

Eleventh hour plea from small biz in Byron's CBD

Local business owners say they still face closure from Council road works

Paul Bibby

Byron Council staff will meet with businesses affected by the upcoming Lawson Street drainage works to discuss a range of measures intended to mitigate the impact of the poorly timed project.

But with the jackhammers ready to rumble this week, and financial compensation seemingly off the table, the meeting seems unlikely to ease the business owners' pain.

As Council proudly spruiked its new Business, Industry, and Visitor Policy last month, staff were informing more than a dozen local business owners that drainage works lasting up to four months were due to begin on Lawson Street in just three weeks.

Coming on the back of a three-month water-main upgrade, and now the total closure of the street during the spring-summer is like a body blow to the small, grass roots operations there.

A number of the businesses say they will be forced to close if the works go ahead as planned without significant compensation.

'We understand that the works need to be done... but if we could at least have been warned that this was going to happen, a lot of this pain could have been prevented,' one of the affected business owners, Thomas Martin, told last week's Council meeting.

'It's a dire situation in all honesty.'

Council says that the timing of

the project cannot be changed, as it's part of a packed schedule of drainage works across the Byron CBD that is funded through a state government grant that features strict completion deadlines.

In an attempt to reduce the impact of the works, councillors Cate Coorey (Independent) and Sarah Ndiaye (Greens) successfully moved a motion that will see staff, and the contractors undertaking the works, meet with the affected owners to discuss mitigation measures.

These include allowing the businesses to extend or vary their business hours, deferring footpath dining fees, and an advertising and signage campaign to let visitors and locals know that the businesses are still open.

Home grown precinct

'I very much feel for these business owners,' Cr Coorey said.

'It's one of our last precincts in the CBD of businesses that is home grown. I feel that they very much need a break, and they didn't get very much notice.'

But Mr Martin said the proposed measures were vague and did not provide the financial support that the businesses would need to stay afloat.

'It's about the bottom line at the end of the day,' Mr Martin said.

'We've got employees to pay, we've got rent to pay, we've got suppliers to pay and if that turnover stops then that's when everyone

► Continued on page 3



Spring is in the hair

Liz and Kaspia were the Queens of Shearwater's Flower Crown workshop at Saturday's Spring Fair. The yearly event on Left Bank Road, Mullum, celebrates the change in season and all things Steiner. Photo Jeff 'What's Love Is Hair' Dawson

Former Feros Village awarded 40-year lease

The former Byron Bay Feros Village aged care facility has been awarded a long-term 40-year lease with the site's new operator, St Andrew's Village Byron Bay Ltd, says the NSW government.

NSW Minister for Lands and Property, Steve Kamper said, 'As part of the lease agreement, St Andrew's is investing about \$3 million in capital works to ensure the site's aged care facilities are refurbished and aged care standards are met.'

St Andrew's took over operation of the Marvell Street site in January with an interim licence after it was selected as the preferred proponent to negotiate a lease following a public expression of interest (EOI) process.

The EOI was initiated by the

NSW government after the former operator Feros Care announced in February 2023 that it planned to close the aged care facility.

Renamed George's Cottages

The facility was later rebranded 'George's Cottages', in honour of legendary Byron Bay resident George Feros.

Minister Kamper's office said, 'The land where the aged care facility is located remains Crown land owned by the NSW government.'

'Built assets on the reserve will remain in the ownership of the government for the community.'

Federal Member for Richmond Justine Elliot (Labor) said, 'The awarding of the 40-year lease to St

Andrew's Village is a massive community victory, and together we've secured the long-term future for this important aged-care facility.'

Member for Ballina Tamara Smith (Greens) said, 'This is a huge win for the residents who found themselves in their 80s and 90s having to take to the streets and protest so that their voices could be heard, and their homes saved.'

'Hearing this, it just makes me feel secure,' resident Kate Smorty told *The Echo*. Ms Smorty was one of the key organisers against the closure of Feros Village. 'Since St Andrew's have taken over, the place is much better run and very pleasant,' Kate added.

The media release by Minister Kamper's office did not mention Council's involvement and lobbying in retaining the site.

Byron candidate Q&A with community/residents' group, CABS ► p8, 9, & 11

What's the political scene in Ballina? ► p14, 24

Hope for cynics in times of declining trust ► p16

Tweed council reviewed ► p20, 22

It's time to think about enrolments ► p30

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New hall, new gigs for Mullum High

Paul Bibby

Two years ago, the grounds of Mullumbimby High School were, as one local put it, 'in a bit of a state'.

The hall, library and drama theatre had all gone under in the floods, and a major rebuilding project was just starting to take shape.

This week, the school will celebrate a new beginning by hosting the first big event in its newly reconstructed buildings.

Featuring an explosion of creative expression and artistic flair, Mullum High's CAPA showcase will kick off on Wednesday with a mix of art, drama, and music.

'This year is particularly special - the first big event in the new hall,' the school's relieving principal, Cameron Johnson said.

'We didn't have it available for two years.'



Mullum High students prepare for their CAPA showcase in the new hall. It kicks off on Wednesday, September 11, with a mix of art, drama, and music. Photo Jeff Dawson

'We still went ahead with the showcase in makeshift spaces. We made it work. But it's great to be back in a purpose-built sound space.'

The showcase will kick off at 4pm, with an art exhibition featuring the recently completed HSC major works, a striking art installation, and portraits from the school's famous 'Archibimby prize'.

From 6 till 7.30pm it will

be all about the music, with the freshly-minted hall hosting a selection of awesome individual and ensemble performances.

New drama theatre

Then the lights will go down in the newly-reconstructed drama theatre, with a series of theatrical offerings taking place from 7 till 8.30pm.

'This is the culmination of a lot of hard work,' the school's Head Teacher for Creative and Performing Arts, Jessica Eke, told *The Echo*.

'And it's all student-led. The artworks reflect the individual students' own views and their expression and the drama works have all been written by them.'

'There's been a lot of work from staff too - helping them to convey what they want to convey.'

Helping to fuel those attending and taking part in the showcase will be gourmet burgers and hotdogs provided for sale by the school's P&C.

'What would life be like without drama, community, music and art?' Mr Johnson said. 'The Byron Shire is a community that embraces that - it's part of our DNA and this is a night that's about the community embracing and celebrating that.'

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Byron Bay Preschool rebrands as Northern Rivers Preschools

A longstanding institution, Byron Bay Preschool, has rebranded itself to Northern Rivers Preschools.

There are three schools under the new name: Cavanbah (Byron Bay), Coogera (Suffolk Park) and the latest which opened this year, Kunghur (near Uki).

The school's Charlotte Teague told *The Echo* parent and branding design, content, technology specialist, James Trapnell, led the rebranding.

Ms Teague adds, 'Both Coogera and Cavanbah

have recently be awarded Excellence, the top rating by Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA), putting the organisation in the top 40 out of 17,000 early childhood providers in Australia.'

'This recognition is a huge boost to the team, who work incredibly hard, and this would not be possible without the support of our dedicated children and families.'

'We welcome you to check out our new website nrp.org.au,' says Ms Teague.



Young Cavanbah students. Photo supplied

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Eleventh hour plea from small biz in Byron's CBD

Continued from page 1 runs into trouble,' he said.

During her speech on the issue, Cr Ndiaye acknowledged that there had been a 'breakdown in communication' and that there were lessons for staff and councillors to learn.

She also indicated that Council had been aware that the works might take place 'for a long time'.

'I think it's something that needs adjusting and fixing in the next term of Council,' she said.

'How do we have ongoing dialogue with our community that is productive and safe for both parties, and helpful in the long run?'

'I think sometimes it seems easier to stay hidden away and just try and get things done rather than engage.'

Meanwhile, the affected business owners have also written to the NSW Minister for Regional Transport and Roads, Jenny Aitchison, pleading for an eleventh-hour extension to the funding deadline, so that the works can be delayed until after Easter next year.

'The timing will be absolutely catastrophic, delivering a devastating blow, for some of the last remaining locally-owned businesses in the Byron Bay CBD,' Mr Martin said in a letter to the minister.

'You can make a real difference in saving these small businesses, people's livelihoods and everyone that they support, and every mouth that they feed.'

'You can give us a chance to rebound and recover from the impact and losses

endured from the previous works and prepare for this project. We ask that you grant a two- to three-month extension to the June 30, 2025 expiry of this funding.'

'This will allow ample time for the works and documentation to be completed, after the Easter break in 2025,' Mr Martin wrote.

Local NSW MP, Tamara Smith, told *The Echo*, 'I am working closely with affected businesses and Council to see what measures can be taken to minimise the impact as these important drain and road works are undertaken.'

'I think night works should be on the table - yes it is more expensive, but we cannot let our local businesses face months of lost trade during their busiest season,' Ms Smith said.



NSW Labor's Tara Moriarty, who is Minister of Agriculture and Regional NSW, approved the grant for Council's Lawson Street roadworks. When asked to intervene to stop small business closure, her office handballed the question to the NSW Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development. That spokesperson said it was a matter for Council.

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Councillors look to expand Cavanbah Centre as final meeting held

Paul Bibby

Could the Byron Shire's Cavanbah sports centre be significantly expanded to include two new basketball courts and a hydrotherapy pool?

This was the tantalising carrot dangled during the final meeting of the current Council term last Thursday – a meeting in which Council also waved goodbye to a trio of long-serving councillors.

In a late inclusion to the agenda, Mayor Michael Lyon put forward a mayoral minute proposing that Council investigates expanding the centre's building eastwards to enable the construction of two extra basketball courts and a hydrotherapy pool.

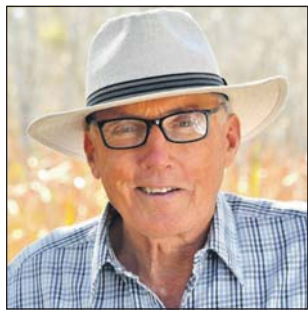
The meeting heard that this would double the number of courts at the centre, an expansion that was needed to accommodate the shire's growing basketball community.

Basketballers were among the main users of the centre, which was otherwise making a loss owing to lack of patronage.

'It's one of the things that actually makes money at the Cavanbah Centre, and if we were to extend it [to include the new courts] the initial costings show that it would actually reduce our losses in the building in terms of the increase in usage,' Cr Lyon said.

Cr Lyon said the hydrotherapy pool would also be extensively utilised as it would be the only facility of its kind in the shire.

'Given how long it's going to take us to be doing anything in either Byron or Mullum, on the pool side of things, and given that the



Cr Alan Hunter (Independent) retires after 12 years.

hospital is up the road, some sort of 20m warm water pool has real potential in an ageing population to have a lot of uptake,' he said.

'I expect that there will be some kind of aged accommodation village idea coming as well for around the hospital site, so I think it's going to play into that.

'It's a big gap in our facilities at the moment that we don't have something like that in our shire.'

The motion received unanimous support from councillors, reflecting what was a generally warm and collaborative final meeting of the current Council term.

Councillors retiring

With more than half of the current group choosing not to contest this Saturday's election, the meeting was a farewell of sorts for five councillors, including long-standing representatives Alan Hunter (Independent), Duncan Dey (Greens), and Cate Coorey (Independent).

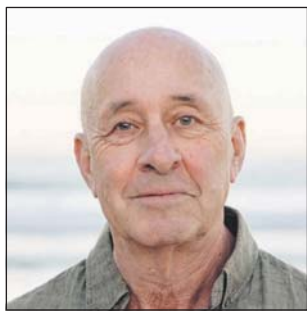
'I will be sad to see the end of my life on Council – I'm also looking forward to it,' Cr Coorey said.

'When I reflect on my time here I'm grateful to have had the opportunity to serve my community.'

'I'm really fortunate to have had some impact



Cr Duncan Dey (Greens) retires after nine years.



Cr Peter Westheimer (Independent) retires after seven-and-a-half years.

on how this shire and this community develops in the future,' Cr Coorey said.

Cr Hunter said he had enjoyed his 12 years on Council. 'There's no one in here I couldn't call a friend,' he said.

'We haven't agreed with each other all the time, but I think that's part of the strength of us. The Council that was in office before I came on 12 years ago was very divided, and I like to think we changed that.

'There's nothing I can say that really encapsulates what I've gotten out of this experience as a councillor. Thank you for the opportunity, your friendship, your support, and your criticism at times. I've learned a lot from it.'

Cr Dey said that he hoped that there would be a lot more change in the future, particularly in relation to flood recovery, future planning, and ecological protection.



Cr Cate Coorey (Independent) retires after seven-and-a-half years



Cr Sama Balson (Independent) retires after two years.

'I apologise for not being able to sway the system enough to protect and define the ecology as much as I would like, but that's the way it goes,' Cr Dey said.

'I wish the organisation well into the future, especially under sometimes trying circumstances. When the new Council sits, I'll be here to wish them well.

'For those of you who aren't recontesting, farewell and see you on the other side,' Cr Dey added.

Cr Peter Westheimer described the job as a 'relentless, unpredictable and rewarding gig'.

He said, 'It's a privilege – and at times a curse – to be able to vote on so many decisions and to be privy to so much eclectic information (that means interesting and sometimes tedious) about how our shire looks and works.'

Controlled burn at Koonyum



A controlled burn took place at Rayners Track, Koonyum Range, behind Mullumbimby last week. It was conducted by the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service. To keep up-to-date with fires, download the Fires Near Me app. Photo Simon Haslam

New Byron CBD development underway by JD Property Group

To mark commencement of construction for the Secret Garden Residences, a groundbreaking ceremony was held last week.

The project is located at 119-123 Jonson Street, on the corner of Kingsley Street, and is led by local developer, JD Property Group.

According to the media release, it comprises 22 units set across two buildings.

'A public courtyard spanning 869m² and commercial and retail tenancies will be at ground level, and parking will be at basement level, with access off Middleton Lane.'

'The built form at the corner will be set back around the existing mela-leuca tree.'

Among those at the ceremony were Ann McCabe and Ann Tierny who were both directors of the preschool that operated on the site for nearly 40-years.

'I feel really encouraged that the memories weren't steamrolled,' said Ann McCabe, during the ceremony.

'And also I'd like to mention the Anglican Diocese, who saw the need for a place

to put the preschool and did that and leased it.'

The media release says, 'Members of the Anglican Diocese, who owned the site for over a century and who remain neighbours, were present at the ceremony.'

'Jason Dunn from JD Property Group has a long history with the site, having attended preschool there himself and in later years volunteered at the Anglican op-shop when it was located on the site.'

Mr Dunn said he was grateful to the Anglican Church and neighbours, 'for putting their faith in me to deliver a beautiful project'.

Correction

Last week's comment piece 'Let's take a closer look at what's at stake on September 14' incorrectly implied that Byron councillor, Sama Balson, failed to attend multiple Council meetings.

Cr Balson only missed a handful of meetings during the last Council term.

Paul Bibby apologises for this error and the distress it has caused Cr Balson.

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Pay parking is coming to Brunswick Heads

From 30 September, pay parking meters will start operating in central Brunswick Heads and South Beach Road.

Pay parking across the Byron Shire costs \$5 per hour and is capped at \$25 per day.

Eligible Byron Shire residents can apply for 2 FREE Shire Resident Parking Permits per household from 16 September.

These free parking permits and existing permits can be used in Byron Bay and Brunswick Heads from 30 September.

- **Pensioner Parking Permits** – remain free, apply online now.
- **Worker & Business Permits** – \$116 per year, see T&Cs online.

Bring along **current car registration papers** and **driver's licence** with a Byron Shire address, and we can help you apply for your permit at a drop in session below.

Drop-in help sessions:

Monday 23 September

- 1:30pm – 3:30pm
- CWA Hall Park St, Brunswick Heads

Tuesday 24 September

- 9:30am – 11:30am
- CWA Hall Park St, Brunswick Heads

Or visit Council's Mullumbimby Customer Service Centre from 16 September for assistance with permit applications.

More information

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

- www.byron.nsw.gov.au/bruns-pay-parking
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The Generosity Of Birds takes flight

Dangerously Poetic Press say they are delighted to celebrate the Australian launch of Laura Jan Shore's fourth poetry collection, *The Generosity Of Birds*, winner of the 2023 Louis Award and published by Concrete Wolf Press, Oregon, USA in 2024.

The competition judge, Lana Hechtman Ayers, said, 'The poems of *The Generosity of Birds* are vivid, honest, vulnerable, brazen and fully experienced.'

One of the founding members of local community publisher Dangerously Poetic Press, Laura has promoted and taught poetry and creative writing in the Byron Shire since 1997.

'Poetry,' she says, 'brings solace and renewal in a chaotic world.'

The cover art for this book



Artist Oceana Pearl Piccone with her grandmother and poet, Laura Jan Shore. Photo Jeff Dawson

was painted by local artist and teacher at Kids Arts and Crafts, Oceana Pearl Piccone, Laura's granddaughter.

'This is especially appropriate as these poems explore "love" with its vast implications and generational healing'

All are welcome on Sunday, September 15 from 3 to 5pm at the Brunswick Heads RSL Hall, 24 Fawcett Street, for a poetry performance and music by local singer and guitarist, Karl Farren. This will be followed by treats and bubbly.

Film festival opens with Aquarius Festival doco

The opening night film at this year's Byron Bay Film Festival (October 18-27) is a feature-length documentary that captures and celebrates a defining event in the history of the Northern Rivers – the 1973 Aquarius Festival.

Organisers say the film, *Aquarius*, directed by local filmmaker Wendy Champagne, follows around 10,000 'dreamers, tree-huggers and radical ratbags' who descended on the sleepy hinterland township of Nimbin.

'The hippies didn't so much "find" Nimbin', director, Graeme Dunstan says, 'As they were called there, into the heart of ancient initiation country'.

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

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How I will VOTE

Councillor Ballot

- 5 Sarah Ndiaye
- 1 Elia Hauge
- 2 Delta Kay
- 3 Michelle Lowe
- 4 Nell Schofield

I support Elia Hauge because at a recent meeting of the Mullumbimby Residents Association I found her to be modest, sincere and capable. The two official Rous representatives, Sarah Ndiaye and Michael Lyon, failed to turn up to face the music.

Mayoral Ballot

- Warth, David
- Ndiaye, Sarah
- 1 Pugh, Asren
- Lyon, Michael

Asren, although naive, is honest and sincere.

I apologise for my error in terms of my email address in last week's advert. Delete the 'au', which is reserved for registered not-for-profit entities when combined with '.org'. So email: pro-voca@pro-voca.org Website: pro-voce.org

This advertisement was authorised by John Anderson, 95 Newes Rd Coorabell New South Wales 2479.

Low-income households are in housing stress, says NCOSS

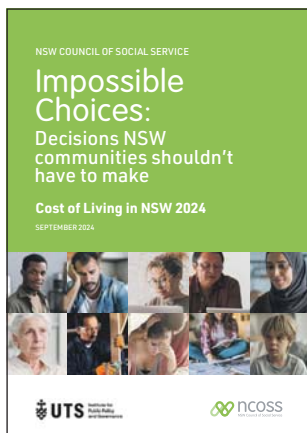
A new report by peak social services body, NSW Council of Social Service (NCOSS), has revealed nearly two-thirds (64 per cent) of NSW residents in low-income households surveyed are in housing stress, owing to cost-of-living pressures.

And meeting essential living costs with their available income has worsened year-on-year.

The report, *Impossible Choices: Decisions NSW communities shouldn't have to make*, was undertaken by the University of Technology Sydney, and according to NCOSS, 'surveyed a representative sample of more than 1,080 residents living on low incomes and below the poverty line in NSW'.

NCOSS CEO, Cara Varian, said the research had demonstrated the extreme impacts being felt by households on low incomes and below the poverty line in Richmond-Tweed.

'Richmond-Tweed families should not be forced to choose between paying for food or medication,' Ms Varian said.



Impossible Choices: Decisions NSW communities shouldn't have to make

'These are complex issues, but governments have the power to change it,' she said.

NCOSS CEO, Cara Varian, said, 'Implementing our recommendations would significantly ease the crushing pressure that is pushing people to breaking point.'

Some of the recommendations are as follows:

Lifting Commonwealth income support for Jobseeker, Youth Allowance and Parenting Payments.

Earlier this year, Labor ignored its own experts who

called to lift the Jobseeker rate. However, there was a small increase of around \$40 per fortnight to the base rate that was part of the government's cost-of-living relief package (along with an energy rebate).

Increasing the rate of Commonwealth Rent Assistance.

The Interim Economic Inclusion Advisory Committee (EIAC) found that Commonwealth Rent Assistance is 'inadequate'. The federal Labor government plans to increase the maximum rates of Commonwealth Rent Assistance by a further 10 per cent starting September 20, 2024.

Providing universal early childcare

SBS reported in November 2023 that, 'A draft report from the Productivity Commission (PC) has found kids who attend early childhood education and care (ECEC) perform better at school and later in life'.

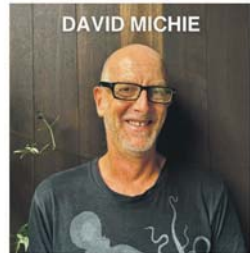
The PC report also found that workforce shortages and growing demand in the sector prevents universal child care being achieved.



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MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS THIS TERM:

- 60-day cap on holiday letting
- Residential strategy delivered
- Major road upgrades across the shire
- Mullum hospital remediation and rezoning
- Rail trail underway; mullum rail land licence for parking secured
- Jarjumirr Skate Park in Byron

POLICIES FOR NEXT TERM:

- Dedicate 50% of Bruns pay parking revenue to the North
- Develop Worker Housing Scheme for Byron Shire locals
- Develop Mullum hospital site with affordable and social housing outcomes
- Develop planning pathways for an Eco-village and Tiny Homes villages
- Focus on key infrastructure such as Roads, Footpaths and Drainage
- Increase the urban stormwater levy to ensure proper budget for drainage maintenance
- Save residents thousands on their yearly water bills by rejecting the Greens' environmentally destructive plan for a 200ML dam in Mullumbimby
- Invest in youth amenities through place planning projects
- Lobby for increased mental health services in our Shire
- Investigate on-demand bus services to connect our towns
- Lobby for Tourism levy to future proof our industry and enable investment in the Byron brand and story



BYRON INDEPENDENTS

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

More light election reading: candidate Q&A with

The peak body representing community and residents' groups, Community Alliance for Byron Shire (CABS), have posed the following questions to councillor candidates. All candidates replied to CABS/*The Echo* except mayor Michael Lyon.

Infrastructure: Will you prioritise funding for essential infrastructure maintenance in Byron Shire?

Labor's Asren Pugh: Yes we will continue to do that.

The flood recovery effort was enormous. Resources are stretched across the region. Drains remain an obvious priority and I managed to get a team doing drain clearing immediately following the floods. We will look into making this more permanent. We will recruit a new grants officer to help with sourcing funds.

Residents understand how huge the task is after years of neglect and playing catch up. We can always do better and will.

Independent David Warth: I would prioritise funding

for essential infrastructure maintenance in Byron Shire. I am concerned about non-essential projects gaining prominence. The Burringbar Street revamp in Mullumbimby is one such example.

These projects can be controversial when our community sees that maintenance of basic infrastructure such as roads and drains is neglected.

Greens' Sarah Ndiaye: Yes, of course, but with such a tight budget it's important that the community has some input over how to prioritise funding and which projects are most essential.

Independent Jack Dods: Yes. Byron Shire Council could, and should, direct more funding towards regular maintenance of essential infrastructure. But we would not prioritise funding for such items if it was at the expense of our key priorities of place making, cycleways/rail trail, masterplanning, and affordable housing.

Independent Lucy Vader: Yes. This is a fundamental.

Infrastructure: Will you actively collaborate with

the NSW state government and advocate for improved and interconnected public transport between village centres?

Labor's Asren Pugh: Yes we have advocated for improved bus connection especially between the north of the shire and Byron. Transport for NSW is working with us to launch electric bus trials and shuttle bus services within our towns.

The ongoing fixation on returning trains has distracted us from delivery on the practical challenge of delivering transport.

I organised a community Zoom with Transport Minister Jo Halyen on September 9, and this was one of the things discussed.

Independent David Warth: I will actively collaborate with the NSW state government and pursue the case for improved and interconnected public transport between village centres.

With the high cost of living and the cost of car ownership becoming more expensive, efficient public transport will become necessary.



Group A: Labor's Asren Pugh



Group B: Independent David Warth (Byron Shire Compass)



Group C: Michael Lyon – Byron Independents

Greens' Sarah Ndiaye: Absolutely! We are gathering support to lobby for an on-demand bus service for our community. This has been trialled around regional NSW and is proving really effective at meeting a community's transport needs at public transport prices. Public transport has been neglected in our region for decades and this is the most appropriate and workable solution I've seen to assist in connecting our communities. This impacts so many young people and our elderly who are stranded once they can no longer drive.

Learn more here and sign our petition here: www.byrongreens.org/connecting_our_communities

Independent Jack Dods: Yes. Both in the form of an end-to-end rail trail, and improved on-demand public transport services.

Prioritising funding for essential infrastructure maintenance across Byron Shire is important, and if elected, we would propose the new Council be briefed by Council staff on current and planned infrastructure development projects and maintenance programs including funding allocations.

Advocating and working collaboratively with the NSW government is important to ensure important Byron Shire infrastructure projects are considered and funded adequately. Bright Future Byron are strong advocates

for improved interconnection of transport infrastructure and services between our villages, including development of the Rail Trail, pathways and cycleways and identification of cost effective ways to improve public transport – e.g. small-scale e-bus services.

Independent Lucy Vader: Yes – this is a critical amenity for our region to function.

Housing/planning: Will you oppose new development in floodplain areas?

Labor's Asren Pugh: We need to adapt our housing and our communities to climate risk, it's not just about floodplains, but includes heat, fires and disaster response more generally. Instead of a

► Continued on next page



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

Get ready

Get set

Go!

peak community/residents' group, CABS



Group D: Greens' Sarah Ndiaye

► From previous page flat 'no' to housing and infrastructure, we want to build communities that are climate and disaster resilient.

Independent David Warth: Development on floodplains is very problematic. The potential for flooding is not uniform but areas of significant risk of flooding must be avoided.

It is irresponsible to allow new development in these areas. Apart from the trauma and cost of being caught in a flood event, there may well be serious insurance issues for home owners in flood prone locations in our shire.

Greens' Sarah Ndiaye: We will always oppose inappropriate development, like the proposed project



Group E: Jack Dods (Bright Future Byron)

at Chinbible Ave for 40 lots on 1m of fill in the middle of flood-affected Mullum. Sometimes it is unavoidable, so we're open to innovative, resilient housing and environmentally-sensitive approaches in flood-affected areas if it's already zoned to build, provided it doesn't negatively impact the surrounding community.

Independent Jack Dods: We oppose development on all flood-prone land. Floodplain land is a more nebulous term that encompasses whole areas like virtually all of the town of Mullumbimby. There still needs to be allowances for development in such instances, such as brownfield or infill development in these areas (where existing



Ungrouped candidate, Lucy Vader

planning rules permit).

However, such proposals would be subject to rigorous flood impact studies, and we would only support proposals in these areas if they are responsive, and do not exacerbate the impacts of flooding. We support updating Council's flood mapping to reflect the 2022 flood event.

Independent Lucy Vader: It is clear that impacting development on floodplains is not just inadvisable, it should be largely off the table. The Byron Shire is a large region, we do not make statements such as 'floodplains should only be developed if they were the last option available.' To me, that is like saying we would only develop in the centre of

an active volcano as a last option. So yes, I will oppose new impacting development on floodplain areas.

Housing/planning: Will you actively seek funding and support for public housing and support pressure being put on state and federal governments to provide public housing on, for example, the former Mullumbimby Hospital site?

Labor's Asren Pugh: I have already started working with state government to tap the \$5b fund for social housing launched this month by Minister Rose Jackson. So little has been achieved over the decades in building social housing. Our railway corridor remains an opportunity for new village development. Our residential strategy outlines where development can occur but we need to be collaborating with the state government on social housing as an issue for Council.

Independent David Warth: I will actively seek funding and support for public housing. I will engage with state and federal government bodies to provide

public housing. The outcome of these negotiations will determine the feasibility of purely public housing on sites such as the Mullumbimby Hospital site.

Other options may have to be considered. The impact of developing this particular site with regard to traffic flow and management must also be taken into consideration. I have proposed a Rural Residential Park being constructed between Byron Bay and Mullumbimby to affordably house people working in our shire. If elected I will pursue this concept.

Greens' Sarah Ndiaye: It is unbelievable that in the shire with the most rough sleepers in NSW, we have not a single public house. (Only privately-run community and social housing.) We will be advocating for investment in public housing in this shire, working with state and federal government to deliver this. They have stated endlessly that this is what they want to do so we're happy to work with them to deliver this.

We would love to see the

Mullum Hospital site stay in public hands. We want to see a mix of public, accessible and key-worker housing. We can't do this alone though, to do this, the state and federal government needs to come to the table. To start, we need help to cover the \$5m remediation bill that Council had to pay for asbestos remediation.

Independent Jack Dods: Yes. We will strive to provide as much public housing as possible at the Mullum Hospital site. However, we realise Council does not have the funds or ability to develop the site alone. It will likely need a development partner, and as such a proportion of the housing will likely be market housing to offset the costs of affordable and public housing, as well as to provide community infrastructure.

We also believe public and affordable housing functions best when interspersed with market housing, to help create more diverse and dynamic neighbourhoods for all.

Independent Lucy Vader: Yes - there are options

► Continued on page 11

Vote 1 Vader

Independent candidate **Lucy Vader** for the 2024 Byron Shire Local Government Council Election

Vote below the line, numbering in order of preference at least **1 to 4** individuals whose values you believe will bring the best mix to a vibrant new Byron council

- **Flood mitigation**, responsible and resilient development.
- Faster, more user-friendly, **Development Application processing**.
- Bring the **locals back to council**, bring the council back to the locals.
- Scale back **unwanted consultants reports**, designs. Put in work where it's needed.
- Utilise Indigenous and longtime non-Indigenous **local knowledge** of land, rivers, bush for maintenance and solutions.
- A real understanding of housing capacity when underground drainage, sewer systems, inter-town connectivity, roads, and more **fundamental civic services are under-sized**.
- Potholes! Do it once, do it right. I have a real plan to fix them.

Infrastructure first, because without foundations, everything falls down.

Authorised by Lucy Vader 35B Argyle St Mullumbimby NSW 2482

Thank You Byron Bay

Harvest Estate Wins
Urban Development Institute of Australia Award
(UDIA) for Best Residential Subdivision in NSW.



Thank you to the entire Byron Bay community for working together to win this award.

The UDIA award recognises outstanding urban development projects which have a positive impact on shaping cities of the future.

On behalf of everyone at Tower Holdings, we feel deeply privileged to have collaborated closely with our neighbours, community stakeholders, and the Council to develop this unique residential community in Byron Bay.

We take immense pride in transforming what was once degraded farmland into a thriving ecosystem, dedicating 11.76 hectares to environmental rehabilitation and incorporating over 44,000m² of new public open space.

This recognition, 25 years in the making, stands as a testament to our vision of creating a lasting legacy for the Byron Bay community that will continue to flourish for generations to come.



We extend a warm welcome and invite you to take a drive through Harvest Estate and see for yourself.

CALL 1800 008 212 OR VISIT HARVESTBYRONBAY.COM.AU

Candidate Q&A with community/residents' group, CABS (continued)

► Continued from page 9 to look at. (Bearing in mind that building costs have in some categories now tripled in price, tradespeople are increasingly scarce, and the country's population grows at a rate that many would call unsustainable, enthusiastically encouraged by the government, driving inflation, reducing availability of materials, trades, housing, and increasing costs.)

Housing/planning: Will you commit to preserving community-owned land for public benefit and oppose selling public land for private development?

Labor's Asren Pugh: I oppose selling off public assets and was central to the effort to save Feros Village. We saved 40 houses for our elders, working with the ALP state minister for Crown Land Steve Kamper. That's a model for how we preserve our community assets.

Independent David Warth: Retaining public land for community benefit is desirable, but the cost of development of this land is a major issue. I would engage with our community to work

out the best possible use of the land and what models for development are considered suitable.

Greens' Sarah Ndiaye: Yes. When I first got on Council there was a whole list of properties slated for sale and we managed to stop that. It's always best to keep public land in public hands where possible.

Independent Jack Dods: See previous. While we hope to preserve as much public land as possible, we are aware that in order to finance and deliver such projects, a portion of the final product will need to be market housing.

Independent Lucy Vader: I oppose selling public land for private development. I would commit to preserving community-owned land for public benefit within the definition guidelines.

Housing/planning: Will you support the restructure of Council's planning department to employ a senior ecologist so that all DAs are scrutinised by a fully qualified environmental staff member?

Labor's Asren Pugh: We have ecologists on staff,

and use external expertise as required. All projects currently receive ecological reviews, consistent with law.

Independent David Warth: I would support restructuring the Council's planning department to include the appointment of a senior ecologist. I believe that environmental values must be assessed early on in any development planning. Once environmental requirements are met, there must be assurance that approved work can commence without undue delays.

Greens' Sarah Ndiaye: Absolutely. Again, this is something Cr Dey and I tried, but were voted down. A senior ecologist is essential to make sure inappropriate development is flagged from the moment it crosses Council's desk. This would have been pivotal in avoiding Wallum, or the current rainforest-destroying development proposed at Wategos. It's best practice and we need to facilitate it as soon as possible.

Independent Jack Dods: Employing a full-time senior ecologist is something we support. But we don't believe that it would entail a

restructure of Council's planning department. We would also like to see more permanent planning department staff with backgrounds in place making, urban design, and architectural design, to ensure better assessment and development outcomes.

Independent Lucy Vader: I would support this.

Community engagement/relations: Will you improve transparency in Council operations and decision-making and undertake to take a critical attitude to staff recommendations and to respond to electors' correspondence?

Labor's Asren Pugh: Councillors decision-making could always be clearer, with reasons given for decisions. That said, staff recommendations are frequently challenged with open questioning of staff at meetings, by councillors and the community alike. The correspondence between residents and councillors on a wide spectrum of issues is endless.

Independent David Warth: I will make genuine community engagement and a co-operative relationship a cornerstone of my policy.

Transparency in decision-making will be required.

Staff recommendations will be considered along with the wishes of the community. Correspondence between Council and electors must be prompt and carried out in a helpful manner.

Greens' Sarah Ndiaye: Yes. We are committed to being your voice on Council, and with our diverse expertise, experience and skills we will always look critically at reports and advice that come our way.

I will look to make meetings and processes more effective and efficient and easier for the community to follow.

As mayor, I plan to have an open-table session once a week in a different village or town so that people can come and discuss what they need to. I also plan to have a visible diary so the public know who I'm meeting with and I will also make meetings more accessible to other councillors who may have a special interest in a particular area or project.

We need to support each other to do our best.

As mayor, I also commit to improving communications

about what is happening such as a regular podcast and emails so the community can stay up to date easily with what is going on.

Independent Jack Dods: Yes.

Independent Lucy Vader: I believe in transparency and inclusivity in decision-making, I found the abundance of Council closed-door meetings disrespectful to our community, and resulting in a lack of faith. I would like to see a restoration of trust. Responding to electors' correspondence is an important aspect of active listening, and would play a natural role if I were elected as councillor, within capacity.

It is in my nature, particularly with my background, to take a critical, respectful, attitude to staff recommendations. Fresh sets of eyes benefit all, including myself. With recommendations, analyses of any prior assumptions must be checked, a review of the data and evidence is useful, asking if other solutions or options have been looked at, and evaluating broader impacts or unintended consequences of recommendations.

■ Full Q&A posted on www.echo.net.au.

ASREN PUGH FOR MAYOR

Labor On 14 September, **VOTE GROUP A**

Progressive. Effective. Local.

JANET SWAIN MARK SWIVEL FOR COUNCIL

- Build the Rail Trail
- Affordable & social housing
- Save our creative industries
- Get the basics right
- Protect our environment
- Create vibrant communities

Authorised by Asren Pugh, 3 Acacia Street, Byron Bay NSW 2481



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Janelle Saffin MP
MEMBER FOR LISMORE

Representing residents of the Lismore electorate including Eureka, Federal, Goonengerry, Huonbrook, Nashua and Wilsons Creek

GETTING THINGS DONE

Contact my electorate office for help and information:
lismore@parliament.nsw.gov.au
66 213 624




Authorised by Janelle Saffin MP. Funded using Parliamentary entitlements

What's On at Elements of Byron



2 Course Native Lunch Menu NEW \$75 per person
With glass of Birds of Isle Rum

Giant Steps Wine Dinner 3rd October
With new release and award winning Applejack Pinot Noir

Fire Pit Fridays Every Friday
Every week with live music from 5pm

LEARN MORE:
elementsofbyron.com.au/resort/




Wildskin takes to the outdoor stage

From the team that brought you the hit show *Love For One Night* at The Eltham Hotel, NORPA is again taking audiences on an adventure outside the theatre with *Wildskin*, this time to a rural warehouse in Lismore Showground. The synopsis reads, 'Eva believes the only way to mend her broken life is to go on the road, solo. Lost, alone and under-prepared, she is soon breaking rules, and embracing danger.' Shows run from September 12 until 28. Tickets at www.norpa.org.au. Photo Kurt Petersen

Council election – pre-polls open

Aslan Shand

Pre-poll booths are open for those wanting to get their voting done early for the upcoming September 14 Council elections.

Byron Shire elects its mayor with a popular vote, so there are two ballot papers, one for mayor and one for councillors.

To elect the mayor, you need to write the number '1' in the voting square next to the candidate of your first choice.

To elect the councillors, you can vote for more candidates by writing the numbers '2', '3' and so on in order of your preference.

You will have a choice

to vote above or below the line when you are voting for councillors. If you wish to vote for an 'ungrouped candidate' or a group who does not have a square above the line, then you will need to vote below the line.

Above the line vote

To vote above the line you 'must place a number "1" in one of the group voting squares above the thick horizontal line on the ballot paper. By doing this you are voting for that whole group of candidates in the order they are listed below that square, starting from the top,' stated the NSW Electoral Commission website.

While you do not need to list more than one group if you vote above the line it is important to remember that your vote will end there if you do not number any further candidate groups above the line.

By numbering more than one group of candidates you can make your vote count further, it won't be wasted, and there is the chance you can bring in a more diverse and representative council.

Below the line vote

To vote below the line, you need to follow the instructions on what is the minimum number of candidates you must vote for.

Flood-impacted biz grants on offer

A \$9.5 million funding pool is on offer for small and medium businesses in flood-impacted towns and villages across the Northern Rivers.

Towns and Villages Resilient Business Activation Program is funded by the NSW Labor government.

The media release reads, 'Successful applicants must

show how the project will benefit the local community and how it aligns with one or more of the program's objectives'.

'Examples of projects that could be funded include repairing or replacing damaged fixed equipment, machinery, or infrastructure needed to keep the business

operating or the implementation of flood barriers, elevated foundations, waterproofing, flood resilient doors or windows and drainage systems'.

Contact programdesign-delivery@regional.nsw.gov.au or visit <https://rd.smartygrants.com.au/rbap> for more information.

Flood mitigation grants unsuccessful

Byron Shire Council have been unsuccessful in two grant applications to the NSW government that would assist in mitigating flooding around Mullumbimby.

From Council's agenda for September 5, Report 13.1 says the two unsuccessful grant applications were for Federation Bridge debris implementation – camphor removal; and Saltwater Creek upgrade assessment and

mitigations option study.

Feedback around the rejection of the Federation Bridge debris camphor removal project (valued at \$130,000) was because it 'did not rate highly enough to meet the objectives of the program'.

'Saltwater Creek aligned with a flood study that cannot be funded under this program; Council should apply under the next round

of the Floodplain Management Program'.

Other grants rejected were for footpaths around Byron Bay – the funding pool was 'significantly oversubscribed' according to the feedback.

A grant for \$40,000 to build Brunswick River Light Craft Launching Ramp was rejected as the 'Program is no longer going ahead, and has been subject to a review by the NSW government'.

BYRON INDEPENDENTS



MAX FOGGON • MAYOR MICHAEL LYON • JEANNETTE MARTIN • RHETT HOLT

DELIVERED BY MICHAEL LYON AS YOUR MAYOR:

- Community cohesion during COVID
- Strong advocacy on flood recovery including Federal Drive
- Residential strategy fit-for-the-future
- Assertive outreach to tackle homelessness
- Affordable housing projects
- 60-day cap on holiday letting
- Rail Trail underway
- Balanced books in trying times
- Mullum Hospital Site rezoned for housing
- Mullum Rail Corridor secured for town periphery parking and open space

SCAN HERE FOR THE HOW TO VOTE CARD:



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

byronindependents.com.au

THE FUTURE OF MULLUMBIMBY'S WATER

MAYOR'S PLAN FOR MULLUM WATER CONNECT TO ROUS

- ✓ Pristine rainforest catchment
- ✓ Water gravity feeds to Azalea Street
- ✓ 6 months to complete
- ✓ \$1.5 million capital cost
- ✓ Very low emissions
- ✓ Laverty's gap weir retained for use if it stacks up in the future
- ✓ No unnecessary water bill increases
- ✓ No large borrowings required
- ✓ Environmental flows to Wilsons Creek

GREENS' PLAN FOR MULLUM WATER BUILD 200ML DAM AND NEW DOSING PLANT

- ✗ Farmland catchment
- ✗ Pumps water uphill to Azalea Street
- ✗ 10+ years to complete
- ✗ \$83 million capital cost
- ✗ Very high emissions
- ✗ High resource cost of steel and concrete
- ✗ \$1,000s of dollars extra on Mullum residents' annual water bills; or
- ✗ \$100s of dollars extra on all Byron Shire residents' annual water bills



The only real benefit of the Greens plan would be a fishway for the Wilson's. With the money we save by connecting to Rous, we could build 10 fishways.

The weir can be saved for the future, and if it stacks up in future, we can always build a dosing plant then. The best option right now environmentally and financially is to connect to the Rous network, just like the rest of Byron Shire who enjoy fluoride-free water from the pristine Rocky Creek Dam.

We need strong, sensible leadership and balanced decision-making.

VOTE 1

MICHAEL LYON AND THE BYRON INDEPENDENTS

Echo

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

Man charged following public place shooting – Ballina

A man will face court today, Saturday, 7 September, after being charged following a public place shooting in Ballina last year.

Graffiti damage taking place across Tweed and Murwillumbah

Police and Tweed Shire Council are asking the community to keep an eye out for illegal graffiti taking place around Tweed Heads and Murwillumbah.

Appeal to locate missing teenage boy – Lismore

Police are appealing for public assistance to locate a teenage boy missing from Lismore.

East Ballina Lions Club supports Hot Meal Centre

The Ballina Hot Meal Centre continues to make a significant impact in the community by providing nutritious meals to the disadvantaged and homeless people of Ballina..

Greyhound racing for Tweed?

An inquiry into Greyhound Racing NSW (GRNSW) is calling for public submissions, and local Tweed Council candidates have spoken out against the industry and the proposal to establish a greyhound racing track in the Tweed Shire.

Lismore pool set to open in two weeks

It is an iconic Australian image, the kids at the pool over summer – pools are part of the identity of almost every Australian country town, a key way to cool down as the temperatures rise.

www.echo.net.au

Big Q&A with Ballina’s local government candidates

David Lowe

Council elections are rapidly approaching, but many of those seeking election in Ballina are still a mystery to potential voters. Here is a selection of current candidate positions. For their full responses and additional questions go to *The Echo* online at: www.echo.net.au.

What relevant skills or experience do you bring to the position?

Andrew Broadley (candidate for B Ward and mayor): I have demonstrated leadership experience through my role as President of Lismore Teachers Association and helping secure the future of flood-damaged public schools in our area.

Sharon Cadwallader (candidate for B ward and mayor): While I’m only a first-term mayor, my experience over 20 years as a councillor has been invaluable in being able to negotiate our Shire’s needs, especially after the flood.

Kiri Dicker (candidate for B ward and mayor): I’ve had a 20-year global career in the social sector, ranging from frontline case management roles to policy analysis, research and project management. I have a Masters Degree in Community Development and Emergency Management.

Erin Karsten (candidate for A ward): Everything about my professional career lends itself perfectly to contributing to Council. From my early days in law to working in sustainable building design and construction around the world.



L to R: Andrew Broadley, Sharon Cadwallader, Kiri Dicker – candidates for B ward and mayor. Erin Karsten, Phil Meehan, Steve McCarthy – candidates for A ward. Alexander Sharkey candidate for B ward. Simon Chate and Therese Crollick – candidates for C ward.

Phil Meehan (candidate for A ward): I bring integrity, experience in local government and demonstrated social justice.

Steve McCarthy (candidate for A ward): I consider myself a true Independent, more progressive than the average conservative.

Alexander Sharkey (candidate for B ward): As the owner of Value Imagery, a media production company that works closely with local businesses, non-profits, and government organisations, I bring a deep understanding of the challenges and opportunities within our community.

What is your position on the Dunoon Dam?

Andrew Broadley: The Dam is but one of the options for future water supplies to be considered by the members of Rous. A prudent manager considers the positives and negatives of all options.

Sharon Cadwallader: Rous is investing heavily in finding other water supply sources, including bores, however people need to remember every other option is significantly more

expensive and potentially has greater environmental impacts than the dam.

Simon Chate: I am uncomfortable with pushing for the Dunoon Dam to go ahead. The site is home to many important cultural artefacts and locations and the Widjabal Wia-bal people have made it absolutely clear that they do not wish this dam to go ahead.

Therese Crollick: I don’t support Dunoon Dam, I believe there are better ways to ensure water security for our region and if you were going to build a dam then the current proposed site is not where you’d build it.

Kiri Dicker: It’s an idea that is stuck in the past, much like the people who are still promoting it. It’s just an excuse to continue greenlighting endless and unsustainable urban sprawl and industrial expansion.

Erin Karsten: It does not make sense culturally, economically or environmentally.

Phil Meehan: All options in the Future Water Strategy need to be examined scientifically, environmentally and culturally without any

pre-determined bias. This includes the Dunoon Dam.

Steve McCarthy: Unfortunately, we need water security. Therefore, the dam must remain an option.

Alexander Sharkey: My position on the Dunoon Dam is one of caution and concern. We need to explore alternative solutions that prioritise sustainability.

What should be done about the housing crisis?

Andrew Broadley: Local governments are trying to address this problem with limited resources. However, Ballina Council owns land that could be used in an optimal way to provide relief to people who are struggling to maintain secure housing.

Sharon Cadwallader: I see housing as primarily a responsibility of state government, however in times of crisis, you get in and do what you can to help.

Simon Chate: The Greens have a plan to address our housing crisis in Ballina. The idea is to build and maintain rental accommodation on Council-owned land. There is a possible block of around 60 lots of residentially zoned

land in Lennox Head that could be used.

Therese Crollick: I would like to see the ‘pods’ built post ’22 floods be repurposed to provide affordable rental accommodation and I applaud the current Council for building housing on Council owned land at Wollongbar.

Kiri Dicker: Ballina Council can get started by building genuinely affordable housing for local workers on well-located residential land it owns in Wollongbar and Lennox Head. We should acquire the Wollongbar Pod Village. See Kiri Dicker’s housing manifesto at: kiridicker.com/housingmanifesto.

Phil Meehan: Council’s role in the housing crisis is to address its LEP Zonings and Development Control Plans to enable more diversity in housing types and potentially an expansion of green field sites.

Steve McCarthy: Bring back negative gearing so investors return.

Alexander Sharkey: The housing crisis in Ballina Shire demands urgent and innovative solutions.



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Third Sunday of every month

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Info/stallholders phone 0487 329 150 [UkiButteryBazaarMarket](https://www.facebook.com/UkiButteryBazaarMarket)

RiverFest 2024 celebrates the Richmond River

RiverFest 2024 will be celebrating the Richmond River and its tributaries and revitalising the rivers of the Richmond catchment between September 22 and October 20.

In her diary Mary Bundock, daughter of one of the first settler families who came to the upper Richmond in 1842, recorded that, 'The Upper Richmond was then a beautiful stream of clear water, running over clean sand and pebbles, an ideal of beauty and purity not to be surpassed anywhere, with steeply shelving banks of clean grass or shaded by beautiful trees of many kinds.'

The aim of the Richmond Riverkeepers who are organising the festival is to improve the health of the Richmond River and its catchment so that it is once again swimmable, fishable, and drinkable – closing the gap between what it once was, and what it has become.

Join in RiverFest

The Richmond RiverFest is asking the community to get involved and will start in Lismore on World Rivers Day, September 22 with the launch event, RiverTime.



Come and celebrate the Richmond River at RiverFest 2024. Photo <https://richmondriverfest.com>

RiverTime will mark the official start of the festival with a dynamic day of activities at Riverside Park. The event will include river-themed stalls, cultural performances, and family-friendly activities, all designed to inspire and engage the local community.

This will be followed by a range of activities throughout the region over the next month including a Paddle on the Wilsons River in Lismore, a Brunswick River kayak, clean up and mangrove tour, a sustainable fishing day on the banks of the Richmond, tree planting, writing workshop and nature journaling and more. The closing event, Where the Waters Meet will be held in Coraki on October 20.

'These cornerstone events will highlight the importance of healthy, thriving rivers and provide opportunities for community involvement in river restoration and protection,' said organisers.

Where the Waters Meet in Coraki will conclude the festival with a community picnic, river paddle, and tree planting day, encouraging ongoing stewardship of the Richmond River.

For more details on the events, registration, and how you can participate, please visit the Richmond RiverFest website at www.richmondriverfest.com.

■ The Richmond Riverkeeper is for drinkable, fishable, and swimmable rivers – to find out more visit richmondriver.org.au

Lismore to host NSW Drug Summit

Aslan Shand

The NSW Drug Summit has announced that one of the two regional forums will be held at Lismore on Monday, November 4.

Bradley Bower, Regional Manager of ACON Health told *The Echo* that, 'We are all quite excited and happy that the community can put their ideas forward and that we have a forum to do that. We hope our position and insights are taken seriously and considered.'

Bower has been working with Troy Byrnes and Alexandra Hogan from Uniting Fair Treatment and the local community to advocate for the region to have one of the regional drug summit forums at Lismore.

'Having the Drug Summit in Lismore will give the local community an option to put forward their ideas and views on a range of issues around drug and alcohol issues. It is important to acknowledge there are many social factors that impact drug and alcohol use and that drug and alcohol use here is above state average and that has been further impacted by recent natural disasters, etc.'

The NSW government has appointed former NSW Deputy Premier Carmel Tebbutt and former NSW Leader of the Opposition, John Brogden as co-chairs of the upcoming NSW Drug Summit.

The co-chairs will work with attendees to develop and prioritise solutions that aim to improve the health and wellbeing of the community and address other important issues.

The second regional forum event will be held in Griffith on Friday, November 1.

'Taking the summit to regional areas like Lismore and Griffith is integral because we know that drug use impacts communities in many different ways. The Drug Summit will bring people together to find new ways forward to tackle this incredibly complex and difficult problem,' said Minister for Health, Ryan Park.

Health issue

Around the world there has been a move away from a 'War on Drugs' approach towards a health-based approach that can help with treating drug addiction as well as providing effective education and preventative

measures including pill testing so that avoidable drug deaths can be addressed.

'Drug and alcohol dependencies should be treated as a health issue for people who need support and regional areas have a range of unique issues. These needs are often different to metro areas and include access to treatment, detox and rehabilitation that in regional areas present unique challenges,' highlighted Bower.

'I am so pleased that Lismore will be hosting one of the two regional forums of the Drug Summit,' said Janelle Saffin MP.

'We have our own unique challenges when it comes to this issue, and I am determined that Lismore's, and the broader regions voice is heard,' she said.

'In 1999 I took part in the successful Drug Summit convened by the then Premier Bob Carr and Deputy Premier Dr Andrew Refshauge. Before that summit I organised and hosted a local community drugs summit at the Lismore Workers Club. It too was successful, and I was able to take the local voices forward.'

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



KEVIN LOUGHREY

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- As an inventor and business entrepreneur, created & successfully ran three companies;
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Authorised and printed by Kevin Loughrey, 1 Keith Hall Lane, KEITH HALL, NSW 2478 Mob:0416 276 624 E: kevinl@kevinloughrey.com.au



The Byron Shire Echo
Volume 39 #14 • September 11, 2024

Perusing the candidate buffet

Byron Shire voters are about to face an unprecedented decision on Saturday, with the incumbent mayor seeking re-election while facing criminal domestic violence (DV) charges in March next year.

Some have said that by contesting the seat, **Cr Michael Lyon** has shown insufficient regard and respect to the women and children who are (mainly) affected by DV.

It has set an awkward tone for this election.

Everyone should be afforded the presumption of innocence, but the mayor's response puts his character and integrity into question.

With only four mayoral candidates, the only one who is not part of the existing local governing body is wildlife filmmaker and businessman, **David Warth**.

He runs regular What's On events, which question the prevailing narrative pushed by governments and corporations.

Warth's election pitch appears to be improved public communications and participation, along with addressing core infrastructure/planning issues.

Political insiders, **Labor's Asren Pugh** and (now) Mark Swivel, along with **The Greens' Sarah Ndiaye**, have largely supported the current mayor over the last few years.

Has it been champagne governance?

Depends if you are flood-affected, or are a local business owner on Lawson Street, for example (see page 1).

Cr Pugh's message to the voter is that by electing an (inexperienced) Labor mayor, we will somehow be rewarded by our Sydney- and Canberra-based overlords, who fund Council for essential stuff.

Meanwhile, Cr Ndiaye leads an impressive all-women team, which

could potentially bring much needed compassion to what has been a fairly closed door, cold and empathy-free leadership under Cr Lyon.

So who else is on the political buffet?

Just after the mayoral DV case became public, a late non-mayoral ticket emerged with a relative unknown, **Jack Dods**.

As an architect, he is generally well-regarded, articulate and knowledgeable of Council matters.

Who doesn't want cycleways everywhere, with bespoke housing around 'environmental regeneration'?

Yet his team's platform around the 'Europeanisation' of our towns (ie removing cars) may be an issue for some, because we don't have adequate public transport to replace the large cars we need to tackle the Third World roads.

And while his team opposes suburban sprawls, they call for 'diverse developments', which could fit any number of definitions around higher density and height limits.

Does it accord with the wishes of voters? Residents were mobilised during last year's *Residential Strategy*, with councillors backing down from staff's desire for a blanket 11.5m height limit with all new developments.

And finally, councillor candidate **Lucy Vader**, who was dramatically rescued from the 2022 floods in Lismore, has a keen interest in transparency and has experience with urban design. Like Dods, she comes to the candidate buffet with the potential to offer a much needed fresh perspective.

Good luck to all candidates on Saturday! And here's to a better Council than the last one.

Hans Lovejoy, editor

Hope for cynics in times of declining trust

As Byron Shire goes to the ballot box this week, it's a fair bet there's some cynicism around the council elections.

Who among us is not guilty of feeling a little unbelieving, when we hear the latest promises on housing, or environmentally-friendly development?

For any of us uncomfortable with our negativity, an explosive new book out this week is recommended reading. *Hope for Cynics*, by a young Stanford professor is a potent antidote to the darkness of cynical despair.

The book is a call to fuse hope with fury.

Not just to make us feel better, but to help us work more effectively against rising inequality, technological imperialism, and sea levels.

The book's author, Professor Jamil Zaki, is a psychologist with a lot of expertise in the science of hope.

He and his Stanford lab have run studies finding most people value compassion over selfishness, and that helping others helps us.

'There is good in us, and it does good for us,' he writes.

Hope for Cynics seamlessly combines storytelling and scientific evidence, and it opens with devastating statistics about dramatic drops in levels of trust.

Stats in declining trust

Fifty years ago in the United States, nearly 50 per cent of people agreed with the notion that 'most people can be trusted'.

Today that's fallen to 33 per cent, with evidence of decline around the world.

Exploring the complex reasons for falling trust, Zaki cites the rising influence of big tech, with its conspiracy-theory rabbit holes like QAnon, and its assault on our self-confidence from ubiquitous comparison culture.

He describes what he calls 'market creep', arguing that networks formed via social media platforms are often 'markets dressed up as communities', which focus far more on quantifying connection rather than building genuine trust.



'The book is a call to fuse hope with fury. Not just to make us feel better, but to help us work more effectively for change'

– Dr Ray Moynihan

One of the people featured in the book is a young woman who felt trapped inside the quantified world of Instagram.

Luddites club

She decided to deactivate her account, trade in her iPhone for a turn-of-the-century flip-phone and create a local 'Luddites club' who met, read and connected, away from the digital world.

The story underscores the joy that can come from simple face-to-face connections.

Whether at farmers' markets, community choirs, school bands, landcare plantings, environmental protests, sporting events, dance classes or a host of other hands-on, off-line experiences that are so abundantly available in this region.

Scepticism not cynicism

One of great things about *Hope for Cynics* is that it does not claim the moral high ground.

Despite being an expert on hope, this Stanford star admits to being a lifelong cynic.

We learn how the loss of a close and inspiring friend, in the midst of the pandemic, helped the author confront the cynic within, using a new-found healthy scepticism.

'If cynicism was a pill, its warning label would list depression, heart disease and isolation,' he writes. 'In other words, it'd be poison. So why do so many of us swallow it?'

One reason is that so much culture has sought to glamorise the smart cynic – essentially an oxymoron. Zaki includes a beautiful quote to help make his point.

'The power of accurate observation is commonly called cynicism by those who haven't got it,' wrote the Irish playwright and activist

George Bernard Shaw.

Using scepticism to examine evidence, rather than the knee-jerk negativity and naivety of the cynic, is this psychologist's key message.

Hope and fury

One of the book's closing chapters is titled 'The Optimism of Activism'. In it, we hear the words of 1960s civil rights champion Martin Luther King, attacking the widely accepted psychological imperative to be 'well-adjusted'.

King argued that 'we must never adjust ourselves' to injustices, such as racial discrimination, militarism and economic inequality, but rather fight for alternatives.

Zaki echoes King's call to activism and argues that joining social movement protests of today, whether against domestic violence or climate change, is actually good for us and our communities.

None of this will be news to all the activists in this region. Those who use the fuel of hope to work tirelessly to right past wrongs, and to try and improve the lives of people and the planet.

'It actually is hope – the sense that things could improve in the future – mixed with fury, that inspires people to fight for progress,' Zaki writes, 'even when victory seems well out of reach.'

Yet victories do come. Street protests across Australia just a few short months ago helped deliver hundreds of millions more dollars to tackle domestic violence, announced in Canberra last week.

It's not enough, but it's a hopeful sign.

And so is the opportunity to vote for trusted candidates at this weekend's council election.

■ Dr Ray Moynihan hopes, and he votes.



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Nicholas Shand
1948–1996
Founding Editor

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

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

– Finley Peter Dunne 1867–1936

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We are deeply grateful to our wonderful community, local businesses, and generous sponsors who donated raffle prizes and supported our major fundraising event at The Paddock. Thanks to your incredible generosity, we raised \$10,000 towards building an accessible toilet, making our space more inclusive for everyone.

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Echo



Pre-polling is now open for your local council elections with voting day on Saturday, September 14. To find out who's who in your electorate go to *The Echo* online: www.echo.net.au/category/elections/council-elections.

Knight in shining armour

I have a story I believe I must tell. On Friday, August 30 while travelling along the Pacific Highway heading for home on the Sunshine Coast, not far from the Lismore turnoff, I was involved in a bad accident. My brother was driving and was hurt badly and ended up in Lismore hospital. I was bruised and a bit sore down my right side. I also went to Lismore hospital.

My car was towed to a car yard at Alstonville. I hired a local taxi to take me from Lismore hospital to Alstonville to get all of my belongings out of my car, and I asked the

driver if he would wait with me while I got all my belongings. He said he would and he helped me put all of my things in his car.

On my way back to the hospital a social worker who was helping me, rang to tell me it would cost me \$1,000 to hire a car to get me home to Nambour Queensland. I mentioned this to the taxi driver, and he said without any hesitation, 'I'll take you', and I said, 'why would you do that?' His reply: 'you need help'. I then said, 'how much is that going to cost me', and he said 'pay for the fuel'. Then he said I could leave all my stuff in his car overnight, and

he would pick me up the next day and take me home. I was staying overnight in the 'short stay unit' at the hospital.

True to his word 'Wazza' the taxi driver picked me up from the hospital when I was discharged and drove me home to my door. It took us four hours, he helped me get my things inside my home, wished me well and then drove off back to his home which I think might be Ballina. (He did only charge me for the fuel).

So 'Wazza' the local taxi driver, was my 'knight in shining armour'.

Dee Peterson
Rosemount, Qld

Paid parking cycles

Noticing the new parking meters pop up like a rash over Bruns streets, it makes me wonder what alternative strategies for reducing car numbers are in the works. On Byron Council's website, they tout paid parking in Bruns as a solution to increasing availability of parking and turnover of cars but there is no mention of the fact that parking is big revenue dollars. Another search reveals that parking brings in around \$2.8 million per year to Byron Shire.

I'm guilty of driving to Bruns from Mullum fairly regularly and haven't yet been game to brave it on the bike. However, until the much-anticipated, long-awaited bike link arrives, how about some investment towards a regular, cheap shuttle bus between Mullum and Bruns?

We need to keep fostering vibrant, healthy towns and having less traffic is part of this. Let's hope some alternative strategies are implemented before the meters hit Mullum.

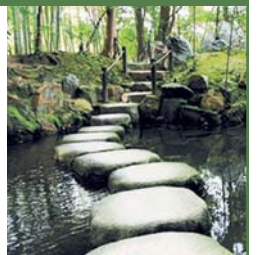
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Career Guidance

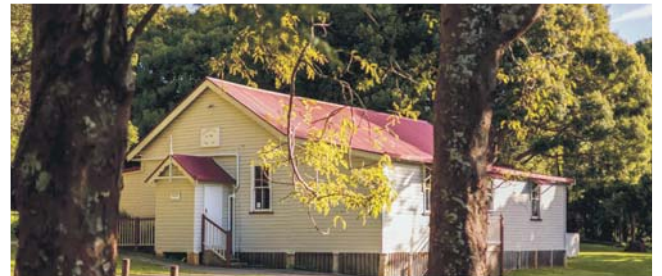
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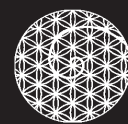
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'The Australian Taxation Office is a company that's 100% owned by Black Rock Inc, an American multinational investment company.'

Let's face it, not many people think issues through critically, or thoroughly, which is why we're all at risk of believing complete bullshit, like the above.

The Echo's 100% local journalists are independent thinkers. When they think, they think for themselves. Our local news stories are independent of corporate bullshit, PR, sovereign citizen conspiracy theories and party politics. If you read one of the free 22,000 Echo newspapers delivered each week, or echo.net.au, you might not always agree with our journalists, but at least you know they're not just making stuff up.

THE BYRON SHIRE
Echo



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► **Continued from page 17**
PS. Oh and in case you missed it, the \$3 hourly charge for the new meters reported in *The Echo* in December last year is now \$5. Damn inflation!

Stirling Blacket
Mullumbimby

Peace, love, missiles?

On the night of September 1-2, 2024, Russia launched a significant missile attack on Ukrainian cities, including Kyiv, Kharkiv, and Sumy. The assault involved over 50 air assets, including ballistic and cruise missiles, as well as drones. Ukraine's air defences successfully intercepted 22 missiles and 20 drones, but debris from the attack caused fires in Kyiv, injuring two people. In Sumy, a rehabilitation centre for orphans was hit, injuring nearby civilians.

Despite these challenges, Kyiv resumed school the next day, demonstrating remarkable resilience.

But are we much better off here in Australia? Recently, I heard about a proposal to build a missile storage facility in Newcastle, intended to store and possibly assemble military-grade missiles and other defence materials. This raises

questions about whether such defence initiatives are necessary to bolster national security or if they bring more safety concerns, particularly in a populated area.

It's unlikely a project like this would happen in the Northern Rivers, but it's still concerning to see any development that could negatively impact land use, local ecosystems, and create pollution. As Australians, do we really want to play a bigger role in global military affairs, and are we prepared for the ethical and environmental consequences of expanding military infrastructure into civilian areas?

Jaemen Jamieson
Mullumbimby

From ChatGPT

Inspired by Sapoty Brook's AI Invasion letter last week I wondered what ChatGPT might write to the editor, given free rein.

'Write a letter for the letters pages of the *Byron Shire Echo*,' I typed.

'Certainly! Could you please provide some details on the topic or issue you'd like to address in your letter to the *Byron Shire Echo*? This will help tailor the letter to your specific concerns or points.'

You choose the topic or issue. I chose: Preserving Byron's Charm with the following result.

Dear Editor, I am writing to express my deep concern about the rapid development and subsequent loss of Byron Bay's unique character. As a long-time resident, I have witnessed firsthand the transformation of this once- idyllic town into a bustling tourist destination.

While I understand the economic benefits that tourism brings, I believe it is crucial to strike a balance between progress and preserving the essence of Byron Bay. The town's charm lies in its laid-back atmosphere, bohemian spirit, and stunning natural beauty. Overdevelopment threatens to erode these qualities.

I urge the Byron Shire Council to carefully consider the environmental impact of new projects and prioritise the preservation of green spaces and heritage buildings. Additionally, I believe it is essential to support local businesses and promote sustainable tourism practices.

By working together, we can ensure that Byron Bay remains a vibrant and thriving community for generations to come.

Andy Holt
Ocean Shores

Let's go!

I'm disappointed to hear so many of the same old political tropes rolled out at Council election time: consultation, inclusion, fairness. Where are the ego-driven politicians who want to get more things done – a lot more, without necessarily thinking too much about it?

We need action, action, action on the real issue: cost of living. Specifically, Council-subsidised cocaine at a decent price. And no more 'wacky weed' pot holes – just impervious smooth surfaces with clear lines so those of us in the 'new economy' can drive our Teslas as God intended.

CoCo Jo
Mullumbimby

Quick fact check

Councillor Pugh cites on page 6 of August 28 *Echo* an outcome that he and I achieved in 2023, capping the Shire's minimum rate to \$1,000. It would otherwise have risen from \$969 the previous year to \$1,014 for 2023-24. The purpose of the freeze was to give landholders of lower-valued land a small leg up. It was a modest saving of \$14 for that year. The real impact would have

► **Continued on page 19**



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Domestic violence and council elections?

■ I have never been overly happy with Mayor Michael Lyon but really Mr Swivel what exactly do you find so exciting about your place in the public arena?

C Davies
Mullumbimby

■ Domestic violence (DV) is high on the national agenda and has recently been brought to light locally. This could be a learning experience for all concerned.

Having lived DV including the court experience, and studied it, I offer just a little of what I learned:

Learn definitions of DV and its many forms.

Know your rights: the right to respect, to be wrong, to make mistakes, to say 'No', to physical and emotional safety, to disagree, to have your own opinions, etc.

Know your boundaries: what's yours to take responsibility for, and what's acceptable behaviour towards you. How to say 'No'.

Recognise when your rights and boundaries are being violated. Learn how to protect and defend them appropriately.

Learn assertive behaviours. Learn clear communication skills. Learn what defines a healthy, mature, nurturing, respectful relationship.

Learn about narcissistic personality disorder. Learn what perpetrators use to excuse and defend their unacceptable actions, particularly minimising, things like 'it was just a misinterpretation'. Don't let them trivialise your feelings such as 'you're too sensitive, too needy, overreact'.

Don't let them say you play the victim, 'you demand too much, I'm so stressed, you don't understand'.

Don't let them blame, 'you will cause shame, embarrassment to family, ruin my career, if you go public for help'. You may get the word sorry (not genuine) and a bunch of roses. This is to keep it behind closed doors. Then

the cycle starts again. And it only gets worse. You can't fix what you don't acknowledge.

Marlene Crompton
Mullumbimby

■ I am astounded at the lack of dignity and self-control shown by Mark Swivel in his comments to *The Echo* and other media.

As someone who has known Michael Lyon and his wife personally for several years now, I know what they are going through together as they try to navigate this difficult time. Then to see someone show what I consider is bald-faced, self-interested meanness is truly shocking.

Not content to have named Michael's wife and exposed the whole situation to the world on his Facebook page, Mark now seeks to drag out an issue in the media, to his own personal advantage. He shows no empathy or compassion, in my opinion, for the reality of this particular situation. With his legal training, Mark would very well know that neither Michael or other parties involved can make comment on the matter*, and to publicly call them out in this manner I think demonstrates a lack of integrity and moral fibre.

Everybody is entitled to a fair go. Michael has stated that he will be cleared and whether people choose to believe that or not, they should give him a chance without listening to hearsay and making prior judgement. I am proud to stand with Michael Lyon as our mayor. He shares my values of truth, honesty, and compassion and unfortunately Mark Swivel has demonstrated none of these.

Jeannette Martin
Mullumbimby

*Ed: Cr Lyon was provided with a copy of Cr Swivel's comments, and his response was published next to those comments in *The Echo* last week.

■ I was interested in my own process in coming to the decision to support Mark Swivel's condemnation of Mayor Michael Lyon's behaviour and his refusal, despite much advice, to stand down and to attend to his personal life in the face of domestic violence (DV) charges. Yes, I was sorry and sad. Yes, I noticed within myself the pull to explain, to excuse, to play down the significance that our mayor, our most visible public officer, a leader in the community, was facing DV charges, tried to get them silenced, attempted publicly to explain and excuse himself, and finally blamed the police, the system, society – for his woes. I wanted it to go away, I didn't want to take it seriously, I didn't want to be horrified and outraged. It is not really my style.

But I have come to the conclusion that we as a community need to call it out. Enough of the silence. I'm convinced that Michael is not reading the room. Women and men have finally had enough of even a hint of violence against women. Many women I know raised their eyebrows when Michael said the issue was a 'misunderstanding'. A knowing look, a bitter laugh – this word is used so often by other men to excuse bad behaviour.

Whatever the details of this case, the issue of DV is way bigger than him. I can and I do feel sorry and sad for Michael and his wife, and at the same time choose not to remain silent about the bigger issue of domestic violence, which is so deep, so damaging, so tragic and so prevalent in Australia. Too many women have been killed and injured, for too long. Men's violence against women has been excused for too long.

Michael Lyon's decision not to stand down as a candidate for local council suggests a flawed character – a poor reading of community expectations and a betrayal of our trust.

Janet Swain
Ocean Shores

► been in subsequent years when the saving would have compounded with the minimum rate frozen at \$1,000. The freeze was lifted however in 2024, and the minimum rate restored to its original pre-cap trajectory at \$1,048.

Readers on the minimum can check their last three years of rates notices (\$969, \$1000, \$1048). It was true that the freeze in 2023 was not supported by the outgoing mayor. Nor in 2024. What was missing from last week's

story is that in 2024 (the second year of the freeze) it was also not supported by Cr Pugh.

Duncan Dey
Byron Shire Councillor

I'll get rail trail done

I respect the work that Mr Warnes does in advocating for public transport and for his members who work in public transport across NSW. But on the issue of the Northern Rivers Rail Trail, he could not be more wrong.

I moved the motion in Byron Council to get a definitive report on whether it was possible to build a rail trail beside the track in the Byron Shire. The report was unequivocal – it is not possible, mainly due to bridges, embankments and tunnels that can't be bypassed. Trains are not coming back to this line.

This is a clear demonstration that our

► Continued on page 21

ENTERTAINMENT

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Political jockeying and time-wasting or good use of Tweed Council resources?

Marion Riordan

You will be hearing a lot from councillors in the run up to this election. One claim by Labor's Tweed Shire councillor Reece Byrnes that an 'alliance between Greens, Liberals and Nationals on council' in which they 'teamed up to vote' warrants a fact check. (*Tweed Weekly*, July 25). Luckily Tweed Council meeting records are publicly available to all. Looking for evidence of this voting pattern I found nothing of the sort. It might surprise people that in the first two years of this council's term most proposals were passed at meetings with support of a range of councillors – often unanimously.

That is, until election year 2024.

Desperate for difference?

There is a pattern of behaviour that has become evident, with certain councillors acting in a way that could be described as unorthodox. At the council meeting of March 21 (www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/council/councillors-meetings/council-meetings-at-3:09:20) staff

reported on excessive use of customer service requests by councillors of up to 48 emails per day from one councillor totalling 650 emails in one month. This report described staff becoming overwhelmed with the volume of emails requiring responses and of receiving verbal criticism and questioning of their expertise, leading to stress and anxiety over their job security.

Liberal Cr James Owen defended his ten to 20 such emails a day saying it was his civic duty to ask these questions on behalf of people in his community through this specialised councillor channel. Referring to regular questions that Owen had been putting on social media Independent Cr Meredith Dennis stated (at 3:50:48) that 'council bashing is a national sport – you will always get complaints if you invite people to put staff down'. She described it as 'jumping the line and not the way the system is designed'. Greens Cr Dr Nola Firth pointed out that 'it's important that people are not using councillors to jump the queue which is not fair to other people who are bringing questions through the normal channels'.

Creating delays

Regardless of how these actions are viewed, the excessive number of email requests requiring responses or extra reports had the effect of slowing down staff response times as it significantly increased staff workloads. Many of these requests were about delays in council works. It seems ironic then, that this manner of questioning actually slowed things further by taking staff away from their field of expertise to respond.

At the March meeting a policy was introduced to limit councillor staff requests to 30 per month. Neither Cr Owen or his partner Liberal Cr Rhannon Brinsmead attended workshops held prior to this meeting to consider and develop this policy.

Since then another version of questioning staff seems to have taken hold. Councillors are entitled to ask questions about the performance and operations of staff at meetings. Items that are deemed to be of high community interest are encouraged to be dealt with directly with the general manager at the time of the concern. Up until 2024 these

'Questions on Notice' (QONs) were used infrequently. Since staff customer requests were restricted up to ten QONs have been brought to almost every meeting by Crs Brinsmead and Owen. This is the limit allowed (April-August 2024). More often than not these questions are answered by the relevant staff member with information that is readily available in existing policies, reports or on councils website.

Grandstanding

The purpose of bringing such questions into a public forum is not clear. It chews up valuable time for the normal business of councillors and adds up to 20 minutes to the length of meetings. Once again staff are called away from their normal tasks to research and report on ten QONs at the start of each meeting.

It is notable that most of the questions allude to a perceived problem with council's performance on operational matters or a complaint about the standard of certain services.

The staff responses are informed, measured and genuinely delivered.

What is odd is Cr Owen's dissatisfaction with many of the responses. One such question was at the July 18 meeting (QON #10, 2:25:03) on how council monitors and reports on its customer service standards. The officer delivered a comprehensive picture of the range of existing complaints channels and the regular reviews and monitoring that is conducted. He was able to report that in comparison to other contact centres (across all sectors), Tweed Shire Council is in the top percentile with significantly lower response times than the median. He stressed that the aim is to continue to improve by developing various tools like AI-powered IT systems.


Cr Owen's response was to negate most of the positives in this summary saying: 'I would rather not hear what you are doing but tell me what you could be doing better'. His QON #9 (2:19:52) on the backlog of DAs was answered with a description of significant improvements in processing times (since the flood holdups of 2021/22). He responded in the same dismissive way.

At the June 20 meeting (54:57), seven out of the ten QONs were answered by referencing existing reports, strategies or website information. Some topics – like the potential for a new 50m pool – were a repeat of questions that he asked at previous (and subsequent) council meetings.

Cr Owen seems to be consistently negative about council operations, yet he does not substantiate claims of performance shortcomings with evidence – despite copious questioning of various departments. At the June 20 meeting (2:16:02) his veiled criticism burst out as a direct challenge to the performance of mayor Chris Cherry and her leadership. On a motion on councillors' pay rates he laid a variety of his gripes at her feet. These included council budget expenses, customer service, potholes and water services.

He let all of us know that he is the mayor most people want. It is obvious that Cr Owen has been in election mode for most of 2024. However, his use of council meeting and staff time towards this purpose needs to be questioned.

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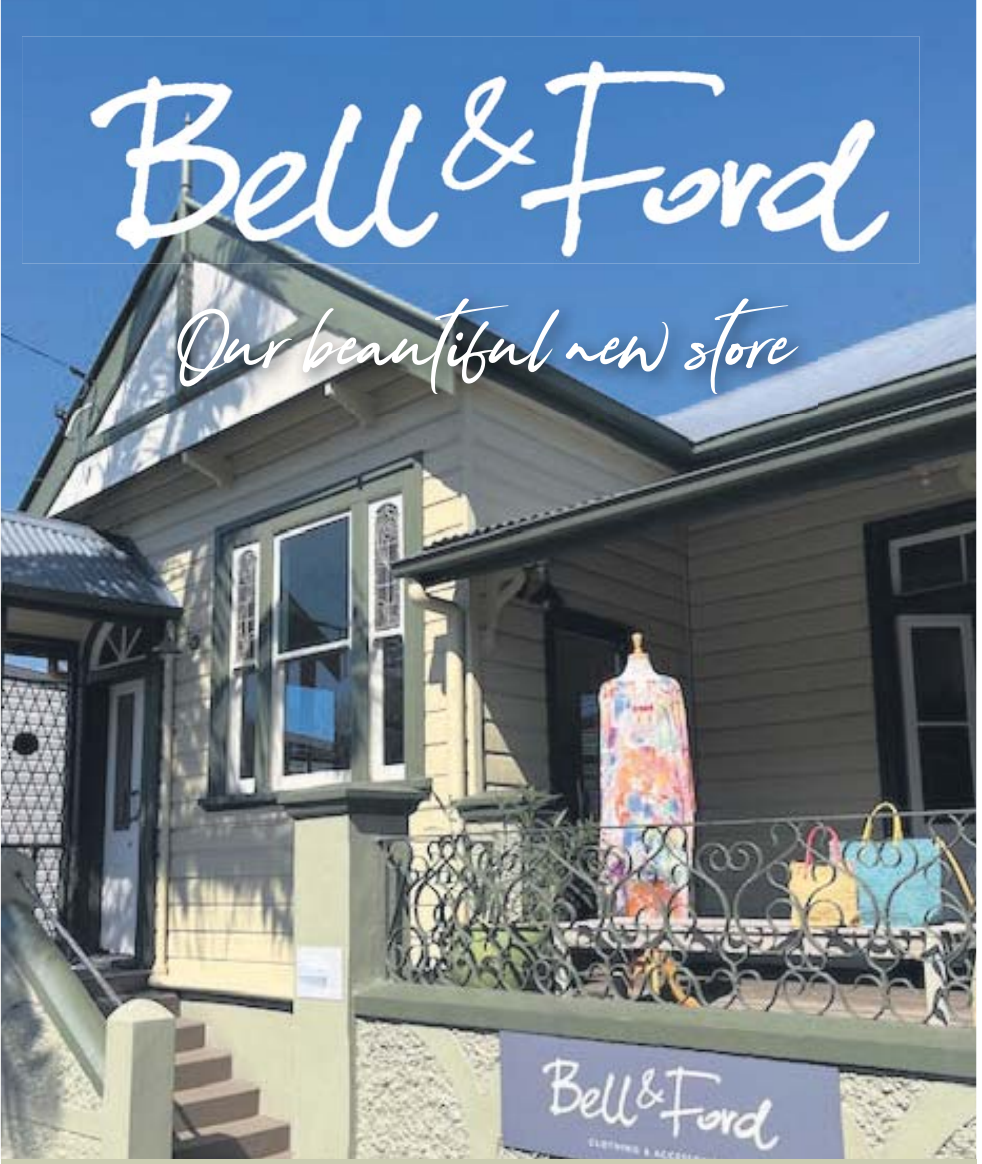
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► Continued from page 19 local Labor team will make decisions in the best interest of our community, not anyone in Sydney. We wholeheartedly support building the rail trail, from end to end, Booyong to Crabbes Creek, and are committed to getting construction started in the next term of Council. I changed Council's policy to support a rail trail and if I'm mayor, I'll get it done.

Asren Pugh
Mayoral candidate,
Bangalow

Blinky Bill, death row

What is happening to forest wildlife? NSW's state-owned logging company is currently logging great swathes of our Great Koala National Park (GKNP). That is NOT great as a mere five per cent is protected. There needs to be a halt on all logging within our GKNP. Sadly, over 50 per cent of our pre-1788 native forests and woodlands, in our state alone, are gone.

Despite the Labor Party promising to protect koalas and therefore critical koala habitat, are koalas waiting patiently in their tree-top homes expecting salvation? I doubt they realise that government legislation

only requires five to ten 'potential' koala trees to be protected per hectare on public land. I'm glad they don't realise that of NSW state 'managed' native forests (covering almost two million hectares) most have been logged – more logging is coming their way. On the mid North Coast (Coffs Harbour) logging has increased by 385 per cent since the announcement of the GKNP. Forestry Corp's attitude is one of 'grab it while you can' and destroy the significance of our proposed koala national park.

Even when Forestry Corp has been fined for illegal logging and not abiding by their own rules and regulations, it takes years for these breaches to be finalised and for the public to be informed. Not surprisingly these illegal activities are discovered by forest activists at great personal cost, and not government authorities. This is probably why governments go to great lengths to keep those 'types' out of OUR public native forests. Those 'types' are treated as criminals, while the real criminals are protected by governments we elect.

Facts are: 43 species now have 50 per cent or less of their pre-1788 habitat remaining and nine species have 30 per cent or less; koalas, black cockatoos and quolls are among the most impacted. It is the bigger trees that have the most nectar, browsing invertebrates, and stability for nesting and roosting, and it is not until they are over 120 years old they begin to develop the hollows in their branches and trunks that 70 species (28 per cent) of vertebrates in north-east NSW rely upon for dens, nests and roosts, and not till they are over 220 years old do the hollows get big enough for larger animals. As we speak, Forestry Corp is bashing on our premier's door and demanding that he listen to them and NOT the people who elected him. In the past two years the logging industry made a loss of \$30 million. Over the past ten years governments have graciously provided this unsustainable logging giant with over \$250 million of subsidies, thanks to the NSW taxpayers. I despair and I'm not a koala, thankfully.

Lindy Stacker
Binna Burra

► More letters on page 23

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[SOCIAL FUTURES] **Byron CoLab on Arakwal Country**



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Social Futures and Byron Shire Council have created a space for Byron's community to connect, support and thrive.

Byron CoLab on Arakwal Country is accepting applications for tenancies now at 10–12 Shirley St, Byron Bay. We're aiming for a mix of education providers, businesses, community service providers, allied health, arts and community groups. If you'd like to be part of this vibrant community hub, we have limited community and commercial **rental space available**.

Contact **Adrian Nolan**, Senior Manager – Business and Strategy, Social Futures on **0439 652 638**, or **Mikaela Hicks**, Centre Manager, Byron CoLab on Arakwal Country, Social Futures, **0407 787 595**

Visit socialfutures.org.au/byroncolab

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land where we live and work and their continuing connection to land, water, sea and community. We pay respects to Australia's First Peoples, to their unique and diverse cultures, and to Elders past, present and future.

Inclusion is about the actions we take every day. We welcome, support, and celebrate diversity.



NEW EARTH EXPO



Welcome to New Earth, a one day immersive, multicultural event dedicated to healing, connection, sharing, growth celebration and transformation in Murwillumbah on Bundjalung Country. Bringing together a diverse community of healers, leaders, wisdom keepers, practitioners, musicians and visionaries to harmoniously co-create a New Earth.



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Tweed Council reviewed

Katie Milne

Though still in Ballarat caring for my mother, I do keep an eye on Tweed Council, and wanted to share a few thoughts for this election.

The extensive list of Mayor Cherry's activities reported to Council every month has been very impressive. She is incredibly thoughtful and unquestionably fair to all sides of politics.

I couldn't have asked for a more diligent, hard-working community defender than Cr Nola Firth to take my place. She thoroughly researched every issue, always stood up for the community, and made so many improvements in Council it's impossible to list them all.

Deputy Mayor Meredith Dennis always puts residents first and her work in the community is truly inspiring.

Cr Owen's disappointment over not being elected as mayor by his fellow councillors caused division and, in my opinion, got in the way of more positive work that could've been achieved by Council. His claim for deserving the mayoralty, due to his high vote at the



Former Tweed Mayor, Katie Milne. Photo supplied

last Council election, doesn't hold water when considering he never voted for me to be the mayor, though I had the highest vote for three elections straight!

It was disappointing when Cr Brimsmead joined Cr Owen in a walk-out protest over Cr Owen again not winning councillor support at the last mayoral election.

And it was always hard to predict which way Cr Byrnes would vote but especially so after he lost the deputy mayoral vote. Sadly his 'extreme greens' campaign pitch is just a copy from the dirty politics of the '90s that labelled Labor, and even esteemed former mayor Max Boyd, as 'extreme green'.

I did detect a slight mellowing in Cr Polglase and was impressed by his vote

for Cr Cherry as mayor. I wish him well in his retirement.

One of the most shocking things of this Council term was when Crs Owen, Brimsmead, Byrnes and Polglase voted not to defend the developer's court appeal over his proposed change of fill material at the Turnock Street development. Trucking in soil from Queensland, instead of using the approved sand method, caused major concerns of even further worsening flooding, and horror at the prospect of 68 trucks per hour past the hospital (34 trucks in and 34 trucks out). Thankfully, with extreme pressure from the community and a looming election, the majority vote changed back for the community.

Please vote strategically for candidates you can always rely on to put the community and safety first. The Greens had the lowest vote last election so actually need your support the most, if you love the Tweed and still want to 'keep it green'. Best of luck!

■ Katie Milne is the former Tweed mayor.

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Test case

There will be an onsite meeting on September 16 with the potential to be a test case in the ever-ongoing threat against our pristine environmental sustainability and the Australian democratic process which should be protecting it.

All our Northern Rivers residents, regardless of which particular idyllic town they live in, should be focused on this decision to be handed down by the NSW Land and Environment Court (L&EC) regarding approval of the proposed multi-million dollar so-called 'seniors' residential development on the environmentally-sensitive coastal wetlands in West Ballina, adjacent to the beautiful Richmond River.

This very unpopular DA, that's been going on for over four years, has already been refused once by the L&EC. Then, after minor cosmetic amending, reopposed by: (1) Ballina residents; (2) Ballina Shire Council staff management; (3) Ballina Shire councillors (who implemented Conservation 2 status), (4) NSW government Northern Rivers Planning Committee, and (5) our local Member Ms Tamara Smith.

It just doesn't make sense to me that all of this finely detailed and logically documented rationale put forward by our democratically elected representatives could be thrown out the window by some 'out of town' bunch of 'local-environment' ignorant lawyers in Sydney, to achieve some illogical short-term political goal 'dreamt-up' in Canberra! (Which could be reversed at any time, whereas the destruction of our coastal wetlands is irreversible!)

I have made three submissions against this proposal; addressed the L&EC commissioner and her entourage on site last March; and made over 400 local letter drops to residents, knowing these people had not been directly informed by Council of the proposal, but I will never bother to get involved again if I find that all the effort put in by our local 'informed' population has gone unheeded. (Not to mention in excess of \$1 million of ratepayers' money to defend our rights so far.)

I urge you to watch carefully and take heed of this decision, as it very well could be the 'test case' for your own backyard within our Northern Rivers paradise, by showing all developers that

it really doesn't matter what the local people want and/or how many hoops they have to jump through, their lawyers will sort those minor hiccups out in court!

(Save your castle!)

Laurence Johnstone
West Ballina

Vote 1 Green

Byron Shire faces enormous pressures for the future. We need a Byron Council with a strong commitment to the protection and enhancement of the community, the environment and the economy. We need a council who will address climate change and the biodiversity extinction crisis, who will care for the most vulnerable, protect community amenity, deliver responsible infrastructure, support sustainable businesses and stand up to unreasonable demands from the state government.

The Green team has experience and expertise and a genuine, caring dedication to people and place. They offer the best chance for securing a better future for Byron Shire. To make this happen, Vote 1 Sarah Ndiaye for mayor and Vote 1 for the capable Greens team.

Jan Barham
Former Byron Shire mayor

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR BYRON DOG RESCUE

Help us continue our mission to support and care for the dogs of Byron Shire

We urgently need volunteers to join us in making a difference

ABOUT BYRON DOG RESCUE

We are an active rescue division of the Not-for-Profit Group Companion Animals Welfare Inc. (CAWI). Founded in 2005 by Margaret Brown, CAWI was established with the dream of saving animals in Byron Shire. Our main support comes from the CAWI Op Shop in Brunswick Heads, small fundraising events, and donation boxes.

After 15 years of dedicated effort, we saved enough to purchase a small property for our shelter. Dogs thrive better in home care situations compared to kennels or pounds, which is why we rely heavily on volunteers to achieve our goals.

We run various programs, including dog adoption, foster care, companion animal desexing, a retail opportunity shop, and an animal shelter and rehabilitation centre. Your help is essential to keep these programs running.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- **Adopt a Dog:** Give a loving home to a dog in need.
- **Become a Foster Carer:** Provide temporary care for dogs.
- **Donate Goods:** Support our cause with your donations.
- **Raise Funds:** Organise fundraising events.
- **Volunteer in Our Opportunity Shop:** Assist with sales and customer service.
- **Volunteer at Our Sorting Centre:** Help sort and prepare donations.

Volunteering involves just 3 hours a week.
Shop hours: Mon - Friday: 10am - 4pm / Sat: 9am - 1pm
Morning and afternoon shifts available.

GET INVOLVED

Please contact us at:

- CAWI Op Shop: 0492 851 905
- Rescue and Rehoming Officer: 0458 461 935
- Email: cawidogs2483@gmail.com

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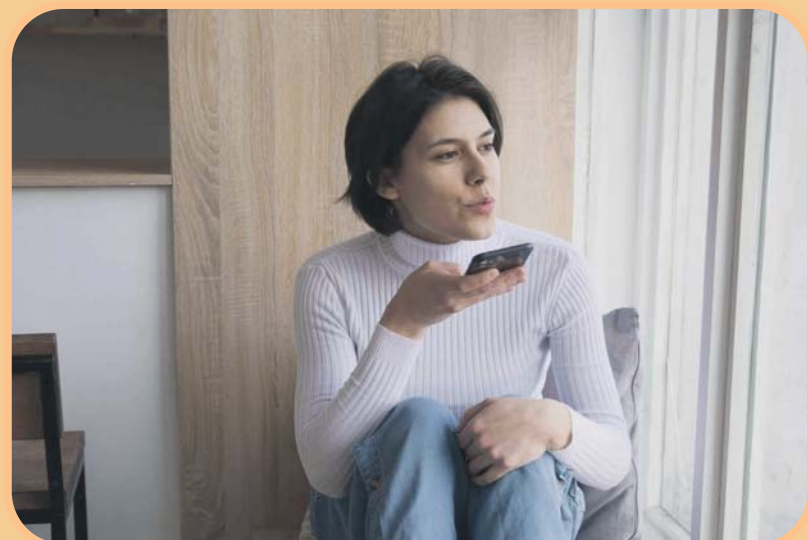
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What's likely to happen with Ballina Shire Council?

David Lowe

On September 14 the people of Ballina will elect nine councillors plus a mayor. Unlike some parts of NSW, where there are more councillor positions than candidates, a large field of applicants are vying for the chance to represent their diverse communities across Ballina Shire, from Newrybar in the north to Cabbage Tree Island in the south, and from Wollongbar in the west to fast-growing Lennox Head in the east.

Wards

The Ballina local government area is divided into three wards, with the boundaries between them having been redrawn in controversial circumstances during the last term.

There are three councillor positions up for grabs in each geographic ward. Whichever district provides the mayor effectively gains an extra councillor.

Mayor

Sharon Cadwallader is likely to be returned as mayor, having been elected for the term just ended and taking over from David Wright, who retired. B Ward's Cr Cadwallader has been a fairly steady hand on the helm as mayor, having left much of the dirty work on the council floor to be done by other members of her elected team, notably Cr Rod Bruem in A Ward, who is not standing this time after clashing repeatedly with staff and fellow councillors in his first and only term.

Fellow first-timer and Cadwallader team-member Nigel Buchanan, of Wardell Pie Shop fame, has apparently decided that the rough and tumble of council meetings is not for him, creating a vacancy in C Ward.

Greens

Two other long-term Ballina councillors have also bowed out, namely B Ward's Jeff Johnson (elected in 2008, originally as a Green) and C Ward's representative and deputy mayor Eoin Johnston, who served two terms. Council-followers will miss the passionate speeches of these two, if not the confusion over their similar names.

After strong performances in their first terms, and plenty of community engagement, the sitting Greens councillors Kiri Dicker (B Ward) and



What impact will your vote have on the next Ballina Shire Council on September 14? Photo David Lowe

Simon Chase (C Ward) look likely to be returned.

Long-term councillors and conservative centrists Phil Meehan and Steve McCarthy may have a bit more of a struggle on their hands in A Ward (which includes Ballina itself), but seem fairly likely to get over the line.

Split from Cadwallader

B Ward's Eva Ramsey has been putting up a determined effort to be seen as her own woman since splitting from Sharon Cadwallader's team, putting up a number of policies late in the last term. Whether she's done enough to be reelected in her own right is yet to be seen.

Labor votes

The final makeup of Ballina Council is likely to be determined by the success of Labor, wiped out at the last local government election with the departure of Keith Williams, but making a determined effort to return to the fray this time round, with candidates in all wards. This team is led by teacher Andrew Broadley (B Ward), who is also standing for mayor after tilting for a state seat in 2023.

As usual, many of the candidates without political parties listed next to their names are claiming to be completely independent, and saying there's no place for political parties in local

government, although at least one of these people is an active member of the National Party.

Genuine political outsiders include Nyangbul woman Lois Cook in C Ward and Kevin Loughrey (candidate for A Ward and mayor), although it should be noted Mr Loughrey has previously stood for the United Australia Party.

Future balance?

With the last Ballina Council having been dominated by members of Sharon Cadwallader's team, and Mayor Cadwallader holding the deciding vote, this situation will either become entrenched for the next term or challenged by a more balanced council which better reflects the changing face of Ballina.

In practice, this would likely mean three Greens, two Labor and two non-Cadwallader independents, plus two members of the Cadwallader team and Sharon as mayor.

Also entirely possible is a Ballina Council made up of two Greens, one Labor and one non-Cadwallader independent versus the rest, in which case the Cadwallader team would be able to vote as a bloc, as has been seen in the most recent Lismore Council – hardly a beacon of participatory democracy.

Northern Rivers impacts

With crucial decisions affecting the entire Northern Rivers, waiting in the wings, including Dunoon Dam, it's important to remember that Ballina voters will also have a hand in the makeup of the future Rous County Council and the Northern Rivers Joint Organisation, as well as other important organisations to be drawn from local councillors.

A number of Ballina candidates have failed to respond to *The Echo's* policy Q&A, but the responses of those who have are here [https://www.echo.net.au/2024/09/big-qa-with-ballinas-local-government-candidates/].

Whoever is elected in 2024 will have to deal with a number of significant challenges facing the region, including increased flooding risk, population pressures, the housing crisis and a lack of crucial workers across multiple sectors.

What kind of Ballina would you like to see? If you can, vote for a council candidate who reflects your values.

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Spaces filling up for Chinny Charge

Aslan Shand

Places are filling up fast for the annual run and walk up Mullumbimby's Mount Chincogan, which takes place on Saturday, September 21.

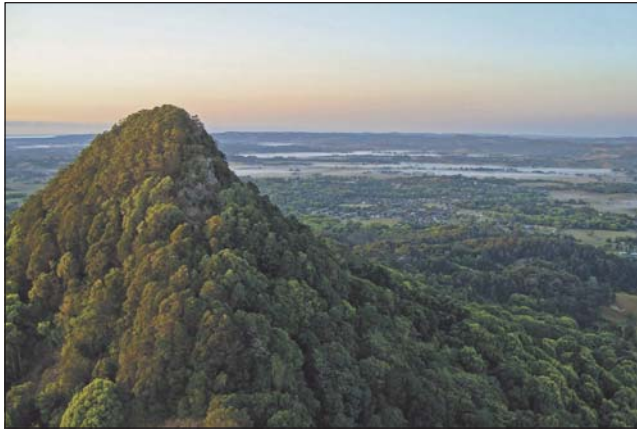
The annual Chinny Charge is the only day that Mount Chincogan is open to the public.

Runners can test their mettle by running up and back down the mountain, while for others, it's an enjoyable casual stroll with beautiful views.

This year, the Fire and Rescue NSW Mullumbimby 388 Station will be using their drone, not only to ensure runner safety, but to give you the opportunity to use a QR code to get a 360-degree view of the race from a sky-high perspective.

On the ground, there will be a more old-school approach, with classic cars on display from the Mullumbimby Muscle & Classic Car Club.

'The cars will line the street where the runners start and finish the race,' explained organiser Jenelle Stanford from the Mullumbimby Chamber of Commerce.



Mt Chincogan seen up close from a hot air balloon. Photo Ziggi Browning

There is the children's race as well as the adult race, and professional athletes will start first at 2pm outside the NSW Fire and Rescue Station at 57 Dalley Street, Mullumbimby. The children's race runs from 1.30pm and is \$15 to enter.

There are a range of prizes that can be won, including the fastest man and woman (\$500), the fastest local man and woman sponsored by *The Echo*, the oldest man and woman to participate in the charge. The Kevin Moran Memorial Shield is 'awarded for special effort and encouragement of others' and was donated in his memory by his closest friends and

adopted family – the Davis family of Main Arm.

There will be hydration stations throughout the run route, and all participants are asked to bring a bottle to fill as they walk or run up the mountain.

'It is important for everyone to hydrate properly prior to the race and know their limits,' said Josh. Remember you can stop, take a break or just slow down and walk.

Book now

All participants must be 12 years old or over. There are no dogs allowed on the mountain. To book visit www.eventwizards.com.au.

Ellie picks up medals at Coff's Classic

Ellie Borenstein, co-owner of The Rise Society gym, has won two medals – gold and bronze – for bodybuilding at ICN Coff's Classic.

She won gold in bikini mama and over 40s, plus bronze in overall bikini at the premier bodybuilding, bikini and fitness show in Northern NSW.

Ellie gives special thanks to her coach Jes Murphy of JM fitness, and co-owner of her gym, Kristal Robson.

The Rise Society gym is located at Unit 5/2 Acacia Street, Byron Bay Arts and Industry Estate.

Visit www.risesocietybb.com for more info.



Ellie Borenstein. Photo supplied

Heritage Park Mullumbimby gets an upgrade.

Byron Council is starting work on a \$850,000 upgrade of Heritage Park at Mullumbimby.

Staff say, 'The work, which was identified in the Heritage Park Landscape Masterplan, includes a new pathway and boardwalk, installing a new piece of play equipment for older children designed to test their climbing skills and adding more nature and imaginative play features.'

'Additional seating will also be installed, and the existing shelter will be refurbished.'

The section of the park along Mill Street will be closed off and turned into an off-lead dog area.

'It is currently an unofficial carpark, but the area will be re-turfed, and the only traffic will be that of dogs and their owners.'

Information about the

project is on Council's website.

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.

Local teams star in rugby league grand finals

Ross Kendall

The Ballina Seagulls won the first-grade premiership, and the Byron Bay Red Devils were runners-up in reserve grade, but also collected a championship in the U/18s, at the Northern Rivers Rural Rugby League grand finals.

The finals were played at Ballina's Kingsford Smith Oval last Sunday.

In the first-grade grand final, the Bilambil Jets got off to a good start, with Kalani Hensby scoring a try in the first minutes. But the home side bounced back and took the lead, when Anthony Coleman scored a converted try inside ten minutes.

The game stayed tight, but a converted try to Bilambil before half time gave them a 10-8 lead into the break.

The Ballina Seagulls, however, got over the line with a converted try to Jordan Lee, as well as a penalty to Hamish McClintock, who kicked four from four.

With 15 minutes to play, and just six points in it, Bilambil were in it all the way, but Ballina's defence proved up to the task, and they won the 2024 premiership, after losing last year's grand final.

'Considering we lost eight players from last year's grand final side, we had to promote under 18s to first grade and the team came together quickly – we were the team to beat all year,' Ballina's coach Greg Barnes said.

Reserve grade

In the reserve-grade championship decider, Tweed Heads Seagulls got off to a strong start scoring two tries in the first five minutes against Byron Bay.

Byron soon rallied and put Patrick Thornton over for their first try inside 10 minutes and followed up with another to Russel Asser.

But Tweed returned the favour just before half time and went to the break 14-12 in front. In the second half, they

pulled clear with three tries, only matched by one from Red Devil Brady Fuhrmann. Tweed Heads claimed the silverware with a 30-18 win.

U/18s

Byron Bay did collect a premiership earlier in the day when their U/18s side took on the Bilambil Jets.

The Red Devils traded tries with the Jets early in the first half, but Bilambil scored a pair late giving them a 20-10 advantage at half time.

Noah Vakararawa got the momentum back for Byron Bay with a quick second half try, which set up four more in short time, with Elliott Farrell crossing twice in five minutes.

The flurry handed them a seven tries to five victory, 36-28.

New roundabout for Byron Arts and Industry Estate

Byron Council is starting works on a new roundabout at the intersection of the access road to the new Byron TAFE and Byron Bay Fair (IGA complex), on Bayshore Drive, at the end of September.

Council staff say, 'The new roundabout is a requirement of a Development

Application (DA) for Council's Lot 12 Bayshore Drive estate – which now includes the newly constructed Byron TAFE facility.

'The works are expected to take around five months to complete'. Additionally, staff say there will be road and footpath improvements.

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18 Jonson Street
6680 8832

Open for takeaway daily, 12 midday until dinner.

Menu and more details @mainstreet_burgerbar

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



Bonito Byron Bay
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Ground Floor, Hotel Marvell
4 Marvell Street, Byron Bay
Breakfast Daily 8am – 12pm
Laneway light lunch Daily 12pm – 5pm
Dinner Tuesday – Saturday From 5pm
Book hotelmarvell.com.au/restaurant
Call 6685 7385 | @bonitobyronbay

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



Horizon Rooftop
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC 7 DAYS
Horizon Rooftop, Hotel Marvell
4 Marvell Street, Byron Bay
Open Daily | 3pm – 9pm
NO BOOKINGS REQUIRED
Call: 6685 7385
@horizonbyronbay


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

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
14–16 Lawson St
5642 0149
therocksbyronbay.com.au
@therocksbyronbay

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



Sefa Kitchen
Wed to Sat 12pm-late
1 Porter St, Byron Bay
@nourishing.habitat
www.nourishinghabitat.com

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



Loft Byron Bay
4 Jonson Street, Byron Bay
6680 9183
Book online:
www.loftbyronbay.com.au

Signature cocktails and casual dining with ocean views.
Happy Hour | Everyday from 4–6pm
\$20 Steak Night | Every Tuesday, 100-Day-Aged Black Angus Sirloin
2-for-1 Cocktails | Every Thursday with any Set Menu from \$40
Bottomless Bubbles & Spritz | Every Saturday from 12–2pm with any Set Menu from \$40
Open Tues – Friday from 4pm, Sat from 12 noon.

BANGALOW



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

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

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



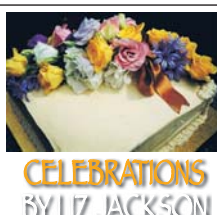
Lennox Head Pizza & Pasta
4/74 Ballina St, Lennox Head
Open 7 days
Lunch: 12–2pm
Pizza & drinks only: 2–5pm
Dinner from 5pm

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



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
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.



Celebrations Cakes by Liz Jackson

lizjackson@gmail.com
0414 895 441

GLUTEN FREE AND SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS CATERED FOR.



Victoria Cosford

My initial attraction was to the profusion of green foliage in all different textures and tones. Then it was the name (Mad Mountain), which I love, which I had to ask stallholders Lyn and Tim about, immediately.

The Gallaghers are fairly new faces at New Brighton, although they've been doing markets, mainly around Murwillumbah, for about seven years now. The name, Mad Mountain, came about Lyn tells me, thanks to their daughter, and it was a reference to the mountain community they became part of nine years ago. Up from Shellharbour, they'd bought into an M.O. at Tomewin. 'There are 15 shareholders,' she says, 'and it's a happy-mad community!'

The couple had retired. The only goal, when they moved, was to grow their own food, to be self-sufficient – and yet they ended up with an abundance of produce like chilli and pawpaw. Lyn started making 'jams and pickles out of whatever we had', she says. 'Herbal tea blends – we sell a lot of herbal teas.'

Forget retirement – they decided they wanted to offer something different and settled on perennials: turmeric, ginger, chilli, spinach, as well as medicinal herbs. 'Things,' Lyn says, 'you can't find elsewhere.'

And oh the riches! Familiar herbs like sorrel, oregano and Vietnamese mint, but there's also lime balm and evening primrose, borage and chamomile, catnip and aloe vera. All the little pots have helpful signs embedded in the soil, with growing tips and uses – and so I learn that dogbane has leaves which, when crushed, release a strong odour capable of repelling dogs. There's vetiver grass which, Lyn tells me, is great for erosion control, reinforcing soil structure. There are chillis and I'm unable to resist a small pot of something not too fiery, I tell Tim, who selects a bell chilli for me, for my sunny balcony.

Mad Mountain is at New Brighton Farmers Market every Tuesday from 8am to 11am.



Sefa Kitchen: bringing Middle Eastern flavours to Byron Bay



Byron Bay foodies, get excited! The much-loved Bondi institution, Sefa Kitchen, has arrived in our coastal town. Now open, this marks the third venture at Nourishing Habitat by restaurateurs Utku Ayhan of Foxy Luu's in Byron Bay and Sefa Kitchen in Sydney, and Nicolas Degryse of Gratia & FOLONOMO in Sydney. Following the success of Commune Canteen and Gitana Spanish

Wine Bar, Sefa Kitchen adds another layer of culinary excitement to Byron's vibrant food scene.

Sefa Kitchen is celebrated for its rustic yet refined Middle Eastern cuisine, inspired by the rich flavours of the Levantine and North African regions. The ancient cooking traditions of these culturally rich areas have merged over centuries, creating a cuisine that transcends borders. At



Sefa, legumes, dairy, grains, spices, and seasonal produce take centre stage, offering a true taste of this culinary heritage.

At the heart of Sefa Kitchen in Byron Bay is its wood-fire oven and open-flame grill, which create the signature smoky flavours of the menu. Most dishes are served on generous share platters, designed to be wrapped in bread and enjoyed with your

hands. While cutlery is available, guests are encouraged to dive in and embrace the messy, hands-on experience.

The menu features mouthwatering dishes like Tooba bread with saltbush za'atar and spiced butter; organic Spring Bay mussels with whipped tarama, heirloom radishes, and baby herbs; Jersey halloumi with local smoked bush honey, calendula, and pistachio; and

crispy Brussels sprouts with almond tarator, sorghum dukkah, and barberry salt.

The star dish? A slow-roasted baharat lamb shoulder with cauliflower puree, sumac onions, and pomegranate. For dessert, indulge in a saffron panna cotta with date molasses, Persian floss, and mandarin biscuit.

Pair your meal with signature cocktails like the Egyptian Hibiscus Spritz (hibiscus tea, vodka, ginger,

prosecco) or the Musky Istanbul (housemade limonata, mezcal, mint).

Sefa Kitchen has brought its adored dishes to our coastal town, inviting locals to experience the same rich, flavourful journey that has captivated Sydney since 2013.

■ Bookings: nourishinghabitat.com.
1 Porter St, Byron Bay
Opening hours Wednesday to Saturday, 11.30am to 9pm

Mark Bullivant: 50 years of coffee

After 50 years in the coffee industry, Mark Bullivant has probably roasted more tonnes of coffee than anyone in the Northern Rivers. Despite this extensive experience, his enthusiasm for new beans, blends, and roasts remains undiminished. He embodies the personality, character, and diversity that make coffee so beloved.

Mark roasted for Aroma Coffee in Sydney during the pioneering days of the coffee industry in the country. For the past 25 years, he has been based in Ballina, where he is renowned as the 'local coffee man.' His deep passion and understanding of coffees extend both locally and globally. His extensive experience includes 23 years at the Byron Blue Coffee farm, five years roasting for local brands, and creating his own brands such as Coffee Nirvana and Lattitude. He now operates



under his namesake brand, Mark Bullivant Coffee.

Mark personally hand-selects all the beans and is solely responsible for every step of the process: growing, processing, storing, roasting, blending, packaging, and delivering. He takes pride in his holistic approach, which ensures the highest quality control. Additionally, he has supported many local brands in establishing themselves, sharing his expertise and passion to help them succeed.

Cafe owners are encouraged to visit his roasting premises to benefit from his extensive knowledge and enthusiasm. Mark is eager to discuss everything from green beans and customised blends to traditional blends, single-origins, micro-lots, and rare and exotic coffees.

If you own a cafe and want to offer something unique and special for your customers, Mark can provide valuable insights and guidance, helping you establish or diversify your offerings. His range includes local coffee from Byron Blue Coffee Estate, along with various seasonal exotic beans.

Locals are also welcome to pick up freshly roasted coffee. His premises are open to the general public every Saturday morning.

■ Mark Bullivant Coffee
4/79 Southern Cross Drive, Ballina
markbullivantcoffee.com
0448 878 874



1994 **Raes** 2024
30 Years

HOTEL, DINING ROOM
CELLAR BAR & SPA

Book: RAES.COM.AU or 6685 5366



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



VISIT THE HISTORIC
BILLINUDGEL HOTEL



STOP IN TO TRY THE BEST CHEESECAKES IN TOWN THAT JUST HAPPEN TO BE VEGAN

1 WILFRED ST, BILLINUDGEL (02) 6680 1148

Harvest
NOW SERVING BREAKFAST

Thursday - Monday
8am til 11am

@HARVESTNEWRYBAR



BEACHSIDE BUBBLES
A UNIQUE POP UP EXPERIENCE

A boutique pop up food & drink experience is coming to tempt your taste buds.

Located cnr. The Coast Road & Headlands Dr, Skennars Head NSW.
Each Saturday afternoon from 21st September to 7th December 24,
1-6pm - weather permitting.

Tables, chairs, picnic blankets available.

Come for one drink, some food or settle in for the afternoon with friends.

A range of bubbles, beer, wine, mixed and non-alcoholic drinks available to purchase (no byo), along with tasty food.

A lazy Saturday afternoon overlooking Sharpes Beach.

Parking opposite Sales Centre, enter via grassed area behind the large parkland or from Headlands Drive.

Keep an eye on the socials on the day, as is weather dependent.

Join us for one or all twelve sessions!

We look forward to sharing this delightful location with you - cheers!

FB: facebook.com/beachsidebubblesnsw
Insta: instagram.com/beachsidebubblesnsw
#beachsidebubbles @beachsidebubblesnsw



GLOBAL RIPPLE OPSHOP

Thrift your heart out at the newly expanded Global Ripple Charity Opshop! With eclectic treasures for everyone, a great atmosphere, and now even more space full of treasures galore, it's the perfect place to spend a few hours and find some amazing bargains while supporting a local charity.

You can shop knowing that every penny spent is directly supporting people in need.

If you would like to support Global Ripple, drop off your preloved items, donate furniture and spread the word.

**Open Monday-Saturday
9am-4:30pm
Located 2 Grevillea St,
Byron Bay
(behind Bunnings)**



THE BOUTIQUE FAMILY LAWYERS

Choosing the right law firm is crucial when navigating the complexities of family law matters. Richardson Murray is a boutique law firm practicing exclusively in family law. The team at Richardson Murray consists of experienced family lawyers who understand that family issues like divorce, parenting arrangements, property

disputes and domestic violence can be emotionally overwhelming.

At Richardson Murray, anything less than excellence is not good enough. Their client service and client care are unsurpassed, going above and beyond to ensure results and client satisfaction. The team at Richardson Murray are dedicated to ensuring that your family law matters are

resolved so that you can close the chapter, turn the page, and commence the next chapter in your life.

**www.richardson-murray.law
Contact: info@richardson-murray.law
Telephone: 07 5619 5933
Ground Level, 42 Parkes Avenue, Byron Bay**

MY GEEK MATE

AI is all over the media, but according to Mark the Chief Geek at My Geek Mate global HQ in Ballina - there is a lot of hype and what there is even more of is AI FOMO (Fear Of Missing Out). This has resulted in a scourge of software worldwide from the biggest players to the smallest. Some of it could be more useful!



However, the good news is that yes, AI is truly awe-inspiring and worth your while.

Mark suggests you go to your favourite web browser and type 'ChatGPT' into your search engine and viola welcome to a new world!

Come and sit down with Mark for personal tech support and tuition.

**1/53 Tamar St, Ballina
Email: mark@mygeekmate.com.au
Phone: 0431 122 057**

SECOND HAND SATURDAY THE REGION'S BIGGEST DAY OF GARAGE SALES!

Over the past 19 years, Second Hand Saturday has become ingrained amongst our North Coast community as a way to promote reuse over landfill, by keeping unwanted items in circulation. The current cost-of-living crisis also ensures those doing it tough this year have an opportunity to find free items, swaps and bargains at a fraction of the cost.

Hosted each year by member North Coast Councils' and North East Waste, the event is set to hit our region again next Saturday, 21 September, with hundreds of garage sales being held simultaneously on the day. From video production equipment to sporting goods including stand up paddleboards, the garage sales will offer something for everyone.

To register your garage sale and get an online listing for free or to find treasures and make your garage sale trail, go to www.secondhandsaturday.com.au

NE Waste performer, RE-Source and Education Coordinator, Linda Tohver love a good garage sale!



PRO BONO CAFE

The 11th Pro Bono Cafe will be held on 2 Mondays - 16 & 23 September 2024 at the Ginn Jinn Cafe, 3/11 Marvell Street, Byron Bay.

It is a free legal service with no strings attached. The Tyndall team, including two solicitors, will be on hand to advise on clients' legal problems. A formal written legal advice is sent following the conference.

The areas of law include: immigration, crime, business, contracts, mortgages, leases, wills and civil disputes, local planning and liquor licence plus others. The client feedback on these events is very good, with often a 95% vote of 'definite benefit' or 'worthwhile experience'.



No appointments are needed just drop in and have a free coffee while you wait.

tyndall.net.au

Left to right: Tamika Crewes, Jonathan de Vere Tyndall, Emma Ellis and Angie Delgado.
Photo by Lily

KEEPING THE HEART AT MAGENTA

At Magenta Community Services, their main goal is to keep the heart in all that they do. 'We keep our participants and their goals at the forefront of the way we do business and the way that we provide our services to help support them to live their best lives.'



The Magenta team is made up of passionate professionals, deeply connected to their local community with one common goal, to make a difference in the lives of others.

As an accredited NDIS provider, they can work with you, to support you, to reach your goals, at home and in the community.

They also provide Disability Support Services, Plan Management, Support Coordination and My Aged Care services.

For more information contact Kate Higgins and her team.

02 5657 9159 or
email: info@mcsnsw.com.au

NORTHERN RIVERS RECYCLED BUILDING MATERIALS - COMING SOON TO LISMORE

Northern Rivers Recycled Building Materials is the salvage and recycling business for Northern Rivers Demolition & Asbestos (NRDA). Being in an industry that generates a lot of waste, Samuel from NRDA felt a huge responsibility to relook at the way the demolition industry deals with its waste that could otherwise be repurposed and recycled.

Having grown up in Alstonville near big scrub remnants, Company Director Samuel Northfield has a big passion for the old rainforest that once was. 'Most of the hardwood coming out of the homes we demolish most likely came from the Big Scrub so by recycling these timbers, it's our way of paying respect and not only that, it's brilliant timber that you just can't get anymore.'



Showroom opening date TBA, follow our instagram "@northernriversrecycledbuilding for more updates or call Samuel on 0403 427 262

SPRING HAS ARRIVED AT THE LOCAL BYRON BAY

The Local Byron Bay is bringing spring straight to you, with a super colourful and eclectic mix of giftware, homewares, apparel, vinyl, accessories and more. Picnic goodies, beach towels, spring homewares and apparel are in store now!

You can't miss this kaleidoscopic shop on Fletcher Street, located right next to Combi Cafe with colour bursting at the seams and out onto the sidewalk.

Pop in and shop iconic Australian brands like Dinosaur Designs, Merry People, Sage & Clare, Boom Shankar, Kip & Co and Skwosh.



Open Mon-Sun 9:30am-4:30pm
5/21-25 Fletcher St, Byron Bay
@thelocal.stores
thelocalstores.com.au

PROTECT OUR KOALAS: YOUR ACTION CAN SAVE LIVES



Since June, over 19 koalas have been killed on local roads, with a staggering 80% of them not surviving. Friends of the Koala need the community's help to change this.

By reducing speed, drivers can significantly lower the chances of an accident. This is breeding season, and koalas are most active at dawn and dusk, so staying alert during these times is crucial.

If a koala is hit or spotted on the road, call the Friends of the Koala rescue hotline immediately on 6622 1233, day or night. Save this number on your phone. Staying vigilant can keep our koalas safe.

friendsofthekoala.org/
6622 1233

COMFORT AND FUN ON THE NORTHERN RIVERS RAIL TRAIL

Award-winning local business Valley E-Bikes is redefining exploration on the breathtaking Northern Rivers Rail Trail.

Only 40 mins from Byron Bay you will find Valley E-Bikes in Murwillumbah with their unique fat tyre ebikes, and wide padded seats providing a comfy, fun, high-quality ride perfect for all abilities letting you conquer the 48km trail with ease.

Soak in the fresh air and stunning scenery on what Valley E-bikes say are Australia's most comfy and fun bikes. Whether you're a seasoned cyclist or a curious newcomer, Valley E-Bikes

unlocks a world of eco-friendly adventure. It's the perfect recipe for a memorable escape, leaving you energised and yearning for more.

With over 250 5-star reviews Valley E-bikes is the go-to for the entire family on the Rail Trail.

Visit www.valleyebikes.com.au or call 0439318934 to book



BUSINESS SUCCESS TIPS & TRICKS FROM INDUSTRY EXPERTS!

Byron Community College is wrapping up their Term 3 courses with some new **essential business workshops** to either get you started, or to take your business to the next level.

You'll be learning from local marketing, strategy and software experts who specialise in their field.

- Facebook for Business: Weds 18 September (*online workshop*)
- LinkedIn for Business: Thurs 19 September (*online workshop*)
- Instagram for Business: Fri 20 September (*online workshop*)
- Empowering Aspiring Entrepreneurs: Fri 27 September (*this workshop is FUNDED**)
- Xero Essentials: Fri 20 September (*one day in person workshop*)

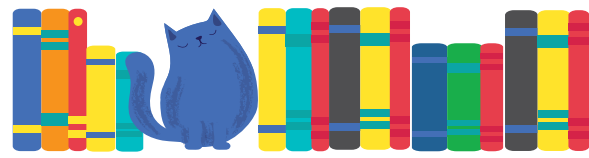
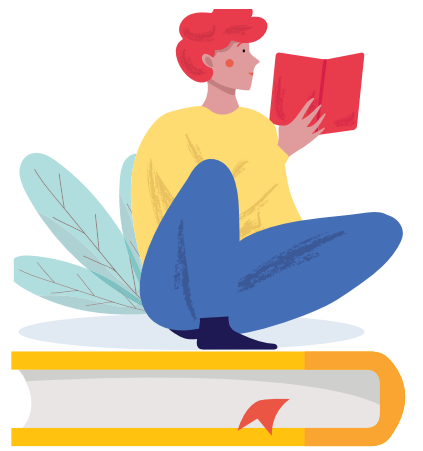
Don't miss out!

You can learn more and ENROL here www.byroncollege.org.au/course-category/business or call 6684 3374

*for eligible students. This training is subsidised by the NSW government.



ENROLMENTS



BYRON COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Byron Community Primary School (BCPS) is dedicated to fostering curious, creative, connected, and committed individuals. With a strong focus on the whole child, BCPS provides a nurturing environment where every student can grow and thrive with an emphasis on freedom with responsibility. The school offers unique programs like Beach and Marine School, where students engage in hands-on learning about the ocean and environment down at the beach, and Skate School in the upper primary years, promoting confidence, resilience and risk taking. BCPS also emphasises the importance of the arts,

offering specialised art, drama, and music lessons to encourage creativity and self-expression. Built on a foundation of community connection, the school takes pride in its close-knit relationships with families, ensuring a supportive journey for every student. BCPS is committed to creating lifelong learners and values the role of community in shaping well-rounded, engaged individuals ready to face the future. Enquire today.

53 Tennyson Street, Byron Bay
02 6685 8208
www.bcps.org.au

HINTERLAND CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

At Hinterland Christian College students develop their relational and collaborative skills, whilst building independence and resilience. Learning is centered around connection – connecting students relationally with their peers and staff, as well as connecting the students interests and personal voice with real-world issues to foster authentic and meaningful problem-solving skills. We focus on developing the personal character and creativity of each student, building their skills to think critically, communicate and collaborate effectively. We promote a love of learning that transcends the classroom, filling the students with purpose.

114 Main Arm Road, Mullumbimby
02 6684 1559
hinterland.nsw.edu.au



24/25 CRICKET SIGN ON

JUNIORS 11/9
 SENIORS 12/9

FREE BBQ

4 – 5.30pm
 Stan Thompson Oval,
 Brunswick Heads



WANT TO PLAY CRICKET

Mullumbimby Brunswick Cricket Club are seeking new players for both their junior and senior teams. Juniors 5–16 years old, Seniors 2nd grade and 3rd/4th grade. Juniors 'come and try' day September 11 and seniors sign up September 12, from 4 to 5:30pm at Stan Thompson Oval, Brunswick Heads. Free BBQ provided. Come give it a go! Go Bobsledders!

bvsportsassociation@outlook.com



Aetaomah is a small school nestled in the foothills of Wollumbin, a short bus ride from Murwillumbah and Uki. We offer Kindergarten to Year 8 Education based on the principles of Rudolf Steiner. We are currently accepting enrolment applications for Classes K-6 in 2024 and beyond. Please contact the school for more information.

contact@aetaomah.nsw.edu.au | www.aetaomah.nsw.edu.au
 0266 797 255 | 2486 Kyogle Road, Terragon via Uki, NSW 2484

AETAOMAH SCHOOL

Aetaomah is a small school nestled in the foothills of Wollumbin, a short bus ride from Murwillumbah and Uki.


Offering kindergarten to year 8 education based on the principles of Rudolf Steiner. Aetaomah educate through the arts and imagination, by making things, enjoying outdoor activities and agriculture. In this way they creatively inspire the inquiring mind, delicately foster the child's emerging thinking, care for the physical and emotional health, while nurturing social and leadership skills.

Uniting imagination with the sciences, expressed through the visual and performing arts, the syllabus and

values are brought to life through wonder and creativity. This is the heart of the educational approach, enriched by the science, art and practicality of biodynamic agriculture with two gardens worked by the children, and outdoor activities.

Currently accepting enrolment applications for classes K-8 in 2024 and beyond.


2486 Kyogle Road, Terragon via Uki
contact@aetaomah.nsw.edu.au
02 6679 7255
www.aetaomah.nsw.edu.au



Curious, Creative, Connected and Committed
Unlocking Individual Potential

Discover our exceptional academic curriculum, vibrant arts programs, and commitment to nurturing remarkable individuals. Contact us today to learn more.

www.bcps.org.au
 53 Tennyson St, Byron Bay
 Ph: 6685 8208
enrolments@bcps.org.au




Hinterland CHRISTIAN COLLEGE Freedom to Flourish

If you want your children to flourish academically, socially, and emotionally, Hinterland Christian College is the best school for you.

Within our safe and environmentally sustainable facilities you will find a dedicated team of high-performance teachers that are passionate and committed to growing socially responsible and well-educated human beings.

Book a tour of our school by visiting our website at hinterland.nsw.edu.au or call 02 6684 1559



HARMONY & Improvisation

5 WEEK COURSE

TUESDAYS Register Here
OCTOBER
1ST - 29TH
 EWINGSDALE HALL
 6:00pm to 7:30pm
 5 Week Pack \$100
 or Casual \$30/class
 All Level Singers Welcome

Maddy Monacelli
 0 4 3 7 2 7 4 3 5 4
maddy@singtothrive.com

Private Tuition
 All Ages - Ocean Shores & Byron Music School
 Wkly Singing Circles
 Thursday 1pm-2:15pm
 Ocean Shores

HOLISTIC VOICE COACH
 PAST AGE CLEARING & HEALING PRACTITIONER
www.singtothrive.com

ENROLMENTS



UNLOCK YOUR VOCAL POTENTIAL THIS OCTOBER

Transform your singing and find your powerful voice with our five-week course, every Tuesday in October from 6pm to 7:30pm. Master somatic singing to enhance pitch, rhythm, timing, and unlock your unique tone. Learn how to train your ear to create beautiful harmonies and explore improvisation techniques for spontaneous musical expression.

The Sing to Thrive Method helps you break free from limiting beliefs, embrace creative freedom, and build confidence while reducing stress and improving your overall well-being.

Alternatively join the weekly Thursday Singing Circles in Ocean Shores from 1pm to 2:15pm.

Contact Maddy to register on 0437 274 354.

APPRECIATION FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

Vistara Primary School is a not-for-profit independent primary school that has been operating since 1987. Situated in the beautiful rural surrounds of Richmond Hill, seven kilometres from Lismore NSW, part of Bundjalung Country.

Its guiding principles, founded by P.R. Sarkar (1921-1990), are based on the understanding of the deep interconnectedness between self, others and the natural environment. These principles are integrated into the Australian Curriculum (ACARA – Australian Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Authority) and the NESA NSW Syllabus (NESA – NSW Education Standards Authority), to create an approach to education that aims to develop each student's potential, catering for different styles of learning.

New enrolments for kindergarten in 2025 and 2026 are open. Contact the school to make arrangements for a personal tour.

02 6624 4127

www.vistara.nsw.edu.au

FEDERAL COMMUNITY CHILDREN'S CENTRE

Federal Community Children's Centre is a not-for-profit preschool and long day care service catering for children aged 2-5. A place where children have the chance to nurture a love for nature and build friendships.

Rated as exceeding National Quality Standards. This is a reflection of the high quality care and education provided.

Partnering with parents and the wider community to provide a service where children can experience diverse social, cultural and educational activities in the context of learning through play. The service consists of a dedicated toddler and preschool room with an impressive shared outdoor play area. The

educational program includes a daily transition-to-school program.

Nestled in the Byron hinterland, the centre is home to the famous Bush Tucker Living Classroom.

Federal Community Children's Centre acknowledge the value and importance of traditional custodians of the area, the Widjabul Wia-bal people. They partner with various members of the Bundjalung community through regular engagement, and respect and honour traditions, backgrounds and culture. Enrolments can be completed via our website and tours booked via our email.

www.federalccc.com.au

EUREKA PUBLIC SCHOOL

Come and discover the magic of Eureka Public School, a smaller school making a big difference in the lives of students by providing high quality education with a more personalised learning experience.

Students are the central focus of the school. With strong parent and community input, working together to provide engaging learning environments where students are encouraged to become creative, confident and considerate learners.

Together with the parent Garden Club, students are creating a sustainable garden from composting through to cooking their own food. Student voice

is valued and encouraged, with the current SRC creating a myriad of projects with their Junior Landcare grant.

Eureka Public School is very proud of their students' achievements, from debating in the Premiers Debating Challenge, to sporting achievements at both zone and regional levels.

Eureka Public School also hosts a playgroup every Wednesday morning where everyone is welcome.

Come and discover the magic of a small school in a beautiful setting.

02 6688 4272

www.eureka-p.schools.nsw.gov.au



EUREKA PUBLIC SCHOOL KINDERGARTEN 2025

Caring Environment

Individual Learning

High Expectations

Community Values



Kindergarten Orientation Wednesday Mornings 9-11am

Session 1 – October 30
Session 2 – November 6
Session 3 – November 13

A structured, fun and engaging program to ensure your child has a great start to school!
Please contact our school office on 66884272 to register your child.



nurturing the children of our community,
exceeding the national quality standard.

2025 Enrolments

Free Preschool options
Long Day Care for 2-5 year olds

www.federalccc.com.au



2023
EXCELLENCE IN
EARLY CHILDHOOD
EDUCATION AWARDS
FINALIST

Home of the Bush Tucker
Living Classroom



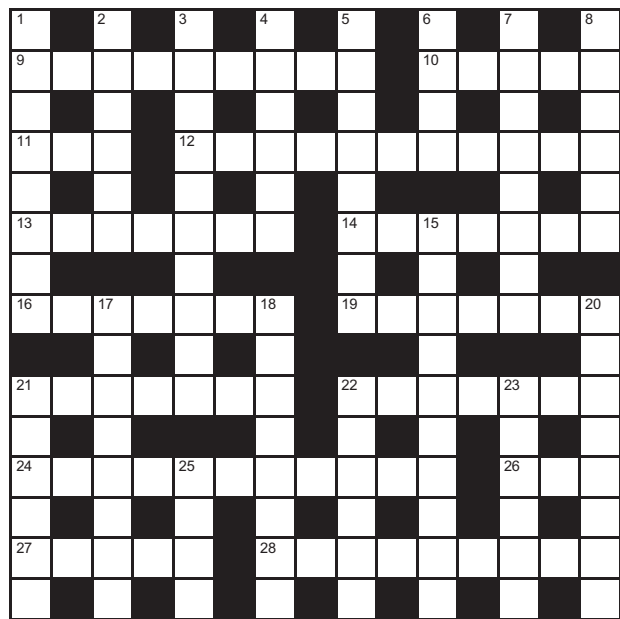
Vistara Primary School

Enrolment open for Kindergarten 2025 & 2026

Enquiries welcome

www.vistara.nsw.edu.au
Phone 02 6624 4127
visps@bigpond.net.au

41 Richmond Hill RD, Richmond Hill, Via Lismore



Cryptic Clues

ACROSS

- 9. Lunatic crack about it being good for you (9)
- 10. Belief in company boxing Pinot Noir? (5)
- 11. Spell in hotel with lover of former days (3)
- 12. One step hack expressed in a way peculiar to IT jargon (11)
- 13. Echo detected in dodgy radios of support crew (7)
- 14. Worker, at last giving up cricket, initially takes on golf – in Turkey! (7)
- 16. Writer heading out, with boundless opportunities to improve (7)
- 19. Test set about old play, such as *King Lear* (7)
- 21. Fruit sent out to Capri (7)
- 22. Revered lady at party tucked into heavenly food (7)
- 24. Penny, travelling girl, has pictures of trips to holy places (11)
- 26. Everybody's heard of this tool (3)
- 27. Cut neckwear off at both ends! (5)
- 28. Chem lab procedure is a form of attrition (9)

DOWN

- 1. Leading by a small distance, university withdraws from debate (2,6)
- 2. Inability to control passenger vehicle caught by heavy drinkers (6)
- 3. Melodramatic, quiet! and strangely ironic (10)
- 4. Endless debate about field sport (6)
- 5. Women's party summit adopts new name (3,5)
- 6. Untouchables to be served at court! (4)
- 7. Early morning call on live reel getting hacked (8)
- 8. Bird about to turn into dog (6)
- 15. Mark Bloom showing up with a biscuit (6,4)
- 17. Penny's involved with chuckers, runners and jumpers (8)
- 18. Guess what's left? I'm in! (8)
- 20. Yankee aristocrat has lousy gin (8)
- 21. View old records set up in part of play (6)
- 22. Great sleepwear Naomi's beginning to drop for Mike (6)
- 23. Vitamin B starts to neutralise iodine and calcium in nerves (6)
- 25. Hare savaged bird (4)

Quick Clues

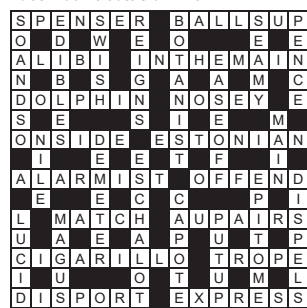
ACROSS

- 9. Nourishing (9)
- 10. Formal statement of beliefs (5)
- 11. Bewitch; something that delivers bad luck (3)
- 12. Language of geeks (11)
- 13. Members of a crew that manages gear, transport etc for musicians (7)
- 14. Greedy eater (7)
- 16. Improve (7)
- 19. Sad event (7)
- 21. Roundish orange-coloured fruit, *prunus armeniaca* (7)
- 22. Rock singer who played Eva Peron in a movie (7)
- 24. Journeys undertaken by religious devotees (11)
- 26. Pointed instrument for boring small holes (3)
- 27. Sculpt; slice (5)
- 28. Procedure for measuring the strength of a solution (9)

DOWN

- 1. Commanding (2,6)
- 2. Impaired balance or coordination (6)
- 3. Theatrical; affected (10)
- 4. Flat circular object or image (6)
- 5. Celebration held for a woman about to be married (3,5)
- 6. Ones in dice games, cards etc (4)
- 7. Sound of a bugle at daybreak to rouse soldiers (8)
- 8. Small spaniel used to retrieve shot game birds (6)
- 15. Crisp sweet biscuit rolled into a cylinder, often filled with cream (6,4)
- 17. Track athletes (8)
- 18. Reckon (8)
- 20. Young animal (8)
- 21. Feature; outlook (6)
- 22. Powerful (6)
- 23. Nicotinic acid (6)
- 25. Flightless South American bird (4)

Last week's solution #19



Soapbox

Are we the fossil fools?

Mandy Nolan

I was sitting having breakfast in a quiet Bellingin cafe when a woman comes towards me with a newspaper she's selling for \$5. She tells me it's about all the things that are happening that the government keeps from us. I know what it will say, but I pay \$5 and have a look anyway. And a chat.

I ask her 'Do you trust the government?' She says 'No'.

I say: 'Neither do I.' But for different reasons. I am reading the Quarterly Essay by Dr Joelle Gergis: *Highway to Hell* and wondering how the fuck we've let it get this bad. We're not going to achieve the 1.5% target and at the current rate that threshold could be breached by 2028. With coastal sea rise, Mullumbimby will be beachfront in under a decade. If we're not taken out in a heatwave first.

I glance at the stories in the newspaper I've just bought. From chemtrails to paedophile rings to climate denial to alien landings and beyond. It's a terrifying landscape of fear and mistrust. Story after story about people being lied to, or manipulated, or coerced. Yet the biggest culprit in this science-free sea is missing in action. Fossil fuels. The very people who turned up to last year's United Nations climate change conference to defend the interests of corporations, while delegates tried to work out how to stop people in the Pacific region drowning.

Follow the money. Isn't that what they say? The big money. The Australia Institute calculated in the 2022/23 financial year Australian Federal and State governments gave the fossil fuel industry \$11.1 billion in subsidies. No one is watching the gloved hand that slips into the public purse and massages political outcomes to suit their industry and investor's whims. Why aren't conspiracists calling out fossil fuels? Is it because they're the authors, if not the major beneficiaries of the misinformation?

They are the perpetrators of our demise. With their fancy talk of 'offsets' and 'net zero', as they continue to mine and frack and extract. Dr Joelle Gergis says we need a renewable economy to deliver not 'net zero' but 'real zero'. Even language has been coerced to smooth over the danger. Don't plant a



Why aren't conspiracists calling out fossil fuels? Is it because they're the authors, if not the major beneficiaries of the misinformation?

tree to sure up your polluting rights, just stop polluting.

And we are in serious danger. I asked Founder of the Australia Institute and author of *Living Hot* Clive Hamilton if we're fucked. Not a scientific question I know. But an important one. And one that cuts through the noise. Because let's be honest, it's what we want to know. How bad is it really? He paused and said 'we're fucked, but we're not completely fucked'. Wow. OK. A slither of hope. A moment to break the hold fossil fuels has on us before it's too late. Leave our violent abusive dominating partner before they kill us. Right now we're still being gaslit. Literally and figuratively. It's a relationship built on coercive control.

We stay with fossil fuels because it's what we know. Because we're dependent. We've been lied to. We're told we can't survive on renewable energy but in

reality we could be a renewable energy super power. These are lies the fossil fuel industry feeds us so our governments keep spending our billions making climate change worse. It's nuts. Oh, and both major parties take fossil fuel donations too. And then are expected to make climate-informed decisions about ending the industry?

How is that not seen as corruption?

But for some reason right now we aren't really talking about climate change. And that has me very worried.

We're in a cost-of-living crisis right now, Yes.

But soon with the catastrophic impacts of climate change, we will be in an actual living crisis.

And it doesn't matter if you don't believe it. Because it will happen regardless of whether you do or not.

And will the fossil fuel industry be here to hold our hands and pay for the damage they've done?

Nope. They will have fucked off to Mars and left us for dead.

House You hosts *Highway to Hell: Are We Stuck in a Climate Action Cul-de-sac?* Hosted by Chels Hood Withey, with keynote by Dr Joelle Gergis, and a panel discussion with Isabelle Reinecke, Michelle Lowe, Royce Kurlmelovs and me. And of course, community conversation with you! Tuesday 23 October at Brunswick Picture House at 6pm. Tickets on their website.



STARS BY LILITH

Mercury spends the next couple of weeks in efficient, analytical Virgo, correcting mistakes, repairing misunderstandings and implementing the lessons of its recent retrograde...



VIRGO THE VIRGIN

ARIES: This week's sun/Mercury alignment is terrifically auspicious for exfoliating your energy body. For shaking off any numbingly repetitive habit patterns. For getting stuck into the to-do list: addressing unread messages, streamlining operating systems, decluttering your wardrobe, starting that detox, prepping a leaner, greener menu.

TAURUS: Rituals are actions intentionally repeated for the purpose of moving us beyond the distractions and obligations of everyday life into a deeper presence. This week's Taurus-friendly star chart supports finding creative new routines that make daily tasks more pleasurable and ordinary moments more important.

GEMINI: With your planet guide Mercury moving from expressive, opiated but not entirely objective mode to its most alert, focused and detail-oriented transit, your train of thought becomes streamlined for maximum effectiveness. This week's mantra from the cosmos? Workout, eat clean and get yourself a healthy routine.

CANCER: If celestial energetics unlock a Pandora's box of fault-finding this week, what's the upside? Making course corrections, lifestyle refinements and generally getting sorted before the seasonal rebalance of spring equinox. Rather than letting the critics work your nerves, treat them as the irritating grit that produces the pearl of wisdom.

LEO: While Venus is at her most endearing in your personal zone of communication, lean into that big lion charm and let others take care of the details so you can do what you do best this week. Thinking beyond self-interest to the bigger picture is your service to the wider community right now.

VIRGO: Your ruling planet Mercury moving into Virgo, one of its home signs, mandates against doing absolutely everything yourself, so delegate or hire help. Review current strategies through a wide-angle lens, and stay open to at least considering a variety of options, without necessarily acting on them.

LIBRA: Mercury's making creative compromise the name of this week's game: finding a formula that works for everyone concerned, and if that's also aesthetically pleasing, even better. With Venus holding court in your sign there's just one caution: your inner perfectionista. Send it on a little holiday.

SCORPIO: This week's celestial suggestion is to pay it forward, with appreciative treats, to reward your staunch supporters for their loyal care and friendship. To resist giving advice unless requested. To ask yourself before speaking: Is it true? Necessary? Kind? To slow down and enjoy life's small cameo moments.

SAGITTARIUS: While it's great to have a well-purposed plan backed by facts and figures, it's also easy to get overwhelmed with practical details, and without the passion, what's the point? Let this week's moon in your enterprising and wide-angled sign put that signature visionary spring back in your step.

CAPRICORN: Despite the unsolicited opinions of instant experts, most people are genuinely trying to 'get it right'. But if pressure peaks this week, Venus advises physical release: hitting the gym, walking in nature, mad dancing, whatever works – plus shuffling your schedule so there's time to rest and recuperate.

AQUARIUS: Communicator Mercury in its most careful and caring placement helps you ask the questions this week that direct interpersonal conversations towards mutually beneficial solutions. As always, resolution lies in dancing the fine line between what's exciting and untried and what's weathered the test of time.

PISCES: Virgo season is a pleasantly grounding cycle for Pisceans to refill their inner reserve tanks. This transit can add logic and reasoning to your already awesome intuition, but as you know, to really hear this guidance you'll need to screen out a whole lot of beeps, tweets, distractions and disruptions.

Love Byron Bay

With so much on offer, support local!



Byron Business Awards 2024

The Uniquely Byron Business Awards 2024 are now open for applications!

Since 2023, the Byron Business Awards have recognised local businesses that have contributed to making the Byron Shire a great place to do business. From home-based ventures and ambitious start-ups to leading manufacturers and logistics companies, the awards celebrate the diverse achievements across our vibrant business

community. Apply now to gain recognition for your business as a valuable contributor to the local economy and join us in honouring the exceptional enterprises that are driving success and making Byron Shire an outstanding place to do business.

If your business is interested in becoming a Uniquely Byron Business Awards 2024 sponsor please email info@byronbaychamber.com for more information and a copy of their sponsorship pack.

Be part of the celebration!

BYRON YOGA STUDIO

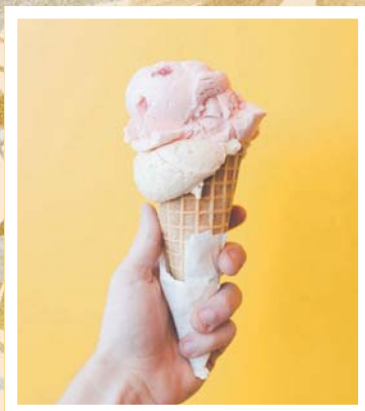
Byron Yoga Studio classes are now LIVE on Mindbody so you can book easily online and via the app. Plus, they've doubled the number of classes with existing and new teachers.

To celebrate, they're offering one month of unlimited yoga for just \$50!

Mats and props will be provided, and all levels and ages are warmly welcome.

Book now!

6 Byron St, Byron Bay (upstairs)
02 6685 8327
byronyoga.com/yoga-classes/



BELLA ROSA

Gelato every day in Byron Bay!

This family-run business has been making authentic Italian gelato in the heart of Byron Bay since 1999.

Every day the Bella Rosa team makes small batch gelato using the freshest, natural and local ingredients, including a large and delicious vegan range.

Gelato, sorbet, sundaes, espresso, milkshakes, smoothies.

@bellarosagelateria
02 6685 8805
11 Jonson Street, Byron Bay



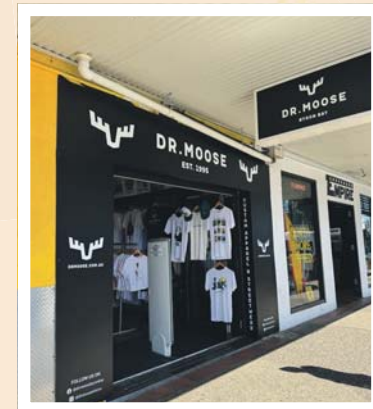
NO BONES

Indulge in the culinary magic of No Bones, Byron Bay's own plant-powered gem!

As a locally-owned business, they're all about supporting the community by sourcing fresh delights from nearby producers. Their menu boasts innovative, cruelty-free dishes that redefine plant-based dining.

Join them on a flavoursome adventure, celebrating the vibrant spirit of Byron Bay while savouring locally crafted goodness. #BRUSSELSNOTBEEF

11 Fletcher Street, Byron Bay
nobones.co



DR. MOOSE

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JIMMY'S COFFEE

Experience exceptional coffee at Jimmy's Coffee, located in Suffolk Park and Byron Bay. Enjoy Rosso beans, roasted in Melbourne. They offer diverse drinks, caffeine-free alternatives like medicinal mushroom chocolate and Japanese matcha lattes, plus fresh pastries, crumpets and jaffles. They're dog-friendly, predominantly outdoors, with monthly markets and live music. Drop in for a coffee, stay for a chat.

Instagram @jimmys.coffee
125 Jonson Street, Byron Bay
17 Clifford Street, Suffolk Park



YOFLO

Yoflo - Fun Fresh and Creative

Yoflo is a Premium Frozen Yoghurt & Dessert bar, opened on the streets of Byron in 2011 it fast became an iconic brand for travellers and locals alike.

Like your favourite summer holiday, it's all about bringing you bold flavours, good vibes and a splash of sunshine everyday!

Closing for a quick 'refurb', 9th to 14th September and re-opening in readiness for the school holidays!

Open daily 9am til late
3 / 19-23 Lawson Street, Byron Bay
@yoflo



ENZO & TOTO

Enzo & Toto, a long-standing local independent business in Byron Bay, has been owner-operated for 20 years.

They offer carefully selected pieces designed to be cherished for years, featuring brands like Diega Paris, AG denim, and American Vintage.

With personalised shopper services, explore their elegant collection in-store or online.

02 6685 5266
Shop 2/15-19 Fletcher St, Byron Bay
www.enzoandtoto.com

seven

seven days of entertainment

Volume 39 #14
11-17 September, 2024
Editor: Eve Jeffery
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From joy to sorrow

Luke's songwriting is a natural extension of his life. He sings all the shades from joy to sorrow. His songs express the richness of life, personal relationships, our connection with each other, the sea and the environment. Luke plays guitar with great precision and aesthetic feel, soaring lead solos and great grooves.

See Luke on Saturday from 6pm at the Ballina RSL Boardwalk.

Eclectic Selection

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK



✿ Born the son of a preacher, **Dan Hannaford's** love of music started with listening to hymns and playing the drums in church on Sunday mornings as a child. By his teens he found rock 'n' roll and formed his first punk band straight out of high school. He began writing songs and fronting pub rock gigs around Northern NSW.

Hannaford has earned a reputation as one of the hardest working, independent solo musicians on the East Coast.

Thursday from 7.30pm at The Rails, Byron Bay. Free show.

✿ From the traditional garage in the Byron Shire comes **Ratmongers** – **Brian Foster, Karlin O'Halloran** and **Liam Groves** – a powerful next-generation three-piece raised on nineties grunge.

Friday from 7pm at Howl & Moan Records, Byron Bay. Free show.

✿ The Blues Club is a showcase of blues bands and blues artists from the Northern Rivers and beyond. Punters have the chance to experience some of the best live music for free.

This Sunday, FBI (Federal Blue's Inc.) features Mr Tommy Cuyler on 'electrifying' guitar and vocals, and Mr Fabulous, Steve Foster on harmonica. Of course, Slim Pickins is a blues stalwart with his old-style blues, bringing slide and Dobro to the Sunday Sessions.

Sunday, 2pm at the Ballina RSL. Free show.

✿ **The Babe Rainbow** party is coming to Hotel Bruns on Friday.

They are bringing with them **Bananagun** and **Single Celled Organism** for a crazy, jazzed-out jambalaya of gems. Gather your friends, this will be a night to remember.

Friday from 6pm at Hotel Brunswick. Tickets: \$25 from moshtix.com.au.



✿ **Acid Bleed** is a local five-piece jazz band playing a mean blend of hot gypsy swing, jazz infused with a spicy Latin groove. Their repertoire includes classic jazz standards and also plucky and funky originals.

This Saturday will be Acid Bleed's third fundraising concert for Northern Rivers for Refugees to help refugee families settle in the region.

Supper provided, but BYO friends, drinks and nibbles, have a blast and maybe a dance.

Saturday from 6.30 pm at Tintenbar Hall. Tickets: \$25/\$20 from events.humanitix.com/swing-to-acid-bleed.

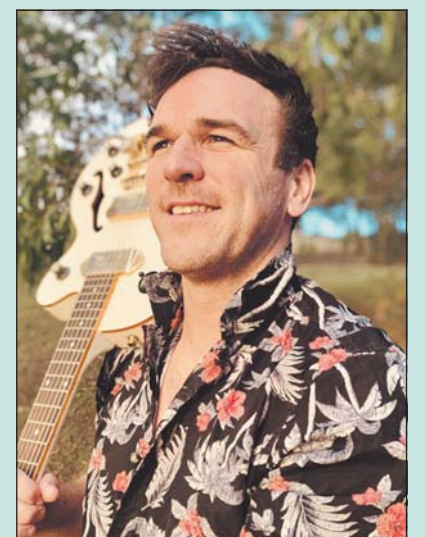
✿ **New Earth** is a one-day multicultural event dedicated to connection, sharing, healing, growth, transformation and celebration.

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

Saturday from 9am at Murwillumbah Showground. Tickets: \$30 at the gate (First Nations people free).

✿ Germinated from the fertile artistic soils of the Northern Rivers, **Hashimoto's Cactus** is the lovechild of **Stephen Lovelight**, whose original power rock, blues, pop, trio project, with **Hans Lovejoy** and **Michael Di Cecco**, explores psychedelic sounds of '60s pop and blues – yet, they sound modern enough not to be pigeon-holed into nostalgia. Alongside some serious heavy rock riffing and catchy choruses, there are moments of folk and country too. They also ambitiously rip into Hendrix and Zeppelin tunes.

Saturday from 10pm at The Northern, Byron Bay. Free show.



✿ **Tommy Memphis** is a musical chameleon, seamlessly transitioning between rock 'n' roll and country, while sprinkling in other genres for good measure.

Attending one of Tommy's shows is more than just a musical experience; it's an uplifting journey that will leave you feeling better about yourself—a trademark of his exceptional talent. Don't miss the chance to witness Tommy Memphis at Morning Melodies – it's a musical encounter that will leave you smiling from ear to ear!

Friday from 9.30am at the Ballina RSL. Tickets: \$17.50 from ballinarl.com.au.

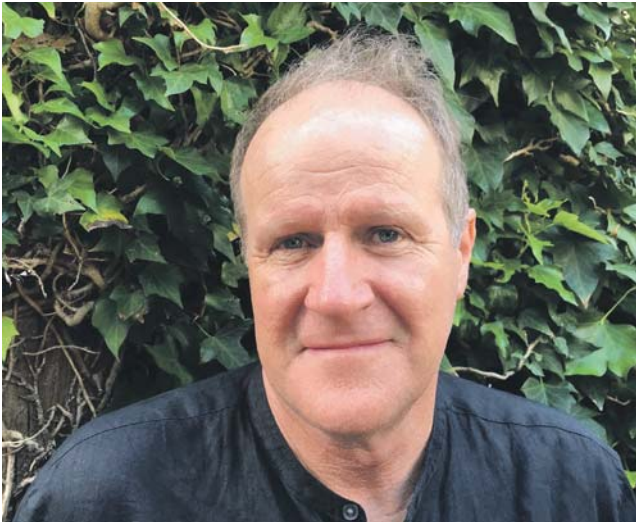
Get down with some of BayFM's finest DJs for a night of deep dancing and good vibes October 19, 6pm - midnight.

Seven outstanding BayFM DJs at the Byron Theatre for six hours of fun for the frequency.

Support Byron's own and only independent radio station as you boogie to Pob, Si Clone, Gez, Rahel, Lustr, Spacie and Naked Ninja.

DJ Spacie
Naked Ninja
Pob
Si Clone B2B Gez
Rahel B2B Lustr

BYRON BayFM 99.9 FM



Conquer or Conserve

Join former Byron councillor Patrick Morrissey this Saturday 'In Conservation' with Susan Tsicalas of the Brunswick Valley Historical Society Inc. for the launch of his new book *Conquer or Conserve – Goonengerry and the Byron hinterland: A Local, Social and Reflective History*.

This book is a feast of storytelling, painstaking historical reconstruction and reflections spanning deep time to the present in the beautiful and unique Byron hinterland.

it provides a wide-ranging portrait and gripping chronology, vividly depicting conquest, settlement and the creative tensions at play around co-existing in the Anthropocene.

Supplanting millennia of Aboriginal occupation and intimate connection of the people with sacred lands, European settlement began in the second half of the 19th century as cedar-getters and dairy farmers penetrated the northern limits of the Big Scrub possessing and conquering ancient forests and refashioning the land in accord with a very different set of priorities.

The village of Goonengerry 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. Village and farm life interacting with a panoply of diverse – and at times conflicting – cultures.

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 recently Native Title.

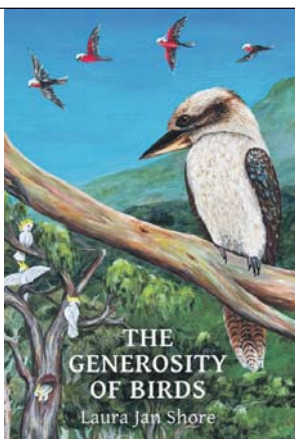
The book is an engrossing narrative of historical power and passion told through the lens of forgotten and everyday people.

Available at local bookshops, Federal shop and online at pjmpublications.com.au.

Patrick Morrissey 'In Conservation' with Susan Tsicalas at Goonengerry Public School's 125 Year Celebrations on Saturday at 11am.

Dangerously Poetic Press launches *The Generosity of Birds*, by Laura Jan Shore. Sunday at 3pm. Brunswick Heads RSL, featuring Karl Farren, All Welcome!

dp Dangerously Poetic Press



They've got soul

Soul'D Australian Soul has been playing in Northern NSW for over 15 years, and are the biggest live music rock band, featuring ten musicians – the ensemble showcases a stellar lineup, including a three/four-piece horn section, talented female and male vocalists, and a rhythm section that keeps the groove alive.

Soul'D has a versatile repertoire, performing classics from legendary soul, Motown, funk, blues rock bands, and RnB artists. From the iconic tunes of James Brown, Aretha Franklin, and The Supremes to the soulful sounds of Stevie Wonder and Earth, Wind & Fire, Soul'D pays homage to the greats with passion and precision.

In addition to timeless classics, Soul'D also delivers a mix of hits



Photo by Lyn McCarthy

from Joe Cocker, Chicago, Blood, Sweat & Tears, The Blues Brothers, and The Commitments. The band reproduces well-known and beloved tunes from an outstanding era in music, using arrangements transcribed and arranged from the

original recordings – Soul'D brings a unique and electrifying energy to every performance – this music will get you moving on the dance floor.

You can see Soul'D on Saturday at The Rails.

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MULLUMBIMBY SHOWGROUND

Three days of joy, fun and laughter with world-class circus, sensational cabaret, delicious food and engaging workshops!

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MILK CRATE CIRCUS
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13 EGGS
SPACE BETWEEN

BRUNSWICK PICTURE HOUSE
CHEEKY CABARET

FESTIVAL WEEKEND 4 - 6 October

NATIONALCIRCUSFESTIVAL.COM

NAUGHTIES, PUNKS AND PLANET LAVA!

The National Circus Festival lights up Mullumbimby Showground in October. With awe-inspiring acrobatics, world-class circus, and sensational cabaret, the festival offers something for everyone, celebrating the diversity and magic of the world of contemporary circus.

The festival features 40 acts over three days in four venues. *Seven* fired off some questions to three of the highlight acts – Astrid Rot, YUCK Circus, and Milk Crate Circus.



Astrid Rot of Die Roten Punkte

Germans aren't exactly known for their sense of humour, why are you so funny?

I know so many funny Germans! I think it's cultural and perhaps our humour is a little misunderstood. Also, I am a serious rock 'n' roll musician, (recently seen rocking out at Glastonbury), but it is true and audiences are often laughing at my brother Otto and I when we're onstage as our band, Die Roten Punkte. I think it's because they are so stimulated by the power of our music. It can affect people in amazing ways. I mean a song like 'Ich Bin Nicht Ein Roboter' (I Am A Lion) is a big premise that can overwhelm audiences and have them dancing in the aisles like very excited lions.

You're hosting the Kids Comedy Gala – what can kids expect from you as host?

I will NOT be doing a roly poly or any kind of circus tricks, last time I did that I pulled a muscle deep inside and the kids ended up jumping on me and poking me with muddy sticks. I will be keeping the show on track and staying as far away from small people as I can, I might even have a cage built around me for protection and have a helicopter waiting nearby for a quick getaway.



YUCK Circus performing Naughties

If YUCK was a 2000s girl band, what would you sound like and name some of your hits?

A mix of punk and terrible girly pop – so maybe like No Doubt? Featuring platinum singles of 'Every Boy Band Track Mixed into One', or 'Dolly Doctor' (feat. Pitbull).

Things from the noughties you wish would come back, and things you hope never return?

Hot list: Inflatable couches, diamantes on everything, Tamagotchis, and long brown skirts over flared jeans.

Not list: Typing everything 'LyKe thIS'

YUCK prides itself on championing the female voice across the live performance space – is Australia getting better at this, or do we still have a long way to go?

We'd say it's a work in progress. There is great representation of female voices across the industry, but there's still room to be better. We don't have the stats, but we can tell ya – it still feels like a fight to us! We're lucky to have audiences nationally and internationally embrace our work, so fingers crossed there can be more like it out there.



Corie Hurry of Milk Crate Circus

If you could have any animal as a personal assistant, which one would you choose and why?

An octopus of course. What better ambassador to my new alien friends than a creature from Earth with tentacles, just like them. They're super smart and surely great at multitasking with all those arms, plus I'm sure they would look absolutely ridiculous dressed in a space suit.

What can little audiences expect from Planet Lava?

Space explorer Corie is leaving the earth behind. On a journey to discover the perfect new place for humans to live, Corie finds himself on a planet where everyone is an alien and the ground is covered in lava!

You can see YUCK, Astrid and Corie next month in Mullum at the National Circus Festival.

YUCK Circus – Naughties (Friday, October 4 and Saturday, October 5).

Astrid Rot – Kids Comedy Gala (Saturday, October 5)

Milk Crate Circus – Planet Lava Family Show (Saturday, October 5 and Sunday, October 6)

The National Circus Festival is on at the Mullumbimby Showground from October 4 to 6. Tickets are affordably priced, with 1-day passes for children at \$25 and adults at \$70. For more details and tickets, visit: www.nationalcircusfestival.com.

CINEMA



A nod to Winx

A Horse Named Winx is a documentary that tells the inspirational story of one of our greatest athletes. At the height of her fame, Winx became known as the 'people's horse' – an Australian icon who transcended her sport – joining the realms of fellow legends like Cathy Freeman and Sir Donald Bradman. Although the world's greatest racehorse retired in 2019, she's still breaking records. Winx's only foal sold this year at auction for a world record \$10 million. During her reign, huge crowds descended on racetracks across Australia to witness the Phar Lap of the modern era pull off the impossible – 33 straight wins – a feat unlikely ever to be repeated.

Winx's final race was watched by millions worldwide. From the willful foal who was hard to catch, to a plain leggy teenager who kept to herself and turned her back on affection, Winx became a front-page phenomenon, and in the process thrust her trainer Chris Waller and jockey Hugh Bowman onto the world stage. But away from the cameras, coping with the enormous pressure of maintaining the winning streak was testing Team Winx to the limit.

A Horse Named Winx goes behind the sports headlines and spectacular victories to reveal the unforgettable spirit of a champion, who away from the racetrack faced her biggest battle and once again refused to be beaten.



Double the fun, and juice!

Oscar-nominated, singular creative visionary Tim Burton and Oscar nominee and star Michael Keaton reunite for *Beetlejuice Beetlejuice*, the long-awaited sequel to Burton's award-winning *Beetlejuice*.

Beetlejuice is back! After an unexpected family tragedy, three generations of the Deetz family return home to Winter River. Still haunted by *Beetlejuice*, Lydia's life is turned upside down when her rebellious teenage daughter, Astrid, discovers the mysterious model of the town in the attic and the portal to the afterlife is accidentally opened. With trouble brewing in both realms, it's only a matter of time until someone says Beetlejuice's name three times and the mischievous demon returns to unleash his very own brand of mayhem.

Keaton returns to his iconic role alongside Oscar nominee Winona Ryder (*Stranger Things*, *Little Women*) as Lydia Deetz and two-time Emmy winner Catherine O'Hara (*Schitt's Creek*, *Corpse Bride*) as Delia Deetz, with new cast members Justin Theroux (*Star Wars: Episode VIII – The Last Jedi*, *The Leftovers*), Monica Bellucci (*Spectre*, *The Matrix films*), Arthur Conti (*House of the Dragon*) in his feature film debut, with Emmy nominee Jenna Ortega (*Wednesday*, *Scream VI*) as Lydia's daughter, Astrid, and Oscar nominee Willem Dafoe (*Poor Things*, *At Eternity's Gate*).

Both these films screens at Palace Byron Bay and Ballina Fair Cinemas.

GIG GUIDE

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



WEDNESDAY 11

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **ALLY PALMER**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **LUKE BENNETT**
- BYRON THEATRE 11AM 6.30PM **DRAMAWORKS PERFORMANCES 2024**,
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6PM **DAVID MCREIDIE**
- BANGALOW BOWLO 7.30PM **BANGALOW BRACKETS OPEN MIC**
- ELTHAM HOTEL 5PM **IRISH FOLK JAM**
- THE LEVEE, LISMORE, 5.30PM **'CREATURE' ART EXHIBITION OPENING**

THURSDAY 12

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **DAN HANNAFORD**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 7PM **GRXC WITH FRIENDS WHARVES & FRANKI KANEUR**
- BYRON THEATRE 8.30PM **HOT DOGS PROBABLY AREN'T REAL**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6PM **OLE FALCOR**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 6PM **HARRY NICHOLS**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 5PM **WOMEN'S GIVING CIRCLE ANNUAL PITCH NIGHT**
- THE LEVEE, LISMORE, 5PM **NEIL MCCANN**
- THE SUPPER CLUB AT THE BOWLO, LISMORE, 7PM **THE SUPPER CLUB SOUL BAND**
- LISMORE SHOWGROUND 7.30PM **NORPA PRESENTS WILDSKIN**
- LENNOX HOTEL 8PM **THURSDAY JAM NIGHT**

FRIDAY 13

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **Z-STAR TRINITY**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **NANA'S PIE + JEROME WILLIAMS BAND**
- NORTH BYRON HOTEL 4PM **DJ SHANE COLLINS**
- GITANA SPANISH BAR, BYRON BAY, 5.30PM **RAISSA HARI**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6.30PM **JOCK BARNES + DJ OREN SELECTA**
- HOWL & MOAN, BYRON BAY, 7PM **RATMONGERS**

- EWINGSDALE HALL 7PM **OUTDOOR ECSTATIC DANCE WITH DJ PEACH**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 6PM **BABE RAINBOW + BANANA GUN AND SINGLE CELL ORGANISM + DJ WHO'S WHO**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 7PM **IMPOSSIBLE DREAMS**
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM **DJ PAPA BITCHO**
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY, 8PM **KRAPPYKOE WITH JESS**
- CLUB LENNOX 7PM **LUKE YEAMAN**
- LENNOX HOTEL 9PM **THE DETECTIVES**
- BALLINA RSL BOARDWALK 10AM **MORNING MELODIES WITH TOMMY MEMPHIS**
- CHERRY STREET SPORTS CLUB, BALLINA, 7PM **BEN & VIC**
- EVANS HEADS BOWLO 5PM **JON J BRADLEY**
- LISMORE CITY BOWLO 2PM **LEMA + NRC YOUTH JAZZ ORCHESTRA**
- LISMORE SHOWGROUND 7.30PM **NORPA PRESENTS WILDSKIN**
- THE LEVEE, LISMORE, 7.30PM **DJ TRANQKARMA**
- THE CHANNON TAVERN 7PM **THE FUNNY GOATS BAND**
- MURWILLUMBAH SERVICES CLUB 6PM **GLENN SHIELDS, 6.30PM DR BAZ**
- THE CITADEL, MURWILLUMBAH, 7PM **VANESSA MITCHELL**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 5PM **MEL SCARLETT**
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL 7PM **COOLY SALUTES – POWDERSTREET, FROG STOMPERS & REARVIEW MIRROR**

- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM **DJ CORQUI**
- GOONENGERRY PUBLIC SCHOOL 11AM **PATRICK MORRISEY IN CONSERVATION WITH SUSAN TSICALAS**
- TINTENBAR HALL 6.30PM **BALLINA REGION FOR REFUGEES FUNDRAISER – ACID BLEED**
- CLUB LENNOX 7PM **NATHAN KAYE TRIO**
- CHERRY STREET SPORTS CLUB, BALLINA, 8PM **PINK ZINC**
- LISMORE SHOWGROUND 7.30PM **NORPA PRESENTS WILDSKIN**
- MURWILLUMBAH SHOWGROUNDS 9AM **NEW EARTH**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH HOTEL 5PM **DUNE RATS + FIDLAR**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 5PM **BLAKBOI**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE STAGE 8PM **ELVIS – AN AMERICAN TRILOGY**

SUNDAY 15

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **MARSHALL OKELL DUO**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 4.30PM **LATE FOR WOODSTOCK + DJ REIFLEX**
- NORTH BYRON HOTEL 2PM **DJ KAI NOON**
- YULLI'S, BYRON BAY, 3PM **YULLI'S OPEN MIC**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 7PM **MARK CHAPMAN**
- THREE BLUE DUCKS, EWINGSDALE, 12.30PM **THE MAJESTIC NIGHTS + LUKE YEAMAN**
- BANGALOW HOTEL 2PM **OLE FALCOR**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 4PM **DAN HANNAFORD BAND + ANDY JANS BROWN**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 4PM **MZAZA**
- BRUNSWICK RSL 3PM **BOOK LAUNCH 'THE GENEROSITY OF BIRDS' DANGEROUSLY POETIC & KARL FARREN**
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 3PM **DJ DARLAN**

SATURDAY 14

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **SOUL'D**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 3PM **CAMERON ALEXANDER DUO + CINNAMON SUN + IZAEAH MARSH BAND**
- NORTH BYRON HOTEL 1.30PM **ZAC OF ZAC & JOE, 5PM DJ WILL CONNELL**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6.30PM **DAN HANNAFORD + HASHIMOTOS CACTUS**
- BANGALOW HOTEL 2PM **LEO HOOKE**

- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY, 3PM **OPEN MIC WITH THE SWAMP CATS**
- TINTENBAR HALL 3.30PM **TINTENBAR UP FRONT**
- BALLINA RSL BOARDWALK 2.30PM **SUNDAY BLUES CLUB SESSIONS FEAT. FBI**
- WHARF BAR, BALLINA, 3PM **GUS**
- ELTHAM HOTEL 2PM **MATT ARMITAGE**
- THE CHANNON TAVERN 2PM **THE LONESOME BOATMAN**
- UKI MARKET 8AM **FELICITY LAWLESS AND PAUL A. GEORGE**
- SALTBAR, KINGSCLIFF, 1PM **INO PIO**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE SHOWROOM 2.30PM **LITTLE PATTIE, DIGGER REVELLE, JADE HURLEY, DINAH LEE AND LUCKY STARR**
- SOUNDLOUNGE, CURRUMBIN, 3PM **THE RADIATORS**

MONDAY 16

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **FINTAN**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 7PM **MARK USHER**

TUESDAY 17

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **JOCK BARNES**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **AKOVA**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6.30PM **MARSHALL OKELL**
- LISMORE SHOWGROUND 7.30PM **NORPA PRESENTS WILDSKIN**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE SHOWROOM 11AM **SIMONE WADDELL**

WEDNESDAY 18

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **JON J BRADLEY**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 12.30PM AND 5.30 **BRUNSWICK HEADS PUBLIC SCHOOL MUSICAL – ESCAPE FROM MOVIE MANIA**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6PM **INO PIO**
- BANGALOW BOWLO 7.30PM **BANGALOW BRACKETS OPEN MIC**
- LISMORE SHOWGROUND 7.30PM **NORPA PRESENTS WILDSKIN**

Session Times

Thu, September 12 – Wed, September 18 108 Jonson St, Byron Bay

SPECIAL SCREENINGS JUNGKOOK: I AM STILL (PG) Wed: 8:00PM	5:40PM. Sat: 10:45AM, 1:00PM, 3:00PM, 5:40PM. Sun: 10:45AM, 1:00PM, 3:50PM, 6:00PM	BLINK TWICE (MA15+) Thurs, Fri: 3:30PM, 8:15PM. Sat: 8:15PM. Sun: 2:00PM, 6:45PM. Mon, Tues, Wed: 3:30PM	Thurs, Fri, Mon, Tues: 11:00AM, 3:30PM, 5:40PM. Sat: 3:30PM, 5:40PM. Sun: 10:50AM, 6:00PM. Wed: 11:00AM, 3:30PM, 6:15PM
LA SCALA: MÈDÉE (PG) Sun: 10:00PM. Wed: 11:00AM	INSIDE OUT 2 (PG) Daily except Sat, Sun: 11:00AM. Sat: 11:20AM	BONNARD, PIERRE & MARTHE (MA15+) Daily except Sun, Wed: 11:30AM, 2:00PM, 4:30PM, 7:00PM. Sun: 11:15AM, 1:10PM, 4:10PM, 6:45PM. Wed: 11:30AM, 2:00PM, 4:30PM, 6:20PM	KNEECAP (MA15+) Daily except Fri, Sun: 1:10PM, Fri: 1:10PM, 8:30PM. Sun: 12:45PM
NT LIVE: PRIMA FACIE (PG) Sun: 3:00PM	THE WILD ROBOT (PG) ADVANCE SCREENINGS Sat: 10:45AM, 1:15PM, 2:20PM, 6:10PM. Sun: 11:10AM, 1:30PM, 4:20PM	MIDAS MAN (PG) Daily except Sat, Sun: 11:10AM	SPEAK NO EVIL (MA15+) Thurs, Fri: 1:40PM, 3:20PM, 6:10PM. Sat: 1:40PM, 3:10PM, 8:20PM. Sun: 12:45PM, 3:45PM, 5:45PM. Mon, Tues: 1:40PM, 3:20PM, 7:40PM. Wed: 1:40PM, 3:50PM, 7:40PM
THE CRITIC (PG) ADVANCE SCREENINGS Wed: 1:00PM	ALL FILMS ALIEN: ROMULUS (MA15+) Thurs, Fri: 2:10PM, 8:15PM. Sat: 8:15PM. Sun: 10:40AM. Mon, Tues, Wed: 2:10PM	DEADPOOL & WOLVERINE (MA15+) Thurs, Fri, Sat: 2:15PM, 5:00PM, 7:40PM. Sun: 1:50PM, 6:00PM. Mon, Tues: 2:15PM, 5:00PM, 6:20PM. Wed: 2:15PM, 5:00PM	MIDAS MAN (PG) Daily except Sat, Sun: 11:10AM
USHER: RENDEZ-VOUS IN PARIS (PG) Thurs, Fri, Sat: 3:30PM	BEETLEJUICE (PG) ADVANCE SCREENINGS Thurs, Fri, Sat: 11:10AM, 1:30PM, 3:50PM, 5:00PM, 6:15PM, 7:15PM, 8:30PM. Sun: 10:30AM, 1:30PM, 3:50PM, 4:30PM, 6:15PM	IT ENDS WITH US (PG) Thurs, Fri, Sat: 11:15AM, 4:45PM, 7:40PM. Sun: 11:10AM, 4:45PM, 7:20PM. Wed: 4:45PM, 7:20PM	TOUCH (PG) Daily except Sun: 11:30AM, 7:30PM. Sun: 10:30AM, 6:45PM
FAMILY FILMS BOOKWORM (PG) Thurs, Fri, Mon, Tues: 1:10PM. Sat: 12:50PM. Wed: 1:30PM	DESPICABLE ME 4 (PG) Thurs, Fri, Mon, Tues: 1:30PM. Sat: 11:00AM	KID SNOW (MA15+) Thurs, Fri, Mon, Tues: 11:15AM, 4:45PM, 7:20PM. Wed: 4:45PM, 7:20PM	THELMA (PG) Daily except Sun: 11:00AM, 4:00PM, 6:10PM. Sun: 10:30AM, 6:10PM
HAROLD AND THE PURPLE CRAYON (PG) ADVANCE SCREENINGS Daily except Sat, Sun: 11:00AM, 1:00PM, 3:00PM,			THE WILD ROBOT (PG) ADVANCE SCREENINGS Sat, Sun: 10:15AM, 12:20PM, 5:10PM

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

PALACE CINEMAS

Session Times

Thurs, September 12 – Wed, September 18 47/84 Kerr St, Ballina

ALIEN: ROMULUS (MA15+) Daily except Sat, Sun: 4:50PM, 7:15PM. Sat, Sun: 7:20PM	HAROLD AND THE PURPLE CRAYON (PG) NFT Daily except Sat, Sun: 10:10AM, 1:00PM, 5:00PM. Sat, Sun: 10:00AM, 12:30PM, 5:00PM	To receive the absolute lowest ticket price and special offers, be sure to join our Free Movie Club!
BEETLEJUICE (PG) NFT Thurs, Mon, Tues, Wed: 12:20PM, 3:00PM, 5:15PM, 7:30PM. Fri: 10:00AM, 3:00PM, 5:15PM, 7:30PM. Sat, Sun: 12:00PM, 2:40PM, 5:15PM, 7:30PM	IT ENDS WITH US (PG) Daily except Sat, Sun: 10:20AM, 12:00AM. Sat, Sun: 2:30PM	
BOOKWORM (PG) Daily except Sat, Sun: 12:10PM	THE WILD ROBOT (PG) ADVANCE SCREENINGS Sat, Sun: 10:15AM, 12:20PM, 5:10PM	SCAN TO JOIN FOR FREE
DEADPOOL & WOLVERINE (MA15+) Daily except Sat, Sun: 2:20PM, 7:00PM. Sat, Sun: 2:20PM, 7:10PM	THELMA (PG) Thurs, Mon, Tues, Wed: 10:00AM, 2:40PM. Fri: 12:30PM, 2:40PM. Sat, Sun: 10:10AM	

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
*NFT = No Free Tickets

Book Online at palacecinemas.com.au

PALACE CINEMAS

ECHO CLASSIFIEDS – 6684 1777

CLASSIFIED AD BOOKINGS

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

AT THE ECHO HEAD OFFICE

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

Village Way, Stuart St, Mullumbimby

EMAIL ADS

Display (box ads) and line classifieds, email:

classifieds@echo.net.au

Ad bookings only taken during business hours: Monday to Friday, 9am–5pm. Ads can't be taken on the weekend. Account enquiries phone 6684 1777.

DEADLINE TUES 12PM

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

RATES & PAYMENT

LINE ADS:

\$17.00 for the first two lines

\$5.00 for each extra line

\$17 for two lines is the minimum charge.

DISPLAY ADS (with a border):

\$14 per column centimetre

These prices include GST.

Cash, cheque, Mastercard or Visa

Prepayment is required for all ads.

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All makes & models.
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SUNRISE: Room in 3 bdrm townhouse. \$260pw incl bills. No pets. 66856760.

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POSITIONS VACANT

KITCHENHAND. Must be available Mon, Thurs, Fri and Sat. Email resume to mullum@otherjoint.com

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TAXI DRIVERS WANTED

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

PUBLIC NOTICES

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

THE SILVER FOX

The last hurrah!
17 years since the live WAKE of our friend

TONY NARRACOTT

Remembering a moment!
This Friday 13th at Byron Golf Club 2pm – 5pm. All friends welcome

‘Thou shalt not bear false witness’

9th Commandment
Deuteronomy



My correct email address is
pro-voca@pro-voca.org
Website address is
pro-voca.org

AGMs

BRUNSWICK SLSC AGM: at Hotel Brunswick on 22 Sept 2024 at 11am. Nominations for all positions open. Renew membership first. All welcome. Voting in the new constitution.

PROF. SERVICES

DENTURES

LOOK GOOD

FEEL GOOD

Free consultation. SANDRO 66805002

HEALTH

HAWAIIAN MASSAGE

Ocean Shores, Michaela, 0416332886

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20 years local experience

- 19 inch chipper • Stump grinding
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Fully insured • Free quotes

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**SAT 14 & SUN 15 AND
SAT 21 & SUN 22 SEPTEMBER**

FROM 9.00AM

CLEARANCE OF EXCESS NURSERY STOCK

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Byron Bay & Surrounding Areas

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21st September 2024

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Dedicated and reliable member to join our fabulous team in our small but busy law firm.

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Start 1 October 2024.

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Smart Solutions



Disability Support Worker

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Casual Level 3 Position.

Potential for more hours and career progression for right person.

Work with a dynamic team that has a positive impact on clients and communities.

For the full list of selection criteria and how to apply go to: byronherbs.com.au/jobs

Applications close 9.00am Tues 17th Sep 2024

COMMUNITY HOT BRUNCH



FIRST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH

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

EVERYONE WELCOME

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

10am to 12pm
In the Ballina
Presbyterian Hall



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

Classifieds

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MUSICAL NOTES

GITARS, RECORDS, HI-FI
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IN MEMORIAM

GEORGIA MADELEINE ENTER
22/06/1994-13/09/2013
My Darling Georgia



Another year closer to me holding you again and never letting you go. I look for you in the night sky and occasionally see you shoot across lighting it up like you lit up all of our hearts and minds with your passion for life and for living. My heart beats for the love of you and stills for the sorrow of your leaving us so soon. You live in my soul and are forever inspiring me to be better, to be true, to love fully and deeply without ever knowing the outcome. You are in my gifted sunrise and my satisfied sunset, in every atom of every beautiful day. My love and your precious essence never diminishes. The fire still burns Georgia, though the flames dance less without your vivacious luminescence bringing their uniqueness to life. All of us are less without you but also more because of you. Your one precious life gifted us all so much in its short burn. I will find you again as soon as time is called.
Love Always,
MUM

ONLY ADULTS

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

KRYSTAL ADULT SHOP
Large variety of toys and lingerie
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66856330

IN MEMORIAM cont.

ALAN WALTER MCPHAIL
March 22, 1942 – August 13, 2024



Peacefully passed away. Alan leaves his loving wife, Susan; his beloved children Brett, Gavin and Joanne, his daughters-in-law Sally and Miranda, his son-in-law Mark and his beloved grandchildren Mikayla, Anthony and Finn. Alan's memorial service was held at the Uniting Church in Byron Bay, and he was laid to rest at Byron Bay Lawn Cemetery.
Forever in our hearts,
and now in God's care.

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)
11	W	5:48 / 17:36	10:14 / 0:01	0037 0.99 1523 1.38	0632 0.49 2228 0.60
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	0014 0.37 1127 0.30
16	M	5:42 / 17:39	15:32 / 4:22	0641 1.25 1911 1.81	0054 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
19	TH	5:38 / 17:40	18:59 / 6:11	0900 1.59 2117 1.71	0245 0.04 1450 0.08
20	F	5:37 / 17:41	20:09 / 6:46	0945 1.65 2158 1.56	0322 0.05 1542 0.16
21	SA	5:36 / 17:41	21:19 / 7:23	1033 1.67 2240 1.37	0400 0.09 1637 0.27
22	SU	5:35 / 17:42	22:29 / 8:05	1123 1.65 2325 1.18	0437 0.17 1741 0.39
23	M	5:34 / 17:42	23:37 / 8:52	1218 1.59 0019 1.01	0518 0.28 1857 0.50
24	TU	5:32 / 17:43	0:45 / 9:45	1325 1.52 0101 0.90	0607 0.39 2026 0.55
25	W	5:31 / 17:43	0:40 / 10:43	1442 1.47 0144 0.90	0714 0.48 2154 0.53

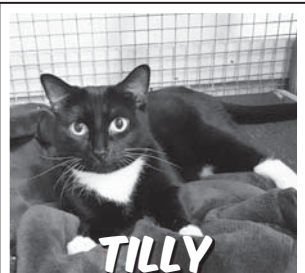
Data sourced from Bureau of Meteorology. Times adjusted for Daylight Savings when applicable.

PETS



CALLIE
Callie is a 11 month old, Kelpie X. She is a lively and intelligent pup who is always ready for an adventure. She would make a delightful companion for an active family on a rural property.
M/C # 953010005802882
Location: Murwillumbah
For more information contact Yvette on 0421 831 128
Interested? Please complete our online adoption expression of interest.
<https://friendsofthepound.com/adoption-expression-of-interest/>

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



TILLY
TILLY is a cute little black and white 4 year old female who came into the shelter with her sister, Lyla, because her household had too many cats! She's very precious and really wants someone to love her.

All cats are desexed, vaccinated and microchipped.
No: 900161002267308. **PETS FOR LIFE**

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petsforlifeanimalshelter.net

SARI

Sari is simply gorgeous! A dark tortie girl who has a sweet nature & piercing eyes. She would love home where she feels safe and doted on. Sari has really started to come out of her shell & her sweet personality is starting to shine bright.

To meet Sari and our other cats and kittens, please visit the Cat Adoption Centre at 124 Dalley Street, Mullumbimby.

OPEN: Tues 2.30-5.30pm | Thurs 3-5pm | Sat 10am-12 noon | Call AWL on 0436 845 542 | Like us on Facebook.
Animal Rehoming Organisation Number R251000222

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AWL NSW Rehoming Organisation Number: R251000222



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

MONTHLY MARKETS

1st SAT Brunswick Heads	0418 400 415	5th SUN Nimbin	0475 135 764
1st SUN Byron Bay	02 6685 6807	5th SUN Lennox Head	02 6685 6807
2nd SUN The Channon	02 6688 6433	FARMERS/WEEKLY MARKETS	
2nd SUN Lennox Head	02 6685 6807	Each TUE New Brighton	0424 168 672
2nd SUN Chillingham	0428 793 141	Each TUE Organic Lismore	
2nd SUN Coolangatta		Each WED Murwillumbah 7-11	0415 328 672
2nd SUN Tabulam		Each WED Nimbin 3-6pm	0418 940 653
3rd SAT Mullumbimby	02 6684 3370	Each WED Newrybar Hall 4-7pm	
3rd SAT Murwillumbah	0415 328 672	Each THU Byron 8-11am	0414 595 169
3rd SAT Salt Village Market, Casuarina		Each THU Lismore 2.30-6.30pm	0459 309 223
3rd SUN Federal	0433 002 757	Each FRI Mullum 7-11am	0424 168 672
3rd SUN Uki	0487 329 150	Each FRI Evans Head 2.30-6.30	0428 291 068
3rd SUN Ballina	0422 094 338	Each SAT Bangalow 8-11am	0414 595 169
4th SAT Evans Head	0432 275 765	Each SAT Duranbah Rd 8-11am (Tropical Fruit World)	
4th SAT Kyogle Bazaar	kyoglebazaar.com.au	Each SAT Uki 8am-1pm	02 6679 5438
4th SUN Bangalow	02 6687 1911	Each SAT Lismore 8.30-11am	
4th SUN Nimbin	0475 135 764	Each SAT Wadeville 8am-12pm	
4th SUN Murwillumbah	0415 328 672	Each SAT Byron Twilight Market 4pm Oct-Apr	
4th SUN Coolangatta (in a 5 Sunday month)		Each SUN Ballina 7-11am	

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

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

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

Community at Work



On The Horizon

DEADLINE NOON FRIDAY

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

GCAT

The Green and Clean Awareness Team's monthly Dunecare Day is on Sunday, 15th September from 9am to 12 noon, meeting in front of the Beach Cafe at Clarkes Beach. We plant in the sand dunes from Clarkes Beach to Main Beach. From 12 noon to 1pm, enjoy a delicious free BBQ and be in the draw to win one of four excellent prizes. It's good fun. Inquiries to Veda 668 57991 or Peter 0488 715 565.

First Fleeters

Anyone interested in their convict family history from any of the many fleets who journeyed here are very welcome to join our group Fellowship of First Fleeters - Northern Rivers Chapter. This includes spouses and friends of any descendants interested in history. We meet every two months and our next meeting is on Sunday, 22 September at the Cherry Street Sports Club, Ballina at 10.30am. If you are interested please contact Roddy Jordan on 6687 5339 or via email hollysbuddy1@bigpond.com.

AGM Business Murwillumbah

The Annual General Meeting of Business Murwillumbah will be held on Thursday, 24 October at the Murwillumbah Services Club, 5.30pm to 7pm Inquiries: info@businessmurwillumbah.com.au.

Frog friendly gardens workshop

Richmond Landcare is running a 'frog friendly gardens' workshop on Thursday, 19 September from 5 to 8pm at Lismore Rainforest Botanic Garden Education Centre. Register at <https://events.humanitix.com/frog-friendly-gardens-workshop>.

BV VIEW

The Brunswick Valley View hen Club luncheon meeting is on 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. Any members who can not attend please phone Wenda Lawrence on 0449 563 580 or email: wjhunt@yahoo.com.au no later than Monday before our meeting. Any members not staying for lunch, payment will be \$2.00 payable. 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.

Bruns CWA Market Day

Come along to the Bruns CWA Market Day on Saturday September 14 between 8am and 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.

End-of-Life Choices

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

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 to 8.30pm info@amitayus.org.au or register with Byron Community College.

Byron seniors program

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

Tough Guys book club

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

Bruns 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. 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.



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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 adcop@echo.net.au.

The Echo Service Directory is online – www.echo.net.au/service-directory

ACCOUNTS & BOOKINGS: 6684 1777

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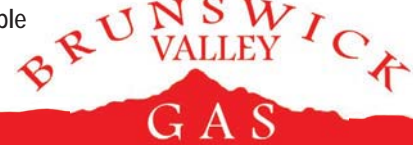
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Beautiful and grand old residence Kings Ridge, 113 Kings Road, Federal

An outstanding property offering an enchanting, historic circa early 1900's original residence on the ridgeline of Kings Road, Federal.

Sensitively renovated, this home is one-of-a-kind, positioned on an elevated, gently sloping five-acre site with glorious views across the Byron Bay hinterland. Restored original features add warmth and character to the home and include polished hardwood floors, decorative timber fretwork, leadlight windows, and high ceilings that lend grace and elegance. Generous-sized rooms that open to deep wraparound verandahs emphasise the home's excellent connection to the outdoors.

Well suited to the north coast's subtropical climate, Kings Ridge features a beautiful main living room with a soaring five-metre-high ceiling and bi-fold doors that

open to verandahs with sweeping hinterland views. A centrally located kitchen is well-equipped with a large island bench and plenty of storage, and is connected to a large dining room.

There are four double bedrooms, three bathrooms and a guest room with an ensuite. The main bedroom includes a walk-in robe, ensuite and opens to a private spa deck.

The home is perfect for hosting guests, and for those with families, as it has a private, second living space or studio on the lower level that includes a bathroom, kitchenette and access to a large covered entertaining deck.

A triple garage and a three-bay



is a sought-after hinterland location with a vibrant, creative community. Within good proximity to the beaches of Byron Bay and Brunswick Heads and within easy reach of the Ballina/Byron and Gold Coast airports, this glorious character home celebrates the charm of the past and is the ideal base from which to enjoy the wonderful Byron Bay hinterland.

Agent: **Tim Miller** 0411 757 425
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carport ensure there is plenty of parking. Fruit trees, open green spaces and forest provide the home with complete privacy, and

create a sanctuary-like feel.

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5 EWANDALE CLOSE, CLUNES



Price Guide: \$1,100,000 - \$1,200,000
Open: Sat 14 Sept, 11:00am - 11:30am

3 bedrooms 2 bathrooms 1 car 5163m²

A private home on over an acre

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33 GOREMANS ROAD, EUREKA



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5 bedrooms 2 bathrooms 4 cars 2ha

'Coolamon' - a modern country classic

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22 RYCES DRIVE, CLUNES



Price Guide: \$900,000 - \$1,000,000
Open: Sat 14 Sept, 9:30am - 10:00am

3 bedrooms 1 bathroom 1 car 1081m²

A peaceful cottage with a lovely, leafy view

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1 WICKHAM PLACE, CLUNES



Price Guide: \$1,100,000 - \$1,200,000
Open: Sat 14 Sept, 10:15am - 10:45am

3 bedrooms 1 bathroom 1 car 1000m²

A beautiful, original cottage with unique style



47 CURRAWONG WAY, EWINGSDALE



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4 Beds 1 Living 3 Bath 2 Car

4615M²

- Designed by award-winning architect Scott Carpenter
- Expansive block with an elevated northerly aspect and landscaped gardens
- Designed with feng shui principles, optimising energy flow throughout the light-filled interiors
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2 bedrooms, 1 living area, 1 bathroom, 1 car space

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- Shared BBQ facilities in a gated garden area and a secure lock-up garage
- 100 meters from Main Beach and 200 meters from town

PRICE | \$1.3M - \$1.4M
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\$419,000



This well-maintained home on a large block offers new owners a charming alfresco outdoor deck, with privacy blinds as well as a fully-fenced private courtyard; both delightful spots to relax and enjoy a new relaxed lifestyle.

Open plan living/dining area featuring raked ceilings, tiled flooring, an attractive bay window and a split-system air conditioner.

The large kitchen was renovated just three years ago and has ample storage cabinet and bench space; including a breakfast bar.

Generous size master bedroom features a walk-in-robe, ceiling fan and split-system air conditioner. Second bedroom has built-in wardrobe and ceiling fan. In addition, there is a small office/study off the bedroom. Modern bathroom, plus second guest toilet.

Adjoining the home is a carport suitable for two cars as well as two garden sheds at the rear of the carport.

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- 1/14 Keats Street, Byron Bay. Thurs 10-10.30am
- 5/20-21 Pacific Parade, Lennox Head. Thurs 10-10.30am
- 160 Reardons Lane, Swan Bay. Thurs 11-11.30am
- 22 Karalauren Court, Lennox Head. Thurs 11-11.30am
- 1/34 Lawson Street, Byron Bay. Thurs 2-2.30pm
- 1 Settlement Road, Main Arm. Fri 10-10.30am
- 1363 Main Arm Road, Upper Main Arm. Fri 11-11.30am
- 5/37-39 Bottlebrush Crescent, Suffolk Park. Fri 11-11.30am
- 1/6 Sallywattle Drive, Suffolk Park. Fri 12-12.30pm
- 15/24 Scott Street, Byron Bay. Sat 9-9.30am
- 20/11 Constellation Close, Byron Bay. Sat 9-9.30am
- 1/14 Keats Street, Byron Bay. Sat 9-9.30am
- 1 Park Street, Brunswick Heads. Sat 9-9.30am
- 4 Wright Place, Bangalow. Sat 9-9.30am
- 6/133-141 Broken Head Road, Suffolk Park. Sat 9-9.30am
- 56 Parrot Tree Place, Bangalow. Sat 10-10.30am
- 4/113 Paterson Street, Byron Bay. Sat 10-10.30am
- 41 Caniaba Crescent, Suffolk Park. Sat 10-10.30am
- 1 Settlement Road, Main Arm. Sat 10-10.30am
- 45 Corkwood Crescent, Suffolk Park. Sat 10-10.30am
- 47 Currawong Way, Ewingsdale. Sat 10-10.30am
- 419 Left Bank Road, Mullumbimby Creek. Sat 10.45-11.15am
- 15 Palm-Lily Crescent, Bangalow. Sat 11-11.30am
- 19A Gordon Street, Byron Bay. Sat 11-11.30am
- 124 Alcorn Street, Suffolk Park. Sat 11-11.30am
- 40 Old Bangalow Road, Byron Bay. Sat 11-11.30am
- 50/11-19 Cooper Street, Byron Bay. Sat 11-11.30am
- 34 Main Arm Road, Mullumbimby. Sat 11.30am-12pm
- 1/34 Lawson Street, Byron Bay. Sat 11.30am-12pm
- 10 Armstrong Street, Suffolk Park. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 6/51 Belongil Crescent, Byron Bay. Sat 12-12.30pm

- 15 Plantation Drive, Ewingsdale. Sat 12.00-12.30pm
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- 42 Balemo Drive, Ocean Shores. Sat 11-11.30am
- 26 Robin Street, South Golden Beach. Sat 11.30am-12pm
- 7 Bulgoon Crescent, Ocean Shores. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 80 Harbour Way, Brunswick Heads. Sat 12.30-1pm
- 9 Green Frog Lane, Bangalow. Sat 2-2.30pm
- 39A Granuaille Road, Bangalow. Sat 3-3.30pm

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- 7 Coomburra Crescent, Ocean Shores. Sat 11-11.45am
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- 1 Wickham Place, Clunes. Sat 10.15-10.45am
- 5 Ewandale Close, Clunes. Sat 11-11.30am
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- 3D/3-9 Eden St, Tweed Heads. Sat 11-11.30am
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- 26 Clavan Street, Ballina. Sat 11.45am-12.15pm
- 32 Justelius Road, Meerschaum Vale. Sat 12.30-1pm
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- 6 Rifle Range Road, Wollongbar. Sat 1.30-2pm
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- 28 Coachwood Court, Federal. Sun 10-10.30am

North Coast Lifestyle Properties

- 744 Upper Burringbar Road, Upper Burringbar. Sat 10-10.30am
- Unit 6, 15-17 Mullumbimbi St, Brunswick Heads. Sat 10-10.30am
- 91 Brushbox Drive, Mullumbimby. Sat 10-10.45am
- 8 Warina Place, Mullumbimby. Sat 10-10.45am
- 9 Rangal Road, Ocean Shores. Sat 10-10.45am
- 284 The Pocket Road, The Pocket. Sat 11-11.30am
- 6 Park Street, New Brighton. Sat 11-11.45am
- 1/35 Fingal Street, Brunswick Heads. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 1/15 Boondoon Crescent, Ocean Shores. Sat 12-12.45pm
- 8 Warina Place, Mullumbimby. Sat 4.00-5.00pm

Ray White Byron Bay

- 9 Heritage Court, Suffolk Park. Wed 11.30am-12pm
- 13/183-205 Broken Head Road, Suffolk Park. Wed 2-2.30pm
- 1/12 Jarrett Street, Ballina. Wed 4.30-5pm
- 9 George Street, Bangalow. Wed 4.30-5pm
- 9 Heritage Court, Suffolk Park. Sat 9-9.30am
- 109-111 Broken Head Road, Suffolk Park. Sat 10-10.30am
- 15 Little Burns Street, Byron Bay. Sat 10-10.30am
- 243 Broken Head Road, Suffolk Park. Sat 10-10.30am
- 271 Goremans Road, Eureka. Sat 10-10.30am
- 1/12 Jarrett Street, Ballina. Sat 10.30-11am
- 13/183-205 Broken Head Road, Suffolk Park. Sat 11-11.30am
- 1 Hayters Drive, Suffolk Park. Sat 11-11.30am
- 9 George Street, Bangalow. Sat 11-11.30am
- 101 Alcorn Street, Suffolk Park. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 13/41-43 Shirley Street, Byron Bay. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 11 Browning Street, Byron Bay. Sat 1-1.30pm
- 9 Huonbrook Road, Wilsons Creek. Sat 1-1.30pm
- 17 Beachside Drive, Suffolk Park. Sat 2-2.30pm

New Listings

First National Byron Bay

- 8/1-2 Cape Court, Byron Bay
- 10 Armstrong Street, Suffolk Park
- 51 Kennedys Lane, Ewingsdale
- 15 Palm-Lily Crescent, Bangalow
- 105 Monet Drive, Montecollum
- 19A Gordon Street, Byron Bay

Mana

- 4 Hart Court, North Ocean Shores
- 80 Harbour Way, Brunswick Heads
- 49 Eviron Road, Condong
- 42 Balemo Drive, Ocean Shores
- 44 Lalina Avenue, West Tweed Heads

AGENTS



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If you need reminding why you should find a positive in uninspiring circumstances, Dr Ray Moynihan looks at hope for cynics on page 16.

Last week's front page incorrectly spelled the surname of Greens mayoral candidate, Sarah Ndiaye.

Patrick Morrissey's book launch and Goonengerry School's 125th anniversary celebration is this weekend, September 14, from 11am. The book is called *Conquer Or Conserve - Goonengerry and the Byron hinterland - A Local, Social and Reflective History*.

ABC news journalists accepted gas lobby PR nonsense with the story last week: 'Gas giant Australia prepares for the unthinkable, importing supplies for the first time'. The ABC's Jane Norman and Daniel Mercer failed to mention the reason is the unfettered greed of gas exporters and the lack of regulation and action by successive Labor and coalition governments. WA has a gas reservation policy (as do other countries), while all other Aussie states/territories do not. And on top of that, we are basically giving it away.

With Labor's Bill Shorten leaving politics for a cushy \$1m p.a. job as Vice-Chancellor of the University of Canberra, Rick Morton from *The Saturday Paper* tweeted that Chancellor Lisa Paul was hired by Shorten to co-author the NDIS review. Morton says, 'Now he's about to be Vice-Chancellor, hired by panel led by the Chancellor Lisa Paul'.



Young Zahli was busy collecting leaves for the 12th annual Sample Food Festival, held last Saturday at the Bangalow Showground. The event offers a taste of Northern NSW food and drink, with sample plates from the region's best restaurants, alongside local brews and cocktails from award-winning Northern Rivers distilleries. There were also market stalls showcasing passionate and innovative local artisans and producers, along with workshops and activities for kids. Photo Jeff 'Leaf It To Me' Dawson

Liberation Larder volunteers have purchased a shade for the mobility scooter of long-time client, Terry. The Larder's Liz Jackson says 'There's room for his walking stick and the food he collects from Liberation Larder in Byron twice a week'. Liberation Larder serve over 600 delicious meals per week from the Byron Bay Community Centre kitchen. For more info visit www.liberationlarder.org.

Nothing says abnormal like a billionaire using his influential media platform to boast he has cornered another market. Space Karen, aka Elon, tweeted: 'Starlink now constitutes roughly two thirds of all active Earth satellites'.

Jiddu Krishnamurti once said: 'It is no measure of health to be well adjusted to a profoundly sick society'.

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