five young trans people have experienced homelessness. It is without a doubt that trans and gender diverse individuals experience homelessness at higher rates than the broader community.

For both intersex and trans communities there are higher rates of poverty, they are more likely to be unemployed and experience issues in accessing mainstream support services. A Census would give us a much more detailed and accurate understanding, and could provide the data needed to secure funding for a life-changing future service.

Not including trans and intersex people skews the data. It is a form of misinformation bias, or misclassification, and it impacts the validity of research. The point of the Census is to find out who we are - so why wouldn't you broaden the questions to reflect our diverse community? Knowingly excluding a group of people is not just wrong, it undermines the very point of the Census.

Maybe it's time to get better statisticians. And while you're at it, get better politicians too.

## STARS BY LILITH

Spring has officially sprung, and September's sun in the sign of service encourages us all to make a difference for someone this month by going the extra mile...



VIRGO THE VIRGIN

**ARIES:** Aries' mentor planet Mars recommends not rushing into decisions this week, as all cards aren't on the table yet. September's love language is acts of service and you're an active sign, so feel the love by offering others extra TLC and thoughtful support. You'll find it goes both ways.

**TAURUS:** Uranus retrograde in your sign for the next five months may cause economic changes, but this needn't be a bad thing - it was time to give your finances an overhaul anyway. And while you're at it, Venus suggests a spring declutter and seasonal update of your wardrobe and home decor.

**GEMINI:** This week's Mercury is excellent for artistic self-expression, so take advantage of the articulate planet's eloquent creative stimulus. What it's not so good for is objectivity, so you'll need to really listen to feedback to get the best from it until Mercury moves into more logical, analytical mode.

**CANCER:** Mars zooms into your domestic sign for the next two months with new spring resolutions to shake off winter with lean eating and exercise. The red planet can inspire renovations, redecorating, even a home-based business - but it can also escalate tensions, so make sure everyone has enough personal space.

**LEO:** With disruptive Uranus joining outer planets Pluto, Chiron, Neptune and Saturn in retrograde, it might feel like the universe is raining on your parade, but don't let this dampen your spirits. Use the astral assist of Mercury in your sign to work systematically and efficiently, and delegate where necessary.

**VIRGO:** As September celebrates your month in the sun, feel its rush of spring optimism lifting you physically, emotionally, mentally and spiritually to compost what's no longer wanted or needed into fuel for your new astrological year. Because you, more than any sign, can discriminate between toxins and nutrients.

**LIBRA:** Early September's sun and new moon extend their invitation to a delicious spring clean, inner and outer: everything from unhelpful habits to what makes it onto your dinner plate. Late week Libra moon and Mars in the sign of home entertaining couldn't be more auspicious for hosting *chez vous*.

**SCORPIO:** Restless Mars in Scorpio's home zone could see cabin fever on this week's menu, so get out of the house whenever possible and channel frustrations into physical outlets. Don't engage with devil's advocates, do be open to unexpected ideas. Extract the wisdom from any critical feedback or roadblocks you encounter.

**SAGITTARIUS:** This month's finicky choreography asks you to balance your brilliantly quick perception with patience and empathy when others, slower than your good self, want to go over every little detail. Best humour them, because they're paying attention to the small print and conditions that you might have missed.

**CAPRICORN:** Pluto completing its last hurrah in your corporate sign asks for a rigorous inspection of financial structures. Use this valuable window of opportunity to clarify your goals, ambitions and objectives. Map out what you need to get you there, from timelines and costings to division of labour.

**AQUARIUS:** As your planet boss Uranus rearranges our financial world, the only thing to expect is the unexpected. Economic progress may be slower during this cycle, but don't be discouraged. Innovative Uranus always supports investigating new terrain, so keep on trying different approaches until you make a breakthrough.

**PISCES:** September's celestial energetics in your opposite and complementary sign on the zodiac wheel provides the welcome balance of routine to your meandering Piscean style. If you could use a life edit (what Piscean couldn't?) this efficient week helps pare down, streamline and organise towards maximum effectiveness.

Volume 39 #13  
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 Editor: Eve Jeffery  
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 Copy deadline: 5pm each Thursday  
 Gig Guide deadline: 5pm each Friday  
 Advertising: adcopy@echo.net.au  
 P: 02 6684 1777  
 W: echo.net.au/entertainment

# seven



## Eclectic Selection

### WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Get ready to be blown away by **Don't Change - Ultimate INXS** – the unrivalled INXS tribute production that will transport you back in time to experience the energy and passion of INXS like never before. With their explosive two-hour concert-style show, they are guaranteed to leave you breathless and craving for more.

Don't miss your chance to be part of this extraordinary event, this show is here to ignite your senses and take you on an exhilarating journey that will leave you forever changed.

**Saturday, 8pm at the Ballina RSL. Tickets \$40: ballinarsl.com.au.**



Get ready for a fabulous evening of **Drag Bingo** with fun, laughter, and a little bit of friendly competition.

Featuring the fabulous drag queens **Kora Kurvacious** and **Lulu LeMans**, you won't want to miss their stunning performances and entertaining antics throughout the evening.

This is a first-in best-dressed event, get their early to secure your spot.

**Friday, 7.30pm at the Ocean Shores Tavern. Tickets \$10 on the door.**

**The Duck Creek Film Society** warmly invites you to join them for a community film night screening of *Past Lives*.

Inspired by real events, *Past Lives* tells the story of two childhood friends who are separated when one moves to another country. Two decades later, they are reunited in New York for a week where they confront notions of destiny, love and the choices that make a life.

*Past Lives* was nominated for two Academy Awards and is considered one of the best films of 2023.

Film languages: Korean (with subtitles) and English – remember to bring a cushion.

**Saturday, 7pm at the Alstonville Primary School. Cost is \$12.50 online or \$14 at the door: humanitix.com/au.**



Aiden Schofield is embarking on his first-ever live tour – it's an unforgettable production and fun for the whole family to enjoy. Jam-packed with mind-blowing magic and mentalism, watch as the impossible is performed with bubbles, butterflies, Rubik's cubes, sand and much, much more – right in front of your eyes.

Thursday, 7pm at the Brunswick Picture House. Tickets: [brunswickpicturehouse.com](http://brunswickpicturehouse.com)



Experience the captivating sound of Sunshine Coast based, soul/RnB artist **Will Clift** on his Sublime tour. After releasing his latest single, co-written and produced by Matt Corby, Will is bringing his signature style to Byron Bay. Known for his impressive vocal skills and dynamic stage presence, Will has sold out shows in Melbourne, Sydney, and the Sunshine Coast. Joined by his talented band, he's ready to deliver a high-energy performance that blends soulful melodies with exceptional musicianship.

Don't miss the chance to see Will Clift live – it's going to be an unforgettable night of music.

**Sunday 7pm, The Rails. Free show.**

**The Sing for RUOK Day Community Choir** is a free community event to bring locals together to meaningfully connect through music and contribute to the national dialogue on the issue of suicide prevention.

Featuring **Vicky Jacobs** from Melbourne's Glee Club, this event is an initiative of **Lindisfarne Anglican Grammar School and Germinate Records.**

**Monday 6pm, The Citadel, Murwillumbah. Free.**



KYLIE ROSE

## Dance, donate and celebrate

It's season nine and a spring kick-off for **Nudge Nudge Wink Wink: The Ultimate Party with a Conscience!**

The party of the year is back with its ninth season – springing forth with an amazing line-up of DJs and performance talent that will have you dancing with elation from start to finish.

Guests include DJs **Kylie Rose**, and the **Wax Addicts**, joining the Cunning Stunts resident DJs **Lord Sut** and **Dale Stephen**, with live performances by **The Hoodlum Ballet** – all set to lift the Shed at September's Nudge Nudge Wink Wink!

For the September and October 2024 events, donations go to **Byron Youth Service (BYS)** – BYS empowers young people in the Northern Rivers community through programmes run by experienced and dedicated youth and welfare workers. BYS's work is centred on two main areas: well-being focusing on youth support through safe youth spaces, employment, education; and individualised casework. And youth culture, using contemporary arts, music, and digital media to engage and uplift our young people.

Nudgers have helped raise \$411,723 to date, helping 39 local charities since December 2015. Community supporting its own.

**This event is sold out – the only legitimate site for purchasing any tickets available for resale is via Tixel.com. Saturday from 4pm. Ticketed 18+ event at The Billinudgel Hotel.**

BANGALOW COMMUNITY CHILDREN'S CENTRE

*Bangalow*

# BOUJEE BUSH BALL

FUNDRAISER

14TH SEPTEMBER  
 7PM - 11:30PM  
 A&I HALL, BANGALOW

- DRESS IN YOUR BOUJEE BUSH BEST  
 - 'MEXICAN VIBE' DINNER BY WOODS BANGALOW  
 - BCCC ART AUCTION, PRIZES & SILENT AUCTION

WOODS COMMON PEOPLE BREWING CO. Brookies BYRON GIN CELLAR

GET YOUR TICKETS NOW  
[BANGALOWCCC.COM.AU](http://BANGALOWCCC.COM.AU)

BRUNSWICK PICTURE HOUSE

CABARET

PHIL SCOTT & BLAKE BOWDEN

impossible DREAMS

Two of Australia's finest stars of the stage are back together with a cabaret of musical roles they would never be asked to play!

FRI 13 SEP @7PM

[brunswickpicturehouse.com](http://brunswickpicturehouse.com)

★★★★ "EXTRAORDINARY" SYDNEY MORNING HERALD  
 ★★★★★ "RAW, HONEST & MESMERISING..." - NZ SURF JOURNAL

# The Road to Patagonia

FRI 6 SEPT  
 BYRON THEATRE  
 BYRON BAY

6.30PM

TICKETS

10TH BYRON ENCORE! BOOK AHEAD

# WILDSKIN



NORPA is taking audiences on an adventure outside the theatre once again, staging its original work *Wildskin* in a warehouse space at Lismore Showgrounds. *Wildskin* inhabits an outrageous and unpredictable world that's part bush-thriller, part road-trip and a whole lot of NORPA's signature theatrical style.

First performed in 2018 in a traditional theatre space, *Wildskin* director and NORPA artistic director, Julian Louis and the team have turbo-charged the 2024 version –re-inventing *Wildskin* as a totally new experience outside the theatre. *Seven* spoke to the *Wildskin* team to talk about the old and the new.

scene, in the next scene you're in a bush bathhouse!

**Kate Foster is from the original cast – how have you approached developing the character/s you play in *Wildskin*?**

'I believe that we all have a multitude of characters inside us, they just need to be let loose! We start by studying the words and the actions and that helps inform

us about their backstory and motivations. Then it's time to get in the body- how do they move, walk, talk? What do they wear and how does that inform the way they move? I like to focus on being a vessel and letting these characters emerge without judgement or restrictions.'

**Melia Naughton is new to *Wildskin* – how have you approached developing the character/s you play?**

'We play multiple characters in *Wildskin*. I've been exploring playing a man, so there has been lots of people-watching, observing idiosyncrasies and physical play.

'The rehearsal process has been a time of unearthing ideas. It's been deeply consuming and very physical as we are working in a vast space that we've transformed into a theatre.'

**What have you enjoyed and what have you found challenging?**

'I really enjoy the process of devising theatre – this is NORPA's unique approach to creating new work and it is collaborative and generous. Rehearsals have sometime felt like a brainstorming session where all offers are explored, ideas are birthed, and solutions are uncovered to determine the best way to theatrically tell the story. There's a freedom to this which is expansive but also a risk which brings a certain charge and electricity to the room.'

***Wildskin* presented by NORPA is at Lismore Showground from September 12 to 28 at 7.30pm. Tickets are \$30 to \$69. Bar and Roadhouse Diner open from 5.30pm. *Wildskin* is an all-weather event. For tickets and more information go to [www.norpa.org.au](http://www.norpa.org.au).**

**What are the challenges and joys with re-inventing and re-imagining a show that has been performed before?**

Julian Louis says you learn so much from the audience and from watching it with other people. 'So when you get another go at it, you know the things you want to extend and accentuate, the things that didn't work and you get a deeper understanding of the story. Our works are not text-driven, they are actor and image-driven, we play with different forms, so we get to learn about the impacts of those different forms in the storytelling.'

Set and costume designer on the new production, Charlotte Haywood says the scale of the space is a challenge and a joy. 'There is a different cast and also the script has evolved to a new time, bringing a different dynamic. It is a much more immersive show as the whole night and site become a part of this iteration.'

**What will the audience see/feel this time that is different from *Wildskin*'s first incarnation?**

Louis says he feels like it is a totally different show. 'We have made so many changes to the story and the way we tell it. There's much deeper storytelling and the imagery is really heightened by the location. There's more clarity and more emotion because of that. There's a new ensemble of actors who all bring their different experiences to the work. There's more depth and complexity and we also understand more as an audience.' **Are there any surprises?**

'There are exciting reveals and twists that will shock the audience at times or at times it will be extremely funny,' says Louis. 'The surprise aspect to this work is there is so much in it. One moment you're in a fight

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PHIL SCOTT (INSET) AND BLAKE BOWDEN

## To dream the impossible

Calling all cabaret and musical theatre lovers – the **Brunswick Picture House** couldn't be more excited to be hosting a night of Impossible Dreams!

**Blake Bowden** and **Phil Scott** are back together with a cabaret of musical roles they would never be asked to play. Phil is currently between *Priscilla The Party* and the *Wharf Revue*, while Blake – one of our very own residents, here in the Northern Rivers – is between *The Rocky Horror Show* and *Carousel*. For contrast, they may give us some of that material too.

Blake is one of our top musical theatre performers and Phil a well-known comic and musical director. Together they define the word 'rapport', and the phrase, 'between jobs'.

Celebrating his 40th year as a cabaret performer, Phil Scott is best known for Sydney's annual *Wharf Revue* which has delighted audiences for 25 consecutive years. He has made his mark not only on the cabaret stage but also as a writer for the acclaimed *Priscilla, The Musical* and several ABC TV series. Phil's versatility and charm have earned him a revered place in Australian entertainment.

Most recently seen in Melbourne and Sydney as Brad and the Frank n' Furter alternate in the 50th anniversary production of *The Rocky Horror Show*, Blake Bowden also starred in some of the biggest musical productions in Australia, including *The Phantom of the Opera*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Fiddler on the Roof* and he has received a Helpmann Award nomination for his role in *The Book of Mormon*.

This will be an extraordinary evening in an all-new cabaret show that promises to be a night of musical brilliance, witty storytelling, and captivating vocal performances.

**Impossible Dreams is on at the Brunswick Picture House, Friday, September 13, at 7pm. Tickets: [brunswickpicturehouse.com](http://brunswickpicturehouse.com).**

the DRILL THEATRE company  
A NEW SHOW BY MARK SWIVEL  
**mum**  
A STORY.  
[drillhalltheatre.org.au](http://drillhalltheatre.org.au)  
Sep 6 & 7 - 7:30pm - Drill Hall Theatre



## Mum's the word

Performer and writer **Mark Swivel** is taking his new show, *Mum*, to the Sydney Fringe in late September.

Local audiences have the opportunity to marvel at *Mum* at two special fundraising performances at the **Drill Hall Theatre, Mullumbimby**.

Mark Swivel describes his show, *Mum*, as a 'funny, raw and tender story. A man in his 50s speaks to his mother, who died 20 years ago. He conjures her life, and reckons with her mysteries'.

The proceeds from *Mum's* Drill Hall shows are going towards the production costs for *The Chronicles of Eldershaw*, which is at the Drill Hall from 10 to 20 October.

Friday night's audience will have the opportunity to purchase beer from the local brewery Wandana for a discounted price of \$6. Wandana is a supporter of the Drill Hall Theatre and *Mum*.

***Mum* plays Friday and Saturday at the Drill Hall Theatre at 7.30pm.**

**Tickets \$20 – bookings: [drillhalltheatre.org.au](http://drillhalltheatre.org.au).**

CUNNING STUNTS  
**nudge nudge Wink wink**  
PARTY WITH A CONSCIENCE  
FEATURING DJs  
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WAX ADDICTS  
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+ LIVE PERFORMANCE / THE HOODLUM BALLE  
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BUY TICKETS / [www.cunningstunts.com.au](http://www.cunningstunts.com.au)  
SUPPORTING LOCAL CHARITIES  
Printworks, north coast, E&L consultancy



## Hawkes and Webster play vintage market

Local duo **Hawkes** and **Webster** will play a live and soulful Saturday session at Founde, the new pre-loved fashion event held at the A&I Hall in Bangalow, which will come alive with pre-loved and bohemian fashion finds, live music, a cosy children's play place and the warmth of freshly brewed chai.

Influenced by the sounds of hymns and Dylan, **Mandy Hawkes** will bring a timeless country-alt flavour to the event. **Christina Webster** will lend her banjo skills and soulful harmonies, creating a mesmerising sound that encourages shoppers to pause, unwind and stay a while.

Founde brings stallholders together to share quality vintage pieces, pre-loved clothing and collectibles, creating a sustainable shopping experience that reduces fashion's impact on the planet.

Between lively stalls and couches to kick back on, a children's play space will give busy parents a chance to rest, grab a chai, rustle through the racks and enjoy a slow-paced Saturday.

Attendees can make a day of it by visiting the Sample Food Festival held in the showground next door.

**Saturday, from 8am at the A&I Hall, Bangalow.**

**The family-friendly event will welcome guests with tickets available online at [founde.com](http://founde.com) or at the door. Entry \$4 (children under 10 are free).**

A NORPA PRODUCTION  
**WILD SKIN**  
A thrilling night of theatre, comedy, song and adventure!  
FROM 12 SEPTEMBER LISMORE SHOWGROUNDS  
Buses from Byron & Ballina – see website  
BOOK NOW [norpa.org.au](http://norpa.org.au) norpa



## CINEMA

### Midas Man

When Brian Epstein (Jacob Fortune-Lloyd) set foot in the Cavern Club in November 1961 to watch The Beatles perform, he saw something no one else could – a glimmer of gold. Sharply dressed and well-spoken, Brian was hardly the most obvious radical – but being Jewish, closeted and having grown up as an outsider who had failed at pretty much everything, he was a 26 year old with something to prove and he wanted to tear up the rulebook.

With a cast that includes **Emily Watson, Eddie Marsan, Omari Douglas, Darci Shaw, Ed Speleers, Charley Palmer Rothwell, Bill Milner, Jay Leno, and Blake Richardson**, *Midas Man* is the emotional, heartfelt and often funny story of how Epstein polished four scruffy lads who were going nowhere, and in a matter of months turned them into a global phenomenon; of his unwavering belief in his artists and his tenacity in the face of getting turned down by every big record label; and of the style, guile and charm that allowed him to 'break' America and fundamentally change popular culture forever.

See *Midas Man* this week at Ballina Fair Cinemas and Palace Cinemas Byron Bay.

# GIG GUIDE

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



### WEDNESDAY 4

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **NATHAN KAYE**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **6PM TIM STOKES**
- BANGALOW BOWLO 7.30PM **BANGALOW BRACKETS OPEN MIC**
- ELTHAM HOTEL 6.30PM **NOT QUITE FOLK JAM**, 7PM **NOT QUITE FOLK JAM**

### THURSDAY 5

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **SARAH GRANT DUO**
- PLAYGROUND, BYRON BAY, 3PM **SARAU**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 6PM **BENNY O'DWYER**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 7PM **AIDEN SCHOFIELD**
- THE LEVEE, LISMORE, 5PM **DEEBEE BISHOP**
- THE SUPPER CLUB AT THE BOWLO, LISMORE, 7PM **THE SUPPER CLUB SOUL BAND**
- LENNOX HOTEL 8PM **THURSDAY JAM NIGHT**

### FRIDAY 6

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **BULLETPROOF**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **LUKE HAYWARD BAND + LA BOUM**
- BYRON THEATRE 6.30PM **THE ROAD TO PATAGONIA**
- BYRON COMMUNITY CENTRE **WE DANCE FESTIVAL**
- OTHERWORLD, BYRON BAY, **WE DANCE FESTIVAL**
- PLAYGROUND, BYRON BAY, 4PM **PLAYTIME JAM**
- GITANA SPANISH BAR, BYRON BAY, 5.30PM **ARTE GITANA FLEMENCO**

- HOWL & MOAN, BYRON BAY, 7PM **SAM MAC AND THE RAT RACE CHOIR + FRIENDS**
- A&I HALL, BANGALOW, 5PM **DELINQUENTE 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY FT. HIDDEN SPHERES**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 6PM **HAYLEY GRACE**
- OCEAN SHORES TAVERN 7.30PM **DRAG QUEEN BINGO**
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM **DJ SALVE JORGE**

- DRILL HALL THEATRE, MULLUMBIMBY, 7.30PM **MUM**
- ST JOHN'S SCHOOL HALL, MULLUMBIMBY, 7.30PM **ECSTATIC DANCE MULLUM WITH DJ WREN**
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY, 8PM **KRAPPYOKEE WITH JESS**
- CLUB LENNOX 7PM **ISAAC FRANKHAM DUO**
- LENNOX HOTEL 9PM **FAT ALBERT**
- BALLINA RSL LEVEL ONE 6PM **MAGIC MEN**
- CHERRY STREET SPORTS CLUB, BALLINA, 7PM **JOCK BARNES DUO**
- ELTHAM HOTEL 8PM **WATTY THOMPSON & HIS TOTAL FIRE BAND**
- THE LEVEE, LISMORE, 7.30PM **DJ BIG RED & FRIENDS**
- THE CHANNON TAVERN 7PM **JON J BRADLEY DUO**
- MURWILLUMBAH SERVICES CLUB 6.30PM **PHIL GUEST**
- THE CITADEL, MURWILLUMBAH, 7PM **MATT JOE GOW & KERRY N FIELDS**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 5PM **ROCKIN' RON**
- SALTBAR, KINGSCLIFF, 6PM **LUKE YEAMAN**

- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE SHOWROOM 8PM **TONI CHILDS**

### SATURDAY 7

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **JB'S BLUES BREAKERS**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 2PM **PIPER BUTCHER + NEED2FREAK W EDEN BURNS, TRANCE MUMS, LITTLE FRITTER B2B WONGO, LUEN & KIRA SUNDAY**
- OTHERWORLD, BYRON BAY, **WE DANCE FESTIVAL**
- BYRON COMMUNITY CENTRE **WE DANCE FESTIVAL**
- NORTH BYRON HOTEL 1.30PM **DJ NAT WHITE**, 5PM **DJ KAI NOON**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 10AM **MICKA SCENE**, 4.30PM **SING ON SOCIAL + MATT BUGGY + DJ JAKE CASELLA**
- A&I HALL, BANGALOW, 8AM **FOUNDE VINTAGE MARKET FEAT. HAWKES AND WEBSTER**
- SHEARWATER, MULLUMBIMBY, 10AM **SHEARWATER SPRING FAIR**
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM **DJ AFRODESIA**
- DRILL HALL THEATRE, MULLUMBIMBY, 7.30PM **MUM**
- BILLINUDGEL HOTEL 4PM **NUDGE NUDE WINK WINK - WITH DJS KYLIE ROSE, WAX ADDICTS, DALE STEPHEN & LORD SUT + THE HOODLUM BALLET**
- CLUB LENNOX 7PM **JABIRU**
- LENNOX HOTEL 9PM **DJ BEATDUSTA**
- BALLINA RSL BOARDWALK 6PM **TURTLE BOY DUO**, LEVEL ONE 8PM **DON'T CHANGE - ULTIMATE INXS**

- CHERRY STREET SPORTS CLUB, BALLINA, 8PM **FAT ALBERT**
- ALSTONVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOL 6PM **DUCK CREEK FILM SOCIETY PRESENTS 'PAST LIVES'**
- THE CHANNON TAVERN 6.30PM **KARAOKE**
- MURWILLUMBAH SERVICES CLUB 6PM **MARK AITKEN**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH HOTEL 5PM **SNEAKY SOUND SYSTEM**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 5PM **ADAM BROWN**
- SALTBAR, KINGSCLIFF, 6PM **ISAAC FRANKHAM**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE SHOWROOM 8PM **ROB MILLS**

### SUNDAY 8

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **WILL CLIFT**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 4.30PM **SOUL'D**
- BYRON COMMUNITY CENTRE **WE DANCE FESTIVAL**
- OTHERWORLD, BYRON BAY, **WE DANCE FESTIVAL**
- NORTH BYRON HOTEL 2PM **DJ CALLUM**
- YULLI'S, BYRON BAY, 3PM **YULLI'S OPEN MIC**
- THREE BLUE DUCKS, EWINGSDALE, 12.30PM **UPBEAT + PHIL HOWELL**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 4PM **KOOII**
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 3PM **DJ ABEL EL TORO**
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY, 3PM **OPEN MIC WITH THE SWAMP CATS**
- CLUB LENNOX 4PM **JB'S BLUES BREAKERS**

### MONDAY 9

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **CHRIS ARONSTEN**
- THE CITADEL, MURWILLUMBAH, 6.15PM **SING FOR RUOK DAY COMMUNITY CHOIR**

### TUESDAY 10

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **GUY KACHEL**
- BYRON THEATRE 6PM **A.C. GRAYLING: WHO OWNS THE MOON?**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE SHOWROOM 11AM **TONY WILLIAMS WITH JODIE JOY**

### WEDNESDAY 11

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **ALLY PALMER**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **LUKE BENNETT**
- BYRON THEATRE 11AM & 6PM **DRAMAWORKS PERFORMANCES 2024**
- BANGALOW BOWLO 7.30PM **BANGALOW BRACKETS OPEN MIC**
- ELTHAM HOTEL 5PM **IRISH FOLK JAM**
- THE LEVEE, LISMORE, 5.30PM **'CREATURE' ART EXHIBITION OPENING**

## 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.

### Session Times Ballina Fair Cinema

Thurs, September 5 - Wed, September 11 47/84 Kerr St, Ballina

**A HORSE NAMED WINX** (K13)NFT  
Daily except Thurs: 2:45PM, 5:10PM.  
Thurs: 2:50PM, 5:15PM  
**ALIEN: ROMULUS** (M15+) (NFT)  
Daily except Thurs: 5:10PM, 7:40PM.  
Thurs: 4:45PM, 7:20PM  
**BEETLEJUICE** (M15+) (NFT)  
Daily except Thurs: 10:10AM, 12:30PM, 2:45PM, 7:40PM.  
Thurs: 10:00AM, 12:15PM, 2:50PM, 7:40PM  
**BOOKWORM** (PG) (NFT)  
Daily except Thurs: 10:00AM.  
Thurs: 12:40PM

**DEADPOOL & WOLVERINE** (M15+) (NFT)  
Daily: 12:10PM, 7:10PM  
**IT ENDS WITH US** (M15+) (NFT)  
Daily except Thurs: 12:20PM.  
Thurs: 10:00AM  
**THELMA** (M15+) (NFT)  
Daily except Thurs: 10:15AM, 3:00PM, 5:00PM.  
Thurs: 10:10AM, 2:30PM, 5:00PM

To receive the absolute lowest ticket price and special offers, be sure to join our Free Movie Club!

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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

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\*NFT = No Free Tickets

PALACE CINEMAS

### Session Times

Thu, September 5 - Wed, September 11 108 Jonson St, Byron Bay

**SPECIAL SCREENINGS**  
**BONNARD, PIERRE & MARTHE** (M15+) (NFT)  
ADVANCE SCREENING  
Fri, Sat, Sun: 3:30PM  
**COMANDANTE** (K13) (NFT)  
PROSECCO PREVIEW  
Wed: 6:30PM  
**THE SUBSTANCE** (K13) (NFT)  
FRIGHT NIGHT PREVIEW  
Fri: 8:00PM  
**FAMILY FILMS**  
**BOOKWORM** (PG) (NFT)  
Thurs, Mon, Tues: 11:00AM, 3:40PM.  
Fri, Sat, Sun: 11:00AM, 1:20PM, 4:00PM, 7:30PM.  
Wed: 11:00AM, 3:45PM  
**DESPICABLE ME 4** (PG) (NFT)  
Daily: 11:00AM  
**INSIDE OUT 2** (PG) (NFT)  
Daily: 1:00PM

**ALL FILMS**  
**A HORSE NAMED WINX** (K13) (NFT)  
Daily except Thurs: 11:00AM, 4:30PM, 7:00PM.  
Thurs: 11:00AM, 4:30PM, 7:00PM  
**ALIEN: ROMULUS** (M15+) (NFT)  
Daily except Fri, Sat: 1:50PM, 5:45PM.  
Fri, Sat: 1:50PM, 5:45PM, 8:20PM  
**BEETLEJUICE** (M15+) (NFT)  
Thurs: 11:20AM, 1:40PM, 3:00PM, 4:00PM, 5:15PM, 7:00PM, 7:30PM.  
Fri, Sat: 11:20AM, 1:40PM, 3:00PM, 4:00PM, 5:15PM, 6:15PM, 7:30PM, 8:30PM.

Sun, Mon, Tues, Wed: 11:20AM, 1:40PM, 3:00PM, 4:00PM, 5:15PM, 6:15PM, 7:30PM  
**BLINK TWICE** (M15+) (NFT)  
Daily except Wed: 1:15PM, 7:00PM.  
Wed: 1:15PM  
**DEADPOOL & WOLVERINE** (M15+) (NFT)  
Daily except Sat: 11:00AM, 1:50PM, 4:30PM, 7:00PM.  
Sat: 11:00AM, 1:50PM, 4:30PM, 7:00PM, 8:10PM  
**IT ENDS WITH US** (M15+) (NFT)  
Daily except Thurs: 11:00AM, 1:45PM, 4:20PM, 7:15PM.  
Thurs: 11:00AM, 4:20PM, 7:15PM

**KNEECAP** (M15+) (NFT)  
Daily except Fri, Sat: 3:30PM.  
Fri, Sat: 3:30PM, 8:30PM  
**LONGLEGS** (M15+) (NFT)  
Thurs: 1:30PM.  
Mon, Tues, Wed: 1:20PM  
**MIDAS MAN** (M15+) (NFT)  
Daily except Thurs: 11:00AM  
**THELMA** (M15+) (NFT)  
Daily: 11:10AM, 1:20PM, 3:45PM, 6:00PM  
**TOUCH** (M15+) (NFT)  
Daily except Wed: 11:20AM, 1:40PM, 4:20PM, 6:00PM.  
Wed: 11:20AM, 1:40PM, 4:20PM, 7:00PM

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.

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

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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:

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Ad bookings only taken during business hours: Monday to

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Account enquiries phone 6684 1777.

## DEADLINE TUES 12PM

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

### RATES & PAYMENT

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**DORA**

Dora is a glossy black 2 year old with beautiful green eyes who was surrendered because her owner had a terminal illness and who has since passed away. She is playful and affectionate and doesn't mind other cats or small dogs.

All cats are desexed, vaccinated and microchipped.

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## PUBLIC NOTICES

### WHERE TO GET THE ECHO

If you live in Lennox Head or Ballina, but outside our current home delivery area, you can pick up an Echo from many locations, including:  
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Road base, gravel, blue metal and metal dust. ALL SIZE DELIVERIES.  
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Any shape, size. Royalties paid. Ongoing supply needed. 0414904396

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We buy, sell & consign.  
All makes & models.  
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## 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.

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SUNRISE: Room in 3 bdrm townhouse. \$260pw incl bills. No pets. 66856760.

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### FURNISHED CABIN.

Quiet and picturesque. 8 mins to Mullum PO. Clean, neat and special. Single, mature worker. \$400pw. Ph 66841288.

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

CREATIVE DYNAMIC ART SPACE to share. 50sqm plus. Mullumbimby, on the river. \$95p/w plus elec. Ph 0408809528

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MULLUM: STATION ST STUDIOS  
Artist Studio: 5.2m x 3m  
24/7 access. \$605 per month.  
TEXT 0419 887 775

## POSITIONS VACANT

KITCHENHAND. Must be available Mon, Thurs, Fri and Sat. Email resume to [mullum@otherjoint.com](mailto:mullum@otherjoint.com)

LADIES WANTED, MUST BE 18+ Work available in busy adult parlour. Travellers welcome.  
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## TAXI DRIVERS WANTED

Flexible work hours – perfect 2nd income

Email [operations@byronbaytaxi.com](mailto:operations@byronbaytaxi.com)



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

Class 1 Teacher

Applications close at 5pm on 15.9.2024

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

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

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## MUSICAL NOTES

GUITAR STRINGS, REPAIRS  
Brunswick Heads 66851005

## BIRTHDAYS

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY JACK!



Love from the Echo crew xxx

## FUNERAL NOTICES



### David Charles Gillespie

With great sadness we announce the passing of David Gillespie resident of Byron Bay.

He passed away on Wednesday, 28 August 2024, aged 76 years.

Dearly loved husband of Gaynor Gillespie. Loving father of Charles, Caryn and Scott. Devoted Poppy to Honey and Ash.

Family and friends are warmly invited to attend David's Funeral Service at Parkview Funeral Home, 21 Kalinga Street, Ballina. 10am on Tuesday, 10th September 2024.

## PETS

### NEISHA

Neisha is a shiny & sleek beauty, whose essence simply cannot be captured in a photo. She is quiet but affectionate & enjoys head rubs at any opportunity. Neisha is looking for love with her captivating green eyes & is just hoping to be chosen soon.

To meet Neisha, please visit the Cat Adoption Centre at 124 Dalley Street, Mullumbimby.

OPEN: Tues 2.30-4.30pm | Thurs 3-5pm | Sat 10am-12 noon | Call AWL on 0436 845 542 | Like us on Facebook. | AWL NSW Rehoming Organisation Number | R251000222

Like us on Facebook!

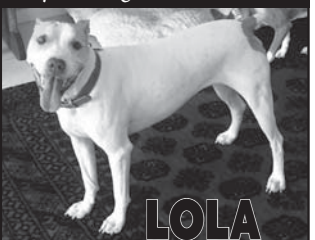
AWL NSW Rehoming Organisation Number: R251000222



Sooty is a 10 year old, Australian Kelpie X. He is a fun-loving, easy going dog, who loves everyone. He enjoys daily walks, a dip in the river and chasing balls. M/C # 956000008948899 If you can give Sooty a home, please fill out an expression of interest: [www.friendsofthepound.com/adoption-expression-of-interest/](http://www.friendsofthepound.com/adoption-expression-of-interest/) Or email Tracy: [johnsontracy832@gmail.com](mailto:johnsontracy832@gmail.com) for more information.

Visit [friendsofthepound.com](http://friendsofthepound.com) to view other dogs and cats looking for a home. ABN 83 126 970 338

## Byron Dog Rescue (CAWI)



**LOLA**

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

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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 (Sept)	DAY, MOON PHASE	SUN RISE / SET	MOON RISE / SET	HIGH TIDES, height (m)	LOW TIDES, height (m)
4	W	5:56 17:33	6:30 18:32	0858 1.33 2111 1.59	0256 0.28 1442 0.28
5	TH	5:55 17:33	6:56 19:24	0930 1.36 2139 1.52	0321 0.27 1516 0.32
6	F	5:54 17:34	7:22 20:16	1003 1.38 2207 1.43	0346 0.28 1553 0.38
7	SA	5:53 17:34	7:49 21:09	1039 1.39 2236 1.33	0413 0.30 1631 0.46
8	SU	5:52 17:35	8:18 22:04	1116 1.39 2308 1.21	0440 0.33 1715 0.54
9	M	5:50 17:35	8:51 23:02	1200 1.37 2345 1.09	0510 0.38 1808 0.61
10	TU	5:49 17:36	9:29	1251 1.34	0545 0.43 1920 0.67
11	W	5:48 17:36	10:14 0:01	0037 0.99 1400 1.34	0632 0.49 2057 0.67
12	TH	5:47 17:37	11:07 1:01	0158 0.92 1523 1.38	0744 0.52 2228 0.60
13	F	5:46 17:37	12:07 1:58	0336 0.93 1635 1.47	0910 0.50 2328 0.49
14	SA	5:44 17:38	13:13 2:52	0452 1.01 1734 1.60	1025 0.41
15	SU	5:43 17:38	14:22 3:40	0550 1.12 1825 1.72	1014 0.37 1127 0.30
16	M	5:42 17:39	15:32 4:22	0641 1.25 1911 1.81	0954 0.25 1220 0.19
17	TU	5:41 17:39	16:42 5:01	0728 1.37 1954 1.84	0131 0.15 1311 0.10
18	W	5:40 17:40	17:50 5:36	0815 1.49 2036 1.81	0209 0.08 1400 0.07

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

*"Nature has given us all the pieces required to achieve exceptional wellness and health, but has left it to us to put these pieces together."*

—Diane McLaren

MONTHLY MARKETS			
1st SAT Brunswick Heads	0418 400 415	5th SUN Nimbin	0475 135 764
1st SUN Byron Bay	02 6685 6807	5th SUN Lennox Head	02 6685 6807
2nd SUN The Channon	02 6688 6433	<b>FARMERS/WEEKLY MARKETS</b>	
2nd SUN Lennox Head	02 6685 6807	Each TUE New Brighton	0424 168 672
2nd SUN Chillingham	0428 793 141	Each TUE Organic Lismore	
2nd SUN Coolangatta		Each WED Murwillumbah 7-11	0415 328 672
2nd SUN Tabulam		Each WED Nimbin 3-6pm	0418 940 653
3rd SAT Mullumbimby	02 6684 3370	Each WED Newrybar Hall 4-7pm	
3rd SAT Murwillumbah	0415 328 672	Each THU Byron 8-11am	0414 595 169
3rd SAT Salt Village Market, Casuarina		Each THU Lismore 2.30-6.30pm	0459 309 223
3rd SUN Federal	0433 002 757	Each FRI Mullum 7-11am	0424 168 672
3rd SUN Uki	0487 329 150	Each FRI Evans Head 2.30-6.30	0428 291 068
3rd SUN Ballina	0422 094 338	Each SAT Bangalow 8-11am	0414 595 169
4th SAT Evans Head	0432 275 765	Each SAT Duranbah Rd 8-11am (Tropical Fruit World)	
4th SAT Kyogle Bazaar kyoglebazaar.com.au		Each SAT Uki 8am-1pm	02 6679 5438
4th SUN Bangalow	02 6687 1911	Each SAT Lismore 8.30-11am	
4th SUN Nimbin	0475 135 764	Each SAT Wadeville 8am-12pm	
4th SUN Murwillumbah	0415 328 672	Each SAT Byron Twilight Market 4pm Oct-Apr	
4th SUN Coolangatta (in a 5 Sunday month)		Each SUN Ballina 7-11am	

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

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



**Echo**  
VIGILANT SINCE 1986

## On The Horizon

### DEADLINE NOON FRIDAY

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

#### AIR

The next meeting of the Australian Independent Retirees (AIR) will be held on Friday, 6 September at the Ballina RSL Club, 1 Grant Street Ballina. The meeting starts at 10am, socialising from 9.30am. The meeting will be followed by the guest speaker, Alanah Ward, who is the Team Leader of Visitors Services at Ballina Shire Council. A meeting fee of \$5. Enquiries to President Jill Huxley, 6686 8958.

#### Frog friendly gardens workshop

Richmond Landcare is running a frog friendly gardens workshop on Thursday, 19 September, 5 to 8pm at Lismore Rainforest Botanic Garden Education Centre. Register at <https://events.humanitix.com/frog-friendly-gardens-workshop>.

#### Organic Landcare

OLI's next working bee will be Saturday, September 7, 8am until 1 pm, at Saltwater Creek. Meet at Mullumbimby Community Garden car park. Tasks will be to weed the inside fence in front of the MCG, so the weeds stop over growing into the drain. Wear a long-sleeved shirt and pants for sun protection and to avoid scratches. Bring a hat, gloves, water and some morning tea, for a 11am break, with Abby, MCG grounds person.

#### Mullumbimby CWA

The next meeting is September 11 at 10am at the CWA Rooms with a light lunch to follow. Annual subscriptions are due. The branch Land Cookery contest is on September 14. Bring entries to the CWA Rooms at 9am for judging at 9.30am. Info: Secretary Jenny Barlow 6684 7282 or email cwamullum@gmail.com. The hall is available for hire at a low rental. Call Sue on 6684 1675 or 0409 841675.

#### NR Pr 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](http://www.exitinternational.net) or phone Catherine 0435 228 443 (Robina & South Tweed) or Peter 0429 950 352 (Ballina).

#### 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](http://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/>.

#### Brun 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: [brunscwa@gmail.com](mailto:brunscwa@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](mailto: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:

- Food recovery support service:** personalised, long-term support for those impacted by the floods.
- Community support:** food parcels, meals, showers, assistance with electricity bills. Work Development Orders.
- Listening Space:** free counselling.
- More Than A Meal:** free community lunch Tuesday-Thursday 12.30-1.30pm.
- Financial counselling**
- Staying Home, Leaving Violence program:** Information, referral, and advocacy.
- Gulganii affordable pantry shop:** located at 3 Bridgeland Lane.
- Orange Sky:** free laundry service Mon morning & Wed afternoon.

To enquire about accessing any of these services call reception 6684 1286, check our website [www.mdnc.org.au](http://www.mdnc.org.au), or follow us on Facebook or Instagram. @mullumbimbyneighbourhoodcentre.

#### Byron Community

The Byron Community Centre provides community services and programs including meals, advocacy and counselling for locals in need. **Fletcher Street Cottage:** A welcoming, safe and respectful space where people who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness can come to get practical relief opportunities, find connections and access broader

- support. Fletcher Street Cottage services are open 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](http://www.fletcherstreetcottage.com.au).
- Byron Community Cabin:** Seniors Computer Club (school term only), 9-11am, Friday, Carlyle Steet. More info: [www.byroncentre.com.au](http://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.

#### 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](http://www.al-anon.org.au).

#### Ostate Cancer

The next meeting of the Northern Rivers Day Prostate Cancer Support Group is to be held on Wednesday September 11, 10am until 12 noon at the Alstonville Plateau Sports Club, Deegan Drive, Alstonville. Men previously and newly diagnosed with prostate cancer are urged to join with the group to experience the personal cancer stories told which give a great opportunity for all present to share, learn and benefit from each other. Partners and carers are also most welcome to attend as family are very much involved with the process and treatment of those with this diagnosis. Guest to be Jessica Butterfield Prostate Cancer Specialist Nurse for this region. Enquiries phone Bob Corney 0493 075 612.

#### BV VIEW

The Brunswick Valley View hen Club luncheon meeting September 12 at Brunswick Bowling Club, Tweed Street, Brunswick Head. If you need more info contact the president on 0424 852 679 or email [thestrongs@bigpond.com](mailto:thestrongs@bigpond.com). Any members who could not attend please phone Wenda Lawrence on 0449 563 580 or email: [wjhunt@yahoo.com.au](mailto:wjhunt@yahoo.com.au) no later than Monday before our meeting. Any members not staying for Lunch, payment will be \$2.00 payable LFL students. If Wenda is not notified then lunches will be paid. Just a little reminder: join fee \$20 and meeting will start at 10.30 for 11am start.

#### Annie O'Moon-Browning

Join Annie O'Moon-Browning with Donald Maughan for the local author in conversation. They will be talking about her well reviewed and book 'Rosanna'. Light refreshments provided. Bookings essential. Phone 6685 8540 or visit [www.rtrf.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rtrf.nsw.gov.au) Thursday, 5 September 4-5.30pm.

#### Brun CWA Market Day

Come along to the Brun CWA Market Day on Saturday September 14 between 8am-1pm. Craft work, cakes, biscuits, jams and pickles, plants and Devonshire teas at the corner of Park and Booyun Steets Brunswick Heads. Cash only, please.

#### Richmond-Tweed Family History Society

The next general meeting of the Richmond-Tweed Family History Society will be held on Saturday, September 7, from 2-4pm at Players Theatre, 24 Swift Street, Ballina. The topic at this meeting will be [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) as the Society has just purchased the genealogy site ancestry.com. This meeting is free with afternoon tea served. Any further enquiries please contact Victoria (Vicki) Evans on 0467 573 282 nor email [presidentrtrfst@yahoo.com](mailto:presidentrtrfst@yahoo.com).

#### 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](mailto:fundraiser@byronrespite.com.au), website: [byronrespite.com.au](http://byronrespite.com.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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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.

## SERVICE DIRECTORY RATES, PAYMENT & DEADLINE

**DEADLINE:** For additions and changes to the Service Directory is **12pm Friday**.

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

For line Service Directory ads email classifieds@echo.net.au.

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

Please supply display ads 85mm wide, 38mm high. New display ads will be placed at end of section.

For display Service Directory ads email adcopy@echo.net.au.

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

**ACCOUNTS & BOOKINGS: 6684 1777**

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# Harvest Estate, Byron Bay winner of UDIA Award for Best Residential Subdivision in NSW

Harvest Estate, a master-planned sustainable community in the heart of Byron Bay, being developed by Tower Holdings, was announced as the winner of the UDIA Award for Best Residential Subdivision in NSW. The project was also announced as a finalist in the category of Best Regional Development in NSW.



Harvest Estate, Byron Bay is the 2024 winner of the Urban Development Institute of Australia NSW Award for Best Residential Subdivision in NSW.

Spanning 150 acres, Harvest Estate is the first major land release in Byron Bay in over 35 years. When completed, the project will feature 149 new residential lots nestled in over 44,000m<sup>2</sup> of new public open space, 1.8km of cycle and walking paths connecting to existing networks, and an outdoor fitness park, setting a new standard for environmentally-conscious living and community cohesion. Works on Stage 1 of the project comprising 55 new residential lots have been completed.

'We feel privileged to have worked closely with

our neighbours, community stakeholders, and Council to deliver this unique residential community within the special environment of Byron Bay. This project has been in planning for over 25 years and we are proud to have been able to successfully deliver the first stage and receive

this recognition from the UDIA.' Anthony Aioassa, CEO of Tower Holdings said. 'For the Harvest Estate to be announced as the winner for best subdivision in NSW is incredibly rewarding. We've not only delivered the first significant new housing supply in Byron Bay

in over 35 years but we have also demonstrated that developers can work with communities, councils, and stakeholders to achieve great outcomes that everyone can benefit from.' The project overcame significant development challenges through deep

community engagement and collaboration with local development consultancy experts, Planit Consulting. The resulting plan demonstrates an extraordinary commitment to environmental preservation, rehabilitation, and enhancement.

'Harvest Estate has transformed formerly degraded farmland into a thriving ecosystem, with 11.76 hectares dedicated to environmental rehabilitation and a community-focused design including over 44,000m<sup>2</sup> of new public open space,' explains Ben Gohl, Director, Planit Consulting. 'It's about creating a lasting legacy and a community that will thrive for years to come.'

Stage 1 features residential lots ranging from 450-900m<sup>2</sup> with the remainder of the lots to go on the market shortly through Ian Daniels of McGrath, Byron Bay.

Courtesy Tower Holdings



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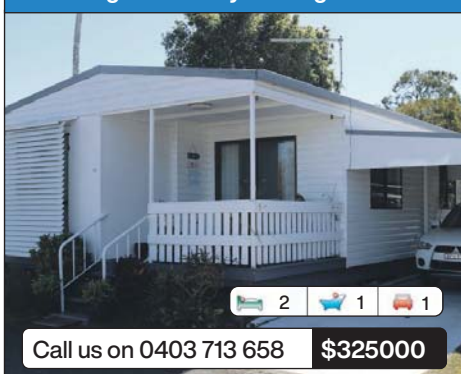
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- 15/24 Scott Street, Byron Bay. Sat 9-9.30am
- 1/6 Sallywattle Drive, Suffolk Park. Sat 9-9.30am
- 5/20-21 Pacific Parade, Lennox Head. Sat 9-9.30am
- 1 Park Street, Brunswick Head. Sat 10-10.30am
- 6 Victor Place, Lennox Head. Sat 10-10.30am
- 45 Corkwood Crescent, Suffolk Park. Sat 10-10.30am
- 1 Settlement Road, Main Arm. Sat 10-10.30am
- 50/11-19 Cooper Street, Byron Bay. Sat 10-10.30am
- 47 Currawong Way, Ewingsdale. Sat 10-10.30am
- 6/133-141 Broken Head Rd, Suffolk Park. Sat 10-10.30am
- 20/11 Constellation Close, Byron Bay. Sat 10-10.30am
- 15 Palm-Lily Crescent, Bangalow. Sat 10.30-11am
- 1/14 Keats Street, Byron Bay. Sat 11-11.30am
- 22 Coachwood Court, Federal. Sat 11-11.30am

- 40 Old Bangalow Road, Byron Bay. Sat 11-11.30am
- 22 Karalauren Court, Lennox Head. Sat 11-11.30am
- 124 Alcorn Street, Suffolk Park. Sat 11-11.30am
- 1/34 Lawson Street, Byron Bay. Sat 11.30am-12pm
- 10 Armstrong Street, Suffolk Park. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 8/1-2 Cape Court, Byron Bay. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 1 Driftwood Avenue, Byron Bay. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 4/113 Paterson Street, Byron Bay. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 4 Wright Place, Bangalow. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 37 Matong Drive, Ocean Shores. Sat 1-1.30pm
- 6/51 Belongil Crescent, Byron Bay. 1-1.30pm
- 440 Dorroughby Road, Dorroughby. Sat 1-1.30pm
- 50 Rocky Creek Dam Road, Dunoon. Sat 1.30-2pm
- 15 Plantation Drive, Ewingsdale. 2-2.30pm
- 797 Fernleigh Road, Brooklet. 3-3.30pm

### DJ Stringer Property Services

- 1/29 Albatross Cct, Tweed Heads West. Sat 9-9.30am
- 2/87 Golden Four Dr, Bilinga. Sat 10-10.30am
- 2/3-5 Barrett St, Tweed Heads West. Sat 10-10.30am
- 3D/3-9 Eden St, Tweed Heads. Sat 10-11am
- 2/7 Sycamore Ct, Banora Point. Sat 11-11.30am
- 146 Riverside Dr, Tumbulgum. Sat 11:15-12pm

### Tim Miller Real Estate

- 15 Ivory Curl Place, Bangalow. Sat 9-9.30am
- 1271 Lismore Road, Clunes. Sat 9.45-10.15am
- 22 Ryces Drive, Clunes. Sat 10.30-11am
- 1 Wickham Place, Clunes. Sat 11.15-11.45am
- 113 Kings Road, Federal. Sat 12.15-12.45pm
- 33 Goremans Road, Eureka. Sat 1.45-2.15pm

### MANA RE

- 9 Green Frog Lane, Bangalow. Sat 9-9.30am
- 119 Commercial Road, Murwillumbah. Sat 9-9.30am
- 46 Orana Road, Ocean Shores. Sat 9-9.30am
- 39A Granuaille Road, Bangalow. Sat 10-10.30am
- 142 Bakers Road, Dunbible. Sat 10-10.30am
- 80 Harbour Way, Brunswick Heads. Sat 11.30am-12pm
- 261 Tunnel Road, Stokers Siding. Sat 11.30am-12pm
- 10 Palmer Avenue, Ocean Shores. Sat 1-1.30pm

### Ruth Russell Realty

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

### Ray White Rural Bangalow

- 55 Tristania Street, Bangalow. Sat 9.30-10am

### Harcourts Northern Rivers

- 2/12 Hackett Lane, Ballina. Sat 10-10.30am
- 79 Burnet Street, Ballina. Sat 10-10.30am
- 337 Hermans Lane, Pimlico. Sat 10-10.30am
- 52 Riverview Avenue, West Ballina. Sat 11-11.30am
- 6 Princess Avenue, Ballina. Sat 11-11.30am
- 26 Clavan Street, Ballina. Sat 11.45am-12.15pm
- 6 Rifle Range Road, Wollongbar. Sat 12.30-1pm
- 10 Eider Quadrant, Ballina. Sat 12.30-1pm
- 73 Lagoon Drive, Myocum. Sat 1.45-2.15pm

### NC Lifestyle Properties Mullumbimby

- 91 Brushbox Drive, Mullumbimby. Sat 10-10.45am
- 8 Warina Place, Mullumbimby. Sat 10-10.45am

### NC Lifestyle Properties Brunswick Heads

- 1/23 Royal Avenue, South Golden Beach. Sat 9-9.30am
- 2/11 Newberry Pde, Brunswick Heads. Sat 10-10.30am
- 744 Upper Burringbar Rd, Upper Burringbar. Sat 10-10.30am
- 1/15 Boondoan Cres, Ocean Shores. Sat 10-10.45am
- Unit 6, 15-17 Mullumbimbi St, Brunswick Heads. Sat 11-11.30am
- 9 Rangal Road, Ocean Shores. Sat 11-11.45am

### Lorimer Estate Agents

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

### Dodds Real Estate

- 6181 Tweed Valley Way, Burringbar. Sat 11.30am-12pm
- 58 Main Arm Road, Mullumbimby. Sat 12.30pm-1pm

### Real Estate of Distinction

- 81 Harwood, Burringbar. Sat 10.30-11.00am

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Fatigued with Council election fever yet? It's less than two weeks to go before the local political reality show season finale. Side-stepping the hot sweaty promises, pabulum and platitudes, Paul Bibby takes a measured look at how the sausage factory affects you – see page 4.

■■■■■  
 A reminder that there is a petition to save Bluesfest. If 20,000 signatures are reached, NSW Parliament will be required to hold a debate on whether they will intervene to save the iconic festival. Imagine if they just did that without being prompted? To sign the petition, visit <https://tinyurl.com/5bbbv4we>.

■■■■■  
 Remember how Council staff are planning major road/drainage works in Byron CBD, and small businesses say they will be forced to close if it goes ahead? *The Echo* is waiting on comment from the grant funder, the Reconstruction Authority, who have the power to provide more lenient conditions around the funds. They say they will reply for next week's edition.

■■■■■  
 For those who say it can't be done, [www.reneweconomy.com.au](http://www.reneweconomy.com.au) reports, 'South Australia sourced more than 101 per cent of its demand over the past week from wind and solar, in the last week of winter'.

■■■■■  
 Greenpeace say freedom of information documents they recently obtained reveal mining giants 'Hancock Prospecting and Rio Tinto were behind a major push to weaken and delay fixes to the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act*



Celebrating Father's Day and the first day of spring, Hunter and her dad, Hamish visit the Face Fairy, Anna from createart.studio at Byron Market. Photo Jeff 'Face Planted' Dawson

1999 (EPBC Act)'. They also believe federal Labor are about to weaken EPA powers.

■■■■■  
 Journalist Anthony Klan tweeted 'Australians are suffering over the cost of living. Corruption makes everything cost more. The \$1.4 billion Robodebt payout alone (before all other costs) is a \$135 hit to every single family. Which is why stamping out corruption is so vital. Does your MP support an National Anti-Corruption Commission NACC overhaul?'

■■■■■  
 Lifeline Northern NSW will again mark World Suicide Prevention Day on September 8, with an Out of the Shadows Walk in Ballina. It will be held at Missingham Park from 5am to 8am. For more info visit [www.outoftheshadowswalk.org.au/fundraiser/](http://www.outoftheshadowswalk.org.au/fundraiser/) LifelineNorthernNSW

■■■■■  
 Filmmaker David Bradbury says he had a successful screening of *The Road to*

*War* last Friday night at the Mullum Uniting Church, with 60 people donating \$710.24 to the children of Gaza. He said, 'That sum has been sent and

received by Olive Kids, an Australian-based NGO, which had been recommended by people within the Byron Palestinian community'.

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