



Mullumbimby Road upgrade plans unveiled

Traffic improvements are proposed for two sections of Mullumbimby Road near Uncle Tom's, which, if adopted by the Local Traffic Committee (LTC) and then councillors, would see road widening, a turning lane at McAuleys Lane, drainage and road resurfacing.

Yet no mention is made of a nearby rezoning for a large residential subdivision at 53 McAuleys Lane, Myocum, which was approved by councillors last year.

That DA included a voluntary planning agreement (VPA) whereby the developer would pay for upgrades to the McAuleys Lane intersection.

According to the LTC report, the project is in two sections. One is aimed at improving the McAuleys Lane turn off, and the other is road

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Representing Bundjalung

Wahlubal Elder, Uncle Lewis Walker, conducted a smoking ceremony at Coorabell Hall on Saturday, before everyone moved into the hall to hear Dr Shauna Bostock discuss her award-winning book, *Reaching Through Time*. As a historian, Dr Bostock explores history and culture through her family's stories. She writes, 'I am a proud Aboriginal woman, who has always wanted to make a stronger connection to my cultural heritage. I experienced an inner yearning to find out about my ancestors, and what they experienced in life. This is the story of my journey.' Photo Jeff 'Smoking On His Journey Since 1986' Dawson

Byron's peak philanthropy org celebrates 20 yrs

Philanthropic organisation, the Northern Rivers Community Foundation (NRCF) celebrated two decades of community-driven impact last week, which includes \$10 million in donations across more than 645 projects since its inception.

Organisers say the event at Elements at Byron brought together over 220 donors, grant recipients, and community leaders 'to celebrate the power of community giving, a defining trait of our region's resilience through floods, fires, and the pandemic, and to unveil this year's Community Grants recipients'.

'This anniversary celebrates the profound impact of community giving,' said NRCF CEO, Sam Henderson.

'From humble beginnings, we've witnessed the extraordinary capacity of our region to come together and create meaningful change. Tonight is about honouring our journey and those making a difference on the ground.'

Grant recipients

The highlight of the evening was the announcement of the 2024/25 Community Grants Program recipients.

Organisers say, 'From ecocultural fire training and community emergency hubs, to supporting families with neurodivergent children to prepare for natural disasters, empowering changemakers, and preserving cultural heritage, these initiatives reflect our commitment to creating positive, lasting change.'

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Byron tops for least-affordable rentals

Paul Bibby

Well, it's official: the area in and around Byron Bay is one of the least-affordable locations in the entire country if you're a renter.

The 10th annual national rental affordability index was released on November 22, and it lists the 2481 postcode as 'Extremely Unaffordable', one of just a handful of locations across Australia to receive this dubious designation.

This postcode, which also covers Ewingsdale, Suffolk Park, Broken Head and Myocum, is part of small

group of 'red zones' that includes Noosa, Jindabyne, and Perth's exclusive City Beach postcode.

60 pc of income in rent

A listing in the 'Extremely Unaffordable' category means that the average rental household has to hand over at least 60 per cent of its income to a landlord each week.

This is double the proportion generally associated with housing stress, and is likely to affect the capacity of households to pay for food, utilities, health services and education.

The Shire's other postcodes were not far behind Byron Bay in the unaffordability stakes, with 2482, 2483 and 2479 all listed as 'Severely Unaffordable', meaning that renting households in these areas spent at least 50 per cent of their income on rent.

It is part of a bleak picture for regional NSW which hit record lows for affordability according to the index.

'The regions used to be seen as an affordable alternative for Sydneysiders to escape to when city rents became unaffordable,' the CEO

of Shelter NSW John Engeler said.

'But this is not the case, especially for regional residents on local wages. This is not sustainable and will only get worse as these regional populations grow.'

Shelter NSW is calling on the state government to provide more social housing – both public and community housing for low-income people – and to restore the social housing safety net to 5 per cent of all housing stock by 2027, working towards a goal of 10 per cent of all housing by 2040.

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Is that the ominous jingling of the festive season I hear? ► p23

Make your abode into a little piece of paradise ► p30

Creative, stylish, amusing, find it all in Byron's A&I ► p32

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32 units slated to replace Mullum car park – have your say

Hans Lovejoy

Feedback is now open for a large mixed-use ‘affordable housing’ development, slated for the main entrance of Mullum, replacing the much-used Station Street car park.

Negotiations around the Council-owned land at 57 Station Street, located near the town’s entrance roundabout, were held in secret by the previous Council majority last year.

After Council were unable to secure a community housing provider for the project, it made a confidential agreement with NSW government development agency, Landcom.

In perpetuity

Landcom say if approved, the car park will become retail space on the ground floor, with around 32 new rentals on the other two floors, ‘catering for workers on low to moderate incomes’ in perpetuity.

The Mullum Residents’ Association previously raised concerns around the lack of transparency, and no



Landcom plans to build retail shops on the ground floor and two levels of small units on the much-used car park near the entrance to Mullumbimby. Image Landcom

alternative plans for the site were canvassed.

As previously reported, Council plan to house their own staff in some of the new apartments.

No parking plans

The loss of parking will be offset by new parking areas that are yet to be confirmed.

One car park proposed in the rail corridor was abandoned.

Another smaller site, opposite the former Tony Carsburg site on the corner of Argyle and Prince Street, appears unaligned with the town’s masterplan. The masterplan reads in part,

‘The gateway [into town] is an opportunity to reflect Mullumbimby’s green image’.

The proposal signals a precedent by Council in selling public land to developers and housing their own staff on what was public land.

Info sessions

Two public info sessions are planned at the Mullumbimby Ex-Services Club: Monday, December 2, from 5pm to 7pm, and Tuesday, December 3, from 9.30am to 11am. A survey is at www.joinin.landcom.nsw.gov.au/mullumbimby.

Feedback is open until December 9.

Younger gen steps up for marine life

Paul Bibby

More than 150 young humans from eight local high schools gathered at Ballina Coast High School last week for a day devoted to learning about, and defending, our precious marine environments.

The students, many of whom were studying marine science, were taking part in the first Bright Blue Future Showcase, an interactive event designed to inspire and engage youth in the world of ocean conservation and innovation.

Organised by the youth-focused collective, Ocean Voices, the event saw the students take part in sessions led by some of the region’s leading ecological innovators, including academics, social entrepreneurs, and campaigners.

Want involvement

‘The desire of young people to want to be involved and to make a difference, and their huge capacity to do exactly that, just blows me away,’ the founder of Ocean Voices, Simone Roseler, told *The Echo* after the event.

‘People sometimes write



Students from local high schools take part in an interactive mentoring session with Professor Dirk Eler from Southern Cross University. Photo Ocean Voices

young people off because they might not be engaged in some aspects of schooling’.

Meaningful solutions

‘But if you give them the opportunity to provide some meaningful solutions and have a voice, that’s when you see what they can really do.’

Kicking off with a dynamic performance and welcome to country by Ballina High’s Aboriginal Dance Group, the day then moved into a series of interactive mentor sessions.

Among those donating their time on the day were

Professor Dirk Eler from Southern Cross University, the CEO of Seabin Foundation Dr Maha Paquette, and Tara Jones, the plastics and packaging program manager from the Australian Marine Conservation Society.

Then the students were given a presentation on the negative impacts of ocean plastic by the Ocean Voices Youth Collective, which is made up of young people aged 12 to 16.

Rounding out the day were interactive presentations on manta rays and ways to reduce the use of plastic packaging.

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Community Grants recipients named

► **Continued from page 1**
 This year's grant recipients are: Zero Emissions Byron, Autism Camp Australia, Positive Change for Marine Life, Resilient Uki, Resilient Byron / Plan C, Byron Bay Community Benefit Fund, Numulgi Memorial Hall, Nimbin Aquarius Foundation, Australian Seabird & Turtle Rescue, Agape Outreach Inc., Northern Rivers Women's and Children's Services, Lower Clarence Community Garden, Northern Rivers Performing Arts, Ballina Hot Meal Centre, RiverTracks, Mullumbimby Sustainability Education & Enterprise Development, Gummyaney Aboriginal Preschool, Woodenbong Community Men's Shed, Tweed Coast Youth Service, Zephyr Education and Mental Health Support Group.



From left, NRCF CEO Sam Henderson, Amy Colli, Cr Kiri Dicker, Nicole Richards, Juanita Keen, Johan Kortenhorst, Sandra Duncan and Jen Smith. Photo Mikaela Mazzer

'Without the support of NRCF, resilience groups like ours would be in a far more challenging situation,' shared Melanie Bloor, President of Resilient Uki.

'With these funds, we'll develop a guide to empower Northern Rivers communities to better respond to crises, using lessons from past floods and successful models like those in New Zealand.'

'NRCF's support has been

truly transformative for our work at Australian Seabird and Turtle Rescue,' said General Manager, Steve Whalan.

'With grants that will help us install solar panels and a Tesla battery, we've significantly reduced our energy costs, which means more resources can go directly towards rescuing and rehabilitating wildlife. This support not only sustains our immediate rescue operations, such as maintaining our Turtle Hospital, but also aligns with our mission to educate and inspire the community about sustainable practices.'

NRCF organisers also say, 'In a testament to the strength and generosity of the Northern Rivers community, patron John Callanan and chair Johan Kortenhorst pledged \$50,000 each to establish sub-funds of their own, inspiring on-the-spot commitments totaling an additional \$850,000.'

Sub-funds

'Sub-funds can be established by families, individuals or businesses to manage their charitable giving in a strategic and stress-free way. NRCF takes care of the

administration and compliance while sub-fund owners receive an immediate tax deduction and enjoy all the joys of giving.

'The evening featured heartfelt reflections from NRCF founding members and community partners. Founding member and deputy chair, Lynda Dean OAM, spoke of the foundation's origins and growth: "This journey began as a simple idea – a way to unite locals who care."

'Today, we are witnessing a legacy of care and community-driven change''

Council staff apologise for data breach

Mia Armitage

Byron Shire Council staff have apologised for a data breach last week, that resulted in the online publication of the phone numbers, home and email addresses of 32 Byron Shire residents.

Bay FM's Community Newsroom noticed the personal details in an attachment

to this week's planned Council meeting agenda on Thursday, November 21 and immediately alerted Council staff.

Personal info

Council later emailed a statement saying two confidential report attachments were mistakenly published on November 19 before the mistake was

corrected two days later.

'These reports contained personal information from 32 applicants who submitted expressions of interest to be on the Place Planning Collective,' the statement read.

'The mistake was human error and Council is sincerely sorry. We are extremely sorry and we unreservedly apologise to all 32 people for this

data breach and any distress it may cause.'

Council staff were reportedly reviewing the incident 'with the intention of making sure this does not happen again,' said Director Corporate and Community Services Esmeralda Davis.

■ Mia Armitage is BayFM's Community Newsroom presenter.

Byron Bay tops for least-affordable rentals

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'Renters deserve stable and secure long-term housing,' Mr Engeler said.

'While we commend the NSW government for its reform to make renting fairer,

we now need it to commit to delivering substantial numbers of genuinely affordable rental housing for low to average income households.'

'We also need urgent action to wind back the

short-term rental market. The stock of private rental properties has been gutted in many regional cities and towns leaving local people with no option but to leave.'

According to the index,

the greatest affordability declines in regional NSW have been seen in Tweed Heads, Port Macquarie and Coffs Harbour, as well as inland areas such as Orange and Dubbo.

Mullumbimby Road upgrade plans unveiled

► **Continued from page 1**
 repairs from McAuleys Lane to Uncle Tom's and drainage improvements centred around Gulgan Road.

The LTC staff report reads, 'The Saddle Road and the residential driveway located between The Saddle Road and McAuleys Lane will be

formally signed and line marked as left in, left out only.

'This is owing to the dangerous and inadequate stopping sight distance, manoeuvre sight distance, minimum gap sight distance, and safe intersection sight distance at these accesses.

'A meeting was held with

Transport to discuss the possibility of lowering the speed limit on Mullumbimby Road to address the sight distance issues at The Saddle Road and McAuleys Lane intersections.

'At this time, Transport was not supportive of lowering the speed limit from 80km/hr in this location.'

The Echo asked Council staff about the status of the exclusive 39-large lot residential subdivision at 53 McAuleys Lane, Myocum. A reply is expected next week.

It is led by developer and Northern Rivers Community Foundation (NRCF) patron, John Callanan.

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Missing young male dog. Named Ember. He has a distinctive kink in the end of his stumpy tail.

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Vale Sea Shepherd stalwart, Adam Shostak

The Shostak family

Much-loved long-time local, Adam Shostak, passed away last Wednesday after a slow decline from various health issues.

His passing was a natural, final release from the pain that he had endured for many months. Despite his declining health, his mind and spirit were unwavering and so his sudden passing came as a great shock.

We fondly remember his light which has touched many hearts in his long lifetime.

Adam was an icon in our community; many will remember him as the 'Sea Shepherd Man', with his wild beard, dressed in head-to-toe Sea Shepherd merch, shaking the fundraising tin at various locations and markets across the Byron Shire.

Others will remember him as a pivotal teacher of remedial yoga for those suffering from chronic pain.

Still others will remember his sporting prowess as a gifted footballer and coach in 1950-60s Melbourne.

Most importantly, his family will remember him as the caring, witty, opinionated, loving and supportive father, grandfather and great-grandfather that he was.

Adam's devotion to Sea Shepherd was phenomenal, with 15 years of fundraising, five days per week.

This created an incredible legacy of Sea Shepherd in Byron Bay, and he would still be doing it if he could!

He put Sea Shepherd on the map in this community, with stalls at local markets



Adam Shostak. Photo Ben Cook

and festivals, creating movie nights and many vibrant lively events.

Born to a Jewish couple in Vilna, Poland on August 21, 1939, two weeks before WWII began, Adam, older brother Sam and their family fled to Russia and endured loss, close calls and hardship.

They made it to Australia in 1950, and Adam would often muse on the blessing of landing in this country in his later years. He spoke multiple languages except English, but soon mastered it with tuition at his first school.

Excelled at football

At Melbourne High, Adam excelled at football and was invited to train with St Kilda Football Club, playing in the Under 19s then upgraded to 2nds and Seniors.

Long work hours in the bulk foods family business, the coaching of football, a slow accumulation of prosperity, and suburban marital bliss with the beautiful Helen

and their children Darryl and Sharon followed. This was shattered by divorce and he followed them to Mullumbimby in 1973.

Within a few years, he built his beloved A-frame in the Upper Main Arm valley, embracing the hippie ethos.

He joined the campaign to fight for Terania and discovered a passion for activism. Adam was appalled by killing, and adamant that all life was precious, perhaps owing to his early years in war-ravaged Europe.

Unwavering vegetarian

An unwavering vegetarian, he refused to even pull weeds or swat mosquitoes.

Adam's entrepreneurial ventures included opening a shop in Mullumbimby, which sold second hand building materials and fittings sourced from Brisbane.

He then started the region's first organic

distribution service, which sent boxes of bananas and avocados to his Melbourne contacts. This led him to injure his back. Melbourne-based yoga teacher, Steve Barry, guided Adam to heal the prolapsed and dissolving discs of his spine, and the frozen knees and shoulders resulting from his arduous work and sporting life.

First yoga studio

Adam inspired his daughter Sharon, who trained as a yoga teacher, and together they established the first yoga studio in Mullumbimby in the early '90s.

With his deep experiential knowledge of remedial yoga, Adam taught there as well as in Melbourne; one his former luminary students was sprinter Cathy Freeman, prior to her famed win at the Sydney Olympics in 2000.

Upon returning to Main Arm, Adam decided to focus on just one cause - saving the whales. Jeff Hansen, Managing Director of Sea Shepherd Australia describes Adam's persona in the organisation as 'the gold standard of what the culture of our movement for the ocean is all about - intelligence, charisma, passion and heart'.

■ The Shostak family warmly invite you to join them at Kohinur Hall on Sunday, December 22 from 2pm to honour Adam's life and legacy. Similar to his 80th birthday fundraiser at Durrumbul Hall, this celebration of his life will be a Sea Shepherd fundraiser. Dress code: Sea Shepherd and/or colourful.

Locals join Newcastle coal blockade



Uncle Ydo and Ian Gillard in Newcastle. Photo supplied

A passionate group of Northern Rivers locals, including Save Wallum protectors, joined environmental activists last weekend to participate in the People's Blockade at Newcastle, the world's largest coal port.

Organised by Rising Tide Australia, a flotilla blockade demanded urgent climate action by the federal Labor government.

New mines continue to be approved by both Labor and Liberal-National governments, despite the advice from climate scientists.

All major parties accept political donations from fossil fuel corporations.

Police said in a statement they arrested 170 people (156 adults and 14 youth), with charges including disrupting a major facility and failing to comply with marine safety directions in the port.

NSW Minister for Police, Yasmin Catley (Labor) thanked police for protecting public safety and condemned arrested protesters.

Around a hundred arrests

were made at last year's Rising Tide, with most protesters later walking from court without penalty, and some with praise from magistrates for their community work beyond the protest.

In a statement, the Save Wallum team says it 'established a prominent presence, with a community stall, and has also taken to the waters as part of the flotilla to prevent coal-carrying ships from departing the port'.

'Notable local participants include Uncle Ydo (Githabul, Midjubil) and Ian Gillard, a veteran of the Bentley Blockade, showcasing Northern Rivers' long-standing dedication to environmental justice and climate action'.

Defending Country

Uncle Ydo emphasised the importance of defending both Country and climate.

He said, 'We stand here not just for our communities, but for the future of the planet. Coal represents destruction, and it's time for a just transition to clean energy'.



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Bruns gets a new wellness centre

A change of use for the former Wraight's mechanic workshop in Brunswick Heads was waved through unanimously by councillors at their November 14 meeting, paving the way for a takeaway cafe and wellness gym and recovery centre.

It is called B3 (Build, Breath, Bath).

Crs Jack Dods, Michael Lyon, David Warth, and Elia Hauge declared an interest in the DA, and did not vote.

The property owner is Peter Vogel's company Voglet Pty Ltd, and it is located at 38 Tweed Street.

Given the property borders residential homes, strict conditions are in place, which include noise mitigation, noise complaint contact, signage and a 12-month trial 'while road works including vehicle parking in Fingal Street is completed'.

The applicant will also provide Council an 'acoustic compliance report prepared by a suitably qualified person'.

Mr Vogel told *The Echo* that, 'acoustic insulation has already been installed, over and above Council requirements'.



B3 crew at their new wellness centre. Photo supplied

The takeaway cafe will operate from 7am to 5pm, seven days a week, while the gym will be limited to 40 patrons on the premises at any one time.

Apart from noise impacts, issues raised during public submissions included no onsite car parking. In response, 29 parking spaces on Fingal Street will be provided, including road sealing, line marking, kerb and guttering.

Mr Vogel said the 29 car parks are 'on top of historical parking credits allocated to the site, as well as installation of a footpath at the front of the building on

Tweed Street for improved pedestrian safety'.

While there were 13 public submissions objecting to the proposal, the proponent provided a change.org petition of 928 signatures in favour. Staff remarked that 751 were signed in the first two weeks.

Mr Vogel told *The Echo* it is 'unlike a traditional gym, as it also offers yoga, pilates, ice baths, magnesium baths (hot and cold), a hot sauna and an infrared sauna'.

Opens Nov 30

He added, 'The opening event is November 30'.

The staff report concludes with, 'The proposal is

conscious of, and responsive to, public concerns and it is considered that the development will provide a material, social and economic benefit to the community'.

B3 owner, Benny Owen, told *The Echo*, 'This application reflects extensive consultation and collaboration, investment, and a commitment to ensuring that the project aligns with Council's vision for Brunswick Heads, as well as the needs and priorities of the community'.

'We understand the importance of compliance and community harmony, and we have gone above and beyond to meet Council's guidance, and have taken into account, and addressed, all neighbours' concerns regarding parking, noise control, and community-focused improvements.'

'As three locals, our B3 mission is to offer a place where people of all ages can come together - whether it's helping youth develop healthy habits, providing young families a space to bring their kids while they work out, or creating an environment that promotes connection and growth'.

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And the OS art winners are...



Angela Parr's painting, *The Reds*, took out first prize in the printmaking, drawing and pastels category of the Ocean Shores Art Expo. She shared the Frank Mills Award with Heidi Houghting, who also won second prize for her oil painting, *The First Year Of The Dragon*. Photo Jeff 'Invited To All The Best Gigs' Dawson

The Ocean Shores Art Expo drew art lovers together to admire local creatives at the Ocean Shores Community Centre last weekend.

Organisers said, 'From breathtaking paintings to intricate sculptures, the event truly showcased the vibrant artistic spirit of the region.'

A big congratulations to the winners Macarena Ruiz, Cate Cormack, Heidi Houghting, Jenny Sayer, Katherine

Carson, Angela Parr, Rachel Dunn, Peter Faulkner-Roberts, Suvira McDonald, Lisa Galvin, Mon Manabu, Isabelle Hillier, Greg Newland, Dave Sparkes, Mark Seiffert, and Cameron Pitcher.

Organisers said, 'Student artists from local primary and secondary schools also impressed with their creative contributions.'

'Artworks are available online until Christmas Eve — email info@osartexpo.com.

com to buy a piece for your collection.

New leader sought

'Finally, after eight wonderful years, President and Secretary, Elizabeth Tomlinson, is stepping down. The Expo is now looking for a new leader to continue its creative legacy. If you're interested in joining the committee or stepping into this vital role, please email info@osartexpo.com'.



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Greens call for \$15 billion plan to address DV

The federal Greens have announced what they say is a comprehensive policy package to address the national crisis of family, domestic and sexual violence.

They say it is a costed, \$15 billion plan, over 12 years and that Labor funding falls short of addressing the issue.

A media spokesperson for Greens candidate, Mandy Nolan, says, 'This investment covers prevention, frontline response services, housing, recovery programs, and a range of measures

designed to improve the safety of women and children nationwide and improve perpetrator intervention and accountability.'

'According to the group Counting Dead Women, 66 women have been killed so far in Australia in 2024, the equivalent of one woman every five days.'

Ms Nolan says, 'Our plan will enable proper funding for crisis accommodation and support services in the region, like those that are desperately needed in

Mullumbimby and the Tweed.'

Ambyr Johnston, manager of the Women's Resource Centre within the Mullumbimby and District Neighbourhood Centre, says, 'As a regional frontline domestic and family violence service, we know firsthand the difficulties of trying to provide critical support with extremely limited resources.'

'We are experiencing a national crisis, and it is heartening to see the Greens prioritising the safety and wellbeing of victim/survivors.'

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More Byron Shire road funding promised by Labor

More than \$1.7 million in federal funding to improve road safety in the Byron Shire was announced by local federal Labor MP, Justine Elliot, last week.

She says, 'This funding will be matched by the NSW government and will be delivered under the Albanese Labor government's Road Safety Program'.

Three projects

'Funding will go towards three local road safety projects: \$293,806 to install a new wombat crossing, lighting and footpath at Byron Street, Bangalow east of Ashton Street; \$135,505 for bus bay upgrades at Goonengerry Public School; and \$1,287,575 for a signalised

intersection at the Broken Head Road and Clifford Street intersection in Suffolk Park'.

Mrs Elliot said, 'This investment will ensure safer roads for our local communities and support reducing road fatalities. As your local Labor MP, I'm proud to be delivering more than \$1.7 million in federal funding to improve road safety in the Byron Shire'.

Matsuri sounds off from Byron foreshore



Beautiful weather and irresistible aromas drew a large crowd to the Byron foreshore to enjoy the Japanese Festival last weekend. It included dance, music, martial arts, food, games and workshops. Pictured is Yoshi Yoshida from the Tensui Dance Troupe. Photo Jeff Dawson

Arwyn takes her ballet to next level



Byron Bay local, Arwyn Freeman. Photo supplied

Eve Jeffery

Established in 1964, the Australian Ballet School (ABS) has always been where you want to be if you are serious about ballet in Australia.

Arwyn Freeman is very serious about following her dreams to Melbourne's ABS in 2025.

She's born, bred and educated in Byron Bay, and the Karen Ireland Dance Centre in Lismore is where Arwyn has been training for the last three years.

Sixteen-year-old Arwyn has been dancing since she was just two. Her current teacher, 'Miss Karen'

says Arwyn's natural ability for dance was apparent from an early age. 'This talent has continued to develop as a result of her desire, impressive perseverance, deep passion and an undeniable determination and commitment to her training.'

Earlier this year, Miss Karen suggested Arwyn audition for ABS – an international audition, with only 12 students chosen. They had to attend the ABS for a week, and out of the 12, they only took two girls – Arwyn was one of them.

At a cost of around \$40,000 per year for tuition, board and extras, Arwyn and her mum

Viv are hoping to get some financial help along the way. For Arwyn the opportunity is everything.

She says, 'What I love most about ballet is the emotional feeling I get when I'm dancing. It's the sense of accomplishment and freedom that comes from knowing I've put in countless hours of practice and dedication'.

'Ballet pushes me to grow, not just as a dancer, as a person, teaching me patience, discipline, and resilience.'

To assist Arwyn, contact Karen Ireland on 0416 094 283 or email admin@kid-ance.org.

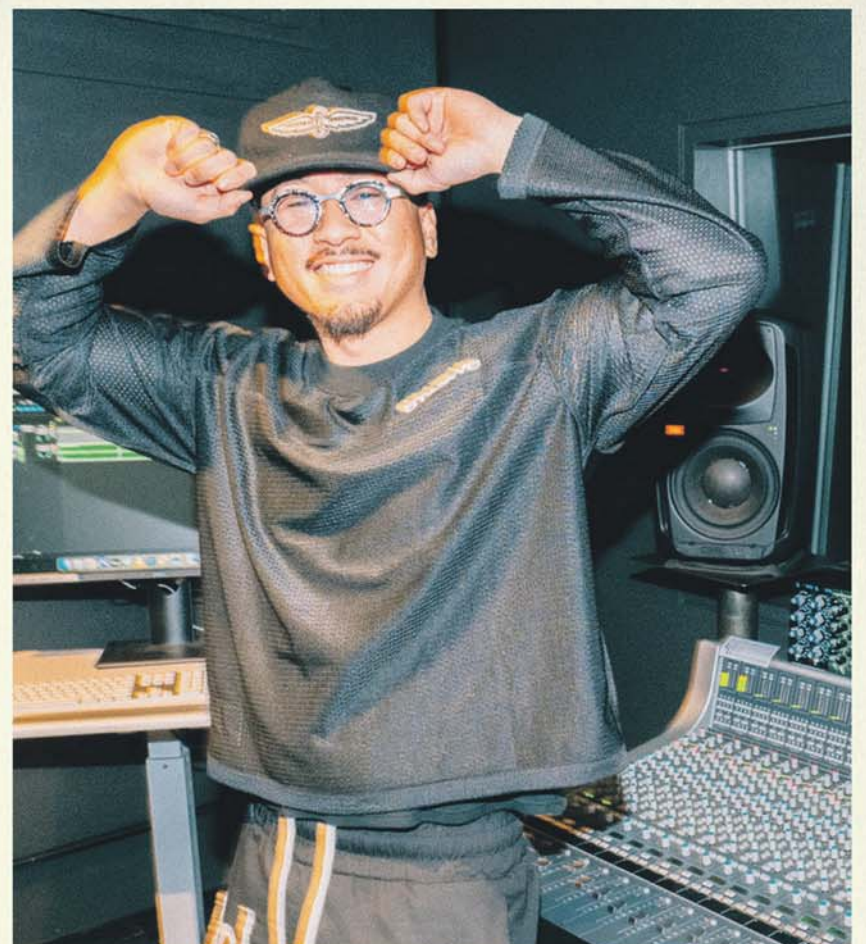
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Exploring life and follicles with Frankie, God of Hair

Ben Gilmour

This week, Mullumbimby's funkiest salon, Frankie God of Hair, celebrates its 13th anniversary. Everyone in the Shire has heard of flamboyant Frankie Schaufler, but few know the story of how the talented German friseur ended up in this Northern Rivers town.

'I'm a child of the Black Forest,' declares Frankie.

'My dad had the most respected salon in the French sector of Baden-Baden'.

'A lot of people visited before the wall came down in the 1960s. They all knew that my father had studied in London under Vidal Sassoon.'

Frankie had dreams of becoming an artist, but while sweeping the floor of his father's salon, he realised that hairdressing was also art.

Hair is a canvas

'Hair is a canvas, a canvas that changes. Whatever you do, it grows out and you can do something new. The impermanence makes it interesting. Hair is like a sand mandala.'

After finishing his



Frankie Schaufler. Photo supplied

hairdressing apprenticeship, he got his first job in the theatre where he learnt to cut a range of styles across different eras. Here he fell in love with classic styles and the avant-garde, though his passion has always been the 1950s/60s.

'But I'm not a hair snob,' he insists. 'Lots of young women are asking for mullets now, and I think they're quite sophisticated.'

A photograph on the wall

of his salon shows Frankie cutting the hair of an Egyptian boatman in Aswan.

His profession has taken him around the world. Most of his time was spent in India, however.

'I used to roll out a banner and hang a little mirror, like the Indian barbers,' he says.

For months, he cut hair on the ghats of the Ganges in Varanasi, before shifting to Dharamsala.

'Travellers loved Indian

barbershop shaves and neck cracks, but not so much the haircuts. They came to me for those.'

It wasn't until Frankie visited Osho's ashram that he was bestowed his divine title.

'We sat for hours waiting for Osho to come out. But one of his aides eventually emerged and announced that Osho had just died.'

'I suddenly felt it was possible the guru's spirit had entered my body. From then

on, I would be known as the God of Hair.'

As with most of Frankie's outrageous stories, his claim to be the reincarnation of Osho is delivered tongue firmly in cheek.

The freshly-anointed God of Hair set up shop in Brazil after that, teaching at the prestigious Wella academy in San Paulo.

'I did the big hair shows and Wella used me as a mascot. I had to entertain some of the world's most respected visiting hairdressers on a luxury yacht off the coast of Rio.'

This led to Frankie's appointment as style director for Toni and Guy.

But Frankie insists his time in Mullumbimby has been the most enjoyable period of his life.

'I love this community,' he says.

'I try to create a safe, welcoming, non-judgemental space. I enjoy listening and tuning in with people.'

'Many clients see it as therapy, I think, for less money than a psychologist.'

Frankie's salon certainly feels more like a warm lounge room, with a rare

groove vinyl collection, abstract art and books.

And he is well loved for his kind, caring nature and sense of humour.

Paul, the latest addition to his team, also worked for Toni and Guy in London.

'It can be intimidating for people to stare at themselves in the mirror for an hour,' says Frankie.

'So it's important I serve tea and put on records and make them laugh.'

Antennae to the extraterrestrials

But his customers bring just as much humour to the experience, he insists.

'It's Mullum. I hear all sorts of interesting ideas.'

'I had a guy in recently tell me his hair was antennae to the extraterrestrials, and if I cut too much off he'd lose connection to them. It can be a delicate job.'

A delicate job, one might argue, best done by a God.

Frankie God of Hair is at 55 Burringbar Street, Mullumbimby and offering 20 per cent off haircuts for a month in celebration of the 13th anniversary.

Flying doctors fundraiser luncheon Dec 6

A charity to raise money for the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) will be held again December 6 at the Bangalow A&I Hall from 12 till 5pm.

Organisers say Car 612 Annual Fundraiser, Remembering Oliver Martin, is their third annual fundraiser.

'It's an event brought about by the loss of our son Oliver Martin, who was taken from us too soon at the age of 19.'

'The Outback Cartrek Rally has been running for 35 years, and each year manages to

raise over \$1 million for a service that is vital for remote areas of rural Australia.

According to www.flyingdoctor.org.au, 'With a waiting room of 7.69 million square kilometres, the RFDS provides 24-hour aeromedical emergency services that can reach anywhere, no matter how remote, within hours.'

Big line-up

The sportsperson luncheon will feature MC Ellen Briggs, comedian Jacques Barrett,

and celebrity guest speakers Wallaby rugby legend, Nick Cummins, ultra runner and keynote speaker, Jacqui Bell, as well as professional AFL player and Brownlow medalist, Jason Akermanis.

Organisers say the event will include a 'sit down three-course meal and complimentary drink on arrival'.

A live and silent auction will also be held, 'with net proceeds going to the RFDS'.

For more visit <https://tinyurl.com/363rsfra> or www.flyingdoctor.org.au.

Library of Stuff open day this Saturday

Sasha Mainsbridge

'Tis the silly season time of buying silly and often unneeded and unwanted items. This waste of resources and money could be better used or saved. A local solution exists!

The Library of Stuff in Mullumbimby has shared over 1,000 fun and useful items over 20,000 times over the last five years. To avoid collapse under the weight of demand, the library recently restructured into a co-op.

This means members work together to make the magic happen.

For passionate conservationists, six-month memberships are now available for \$26 and a time contribution of a little over an hour a week. Join the crew who love hanging out while sharing and caring for the inventory or take on one of many work-from-home jobs to meet your time commitment.

This Library of Stuff is holding an open day this Saturday, from 9am until 2pm.

The day will include demos and displays. Members will be showcasing items they love from milling grains, to making dough for the pizza oven, to making and drinking mocktails with homemade sorbet. Come check out the shelves full of games, camping gear, tools and gardening equipment! Head to the website or socials for all details. Libraryofstuff.org.au

■ Sasha Mainsbridge is founder and President at Mullum Cares Incorporated.



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Audit reveals consumers ripped off on unpackaged fresh fruit and vegetables

Paul Bibby

At a time when many of us are trying to reduce the amount of plastic packaging we consume, the supermarkets are incentivising us to do the opposite.

That's the disturbing finding of a recent audit of supermarket's plastic use released last week.

Undertaken by the Australian Marine Conservation Society (AMCS) and the Boomerang Alliance, the audit found that supermarkets are providing 'perverse incentives' for consumers to take home more plastic by charging more for loose fruit and vegetables compared with plastic-wrapped produce.

For example, have you noticed that the per kilo price of loose potatoes is about 50 per cent higher than bagged ones?

Oranges and carrots are 40 per cent dearer, onions 30 per cent, and apples eight per cent.

When you calculate the extra cost to buy unpackaged fruit and vegetables over the course of the year, it works out to be about \$155 for the average family.

Cost of living

At a time when cost-of-living pressures are already smashing family budgets, having to essentially pay the equivalent of an extra weekly shop in order to reduce waste is a tall order.

'Woolworths, Coles and Aldi are charging more for loose fruit and vegetables than plastic wrapped produce more than 70 per cent of the time, and sometimes

the price difference is startling,' AMCS's plastics campaign manager, Cip Hamilton said.

'In the midst of a cost-of-living crisis, shoppers should not be penalised for buying in smaller quantities and avoiding plastic and trying to reduce food waste.'

The supermarkets say the price discrepancy reflects the fact that it is cheaper for them to sell larger volumes of pre-packaged goods than individual pieces.

But AMCS says that this not only incentivises plastic use, but also encourages food wastage.

Australians waste 7.6 million tonnes of food each year – or 312 kg per person – and 70 per cent of this food is edible, according to AMCS and the Boomerang Alliance.

Bizarrely, Woolworths' own food rescue charity, OzHarvest, encourages consumers to buy loose fruit and vegetables to avoid food waste, while the supermarket's own pricing discourages it.

Plastic does not improve shelf life

The claim that plastic packaging improves shelf life has now been completely debunked, with a UK report by charity Waste and Resources Action Programme finding that plastic wrapping had 'no or little meaningful effect on extending the life of fresh produce'.

AMCS and the Boomerang Alliance are demanding that the federal government step in and force the supermarket giants to behave responsibly.

'The results of the 2024 audit should hasten promised action to regulate plastic producers at the Australian environment ministers' meeting in December,' the Alliance's Jeff Angel said.

'We need to see real reductions in plastic packaging, more recycled content and reuse options.'

The amount of land-based plastic pollution will double by 2040 at the current rate.

The amount of plastics entering the world's oceans is set to triple in that time, with plastic pollution on track to surpass the weight of all the world's fish within 30 years.

Flash mob Cassettes turn 12



Celebrating 12 years of flash mob revelry and pre-CD existence, The Cassettes will celebrate their birthday with a big party at the Byron Community College in Mullum on November 29. The Cassettes are pictured at an early Mullum Music Festival. Photo Jeff Dawson



Changes to pet registration – be aware!

The NSW Office of Local Government has introduced some new rules around pet registration:

- All cats and dogs must be microchipped by 12 weeks of age, or when sold or given away, whichever comes first.
- Once microchipped, pets must be registered on the NSW Pet Registry by 12 weeks of age. This involves a once-off lifetime payment for the pet, even if ownership changes within NSW.
- Dogs need to be desexed by 6 months, or you'll face a once-off additional fee.
- Cats need to be desexed by 4 months, or you'll face an annual permit fee.

How to register your pets:

- 🌐 www.petregistry.olg.nsw.gov.au
- 👤 In person at Council's Customer Service Centre, 70 Station Street, Mullumbimby.

You'll need microchipping paperwork, proof of desexing (if applicable) and a pension card (if applicable).

More information

- 🌐 www.byron.nsw.gov.au/microchipping-pet-registration



Work underway to minimise flooding at Suffolk Park

Work to upgrade the Coogera Circuit Detention Basin at Suffolk Park has begun, say Council staff.

The basin, located off Bottlebrush Crescent, regularly overflows in larger rainfall events, contributing to the flooding of nearby homes and properties.

Project Engineer, Tom Coulthurst, said that the upgrade will significantly reduce the risk of flooding to properties near the basin.

'We will be increasing the capacity of the detention basin by raising the height of some of the basin wall, and, by constructing a basin spillway that connects to the

stormwater drainage. Once complete, over 100 properties in the Suffolk Park area will benefit from a reduced risk of flooding. While we can't eliminate the risk of flooding all together, we know this upgrade is very welcomed by the Suffolk Park community,' said Mr Coulthurst.

'We have been in touch with Suffolk Park residents and businesses over the past six months regarding these planned works. The response from the community and assistance they have provided Council, so that we can implement the flood improvement works, has been greatly appreciated.'

Echo

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

Sinclair Street, Wardell closed for three weeks

Ballina Shire Council (BSC) will temporarily close a section of Sinclair Street, Wardell from Monday, November 18.

Lismore Mayor elected as Chair of Regional Cities New South Wales

Lismore Mayor Steve Krieg has been elected as Chair of Regional Cities New South Wales (RCNSW), a two-year position. Cr Russell Webb, Mayor of Tamworth Regional Council, was re-elected Deputy Chair at a board meeting in Sydney on Thursday, November 14.

Northern Rivers Community Gateway rewarded with community benefit

The General Insurance Code Governance Committee has announced that it has selected registered charity Northern Rivers Community Gateway as the beneficiary of a \$50,000 community benefit payment from an insurer which did the wrong thing.

Lots of weekend fun at Ballina Salvage Shed's recycled art competition

The Ballina Salvage Shed's recycled art competition saw Ron Ford take out the Open category while Ivy Hickson won both the U12 and the People's Choice Award.

Tweed Council prepping for 2025 Seniors Festival

Organisations are encouraged to register their events by Friday, December 13, 2024 to be featured in the festival program and join in celebrating the contributions of older residents in the Shire.

Tradies in demand in Ballina

One of the biggest challenges for the Northern Rivers, and in fact the state, is getting qualified people to come on board for building projects. This has been highlighted by a recent study that looks at the 'most in-demand trades' for Ballina.

Motorcycle accident west of Casino at Culmaran Creek

A car and motorcycle were involved in a serious accident west of Casino around 1pm on Monday, November 18.

www.echo.net.au

Zemzemeh concert for refugee project



Zemzemeh will perform in Uki to support the Uki Refugee Project. Photo supplied

Musical duo Siyavash Doostkhan and Greta Kelly have generously offered to support Uki Refugee Project by donating their time to play an exciting concert in Uki.

Performing Persian mystical music juxtaposed with modern electronica creating a rich, contemporary zeitgeist, Zemzemeh – Siyavash Doostkhan and Greta

Kelly – explore sufi poetry and music of Iran through acoustic traditions infused with concepts of love and harmony.

The Zemzemeh concert will be held on November 30 at 7pm, at the Holy Trinity Church, Uki.

Tickets can be purchased at: events.humanitix.com/zemzemeh.

Stop the violence, end the silence

David Lowe

The Ballina region is stepping up against domestic and family violence and saying 'yes' to respectful relationships with its annual Rotary Walk, happening on Friday, November 29.

Schools, sporting groups, service organisations and community members are all invited to join the walk, assembling at the Ballina Visitor Information Centre (next to the Ballina Swimming Pool) for a 1pm start.

This year walkers will travel along River and Cherry Streets to the Ballina Indoor Sports Centre, where there will be guest speakers and live music. Streets will be partially closed for safety.

With domestic and family violence statistics still



Rotary says no to domestic violence walk participants.

alarmingly high, the Rotary Club of Ballina-on-Richmond has taken a central role in bringing attention to the problem, with purple shirt Fridays, education programs and the annual walk, and day of action seeking to keep conversations going and drive change.

You can get involved and find out more at 0427 287 627.

Tweed water passes PFAS test

Tweed Shire Council says independent laboratory testing has confirmed the Tweed's tap water remains safe to drink, and well below current and proposed reduced limits for PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) set by the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines (ADWG).

Treated tap water samples were collected by trained Council staff from the

Tweed's three water supply systems – the Tweed District (Bray Park Water Treatment Plant), Uki village and Tyalgum village.

The testing was undertaken in October following a recommendation by NSW Health for all water authorities in the state to undertake PFAS testing.

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

Lismore to Bentley rail trail opens December 14

The transformation of the former railway line from Tweed Shire through to Casino, when finished, will create 132km of bike and walking track through some of the most scenic areas of the Northern Rivers. The Lismore to Bentley section is due to open at Lismore Railway station on December 14 at 10am.

'Over the past month, construction crews have worked hard to put the final touches on the trail between Lismore and Bentley. Works are being completed at Bungabee car park, South Lismore car park (at the Lismore Railway Station) and the shared path connection to Nesbitt Park,' a spokesperson for the Northern Rivers Rail Trail (NRRT) told *The Echo*.

'A local South Lismore supplier has repurposed existing railway steel into various artifacts. First is a commanding Lismore sign at the Lismore Railway Station which features railway steel from sections of the original



The new Lismore to Bentley rail trail section will open on December 14. Photo supplied

line. Seats at the trailhead have been constructed from historic bridge timbers with brackets made from repurposed railway steel, as have horse-hitching rails. Finally, a four-metre-long bike rack made from railway steel will be installed for launch.'

Join the opening

This section of the NRRT will feature five rest areas that are now built and provide a shelter, picnic tables, bike racks, and a hitching rail and water trough for horses.

The timber finishes at the crossings are being finalised in the coming weeks before the official launch.

External upgrades to the iconic heritage-listed Lismore Railway Station precinct, including new turf and pressure cleaning existing surfaces, will be completed creating a charming trailhead.

Everyone is encouraged to come and celebrate the opening and enjoy accessing this beautiful section of the NRRT.

Turf from fire ant-infested SE Qld suspended

The recent detection of fire ants at Clunes has led to a temporary suspension of turf movements from heavily infested fire ant areas of South East Queensland.

A new Biosecurity Emergency Order (No. 15) was published on Friday, November 15 to include the immediate temporary suspension on turf.

'Fire ants won't march into NSW they will either be carried with materials such as soil, mulch, hay and turf, or fly in by natural spread from Queensland,' said NSW Minister for Agriculture Tara Moriarty.

'The temporary suspension of turf delivery from fire ant infested areas is a necessary step to mitigate the movement of these highly invasive pests.'

Cost to Australians

The Australia Institute recently warned Queensland households could be hit with an annual bill of \$188 million if fire ants aren't eradicated.

Queensland residents who handle materials like soil, hay, turf and potted plants, sourced from within the Queensland-defined fire ant biosecurity zones are legally required to follow measures

to reduce the risk of spreading fire ants, as outlined in the Biosecurity Regulation 2016 (QLD) as well as any other requirements of the receiving state or territory.

'Under our existing emergency measures turf needs to be treated both prior to harvest and immediately after laying in NSW,' said NSW Chief Invasive Species Officer Scott Charlton.

'Suppliers also need to ensure a Record of Movement is declared, relevant certification and documents are retained, turf is labelled and transported in preventative conditions, which for turf means keeping off the ground and covering until it reaches its destination.'

Prevention

The NSW Fire Ant Program say they have recently stepped-up efforts to prevent the spread of fire ants with the launch of proactive early detection surveillance across northern New South Wales.

'The initiative uses specially trained detection dogs and human surveillance teams to monitor high-risk sites to detect and prevent the establishment of fire ants in NSW,' they said in a press release.

'Surveillance will target high-risk locations identified through tracing of fire ant carrier materials, such as turf, soil, and other landscaping materials, along with areas highlighted by habitat suitability modelling.'

Agriculture Minister Moriarty stated that, 'By ramping up surveillance focusing on high-risk areas and employing advanced tracking and modelling techniques, we're taking strong preventative measures to stop fire ants from establishing here.'

'We've proven that when fire ants are detected in NSW, we will respond quickly to stamp them out as soon as possible, and it's thanks to the thousands of sets of eyes that report in suspected sightings.'

'Biosecurity is everyone's responsibility, so it's critical that businesses moving these types of materials comply with the Biosecurity (Fire Ant) Emergency Order,' she said.

Use the online fire ant compliance tool (www.fireants.org.au/treat/business/movement-advice-tool) to check the steps you need to take before transporting materials.



ACAP BYRON BAY MEETS THE RISING DEMAND FOR COUNSELLORS

As communities across Australia grapple with increasing mental health challenges, a 15%* increase in counselling jobs is projected by 2028.

At the Australian College of Applied Professions (ACAP) in Byron Bay, we are addressing this demand by helping future counsellors turn their compassion into a career through our accredited courses.

Over the past 15 years, emotional distress and mental health issues among young people have surged by 50%***, highlighting the urgent need for empathetic counsellors.

By studying our Bachelor of Counselling or Diploma of Counselling Skills, our graduates benefit from world-class industry-experienced educators, all without leaving the region.

ACAP Counselling graduate, Mahalia Scholz is now working in her chosen field in regional NSW and said the course flexibility was a key element of her success.

"I never wanted to leave my hometown, so having the flexibility to do blended delivery through ACAP meant I could experience being on campus, as well as study from home, which helped me thrive," she said.

With more than 40 years' expertise in psychology and the helping professions, ACAP's practical and supportive approach, as well as small class sizes, produce work-ready graduates empowered to create positive, lasting change.

ACAP Head of Counselling, Professor Vicki Hutton, said ACAP counsellors are trained to offer holistic support.

"Counsellors are very much trained to look at the whole person; their situation in society, family, work. Not just to focus on one identified problem, but really work with that person to look at their whole situation," she said.

"People don't have to be diagnosed with a mental health disorder to need some sort of help. This is where counsellors really come into their own."

With a commitment to small class sizes, ACAP ensures students receive personalised support from industry expert lecturers, preparing them to excel in both their studies and future careers. ACAP offers multiple intake dates each year, with the next beginning on February 5th.

*NSW Government

**ABS - National Study of Mental Health and Wellbeing, 2023

Study Counselling with ACAP Byron Bay





The Byron Shire Echo
Volume 39 #25 • November 27, 2024

Right and left wings are from the same turkey

Statistician Mark Twain said, 'If you don't read newspapers, you're uninformed. If you read newspapers, you're mis-informed.'

Deep down, I suspect everyone wants to feel 'informed' about what is going on around them. While there's some people who don't engage at all with local and global events, we all have a collective stake in outcomes.

I've seen people become incredibly interested in their surroundings when they are about to be shaken up by powers greater than themselves.

As an actor in the media landscape, even at this hyperlocal level, there's an expectation to be across certain issues, or at least be somewhat informed.

I cannot honestly say that I am across everything, and it's reasonable to be suspicious of those who say they are.

Know-it-alls are such a bore. So I am confused, for example, whether Trump's pick for Director of National Intelligence, Tulsi Gabbard, is a good shake-up for the war-mongering elites who run the US government.

The former US Democrat senator is being labelled as a national security threat by the spooks and left-leaning media because of her relative inexperience in the intelligence community, and her positions on Syria and the war in Ukraine.

Gabbard is a Russian asset, apparently. One of the sharpest global political analysts, Peter Zeihan, told his 834,000 subscribers on YouTube this week as much.

I have followed Gabbard for a while. She is a decorated former



medic who served in the Iraq war. Gabbard has a solid record of introducing bills that put the establishment on notice.

Dropping criminal charges against whistleblower Edward Snowden was just one bill.

This leads, perhaps, to modern political tribalism.

The cheerleaders of political tribalism are (mostly) corporate media that seek to profit on outrage. Now, more than ever, it's confusing because the corporate narrative has become so sophisticated it masquerades as 'independent' voices.

Ground News

One interesting news source is Ground News.

It doesn't produce news, it aggregates it from sources that 'do' news. Ground News assess trending news as being either a left, centre, or right coverage.

And more than that, it assesses media organisations it aggregates as having media bias ratings (left, centre, right), for factuality and ownership.

The Ground News website says it was co-founded in 2018 by former NASA engineer, Harleen Kaur, and award-winning app developer Sukh Singh.

They say, 'We are not funded by a media company, big tech, government affiliations nor institutional investors - we are supported by our subscribers and a small group of individual investors who care about the problem personally.'

For the record, *The Echo* was established in 1986, and is independently-owned by locals.

Hans Lovejoy, editor

Is duopoly a democracy?

In 1996 the American intellectual Noam Chomsky wrote, 'The smart way to keep people passive and obedient is to strictly limit the spectrum of acceptable opinion, but allow very lively debate within that spectrum.'

Professor Chomsky, now 95, has now lost the ability to speak, but his words continue to ring true.

In Australia, both major political parties have a strong interest in shutting down dissenting voices, particularly in the form of independent voters seeking to change the political duopoly.

While strident arguments about deckchair placement are always welcome in LibLab land, ecological collapse, AUKUS and the failings of late-stage capitalism are not open to discussion.

Party brands collapsing

And so, with grassroots popular support for both major political brands collapsing, and influential donors to appease (including the unions and Gina Rinehart), the vast loopholes in the ALP's new Electoral Reform Bill 2024 appear custom-designed to suit the existing big party players, and shut out pesky newcomers - not just Clive Palmer, but teal candidates and other progressives.

Having had years to develop its proposed electoral reforms, Anthony Albanese's government is now trying to push these changes through with minimal public discussion over the final sitting week of parliament in 2024.

It appears the Coalition will require only minor changes.

They need to stop Climate 200 somehow, and it's certainly not going to be with good climate policy.

Yes, there are good things in the Electoral Legislation Amendment (Electoral Reform) Bill, including more transparency for political donations and real-time disclosure, and limits on election spending, but unfortunately the proposed playing field is far from flat.

Big parties can spread their money across the country, while individuals campaigning in individual electorates will be hobbled.

Although they're urgently



'While strident arguments about deckchair placement are always welcome in LibLab land, ecological collapse, AUKUS and the failings of late-stage capitalism are not open to discussion.'

- David Lowe

needed, there will be no truth in political advertising laws included in this reform (Labor has pushed this idea into another bill, which appears to be on a distant backburner).

'Nominated entities' established by major parties are loopholes for big players to outspend their competitors, by hiding money accumulated in the past beyond the reach of donation caps.

Also, because of all the sub-parties (technically, there are nine ALP state parties, plus one federal organisation, as well as eight Liberal parties, and five National parties) - each of these entities would be able to access \$20,000 per calendar year, while independents are only able to get one bite at the funding cherry.

Because public election money only gets distributed after votes are counted, new parties and candidates have to start with nothing.

It's anticipated that 75 per cent of public funds will go straight to the major parties.

Additional big bucks for administrative funding will go only to existing sitting members, with those in the Reps getting twice as much as those in the Senate (where most of the non-duopoly politicians sit, coincidentally).

Finally, in the midst of a cost-of-living crisis, there's the fact that these reforms will cost Australian taxpayers millions of dollars more than the current arrangements (about \$5 per vote, instead of \$3).

Coleworths

Which brings us to...

Beyond our political parties, the other great Australian duopoly relates to our supermarkets, with Coles and Woolworths (Coleworths) accounting for 58 per cent of national grocery sales.

Their nearest competitor is

Aldi, with 8.1 per cent (although they're crushing the stolen cake competition).

The Liberal-dominated Select Committee on Cost of Living has just handed down its final report after multiple delays, saying the crisis was all basically the fault of Labor governments and unions, and that they should get out of the way of the corporate sector.

Hidden in the fine print

In the fine print, the committee also said that the government should 'continue their policy of holding major supermarket chains to account for the prices they charge on groceries.'

The Australian Greens Dissenting Report went much further, saying 'while millions of people across the country are struggling to make ends meet, big corporations have been raking in massive profits off the back of the community's pain.'

The ACCC's year-long investigation into supermarket pricing also wrapped up last week, having spent most of this year discovering that the duopoly does indeed appear to be contributing to the national cost-of-living crisis as a result of collusion over price gouging, fake specials, land banking, exploiting farmers and other dastardly practices to exploit customers and prevent competition.

The competition watchdog's final report is due in February, which will be too late for anyone in government to do anything serious about it.

Unlike the electoral reform law, there's no way this issue will be resolved before the next federal election, which probably means it will be years before anyone looks at it again.

■ David Lowe is an award-winning filmmaker, writer and photographer and is from Cloudcatcher Media.



The Byron Shire Echo
Volume 39 #25 November 27, 2024
Established 1986 • 22,000 copies every week

www.echo.net.au

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Nicholas Shand
1948-1996
Founding Editor

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

Disclaimer: The Echo is committed to providing a voice for our whole community. The views of advertisers, letter writers, and opinion writers are not necessarily those of the owners or staff of this publication.

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

- Finley Peter Dunne 1867-1936

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Death spiral

Climate change is having a significant impact on agriculture, with extreme weather events, shifting growing seasons, and increased pest pressures threatening food security. These changes not only affect crop yields but also drive up food prices, exacerbating the cost of living for many families.

Stopping greenhouse gas emissions is essential to halt the acceleration of the effects of climate change. Renewable energy solutions, such as home batteries, are much more affordable now. This enables more households to go off the grid, reducing reliance on fossil fuels and decreasing overall emissions. This transition not only supports environmental goals but also offers economic benefits by reducing energy costs for consumers.

Investing in renewable energy technologies will empower individuals to contribute to emission reductions and help stabilise the cost of living. The longer we delay action, the more chaotic the climate will be, the higher the cost of living becomes, and the less money we will have to afford to build renewable energy systems.

Sapoty Brook
Main Arm

Development

How did the huge houses being built in lower Browning Street (Byron) pass the pub test?

Three storeys? Definitely don't fit into the streetscape, maybe they mixed up Marvell Street and Browning! Hopefully the new council can check on this.

Wally Hueneke
Byron Bay



The Echo seen at more exotic locations! Thanks to Byron locals Angela and Igor.

Taken for a ride

Michael Sarpi, (Letters, November 20) the prices of petrol ARE exorbitant in Byron Bay. The prices seem to have no justification regarding cost of oil, the Aussie dollar or delivery fees. Do we have dealers in Byron who simply rip us off? I laugh when I see Woolworths' offer of four cents off, the same offer from about 1990, when it meant something. Byron BP is charging \$1.94 for E10.

To get 30 cents per litre discount, not four cents, take a drive to Ballina. Do some shopping, have lunch. If you're buying 50 litres, you'll save about \$15. Prices at Ballina for at least the last month are: Metro, E10 is \$1.62, Unleaded is \$1.64, and Premium U98 is \$1.84.

Or, set up blockades on all Byron servos and force a change in pricing! Go Byron!

Raphael Lee Cass
Byron Bay

Byron visitors

Why are visitor numbers down in Byron Bay? There are obviously a number of

key factors that are contributing to this, e.g. the high cost of living in Australia, which has literally gone through the roof so to speak.

Also, gridlock traffic in and out of town at peak times is clearly going to get a lot worse due to the high number of developments that have been approved in and around the town.

What about the demise of the creative and unique businesses that once made the town interesting and appealing? Unfortunately, many of these businesses have been pushed out due to ever increasing high rents to be replaced by mainstream chain clothing and food stores. These businesses clearly don't do much for the uniqueness and creative image of the town.

Or the high cost of Byron Bay holiday accommodation? It's even quite expensive to stay in one of the local caravan parks.

Byron Bay once had a reputation and image as a unique and creative place to not only live in, but also

to visit. It wasn't seen as a typically mainstream town, which I believe was a big drawcard. Unfortunately, as the money has moved in, so have the mainstream chain businesses which has led in part to the demise of the town's unique image and therefore makes it less appealing to visit.

Graeme Chapman
Suffolk Park

Foreshore development

Are there any locals out there who are concerned about the rate of sand loss and dune erosion at Main Beach, Byron? While we cannot do much about the impacts of sea level rise, we CAN do a lot to encourage natural sand accretion and maintain and rebuild our defensive dunes.

I notice several people commenting on the latest proposals for a FORESHORE redesign. Kevin Hunt talks about beach access and Sapoty Brook talks about

► Continued on page 15

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

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Community Consultation
3-5 FINGAL STREET, BRUNSWICK HEADS

The landowners will soon submit a Development Application to Byron Shire Council.

The DA proposal, located at 3-5 Fingal Street, Brunswick Heads, NSW 2483, is for a mixed-use development consisting of car parking and commercial premises, including a cafe, on the ground floor, and 13 apartments above.

Community members wanting to view plans can do so from today, Wednesday 27th November, up to Monday 16th December, at plannersnorth.com.au/fingalst_consultation


Meetings with the team creating the proposal will also be available.

When: Thursday 12th December 2024, 3 to 6pm, with additional after-hours meetings available.

Where: Brunswick Valley Community Centre, 42 South Beach Road, Brunswick Heads

To book a meeting, provide feedback, or for any other questions, please email 3.5fingalstreet@gmail.com

*This DA has not yet been lodged.
 **All feedback should be provided by Monday 16th December 2024.



plannersnorth.com.au/fingalst_consultation

Winton lends his voice to climate action through latest book, *Juice*

Tori Bail

Tim Winton is on stage, seated, in conversation about his new book, *Juice*, a novel about the dystopian future that awaits us all because of rapid, fossil fuel-induced global warming.

'You've all heard of stop the boats,' he says. 'But it'll be stop the utes,' the four-times Miles Franklin award winner tells the packed audience at Sydney's art deco Cremorne Orpheum cinema.

Winton is alluding to a warmer, inhospitable future where vast reaches of Northern Australia become uninhabitable as temperatures in summer soar past 50 degrees, prompting an internal migration of climate refugees to the relatively cooler but also dystopian, climate-charred southern cities.

Juice has a Cormac McCarthy tone, in a manner similar to *The Road*, with two main characters – a child and an adult – who travel across a charred landscape, challenged by survivors of a world where people live shorter lives, and are not as healthy as now, and spend a lot of their time underground as the outdoors is just too hot to live in.

Most of the book is set in the north west of Western Australia, an area Winton knows well. But he also writes of the blackened mountain pass that leads to the Sydney Wall and of 'scabrous fellows, dirty and ill-looking and high-end holdouts that continued to evade.'

Past failures

Winton, ever the thoughtful writer, poses this question to the attentive audience. 'What sort of ancestor do you want to be remembered as?'

The question goes to the very heart of the book. When the central character finds out that the world had been a much more temperate, habitable, place but that the generations of the past failed to do anything about the planetary heating that led to their dystopian hell.

Winton is now in his mid-60s, and a grandparent several times over, a time of life that gives fresh perspective on the meaning of generation. On stage, he talks to his audience of activities he did as a younger man that his grandchildren will never be able to do because of the rapidly changing natural world. Marine heatwaves have all but destroyed the Western Australia abalone and the species is now in a closed fishing zone. Winton used to dive for abalone to eat as a younger man. His grandchildren will never be able to do that.

Science fiction

Juice is Winton's first foray into science fiction, but its foundation is entrenched in fact. He was writing the book, while at the same time being filmed for a documentary about the beauty and wonder of Ningaloo Reef, with the two disparate activities playing on his mind about just how much



Author Tim Winton. Photo supplied

the next generations face to lose in terms of natural amenity, let alone a structured sense of community. With the expected, forthcoming, massive, environmental degradation comes social and economic upheaval on an unprecedented scale.

Internet-free future?

He quips to the audience, that a future generation might not even have the internet, pointing to the fact that without political or economic structure, there will be no one to launch, let alone look after the satellites that keep the World Wide Web going.

The taste of dystopian is seated deep within the recent Australian experience of off-the-scale floods, rainforests burning, and, lately, oceans and global vegetation no longer acting as net absorbers of carbon dioxide.

Readers are only all too aware that they already live in the most fire-prone and flood-prone parts of the continent. The Black Summer bushfires of 2019-2020 and the floods of 2022 – the second one within 30 days of the first – are but a portent of a climate rapidly changing for the worse. Climate refugees are already among us on the Northern Rivers, yet there is still widespread government inaction on adaptation to global heating.

This month's Port of Newcastle Blockade by Rising Tide and COP29 climate talks in Azerbaijan are at polar opposites on tackling climate change. The latter being the port-and-cigars talkfest that after 30 years still has not made a communique that there is an urgent, rapid need to cut greenhouse emissions to zero by mid-century at the latest, by ending the addiction to fossil fuels.

The former, a people's protest carnival at the planet's biggest coal export port that a Minns Labor government tried to stop through backing NSW Police taking action in the Supreme Court to kybosh any on-water activity.

Winton, in a video, posted his support for the blockade, saying – in

essence – there's no time to lose in getting government to take notice and actually do something about dangerous climate change, by calling a stop on all new coal and gas developments.

In a world of carbon budgets and climate tipping points where the natural world starts to go haywire, from loss of ice to loss of coral reefs – there is not enough space in this column to do justice to both concepts. But time is rapidly running out. The planet is either close to, or is just about to cross 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial times for a global average temperature. That is the upper limit of what the COP process believes is a safe limit, as set out in its Paris Agreement of 2015.

Fossil fuel captives

Two degrees Celsius on current rates of emissions trajectory, which is running above worst-case estimates, is only 10 or 15 years away. At that level, global temperatures will be hotter than at any time in the history of the human species, homo sapiens 'thinking man'.

The trouble is – our political masters (Labor and LNP) and their commissars, especially in the mainstream media, remain totally captive to the fossil fuel industry. The Australian petro-state makes a mockery of the moniker 'thinking man'.

As Winton writes in *Juice*, upon the main character finding out that disastrous climate change could have been avoided, he says: 'And so full of fury and grief. I let go. Like a crying child, and sang:

O! Oh!
 Aramco, Sunco, Conco, Rio-Rio, Chevron
 Sinopec, Shell-o, Shell-o, Peabod, BP,
 Climate Depot
 Oh!
 Woodside, Santos, Petrobas
 O!
 Koch
 Oh!
 Koch!
 O! Oh!
 Fuckers! Fuckers! Fuckers!
 Oooohhh!

► Continued from page 13 maintaining beachfront car parks. What I don't see is any public consideration for how any foreshore re-modelling will impact the beach. Surely any foreshore development MUST consider its beach. The two are interdependent after all. Let's not improve one while continuing to kill off the other.

Our foreshore at Main Beach is recognised as failing. It needs to be structurally rebuilt. The old sea wall and groynes, constructed last century, have done untold damage to the beach, scouring out metres of sand permanently and eating away at the western dunes where the ragged wall ends. So here's our chance not only to improve the landward side of the foreshore for recreation, entertainment, viewing and even parking, but to lessen the sand scouring impacts of the current wall, and improve beach quality and longevity. For example, just removing those groynes will lessen the erosion of the western dunes. And our Council is well aware of the many options available for designing hybrid sea walls that do not kill off the beach before it. So please people, whatever opinions you have

on foreshore land amenity, think also about how we can improve our beach at the same time – both sand levels and the health of those fortifying dunes that remain.

Jan Hackett
Byron Bay

What a 'line-up'

US President-elect Donald Trump's top picks number one: Attorney-General, Congressman Mat Gaetz, who stated during the Trump campaign re the abortion issue, 'Why is it that the women with the least likelihood of getting pregnant are the ones most worried about having abortions? Nobody wants to impregnate you if you look like a thumb'. Questioned if his comment implies that women at these abortion rallies are ugly and overweight, he responded, 'Yes!' When asked if his comments might be seen as offensive, Gaetz responded, 'Be offended.' Uttered by the man whose first duty is to protect the rule of law.

Number two: Mexican Border Security 'Czar', Tom Homan, when asked, 'Is there a way to carry out deportations without separating families?' replied, 'Of course, deport the whole family!' Scary shades of

North Korea's Supreme Dictator Kim Jong Un.

Number three: Ramaswamy and Musk for the new Department of Government Efficiency, in Ramaswamy's words: 'Large scale mass layoffs is absolutely what we will bring in.' Musk: 'If you don't like it, go f**k yourself! The world's richest man laying masses of American's off. Shades of Yes Minister!

Closer to home, Aussie US Ambassador, Kevin Rudd's public criticisms of Trump – 'village idiot', 'juvenile', 'traitor to the west' – talk about backing the wrong horse in a job where you are being paid by your country to pick the right one.

Rudd will grovel on his belly to keep his job and very considerable perks of office.

So, what should Albo do? Sack Rudd for not remaining neutral? Sack Rudd for being brazen and egotistical? No – sack Rudd for being spineless (deleted all his X-tweets) and appoint Penny Wong in Rudd's place.

Australia is certainly going to need one tough, determined US Ambassador to get to Trump's ear this time about, and that ain't going to be Kevin Rudd.

Terry Sharples
Tweed Heads

Bearing witness

Yet another biblical donkey cart picks its way through the rubble canyons of Gaza.

These poor desperate people are caged-in and cannot escape. Some have been forced to move more than 20 times.

Yet another father carries the broken and bloodied bodies of his children while a mother wails her bottomless grief. Hundreds of starving people climb over each other for a dollop of soup. American bombs and missiles just keep raining down 'like shooting fish in a barrel', inflicting endless destruction and horror.

Deliberately targeting hospitals, schools, 'safe-zones' and refugee camps to maximise trauma.

Drawing battle lines along religious tribalism – the most toxic projection of all.

Helpless to change anything except myself, I am tempted to do what many of my friends do and just turn away from all this. I am experiencing 'compassion fatigue', but I feel compelled to bear witness and allow the emotions to be felt, despite glazing over and feeling numb with the grinding repetition of it all.

Mike Balson
Upper Wilsons Creek

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Trump didn't win because of policy

Bryan Frew

I totally disagree with Chaay Donati's article 'The Ghosts of 2016: How the Democrats' betrayal of Bernie Sanders and the embrace of neoliberalism paved the way for Trump' (*Echo*, November 13) about the reason Trump won the US election so convincingly. This election had very little, if anything, to do with policy.

We should consider the election and the current state of politics in the US through the lens of the late Alistair Mant, especially from his book, *Leaders We Deserve and the Politics of Self Pity*.

In the context of Mant's theories, once the electorate has emotionally invested in a leader like Trump – someone who embodies their own grievances, fears, and desires – policies and promises – become almost irrelevant. The political dynamics at play here are driven far more by identity, emotion, and narrative than by rational debate or evidence-based policymaking.

Why policies don't matter

1. Emotional investment for Trump's policy: For many voters, the decision to support Trump isn't rooted in a careful analysis of his policies but in an emotional identification with his persona and narrative. Mant's concept of the leaders we deserve suggests that Trump represents the collective psyche of a segment of the electorate – an embodiment of their anger, frustration, and sense of betrayal. This emotional bond is far stronger than any rational appeal based on policy specifics. When voters feel that Trump is one of them, or fighting for them, policy details become secondary.

2. Distrust of the establishment: In the current political climate, there is a deep-seated distrust of the political establishment, which Trump has skillfully capitalised on. Even if Harris were to present a well-reasoned policy platform or expose credible evidence of Trump's corruption, it would likely be dismissed by his supporters as part of the very system they already distrust. Mant's framework of self-pity aligns here: when people see themselves as perpetual

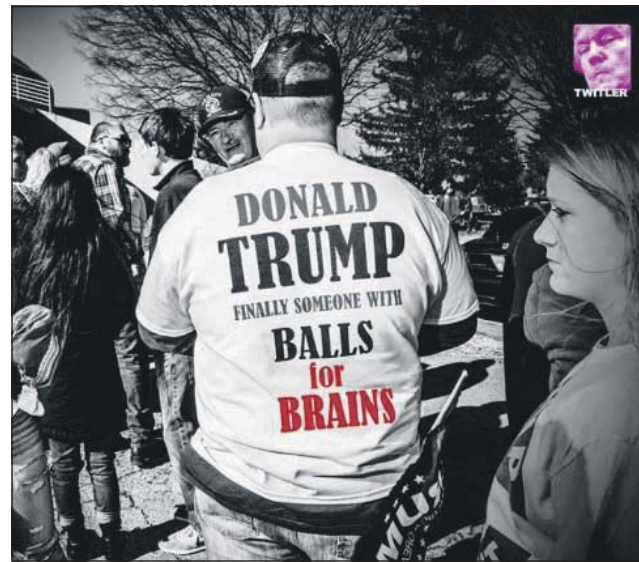


Image: Politicked/Facebook

victims of a corrupt elite, they are less likely to believe information that comes from traditional sources of authority.

3. The narrative of corruption is already baked in: Trump's narrative has long been one of fighting against a 'rigged system'. Claims of corruption against him don't shock his base because they are already conditioned to believe that he's being targeted unfairly by the same corrupt establishment he's vowed to dismantle. In fact, accusations of corruption can often reinforce his victim narrative, making him appear even more as the embattled hero standing up against a powerful and hostile elite. This is a psychological twist Mant would recognise; the leader's perceived flaws become part of their mythos, a sign that they are fighting the right enemies.

The power of identity politics

In the face of these dynamics, Harris and her campaign might find it nearly impossible to shift voter opinion because this election wasn't about rational choice; it was about tribal identity. Voters who identify with Trump see the world through a lens shaped by his rhetoric; Biden is corrupt, and Harris is 'low IQ' – not because there is proof, but because Trump has framed them that way, and it fits the narrative his supporters have internalised.

The Democrats, no matter their policies or intentions, are the enemy – the embodiment of everything Trump's base believes is wrong with the country.

In this scenario, it's not about what Harris promises; it's about who she represents in the minds of Trump's supporters. They see her as part

of the very system they've come to despise, no matter what she says or does.

controversies and scandals. Over time, this barrage of accusations has had a desensitising effect on voters. They've heard so many claims of corruption that it no longer registers as significant. In Mant's terms, the electorate has become inured to the drama, accepting it as part of the political landscape rather than as a disqualifying factor.

Voter entrenchment and the death of persuasion

Mant's theories would suggest that we've reached a point where voter entrenchment is so strong that there's little room for persuasion. Trump's followers have built their identity around their support for him, and their worldview is reinforced daily by the echo chambers of social media and alternative media outlets. In this environment we see:

1. Cognitive dissonance: Any new information that contradicts their beliefs (e.g. evidence of Trump's corruption) causes cognitive dissonance and is quickly dismissed as 'fake news' or partisan attacks. Mant might argue that this is part of the broader psychological need to maintain a coherent narrative in the face of a chaotic and confusing world.

2. Moral framing: The battle has become a moral one, not a political one. For Trump's supporters, it's not just about whether he's corrupt or whether Harris has good policies – it's about a fight between good and evil, between 'real Americans' and a dangerous, radical left. Once this moral framing takes hold, it's almost impossible to change minds through traditional political campaigning.

Lack of shock factor

There is no longer anything to 'shock' voters into changing their minds. Mant's concept of the politics of self-pity helps explain why:

1. Normalisation of scandal: Trump's presidency has been characterised by a near-constant stream of

2. The power of in-group loyalty: Trump's followers see attacks on him as attacks on themselves. This deep in-group loyalty means that criticism or shocking revelations don't have the intended effect; instead, they reinforce a siege mentality. The more that Trump is criticised, the more his supporters rally around him, seeing it as proof that he's fighting the right enemies.

3. Narrative control: Trump's control over the narrative, especially through social media, means that he can quickly respond to or dismiss any accusations. His messaging is simple, direct, and repetitive, drowning out the complex, policy-focused responses from his opponents. In Mant's analysis, this reflects a broader societal trend where simplified, emotionally charged narratives are far more effective than detailed policy debates.

An election beyond rational debate

In the end, Mant's theories help us understand why Trump's victory feels almost impervious to the usual dynamics of political campaigning. It's not about policies, facts, or even evidence of wrongdoing; it's about the emotional and psychological landscape of the electorate. Trump's supporters are driven by a narrative of grievance, victimhood, and a desire for retribution. They've chosen their champion, and no amount of policy detail or proof of corruption is likely to break that bond.

Trump's win, then, can be seen as a reflection of a deeper cultural and psychological shift – one where politics has become less about governance and more about identity, emotion, and belonging. In this environment, the leaders we elevate are those who can best channel our fears and desires, and no amount of rational argument can easily disrupt that connection.

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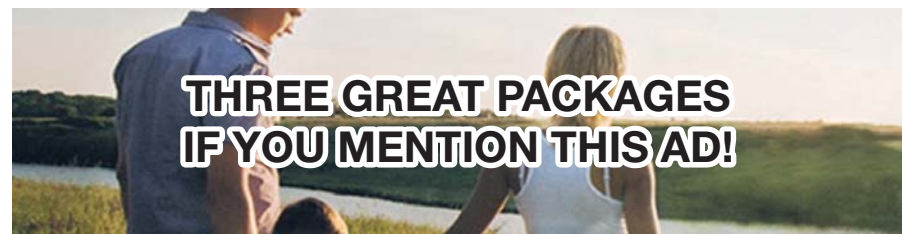
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Contradictions and self-interest

In *The Echo* (13 November 2023) there was a proposal to redevelop Byron's Main Beach car park, etc (page 5), a warning on climate change adaptation (page 17), and the ridicule of Belongil beach front property prices (Backlash).

Now, beaches are dynamic environments that are constantly being reshaped by coastal processes. And, global sea levels are rising (evident in geological observations and instrumental records). Redevelopment of the Main Beach car park, etc would perpetuate that historical planning mistake. It is tantamount to climate change denial!

In my view, just and cheap coastal planning would be to step back a couple of hundreds of metres or so and allow coastal processes to run their course. Unfortunately, self-interest and short-term thinking will prevail. And, the taxpayers will foot the bill.

Stephen Totterman
Empire Vale

Rubbish collection

My twin sister Jane and I 'enjoy' walking around town picking up all the 'small to medium' rubbish in Bruns and Mullumbimby.

I thought maybe others in the town and elsewhere would like to do the same as it's enjoyable to see the streets, gutters, and footpaths gleam once more.

We've been doing this for many years and it's rather fun as we meet many people on the way!

All that is required are tight-fitting gloves and plastic bags. Doggy bags are ideal for small items.

We hope to garner the help of many other people who can pick up in other areas. It's fun to wander along streets and roads that are in need of a clean. We get lots of encouraging comments on the way!

Sarah Buchanan
Brunswick Heads

Electoral system

Australia needs an independent electoral system inquiry.

In discussions on TV, Senator Don Farrell, preparing the final report on the 2022 federal election, stated that he is a great supporter of the Westminster system. Surely that doesn't mean that Australia should continue with an electoral system that favours the major parties. That is not really part of the Westminster system at all.

The purpose of the 2022 inquiry by the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters (JSCEM), a committee entirely dominated by the two major parties, is to recommend reforms following submissions by voters. After the 2022 election many voters complained about the large donations provided by a variety of rich supporters. Apparently JSCEM's recommendations again favour both major parties.

My own submission to JSCEM (No 219), recommending the introduction of Proportional Representation - Party List, used in 90 other countries including some using the Westminster system, does present a real

reform. Clearly, the time has come for a truly independent inquiry, not one dominated by the major parties defending their threatened dominance.

Klaas Woldring
Pearl Beach

This wonderful town

As the commerce/tourism interests get excited about the need to get the place lit up like a Christmas tree over the silly season, I hope that fair warning will be given about the hazards to pedestrians here.

Firstly, absolutely zilch attention, as far as I can see, is being paid to the problem of careless use of cycles and electric bikes here on the footpaths and other tracks - such as the once gentle walk along the Belongil drain. Until it was decided by some that these paths must be shared with those who bore recklessly along, among pedestrians, with complete disregard for others.

Few riders seem to acknowledge that they are meant to share with walkers. Electric bikes, as has been discussed before, seem to evade regulations almost entirely. An iota of common sense would suggest that one doesn't ride flat strap along a footpath (Jonson Street for example) scattering luckless pedestrians like pigeons. But this occurs daily. 'Is a bell on a bicycle necessary?' There is rarely any sound warning given of these cyclists' approach, I find.

Although it is an offence to use a mobile phone whilst driving, I believe, it is commonplace to see some cyclist or e-biker riding

insouciantly along the main roads here (including the now venerated bypass) whilst absorbed in their mobile phone.

Do I think this situation is likely to improve? I am not optimistic!

Here's another hazard of the main street I have personally experienced: back in the start of winter, I noticed that the pedestrian crossing near the Byron Post Office had been remodelled - for what reason, I know not. Anyhow, it had been painted red and white. I have never seen a red and white 'zebra crossing' before. Perhaps it's a 'first' for this wonderful town?

What I was unaware of was the small bump/quasi-ledge that now lurked at the Railway Park side. Distracted by a motorist while crossing, I turned to look and promptly tripped and hit the granite-like composite of the footpath, I cheese-grated the skin of my knee.

Unlike my primary school days, a wound like this, in my case, necessitates weeks of trying to heal and trips to the clinic.

Since my pratfall, I have seen at least two other older persons stumble over it; though luckily they were able to save themselves from falling onto a bed of pain.

I also see younger people fall at the kerbs here and not those fixated on their phones. These may be part of the 'thousand shocks that flesh is heir to'. And I realise 'worse things happen at sea', as my mother would remind me in my boyhood; but-but...

David Morris
Byron Bay

Big year for the Byron Bay Boardriders club

Ross Kendall

The Byron Bay Boardriders club finished 2024 with their annual presentation awards afternoon in front of a crowd of over 200 people at the Suffolk Park Hotel last weekend.

'It was a fantastic afternoon in front of a packed-out crowd at the Suffolk Park,' club President, Neil Cameron said.

'There was a lot of awards to get through.'

Young Leihani Zoric wins women's open

Awards were given out for both the junior and seniors, with Duke Wrencher picking up the coveted Open Men's, while at just 12 years old, Leihani Zoric was crowned the Open Women's winner.

'Leihani had a great wave in tough conditions in the Australian Boardriders' final earlier in the year at Burleigh Heads, with one to 1.5 metre surf,' Neil said.

'She is just back from Hawaii, and on track for bigger things,' he said.

'The club tries to hold at least seven events during the year, for both the seniors and juniors. Each group has its own event to cope with the rise in participants'

The club has been building membership steadily over the last 10 years and now has over 250 members.



The Byron Bay Boardriders Club members. Photo supplied

'Its really taken off. Over 60 per cent of members are U/16,' he said.

Just as importantly, the 'old guard' including surfers like Danny Wills and Kieren Perrow stay active within the club.

Everything for the year was set up when members were on hand in Bondi, Sydney earlier this year to receive the Australian Surfers Association Simon Anderson Award for the best club in Australia.

Soli's big year

Club member, Soli Bailey, has also had a big year and has been nominated for this year's Australian Surfing's Heavy Water Award, among others, along with Ned Hart and Laura Enever.

'He has had a huge year and has just been surfing five-metre waves in Fiji. He has gone to another level stepping into bigger waves and taking it on,' Neil said.

Two weeks ago, Coffs

Harbour won the Australian Boardriders Battle Northern NSW regional qualifier, while Byron Bay came in fourth.

The local club has; however, already qualified for the finals which will be held on March 8-9, 2025 at Burleigh Heads, Qld.

Coffs Harbour, Kingscliff, LeBa, Byron Bay, Woolgoolga and Port Macquarie Boardriders have all now qualified for the national final.

Before that, the club has its eyes on the World Club Challenge that will be held at Snapper Rocks, Qld, over January 17 to 19.

'It's going to be another big year, we are really looking forward to it,' he said.

The LeBa boardriders have been nominated for this year's Australian Surfers 'club of the year' award while Byron Bay's Mark 'Mono' Stewart has been nominated in the Adaptive Surfer category.

The awards will be announced on December 7.

Big day out for Bruns Women's Bowls

Kristine Pryor

A close game was had recently when playing the finals of the Consistency Super Series; L Fitzmaurice defeated S Pearce with a score of 150 against 137 with M Darby as marker.

In the finals for pairs on Tuesday, November 19, L

Butler and S Hutcheson defeated K Berry (sub for J Quigley) and J Andrew by a mere point, with the end results being 17 against 16.

The rain stayed away the majority of the time and it was only when they had finished did it become more abundant. Congratulations to all the ladies who played.

Soares claims BJJ championship

Raz Harel

Thalison Soares has won another major world jiu-jitsu event, after taking out the 2024 black belt World Pro Championship.

The Academy Byron Bay's head instructor has been on a tear this season, winning four out of five Brazilian jiu-jitsu (BJJ) major events at the highest level of the sport. This is very rare, and the fact that he did all of his training in Byron Bay makes it legendary.

Thalison is the 2024 European Champion, Pan American Champion, Brazil National Champion and now also the black belt World Pro Champion, winning the prestigious event in Abu Dhabi on the weekend, and claiming the gold medal after eight intense matches!

■ Raz Harel is from The Academy Byron Bay.



Thalison Soares. Photo supplied

Tennis club thanks sponsors

The Mullumbimby Tennis Club committee would like to acknowledge the following sponsors who supported their recent tournament.

They are Byron Shire Real Estate, Chincogan Real Estate, Mullumbimby Chocolate Shop, Mullumbimby Ex-Services Club, Brunswick Heads Reflections Holiday Park, Mullumbimby Chamber of Commerce, Mullumbimby Golf Club, Banya Spa, Clay Organic, Brunswick Picture House, Mullum InStyle Living, Spice it Up Thai, Bridglunds, Source Bulk Foods, Old Maids Brunswick Heads and Mullumbimby Office Choice.

The club just celebrated 30 years. For more info visit www.mullumbimbytennisclub.com/



Marielou Baudouin, ladies singles open winner of the Mullumbimby Classic tournament. Photo supplied

Send us your sport stories!

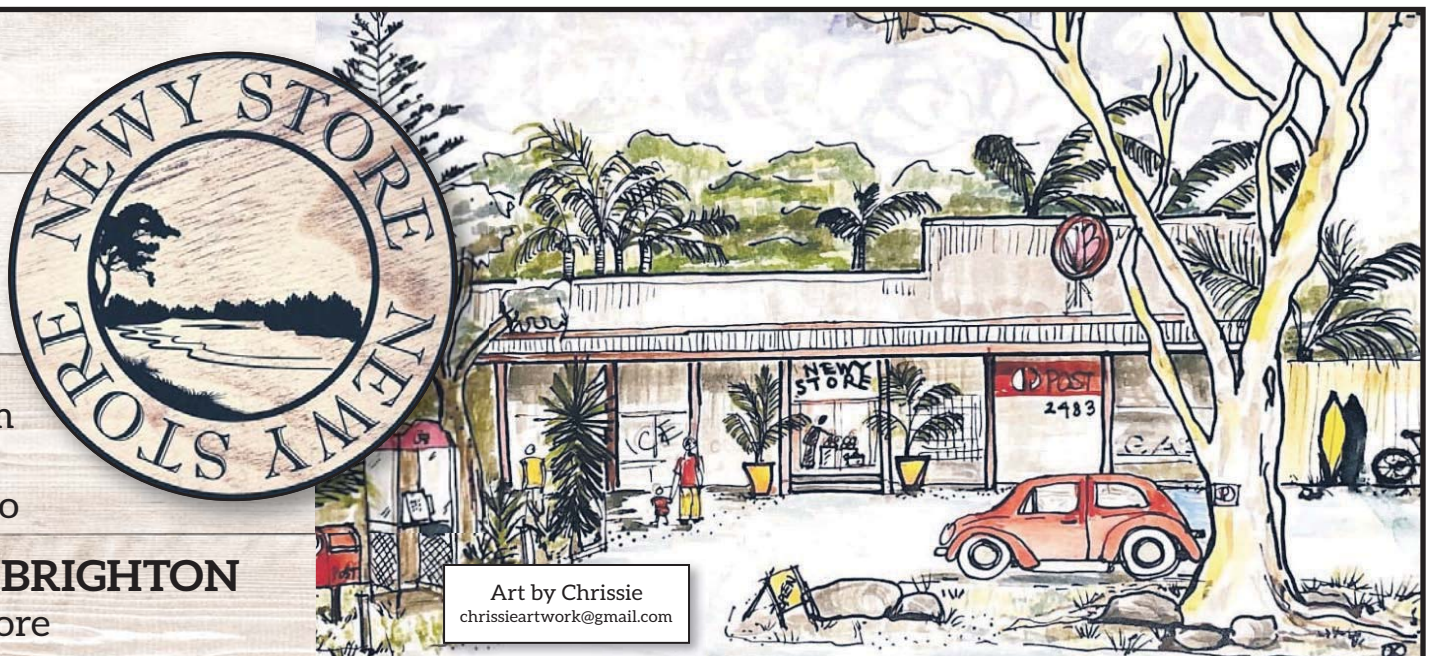
We would love to run all kinds of local sport on these pages so please send your photos and stories to sport@echo.net.au.

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Ethos Catering: bringing the Mediterranean to your event!

Ethos Catering is now available for bookings across the Northern Rivers, specialising in onsite charcoal BBQ that creates an unforgettable feast for gatherings of any size. From intimate dinner parties to extravagant weddings, Ethos delivers the flavour and flair of a professional kitchen to your home or venue.

Cypriot imports – such as olive oil, herbs, and spices – Ethos crafts menus tailored to your vision and budget. The sights, smells, and theatre of the charcoal BBQ will leave your guests with an experience that's as memorable as it is delicious.

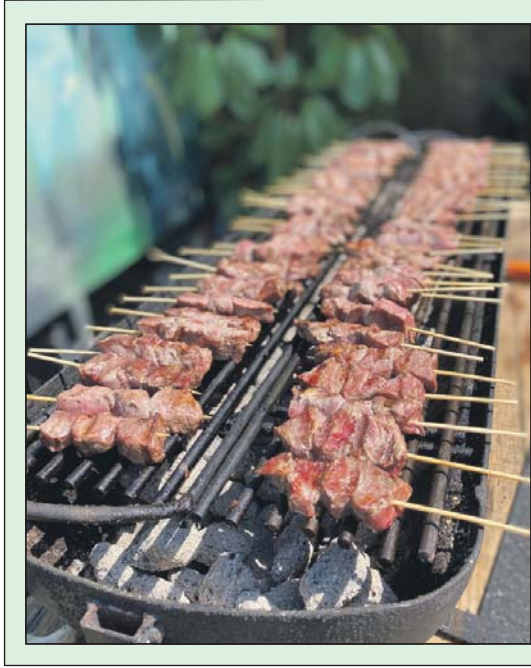
Exciting news for Byron Bay food lovers!
Ethos Catering has also

taken the reins at the Byron Bay Bowling Club Bistro, where quality pub meals meet Greek and Cypriot flavours. Whether you're craving a classic pub meal or a traditional Greek favourite, every dish is inspired by fresh, local ingredients. Petros guarantees that everything served is something he'd proudly offer to his own family – definitely no chicken nuggets!

The bistro is open for dinner service on Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday from 4.30pm to 7.30pm – perfect for experiencing the exceptional flavours Ethos is known for.

Whether it's a bespoke menu for your event or a relaxed meal at the Bowlo, Ethos Catering is here to make every meal extraordinary.

■ For bookings or inquiries, call Petros on 0408 930308 or email bbq@ethoscatering.com.au.





The Good Life

Tell us a little about yourselves – who you are, where you're from and what sets your soul on fire?

Hi, we're Jessie & Tom – the lovers, makers and founders behind Azteca Margarita.

Azteca, like Tommy, is made in Byron, but inspired by Mexico. We're both into food and booze and friends which definitely presents some Monday to Friday challenges, but having fun is so important in life and we try to bring that into our business as well.

A new flavour just launched, tell us about that

This summer sippy is a fruity passion project between ourselves and Gold Coast-based fashion brand Nine Lives Bazaar – passionfruit with a hint of Mexican vanilla and includes a badass salt blend of orange, cinnamon, florals and sea salt. Lightly sweetened with only-organic agave nectar, and like the rest of the Azteca range no preservatives, no colours, no numbers – just the good stuff!

Whats special about the label

All our labels pay homage to our many trips through Mexico – all of the imagery is from our travel diary, so when we started conceptualising the look & feel of the new flavour with Nine Lives, we took a romantic dive into the photo archives and this image stood out to us. A rusted ute on a cobblestone road. We took it in March 2020 (on an iPhone). Covid travel restrictions were just taking hold, we were in front of one of our favourite distillers in Tequila, Mexico (yup! Tequila is a real place! ... some sort of adult heaven).

The wall tapestry is from one of Nine Lives latest collections and the labels themselves are textured, reminiscent of spilt salt – a nod to the hand-blended badass salts we include in the lid of every glass bottle.

What's the background story behind Azteca?

Azteca actually started as a taqueria and Mexican food catering business 8 years ago, but during Covid we pivoted into retail, packaging up all the yummy things that we made for home delivery and markets. It's just grown, really organically, from there. We're 100% locally made, owned and operated and growing conscientiously.

Where to buy

The local community has been so supportive (thank you!) and Azteca is stocked at heaps of local stores – from small general stores like Newy shop and Crabbes Creek to bottleshops like The Cellar group, North Byron, Sunrise, the Northern, OS Tav, as well as artisan grocers like Bay Grocer, Bottle & Hoop, and lifestyle stores like The Local and Sunshine Trader in Bruns.



Jessie and Tom from Azteca

■ The full range (including limited release of salsas for Christmas) are available online www.AztecaMargarita.com.

Huge local Pacific oysters – packed with flavour

Victoria Cosford

Noel Baggaley's not been long back at the markets. He's had a rough couple of years – the heat at

Christmas, plus flooding are elements that oysters do not like.

But he's back now and the oysters are fantastic! Huge creamy Pacifics measuring

between 85 and 90 millimetres, and Noel is still keeping them at the absurdly low price of \$25 a dozen, while shops are charging upward of \$30 – a friend recently told me that she was charged \$5 per oyster at an undistinguished eatery.

I'm curious to know if, as with certain foods like strawberries (although not Monty's), the larger the oyster the more diminished the flavour, but Noel assures me that this is absolutely not the case. 'These are full of flavour', he tells me, 'with a fantastic after-flavour, which is unusual for a Pacific.' When

I ask him to elaborate, he says that it's a 'lingering' flavour.

He's often asked about the Sydney rock oysters, 'but we lost most of them for Christmas. Some will be coming back in about 12 months' time.' From start to finish, growing oysters is a three-year process, and Noel's begin in the Brunswick River – their 'nursery' – and then are moved up to the Tweed, their finishing grounds.

His market oysters may impress me with their size, but apparently there are two sizes larger, the jumbo and

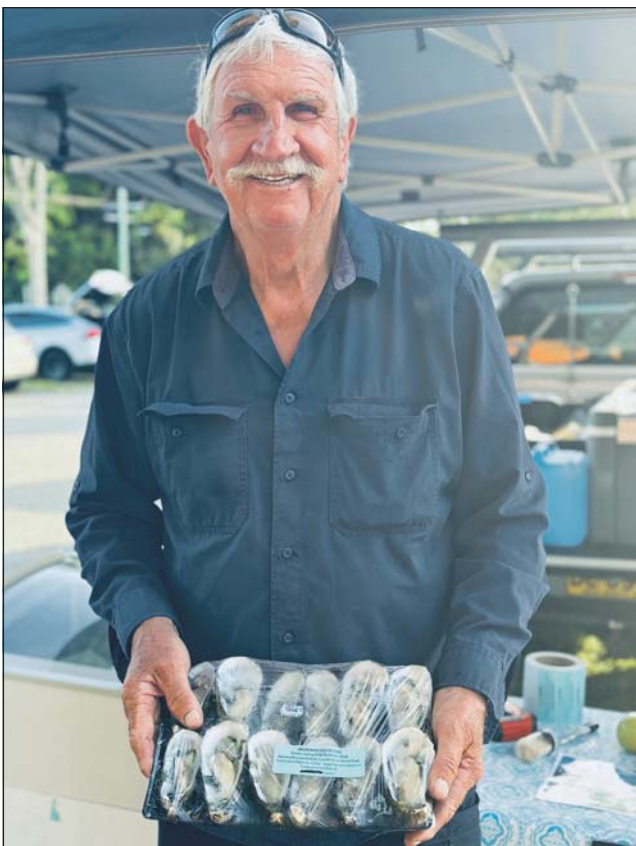
the grande, reaching over 140mm in length. That's a lot of oyster!

What, though, can be done with the shells? 'They go to farmers,' Noel says, 'who use them as great road-fill.' They're also good as a slow-release fertiliser in gardens, all that glorious calcium. Plus, he adds, 'the local land services have a program where they're

recycling all the shells.'

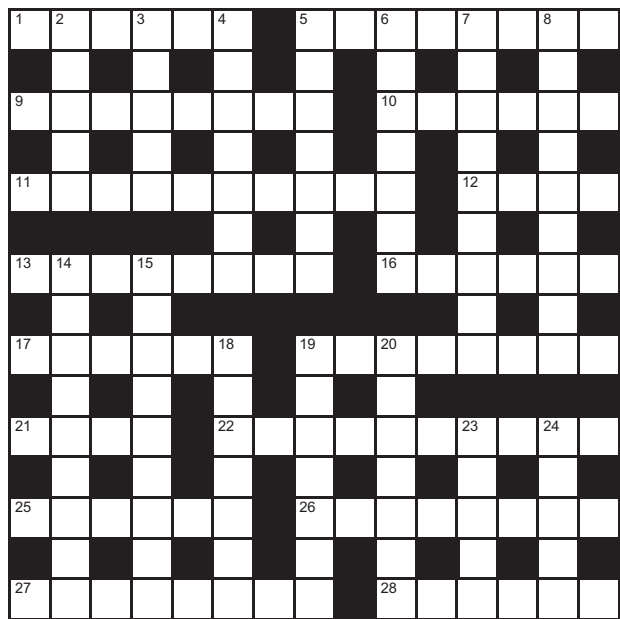
Noel suggest squeezing finger limes over the oysters – yum! – and, good news, those oyster shots will be back!

■ Brunswick Seed Oysters are at New Brighton Farmers Market every Tuesday from 8am to 11am and at Mullumbimby Farmers Market every Friday from 7am to 11am.



Noel Baggaley with a dozen of his best Pacific oysters

www.echo.net.au



Cryptic Clues

ACROSS

- Worldwide fervour dance finals fail to finish off (6)
- Priests spreading tip-offs about opening for nuns (8)
- Finished with actors being dull (8)
- Sucker on ship getting wrecked (6)
- Poorly expressed regret at my brain cells (4,6)
- Hook makes blunder, lacking what Peter and Wendy both have (4)
- Bob maintaining need to change is superficial (4-4)
- Callback ready to be put out of action (4,2)
- By Saturday constant hooters are causing black looks (6)
- Clean out French uniform – Romeo's leaving to go on a journey (8)
- Sail away with actress Fisher (4)
- Accompaniment to poultry to be developed by Spring, so they say (5,5)
- Tennis champ has right to post (6)
- Need to get into fight causes unconsciousness (8)
- Easter egg nearly smashed in cattle class (8)
- Tennis champ cut it on time (6)

DOWN

- Tennis champ left state (5)
- Tennis champ, spoilt brat with ponytail (5)
- Drip-drip-drip from lake developed over a long period (7)
- Nick on way to work at express vehicle service facility (3,4)
- Strange snot starts to run in lines from this part of face! (7)
- Boxer injured in mining collapse – this is critical (9)
- 2,3,24,25,28 all try to avoid this measurement error! (4,5)
- Get something going with enjoyable experiences on acid (4-5)
- The latest actors left *Echo* for city of knights (9)
- Place of exile where bears wander around islands (7)
- Complimentary offer of beer sent back in shame (7)
- Beauty treatment is mad but, strangely, presented at hotel (3,4)
- Question to *Echo* – whisky out of line? (5)
- Tennis champ taken to audition (5)

Quick Clues

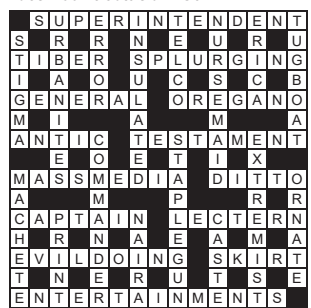
ACROSS

- All-encompassing (6)
- Holy Fathers (8)
- Shrouded by cloud (8)
- Tube employing atmospheric pressure to draw out liquids (6)
- Tissue of the brain, spinal cord (4,6)
- Device for landing large fish (4)
- Shallow; insignificant (4-4)
- Confined through illness or injury (4,2)
- Gloomy or threatening facial expressions (6)
- Expose to fumes, esp for purposes of disinfecting or destroying pests (8)
- Scottish country singer ... Grant (4)
- Thick milk-based sauce (5,5)
- Inclined beam supporting a roof (6)
- Extinguishing of all artificial light (8)
- Passenger ship's cheapest fares (8)
- Most recent Australian to win a men's Grand Slam tennis title (6)

DOWN

- Tennis player known as 'The Rockhampton Rocket' (5)
- Winner of the French Open women's tennis championship in 2019 (5)
- Passage of fluid through a crack or hole in a vessel or container (7)
- A break a racing-car takes during a race for repairs or refuelling (3,4)
- External opening of the nose (7)
- Attacking by words or arguments; calling into question (9)
- In tennis, the error of stepping over the baseline when serving (4,5)
- Ignition of an engine by a pedal (4-5)
- Major city of the Hunter region (9)
- Extensive geographical region comprising all of North Asia (7)
- Something supplied at no cost (7)
- Therapeutic, messy immersion (3,4)
- Lopsided; oblique (5)
- Woo (5)

Last week's solution #30



Climate Action: Why it's a No-Brainer

Global efforts to tackle climate change are wildly off track. The UNEP (United Nations Environment Program) finds that the current pledges under the Paris Agreement put the world on track for a 2.2 to 2.9 degree Celsius temperature rise above pre-industrial levels this century. That's way above the 1.5 degrees we need to avoid the worst impacts of climate change. And right now, warming gases are accumulating faster than at any previous time in human existence.

A 2 degree rise means ice near the poles will melt and cause a sea level rise of up to 50 cm by 2100. A 3-degree rise unleashes literal hell on earth. Collapse of ice caps, uncontrollable sea level rise, widespread biodiversity loss, frequent and devastating weather events, food insecurity and the displacement of over a billion people.

Right now we're on track for exactly that. Not for us. But for our children's children. Our future generations. And for some reason we don't seem to care. We're more worried about inflation, or personal wealth creation, our forehead being wrinkled, or our butts being too wide. We are worried about a transient immediate future but disconnected from the monster that will make everything else we care about meaningless.

And yes, it's totally about the capture of our political process and the hearts and minds of our decision makers by the fossil fuel industry. But why don't we care about this dystopian-as-fuck future that lurks like a prehistoric mega shark beneath our flailing limbs? What is the point of 'slip slop slap' when it's 60 degrees outside? Why isn't it slip, slop, slap, stop? Stop fossil fuels. Now. Why aren't we screaming for justice?

I write this as I head to Newcastle for the People's Blockade, feeling emotional. I told my barista where I was going and she asked: 'does it change anything?'. Blocking the world's biggest coal port? Um. Immediately? No. It doesn't. And yet yes, it does.

It sends a message to people in power. It asks people to wake up. Because it's clear, right now, that we can't trust decision makers to make decisions that caretake citizens, creatures and wild spaces that they will never meet. If Earth was a rental property we wouldn't get the bond back.

Why don't we care enough to change? Maybe it's not just our polities, but our



Studies show that you treat your future self like a stranger. When you think about yourself, your medial pre frontal cortex, or MPFC, powers up. This is the part of the brain that integrates information and plays essential roles in regulation of emotion, motivation and sociability. It's responsible for decision-making and judgement.

brains that are letting us down. Studies show that you treat your future self like a stranger. When you think about yourself, your medial prefrontal cortex, or MPFC, powers up. This is the part of the brain that integrates information and plays essential roles in regulation of emotion, motivation and sociability. It's responsible for decision-making and judgement.

When you think about other people it powers down. Studies have shown that the further out in time you try to imagine your own life, the less activation of the MPFC. In fact your brain treats your future self as a stranger. And generations that follow? Well your brain literally says: 'fuck them'.

I've just finished reading Tim Winton's new fiction: *Juice*. Set in the 3-degree climate future that our stupid brains and stupid governments have us heading towards – it's unsettling. But this world, where people live underground for four

months every year, where human activity is primarily focused on survival, where fresh water uncontaminated by rising sea is currency, this isn't science fiction. This is the future. If not for us, for our grandchildren. And apparently we're so okay with it, we open another coal mine.

There are communities that are facing this that are fighting back. Like First Nations leaders Uncle Pabai and Uncle Paul, Traditional Owners from the Torres Strait. They are on the frontline of the climate crisis facing the loss of their cultural homelands of thousands of years. They have taken the government to court for failing their duty of care to keep global warming below 1.5 degrees, and are awaiting what will be a landmark Australian climate case ruling.

As a climate-impacted region these conversations are very relevant to us. Uncle Pabai and Uncle Paul are on 'The Unnatural Disasters Tour: Uniting the Torres Strait' and are in the Northern Rivers calling for climate justice to protect communities.

Events in our region from 3 to 6 December, with a 'Building Community Power' event at Bangalow A&I Hall at 5.30pm on Wednesday, 4 December. All welcome.

See p14 for more info on Tim Winton's new book: *Juice*

■ Mandy Nolan's Soapbox column has appeared in *The Echo* for almost 23 years. The personal and the political often meet here; she's also been the Greens federal candidate since before the last federal election. *The Echo's* coverage of political issues will remain as comprehensive and fair as it has ever been, outside this opinion column which, as always, contains Mandy's personal opinions only.

STARS BY LILITH

As the sun in free ranging, gregarious Sagittarius speeds up the wheels of the year, Mercury joining the barrage of overlapping retrogrades flings a spanner into this week's busy works ...



SAGITTARIUS THE ARCHER

ARIES: If this week's confident sun/Mars alignment in can-do fire signs inspires you to make a bold move on a creative project, it's advisable to make haste slowly, because unexpected roadblocks are operating. And these are volatile times, so try not to interpret well-meant feedback as criticism.

TAURUS: Do Taureans care that much about Mercury joining the retrograde brigade of Chiron, Neptune, Uranus and Jupiter? Not so much as other speedier signs, because this week's low gear gives you the chance to slow down, review and rejig end-of-year arrangements, and what's not to like about that?

GEMINI: With your planet ruler Mercury doing an about-face, it's best to limit conversational backstories and cut to the chase. And if you have to press the pause button on some end-of-year plans, yes that's frustrating, but in the long run you might actually find the forced slowdown works in your favour.

CANCER: Kicking off the season of unreason, this week nudges you beyond the confines of the Cancerian comfort zone, which can be risky with five planets in synchronised reversal. But if the invitation appeals, make sure you've got at least one Plan B backup before you accept and/or press go.

LEO: Mood alert! Mars in your sign can ratchet up stress responses, especially with communication planet Mercury retrograde in an impetuous fellow fire sign. So think twice before venting and vet editorial opinions thoroughly before posting on social media, because people will be inclined to take things personally.

VIRGO: With this week shaking up business-as-usual (which, let's face it, doesn't exist anymore), it's useful to know that plans and arrangements can fizzle as fast as they sizzle. So remember you're a mutable (meaning flexible and adaptable) sign and be poised to pivot without a grizzle.

LIBRA: As the hive mind goes into overdrive juggling end of year options, this week's companionable star-mix encourages catching up with friends you haven't seen in a while, and/or hosting your own casual gatherings. Mercury's in mischief mode though, so be prepared to negotiate a kaleidoscope of changing arrangements.

SCORPIO: You might feel the increased need for psychic space this week: from your own thought processes, the system, a constraining situation, relentless opinion overload, the daily news. When dealing with strong emotions, stay respectful of others until communication becomes less contentious and easier to read.

SAGITTARIUS: The sun and upcoming weekend new moon in Sagittarius is a time of renewal for archers. You may feel like going full throttle, but communication planet Mercury back-peddalling in your sign announces a three-week holding pattern which invites you to slow down and revamp your plans.

CAPRICORN: Naturally you're starting to lean towards annual festive planning, which means separating yourself from that work station at some stage. With motivational Mars revving your networking engine and Venus in the mood to work the room, you'll accomplish more in a social setting than locked away in your workspace.

AQUARIUS: This week's star-map offers a promising transit for brave conversations and marketing pitches, but with so many planets in pause mode supply chains can be unreliable – something wise Aquarians will factor into upfront promises. It's also advisable to avoid provocative posts or inflammatory online rants.

PISCES: This week's planetary cocktail stimulates group activities, so when you're working the circuit, doing one thing at a time can be a lifesaving practice. Break big projects into bite-size pieces, and when you feel you're running out of steam be direct about what you can and can't manage.

festive season

Time to start planning for your festive celebrations!

Get Sperry this Christmas!

The annual work Christmas party is a great way to celebrate the achievements of the year and kick off the holiday cheer. From glittering Christmas parties to lively end-of-year corporate events, Sperry Tents have got something for the naughty and nice.

Planning an intimate private gathering or lavish celebration? They'll make your party a truly unforgettable experience.

When organising your work Christmas party, it can be tough to decide where to start so book a call with their team and let them make it happen.

Their tents, furniture and lighting create the perfect outdoor space for your Christmas celebration. If you already have a venue or restaurant let them sprinkle the Christmas cheer. Their stylists will design a celebration to suit your budget and vision.

1300 773 779

hello@sperrytents.com.au

Instagram @sperrytentsaustralia @styleandhire

Byron Bay Candle Co

Now is the perfect time to do your Christmas shopping with Byron Bay Candle Co's Black Friday Mystery Boxes!

There are three mystery boxes to choose from: Three large candles, one diffuser and two packs of incense; or four large candles; or four large diffusers. Each one costs just \$99.95 (value \$270).

They're also offering free shipping on all orders until December 1 and \$60 worth of free gifts!

Mention the *Echo* in the notes at checkout and they'll make it \$80.

They pack and ship the same day.

Shop online www.byronbaycandlecompany.com.au or call them on 0418 584 237.

Let loose with festive finery

Are you planning an intimate private gathering or lavish celebration? We will make your end-of-year party a truly unforgettable experience. Tents, furniture, lighting, styling and more...



creating since 2010
SamiKata
events



1300 773 779 hello@sperrytents.com.au
@sperrytentsaustralia @styleandhire

BYRON BAY CANDLE CO

BLACK FRIDAY MYSTERY BOXES ARE BACK!!

Three to choose from:

3 Large Candles & 1 diffuser, 2 packs of incense

OR

4 Large Candles

OR

4 Large Diffusers

for \$99.95 Value \$270.00

Plus FREE SHIPPING and \$60 worth of FREE GIFTS

Mention the ECHO in Notes and we'll make it \$80



Shop online www.byronbaycandlecompany.com.au
OR call us on 0418 584 237
WE PACK AND SHIP THE SAME DAY

festive season

Byron Bay Camping & Disposals

Your one-stop shop for Christmas and your next outdoor adventure.

If you need sleeping bags, tents, workboots, knives, lighting, kitchenware, stoves, mattresses, rainwear, snorkelling and fishing gear – they have it!

Byron Bay Camping & Disposals is a locally-owned-and-operated family business of over 40 years. Located in the Byron Bay Arts and Industry Estate, with plenty of parking available.

Come in and meet the team. Their staff will give you friendly, expert advice, no matter whether your next adventure is a campout, bush school, fishing trip, multi-day hike, or you need Christmas present inspiration.

1/1 Tasman Way, Byron Bay
0439 212 153
www.byron-camping.com.au
theteam@byron-camping.com.au

Mullum Christmas Ceramic Market

Celebrate the festive season with handmade treasures from 20 of your favourite Mud Trail potters!

Join them at the Mullumbimby Civic Hall for the annual North Coast Ceramics Christmas Market – a vibrant gathering of talented ceramic artists from across the Northern Rivers. Discover the perfect thoughtful gift while supporting local makers.

This ZERO WASTE event offers a special treat: buy a handmade cup or mug and enjoy a free drink at the market!

Fri 6 Dec: 4–7pm

Sat 7 & Sun 8 Dec: 9am–3pm

Location: Mullumbimby Civic Hall

Let's shop consciously and celebrate creativity together.

Sanctum Christmas Sale

Are you looking for an affordable, thoughtful gift for family, friends, Secret Santa, or a teacher? Sanctum's factory store is holding a Christmas Sale with savings of up to 80%. Prices start from just \$5, and gift baskets from \$15!

Formulated in the Byron Shire with over 70% certified organic ingredients, all ingredients are naturally-derived. They don't sacrifice quality in achieving this, they just take time and careful formulation work. Sanctum Skincare was established in 1992 and their range includes skincare, haircare, baby and men's products - so there's something for everyone.

The sale is on from December 2 to 6 at their factory shop, 5-9 Lucky Lane, Billinudgel.

Shop local, organic skincare that is good for you, the planet and the future.

5-9 Lucky Lane, Billinudgel
sanctumaustralia.com

NORTH COAST CERAMICS IS PROUD TO PRESENT OUR

CHRISTMAS CERAMICS MARKET

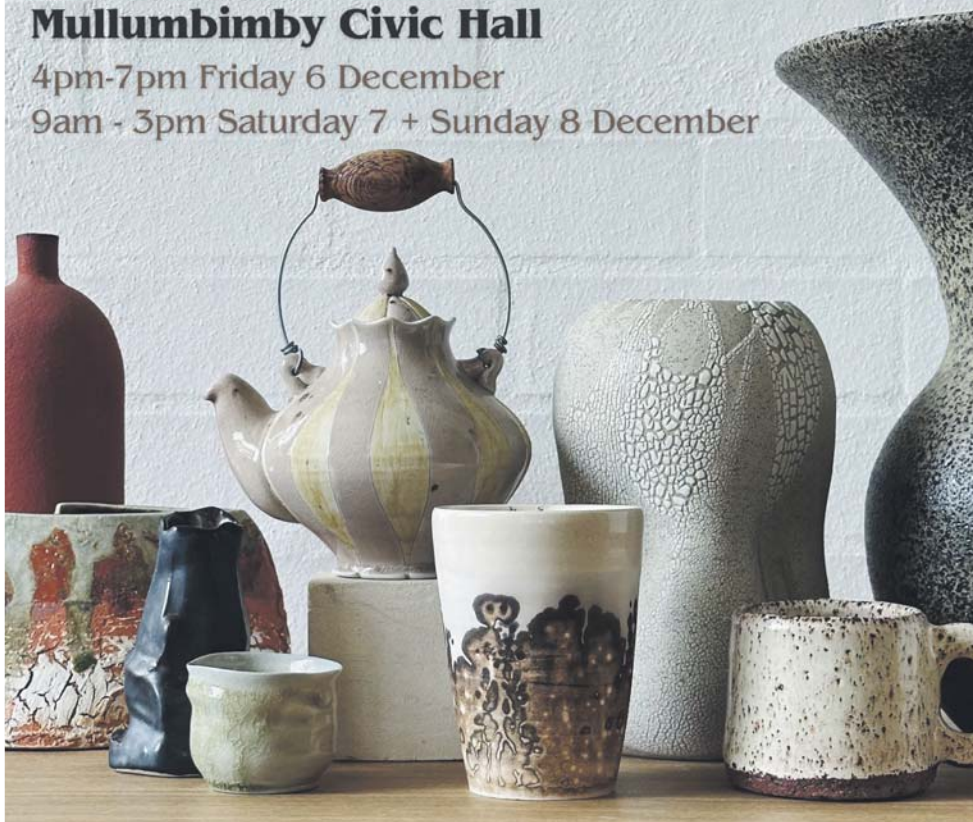


20 OF YOUR FAVOURITE MUD TRAIL POTTERS IN ONE LOCATION

Mullumbimby Civic Hall

4pm-7pm Friday 6 December

9am - 3pm Saturday 7 + Sunday 8 December



BYRON BAY
CAMPING & DISPOSALS



PHONE: 0439 212 153
SHOP 1/1 TASMAN WAY,
BYRON BAY NSW 2481
WWW.BYRON-CAMPING.COM.AU
THETEAM@BYRON-CAMPING.COM.AU



The perfect gift – something for everyone!

Give the gift of real time in nature

After the busyness of the festive season, step into the quiet of nature and immerse yourself in the beauty of the night sky.

Bower Camp Co have teamed up with Byron Bay Stargazing to offer comfortable stargazing campouts in beautiful National Park locations.

Spend the days enjoying walks and swims, in the evenings gather round the fire and see the night come alive with telescope and laser tours.

Astrophysicist Dr Dimitri Douchin will guide you through the constellations, share stories of the night sky, and give tips on naked-eye astronomy and navigation.

Bower Camp Co will provide quality tents, comfy beds and delicious meals.

Gondwana Stargazing and Yuraygir Celestial Campout packages are available to groups of 8 and over, on select dates throughout 2025.

info@bowercampco.com.au
 @bowercampco
 bowercampco.com.au
 0424 468 777

YOU GET WILD WE DO THE WORK. YOU GET WILD WE DO THE WORK. YOU GET WILD

**BOWER
 CAMP
 CO.**



**Stargazing
 Camps**

@bowercampco

sanctum

christmas
SALE

Up to ~~60%~~ off

NOW
 UP TO 80%
 OFF!

Buy local organic, skin, body,
 hair, baby & men's products



MONDAY, 2nd DECEMBER to FRIDAY, 6th DECEMBER

9AM – 4PM

5-9 Lucky Lane, Billinudgel



THE ULTIMATE
CHRISTMAS GIFT



CERTIFIED MEDIUM IMPACT PROTECTION

For the tradies, miners, healthcare heroes, DIYers and weekend warriors. SafeStyle will have you protected from the worksite to the weekend.



UNIFORMS AND WORKBOOTS FOR EVERY TRADE
 OPEN 7 DAYS SHOP IN STORE AT
TOTALLY WORKWEAR BALLINA & LISMORE



1/29 SOUTHERN CROSS DR, BALLINA • 109 UNION ST, SOUTH LISMORE

festive season

Balloon Aloft

There is plenty to do and see in the Northern Rivers this busy summer season.

Why not float above it all on a gorgeous hot air balloon flight? Whether you're looking for adventure, special occasion, staff get together or simply time well spent with the family these summer holidays - then look no further!

Hot air ballooning is the first form of aviation and offers great romance!

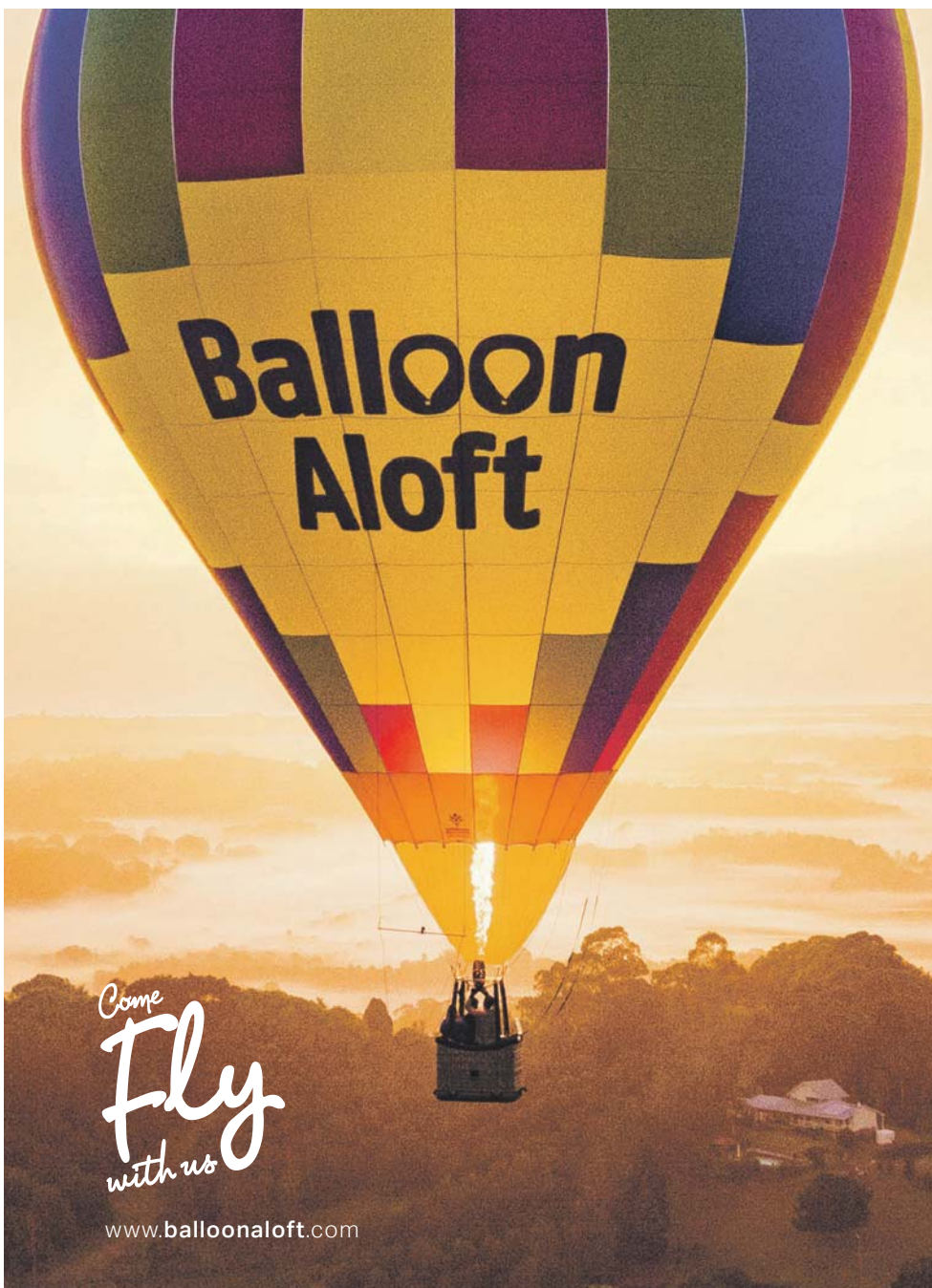
Every Balloon Aloft flight is a fantastic morning out during golden sunrise hours and is followed by a delicious breakfast afterwards at Three Blue Ducks restaurant.

With pictures included and gift vouchers available too, it also makes for a great gift idea! Be organised, book in and "Come Fly with Us" this season at www.balloonaloft.com

Christmas Ceramic Market

Join Clay Northern Rivers at the Bangalow Moller Pavilion on November 30 and December 1 for a festive weekend Christmas market! This two-day event will feature the work of over 40 talented ceramic artists from the Northern Rivers region. Discover an array of unique handmade pottery pieces, from mugs, bowls, and plates to sculptural artworks, jewellery and planters. There's something for everyone, perfect for holiday gifts or adding a special touch to your home. Enjoy the festive atmosphere with local coffee, food and the chance to meet the makers behind the pieces. Don't miss this opportunity to support local artists and find one-of-a-kind treasures. Clay Northern Rivers celebrates community, creativity, and craftsmanship.

Moller Pavilion, Bangalow
@claynorthernrivers



clay

NORTHERN RIVERS



Clay Northern Rivers Christmas Ceramics Market

Join Clay Northern Rivers at the Bangalow Moller Pavilion

Discover unique handmade pottery pieces.

Enjoy local coffee, food, flowers and meet the makers.

TWO DAY EVENT!

30 NOV

&

1 DEC



@claynorthernrivers

The perfect gift –
something for
everyone!

Son of Drum

Treat your ear-holes this Xmas with a gift from Son of Drum Musical Instruments in Mullumbimby! Their latest range includes all sorts of folk and world instruments, tribal percussion and beautiful chimes and sound healing items, and plenty of fun stuff for the kids, so they've got everyone covered, from grommets to grannies! And if you're no muso, no problem; get moving instead with some fun toys such as glo poi, fire staff, juggling balls and more. And of course they've got all the strings, accessories, on stage and recording gear you need, so get down to 31 Burringbar Street, Mullumbimby and sort yourself out!

02 6684 1742

Shop 1/31 Burringbar St, Mullumbimby
www.sonofdrum.com.au

David Lane's 2024 Painting Exhibition and Studio Sale

David Lane's annual exhibition and studio sale is well known to local art enthusiasts. Each year David seeks to give visitors to his studio gallery a taste of the beauty of our local landscape through his colours, lines, and shapes.

David says 'The ocean continues to provide me with the most meaningful inspiration, however the simplicity and colour of our local waterways and native flowers are also a joy to paint.'

David's 2024 painting exhibition and studio sale opens on Saturday, November 30 and Sunday, December 1 then daily from Thursday, December 5 until Sunday, December 8 11am-5pm (EDT).

A David Lane painting is the perfect Christmas gift for anyone who appreciates beautiful art and the inspiration of nature.

Everyone is welcome and admission is free.

www.davidlane.com.au
0418 794 860



son of drum Musical Instruments

Taste with your ears!



30% off
guitars
ends this
week!

Ph. 02 6684 1742
Shop 1/31 Burringbar St
Mullumbimby NSW 2482

www.sonofdrum.com.au
@son_of_drum_store



Nguthungalli Julian Rocks

DAVID LANE'S 2024 PAINTING EXHIBITION AND STUDIO SALE



OPENING WEEKEND:

Saturday 30th November and Sunday 1st December
11.00am - 5.00pm all welcome

OPEN DAILY:

Thursday 5th until Sunday 8th December
11.00am - 5.00pm all welcome

DAVID LANE'S STUDIO GALLERY:
31 FERNLEIGH ROAD, TINTENBAR 2478

For more information visit: www.davidlane.com.au
Email: lanes31@bigpond.net.au Telephone: 0418 794 860



Mullum Shop Local this Christmas!

It's back!



20x
\$100
vouchers
to be won!

SHOP LOCAL & WIN!

GET YOUR ENTRIES IN TO WIN: Spend \$20 or more during the Mullum Shop Local campaign for your chance to win one of 20 \$100 shopping vouchers*

*Voucher must be redeemed before March 31, 2025. Licence type: Lottery-Trade Promotion-Single Promotion.

Mullum Shop Local is underway. The first round of lucky winners has been drawn and each receive a \$100 voucher that can be used at any of the businesses in town that are listed here!

So remember to shop locally for Christmas and support the local economy. Take some time, take in the music on the street, grab a coffee, or lunch, and peruse the many gift options and services on offer – like homewares, jewellery, massage, food, drink, pets, fashion, arts, health, herbs, hardware and handcraft.

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

Getting into the festive season, the Mullumbimby Carols by Candlelight will be held on Sunday, December 15, from 6.30pm at the Showgrounds. There will be a BBQ hosted by Mullumbimby Public School and local school and preschool choirs will perform. And, of course, the special guest of the evening will be arriving on the fire truck.

MC'd by Terry Donnelly. Sponsored by the Mullumbimby Chamber of Commerce, Bridglunds, Stewart's Menswear, Mullum Newsagency, The Mullum Chocolate Shop and NSW Fire and Rescue Station House 388 Mullumbimby..



Pictured: Sue & Gerard Walker from Stewarts Menswear. One of the participating stores, where you can fill out an entry form to be in the draw to win a \$100 voucher!

Week 1 winners, and where they shopped:

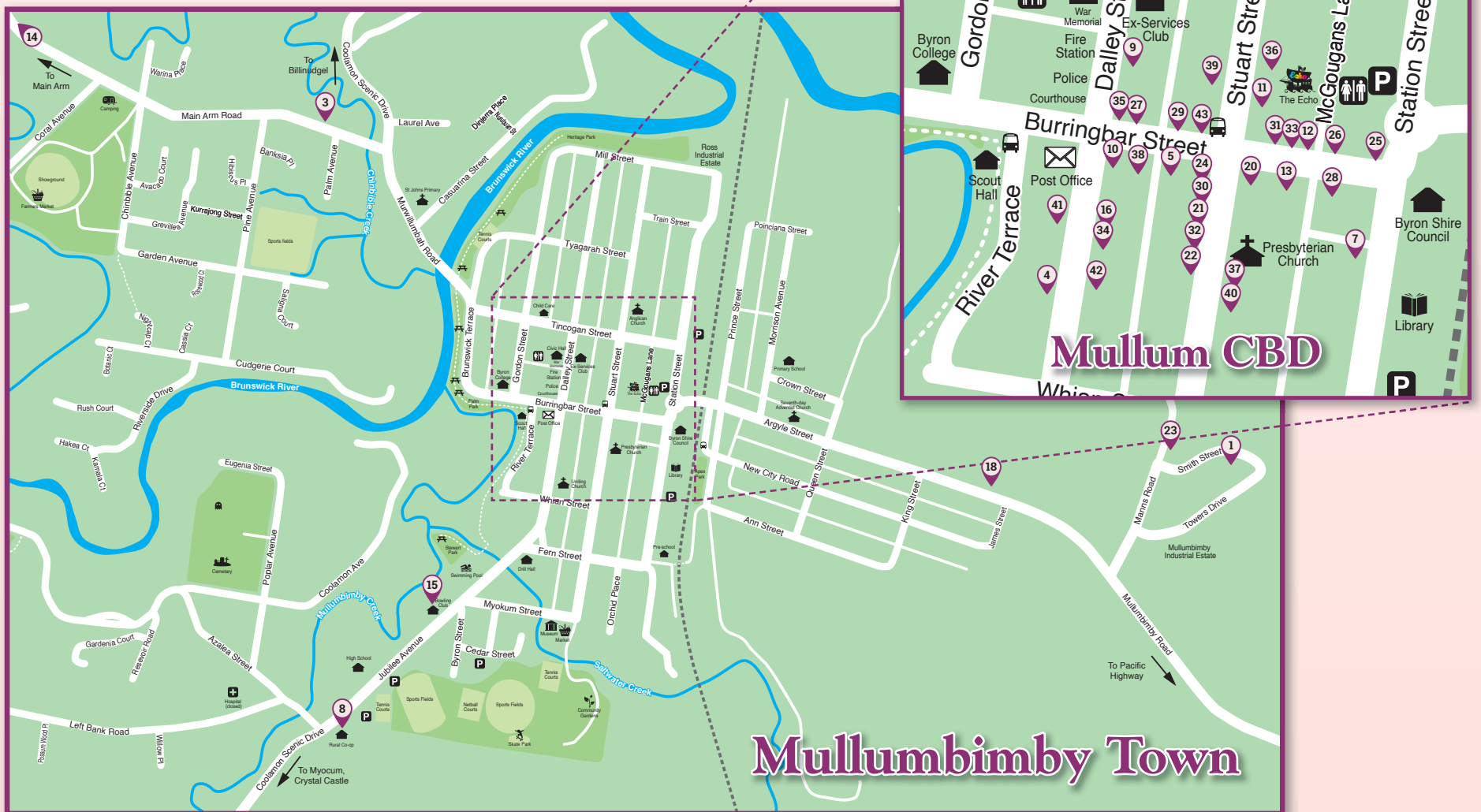
1. **Mary Jackson** – Mullum Ex Services Club
2. **Renae** – Santos
3. **Nadine** – Devine Meats
4. **Stu Eadie** – Linen house
5. **Anjarli** - Santos

An initiative of the Mullumbimby Chamber of Commerce and proudly sponsored by *The Echo*



Mullum Shop Local this Christmas!

PARTICIPATING STORE LOCATIONS



PARTICIPATING STORES

AUTO, TYRE & MECHANICAL

1. B-Line Auto
2. Liberty Mullumbimby
3. Main Arm Mechanical
4. Tyrepower Mullumbimby

BOOKSTORES

5. The Bookshop Mullumbimby

BICYCLES

6. True Wheel Cycles

EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES

7. Mullumbimby Hire & Sales
8. Mullumbimby Rural Co-op

FOOD & BEVERAGES

9. Byron Bay Pork
10. The Court House Hotel Mullumbimby

11. Devine Quality Meats

12. Dino's IGA Mullumbimby

13. Heaps Good

14. Main Arm Store & Bottlo

15. Mullumbimby Bowling Club

16. The Mullumbimby

17. Mullumbimby Ex-Services Club

18. The Paddock Project

19. Paséyo

20. Santos Organics

21. The Source

22. Spice it Up Thai Restaurant

23. Wandana Brewing Co

GIFTS & CLOTHING

24. Bodypeace Bamboo Clothing

25. Cactus Hill

26. Madame Butterfly

27. Made In Mullum

28. Mockingbird Vintage

29. Mullum Instyle Living

30. Portobello Vintage Wares

31. Stewart's Menswear

HARDWARE

32. James Hardware Mitre 10 Mullumbimby

HEALTH & BEAUTY

33. Craig Watson Soul Pattinson Chemist

34. JCS Skin Boutique

35. Mullum Advantage Pharmacy

36. Mullumbimby Comprehensive

- Health Centre

HOMEWARES & ELECTRICAL

37. Bridglunds Beta

MUSIC

38. Son of Drum

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

39. Mullum Mac

40. Mullumbimby Optometrist

41. Mullumbimby Pet Shop

42. Mullumbimby Vet Clinic

STATIONERS

43. Mullumbimby Newsagency

making SPACES



Circa

Circa is a must-visit destination, housing a unique collection of nostalgic goods for the inspired home, beautifully curated with like-minded makers and creators under an old 1920's barn roof in the hills of the Byron Bay Hinterland.

Be inspired by objects of desire for everyday use: clothing, furniture, art, toys, ceramics and homewares, all with rich stories, to be loved and loved again.

Visit them in the hills at 441 Federal Drive, Federal, from Wednesday to Sunday, 10am - 2pm.

Online launching soon.

circabyronbay.com
@circabyronbay

Rainbow Power Company

Information about the NSW Battery Incentive Scheme

Launched in November, the NSW Battery Incentive is part of the Peak Demand Reduction Scheme, rewarding eligible battery installations. Here's a quick guide:

Eligibility:

NSW residents or small businesses; battery capacity 2kWh–28kWh; licensed installer meeting regulations; minimum 10-year warranty; at least \$200 contributed (new only).

Savings:

Rebates are based on Peak Demand Reduction Certificates (PRCs). The NSW Government funds around 10% of the battery cost. For example, a 9.6kWh battery may save around \$1,200, while 15kWh saves around \$2,000.

How to apply:

Contact Rainbow Power for a quote including rebates. After approval, pay a deposit, schedule installation, and enjoy reduced upfront costs.

Note: Installation must be by a licensed professional to qualify.

www.rpc.com.au (02) 6689 1430
1 Alternative Way,
Nimbin



Unlock Better Sleep at Beds R us, Byron Bay

Discover the transformative power of the right pillow. Your pillow isn't just a place to rest your head; it's a crucial element in ensuring quality sleep and overall well-being.

The right pillow provides optimal support, aligning your spine and reducing pressure points, which helps prevent neck and back pain. It enhances comfort, allowing you to fall asleep faster and stay asleep longer.

Investing in a high-quality pillow tailored to your sleep position and preferences can improve your sleep quality, boost your mood, and increase your daytime productivity. Drop into our Beds R Us showroom at 16 Brigantine St, Byron Arts and Industry Estate for a free consultation with our sleep experts!

Ph: (02) 6685 5212
16 Brigantine Street,
Byron Bay



Eden at Byron

Eden at Byron is full of beautiful plants and pots to decorate your home and garden for the festive season, as well as great gifts.

Living Christmas trees have arrived. There's native Norfolk, Daintree, Kauri and Brown pines in a range of sizes, from 30cm to over 2 metres tall. The Japanese Cedars are just perfect, tall and bushy and look more like a traditional Christmas tree. They are perfect long-term potted plants.

You'll find lots of ornamental plants for indoors and out, and plenty of edible plants like fruit trees and herbs.

Top quality tools, watering cans and secateurs also make a wonderful gift for the plant lover.

With complimentary gift-wrapping, and gift vouchers available, there's no better place to do your Christmas shopping.

140 Bangalow Road, Byron Bay
(02) 6685 6874



Muskens Building Co.

At Muskens Building Co., they create custom homes that last for generations. As a trusted Northern Rivers family business, they specialise in custom homes, major renovations and extensions, helping the local community bring their dream homes to life.

With over 15 years of experience, their expert team ensures every project is crafted with precision, innovation and superior craftsmanship. They also build meaningful connections with clients, local suppliers and collaborators, delivering exceptional results while strengthening the community.

They understand that the early stages of building can feel overwhelming, so they're here to help! They provide consultations for initial costing, site analysis, council research and more!

Ready to build? Start planning your dream project with them.

www.muskensbuilding.com
aadmin@muskensbuilding.com.au
(02) 5633 1416





ProSolar Australia

ProSolar Australia recently installed a new 9.13kW solar system at the Bexhill Hall, a place close to their hearts. This project is a testament to their commitment to sustainable energy and giving back to the community that nurtured them from the start. They are immensely proud of this achievement and look forward to continuing their support for local and environmental initiatives. ProSolar Australia's work at the Bexhill Hall highlights their dedication to promoting green energy solutions and supporting the communities that have supported them!

Contact them today on 02 7912 0760
<https://prosolaraustralia.com.au/>

making SPACES

Stoney's Building Creations



Stoney's Building Creations specialise in bathroom renovations. With over 20 years experience in the construction trade, they understand that every project is unique, and they seek to cater to your specific needs, helping you to redesign the floor layout to best suit your needs, and achieve the best outcome in your bathroom remodel.

They understand that renovations can be frustrating, so they keep the process simple, and ensure that they keep you updated at each stage of your project. The team at Stoney's Building Creations take pride in offering personal and reliable service with quality workmanship.

www.stoneysbuildingcreations.com
 0417 654 888

Swap a Bottle

Swap a Bottle is a 100% locally-owned and family-run independent LP Gas supply business, conveniently located in South Murwillumbah.

Since their distributor, Noel from Brunswick Valley Gas, has sold to Elgas, they are thrilled to be providing a local gas supply option and delivering personally in the area!

Their friendly, dedicated team would love the opportunity to organise your 45kg gas delivery with the service and reliability their wonderful existing customers already enjoy!

Head to the website for online ordering
www.swapabottlegas.com or
 Free Call: 1300 727 013
 10 Kite Crescent
 South Murwillumbah



Local Designer Wins National Awards

Brently Reid, the creative behind EcoSphereDesign, has earned two prestigious national awards from the Building Designers Association of Australia (BDAA) to add to the collection. Among the accolades is recognition for his standout project, "Myocum Magic", pictured here.



With ongoing designs in Byron Shire, Brisbane and Sydney, 2025 promises to be an exciting year for EcoSphereDesign. A highlight project is a passive-solar hempcrete home in Pottsville, featuring views of Wollumbin, a tri-level design, sunken lounge, internal garden, green roof, full solar and an impressive 8-star thermal performance rating.

Brently's design philosophy focuses on creating spaces that inspire joy while being functional. He values client communication and understanding each site's unique characteristics, to then begin to weave flow and form, curiosity and connection into every design.

brently@brentlyreid.com.au
 0422 556 470
www.brentlyreid.com.au
 Instagram: @brentlyreid

Sunbeam Solar Systems



After 26 years of service, founder of Sunbeam Solar Systems, Syd Welling, will be handing the baton over to his son Roel Welling at the end of 2024.

Roel is a fully qualified electrician, who has studied hard over the last nine years to gain all levels of renewable accreditation. Syd will be overseeing operations for a few more months whilst Roel takes over the reins. Sunbeam Solar will continue their theme of beyond peer quality installations, supporting Australian-made solar products and industry leading warranties, and honesty and integrity will

continue to be pillars of their business under the new stewardship of Roel.

They would like to thank their amazing local customer base and wish the new team all the best for the future.

www.sunbeamsolar.com.au
 (02) 6679 7228
 0428 320 262
 3 Doon Doon Rd, Kunghur

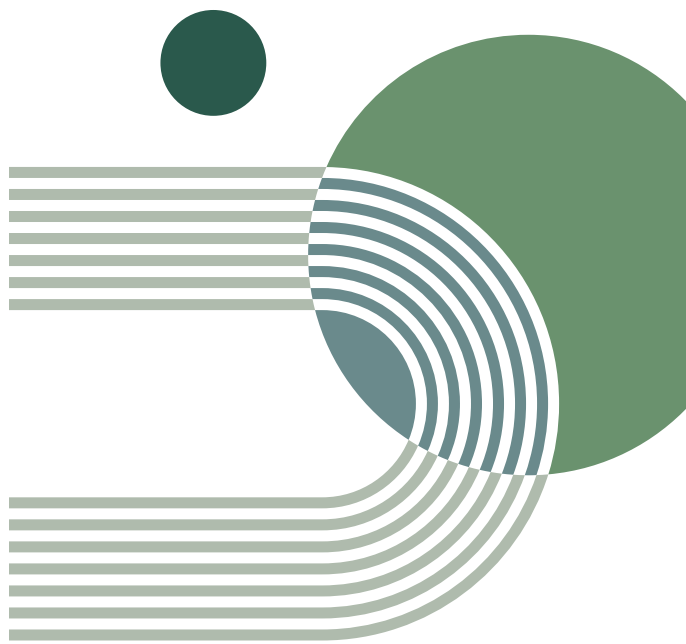
Miss Tree Native Plant Nursery

Located in picturesque Rosebank, Northern NSW, Miss Tree Native Plant Nursery is a haven for plant enthusiasts. Horticulturist Stephanie Medew offers a diverse selection of resilient native plants, ideal for the Northern Rivers area. Open Tuesday to Thursday, 9am to 3 pm, visitors are invited to explore and gain insights into native plants in a friendly and informative setting. With a focus on quality and affordability, most plants are propagated on-site, catering to both casual gardeners and professional landscapers. This season Miss Tree has put together gift voucher packs, the perfect gift for nature lovers. Also, don't miss the End of Year Clearance Sale on December 17, 18, and 19, marking the last opening days for 2024. The nursery will reopen on January 7, 2025.

420 Rosebank Rd, Rosebank,
www.misstree.com.au
 Call 0448 974 421



BYRON ARTS & INDUSTRY ESTATE



2. NORTH BYRON HOTEL

North Byron Hotel is a meeting place for friends and families to get together and indulge in sustainable Northern Rivers produce, and local musical talents. Showcasing the best of the Rainbow region, the sun-drenched garden welcomes locals and holidaymakers for restaurant quality food at pub prices. Check out the website for a jam-packed events calendar, fit for the whole family.

61 Bayshore Dr
02 6685 6500
www.northbyronhotel.com.au



4. BODYPEACE BAMBOO CLOTHING

Bodypeace Bamboo have reopened this week at their new location on Banksia Drive. Visit their Warehouse Shop to view their full range of premium bamboo fashion.

Men's | Women's | Underwear | Socks | Sale & samples | sizes XS-XXL

Wednesday to Friday, 9am - 3pm
Shop 2/1, Corner of Boronia Place & Banksia Drive
www.bodypeacebamboo.com
@bodypeacebamboo
facebook.com/bodypeacebamboo



1. PARADISE GOLF

Paradise Golf is Byron Bay's ultimate indoor virtual golf bar, where fun meets the fairway! Experience top-tier simulators, play world-class courses, and perfect your swing—rain or shine. With a laid-back vibe, curated cocktails and delicious locally-made pizza, it's the perfect spot for golfers and non-golfers alike. Swing into Paradise Golf and make every shot a hole-in-one!

88-94 Centennial Circuit
www.paradisegolf.com.au



3. BYRON BAY CAMPING AND DISPOSALS

Spring's well and truly here and the temperature is perfect for all those outdoor activities. Byron Bay Camping and Disposals have most of your bait and tackle needs, with brands in store like Okuma, Zman, Halco, Platypus and Jaz lures. They also have a huge range of snorkelling and spearfishing gear for those who prefer spending their time in the water.

1/1 Tasman Way
0439 212 e153
www.byron-camping.com.au



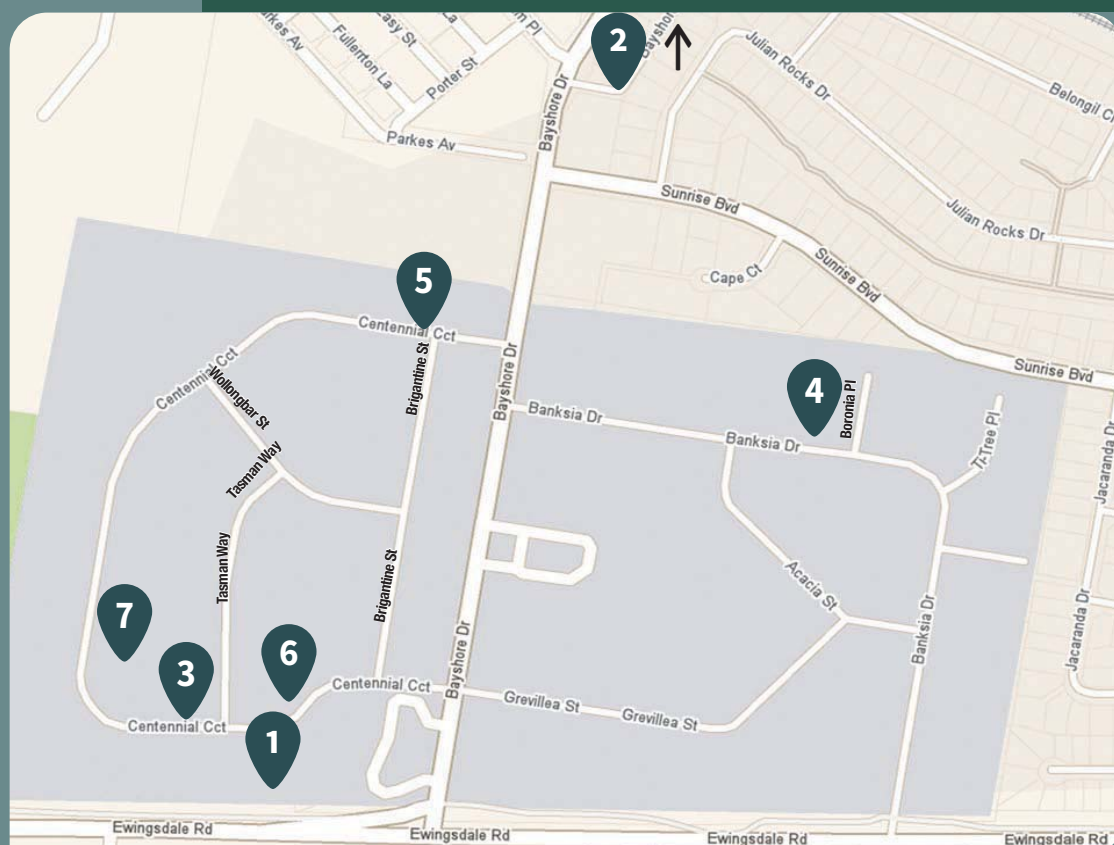
5. MR VINTAGE

How you dress is representative of your personality. You are unique, one in 7 billion, born out of the death of a star.

Life's too short to wear boring clothes. Recycled and vintage clothing sourced from around the world.

3/6 Centennial Circuit
02 6680 8640
@mrvintageaustralia

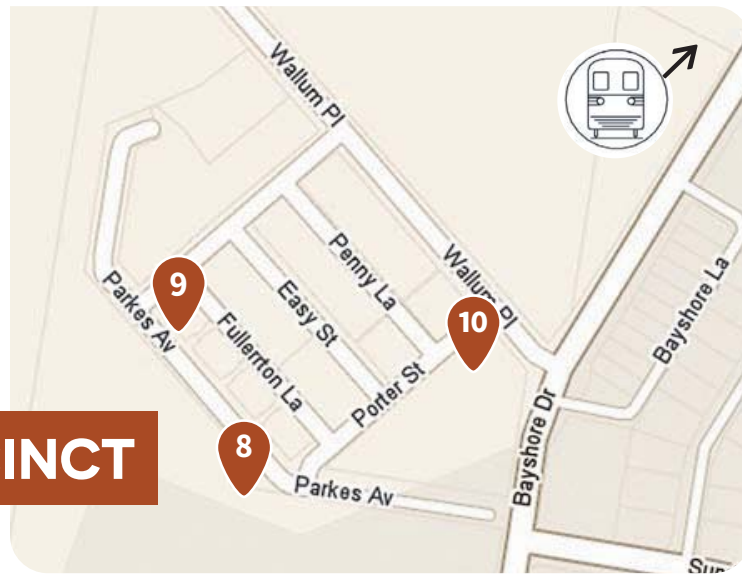
BYRON ARTS & INDUSTRY ESTATE



Creative, small-batch, hand-made, state-of-the-art, artisan, innovative, ethical, imaginative, hyper-local, leading-edge, quality, EXPLORE premium, master, handcrafted, accomplished, cutting edge, organic, designer, eclectic DISCOVER ingenious, beautiful, unique, sensational, avant-garde, original, visionary, inspirational, expert, brilliant, gifted, ahead of the curve. YOU wonderful, compelling, THERE experiencing, witnessing, engaging. NOW.

HABITAT PRECINCT

HABITAT PRECINCT



A cleverly-designed village where people live, work and play, all in one place, combining old-school Byron (community, creativity) with new thinking (live+work spaces, car sharing) and good times (food, shops) to create a little oasis for locals and visitors alike.



6. McTAVISH SURFBOARDS

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

Surfboard Factory, Surf Shop & Cafe
91 Centennial Circuit
www.mctavish.com.au
 @mctavishsurf



7. NEVER NEVER CAFE

Never Never Cafe is located at the new Depot. Great coffee powered by SingleO and authentic Argentinian empanadas made in house with local and fresh ingredients baked daily. Also on the menu are sandwiches, a delicious salad bar as well as pastries and treats.

Open from Monday to Friday, 7am to 2pm.

U27, 73-75 Centennial Circuit
0413 912 271
 @nevernevercafe



HABITAT

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

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



8. BYRON FAMILY LAW

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

18 Parkes Ave
02 6687 2774
www.byronfamilylaw.com.au



9. RICHARDSON MURRAY LAW

Practicing exclusively in family law, Richardson Murray offers legal advice and guidance in matters of separation, divorce, parenting arrangements and property settlements. With considerable experience in all matters of relationship breakdown, including domestic and family violence, Richardson Murray are known for their compassionate approach and commitment to clients. Their dedicated team aims to deliver the best possible outcomes for clients.

42 Parkes Avenue
www.richardson-murray.law



10. ARCAA

Visit Arcaa to discover the latest resort collection of premium summer pieces. Timeless and versatile, the garments are crafted from sustainable lightweight knitted fibres, featuring organic cotton and natural linen.

The store also offers a selection of accessories, jewellery, gifts, and lifestyle products.

Open Mon-Fri, 9.30am – 4pm and Sat, 9am – 3pm, or shop anytime by visiting the online store.

Shop 10, 1 Porter Street
arcaamovement.co
 @arcaamovement

SEVEN

seven days of entertainment

Volume 39 #25
27 Nov-3 Dec, 2024
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Eclectic Selection

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK



✿ *The Big Gig Comedy Night* – this month features Singaporean-born **Ting Lim** who is a beloved favourite on the comedy scene. With an easy charm, her darkly intelligent observations about life and human nature have made her a rising star in Australian comedy. This show's support is **Nick Sun** with **MC Mandy Nolan**.

Thursday from 7pm at the Ballina RSL. Free show.

✿ Follow the intersecting stories of your favourite Brothers Grimm fairytale characters as they cross paths journeying into the woods. Meet the baker and his wife – who wish to have a child; Cinderella – who wishes to go to the King's Festival; Little Red – who wishes to visit her granny; Jack – who wishes to sell his cow; and a host of other familiar fairytale faces. One thing is certain: be careful what you wish for ...

Into The Woods, presented by Bangalow Theatre Company 1pm and 7pm at Byron Theatre, Byron Bay. Tickets from byroncentre.com.au.

✿ Join **Stukulele and Friends** for the *2024 Christmas Uke-Tacular* at the Mullumbimby Courthouse Hotel. Whether you're an experienced ukulele player or just love to sing along, this is the perfect way to get into the Christmas spirit! The Mullumbimby Uke Club Band will be leading everyone through your favourite Christmas songs and carols, so grab your uke or just your holiday cheer!

Saturday from 2pm at the Courthouse Hotel, Mullumbimby. Tickets \$25 from Humantix.com.



✿ Following a lauded performance at the 20th Anniversary National Indigenous Music Awards, ARIA-nominated, multi-award-winning Lutruwita/Tasmania-based artist, activist, author and proud Warnindhilyagwa woman hailing from Groote Eylandt and Milyakburra/Bickerton Island, **Emily Wurramara** is in town this weekend.

Sunday from 6pm at Brunswick Picture House, Brunswick Heads. Tickets \$40 from brunswickpicturehouse.com.



✿ The ultimate party band to get you up and dancing – **The Cath Simes Band**. Capacity audiences wherever they go, playing your favourite hits from the '60s right through to the current chart toppers.

Saturday from 7pm at Club Lennox, Lennox Head. Free show.

✿ **Dylan Wright**, the acclaimed winner of Australian Idol 2024, is hitting the road with his 'Get a Little Lost Tour,' accompanied by his long-time friend and fellow musician **Matt Joyce** (Sons of Atticus). This show promises to be a heartfelt journey sharing songs and stories, delivered in a raw and intimate acoustic set up.

Friday from 7pm at the Brunswick Picture House, Brunswick Heads. Tickets from \$30 at eventfinda.com.au.

✿ 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 formed his first punk band. He now plays plenty of gigs.

Wednesday from 6pm at The Northern, Byron Bay. Free show.



An ode to Mexico

Come and celebrate the grand opening of Zócalo's new shop in Newrybar next week!

Zócalo are moving just next door from their current location in Newrybar opposite Harvest, they will be celebrating with live music from **Felicity Lawless**, and **Paul George** of Tijuana Cartel, with cocktails by Azteca Margarita – plus a fully-stocked-up SALE section with up to 80 per cent off – a night of shopping, music and community, held on the same night as the Newrybar Night Markets, offering yummy food and produce.

This event will showcase a wide range of clothing, homewares, Mexican pottery, jewellery, art and more – there is something for everyone. Featuring some Aussie favourites including Spell, The White Raven, Ottway, Nine Lives Bazaar, Laneway Furniture and Marovo Coral Lighting. It's the perfect place to do some Christmas shopping.

Zócalo is an ethical fashion collective that was started 12 years ago in Mexico, and now has three stores, two in Baja Sur, Mexico, and one in Newrybar, Australia. Zócalo's focus is on supporting local community projects and charities in Mexico.

Showcasing numerous Mexican artisans and brands, as well as some Australian favorites, Zócalo works with local makers helping to share their craft worldwide, so they can help generate an income for themselves and their families.

A portion of every sale instore and online is then donated to four charities in Mexico that Zócalo helps to fund directly, including a dog rescue, recycling centre, soup kitchen and a medical not-for-profit for kids.

To learn more about Zócalo and what they do in Mexico, and what they offer instore, check them out online at: shopzocalo.com, or on Instagram: @shopzocalo, or in person at 17 Old Pacific Highway, Newrybar, opposite Harvest restaurant.

Open daily from December 4 onwards – this event is next Wednesday from 4pm to 7pm.

Northern Rivers Symphony Orchestra presents *Symphonic Festival Concert*

Conducted by Marco Bellasi

FRANZ LISZT

Piano Concerto No. 1
featuring soloist Jonah Patuto

ANTONIN DVORAK

New World Symphony

Date: Sunday 8th December 2024
Time: 2.30pm NSW time
Venue: Tweed Heads Civic Centre

Purchase tickets at nrso.com.au
Enquiries 0478 012 324

BYRON BAY stargazing

STARGAZING EXPERIENCE
WITH AN ASTROPHYSICIST

LED BY ASTROPHYSICIST AND TEDX SPEAKER
NAKED-EYE ASTRONOMY
STATE-OF-THE-ART TELESCOPE OF PLANETS,
THE MOON
ASTRONOMY BINOCULARS & LASER-GUIDED
CONSTELLATION STORYTELLING
Q&A WITH AN ASTROPHYSICIST

UPCOMING EVENTS:
HUSK FARM DISTILLERY 7/12
ELEMENTS OF BYRON 6/12 AND 8/12
STARGAZING CAMPS



www.byronbaystargazing.com.au
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5-8 DEC &
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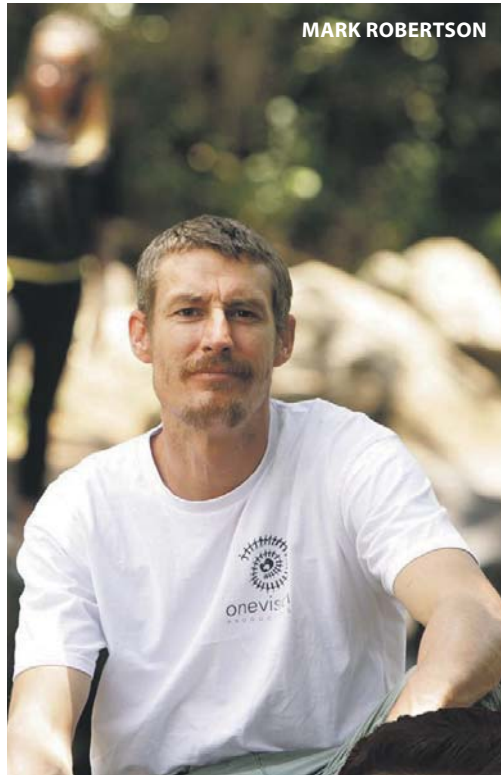




seven days of
entertainment



AKMAL



MARK ROBERTSON



DAMON GAMEAU

Who's got the MPOWER?

MPOWER is thrilled to announce the exclusive launch of its innovative mental health music app, designed to fuse the power of music with cutting-edge mental health resources. This launch event will take place at **Byron Theatre on Thursday, December 5, from 6pm to 9.30pm**, bringing together leaders, innovators, and mental health advocates to celebrate a new era in wellness technology.

Guests at the event will enjoy an evening of insightful discussions, live entertainment, and the chance to experience the MPOWER app firsthand. **Tickets are priced at \$35 per person (plus booking fee)**, which includes a delicious paella and grazing table during the interval, along with access to a licensed bar.

Event highlights include: stand-up comedy – enjoy a lively stand-up performance by **Akmal**, setting an upbeat tone for the evening; the app presentation – host, **Mark Robertson** will present the app's features and guide attendees through the event's exciting activities; the mental health and innovation panel – gain insights from experts on the intersection of mental health, music, and technology, featuring Mayor **Sarah Ndiaye** (Byron Shire Council), **Jane Enter** (psychologist, podcaster and founder of Muditā Holistic Collective), and **Damon Gameau** (filmmaker *That Sugar Film*); One Vision Productions/MPOWER facilitator showcase – experience live music performances and interactive sessions led by MPOWER's talented facilitators, including **Mia Bloom**, **Triple Nip** and **Rosie Misschief**; and MPOWER networking session – connect with industry leaders and like-minded guests in a vibrant networking session accompanied by a live DJ set.

MPOWER is Australia's largest mental health toolkit and online educational resource, created to empower youth, students, teachers, and parents with essential tools for mental wellness and personal growth. The app's offerings include: MPOWER TV – 250 personal growth videos; masterclasses: courses on empowerment, creativity, and self-realisation; Workouts – over 100 fitness classes, including yoga, meditation, and pilates; Pocket Recording Studio – for creative expression, personal growth challenges; community and goals, task management, and a supportive community hub; Mood Check-In – daily emotional health tracker; and Wise Ones – 200 books distilled into actionable insights.

Byron Theatre on Thursday, December 5, from 6pm.
Tickets from mpower.online.



JONAH PATUTO

Symphonic Festival Concert

The Northern Rivers Symphony Orchestra is proud to present **Symphonic Festival Concert**, where they invite you to experience the joy and brilliance of Franz Liszt's *Piano Concerto*, featuring soloist **Jonah Patuto**. A multi-award-winning Gold Coast-based pianist, Jonah recently completed his Bachelor of Music at Queensland Conservatorium, Griffith University. Always active in the local music scene, Jonah grew up performing in local concerts and competing annually in eisteddfods. In addition, Jonah has been a part of local youth orchestras as a percussionist – at the Gold Coast Youth Orchestra and the Young Conservatorium Symphony Orchestra. He has received several prizes and scholarships including the Ruby C. Cooling Prize, the Hilda Woolmer Piano Accompaniment Prize, the John and Sue Thompson Piano and Vocal Award, and the Accompanist's Guild of Queensland Collaborative Pianist Prize.

The second half of Jonah's performance features the majestic *New World Symphony* by **Antonin Dvorak**. Familiar to most concertgoers, *New World Symphony* is one of the most well-known and much-loved symphonies of all time. Conducted by **Marco Bellasi**, this concert brings an afternoon of delightful music not to be missed!

The Symphonic Festival Concert is on Sunday, December 8 from 2.30pm (NSW time) at the Tweed Heads Civic Centre. Tickets at nrso.com.au.

MPOWER PRO APP LAUNCH

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

COMEDIAN - AKMAL

SHOWCASE PERFORMANCES

Featuring
Mia Bloom, Triple Nip
& Rosie Misschief

MENTAL HEALTH & INNOVATION PANEL

Mayor Sarah Ndiaye – Byron Shire Council
Jane Enter – Psychologist + Podcaster
Andy Hamilton – Human Nature Adventure Therapy

Event Hosted by **Mark Robertson**

THURS 5TH DEC
6 PM - 9:30 PM
BYRON THEATRE
69 JONSON ST
TICKETS \$35 + BF

SCAN ME!

Alberta THE TONY FOUNDATION onevision BYRON THEATRE NEWCASTLE PERMANENT CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

BSA BYRON SCHOOL OF ART

WHAT WAS THE QUESTION?
2024 BSA Graduate Exhibition

Opening Event:
Friday 29 November 5 - 7pm

Exhibition Runs:
30 November - 14 December
10am - 3pm (closed Sunday)

Byron School of Art – 112 Dalley St Mullumbimby
byronschoolofart.com

Rainbow Creatives Gala Night

A night of community & storytelling

Art exhibition, performances, bar 18+

FRIDAY 29TH NOVEMBER
FROM 5:30PM
MULLUM CIVIC HALL

QUEER FAMILY

SEVEN

seven days of entertainment



BSA Graduate Exhibition



Byron School of Art's (BSA) third-year students will be holding the opening for their graduate exhibition, *What was the question?*, this **Friday from 5pm to 7pm**.

The graduating students include **Chris Fryer, Nat Kafka, Andrew Macklin, Fred Oualid, Katie Pink, Sharon Rhodes, Ivonne Rother** and **Quentin Wright**. The exhibition will feature a diverse selection of work, including paintings, works on paper, sculptures, ceramics, installations, and videos.

During the students' final year, they have worked under the direction of BSA directors and teaching staff including: **Emma Walker, Christine Willcocks, Michael Cusack, Ree Hegh** and **Travis Paterson**. *What was the question?* will showcase the culmination of their three years of study demonstrating their willingness and determination to push boundaries while exploring materiality and contemporary concepts.

All works will be for sale, and this is a fantastic opportunity to support local, emerging artists.

BSA would like to warmly welcome the community and art lovers alike to the opening event on Friday from 5pm to 7pm to celebrate this talented group of artists.

The exhibition runs from 10am to 3pm, Monday to Saturday, until December 14 at 112 Dalley St, Mullumbimby. byronschoolofart.com



Rum, chocolate and stars

Enjoy a unique evening of delicious dinner, rum and chocolate tasting under the stars. Experience an out-of-this-world journey to space led by astrophysicist and TedX speaker Dimitri.

This event includes a welcome drink, an outdoor BBQ meal, three spirit Husk Rum and paired Little Cocoa chocolate tasting and stargazing experience, as well as naked-eye astronomy, laser-guided constellation storytelling, and state-of-the-art telescope viewing.

Dimitri Douchin PhD is a French-Australian astronomer who has been living for more than a decade in Australia, where he received his PhD in astronomy and astrophysics at Macquarie University. Boasting ten years of experience as a guide in Lake Tekapo (NZ), Macquarie University Observatory, Emirates one and only Wolgan Valley, and Sydney Observatory, Dimitri – together

with his fiancée Caroline – is the co-founder of Blue Mountains Stargazing, Jervis Bay Stargazing and Byron Bay Stargazing. Dimitri is also working in research at Western Sydney University as a cultural astronomer, collaborating with local Aboriginal communities to recover any archaeological and astronomical heritage in the mountains. You can watch his first Ted Talk here.

This event is on Saturday, December 7, from 7pm to 9.30pm at the award-winning Husk Farm Distillery, which is Australia's only single estate paddock-to-bottle rum distillery and the home of Ink Gin. Set on 150 acres on the banks of the Tweed River in North Tumbulgm, Northern NSW, the farm offers spectacular views across the valley to Wollumbin and the border ranges.

1152 Dulguigan Rd, North Tumbulgm, NSW. Book now at byronbaystargazing.com.au.

Must-see with a twist

Drill Hall Theatre's latest production, *10 Minutes of Fame*, is a whirlwind blend of drama, humour, and timely social commentary that promises to captivate audiences. Written by **Michael Sharmon**, this bold and entertaining play features a stellar cast, including Maribeth Cole, Jules Allen, Rees Laird, **Veronica Lovejoy, Brooke Karabache, Zoe Valensteen, Chris Benaud, Jack Linklater**, and **Jake Dix**.

Described as a cross between *Don't Look Up* and *Birdman*, the play takes a satirical dive into the chaos of fame, scandals, and personal redemption amidst a global pandemic.

With its dynamic dialogue and quirky, unforgettable characters, *10 Minutes of Fame* delivers both heartfelt moments and laugh-out-loud scenes.

This production demands to be seen—funny, poignant, and reflective of the times. Catch it at the Drill Hall Theatre from December 5 to 15, Thursday to Saturday at 7.30pm and Sunday at 5pm. Don't miss the Q&A with the cast and writer Michael Sharmon after Sunday's shows! Book your tickets now at drillhalltheatre.org.au



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seven days of entertainment



GIG GUIDE

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



Making Tracks Street Party

Kick off summer with an exciting celebration of South Murwillumbah's rich culture and vibrant community spirit at the Making Tracks Street Party!

Join in for this fun, free, community event that celebrates three significant milestones in Murwillumbah: 130 Years of Railway History, commemorating the anniversary of the historic Lismore to Tweed Railway and the opening of the Murwillumbah Railway Station in 1894. Check out the further revitalisation of the Rail Trail and explore Prospero Street's journey from its historic roots, to now, and its exciting future as a hub for creativity, businesses, community, and entertainment.

The event theme, Making Tracks, symbolises how each individual, business, and community member contributes to Murwillumbah's evolving story, leaving unique imprints on its rich history. It also reflects Business Murwillumbah and Tweed Shire Council's commitment to revitalising local spaces and fostering a more accessible, vibrant, and connected community.

Some event highlights are: the classic and sports car show; trackless train rides; the Lollipop Ladies from Roundabout Theatre; skateboarding workshops; Dusty Rummage vintage markets; The Flycyle; bike care workshops; street art exhibition; and The Storytelling Salon.

This event is proudly funded by the NSW Government's Open Streets Program led by Transport for NSW. Business Murwillumbah received \$50,000 towards the delivery of the Making Tracks Street Party with the support of Tweed Shire Council, Local Streets Alive and Northern Rivers Rail Trail. For more details about the Open Streets Program, visit www.transport.nsw.gov.au/openstreets.

Special thanks to the major sponsor, CMC (Civil Mining & Construction Pty Ltd), for their generous support and shared commitment to delivering flood-resilient infrastructure and leaving a positive, lasting impact on the community. More information visit, www.cmc.net.au.

Making Tracks Street Party is on Saturday from 2.30pm to 7.30pm at Prospero Street and the Northern Rivers Rail Trail at the Murwillumbah Railway Station precinct, South Murwillumbah.

For more info and to book your free ticket to receive event updates go to businessmurwillumbah.com.au/street-party.

WEDNESDAY 27

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **JON J BRADLEY**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **BYRON SCHOOLIES 2024 | AIRWOLF PARADISE**
- PALACE CINEMAS, BYRON BAY, **BRITISH FILM FESTIVAL**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6PM **DAN HANNAFORD**
- BANGALOW BOWLO 7.30PM **BANGALOW BRACKETS' OPEN MIC**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 8PM **FINK**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 6.30PM **KINGY COMEDY - WITH TING LIM**
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL 5PM **NATHAN BRUEN**

THURSDAY 28

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **JOCK BARNES DUO**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **BYRON SCHOOLIES 2024 | CYRIL**
- BYRON THEATRE 7PM **INTO THE WOODS, PRESENTED BY BANGALOW THEATRE COMPANY**
- PALACE CINEMAS, BYRON BAY, **BRITISH FILM FESTIVAL**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 6PM **YAZMINDI**
- LENNOX HOTEL 8PM **THURSDAY JAM NIGHT**
- AUSTRALIA HOTEL, BALLINA, **WORM GIRLZ**
- BALLINA RSL BOARDWALK 7PM **THE BIG GIG COMEDY NIGHT - TING LIM + NICK SUN & MC MANDY NOLAN**
- ELTHAM HOTEL 7PM **BLUEGRASS JAM & D.C CROSS**
- THE LEEVEE, LISMORE, 5PM **WIL MASSEY**
- LISMORE CITY BOWLO 7PM **THE SUPPER CLUB SOUL BAND**

FRIDAY 29

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **BULLETPROOF**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **BYRON SCHOOLIES 2024 | TYSON O'BRIEN**
- BYRON THEATRE 7PM **INTO THE WOODS, PRESENTED BY BANGALOW THEATRE COMPANY**
- PALACE CINEMAS, BYRON BAY, **BRITISH FILM FESTIVAL**
- UNDERWORLD, BYRON BAY, 7PM **RAFAEL CERATO, LUNAR DISCO, XUJA, LOULOU**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 6PM **MATTY ROGERS**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 7PM **DYLAN WRIGHT: GET A LITTLE LOST TOUR**
- BYRON SCHOOL OF ART, MULLUMBIMBY, 5PM **BYRON SCHOOL OF ART STUDENTS GRADUATE EXHIBITION OPENING**
- MULLUMBIMBY CIVIC HALL 5.30PM **RAINBOW CREATIVES GALA WITH AJ AND ROSE MIHO**
- ST JOHN'S SCHOOL HALL, MULLUMBIMBY, 7.30PM **ECSTATIC DANCE MULLUM WITH DJ MOGLI IN SPACE**
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY, 8PM **KRAPPYKEE WITH JESS**
- CLUB LENNOX 7PM **TWO TEARS IN A BUCKET**
- LENNOX HOTEL 9PM **GLITTERATI RIOT**
- CHERRY STREET SPORTS CLUB, BALLINA, 7PM **MILO GREEN DUO**
- MARY G'S, LISMORE, 5.30PM **TAHLIA MATHERSON**
- THE LEEVEE, LISMORE, 7.30PM **DJ SHIMON**
- THE CHANNON TAVERN 7PM **PISTOL WHIP**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 6PM **NATHAN KAYE**
- SALTBAR, KINGSCLIFF, 6PM **JASON DELPHIN**

SATURDAY 30

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **PAPER LANE**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 7PM **HUGEL SUPPORTED BY ALOOPA, MATTY MAC & MECCHI ROMEO**
- BYRON THEATRE 1PM **INTO THE WOODS, PRESENTED BY BANGALOW THEATRE COMPANY**
- PALACE CINEMAS, BYRON BAY, **BRITISH FILM FESTIVAL**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 4PM **OLE FALCO**
- LONE GOAT GALLERY, BYRON BAY, 6PM **EXHIBITION OPENS - 'MERGE' BY ISOBEL KINGSWELL**
- THE GREEN ROOM, BYRON, 6PM **THE SAINTS '73-'78 TOUR**
- COORABELL HALL 6.30PM **MANDY NOLAN & ELLEN BRIGGS - WOMEN LIKE US,**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 4.30PM **LOUEY HOWELL AND THE FUNKATU COLLECTIVE**
- COURTHOUSE HOTEL, MULLUMBIMBY, 2PM **CHRISTMAS UKE TACULAR**
- MULLUMBIMBY EX-SERVICES CLUB 8PM **CREEDENCE CLEARWATER REVIVAL & JIMI HENDRIX SHOW**
- BILLINUDGEL HOTEL 7PM **REWIND**
- CLUB LENNOX 7PM **CATH SIMES BAND**
- BALLINA RSL 6PM **YOLAN, 6PM HAYLEY GRACE, BOARDWALK 6PM HARRY NICHOLS**
- CHERRY STREET SPORTS CLUB, BALLINA, 8PM **WEAR THE FOX HAT**
- MARY G'S, LISMORE, 9.30PM **PUSH BAND**
- MURWILLUMBAH SERVICES CLUB 6PM **DENNIS CUTHEL**
- SALTBAR, KINGSCLIFF, 6PM **INO PIO**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 6PM **STEPHEN LOVELIGHT**
- SHEOAK SHACK, FINGAL HEAD, 7PM **FELICITY LAWLESS**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE STAGE 8PM **KINGS OF COUNTRY ROCK EAGLES VS CREEDENCE**
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL 4PM **BASOKI DUO, 9PM ALTER EGOS**
- GOONALABAH TAVERN 9PM **GLITTERATI RIOT**

SUNDAY 1

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **ANDY JANS-BROWN**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 4.30PM **GOODRICH + SO YOU THINK YOU CAN DJ? AMATEUR DJ COMP**
- PALACE CINEMAS, BYRON BAY, **BRITISH FILM FESTIVAL**
- YULLI'S, BYRON BAY 3PM **OPEN MIC**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 4PM **THE WHISKEYS + EMILY GRACE TAYLOR**
- SOUNDSHELL BRUNS 12PM **ELON MUSK FAN CLUB MEET UP ANTI-WOKE INCELS WELCOME**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 6PM **EMILY WURRAMARA**
- BALLINA RSL, LEVEL ONE 10.30AM **THE BALLINA COUNTRY MUSIC CLUB, BOARDWALK 2.30PM SUNDAY BLUES CLUB SESSIONS FEAT BONDI CIGARS + FBI**
- ELTHAM HOTEL 5.30PM **THE LONESOME BOATMAN**
- VICTORY HOTEL, MOOBALL, 1PM **OPEN MIC JAM**
- IMPERIAL HOTEL, MURWILLUMBAH, 3PM **PHANTOM LIMBZ**

MONDAY 2

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **LEIGH JAMES**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6AM **LILLIAN FAIRFAX**
- PALACE CINEMAS, BYRON BAY, **BRITISH FILM FESTIVAL**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 6PM **CELEBRATING SIMPLE PLEASURES FEAT. GOODRICH, RICHIE WILLIAMS, RAY ESSERY & ILONA HARKER**

WEDNESDAY 4

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **LILLIAN FAIRFAX**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 7AM **BYRON SALSA NIGHT W CHILLI FLAKES**
- PALACE CINEMAS, BYRON BAY, **BRITISH FILM FESTIVAL**
- ZÓCALO, NEWRYBAR, 4PM **ZÓCALO OPENING FEAT. FELICITY LAWLESS AND PAUL A. GEORGE**
- THE CITADEL, MURWILLUMBAH, 6PM **CHRIS COSTELLO AND HIS HEDONIC ORCHESTRA**

PALACE CINEMAS
BYRON BAY - BALLINA FAIR

SESSION TIMES
THURSDAY NOVEMBER 28
TO WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 4

COMING SOON

MY FAVORITE CAKE

NOW SHOWING

MOANA 2

SCAN TO BOOK ONLINE

PALACE BYRON BAY

SPECIAL SCREENINGS

- ANORA** (MA15+) FESTIVAL DARLING PREVIEW
Mon: 6:30PM
- KISS ME, KATE: THE MUSICAL** (PG)
Fri, Sun: 1:00PM. Mon, Tues: 5:30PM
- OUT OF SEASON** (M) ADVANCE SCREENING
Fri, Sat, Sun: 3:30PM
- SILENT RUNNING** (PG) CINEVAULT
Mon: 6:30PM

FAMILY FILMS

- MOANA 2** (PG) NFI
Daily except Wed: 10:45AM, 11:30AM, 12:30PM, 1:45PM, 2:45PM, 4:00PM, 5:00PM, 6:20PM, 7:15PM. Wed: 10:45AM, 11:30AM, 1:45PM, 2:40PM, 4:00PM, 4:50PM, 6:20PM
- RED ONE** (PG)
Thurs, Sun, Wed: 2:20PM, 5:00PM, 8:30PM. Fri: 2:20PM, 8:30PM. Sat: 5:00PM, 8:30PM. Mon, Tues: 1:40PM, 3:30PM, 8:30PM

- THE WILD ROBOT** (PG)
Daily except Sun: 10:50AM

ALL FILMS

- AQUARIUS** (CTC) NFI
Thurs, Sat, Wed: 10:45AM, 3:00PM. Fri: 10:45AM. Sun: 10:45AM, 4:00PM (Q&A Screening)
Mon, Tues: 10:45AM, 3:15PM
- GLADIATOR II** (MA15+)
Thurs, Sat, Wed: 11:20AM, 1:30PM, 4:30PM, 5:15PM, 7:40PM. Fri: 11:20AM, 1:30PM, 4:30PM, 5:15PM, 8:10PM. Sun: 11:20AM, 12:50PM, 4:30PM, 6:40PM, 7:40PM. Mon: 10:45AM, 1:30PM, 5:10PM, 8:10PM. Tues: 10:45AM, 1:30PM, 5:10PM, 6:40PM
- GOODRICH** (M)
Daily except Sat, Sun: 1:00PM. Sat: 2:30PM, 8:15PM. Sun: 4:10PM
- HERETIC** (MA15+) NFI
Thurs, Wed: 11:00AM, 1:20PM, 3:45PM, 6:10PM, 8:30PM. Fri, Sat, Sun: 10:50AM, 1:10PM, 6:10PM, 8:30PM. Mon, Tues: 11:00AM, 1:10PM, 4:10PM, 6:10PM, 8:30PM
- LEE** (M)
Daily except Sat, Sun: 11:00AM. Sat: 11:00AM, 8:30PM. Sun: 10:45AM
- SMILE 2** (MA15+)
Thurs, Fri, Sat, Wed: 8:15PM. Sun: 8:20PM. Tues: 8:10PM
- WICKED** (PG) NFI
Thurs, Fri, Wed: 10:50AM, 2:00PM, 3:20PM, 5:00PM, 6:30PM, 7:30PM. Sat: 10:50AM, 1:00PM, 2:00PM, 5:00PM, 7:00PM, 7:30PM. Sun: 10:50AM, 1:15PM, 2:00PM, 5:15PM, 6:30PM, 7:30PM. Mon, Tues: 10:50AM, 2:00PM, 3:20PM, 4:30PM, 6:30PM, 7:40PM
- YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN HERE YESTERDAY** (M)
Thurs, Sat, Wed: 1:00PM. Sun: 11:10AM. Mon, Tues: 1:20PM

BALLINA FAIR CINEMAS

ALL FILMS

- GLADIATOR II** (MA15+)
Daily except Fri: 4:10PM, 7:20PM. Fri: 4:10PM, 7:30PM
- HERETIC** (MA15+) NFI
Thurs, Mon, Tues, Wed: 12:10PM, 5:00PM. Fri: 12:10PM, 5:10PM. Sat, Sun: 12:15PM, 5:00PM
- LEE** (M)
Daily except Sat, Sun: 9:45AM
- MOANA 2** (PG)
Daily: 9:45AM, 12:00PM, 2:15PM, 4:30PM, 6:45PM
- RED ONE** (PG)
Sat, Sun: 9:45AM
- WICKED** (PG) NFI
Daily: 9:50AM, 1:00PM, 7:10PM

ECHO CLASSIFIEDS – 6684 1777

CLASSIFIED AD BOOKINGS

PHONE ADS

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

AT THE ECHO HEAD OFFICE

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

Village Way, Stuart St, Mullumbimby

EMAIL ADS

Display (box ads) and line classifieds, email:

classifieds@echo.net.au

Ad bookings only taken during business hours: Monday to Friday, 9am–5pm. Ads can't be taken on the weekend.

Account enquiries phone 6684 1777.

DEADLINE TUES 12PM

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

RATES & PAYMENT

LINE ADS:

\$17.00 for the first two lines

\$5.00 for each extra line

\$17 for two lines is the minimum charge.

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

These prices include GST.

Cash, cheque, Mastercard or Visa

Prepayment is required for all ads.

CLASSIFIEDS THAT WORK ALL WEEK!

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

Echo

DEATH NOTICES

ADAM SHOSTAK



20 November, 2024
Aged 85 years

Beloved father of Darryl, Sharon and Aschi, adored grandfather to Lealah, Cheri, Teal, Kara, Jade, Acacia, Imogen, Amber & Setia, great-grandfather to Koa, cherished brother to Sam.

Passionate ocean defender, dearly loved, sadly missed

Heartfelt gratitude to the Community Nurses and staff of Murwillumbah Hospital for all their loving care.

Life celebration 22 December Kohinur Hall - see page 4 of this edition for details.

FUNERAL NOTICES

MARK STEWART SMITH

27/6/1949 – 19/11/2024
Passed away peacefully on Tuesday 19 November. Beloved father of Christiaan (deceased), Courtenay and Carly. Loving grandfather of Aria, Gab, Billy, Jarrah and Sage. Dear friend of Barbara.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend Mark's funeral service at St Finbarr's Church Byron Bay on Monday 2nd December at 11am, followed by a celebration of his life at the Byron Bay Golf Club. Live-streaming of the service available through Picaluna Funerals.

PETS

It's the season when cats get jiggy... oh woe, oh woe, oh woe! Kittens are filling up the shelter so if you want to add a bundle of fluff to your festivities, there are many cuties to choose from! To meet our kittens, visit the Cat Adoption Centre at 124 Dalley Street, Mullumbimby



**OPEN: Tues 2.30-5.30pm
Thurs 3-5pm | Sat 10am-12 noon
Call AWL on 0436 845 542**

Like us on Facebook!
AWL NSW Rehoming Organisation
Number: R25100222



Bear is a 7 month old, Husky/Dingo X. He is outgoing and incredibly clever and thrives on mental stimulation. He will need a home experienced in huskies or dingoes, that can provide ongoing training and enrichment. M/C# 991003001704259
For more information about Bear, please contact Yvette on 0421 831 128 or please complete our online Expression of Interest at: friendsofthepound.com/adoption-expression-of-interest

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

DISCLAIMER

Advertisements placed in *The Byron Shire Echo* do not reflect the views or opinions of the editorial staff.

The Byron Shire Echo does not make any representations as to the accuracy or suitability of any content or information contained in advertising material nor does publication constitute in any way an endorsement by *The Byron Shire Echo* of the content or representations contained therein.

The Byron Shire Echo does not accept any liability for the representations or promises made in paid advertisements or for any loss or damage arising from reliance on such content, representations or promises.

HEALTH

HAWAIIAN MASSAGE
Ocean Shores, Michaela, 0416332886

KINESIOLOGY

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

HYPNOSIS & EFT

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

HYPNOSIS & NLP

Over 30 years of experience WendyPurdey.com. Ph 0497 090 233

TREE SERVICES

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

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

SUMMERLAND TREE SERVICES
• Arborist • 15" Wood Chipper • Stump Grinder • Fully Insured
Byron Bay & Surrounding Areas
6681 3140
Mobile 0417 698 227

GARAGE SALES

MULLUMBIMBY
1 Poinciana St Sat 8am-1pm
SEVERAL HOUSEHOLDS COMBINED!

Tip Runs & Rubbish Removal
0408 210 772

CARAVANS

ROYAL FLAIR 18ft with aircon + shower/toilet 12v-240v 12mths rego \$36K. Immaculate condition. Ph 0400312097

CARAVANS

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

SHARE ACCOM.

MULLUMBIMBY: Large room + ensuite \$300pw for working n/s. 0408547654

BYRON SHIRE room + ens wanted. Unfurn. Long term, reliable 0479122470

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

TO LET

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

BALLINA SELF-STORAGE UNITS Secure. From \$22p/w. Ranging from 10–44 m3. Across 3 locations. 66867011

TO LEASE

RIVERFRONT ART SPACE 50sqm+ to share. Mullumbimby \$75pw. 0408809528

IN A CREATIVE SPACE, STUDIO / OFFICE / CLINIC

Centre of Mullumbimby. \$310p/w. Private toilet and sink. Text 0403663284. NOT FOR RESIDENTIAL TENANCY.

STORAGE OR WORK SPACE Byron A&I Estate. 45sqm. Access to bthrm. Parking. WiFi & elect included. \$230 per week. Ph 0421990785.

OFFICE FOR LEASE

@Byron Bay Industrial Estate
Big open space (upper level)
7.9 x 71m. A/c & fans.
Plus toilet & kitchenette downstairs.
3 mth lease then month by month.
\$400 pw incl. power
Ph: 0438 599 833

POSITIONS VACANT

KITCHENHAND @ The Other Joint. Tues & Wed. 9am-3pm. Email mullum@otherjoint.com

CUSTOMER SERVICE PERSON at AlkaWay (Mullum), a water technology company operating for 25 years. 2-3 days pw (flexible hours). Please email resume to accounts@alkaway.com.au

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

TAXI DRIVERS WANTED

Flexible work hours – perfect 2nd income
Email operations@byronbaytaxis.com

WORK WANTED

SUMMER HOLIDAYS BABYSITTING Reliable 30-year-old with extensive childcare exp. and Working With Children Check. Fun, safe, kids-club style engaging care. Sophie: 0422304844

DELIVERIES: after hours and weekends. 4-tonne load on 6m flatbed + 2.5-tonne load on 3.6m tiptruck. Ph 0419425491

MUSICAL NOTES

GUITAR STRINGS, REPAIRS Brunswick Heads 66851005

THE BYRON BAY BAGPIPER Highland bagpipe Byron area: Weddings, functions, funerals, tutoring. 0473174033

TUITION

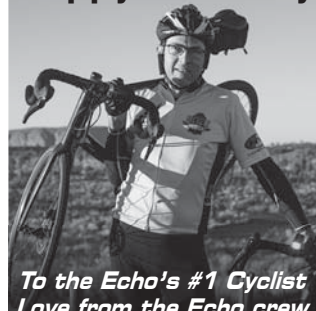
Adobe Tutoring

Experienced Professional Trainer
• Photoshop
• Indesign
• Illustrator

contact@thinkblinkdesign.com
www.thinkblinkdesign.com

BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday



To the Echo's #1 Cyclist Love from the Echo crew

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PUBLIC NOTICES

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

Mullumbimby MUSEUM FAIR
Vintage and Handicrafts
Saturday 30th Nov
Summers Park
17 Myokum St Mullumbimby
MUSEUM OPEN
Records
Bric-a-Brac
Handmade Goods
No Dogs Please
For bookings and enquiries please email museumvintage@hotmail.com

VAGINAS - 2025
TIX ON SALE NOW
BEST XMAS GIFT
MARCH 13-16
BRUNS PICTURE HOUSE

AGMs

THE BYRON ENVIRONMENT CENTRE is holding its AGM and general meeting on Saturday 30 November at 11am in Byron Bay at the RSL Club on Jonson St. For more info please email Renee renee8@aapt.net.au. All members are invited to attend.

PROF. SERVICES

DENTURES

LOOK GOOD
FEEL GOOD

Free consultation. **SANDRO 66805002**

Mindfulness @ Work

Bring greater focus, clarity and calm into your workplace.

Certified Mindfulness Educator Paul Bibby
0401 926 090

COUPLES THERAPY

Deepen Intimacy
Dissolve Barriers to Love and Understanding

Body Centred Psychotherapy
Leyolah Dekanic
Bangalow Clinic: 0409 226737

KINESIOLOGY CRYSTAL HEALINGS & READINGS

Mullumbimby

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

Kate Messenger
0413 003 301

crystalsandreaming.com.au

TRADEWORK

Septic Waste Removal Summerland Environmental

The Liquid Waste Specialists!

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

FOR SALE

WEGA 2 group coffee machine 2013. Good condition, regularly serviced by Botero, with Mazzer Jolly Grinder \$1500 ono. Ph 0431193063.

MIELE WASHERS

Dryers and dishwashers available at Bridglands Mullumbimby. 66842511

ARCHIBALD'S CHEAP QUARRY PRODUCTS

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



WANTED

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

TREE FERNS

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

Secondhand, old, rare BOOKS

BOUGHT FOR CASH

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

PETS Cont.

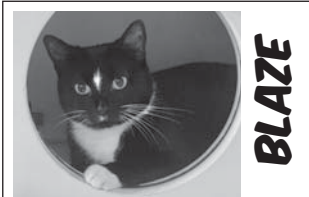
Byron Dog Rescue (CAWI)



LUNA

10-month-old desexed female Irish Wolfhound x Kelpie 'Luna' needs a new home. Only weighing 23.5kgs, Luna is tall but very petite. She is great with children and other dogs and LOVES to play. She has the sweetest, most adorable temperament. She will need ongoing training and an active companion or family with a decent-sized fenced yard.

Please contact Shell on 0458461935. MC: 978142000105470



BLAZE

Elegant little Blaze has been living in the shelter for 4 months now. She likes to take her time and doesn't give her heart lightly, but when she does give her heart, it's with every ounce of her little tuxedo being. She adores chin scratches and placing her head in your hands for pats. Blaze would suit a calm household. Could you be Blaze's special person?

All cats are desexed, vaccinated and microchipped.



No: 900164002267300. Please make an appointment 0403 533 589 • Billinudgel petsforlifeanimalsshelter.net

ONLY ADULTS

SEX AND LOVE ADDICTS ANON
Every Wednesday night 7pm. Byron Community Cabin Carlyle St Byron Bay.

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

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

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 (Nov/Dec)	DAY, MOON PHASE	SUN RISE / SET	MOON RISE / SET	HIGH TIDES, height (m)	LOW TIDES, height (m)
27	W	5:40 19:26	2:59 15:52	0653 1.37 1835 1.25	0012 0.33 1251 0.54
28	TH	5:40 19:27	3:26 16:46	0730 1.47 1917 1.22	0040 0.29 1340 0.49
29	F	5:40 19:28	3:55 17:42	0806 1.56 1958 1.19	0115 0.26 1424 0.44
30	SA	5:40 19:28	4:29 18:40	0843 1.63 2036 1.17	0145 0.23 1506 0.40
1	SU	5:40 19:29	5:07 19:39	0919 1.68 2115 1.14	0216 0.22 1546 0.38
2	M	5:40 19:30	5:53 20:38	0958 1.70 2154 1.11	0250 0.22 1628 0.37
3	TU	5:40 19:31	6:45 21:35	1037 1.71 2234 1.08	0326 0.24 1711 0.36
4	W	5:40 19:32	7:44 22:26	1118 1.70 2319 1.06	0404 0.26 1756 0.37
5	TH	5:40 19:32	8:46 23:11	1202 1.68	0470 0.30 1844 0.38
6	F	5:40 19:33	9:51 23:51	0010 1.04 1248 1.64	0537 0.36 1935 0.38
7	SA	5:40 19:34	10:55 24:26	0109 1.04 1339 1.60	0634 0.42 2029 0.37
8	SU	5:40 19:35	11:59 25:07	0216 1.07 1432 1.55	0741 0.47 2122 0.34
9	M	5:40 19:35	13:02 25:43	0329 1.15 1530 1.49	0856 0.51 2215 0.30
10	TU	5:41 19:36	14:05 26:24	0437 1.28 1631 1.42	1015 0.52 2303 0.25
11	W	5:41 19:37	15:10 27:04	0540 1.43 1732 1.35	1132 0.50 2351 0.20

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

On The Horizon

DEADLINE NOON FRIDAY

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

Bangalow community

The 2024 AGM of the Bangalow Community Association will be held at the Mens Shed, off Station Street carpark, Bangalow on Tuesday, December 10, at 7pm. All citizens of the 2479 postcode area are invited to attend and to comment on community-wide matters regarding development and infrastructure.

Chemical-free camphor management

A Chemical-Free Camphor Laurel Management Workshop with Nadia (Organic Landcare Inc.) and Pierre (Rainbow Regen) is being held on Saturday, December 7 between 8.30am and 1.30pm. For more information and to get a free ticket go to: <https://events.humanitix.com/chem-free-camphor-management>.

Byron Toastmasters

Byron Cavanbah Toastmasters Club is a group for public speaking. It meets on the first and third Monday of the month 6.15pm – 8.30pm, Byron Services Club, 132 Jonson St Byron Bay. For more information email Tamra@temcmahon15@outlook.com.

Free African Dance

Free African Dance classes for local seniors are being led by Angela McWhinney on Mondays in Byron



Community Centre, 69 Jonson Street, Byron Bay. These classes are a joyful exploration of African rhythms and movement designed for all fitness levels. Each session includes a gentle warm-up, rhythmic sequences, body percussion, free expression, choreography and a relaxing cool-down. Spaces are limited and bookings are essential. Call (02) 6685 6807 (Monday-Friday, 10am-4pm); or book your ticket at <https://events.humanitix.com/african-dance-for-seniors>.

Slow Fashion

Byron Bay Library presents 'Slow Fashion in a Digital World' with Eve Constantinos. Join us for a sustainable fashion afternoon that covers content creation, small business motivation, and a clothing swap. This is a free youth event for 14-24 year olds. Thursday, 28 November 3.30 - 5.30pm. Bookings essential, online at www.rtrl.nsw.gov.au or phone (02) 6685 8540.

Byron Bay Hospital Auxiliary

Byron Bay Hospital Auxiliary will be holding their Christmas Garage Sale on Saturday, November 30 from 8am to 12noon at 105 Beech Drive, Suffolk Park. Christmas cakes and puddings, pickles, bric a brac and plants. Contact Maureen on (02) 6685 3162 for further information.

Regular As Clockwork

DEADLINE NOON FRIDAY

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

Mullumbimby District Neighbourhood Centre

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

Byron Community

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

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

Low-cost or free food

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

Respite Service

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

Alateen meeting

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

CWA Christmas Market

The CWA Brunswick Heads annual Christmas Market is on Saturday, November 30 from 8am to 1pm. Christmas cakes, jam, pickles, handmade christmas gifts of plants and flowers. At the corner Park and Booyun Streets, Brunswick Heads. Cash only. Contact Mary on 0431 908 063 for further information.

End-of-Life Choices

Voluntary Euthanasia End-of-Life Choices are discussed at Exit International meetings held quarterly. Last meetings for the year are being held shortly. 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)

Death Cafe

A Death Cafe is being held on Saturday, December 7 at 10.30am. The location will be in Ballina - venue location on registration. A Death Cafe is basically an opportunity to have a discussion about death and dying in a safe and respectful space. The object is to increase awareness of death with a view to helping people make the most of their lives and to break down the taboos. A Death Cafe is not bereavement support or grief counselling and there are no agendas. Death Cafes will be held the first Saturday of each month in Ballina. For further information and/or to register attendance please email Kerry Johnston at: kerrymj@gmail.com.

ACA

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

Drug support groups

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

Support after suicide

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

Volunteer call out

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

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

NR Gateway

Free community lunch the first Friday each month. All are welcome to come and connect, enjoy a free barbecue with vegetarian options, cakes, snacks and coffees. Lunch runs 10.30am to 12pm at 76 Carrington Street, Lismore. Call Community Gateway for more details 6621 7397. **Fresh bread and produce** If you're living on a low income and struggling to put food on the table, get to Community Gateway on Tuesdays after 11am to access their community pantry, with fresh bread, food and produce at 76 Carrington Street, Lismore. Call 6621 7397 to check your eligibility. Residents can receive **community support** in Goonellabah on Tuesdays from 1-4pm. Supports include energy bill assistance, chemist and retail vouchers, food boxes and access to a range of other support services. Bookings essential. Call Community Gateway on 6621 7397 for more information and to check eligibility. **Mums and Bubs** free inclusive playgroup for children aged 0-3 years, their parents and carers. Bookings are essential, call 0429 640 075 for more information. **Adopt a family for Christmas** and help a family that will be financially struggling through the holidays. If you want to donate any presents, gifts or food call Community Gateway on 6621 7397.

Saving Paterson Hill

The Saving Paterson Hill display continues at Byron Bay library throughout November in the Local History room. The Paterson Hill Action Group saved this precious coastal heathland between 1993 and 1997. Were you there? Can you name anyone in the photos?

Exit Members. For further information www.exitinternational.net or phone Catherine 0435 228 443 (Robina and South Tweed) or Peter 0429 950 352 (Ballina).

Carers' support

Mullumbimby Mental Health Carers' Support Group for family members and friends who have a loved one with a mental health issue. Meeting on 4th Thursday of each month 9.30am at the Mullumbimby Neighbourhood Centre. Info: Susanne 0428 716 431.

Rainbow Dragons

Rainbow Dragons Abreast (RDA) welcomes breast cancer survivors for a paddle at Lake Ainsworth, Lennox Head (and sometimes at Ballina) on Sundays 7.30am for 8am start. Contact Marian 6688 4058, mazzerati2010@gmail.com.

Older adult exercise

Chair-based older adults exercise classes run by a qualified instructor, that feel more like fun than exercise, are held every Thursday at 10.15am in the Brunswick Memorial Hall. Cost \$10. All welcome. Just show up or if you have any questions please contact Di on 0427 026 935.

\$5 pilates classes

Pilates for the price of a coffee! Come and join us for \$5 Pilates classes every Thursday at 8.45am in the Memorial Hall, 22 Fingal Street, Brunswick Heads and Monday at 8.45am in Mullumbimby. It doesn't matter what level you are, as beginner to advanced options are shown. Just bring a mat and water. My goal is to keep the Shire active and feeling great one person at a time. No need to book just show up. For more information contact Di on 0427 026 935.

Pottsville Community Association

Pottsville Community Association meetings are on the last Tuesday of the month at 6.30pm at the Anglican Church in Coronation Drive, Pottsville. Have your say on what is going on in your local area. For details contact secretary@pottsvillecommunityassociation.com or via Facebook.

MONTHLY MARKETS

1st SAT	Brunswick Heads	0418 400 415
1st SUN	Byron Bay	02 6685 6807
2nd SUN	The Channon	02 6688 6433
2nd SUN	Chillingham	0428 793 141
2nd SUN	Coolangatta	
2nd SUN	Tabulam	
3rd SAT	Mullumbimby	02 6684 3370
3rd SAT	Murwillumbah	0415 328 672
3rd SAT	Salt Village Market, Casuarina	
3rd SUN	Federal	0433 002 757
3rd SUN	Uki	0487 329 150
3rd SUN	Ballina	0422 094 338
4th SAT	Evans Head	0432 275 765
4th SAT	Kyogle Bazaar	kyoglebazaar.com.au
4th SUN	Bangalow	02 6687 1911
4th SUN	Nimbin	0475 135 764
4th SUN	Murwillumbah	0415 328 672
4th SUN	Coolangatta (in a 5 Sunday month)	
5th SUN	Nimbin	0475 135 764

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.

FARMERS/WEEKLY MARKETS

Each TUE	New Brighton	0424 168 672
Each TUE	Organic Lismore	
Each WED	Murwillumbah 7-11	0415 328 672
Each WED	Nimbin 3-6pm	0418 940 653
Each WED	Newrybar Hall 4-7pm	
Each THU	Byron 8-11am	0414 595 169
Each THU	Lismore 2.30-6.30pm	0459 309 223
Each FRI	Mullum 7-11am	0424 168 672
Each FRI	Evans Head 2.30-6.30	0428 291 068
Each SAT	Bangalow 8-11am	0414 595 169
Each SAT	Duranbah Rd 8-11am (Tropical Fruit World)	
Each SAT	Uki 8am-1pm	02 6679 5438
Each SAT	Lismore 8.30-11am	
Each SAT	Wadeville 8am-12pm	
Each SAT	Byron Twilight Market 4pm Oct-Apr	
Each SUN	Ballina 7-11am	

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An iconic hinterland venue, Rockinghorse Studios

Byron Bay in the 1980s and '90s was known as the wild, wild east – a heady collection of cultural drop-outs with an off-the-grid mentality, an extension of the area's working-class roots but also an embodiment of the social freedoms which have come to define the region.

'It was so different to today,' says estate agent and long-time Byron local Chris Hanley. 'It was very egalitarian in those days – whatever you were, everyone lived the same sort of life.' A great deal of this 'same sort of life' occurred not in town itself, but up in the hinterland hills around Federal and Coorabell, hidden pockets of land off winding, single-lane roads, playing host to the infamous Byron party scene, the epicentre of which was the fabled Rockinghorse Studios.

Founded and built by Alan De Vandra in the early 1990s, the studio itself was built on the site of the property's garage with the help of renowned producer Murray Burns. '[Alan] ran it for 20 years, and it became an iconic Australian recording studio,' says Burns, 'Rockinghorse becoming a destination for musicians, the property itself, a destination for locals.'



36 Keys Road, Coorabell: a stunning 28-acre tourist venue featuring the legendary recording studio 'Rockinghorse Studios'.

'Byron was pretty loose then,' he goes on, smiling at the memory, 'and De Vandra loved a good time, so the [place] was, for quite some time... a destination for amazing, colourful events. I can't go too far into what happened, but it was pretty out there.'

The times, however, have a habit of changing, and so De Vandra sold to Taryn McGregor and her husband in 2017, the new owners clearing acres of camphor laurel, revamping the studio, and tarding up the house and surrounds for use as a retreat, a wedding venue, or somewhere to hunker

down and unwind. Although, while the times have changed, the legend remains. 'We still get calls, if there's music in the background,' McGregor laughs, 'People are still pointing the finger at Rockinghorse as being the "party place" – that history has not gone, it has not been dissipated.'

Contact agents:

Tara Torkkola
– 0423 519 698

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– 0434 029 668

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WHY WAIT?
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Auction

Saturday 7th December
Guide (\$790-\$850K)

View

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Greg Price

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greg.price@raywhite.com

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Mr Property Services was established in 2008 to offer a professional and dedicated service at reasonable rates to the "Buyers" and "Sellers" of manufactured homes located in Land Lease Lifestyle Villages and Residential Parks on the Tweed Coast in northern New South Wales.

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RayWhite



SALE

10/19-21 Centennial Circuit, Byron Bay

David Gordon of Ray White Byron Bay Commercial is please to present this well positioned strata titled factory outlet on the Byron Arts & Industrial Estate. This is a front row position in the Mecca Centre that ensures you are seen by all passing traffic.

Sale
\$1,100,000-\$1,150,000

View
By Appointment Only

David Gordon
0418 856 222
david.gordon@raywhite.com

WHY WAIT?
Ray White Byron Bay | 02 6685 6222

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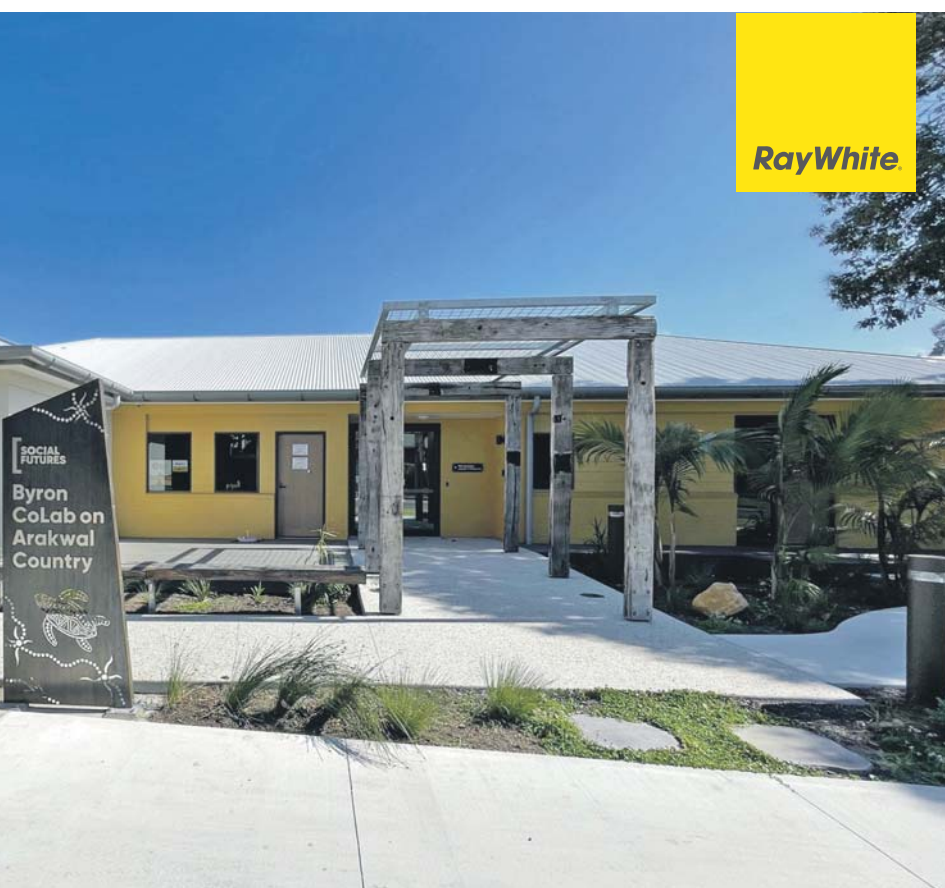


LEASE

10-12 Shirley Street, Byron Bay

David Gordon from Ray White Byron Bay Commercial is very pleased to present brand new office spaces within The Byron CoLab on Arakwal Country. The business hub presents an unparalleled opportunity to secure excellent office space adjoining incredible facilities. There is a range of sizes available, and all offices have street front entrances, sunny and light aspects, air conditioning, electrical fit off, NBN, kitchenettes, and some have internal bathrooms.

WHY WAIT?
Ray White Byron Bay | 02 6685 6222



RayWhite

Rent
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By Appointment

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rwbyronbay.com



HELENE ADAMS
PROPERTY



541 Friday Hut Road, Possum Creek

8 Bed | 7 Bath | 7 Car | 22.15 acres

Welcome to Longwood...

Discover unparalleled luxury and natural beauty in this stunning 22-acre estate in Possum Creek. With two exquisite residences, the Stonehouse and the Creekhous comprising of 8 bedrooms 7 bathrooms and 7 car spaces, this property offers substantial infrastructure complete with high-end finishes throughout.

For Sale
Contact Agent

Contact
Helene Adams
0412 139 807
Rick Daniel (Co-Agent)
0401 001 515



234A Bangalow Road, Byron Bay

7 Bed | 3 Bath | 4 Car | 2.28ha

Spacious Family Home.

Could this be Byron's rarest and most substantial land holding with a dwelling close to town? Discover a rare and exceptional opportunity just 2km from Byron Bay's vibrant town centre. Impressive single-level, 5-bedroom home offers the perfect blend of privacy, space, and convenience PLUS a 2 bedroom studio.

Price Guide
\$4,000,000

Contact
Peter Kakos
0418 123 993
Helene Adams (Co-Agent)
0412 139 807



7/99 Broken Head Road, Suffolk Park

5 Bed | 4 Bath | 2 Car | 858sqm

Coveted Architect Designed Residence.

Located 3.3km from the Byron town centre, 1 km to the Suffolk Park shops and only a 15 minute walk to the beach. This grand Ed Haysom designed home is built to impress. Complete with 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 2 car spaces and a pool, the property can sleep up to 10 people.

For Sale
Contact Agent

Contact
Helene Adams
0412 139 807



Helene Adams
0412 139 807

sales@heleneadamsproperty.com.au
heleneadamsproperty.com.au



56 CEDAR ROAD, WILSONS CREEK

Stunning 21 Acre Property with 2 Homes and Established Grounds

6 beds 1 living 4 bathrooms 3 cars

21 ACRES

- Elevated, with breath-taking views over lush rainforest and cleared plateaus
- Beautifully landscaped, featuring extensive lawns, Jacaranda trees, a stunning fig tree plus creek access
- The main house, is a renovated 100-year-old hardwood timber home
- Versatile second home is ideal for multi-generational living or guests

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
OPEN | By Appointment



Tara Torkkola
0423 519 698



Jasmin McClymont
0434 029 668



16 BRYCE STREET, SUFFOLK PARK

Modern Coastal Living, Spacious home and Studio

5 beds 2 living 3 bathrooms 2 cars

647M²

- Situated in a tightly held, quiet street in beachside Suffolk, just a couple of mins walk to the beach!
- Multiple outdoor living spaces, including a private front courtyard
- Separate, self-contained studio ideal for guests, multi-generational living or as a rental
- Conveniently located, within easy distance to beaches, schools and shops

PRICE | \$3.1M - \$3.3M
OPEN | Sat 30th November 10 - 10:30am



Su Reynolds
0428 888 660



Renee Schofield
0400 028 594



23 CLOVER HILL CIRCUIT, BANGALOW

Modern Luxury Home in Family Friendly Bangalow

5 beds 3 living 3 bathrooms 4 cars

600M²

- Thoughtfully designed interior with bespoke cabinetry, elegant timber floors, and clean architectural lines
- Outdoor entertainer's haven complete with heated saltwater pool, a covered deck, and a built-in BBQ
- Easy-to-maintain yard surrounded by tropical landscaping
- Self-contained, one bedroom studio on the lower level, ideal for a home office, guest accommodation, or multi-generational living

PRICE | Contact Agent
OPEN | Sat 30th November 11 - 11:30am



Renee Schofield
0400 028 594



Su Reynolds
0428 888 660



12/213 COORABELL ROAD, COORABELL

Charming Timber Cottage with Creek Access & Views

2 beds 1 living 1 bathroom 2 cars

9381M²

- Expansive grounds, established gardens and direct access to a tranquil creek
- The living area features a fireplace, vaulted ceilings and large glass bifold stacker doors
- A separate shed provides useful space for storage or a creative workshop
- 100 acres of common land to enjoy full of native trees and wildlife

PRICE | \$1.65M - \$1.8M
OPEN | Sat 30th November 10 - 10:30am



Tara Torkkola
0423 519 698



Sally Green
0488 030 116

Elevated Retreat with Breathtaking Views in Mullumbimby

4 3 2

18 Cockatoo Crescent, Mullumbimby.

Let your eyes wander across endless vistas from every corner of this remarkable home, where each moment is accentuated by stunning views that make this property truly unique and unforgettable. Looking straight onto Mt Chincogan, with Wollumbin in the distance.

This amazing home is nestled on a quiet, tree-lined street and welcomes you with a sense of character and style that instantly feels like the dream home you've been searching for. Inside, the warmth of the gorgeous timber-style flooring sets the tone, flowing effortlessly throughout the generously proportioned light filled living spaces, with high ceilings throughout.

- **Prime location** in the sort after Tallowood Estate – minutes to Mullumbimby town, 15 minutes to Byron Bay's beaches and restaurants
- **Generous three bedroom**, office and two bathroom layout upstairs
- **Separate downstairs studio**, with bathroom. Currently used as a professional music studio, soundproofed and acoustically engineered.
- **Spacious open-plan kitchen**, living, and dining areas with seamless indoor-outdoor flow
- **Primary suite** with walk-in robe, ensuite, and direct private deck access
- **Large timber veranda** facing mountain views and fenced backyard, perfect for entertaining or relaxing with family.
- **Eco-friendly living** with a premium solar system and water tank

OPEN FOR INSPECTION Sat 30 Nov, 10am to 10.45am



Idan Gonen
Licensed Real Estate Agent
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- 8 Northcott Drive, Goonellabah. 9.45-10.15am
- 26 Palmvale Drive, Goonellabah. 10.30-11am
- 301 Friday Hut Road, Possum Creek. 11.45am-12.15pm

Dodds Real Estate

- 2/11 Constellation Close, Byron Bay. Sat 9.30-10am
- 47 Rankin Drive, Bangalow. Sat 11-11.30am
- 12 Orchid Place, Mullumbimby. Sat 12.30-1pm

First National Byron Bay

- 18/6 Firewheel Place, Suffolk Park. Wed 12-12.30pm
- 30 Beachside Drive, Suffolk Park. Wed 1-1.30pm
- 84 Grant Street, Ballina. Thurs 11-11.30am
- 23 Prince Street, Mullumbimby. Fri 10-10.30am
- 2/4 Corkwood Crescent, Suffolk Park. Fri 12-12.30pm
- 15/24 Scott Street, Byron Bay. Sat 9-9.30am
- 2/37 Childe Street, Byron Bay. Sat 9-9.30am
- 24 Swell Avenue, Skennars Head. Sat 9-9.30am
- 58 Ruskin Street, Byron Bay. Sat 9-9.30am
- 23 Prince Street, Mullumbimby. Sat 10-10.30am
- 346 Coorabell Road, Coorabell. Sat 10-10.30am
- 5 Barby Crescent, Bangalow. Sat 10-10.30am
- 30 Beachside Drive, Suffolk Park. Sat 10-10.30am
- 12/213 Coorabell Road, Coorabell. Sat 10-10.30am

- 5 Bombora Place, Lennox Head. Sat 10-10.30am
- 2/27 Kalemajere Drive, Suffolk Park. Sat 10-10.30am
- 16 Bryce Street, Suffolk Park. Sat 10-10.30am
- 56 Parrot Tree Place, Bangalow. Sat 10-10.30am
- 10 Muli Court, Myocum. Sat 11-11.30am
- 11 Lizray Road, Federal. Sat 11-11.30am
- 14 Oakland Court, Byron Bay. Sat 11-11.30am
- 835 Federal Drive, Goonengerry. Sat 11-11.30am
- 23 Clover Hill Circuit, Bangalow. Sat 11-11.30am
- 65 Citriadora Drive, Ewingsdale. Sat 11.30am-12pm
- 18/6 Firewheel Place, Suffolk Park. Sat 11.30am-12pm
- 446 Binna Burra Road, Federal. Sat - By Appointment
- 50 Rocky Creek Dam Road, Dunoon. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 6 Coachwood Close, Byron Bay. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 4/113 Paterson Street, Byron Bay. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 100 Broken Head Road, Newrybar. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 2-4 Standing Street, The Channon. Sat 12.45-1.15pm
- 22 Karalauren Court, Lennox Head. Sat 1-1.30pm
- 2/8 Julian Rocks Drive, Byron Bay. Sat 1-1.30pm
- 20 Ridgeland Close, Boat Harbour. Sat 1.30-2pm
- 1145 Friday Hut Road, Binna Burra. Sat 1.30-2pm
- 3/60 Lawson Street, Byron Bay. Sat 3-3.30pm

Harcourts Northern Rivers

- 96 Emigrant Point Road, Pimlico. Sat 10-10.30am
- 9 Fitzroy Street, Wardell. Sat 10.45-11.15am

- 5 Cooper Street, Byron Bay. Sat 11-11.30am
- 406 River Drive, East Wardell. Sat 11.30-12pm
- 5 Heritage Court, Suffolk Park. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 24 Daybreak Way, Lennox Head. Sat 12.45-1.15pm
- 19B Sunray Crescent, Lennox Head. Sat 1.30-2pm

Mana Re

- 2251 Big River Way, Ulmarra. Thurs 3-3.30pm
- 3 Helen Street, South Golden Beach. Sat 9-9.30am
- 80 Harbour Way, Ocean Shores. Sat 9-9.30am
- 44 Lalina Avenue, Tweed Heads West. Sat 9-9.30am
- 16 Yamble Drive, Ocean Shores. Sat 10-10.30am
- 5/2 Arika Avenue, Ocean Shores. Sat 10-10.30am
- 49 Eviron Road Condong. Sat 10.30-11am
- 30 Balemo Drive, Ocean Shores. Sat 11-11.30am
- 27A Rajah Road, Ocean Shores. Sat 11-11.30am
- 467 Tweed Valley Way, South Murwillumbah. Sat 11.30am-12pm
- 2/2 Gara Court, Ocean Shores. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 5 Aldinga Court, Ocean Shores. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 1 Tree Street, Murwillumbah. Sat 12.30-1pm
- 121 Blackwoods Road, Nobbys Creek. Sat 1.30-2pm

McGrath Byron Bay

- 5/37 Childe Street, Byron Bay. Sat 9.30-10am
- 72 Parrot Tree Place, Bangalow. Sat 10.30-11am
- 4 Browning Street, Byron Bay. Sat 11.30am-12pm

North Coast Lifestyle Properties

Mullumbimby

- 150 Cabarita Road, Bogangar. Sat 9.30-10.00am
- 18 Cockatoo Crescent, Mullumbimby. Sat 10-10.45am

Ray White Byron Bay

- 4 Tamarind Court, Suffolk Park. Thurs 10-10.30am
- 271 Goremans Road, Eureka. Fri 10-10.30am
- 15 Little Burns Street, Byron Bay. Sat 9-9.30am
- 13/183-205 Broken Head Road, Suffolk Park. Sat 9.30-10am
- 19/183-205 Broken Head Road, Suffolk Park. Sat 9.30-10am
- 243 Broken Head Road, Suffolk Park. Sat 10-10.30am
- 4 Tamarind Court, Suffolk Park. Sat 10-10.30am
- 9 Bunjil Place, Byron Bay. Sat 10.30-11am
- 1 Hayters Drive, Suffolk Park. Sat 11-11.30am
- 17 Beachside Drive, Suffolk Park. Sat 11-11.30am
- 47 Elizabeth Avenue, South Golden Beach. Sat 11-11.30am
- 152 Alcorn Street, Suffolk Park. Sat 11-11.30am
- 1/24 Seaview Street, Byron Bay. Sat 11-11.30am
- 5/10 Sunrise Boulevard, Byron Bay. Sat 11.30am-12pm
- 11 Browning Street, Byron Bay. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 16 Coral Court, Byron Bay. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 9 George Street, Bangalow. Sat 1-1.30pm

Ray White Rural Bangalow

- 400 Dorrroughby Road, Dorrroughby. Sat 10-10.30am
- 362 Coorabell Road, Coorabell. Sat 11.30am-12pm

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We would like to thank everyone for their support throughout 2024. Our office will close from 1pm on Thursday 19 December 2024 so we can regroup, refresh and recuperate to be back on deck at 9am on Monday 6 January 2025.

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- 9 Walker Street, Clunes. Sat 9.45-10.15am
- 11 Booyong Road, Clunes. Sat 10.30-11am
- 390 Binna Burra Road, Federal. Sat 11.45am-12.15pm
- 35 Riverside Drive, Mullumbimby. Sat 1.15-1.45pm

New listings

First National Byron Bay

- 20 Ridgeland Close, Boat Harbour
- 64 Shelley Drive, Byron Bay
- 20/9-13 Shirley Street, Byron Bay
- 100 Broken Head Road, Newrybar
- 23 Clover Hill Circuit, Bangalow

Mana Re

- 16 Yamble Drive, Ocean Shores
- 30 Balemo Drive, Ocean Shores
- 5/2 Arika Avenue, Ocean Shores
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Byron Bay

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Here's hoping Sydney-based cops in oversized SUVs and riot gear are having a lovely time cruising around Byron. Are they protecting us from marauding schoolies or having a holiday? Fun fact: NSW police can do what they want with their \$4.751 billion yearly budget. So, without government guidance, they end up hassling youngsters at music festivals and hippies in the hills with helicopters. Isn't addressing DV more important?

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An all day psilocybin symposium is planned for Nimbin Town Hall on December 7. Co-organiser Michael Balderstone says, 'We have a range of speakers discussing the legalities, risks, macro and microdosing, therapy, and the healing powers of fungi'. For more info call the Nimbin HEMP Embassy on 6689 0326.



Byron Bay's Fire and Rescue NSW team are gearing up for an eight-hour relay event on November 30 from 6am until 2pm. They will be trekking from the Byron Bay Surf Club to the Cape Byron Lighthouse and back. Organisers say it is part of the firefighters' ongoing efforts to raise money for Movember and awareness about fire safety. The day will feature fire truck tours, fire safety info, sausage sizzle, kids' demonstrations, and virtual reality fire extinguisher training. Photo Jeff 'Needing A Hose Down' Dawson

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Psst: a number of new and seasoned councillors, in their first planning meeting, declared pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests. It is a massive increase from previous years. Who are they? Check out the November 15 agenda minutes at www.byron.nsw.gov.au, or see page 5.

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The Privacy Commissioner has found that over three years, Bunnings (owned by Wesfarmers who owns Coles) breached the privacy of hundreds of thousands of customers. The ABC reports that Bunnings broke privacy laws by using facial recognition technology and storing customer data without proper consent.

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For rusted-on Labor party supporters, how do you feel

about the party's dodgy misinformation bill? It was so bad, it was abandoned last week. Or how about the government's first and only hearing into the teen social media ban inquiry? *Crikey* reports it was pegged for just three hours on Monday, yet 15,000 'unprecedented' submissions were received.

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The idea that developers or governments can offset a native plant or animal by moving it to another location is as absurd as it sounds. It's called the NSW Biodiversity Offsets Scheme (BOS), and amendments are being thrashed out in parliament this week. The Nature Conservation Council of NSW say that 48 species have been 'uplifted or added' to the NSW threatened species list this year, so strong reforms are vital.

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