

# Echo

ONE IDIOT IS ONE IDIOT AND TWO IDIOTS ARE TWO IDIOTS. 10,000 IDIOTS ARE A POLITICAL PARTY – KAFKA  
 The Byron Shire Echo • Volume 39 #26 • December 4, 2024 • www.echo.net.au



Nil's  
work  
is batty

Environmental Science student from Barcelona, Nil Breton Garcia, has been helping the Byron Environment Centre weed, remove rubbish and repair nest boxes for microbats in the Cumbegin Wetland Sanctuary near Byron's Butler Street Reserve. The centre is in the process of raising funds to continue repair work on the boardwalk, so that the wetlands can be reopened for everyone to enjoy. To contribute, see BEC members at the rotunda in Railway Park on Friday afternoons. Photo Jeff 'Batty And Micro Since 1986' Dawson

## Are Landcom's Mullum housing plans viable?

Hans Lovejoy

The pressure is on NSW government development agency, Landcom, to explain how their plans for a large 32-unit proposal to replace a busy Mullum car park are achievable.

The proposal is located near the town's entrance roundabout, and, if approved, would be the only three-storey building in the town.

Questions by Mullumbimby Residents Association last week reveal that Landcom's proposal comes without crucial assessments that would determine if the project is viable. For example, when asked about flooding and hydrology, the representatives replied studies are

underway, yet will be 'specifically designed with flood-risk in mind'.

They also say the 'ground floor retail and habitable areas will be elevated to meet, or exceed Council's flood planning control levels'.

### Traffic impacts

Likewise, traffic impacts are being 'reviewed' – the proposal suggests all traffic would funnel via the laneway, which is regularly used by large trucks unloading for IGA.

Landcom claim they are only required to supply 20 parking spaces for 50 plus residents, and as for the 64 plus rubbish bins, Landcom say it will be managed on-site.

Concerns about reduced parking

were directed to Council, who are yet to formalise where another car park will be located.

According to Landcom, the project can only proceed once the car park is established by Council; they say it will be the land on the corner of Argyle and Prince Street, opposite the former Carsburg site.

Yet that is a smaller parcel of land, and does not accord with the town's masterplan's vision to reflect Mullumbimby's 'green image'.

Landcom say that the units have been set at the minimum size required, suggesting that the high bulk and scale is needed to attract a Community Housing Provider (CHP).

► Continued on page 4

## Byron's new emergency services precinct

Plans for a new, state-of-the-art emergency services precinct in Byron Bay for NSW Police and Fire and Rescue NSW were announced on Tuesday.

According to the NSW Labor government media release, the \$28 million project will be built on a 6,500-square-metre section of Crown land, within the Sandhills Estate, on the eastern side of Gilmore Crescent, opposite the Youth Activities Centre (YAC).

The media statement reads, '\$20 million was originally allocated in July 2022 to rebuild the Byron Bay police station on its current site. However, size constraints and heritage considerations made redevelopment at that location unfeasible.'

'At the same time, the local fire station was identified as requiring significant upgrades.

'To address these challenges, Fire and Rescue NSW allocated an

additional \$8 million, allowing both services to be co-located at a new emergency services precinct.

'Planning of the facility is underway and construction is expected to begin in early 2026 and finish by the end of 2027.

'The Sandhills Estate, a 19-hectare area adjacent to the Byron Bay CBD, was historically used for sand mining and is now the focus of extensive planning and redevelopment.

'The site was secured for the precinct through Aboriginal Land Agreements (ALAs) negotiated by Crown Lands, the NSW Aboriginal Land Council, and the Tweed Byron Local Aboriginal Land Council, settling outstanding land claims and interests'.

The statement adds, 'By co-locating NSW Police and Fire and Rescue NSW, the precinct will ensure efficient, resilient, and centrally located services for years to come'.



From left, Mayor Sarah Ndiaye, Chief Inspector, Jeremy Fewtrell, NSW Minister for Police, Yasmin Catley, NSW Police Commissioner, Karen Webb APM, NSW Ballina MP Tamara Smith, NSW Lismore MP Janelle Saffin, and NSW Minister for Emergency Services, Jihad Dib.

Photo Jeff Dawson

Byron biz celebrates a big year with awards ► p3

Syrian family welcomed into Bruns ► p7

Works begin on a new Bruns Surf Life Saving Club ► p9

Festive season treats for those not on the naughty list ► p22

Murwillumbah, that magical not-so-far-away land ► p29



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## Last dips for Billi swim school

Swimming Instructor Ruth Smith. Photo Jeff Dawson

**B**illinudgel-based indoor swim school and aquatic therapy centre, Swim For Your Life, will close its doors in December, after nine years of operation.

Swimming Instructor, Ruth Smith, says that the decision was out of her hands owing to her landlord deciding not to renew the lease.

'This news has been devastating for me personally and the team,' Ruth said.

'However, I want to focus on the positives that have come out of our time in this space and the important work that will continue beyond it.'

Ms Smith says Swim For Your Life has taught over 68,500 lessons across its nine years of operation, helping over 2,000 neurotypical students, 400 neurodiverse students and

30 adults along the way. 'While we may be small compared to larger swim schools, the impact we've had on the local community has been significant,' Ruth said.

'We have dealt with floods, Covid and sickness, but we have continued to open our doors.'

The swim school's last trading day will be Saturday, December 7.

### Looking forward

In 2023, Ruth began research in collaboration with Western Sydney University on aquatic therapy, a gentler alternative to land-based physical therapy.

Ruth's work in aquatic therapy aids people with challenging behaviours and special needs to develop their motor skills, better follow sequence instructions

and strengthen cross-lateral movement alongside improving focus, self-regulation, and coordination.

In 2022, the swim school received the National Award for Access and Inclusion, which Ruth says is a true honour for their work in the neurodiverse space.

Despite the swim school's closure, Ruth is optimistic about her future with aquatic therapy. 'I want Australian evidenced-based research proving the benefits of aquatic therapy for our participants,' she said.

'My ultimate goal is that aquatic therapy becomes part of the allied health profession.'

Ruth has been invited to next year's World Aquatic Development Conference to be held in Sweden in January.

## Traffic lights approved for Suffolk Park

Paul Bibby

Traffic lights will be installed at Suffolk Park's Clifford Street intersection in a bid to address the ongoing traffic and safety issues at the notorious spot.

But modelling indicates that the move is little more than a stopgap measure, and one which could pave the way for more traffic lights at intersections along Broken Head and Bangalow Roads.

In a decision which looks set to divide the Suffolk Park community, councillors voted to install the lights at last Thursday's meeting, while at the same time 'considering' a roundabout as a long-term option.

The vote follows years of debate about how to address the worsening situation at the intersection, where residents reportedly wait for up to half an hour just to get onto Broken Head Road during peak times, and pedestrians face a perilous task in trying to cross the road.

While most accept that something must be done to address the issue, opinion appears starkly divided over whether traffic lights or a roundabout should be installed as a solution.

While the traffic light option is cheaper and simpler to achieve in the short term - with the state government offering a \$1.8 million grant for its completion - modelling indicates that any benefits in terms of traffic flow will have effectively been erased within 10 years by a 76 per cent increase in traffic movements on Broken Head Road.

However, building a roundabout at the intersection also involves significant challenges. While this option would have better long-term outcomes in terms of

**Opinion appears starkly divided over whether traffic lights, or a roundabout, should be installed as a solution.**

traffic flow, it would require multiple acquisitions of private land and an extensive design and construction process. Not only would this take upwards of five years to complete, the apparent unwillingness of the state government to fund what is a far more expensive project raises questions as to its financial viability.

As debate unfolded at last week's meeting it emerged that Council staff had already successfully applied for the state government funding for the traffic lights option, prior to consulting the community about its preferences.

With no formal consultation having been undertaken, it remains unclear what the majority of Suffolk Park residents actually want.

During the public access section of last week's meeting, Donald Maughan from the Suffolk Park Progress Association said that his group's informal survey of 186 residents found that 90 per cent favoured the traffic lights option.

'The community is extremely tired and frustrated by the amount of time it has taken for action on this issue,' Mr Maughan said.

'Please don't let the search for perfection stop you from doing something that's good. Let's get this intersection functional.'

But Clifford Street resident and local mum, Samantha Turnbull, told the meeting that a formal online survey she had created had produced very different results.

'We had 367 responses, 255 of which indicated that their preferred choice was a roundabout,' Ms Turnbull said.

'Seventy people said lights and 42 chose "other". The most popular option within the Other category was to do nothing at all.'

'I know people are tired and that this has been going on for a long time, but I urge you not to jump into the cheaper, quicker, precedent-setting option, and instead engage in genuine consultation that results in what your community truly prefers and what your own reports say is the superior choice.'

The motion, moved by Deputy Mayor Jack Dods (Independent), will see Council install the traffic lights, while also engaging a surveyor to cost the land acquisition and construction costs of the roundabout.

Staff will also produce an options report for a second northern entry to the beachside section of Suffolk Park.

Council will also upgrade and widen the pedestrian refuge to the south leg of the Beech Drive roundabout as a matter of urgency to alleviate safety concerns.

Mayor Sarah Ndiaye (Greens) told the meeting that if Council knocked back the state government's grant funding it was unlikely that it would be offered again.

'Ten years ago we had funding approved for a roundabout and the community banded together to knock that back,' Cr Ndiaye said.

'When we're lucky enough to get grants, like we are in this situation, for us to say no, again... the likelihood of us to be able to access money for that spot again would be quite slim I would imagine.'

## Torres Strait Islander leaders take Labor govt to court over climate inaction

Two community leaders from the Guda Maluligal nation (Torres Strait) have taken the federal government to court over climate inaction and negligence in the Torres Strait, and will be at the Bangalow

A&I Hall on Wednesday from 5.30 till 9.30pm to speak about their case.

Organisers say the tour aims to 'connect stories of disasters, hope, and power ahead of the verdict ruling in

the Federal Court next year'.

The free, catered event will feature speakers Uncle Pabai and Uncle Paul, with a panel and special guests. There will be community stories and climate action workshops.

# WISHING EVERYONE A SAFE & HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON



## TAMARA SMITH MP

MEMBER FOR BALLINA

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Authorised by Tamara Smith MP, Member for Ballina. Funded using parliamentary entitlements.

## Byron biz celebrates year's end with awards

The Byron Shire business community came together last Thursday night to celebrate the Uniquely Byron Business Awards and end of year party.

Byron Bay Chamber Executive Officer, Izzy Durbin, told *The Echo*, 'Held at Ember Byron Bay, the sold-out event brought together Byron Shire's thriving business community to celebrate their achievements, innovation, and resilience.'

### 118 entries

'This year, the Uniquely Byron Business Awards saw an incredible 118 entries from across the Byron Shire, highlighting the strength and creativity that define the Byron Shire business community, even in challenging times.'

'From exciting startups to longstanding organisations, the competition highlighted the exceptional talent and dedication driving our region forward. A huge congratulations to all the finalists for their outstanding achievements and contributions – they truly represent the best of Byron's unique spirit.'

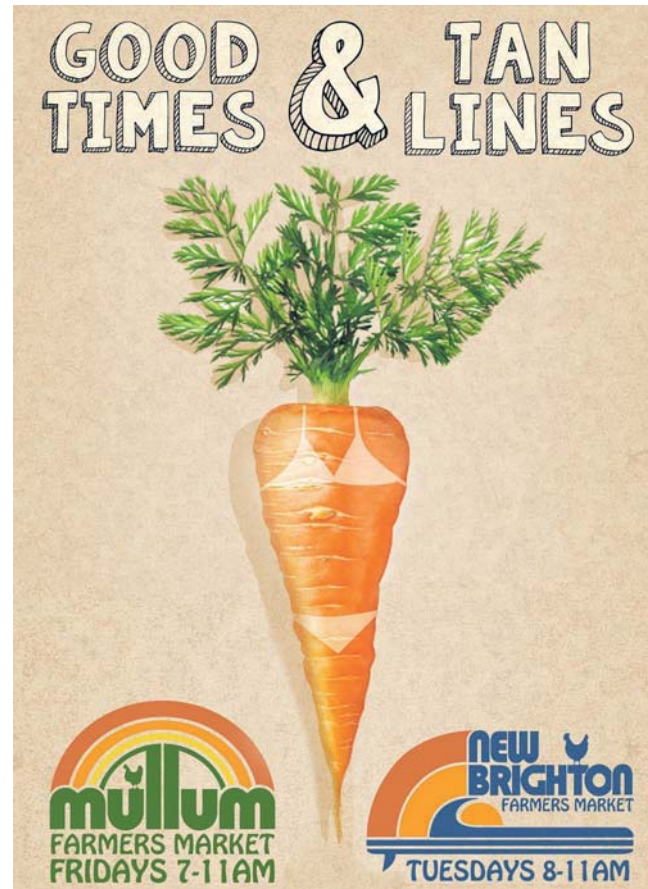
'The Byron Bay Chamber of Commerce extends its heartfelt gratitude to all attendees, sponsors, and participants for making this evening unforgettable. Here's to a bright, prosperous year ahead for the Byron business community,' added Izzy.



President Matt Williamson, Executive Officer Izzy Durbin, Board Member Diego Trigo, Secretary Nick Revere, and Board Member Steve Doherty. Photo Mazzer Photographics

## And the winners are...

S T Electrical & Data (Top Tradie); Byron Bay Wildlife Sanctuary (Tourism Titans); Mahi Health Club (Wellness Warriors); Banyula (Eco Warriors); Beacon Laundry (Outstanding Community Organisation); Marcon Consultancy (Excellence in Business & Professional Services); Wild Things (Excellence in General Retail and e-commerce); Byron School of Fashion (Excellence in Fashion Retail and Design); Savvy Beverages (Excellence in Innovation); Otherworld Byron Bay (Excellence in Arts and Creativity); The Brooklet (Standout Startup); Frida's Field (Outstanding Dining Experience); Sunday Sustainable Bakery (Outstanding Cafe and Coffee Experience); Cape Byron Kayaks (Excellence in Surf and Ocean Culture); Byron Theatre (Outstanding Evening Economy Experience); Explore Byron Bay (The Deadlys/Outstanding First Nations Business or Organisation); and The Brooklet (Uniquely Byron Business of the Year 2024).



## Councillors move to close the gap

Paul Bibby

Byron Shire Council could allocate dwellings at one of its caravan parks for long-term use by members of the local First Nations community, last week's meeting heard.

The revelations came during a motion put by the Council's two First Nations councillors, Michelle Low and Delta Kay (Greens) on 'closing the gap'.

Following a question from Mayor Sarah Ndiaye (Greens), Council staff indicated that they were 'exploring options' for providing additional accommodation for the local First Nations community.

Currently, just four houses have been provided for this purpose.

There were an additional three units at one of Council's caravan parks that were being considered for Indigenous housing, staff said.

Earlier, Cr Lowe

acknowledged the work being done by Council and the community to help First Nations locals, but said that the Shire still had a long way to go if it wanted to close the gap.

'As a schoolteacher I see, continuously, First Nations students falling behind,' Cr Lowe said.

'And as a community member, I see that there's a severe lack of resources around help for Indigenous people in our Shire.'

'Housing is obviously also a major issue, with only four houses at the moment allocated to Arakwal custodians. This is extremely distressing for community members.'

Cr Kay echoed Cr Lowe's comments. 'As an Aboriginal person, I still don't even know how many people from our community are actually out there,' Cr Kay said.

'They're just not seen and not heard. This report is

really important for us.'

Under the motion put by the two councillors, Council staff will prepare a report outlining ways that Council could contribute to closing the gap for Indigenous people in our community.

The report will explore successful initiatives implemented by other councils, identify potential funding sources, and identify specific programs or actions for the Byron area.

### Survival day

The meeting also heard that Byron's regionally-renowned Survival Day event had been receiving just \$600 in funding support from Council in recent years, with the figure increasing to the still-modest figure of \$1,000 this year.

Council's General Manager Mark Arnold told the meeting that Council was 'open to other requests'.



O'MEARA DENTAL

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# Cr Dods defends claims of misleading, DA involvement pre-election

Hans Lovejoy

Cr Jack Dods (Independent) was a late entry to the Council elections in September, nominating his group after then mayor Michael Lyon's team imploded after revelations of his DV charges just weeks before the election.

The hearing is set for March, 2025.

As an urban designer, Cr Dods volunteered for Council development-related committees prior to being elected, and was also part of Cr Lyon's failed negotiations with Wallum developer, Clarence Property.

The *Echo* asked Cr Dods, who is also now deputy mayor, about his role as lead designer and neighbour contact for a large Myocum DA last year. Neighbours claim they were not consulted by him as promised.

As astute *Echo* readers are aware, developers are prohibited from running for Council. And while there is no allegation of wrongdoing here, it is within the public interest to explore these connections.

## Your role in the 39-lot Myocum DA

The *Echo* asked you about your relationship with developer John Callanan during the election campaign and you downplayed the relationship.

After being elected, you were asked to explain your involvement in a large, exclusive 39-lot Myocum DA proposed by John Callanan and Tim Mundy. You admitted to being its lead design coordinator, which is a very significant role.

My relationship with John is both personal and on occasion professional. Yes, I was engaged as the design



Cr Jack Dods

coordinator for the 53 McAuleys Lane proposal during the DA preparation. As such, I will have no involvement with this project as a councillor, and declare an interest wherever it arises.

This was the case at the November 14 Planning Meeting, where the McAuleys DA was mentioned in a status report on applications before the Northern Regional Planning Panel (NRPP).

I recused myself from the chamber and did not participate in the vote. Note this DA is not being determined by Byron Council, it is being determined by the NRPP.

**Do you agree that it was a mistake to mislead the community about this important question, and if not, why?**

I certainly did not mislead the community in any way.

I am committed to transparency and have always been open about my occupation and my interests.

During the campaign, I made it clear that I would declare any relevant interests, which I did in this case.

Additionally, I have publicly discussed my involvement in the McAuleys project on multiple occasions.

**Neighbours of DA 10.2023.454.1 say you were employed as the contact person for the DA, and that the DA was published on Council's website two days before Christmas. You claim**

neighbours were advised of the DA's lodgement around three weeks before Christmas. Is that correct?

**They also said they received only one 'courtesy' call to advise them of the DA lodgement just before Christmas, despite assurances that there would be more communication around the DA prior. Is that correct?**

The DA was uploaded to the portal at the end of November 2023, and the lodgement date was recorded on the DA tracker as 12/12/23, after the standard two week 'DA check' period which happens with all DAs.

The neighbours in question were informed of the lodgement via a courtesy call on 07/12/23. It is understandable that neighbours are at times concerned about developments proposed nearby. The neighbour you refer to made some insightful comments during the exhibition period which subsequently helped to improve the design after the exhibition period.

Preparing a DA is a long and complex process.

Lodgement happens when all documentation is coordinated and finalised. The timing of this DA lodgement was not tactical, as has been wrongly suggested.

A quick search on the DA tracker of the proponent's past significant DAs, shows that of 11 applications, two were submitted in December.

All others were submitted at various other times of the year, when documentation was ready for lodgment.

**Were you on any Council committees that oversaw this DA?**

It came up once when the McAuleys Lane / Mullumbimby Road intersection was

discussed during a Moving Byron Committee meeting where there was an update on the adopted Mullumbimby Cycleway route.

'That committee dealt with active transport and public transport matters.

As part of the discussion involved the intersection related to the McAuleys Lane proposal, I declared an interest with then-chair Cr Mark Swivel, and did not participate as it related to that item.

There was no vote on the item as it was an update report on the Mullumbimby cycleway.

## Non-pecuniary interests

**The *Echo* also asked you prior to the election: 'what connections do you have with local developers?'**

**You did not list any developer connections as requested, and instead you said at the time: 'I will be fully transparent if and when a perceived interest arises, declare as such, and recuse myself from any dealings with those matters. However I estimate such**

instances to be few relative to the broad scope of what Council deals with.'

**It has emerged in your first planning meeting (Nov 14) you had to recuse yourself for five non-pecuniary interest items, which was by far more than any other councillor.**

**Can you please explain 'what connections do you have with local developers?'**

As a design professional and consultant, I have often been engaged by local landowners to give advice and help to improve design outcomes for a variety of projects.

'It is certainly not appropriate to list every single project I have worked on, or consultant whom I know, as they are private matters.

However, as consistently stated during the campaign, wherever a past or current connection with any consultant or landowner appears before Council, I will openly, and clearly, declare the interest, which was the case at the November 14 planning meeting.

Aside from the Status Report that mentioned the McAuleys DA, I had no

involvement in any of the DAs that I declared non-pecuniary interests in.

The interests simply related to knowing, or having associations with some of the consultants or applicants involved with those DAs.

This will be a similar scenario for any other councillor who has undertaken work on projects as a consultant.

I come from a big family that has been actively involved in our community for decades.

'As such, I have many personal connections in our Shire.

As part of a diverse Council, we all come with different skill sets that provide the opportunity to deliver well informed outcomes.

The people who supported my campaign appreciate my experience, knowledge, and professionalism in the design and planning industry.

It is a valuable skill set for a councillor to have.

'I was clear in all press releases and meet-the-candidate events that this is my background, and it is likely one of the principle reasons I was elected to Council!'

## Are Landcom's Mullum housing plans viable?

► Continued from page 1

Past attempts to attract interest from a CHP were unsuccessful.

Around \$1m of the \$10m project is being provided by the NSW Reconstruction Authority, say Landcom.

The *Echo* understands the rest will need to be sourced by the CHP, who will apply for a grant under the federal government Housing Australia Future Fund (HAFF).

As for how 'affordable' the units would be, Landcom replied, 'The rent will be capped at a percentage

below market rate, usually 74.9 per cent of market'.

A nearby one-bedroom unit currently available for rent is \$590, making the units approximately \$442 pw.

### Scaled-down?

When a Mullum Residents Association member suggested a scaled-down proposal once the studies were complete, a Landcom rep replied that the 'yield has already been reduced for this project since its inception'.

This does not accord

with a media release in April 2022, which said the proposal would be 29 units, nor appear realistic with the development footprint.

As for whether the proposal's footprint is not in keeping with the town's character, Landcom say they have engaged a 'qualified heritage consultant'.

Determination of the DA will be by the Northern Regional Planning Panel.

Feedback is open until December 9 at [www.joinin.landcom.nsw.gov.au/mullumbimby](http://www.joinin.landcom.nsw.gov.au/mullumbimby).




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# Creative and queer voices' night of nights

Paul Bibby

If you saw rainbows erupting from the roof of the Mullum Civic Hall on Friday night, fear not, it wasn't a clandestine chem-trail operation, nor an ill-fated attempt at unicorn cloning.

The colourful explosions came from the Rainbow Creatives Gala Night, an evening celebrating the diverse voices of the Northern Rivers community.

An event geared toward bringing humans together and raising funds for local not-for-profit, Queer Family Inc, the gala night featured a mix of art, music, poetry, performance, and food.

'We have so many beautiful, talented, creative beings in our community,' Queer Family Inc's Managing Director Aiden Gentle said. 'This is about getting people together to create, to share their stories and their perspectives, and to connect.'

### Art exhibition

Kicking off with queer life drawing and a Rainbow Creatives art exhibition, the adults-only event then swung into a series of live performances ranging from



Fi Marina and Lexi lounge about for a sketchy crew at last Friday's Rainbow Creatives Gala Night, held at Mullum Civic Hall. Photo Jeff 'Lounge Against The Machine' Dawson

poetry to cabaret and just about everything in between.

'It turned into something that was bigger than Ben Hur,' Aiden said with a chuckle.

'It's a celebration of creativity, community and queer culture. And it's such a great chance for everyone to connect.'

'It's wonderful seeing all the friendships form. It's so good for everyone's wellbeing.'

The Rainbow Creatives Gala Night was held with the support of Healthy North Coast and the Northern Rivers

Community Foundation. For more information about Queer Family Inc, to reach out,

or to make a donation, visit [queerfamilynorthernrivers.weebly.com](http://queerfamilynorthernrivers.weebly.com).

### Psilocybin symposium Dec 7

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.'

He says recent entheogenic talks at MardiGrass have been

the most popular of all. He says it can help with depression and anxiety in particular where prescription drugs aren't working.

Speakers include Dr Mario Alam, mycologist and ethnobotanist Liam James, and body worker and naturopath Dee Driscoll. For more info, call Louise on 0428 830 985.

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**RICHARDSON MURRAY**

# CWA raises concerns around 3G closure

Are you having phone issues now that 3G is no longer available?

Two key advocacy groups – the Country Women’s Association of NSW (CWA of NSW), and the Isolated Children’s Parents’ Association of NSW (ICPA-NSW) – have united to demand immediate action from telecommunications companies and governments.

They say the recent closure of the 3G network has created a communications crisis in rural and remote communities across NSW.

In a statement, they said, ‘Over the past three weeks, countless residents and businesses have faced significant challenges, including difficulties making mobile calls, sending text messages,

accessing the internet, and conducting essential business operations.’

‘The phased closure of the 3G network was postponed multiple times owing to concerns over its potential impact. Despite these delays, the worst fears of rural communities have been realised.

‘We are deeply concerned that during power outages caused by these disasters, many people won’t be able to make calls – even to 000,’ the organisations warned. ‘This situation is unacceptable and avoidable.’

‘At the recent federal ICPA conference in Sydney, NSW members demanded the government develop a contingency plan in case 4G fails to meet the needs of

rural areas,’ they added.

## Local MP replies

The Echo asked local federal Labor MP Justine Elliot whether this situation was a result of government policy failure, ‘and if so, is it being addressed?’

She replied, ‘The Albanese Labor government understands how vital telecommunication services are for keeping communities safe and connected.’

‘The 3G switchover was a commercial decision made by mobile network operators to boost the capacity and data speeds of their 4 and 5G networks. The government has supported the switchover, but we are committed to ensuring that it is done in a safe way

– which is why mobile operators have been regulated to block handsets unable to reliably call Triple Zero.

‘Telstra and Optus have each committed to maintaining equivalent or greater mobile coverage following the 3G switchover.

‘Areas that were previously within published 3G coverage maps are expected to receive improved 4G and 5G services with higher speeds and greater functionality once the spectrum previously used for 3G is redeployed.

‘If you are experiencing any issues with mobile coverage or connectivity, please contact me and I will chase up urgently,’ Mrs Elliot added.

# Flash flooding hits region



Billinudgel on the weekend. Photo SES Mullumbimby

Occupants of a four wheel drive were lucky to escape surging flood waters on the weekend after attempting to drive on Main Arm Road near Sherry’s Bridge.

Comments and photos on social media suggest other vehicles were also swept away, yet thankfully there were no injuries.

Fencing and a Council flood warning sign appeared to have stopped the vehicles in the dangerous waters.

Low lying areas of Ocean Shores were also severely flooded on Sunday, with SES Mullumbimby saying 229mm of rain was recorded since Friday, while Billinudgel received 235mm.

Roads and culverts in Wilsons Creek and Upper Main Arm have also been further damaged and are still only suitable for four wheel drives.

The Uncle Tom’s turnoff to Mullum was also submerged on Sunday, with police directing traffic through The Saddle Road. On Monday, Council staff say teams were out across the Shire cleaning up, while also working through maintenance schedules.

SES Mullumbimby posted on social media: ‘It’s been a super busy and wet weekend. Our team of volunteers responded to lots of calls for assistance – including several flood rescues’.



## 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.nsw.gov.au](http://www.petregistry.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](http://www.byron.nsw.gov.au/microchipping-pet-registration)



# Byron’s Christmas tree installed this week, concert cancelled

Organisers of Byron’s Christmas Community Initiative say they regret to inform the community that, owing to a lack of funds, they are unable to host the Christmas concert on December 12 this year.

They say, ‘While our GoFundMe campaign didn’t fully reach its goal, we are thrilled to announce that we succeeded in funding

a beautiful Christmas tree for Byron Bay, which will be installed this Friday, December 6.

‘This joyful expression of Christmas was made possible by the generosity of many wonderful locals, and we are deeply grateful for their contributions to our community.’ They added, ‘Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!’

# Resilient Homes Program boosted

Federal Labor have announced more funding for the Resilient Homes Program (RHP). In a statement local MP, Justine Elliot, said the \$90 million committed brings the total program value to \$880 million.

‘The program relocates members of the community

from high-risk flood areas by buying back properties that represent the greatest risk to life, as well as improving the resilience of eligible homes against future floods by raising, relocating, rebuilding, or retrofitting’. For more info visit [www.nsw.gov.au/resilienthomesprogram](http://www.nsw.gov.au/resilienthomesprogram).

# REDinc showcases new art Dec 6

Celebrating local artists with a disability, REDinc’s Annual Mullum Art Exhibition will be held Friday, December 6, from 5pm till 7pm at their art space: 22 Tincogan Street, Mullumbimby.

Organisers say, ‘Curated by Cheryl Bailey, an award-winning painter and art

facilitator at REDinc, the exhibition will feature a diverse range of artwork by talented artists from the Byron Shire.’

Money from sold artworks is split between the artists and supporting the art program, they say.

Nibbles and drinks will be provided.

# Syrian family welcomed into Bruns

Russell Eldridge

**H**appy, excited, safe. These three words sum up the feelings of the Bloudani family as they adjust to their new lives in Brunswick Heads, 12 years after fleeing war-torn Syria.

The family have wasted no time in the four months since their arrival. Sana (12) is excelling at maths and science at Mullumbimby High School, and Ghina (11) is so relaxed at St John's Primary School that she's started Arabic lessons for other students in the school library.

'About 10 students come each week,' says Ghina. 'I start by getting them to say who they are and teach them to write their names in Arabic.'

Equally impressive is dad Ousama, who had virtually no English when he arrived. Thanks to TAFE English classes at Kingscliff and Byron Bay, he can now hold basic conversations.

You can see that mum Walaa is the cornerstone of the family; she's also the most accomplished English-speaker, having studied at tertiary level.

The family have settled locally under the federal government's humanitarian program known as Community



The Bloudani family have settled into their Brunswick Heads unit. From left, Sana, Walaa, Ousama and Ghina. Standing are refugee support group members Jude Alcorn and John Pursey. Photo supplied

Refugee Integration and Settlement Pilot.

The Bloudanis are being hosted for a year by the Mullumbimby Refugee Support Group (MRSRG), who are financially supported by Northern Rivers For Refugees

## Farm, livelihood destroyed by war

Back in Syria, the Bloudanis grew fruit, herbs and flowers on their farm outside Damascus. But the war caught up with them and destroyed the farm and their livelihood. Ousama's brother was arrested and jailed for four years 'just for being the

wrong kind of person.'

The family fled to Lebanon with baby Sana. While eking out a living in there, they welcomed Ghina into their lives.

Their application for refugee settlement with the United Nations took two-and-a-half years, and in May this year, they found out they had been accepted into Australia.

'It was a close thing for them,' said Mullumbimby supporter Jude Alcorn.

'They got out the day before Beirut airport was closed because of the Israeli bombardment.'

So how do they feel now? That's when Walaa breaks

into a big smile: 'Happy, excited, safe.'

The family feel accepted into the community, and now they face the usual Northern Rivers predicaments such as poor transport options. Ousama has his L-plates and as soon as he can drive solo, they hope to buy a car with the financial support of MRSRG.

They've made several connections in the area, including a chance encounter with the Imam who holds weekly Islamic prayers at the Cavanbah Centre in Byron Bay.

And then of course there's finding employment. Ousama has extensive agricultural and horticultural skills and is hoping for work in that line.

For now, he satisfies his green thumb itch with gardening in their tiny backyard and seeking space at the Mullumbimby Community Garden. He proudly shows you around his little plot and its myriad of seedlings and cuttings.

'I just want to grow things, and share it around,' he says, running the soil through his fingers.

For more information on refugee settlement in the region, go to nrfr.org.au.

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# Labor MP spruiks achievements

Forty-five bills became laws in the last sitting week of the Albanese Labor government for 2024.

According to the ABC, this included 31 bills passed on the last day, with minimal or no debate.

Local Labor MP Justine Elliot talked up the 'important legislation', which included a 'world-first' of 'making 16 years the minimum age for social media to protect our kids'.

Regarding the *Online Safety Amendment (Social Media Minimum Age) Act 2024*, Lisa M Given, professor of Information Sciences wrote in *The Conversation* that the government ignored advice from a chorus of experts - and from the Australian Human Rights Commission, and said the government rushed the legislation through parliament 'without taking the time to get the details right. Or even knowing how the ban will work in practice'.

Other bills passed, says Mrs Elliot, were 'Helping Australians buy a home with

a deposit as low as two per cent; 80,000 new homes for renters across Australia; wiping around \$3 billion from student HECS debt; making the biggest reforms to aged care in a generation; and cracking down on supermarkets who do the wrong thing, to make prices fairer at the checkout.'

Additionally, The Future Made in Australia package passed, and the government's power to override RBA's monetary policy decisions was removed.

Long-awaited counterterrorism financing reforms were passed, in the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing (AML/CTF) Amendment Bill 2024*.

## Green replies

In reply, Greens candidate Mandy Nolan told *The Echo*, 'The majority of Labor's legislation passed because of support from the Greens.'

'By negotiation and working with Labor, the Greens were able to win an extra \$500 million to electrify Australian homes,

starting with those most in need, and a commitment to stop Australian government initiatives investing billions in fossil fuels.

'The big disappointment last week was Albo blocking a deal between the Greens and Tanya Pliberseck, which could have seen a new environment watchdog and an end to native forest logging.'

Some of the bills the Greens did not support were draconian new rules on migration, she says.

'The Albanese government has worked hand in hand with Peter Dutton to push through the most extreme migration legislation since the White Australia policy,' says Ms Nolan.

'The bills threaten multiculturalism in Australia, and Labor is using the world's most vulnerable people, in a futile effort to outflank Dutton on the right.

'The ability to bribe any country to take people forcibly removed from Australia and the banning of essential items like phones in detention are deeply offensive,' says Nolan.



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**Echo**

News from across the North Coast online ► [www.echo.net.au](http://www.echo.net.au)

**Tweed Council looks to developing sites with no dwelling entitlements**

Following the 2022 floods, 164 homes across the Tweed Shire have accepted the buyback option offer and 76 houses have been approved for relocation to move flood-affected homes out of the floodplain.

**Lismore investigates asbestos dumping**

Since the 2022 floods there has been an increase in the illegal dumping of asbestos in the Lismore local government area with several asbestos dumping investigations taking place.

**Man dies in single vehicle accident**

About 12pm Tuesday, Nov 26, emergency services were called to Dulguigan Road, Dulguigan – about 5km north of Murwillumbah – following reports a hatchback had crashed.

**Fire ant protection underway for Kyogle**

The NSW government will ramp up its surveillance and response efforts leading into summer to stop the spread of red fire ants into northern NSW from SE Queensland.

**Minister to reconsider Lismore butcher hospital contract**

Local MPs have spoken of their frustration with a NSW Health decision to abandon a long-standing meat supply agreement with Lismore business Hutley Butchers.

**Lessons to be learned from Iron Gates residential development**

There are many lessons to be learned for local communities from the Iron Gates residential development case that was recently approved by the Supreme Court.

**Man dead after assault, Tweed Heads South**

Police say a man has died after an alleged assault in the Tweed Shire in the early hours of Sunday morning

**Concrete poured for Lismore's \$4 million skate park**

Nearly 2,500 square metres of concrete has been poured in preparation for work, building Lismore's new \$3.9 million skatepark, the Lismore City Council reports.

[www.echo.net.au](http://www.echo.net.au)

**Boat sinks in Tweed**



The boat sinking in the Tweed River. Photo supplied

Aslan Shand

A sinking boat in the Tweed River between Murwillumbah and Condong Sugar Mill saw the SES (State Emergency Services) and NSW Fire and Rescue called out to the site about 10.40am on Sunday morning (December 1).

'The NSW SES responded to calls for assistance on Sunday morning to retrieve a broken-down boat on the Tweed River. The boat had sunk off a pontoon. No one was injured,' a NSW SES spokesperson told *The Echo*.

The SES and NSW Fire and Rescue had to use a neighbour's garden to access the sinking boat.

'Over the last few days everything has been going through our yard to fix this,' a neighbour, Ms Stevenson told *The Echo* following the incident.

'We're now not able to go fishing or swimming for a while, which is disappointing. The sea life in our beautiful Tweed River is now at risk. Thank you to the SES and NSW Fire and Rescue for being quick to attend.

'I would like to raise awareness for sea vessel owners to maintain your vessels.'

Ms Stevenson said she was concerned because diesel and oil is still being dispersed into the Tweed River from the boat that has now sunk.

'Nothing has really been done about removing the leak and stopping it besides putting a barricade around the boat,' she said.

The SES have confirmed that it is the boat owner's responsibility to remove the sunken boat from the river.

**How does flooding impact you?**

Do you have any photos or descriptions of how flooding impacts Ballina Island, West Ballina, Alstonville, Wardell, and Lennox Head?

Ballina Shire Council (BSC) are currently seeking feedback from the community on overland flooding to enhance community resilience.

**Overland flooding**

Overland flooding happens when heavy rain causes water to flow over the ground, usually because the drainage system can't cope with the amount of water. This type of flooding can happen in streets, yards, or low-lying areas where water builds up and can't drain away quickly enough.

'This work involves conducting detailed flood mapping and modelling projects to better understand flooding, identify ways to minimise its impact, and incorporate effective mitigation strategies into the region's future plans,' said Paul Crozier, Manager Engineering Works at BSC.

'To enhance the accuracy of flood modelling across

Ballina Shire, we are inviting the community to share descriptions and photos of observed overland flooding. This includes detailed accounts from the March 2022 flood event to help refine and calibrate the models. Information from other significant rainfall events is also valuable and welcomed.'

Current studies open for public consultation include the Ballina Island and West Ballina Local Stormwater Drainage Management Study and Stormwater Masterplan (the SWMP), along with Alstonville Overland Flood Study, Wardell Overland Flood Study, and Lennox Head Overland Flood Study.

**Online survey**

An online survey is open to the public until 20 December 2024. Community members can find more information on these projects, complete the survey and share information via the Council YourSay page at [www.yoursayballina.com.au](http://www.yoursayballina.com.au) or [overland-flood-study.com.au](http://overland-flood-study.com.au).

A public exhibition of the findings from the study will be held in 2025.

**Men charged over arson and ram raids of Tweed and Ballina tobacconists**

Two men have been charged over the three incidents of arson and ram raiding at Tweed and Ballina tobacconists.

About 4.30am on Sunday 22 September 2024, police were called to a tobacconist on Minjungbal Drive, Tweed Heads South, following reports of a crash.

Two unknown males entered the business destroying several displays and stealing a large quantity of cigarettes.

Officers attached to Tweed/Byron Police District arrived to find a Toyota Corolla sedan, believed to have been stolen from Queensland, driven into the tobacconist. A crime scene was established, and police commenced an investigation into the incident.

A month later, about 2.40am on Tuesday 22 October, police were called to the same tobacconist, following reports a car had driven into a neighbouring business.

Two unknown men poured fuel inside the business and fled without setting it alight.

Police arrived to find a MG SUV had driven into the store – as bollards had been placed in front of the tobacconist.

A crime scene was established, and police commenced an investigation into the incident.

**Ballina arson**

About 3.30am the next day (Wednesday 23 October 2024), emergency services

were called to River Street in Ballina, following reports of a building fire.

On arrival, officers attached to Richmond Police District located a silver Mercedes sedan inside the shopfront of a tobacconist, well alight.

Police were told the sedan drove into the business before the vehicle caught fire, with the occupants of the vehicle leaving the scene prior to police arrival.

Fire and Rescue NSW attended and extinguished the blaze; however, the building was extensively damaged. Surrounding units were evacuated and two other vehicles were damaged by the blaze.

No injuries have been reported as a result of the incident.

After initial investigations linked all three incidents, detectives attached to State Crime Command's Financial Crime Squad's Arson Unit commenced Strike Force Albany to investigate.

Following extensive inquiries, about 8.30am on Wednesday 27 November 2024, strike force detectives – with assistance from

Tweed/Byron Police District and Queensland Police Taskforce Masher – executed five search warrants across Queensland in Redland Bay, Redbank Plains, Berrinba and Park Ridge.

At separate Park Ridge addresses, police arrested two men, aged 25 and 26.

During the searches, police located and seized a BMW sedan, electronics, CCTV and clothing items.

The men were taken to Brisbane Watchhouse, before strike force detectives applied for – and were granted – extradition to NSW.

They were transported to Tweed Heads Police Station, where the older man was charged with two counts of aggravated break and enter commit serious indictable offence – in company – not steal etc, aggravated break and enter with intent-in company – not steal etc, destroy etc property in company use fire etc >\$5000 and participate criminal group.

The younger man was charged with aggravated break and enter commit serious indictable offence-in company-not steal etc, attempt to destroy etc property in company use fire etc >\$5000, aggravated break and enter with intent-in company-not steal etc and participate criminal group.

Both men were refused bail to appear in Tweed Heads Local Court.

Investigations under Strike Force Albany continue.

■ Anyone with information that may assist investigators is urged to contact Crime Stoppers: 1800 333 000 or <https://nsw.crimestoppers.com.au>. Information is treated in strict confidence. The public is reminded not to report information via NSW Police social media pages.

**Wyrallah school's art success**



Wyrallah Road Public School art show 2024. Photo supplied

Despite a rainy evening it seems there was no holding back the success of the Wyrallah Road Public School Art Show last week.

Celebrating art and their young artists the community, young and old, came and supported Wyrallah Road Public School (WRPS) at their fundraising art show and the streets were lined and the

school hall buzzing.

**Prizes**

'Eight large collaborative class pieces were auctioned and sold, raffle tickets were flying out with a mountain of prizes from many of the small businesses that make Lismore vibrant and an art competition with prizes of first, second and third for

each stage was judged by Mayor Krieg, former mayor Jenny Dowell, and art teacher Lisa Newman,' said organiser Vicky Fitzsimmons.

'It was an astounding success. All in all WRPS students, families and the wider Lismore community came and celebrated being bolder and brighter, together,' said Vicky.

## Bruns surf club works begin



Pictured are Bruns surf rescue crew members, Julie Simpson and George Russo. Photo Jeff 'Got A Sassy Chassis' Dawson

**I**t's finally happening! The new Brunswick Surf Club demolition and rebuild will start on Thursday, December 5.

Organisers from the club say, 'The temporary facilities will be the first to be put in place, so that we will be operational in them before the Christmas visitors arrive in Brunswick Heads.'

'Local building company, Bennetts, will start onsite early January 2025, with the demolition of the old surf club building.

'This is a new chapter in the history of the surf club,

with the much-needed upgrade of our facilities.

### Supported by club

'All of the club members are happy that this project will begin.

'There will still be

voluntary patrols in place on the weekends and public holidays. Life guards will be patrolling during the week during the Christmas holiday period. Special thanks to the Office of Sport for their support.'

### Recon Authority Act review public

The Joint Select Committee on the NSW Reconstruction Authority (RA) has provided its review of the Act that underpins its operations.

While the committee found the policy objectives of the Act valid, they said the

RA 'remains untested by a catastrophic disaster, like the 2019/20 summer bushfires or the 2022 floods. The authority's preparedness work will also require some years to be implemented'. For more info, visit [tinyurl.com/3mw2w8jy](https://tinyurl.com/3mw2w8jy).

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**The Byron Shire Echo**  
Volume 39 #26 • December 4, 2024

# The biggest little town could do with a gurney

Oh Dear Lordess, if only there were some leadership around this place.

Apologies for banging on about it – as I have before.

Let's take Mullumbimby.

Without any interest from councillors to make improvements, it looks set to just continue to deteriorate more and more.

I am not talking about the good looking individuals that make up this town. You are all wonderful. And all you people in Mullumbimby do wonderful things.

It's about leadership. If there was leadership, a budget might be found to weed the gardens more often, and actually build kerbs and gutters, so drainage improves.

Last weekend's flash flooding was another reminder that this town (like parts of Ocean Shores, etc) is on a floodplain, and does not have the drainage infrastructure to cope.

It's not entirely fair to bag Council for this lack of civic pride – the reality is that they are over a barrel with their overlords, the state and federal governments.

Yet surely there could be improvements.

Have you seen the state of the surrounds around Council's own buildings, for example? For years, the rail corridor and adjacent car park has been overgrown and full of potholes!

It's not as though Council doesn't have access to a personal army of road and garden crews.

Who knows, if Council found a leader somewhere in the building and stuff improved, it may spark interest from commercial landowners around town to step up do some renovations on their own buildings too.

Yes, it's a tough job being leader. The last Council tried to improve



Burringbar Street by restricting car movements and adding more trees, but had to back down after the unwashed masses gave it a hard 'no'.

It's just the leaders at the time weren't very good. So now we have slightly new ones.

This leads to what is shaping up now in the town – a slow motion planning disaster.

## Let's all get land conned

On Monday afternoon, I attended the public meeting at the Ex-Services Club around plans to build 32-units over a car park at the entrance to the town, as well as the proposal to relocate that car park to the entry of the town, opposite the former Tony Carsburg site (see page 1).

It's led by NSW government development agency Landcom, and the plans so far presented are like what a speculating developer generally submits – unrealistic excessive bulk and scale to maximise profit.

You would hope governments would lead with best design principles, but no.

The feeling in the room from attendees was under-whelming.

And while the Landcom folk were polite, there was a genuine lack of understanding of the challenges this town faces. And why would they care anyway?

Councillors should. Making Mullum better would endear them to this community more than this ugly bullshit. Who do these councillor represent?

Feedback on the Landcom proposal is open until December 9 at [www.joinin.landcom.nsw.gov.au/mullumbimby](http://www.joinin.landcom.nsw.gov.au/mullumbimby).

Hans Lovejoy, editor

# Soaking up a temporary Kyoto stay

Jo Immig

After seven years without leaving the Byron bubble recently had the good fortune to travel to Japan, joining thousands of other tourists from all over the world, including many Australians.

Travelling in the time of polycrisis is fraught with guilt and risks but there's nothing like the experience of another country and culture to enliven the senses and trigger fresh perspectives.

Looking at home from the outside provides the opportunity to reflect on what we offer visitors in our tourist hotspot of Byron Bay.

We spent most of our time in the old capital Kyoto, which like other popular parts of Japan, is experiencing a huge influx of tourists.

It's challenging for the polite, welcoming locals going about their daily lives, especially when visitors don't follow local customs and rules that make the place flow.

Those rules are relaxing.

They've been well honed over generations and designed to put the community's

needs above the individual, to keep people safe and preserve culture.

Part of the allure of Kyoto is that so much of their cultural heritage and way of life is still intact. There are over 1,600 Shinto shrines and Buddhist temples with stunning gardens dotted around the region, many of them World Heritage sites.

It's surrounded by picturesque mountains and rivers with nature walks easily reached by efficient and affordable public transport.

Regulations on building heights, materials, colours and advertising maintain the cultural heritage.

## Strong community

There's such a strong sense of community and safety.

For a city of one and half million people it's quite serene. People are overwhelmingly kind and go out of their way to help you. Bicycles can be left in the street with no locks because theft is rare.



*'Kyoto is a wonderful city for rambling, or cycling, around the charming streets where you might happen to walk into a tea shop that has been there for five hundred years' – Jo Immig*

Cash is alive and well. Every transaction is meticulous with no hidden charges, so you never feel you're being ripped off.

Most vehicles are hybrids, air quality is good, and traffic noise vastly reduced. Taxis are easy and affordable and offer white-gloved older gentlemen employment well into their retirement years.

Trains and buses run on time and are clean and easily navigated. Smoking, including vapes, is banned in all public places except designated smoking areas.

Pedestrian crossing sounds are melodious bird calls that create tranquillity, and are designed to help the visually impaired know in which direction they are walking.

*"Travel makes one modest. You see what a tiny place you occupy in the world."*

– Gustav Flaubert

Seasonal, local healthy food is abundant and excellent value.

Flea markets selling antiques,

handicrafts and street food are hugely popular. Service is outstanding and customer comfort always comes first.

Kyoto is a wonderful city for rambling, or cycling, around the charming streets where you might happen to walk into a tea shop that has been there for five hundred years.

While travel offers escapism, there is no escaping worldly matters. History is etched into landscapes and told through stories.

It offers reflection on the past and present. We spotted a sign in a shop window in Russian calling for peace and queued with an Israeli family waiting at a restaurant and saw the horror etched on their faces.

It's hard to segue to atomic bombs because it's horrific to know they were dropped anywhere in Japan, and deliberately onto hundreds of thousands of civilians.

It's unimaginable to think the only thing that saved Kyoto from obliteration was US Secretary of War, Henry Stimson, who apparently persuaded President Truman to remove it from the number one spot on the hit list.

Stimson visited Kyoto twice in the late 1920s, and realised its cultural importance for post-war relations. I'm not celebrating him since we know what happened, but ironically strong cultural heritage and travelling helped save Kyoto.

## What's the glue

This brings me back home to Cavanbah (Byron Bay). What's the glue that holds this place together?

First Nations people and Country suffered unimaginable displacement and loss here over generations. We need to know this truth, reconcile with the past and be guided by their culture to the future.

It's an ongoing conversation about how we live here and shape tourism, so travellers have a great time, without driving locals mad and trashing the place.

Nature in all its wondrous glory is clearly a drawcard. Continuing with care and repair of Country and nature-based activities is key to creating a culture of wellness born of place. Our creative culture also needs to be cherished and nourished so it can flourish.

Sure, it's about relaxing and chilling out, but it's also about giving not just taking. Rather than being a self-centred place where people 'make their own rules' we could do well to foster community-centred kindness and care, and ensure every visitor and resident feels safe and at home.

■ Jo Immig is a former advisor to the NSW Legislative Council and Coordinator of the National Toxics Network. She's currently a freelance writer and researcher.



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*Nicholas Shand*  
1948–1996  
Founding Editor



*David Lovejoy*  
1944–2024  
Co-founder

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

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

*'The job of a newspaper is to comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable.'* – Finley Peter Dunne 1867–1936

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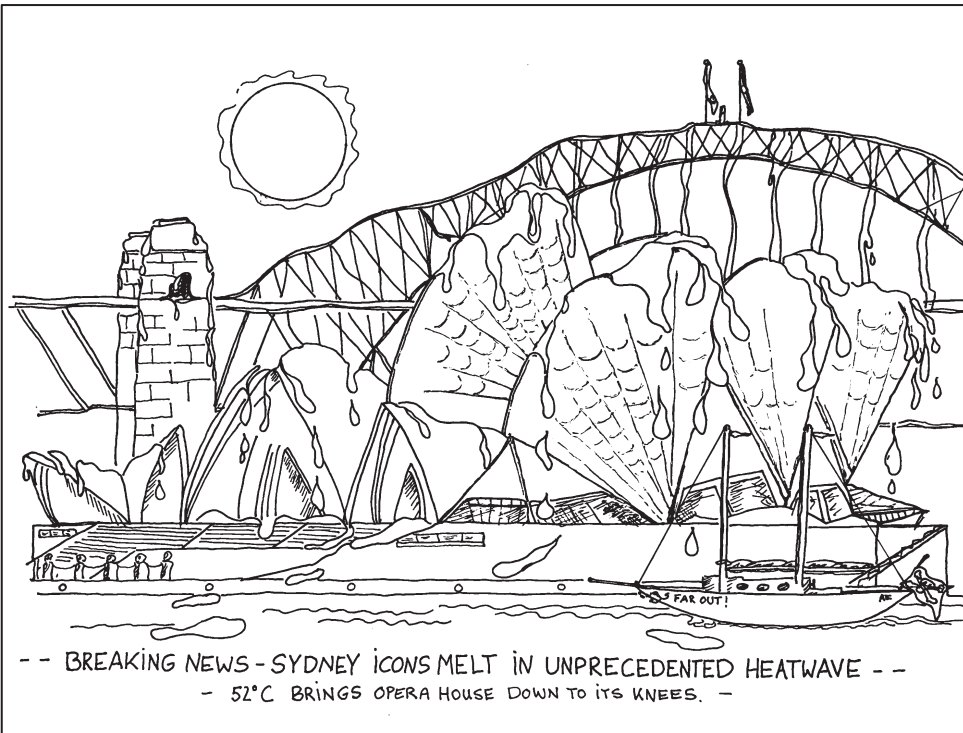
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'Meltdown' cartoon by Antoinette Ensbey

**Foreshore development**

Living in our family home in Lawson Street I can only but agree with Jan Hackett's concern regarding the rate of sand loss and dune erosion at Main Beach, Byron Bay.

Jan (and other concerned residents) may not be aware that the comprehensive research undertaken by Blue Coast Consulting Engineers on behalf of Byron Shire Council (BSC) regarding the Main Beach Shoreline Project determined that the options being considered by Council that include the removal of those groynes (as suggested by Jan) would 'result in a net reduction in beach volume (i.e. shoreline recession) at Main Beach...'. The report predicts that there would be a 'shoreline change' of minus five metres to minus 12 metres at Main Beach.

Such an outcome would appear to achieve the opposite of Jan's desire to maintain and protect our town's jewel, i.e. Main Beach. It would also be reckless in the extreme (and probably make it liable for the damages) for such a plan to be approved by Council.

In fairness, Jan mentions that there are 'many options available for designing hybrid sea walls that do not kill off the beach before it'. I am unaware of such options but I strongly suggest that Council ensure they are credible and undertaken before making decisions that would result in the very thing that Jan (and I) wish to avoid.

David Giddy  
Byron Bay

**A wee baggie**

I loved Sarah Buchanan's letter last week about picking up 'small to medium' rubbish on her walks around town with her sister.

I too, like to pick up rubbish, especially when at the river and beach. My particular penchant is bottle tops, which take a long time to break down and can hurt when you tread on them, and small plastic which can easily ensnare wildlife or get washed into the river or ocean to be ingested by sea creatures. I always take a wee baggie with me to put the thoughtlessly discarded garbage in and drop it in the nearest bin. Happily I hardly ever see cigarette butts any more.

Despite my misdemeanours, troubles and strife, thinking that I left the Earth a bit cleaner wherever I walked always gives me a boost. Individuals can and do make a difference. Our foreshores, parks and beaches stay beautiful because there are more people who care than those who don't.

Give yourself a pick-me-up by picking up. It's easy, it's fun, it's essential.

Magenta Appel-Pye  
Mullumbimby

**Railway Park toilets**

I am responding to the excellent letter from Jacqueline French in last week's edition where she offered suggestions to how a visit to Byron could be a more enjoyable experience.

Unfortunately, some of the suggestions were out of Council's control but the

cleaning up of the public toilets in Railway Park and signage to Ballina Airport are not.

I attended a number of 'Meet the Candidate' forums in the lead-up to the recent Council elections and heard many ideas and suggestions from the candidates in relation to improving the town centre.

I believe actively encouraging buskers back and having great public toilets in the middle of town is a 'no brainer' for visitors and locals alike and a good first step.

Currently the state of the toilets ruins a visit to a great park.

I agree with the writer that the toilets need upgrading, but keeping them clean and sanitary can start tomorrow - hopefully it is one to the new Council's priorities.

Kevin Hunt  
Byron Bay

**Nothing major will be done**

Sapoty Brook wrote an excellent letter (November 27, 2024 and 2013) about things we all can do to prevent the greenhouse effect. This is the identical letter from 11 years ago, I didn't even have to change the date:

Unfortunately, I think it is a pretty safe bet that nothing major will be done.

There are two reasons for this opinion. The first is that often people cannot change their ways. For example, I overheard a woman working in a shop in town saying she lived in Ballina. This means she burns about 70 km worth of petrol round trip every

working day. But how free is she to change, even assuming she wants to?

It's difficult and expensive to sell your house and buy another, or even to change houses if you are renting. Besides, Byron Bay is probably too expensive. Like almost every other commuter, she works in a place where it is very expensive to live. Public transport (if available) can help, but even trams and buses use fossil fuels.

The other reason is people's spending habits. Most people spend all the money they can now, and make no provision for the future. You have only to look at the history of credit cards to see that.

Suppose a political party does try to do something to prevent the greenhouse effect, such as raising electricity rates to pay for future developments in solar or wind power. Most people cannot see past the rising rates. The party will simply be voted out of office.

So my prediction is that nothing major is going to be done about the greenhouse effect. People will go along ignoring the future until some calamity comes along, like flooded coastal cities or huge hurricanes. A few people will do small things, like the ones Sapoty Brook suggests, but these will be more than cancelled by rising population. I hope I'm wrong.

Charles MacFarland  
Ewingsdale

PS: Charles MacFarland is less pessimistic than he was 11 years ago, but only slightly.

► More letters, pages 15, 16



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Letters to the Editor and cartoons

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

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# Great Koala National Park \$1b price tag disputed

Aslan Shand

In 2015 NSW Labor promised that they would create the Great Koala National Park (GKNP) on the NSW North Coast, however, the native forest logging industry has recently claimed that the cost will be over \$1 billion and the government should consider two smaller GKNP options.

The proposed GKNP is approximately 176,000ha and an 'industry panel' advised the NSW government that a full-sized park would cost 2,200 jobs and require \$450 million in work-force support, according to a report in *The Canberra Times*.

The industry report then proposed either a '37,000 ha footprint [that] would cost about \$273 million and 440 jobs' or an "acceptable" 58,000ha option [that] would cost about \$410 million and 660 jobs.'

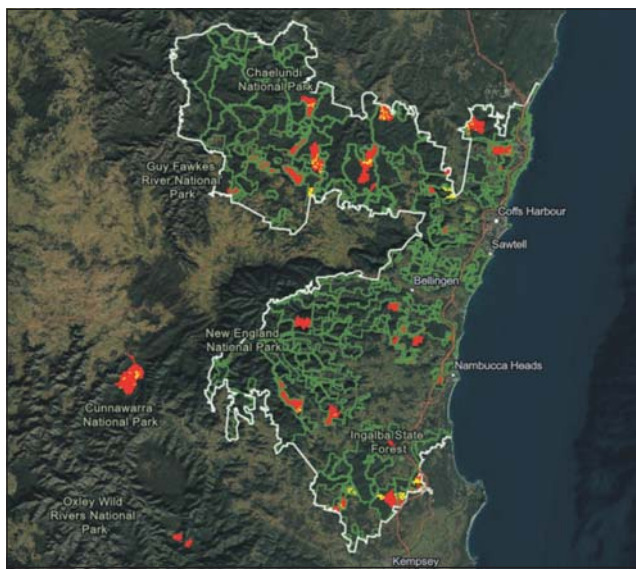
## \$1b disputed

The \$1b price tag has been disputed by a range of environmental groups who say 'those numbers are insanely inflated by the logging industry' and that 'the logging industry's claims for compensation for a GKNP are absurd and easily refuted.'

'There are numerous credible assessments of industry transition costs as well as the significant economic benefits to the North Coast and NSW from a well-designed park. None of this has been included in the logging industry analysis which lacks credibility,' said Dailan Pugh from the North East Forest Alliance (NEFA).

'In 2023 the Blueprint Institute assessed that stopping logging of all public native forests in north-east NSW would directly affect 500 workers and require a generous restructuring package of \$215 million. The industry is now claiming it will cost six times as much to stop logging in only 176,000ha (15 per cent) out of the 1,150,000ha of state forests in north-east NSW.'

'Studies have shown that the costs of restructuring will be more than offset by the economic benefits. For example, the 2021 University of Newcastle assessment undertaken for local councils found that over 15 years the creation of the GKNP would



Map of the proposed Great Koala National Park. Areas in yellow = logging since 2023. Areas in red = planned logging to 2025. Image www.nature.org.au

result in increased tourism generating an increase in total output of \$1.18 billion and an increase of 9,135 jobs, accounting for the loss of logging jobs,' he said.

## Extinct in 25 years

A year-long NSW Parliamentary inquiry into koalas reported back in 2020 that koalas would become extinct in NSW before 2050 unless urgent government action took place.

The report found that habitat loss remains the biggest threat to the species' survival in NSW.

'The committee said this habitat loss had been compounded by the 2019-20 bushfires, with an estimated 24 per cent of koala habitat on public land affected. In some areas, as much as 81 per cent of habitat had been burnt,' reported *The Guardian* at the time.

Mr Pugh said, 'there are another 108 species threatened with extinction that are known, including major populations of the nationally endangered southern greater glider, spotted-tailed quoll, Hastings River mouse, and rufous scrubbird.'

Doro Babeck, NSW Campaigner with the Bob Brown Foundation said that 'the government must stick to its commitment to delivering the GKNP in full. Anything else is not acceptable. The government has promised the GKNP and taken the proposal three times to an election to win votes but still fails to provide protection for these forests and end the logging. The original proposal for a 176,000ha national park is what is necessary to help bring koalas back from the brink of extinction.'

## End native forest logging

Victoria and WA have both ended native forest logging this year and there are increasing calls from the NSW crossbench in the upper house from the Greens, Animal Justice Party and the Legalise Cannabis Party and environmental groups to end native forest logging in NSW and fulfill the promise by NSW Labor to create a GKNP by the end of the year.

'There are three steps required by the NSW government to resolve the native forest issue,' said Wilderness Australia's Alec Marr.

'First is to stop logging in the GKNP. Second is to immediately cease all logging in all identified areas of endangered species habitat (including gliders and koalas). Third, implement a rapid exit from native forest logging in this parliamentary term of government.'

'Since the ALP were elected in March 2023 assessments of environmental and economic values have been undertaken, while logging continued,' said Mr Pugh.

'There is no longer any excuse to continue logging the park. With the assessments complete, it is now time for the Minns government to stop the logging, transfer the full 176,000ha to national parks, and provide compensation packages for affected workers.'

'The evidence is overwhelming that this will be one of our great national parks, and its protection will be of immense economic benefit to the people of NSW.'

■ See page 17 for more.

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# Why did thousands of people join Rising Tide in Newcastle?

Marion Riordan

Last week I went to my first Rising Tide blockade of Newcastle coal port.

I marvelled at the courage of people of all ages who put aside personal comfort to join in direct action for our planet. Particularly the young people who showed amazing vitality, hope and dedication in spite of their awful knowledge of what lies ahead.

I got the sense of being part of one body, a hive of bees with individual roles working towards a unified outcome. Along with 1,200 others I took volunteer roles in this well-organised operation. Daily 'Spokes Councils' were held to make decisions in a very impressive display of democracy in action.

## 52-hour vigil

Over the days, I watched as hundreds of kayaks, inflatables, paddle boards (even blow-up unicorns) took to the waters of Horseshoe Bay to face-off against a ridiculously intimidating line of police watercraft. Stoic paddlers carried vessels to and from the beach up to three times a day. A night flotilla

was organised in which shifts of kayakers paddled through the night in a constant 52-hour vigil. Support teams were there for all aspects of the operation including kayak management, police liaison, communications, media management, catering/waste/sanitation, entertainment and, most importantly, excellent legal advice provided by Sue Higginson MP and others.

## Risk of jail and fines

By Saturday it became clear that several courageous people had decided to break through police lines into the shipping channel and face potential penalties of two years jail or \$22,000 fines (under new anti-protest laws). Several were from the Northern Rivers hub. A total of around 200 went down in support.

I was awestruck when my friends Joanna Gardner and Mary Jane Johnston decided to enter the channel along with 20 other people from this region including Julie Hodges and Michael Walker.

What had been stressed in all group discussions was, that, despite the enormous solidarity and unity of



The Lismore Rising Tide crew at the Newcastle coal port blockade. Photo Joanna Gardner

purpose, when the police hand hits your shoulder, you are on your own. At this point you must decide for yourself whether to paddle back in, or refuse the order and stay out, knowing that you will be arrested and charged.

So, an action was planned for Sunday. Shipping timetables consulted for a safe window to enter the channel. Rising Tide never allows kayakers to come anywhere near massive cargo ships. I watched from a vantage point as thousands amassed on the beach with music and celebration whilst hundreds took to the water. A line of heavily-manned Zodiacs and police power boats faced a bunch of everyday people on kayaks and inflatables.

**What is the current situation?** The current Labor government has accelerated fossil fuel production. During their term 32 new coal projects have been approved or are in the approval process. This will result in an extra 13 billion tonnes of emissions that are not included in our so-called 'reduction targets'.

**Who will be most impacted?** It's our youngest who will bear the brunt. Listening to the powerful speeches of 16 year-old schoolgirl Niamh Cush brought tears to my eyes. Just picture yourself at that age. What dreams, hopes did you have? What plans? Bring those into the present and imagine the only certainty you have is that everything around you will get worse. Many of the things you love will disappear. Suffering and destruction will escalate for millions of people and other species. You would be thinking something like:

'By the time I'm in my forties global temperatures will have passed through major climate tipping points. With business as usual between now and then, warming will sit at 2°C, bringing major global

transformations with no return.

'So, my world will be utterly different from today, but exactly how, is difficult to predict. The climate models I see are staggering. A collapse of the oceans' global "conveyor belt" which currently maintains the climate of continents. Permanent melting of the Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets (bringing metres of sea level rise). The loss of the Amazon rainforest and the conifer forests of Northern Europe.

'The list of "domino effects" from these tipping points is almost impossible for me to comprehend. My life may be still ahead of me, but I cannot plan for a family, a career or a path forward; the world will be too dangerous a place for this.'

This is very different from decisions I faced at 16. I am now at a stage where I am looking ahead to a world of climate chaos knowing that I will LEAVE IT. These young people will have to LIVE IT.

Find out more at: [www.facebook.com/events/northern-rivers-post-blockade-486651211199021](http://www.facebook.com/events/northern-rivers-post-blockade-486651211199021) and at: [www.instagram.com/risingtide.aus](http://www.instagram.com/risingtide.aus).

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**Van-dwellers**

Continuing on from my comments regarding 'van-dwellers', if I may, to further the understanding of 'van-dwellers' amongst the general community, I will share a little of my story and what I know of other travellers, which is not a lot but it should at least be a good read.

Having had to move from my place after many years, and my next place falling through at the last minute, rather than do battle, as a desperate, with the predatory rental market, I bought a campervan, which the serendipity of the actual happenstance still amazes me.

I had been living in a city for a long time and having had moving thoughts for a considerable time, due to my circumstances I took the plunge to leave to further what I do.

Everything went into storage; top tip – do not use local towing or movers, find them from where you are heading.

Since the start of this year it has been a cathartic roller-coaster ride, but with hard work and the planets having moved, things are now more organised, smoothed out.

Initially I was minding a cat which made things that much harder, until,

(thankfully) someone became concerned for the cat's welfare and catnapped her.

I do not consider myself homeless – the campervan is my home, for the time being.

I plan to travel around, and then stop to do what I do which needs a base.

The campervan existence and drifting around indefinitely is not what I want to do.

Some people are amazing: while arranging storage I ran out of fuel, dead tired, on the motorway late at night, these night riders stopped and fetched fuel and refused money, they said – pass it on! When the campervan's rear hatch bracket broke, needing welding, this fellow took it to his neighbour, twice, and refusing payment said – it would be a sad world if you could not help someone out!

I consider myself lucky to have found a spot where I can stay without moving while I sort storage. Being moved on at night is the biggest bugbear without a doubt (not to mention RAIN); you learn where to and where not to park fairly quickly. Generally, I do not like moving every day due to the drama, but that is another crunch as extended stays can cause attention and consternation.

People are territorial – 'this is my place', with some stranger danger mixed in.

The general vibe I perceive from (most) people could be a bit like how hippies were viewed decades ago? Cannot exactly put my finger on it.

I guess aversion towards transients is fairly normal, hang, I do it myself.

Out there, amongst van-dwellers there is a whole gamut of people just like house-dwellers, from crazies to white-haired nomads (not to say some do not have their demons as well), to young and old looking around, overseas tourists, people going from A to B, lifestyle cruisers, 'homeless' van-dwellers trying to make the best of their lot, mystery overnight campers, young locals, tradies sleeping over on the job, etc, etc... there does seem to be a lot of them (us).

Oh yes, I think the hours for new restrictions on overnight parking are well thought out and reasonable (1am–6am).

**Michael Priestley**  
No fixed address

**Pods profiting**

A recent Facebook post by someone asking for help for a woman with two children living in her car prompted

someone to comment on the pods situation. She said 'just recently learned there are people occupying the pods post floods that shouldn't have been permitted to... I personally know of certain individuals that have abused the rights of the pods awaiting for homes they have purchased to settle.'

I have also been shocked to hear similar information, from the horses' mouth so to speak, of someone who's saved over \$100,000 in the two years, another who's saved a good deposit for a home, another who's bought a brand new, expensive car – all of these people who I know have been working full-time and not paying rent. Maybe they were needy at the time of the floods, but I'm wondering why they are still living there, and when are they going to start paying rent?

Shouldn't these people be moved on so homeless women and children can live in their space for free?

My assertions are facts from people I know who've been living in the pods and have told me about their savings, as well as the woman who commented on Facebook.

**Susanne Wild**  
Myocum

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**Fake views**

I agree with Chaiy Donati's (*Echo* November 20) warnings about governmental authorities determining what news is fake.

I think fake news should be investigated and prosecuted through the legal system, case by case. Preferably cases should be filed by citizens or organisations, similarly to libel. The judicial system is the appropriate way to deal with fake news; not potentially biased government authorities.

**Sapoty Brook**  
Main Arm

**Ghosts**

In the article 'The Ghosts of 2016: How the Democrats' betrayal of Bernie Sanders and embrace of neoliberalism paved the way for Trump' Chali Donati asserts incorrectly that neoliberalism (free market capitalism) was having a 'slow and painful death', when in fact this era of neoliberalism is called the second gilded age because of corporate dominance and power over nation states. Bernie Sanders was advocating a left social democratic agenda, a kinder type of reformed capitalism.

Neoliberalism's arrival in the late 1960s, early '70s was a break from protectionist economic policy, in order to regain profitability, which was beginning to decline in the early '70s.

For starters Bernie Sanders was a political outsider and only joined the Democrats to be 'inside the tent' of mainstream politics to get his message out to the struggling, disenfranchised masses.

Indeed, Sanders' platform did resonate strongly, especially with younger Americans, as their conception of the disintegrating 'American Dream' continues, like with many young Australians today. The expectation of a secure job, home ownership, and an ecological sustainable planet are a diminishing reality, under the current political system.

Whereas Eugene Debs back in the 1920s stood for US president five times, on a much more radical workers' platform advocating revolutionary change.

The same can be said about the United Kingdom at the very same time when Jeremy Corbyn was the leader of the British Labour party and had nearly an identical political program for the UK if he was elected.

We all know the rest of the story, be it in the US (Biden), UK (Starmer), or Australia (Albanese). All social

democratic parties either toe the establishment line and remain in power or run the gauntlet and take on the entrenched power structures of the system, and face annihilation by the media and the real world power brokers.

Chali's article should serve as a salutary lesson for Australia, as the Dutton opposition LNP have learnt from Trump's victory and are using similar tactics and strategies to garner support, with their lack of detailed policies, in a lead-up to an election next year.

This cheap populism, coupled with demagoguery and scapegoating is effective against incumbent governments amid increasing global poly-crisis.

The second Trump presidency has inherited a broken system and people want it fixed, amidst a global cost-of-living crisis, escalating regional wars, and rising authoritarianism, and nationalism. Incomprehensibly we see ordinary people identify with a wealthy person who has lied, cheated, become a felon, now become president again - this speaks volumes about the dysfunction of American society.

However, what will be predictable is the intractable contradictions that will not be resolved, by virtue of an economic system that puts profits above everything else, at the expense of human need and democracy and genuine environmental sustainability.

**Boyd Kellner**  
Newrybar

**Banner**

Why not call it the Byron Bay *Echo* and save yourselves the waste of resources further south?

**Peter Walters**  
Ballina

**Jones**

Richard Jones's *Echo* articles are always a good read. Last week he questioned how Albanese's Labor government will convince voters that they'll be worse off, if they elect, the Dutton Coalition.

Richard suggests bold actions: firstly, get the Teals back inside; they are Dutton's number one obstacle. Problem is, Albo has already made them an enemy in 2022 by stripping them of their meagre staff numbers and they won't support Labor in a hung parliament post-election.

Secondly, negotiate an outcome with the Greens and stop wasting resources and energy attacking them. This makes great sense, and may have begun; Justine Elliot

has dropped her 'Extreme Green' slogan. But any deal would be like giving Ukraine nuclear weapons to fire at Russia! Dutton would have the ultimate 'crowing' platform: 'Greens and Labor in bed together'. Labor tried this once and it cost them seats.

Thirdly, dump Scomo's outrageous AUKUS nuclear submarine plan and use the \$400 billion for social housing and repair of the health system. The AUKUS plan was a Scomo deal done in Washington behind everyone's back including the French, with whom Australia already had a contract for several submarines and had to pay significant reparations, but any attempt to scuttle the deal would see Labor in South Australia consigned to the 'deep blue' as the state gears up for some of the work. That's before the American fallout. News headlines would read badly for Australia not to mention Labor: 'America withdraws from AUKUS, Trump says Australia is traitorous'. Labor would finish up with less seats than the Greens as the country bent the knee, ever since 1945, successive Australian governments have told voters that in times of trouble America will save us, true or not. That's the perception. Sorry Richard, 'a political bridge too far'.

**T Sharples**  
Tweed Heads

**Israel Hamas**

It should be obvious to everyone by now that Israeli claims that they only target Hamas in Palestine and Hezbollah in Lebanon are what I would call complete bullshit. It is usual for the Israeli government to issue warnings in Arabic to targeted areas (though not always). The Israelis must know that to warn the civilian population is also to warn the targeted group. So they know that when they bomb an area that their 'target' has flown.

They also maintain that Hamas shelter behind the civilian population, but Gaza is one of the most densely-populated places on earth so wherever there is a civilian population there are going to be some Hamas members within that population - where else can they go?

So in my opinion you have to come to the conclusion that the Israeli objective is to target civilian infrastructure (there seems to be an emphasis on schools and hospitals for example).

So I believe that the real reason for destroying these institutions and essential infrastructure is to

disenfranchise the civilian population so that even if there is a cease to hostilities, the Palestinians will be totally disempowered rather than being a real military objective.

**David Gilet**  
Mullumbimby

**Neurotic fearmongers**

Mandy Nolan slugging down her morning fix of caffeine before hopping on a plane to Newcastle to bang on with fellow holier-than-thou saviours about hallucinations of future generations living the brief dystopian life of a fried egg.

Nolan has just read a fellow tripper, Tim Winton's new fiction where he plugs into the fearmongering spouted by neurotic money-and-power-hungry Greens parties across the world. Nolan thinks Winton's hyperbole isn't fiction, it's real.

It hasn't happened yet but soothsayers like Nolan and Winton just know and that is that. Anyone who disagrees with them is, according to Nolan's Soapbox article, suffering a brain disorder.

Greens parties across the globe voted for enforced vaccinations, voted for imprisoning people in their homes over what has increasingly been revealed as a giant con designed to make a few big pharma oligarchs and their polly mates (where is Greg Hunt?) rich beyond their wildest dreams.

The Greens helped remove our basic liberties and our autonomy over our own bodies. Nolan herself campaigned to coerce people into engaging in a mass experiment. The Greens have been in influential positions of power across the globe, particularly in Europe, for at least the last ten years. They are as responsible for the current environmental degradation as any other political party. Instead of looking local, maybe checking out the origins of the disgraceful state of our river system (that would mean having the backbone to challenge the powerful local agriculture and slaughter industries of Wardell, Casino and elsewhere that pump deadly toxins into our rivers 24/7), Nolan gets on her high horse and rides into Newcastle to rub shoulders with fellow evangelical saviours.

Coal-mining is a dirty business, granted, but so is politics. Stand-up comedians turned pollyies aren't exactly blazing a trail of glory across the planet.

**Marc Westley**  
Mullumbimby

## Shed Fest this Sunday in Mullum



Shedding Community Workshop Inc Founder and Director, Sophie Wilksch. Photo Jeff Dawson

### Olivia Grosser

This Sunday, December 8, a free Shed Fest event in Mullumbimby will encourage the community to discover their passion for tools and design.

Established in 2018, Shedding Community Workshop Inc. is a not-for-profit organisation that drives community and curiosity through building and design.

Founder and Director, Sophie Wilksch, developed a passion for team building during her architecture studies at the University of South Australia, getting involved in a design program alongside a diverse mix of

ages, genders, cultures and religions.

Participants, known as 'Shedders', can get involved with a number of activities on offer, whether playing with the tools or enjoying the events out on the grass.

### Drills and jigsaws

The indoor workshops will run all day, teaching participants how to make their own phone or book stand or how to complete a halving joint with a Japanese saw, or contribute to a collective sculpture using drills and jigsaws.

The outdoors will host food stalls, painting

workshops, a pallet-pulling race and live music to give fest-goers a chance to relax.

The event will operate entirely by donation, with a huge crew of volunteers giving their time to support the Shed Fest.

Sophie highlights that the event will be welcoming for all, encouraging the community to bring a helping hand, a smile, a salad or a slice. If not, no worries – your presence is the biggest gift.

The Shed Fest will run from 10am till 3pm at 18 Prince Street, Mullumbimby.

■ Olivia Grosser is a work experience student.

## Roadmap for gaming reform report published

The Independent Panel for Gaming Reform has published its Roadmap for Gaming Reform report.

The independent panel say they brought together, for the first time, a mix of industry representatives, harm minimisation experts, police, experts in cybersecurity and privacy, academics, community organisations and a person with lived experience of gambling harm.

In a statement they say, 'specifically, the independent panel examined the feasibility and acceptance of implementing cashless gaming technologies in clubs and hotels in NSW to gain insights from the technology to inform the roadmap report.'

Independent Panel for Gaming Reform Chairperson Michael Foggo said, 'the roadmap also includes recommendations to progress

the government's commitment to reduce the overall number of gaming machine entitlements in NSW, as well as removing unnecessary complexity and further streamlining existing gaming regulatory regimes.'

The panel's report is available at [www.liquorandgaming.nsw.gov.au/community-and-stakeholders/independent-panel-on-gaming-reform](http://www.liquorandgaming.nsw.gov.au/community-and-stakeholders/independent-panel-on-gaming-reform).

## Greens candidate Nolan joins GKNP protest

Mandy Nolan, the Greens candidate for the federal seat of Richmond is joining forest protesters this week, campaigning to create the Great Koala National Park or GKNP.

She says, 'After 10 years of promises, the koala national park is finally close to becoming a reality, but there are fears Labor's version will be a fake park, covering an area far too small to help prevent koala extinction.'

'Following the recent leaking of an industry plan, there are fears the size of

the new National park could be slashed by almost 80 per cent, following pressure from the logging industry on the state Labor government.

'It's shameful the Labor government have actually been allowing logging in forests they'd previously promised to protect', says Ms Nolan. She says she will join protesters trying to prevent logging trucks in forests that are home to koalas, now threatened with extinction in NSW.

Ms Nolan will attend the

protests with state Greens member of parliament, Sue Higginson, as part of a campaign to protect the forests and ensure precious habitat for koalas and gliders are not destroyed by logging.

She says, 'Last week in parliament, the Greens were close to securing a deal for an historic national ban on logging in native forests, before it was scuppered by Albo, after pressure in WA from mining and logging interests.'

■ See page 13 for more.

## Shearwater's WAVE creations unleashed

### Nes Lebovits

Shearwater's Wearable Arts performance is a mesmerising production now in its 24th year of excellence.

The WAVE (Wearable Arts Vision in Education) show for 2024, *Deja vu*, is now upon us. From the music and costume designs, to the soaring dancers, the atmosphere is filled with the elation of performing.

Around 290 seats per show have been fully booked from December 4 to 7, and this year's Wearable Arts performance is sure to be an enchanting one to say the least. The performance encapsulates all aspects of the artistic realm combined in one fantastical event.

### Inspired since little

Year 11 WAVE performer, Amani Wirijanara, told *The Echo*, 'WAVE has inspired me so much since I was little. I used to watch it when I was in primary school, and I was so excited when I got to be a part of this amazing production.'

Amani has been a significant part of these shows for the past five years now, and dedicates herself to the artistic world with her input



WAVE performer Amani Wirijanara. Photo Jeff Dawson

of dance, circus and singing.

'It is my passion to be on stage, and WAVE gives me the opportunity to do that. During WAVE I feel like it's a great opportunity for students to experience working with each other to achieve an amazing goal. It's great how everyone learns how much actually goes into putting on a production.'

Student's engage in a surplus of creative passions; from dancing, designing and modelling, to the live music that fits, in congruence, with

the performances.

Each aspect comes together forming a special and authentic experience that displays costumes made by incredible artists within our community.

Collaborating with the community and providing amazing opportunities for students, WAVE has served as an impactful and hearty event for the rising students of Shearwater for 24 years.

■ Nes Lebovits is a work experience student.

# OPTUS

## PROPOSAL TO UPGRADE MOBILE PHONE BASE STATION AT ROUND MOUNTAIN INCLUDING 5G

Optus plans to upgrade the telecommunications facilities at the below mentioned address with the addition of new 5G equipment:

**Round Mountain Road, Round Mountain NSW 2484 (24/-/DP1058759) (RFNSA: 2484009)**

The proposed 5G upgrade will consist of:

- Replacement of existing mounts with new headframe;
- Replacement of three (3) existing panel antennas with three (3) new panel antennas (each not more than 2.8m in length);
- Installation of twenty-four (24) new Remote Radio Units (RRUs);
- Installation, relocation and removal of ancillary equipment, including a GPS antenna, mounts, feeders, cabling, combiners, and other associated equipment; and
- Internal works within existing equipment shelter.

Optus regards the proposed installation as a Low-impact Facility under the *Telecommunications (Low-impact Facilities) Determination 2018* ("The Determination"), based on the description above. The proposed infrastructure will comply with ACMA EME regulatory arrangements.

In accordance with Section 7 of *C564:2020 Mobile Phone Base Station Deployment Code 2020*, we invite you to provide feedback about the proposal. Further information and/or comments should be directed to: Vanessa Wan at Service Stream Limited, 0447 240 015, [Optus.Submissions@servicestream.com.au](mailto:Optus.Submissions@servicestream.com.au) or Zenith Tower B, Level 3, 821 Pacific Hwy, Chatswood NSW 2067 by **5pm, Thursday 19 December 2024**.

If you would like to know more about the site, further information can be obtained from [www.rfnsa.com.au/2484009](http://www.rfnsa.com.au/2484009)



# Good Taste

## Eateries Guide

### BYRON BAY

**BYRON BAY OYSTER BAR & SEAFOOD RESTAURANT**

**Oyster Bar**  
4 Marvell St, Byron Bay  
DAILY  
Breakfast 7-11:30am  
Lunch 12-4pm  
TUESDAY TO SATURDAY  
Dinner 5-10pm  
Book  
byronbayoysterbar.com.au

**Hotel Marvell's Newest Seafood Destination**

**OYSTER HOUR**  
Tuesday to Saturday 5-6pm  
Serving \$3 oysters

**LIQUOR MERCHANTS**  
NORTH BYRON HOTEL

**North Byron Liquor Merchants**  
61 Bayshore Drive, Byron Bay  
6685 6500  
liquor@northbyronhotel.com.au  
Open 10am-8pm daily and 10am-9pm through Summer

**'Byron's boutique bottle shop'**

Local service  
Old and rare wines  
Natural wines  
Craft beers  
Specialty tequilas

**three blue ducks**

**Three Blue Ducks**  
The Farm, 11 Ewingsdale Rd.  
6190 8966  
enquiries@threeblueducks.com  
threeblueducks.com/byron  
Open 7 days from 7am.  
Mon-Thurs: breakfast & lunch  
Fri-Sun: breakfast, lunch & dinner

Delicious new winter dinner menu, live jazz every Sunday arvo, happy hour 3-5pm Friday to Sunday & our famous Sunday roast.

Enjoy a wander in the fields, meet the pigs, and picnic in the sun... there really is something for everyone.

**Main Street BURGER BAR**

**Main Street**  
Open for takeaway daily, 12 midday until dinner.  
Menu, more details - @mainstreet\_burgerbar  
18 Jonson Street  
6680 8832

Open for takeaway daily, 12 midday until dinner.

Menu and more details @mainstreet\_burgerbar

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

**BYRON BAY ROOFTOP BAR**

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

**Welcome to Horizon, Byron's newest rooftop bar.**

Enjoy hinterland views, stunning sunsets and signature cocktails showcasing local distilleries and breweries.

**Success Thai FOOD**

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

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

### LENNOX HEAD

**Lennox Head Pizza & Pasta**  
4/74 Ballina St, Lennox Head

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

Open 7 days  
Lunch: 12-2pm  
Pizza & drinks only: 2-5pm  
Dinner from 5pm

### MULLUMBIMBY

**The Empire**  
20 Burringbar St, Mullumbimby  
6684 2306

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

Open for brunch and lunch, Mon-Fri 8am-3.30pm  
Sat & Sun 8am-2pm  
FB/Insta: EmpireMullumbimby  
empiremullumbimby.com.au

### CATERING

**CELEBRATIONS BY LIZ JACKSON**

**Celebrations Cakes by Liz Jackson**  
lizjackson@gmail.com  
0414 895 441

GLUTEN FREE AND SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS CATERED FOR.

## Celebrate the festive season in style at Farm & Co Restaurant

As the festive season approaches, finding the perfect setting to celebrate with loved ones is a top priority.

Farm & Co Restaurant, located here on the stunning NSW North Coast, offers an unparalleled experience that delights all ages.

With a star-studded hospitality crew bringing experience from some of Australia's biggest restaurants in Sydney, Melbourne, Tasmania, and Byron Bay, the team's expertise and dedication to quality ensures that every dish is a

culinary delight, perfect for festive celebrations. Quality farm-to-plate fare is complemented by a curated beverage list featuring natural, local and organic wines, local beers and house-made cocktails and sodas.

Every Thursday, the team fires up the BBQ for a coal-fired menu featuring farm style dishes like slow-roasted lamb shoulder, char-grilled chicken, drool-worthy roast potatoes, and farm slaw. Fridays and Saturdays feature a banquet style lunch and dinner offering that is designed to linger, so you can too! Sundays are sacred at Farm & Co. Head to the restaurant for brunch and then visit the onsite Farm Store Café and purchase a farm access pass to stroll the organic produce and sunflower fields, visit the rescue chickens and pigs, and relax in the hammocks. Or hit the farm before heading to the restaurant for a long lunch, a picnic on the lawn, or casual dining with Sticks & Spritz on the lawn from 1pm (featuring \$8 spritzers and \$8 skewers + free hosted kids' activities).

Farm & Co Restaurant caters to diverse dietary preferences, with about 80% of the menu being dairy-free and gluten-free, along with various great options for vegans and vegetarians.

This festive season will see extended trade with more to love and lots of fun for the whole family! Enjoy extra offerings like Christmas picnics on the lawn plus a special New Year's Eve banquet in the restaurant, or a low-key lawn celebration as the sun sets on 2024, along with free, hosted kids' activities and additional services Wednesday to Sunday.

Farm & Co Restaurant offers a blend of delightful food, beautiful scenery, and engaging activities that make it the perfect destination for your festive season get-together.

■ Farm & Co Restaurant  
529 Cudgen Rd, Cudgen  
www.farmandcorestaurant.com.au  
@farm.and.co





# The Good Life

## Paddock-to-plate pasta operation a worldwide sustainability winner

Victoria Cosford

No strangers to awards, the latest for Fabian Fabbro and Jodie Vickers of Woodland Valley Farm, however, blew them away. In October they learned that they had been one of several winners in the Sustainability category of the international Square 50 Awards. It's the second year this annual awards program 'dedicated to championing businesses that are changing the entrepreneurial game in their respective fields' has been running, with nominations from thousands worldwide. Nine were selected from Australia of which Woodland Valley Farm's Murwillumbah operation Pasta'bah was one, then a winner. 'We were stoked!' Jodie tells me. 'We had no expectations we'd win. Us in Ferndale!'

Their farm has long-used regenerative and sustainable practices such as carbon sequestration and zero waste – all the waste from their food production going back to feed their hens – as they work toward rebuilding the ecosystem. Pasta'bah, their paddock-to-plate pasta restaurant and retail outlet, was borne out of the floods when Fabian and Jodie needed a new production facility. It now employs 14 staff and, once again, requires new production facilities, so they will be moving into new premises in the Murwillumbah industrial estate by the end of the year. That's great news for the many fans of their gorgeous pasta sauces, fresh pasta and duck egg custard, another award-winner. 'It will increase our production considerably', Jodie tells me, 'hence new product lines. We have a funghi sauce (in the offering) but there's no space



Jodie Vickers from Woodland Valley Farm showing off her produce at New Brighton Farmers Market and Mullumbimby Farmers Market.

for it at present! ... There'll be more of everything!'

I've been a devoted fan of their eggs for a very long time – although I've yet to try their duck eggs. Jodie tells me that they have four hundred ducks, ('they're very easy, just hanging out in the creek all day,' – such a lovely vision!) They sell as many of the eggs as they produce.

Woodland Valley Farm is at New Brighton Farmers Market every Tuesday 8am to 11am and Mullumbimby Farmers Market every Friday 7am to 11am.



Cellarbrations Hotel Brunswick Retail Manager, Johnny.  
www.echo.net.au

## Hotel Brunswick opens new Cellarbrations bottleshop

Hotel Brunswick has launched a brand-new Cellarbrations bottleshop. Stocked with a range of beers, wines, spirits, and non-alcoholic options, it's your one-stop shop for everyday favourites and special occasion drinks.

Johnny and the team are there to help you find the perfect bottle, whether you're planning a celebration, or looking for Christmas gifts. Prefer to shop online? Enjoy click-and-collect or delivery straight to your door.

This bottleshop is part of exciting changes at Hotel Brunswick, including new furniture, a pizza oven, and a refreshed menu. Visit them today to explore the bottleshop and tick off all your entertaining needs.

Open seven days. Shop in-store or online now!




Open 6am – 12pm  
Monday – Saturday  
Shop 6/108 Stuart Street  
Mullumbimby.  
@bimbi\_coffee\_shop  
ALLPRESS ESPRESSO



RIVER • COFFEE • BEACH • FOOD

38 South Beach Rd,  
Brunswick Heads

www.rosefinas.place • @rosefinas\_place

*Mullumbimby Australia*

**BREAKFAST EDITION** **ROSETTA** **BREAKFAST EDITION**

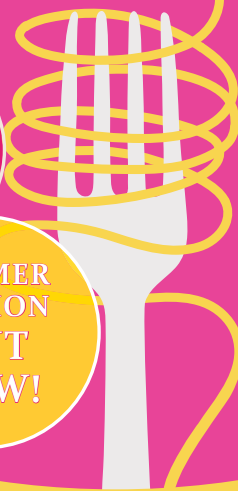
CAFE DELI & BISTRO  
*Nonna Approved*

MONDAY	CLOSED
TUESDAY	3PM - 9PM
WEDNESDAY	3PM - 9PM
THURSDAY	3PM - 9PM
FRIDAY	7 - 11AM / 3 - 9PM
SATURDAY	7 AM - 9PM
SUNDAY	7 - 11 AM

@Rossetta\_mullumbimby




# eat drink



Indulge yourself with the Northern Rivers' tastiest offerings!

**SUMMER EDITION OUT NOW!**

Indulge yourself with the Northern Rivers' tastiest offerings!  
FREE – Issue #7, Summer 2024 – *Echo*

# GALLERIES

## ART KIND

Contemporary art gallery and studio providing engaging exhibitions, art classes and workshops  
3/18 Centennial Circuit, Byron Bay Arts & Industry Estate,  
Open Wed-Sat 10am-2pm  
**0404 946 553**  
**@artkindbyronbay**  
**www.artkind.com.au**

## ARTIST STUDIO GALLERY

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

## ARTIST'S HOME GALLERY

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

## BYRON CLAY WORKERS GALLERY

Fairview Studios  
114 Stewarts Road, Clunes  
Open Friday to Sunday  
John Stewart  
**0406 404 335**  
**johnstewartceramics.com**

## GALLERY COSMOSIS

Visionary Art  
22 Brigantine St, Byron Bay  
Open Thurs to Sat: 10.30am-3pm or by appointment  
**0431 331 205**  
**gallerycosmosis.com**

## GARAGE GALLERY

'Community Arts Hub' (Byron Community College)  
Cnr Gordon & Burringbar Streets, Mullumbimby  
**@mullum.garage.gallery**  
**02 6684 3374**

## H'ART GALLERY

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

## KARENA WYNN-MOYLAN, FINE ART

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

## LENNOX ARTS COLLECTIVE GALLERY

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

## LISMORE REGIONAL GALLERY

11 Rural St, Lismore, Bundjalung Country NSW  
Open hours: Wednesday to Sunday 10am-4pm,  
Thursdays until 6pm  
**lismoregallery.org | @lismoreregionalgallery**

## LONE GOAT GALLERY

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

## MULLUMBIMBY CLAY WORKERS GALLERY

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

## MZ GALLERY

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

## NIMBIN ARTISTS GALLERY

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

## NORTHERN RIVERS COMMUNITY GALLERY

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

## TWEED REGIONAL GALLERY & MARGARET OLLEY ART CENTRE

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

# The ARTS

## ARTIST IN FOCUS DAVID LANE

David Lane is well known to many local art enthusiasts and is best known for his vibrant and colourful seascapes, however his ability to capture colour and light in his subjects is also reflected in his delightful landscapes and still lifes.

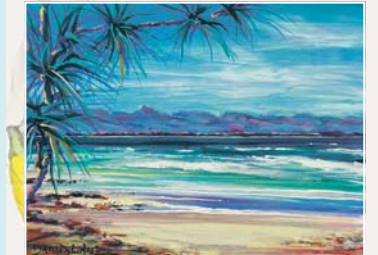
David uses multi-layered acrylic paint to create highly textured, three-dimensional works on canvas and paper. He is inspired by the colour, wildness, and the creativity of nature.

Living in northern New South Wales, David is no stranger to the vibrancy of our local landscape and creates works that he hopes will transport others to this magical place.

David's work has been described as timeless and tasteful. Every landscape in his collection is one he has sat in front of, marvelled at, and enjoyed. He seeks to give visitors to his studio gallery a taste of this beauty through his colours, lines, and shapes.

Each year in December David holds an exhibition of his new work and a studio sale at his home in Tintenbar. David's 2024 painting exhibition and studio sale opened last weekend and continues from **Thursday, 5 December until Sunday, 8 December, 11am to 5pm (EDT)**.

**For more information and directions visit David's website [www.davidlane.com.au](http://www.davidlane.com.au) or contact the gallery on 0418 794 860.**



ABOVE: *Wategos* 600mm x 750mm  
BELOW: *Wattle in Moonlight*

## WYNNE PRIZE 2024

**7 December 2024 – 2 February 2025**

The Wynne Prize is awarded annually for the best landscape painting of Australian scenery in oils or watercolours, or for the best example of figurative sculpture by Australian artists. For the first time in 2024, the greatest number of finalist works in the Wynne Prize are by First Nations artists.

The Wynne Prize 2024 presents the winning and finalist works on tour for 2024, showcasing an

The Wynne Prize 2024 is an Art Gallery of New South Wales touring exhibition. This project is proudly supported by the NSW Government through Create NSW's Blockbusters funding initiative.

**Tweed Regional Gallery & Margaret Olley Art Centre**  
**2 Mistral Road, Murwillumbah**  
**Open Wednesday to Sunday, 10am to 4pm**  
**Free admission**

**HART GALLERY**

Art in the heart  
INSPIRED LOCAL ART

**Mullumbimby**  
Comprehensive Health Centre

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

Wynne Prize 2024 finalist, Noel McKenna *Cape Pillar, Tasman Sea* (detail) © the artist

**WYNNE PRIZE**

Tweed Regional Gallery & Margaret Olley Art Centre  
7 December 2024 – 2 February 2025

**2024**

Art Gallery NSW  
The project is proudly supported by the NSW Government through the Create NSW Blockbusters funding initiative.

An Art Gallery of New South Wales touring exhibition

LEFT TO RIGHT:

Callista by Rosie Tainsh, Faber by Jo Langley,  
Tombola by Marianne Høegh-Guldberg



## PORTER STREET POP UP GALLERY

This exhibition, opening on 29 November, showcases recent works by three close friends, Marianne Høegh-Guldberg, Jo Langley and Rosie Tainsh.

Personal journeys of early shared art school experiences, subsequent divergent life pathways and relatively recent resumption of their art practice have come together for this collaboration.

Marianne Høegh-Guldberg's Danish heritage is reflected in her delicate mixed media pieces. She lives and works in Parkes, Wiradjuri country.

Jo Langley's gestural acrylics directly and indirectly reflect memory, landscape and biology. She lives and works in the Blue Mountains west of Sydney, Gundungurra and Darug country.

Rosie Tainsh's ink abstracts are informed by her recent relocation to Byron Bay, Bundjalung country. Light changes, fleeting movements of shadow, and the ebb and flow of tides are significant influences.

**Open Wed, Thurs, Fri**  
**10am to 4pm / Sat 10am to 2pm**  
**IG: @porter\_street\_studio**  
**14 Porter Street, Byron Bay**

## ART IN THE HEART OF MULLUMBIMBY

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

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

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

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

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

## OTHERWORLD

OtherWorld is the only immersive arts gallery in the Northern Rivers - a feast for the senses where technology and art collide. Experience over 20 interactive exhibits from local and international artists, including the only 360 VR cinema dome in NSW, projection mapped sculptures, augmented reality paintings, infinity mirror installations, and much more. Check out their brand new exhibits incorporating the latest in AI technology and interactive imaging. It's fun for all the family. Don't miss out on this extraordinary journey into the world of immersive art. Kids under 3 are free. Annual family passes also available.

**Book now at [www.otherworld.live](http://www.otherworld.live)**  
**102 Jonson Street, Byron Bay**

## BYRON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**Affordable Gallery Space for Local Artists. Yours to Hire!**

Since taking over the iconic old Chincogan Mower Shop in Mullum, Byron Community College has breathed new life into the space, transforming it into the Garage Gallery, and Community Arts Hub - a vibrant venue that's quickly becoming a cornerstone for creativity and connection.

The expansive open space features soaring high ceilings, gallery lighting and huge white walls, making it the perfect venue for art exhibitions and events. The Garage Gallery is now available for hire, offering local artists and community members an affordable way to display their work or host unique events.

Immerse yourself in this collaborative space and support Mullumbimby's thriving arts scene!

**HIRE NOW: [customercare@byroncollege.org.au](mailto:customercare@byroncollege.org.au)**  
**or CALL 02 6684 3374**

SCAN ME

ALL AGES  
ALL WEATHER  
OVER 20 INSTALLATIONS

**OTHERWORLD**  
IMMERSIVE ART & LIGHT GALLERY  
GET YOUR TICKETS AT [otherworld.live](http://otherworld.live)

Byron Community College

**Garage Gallery**

CONTACT US FOR GALLERY HIRE

COMMUNITY ARTS HUB  
02 6684 3374  
[www.byroncollege.org.au](http://www.byroncollege.org.au)  
[customercare@byroncollege.org.au](mailto:customercare@byroncollege.org.au)

**NORTHERN RIVERS COMMUNITY GALLERY POP-UP ART MARKET**

Join some of the region's favourite visual artists for a free Pop-Up Art Market at the Northern Rivers Community Gallery (NRCG) on **Saturday, 14 December from 10am to 3pm!** Featuring 20 artist-run stalls, this one-day visual arts event will take place in the heritage-listed gallery in the heart of Ballina.

Including a range of art forms such as painting, ceramics, printmaking, textiles, mixed-media, photography and sculptural installations, the market will feature a diversity of artworks and artists from across the region and beyond, with works for sale at a range of price points. An enjoyable day for the whole family, just in time for the gift-giving season. Give the gift of a local artwork and keep our creative economy thriving!

There is ample free parking available in the surrounding streets. The Gallery Café will be open, providing their signature menu for visitors all day and NRCG is a wheelchair accessible venue.

**[nrcgballina.com.au](http://nrcgballina.com.au)**  
**44 Cherry Street, Ballina**  
**02 6681 0530**

pop-up art market nrcg

**Saturday 14 Dec**  
**10am - 3pm**

Northern Rivers Community Gallery  
44 Cherry Street, Ballina | [nrcgballina.com.au](http://nrcgballina.com.au) | [@nrcgballina](https://www.instagram.com/nrcgballina)

Nguthungalli Julian Rocks

**DAVID LANE'S 2024 PAINTING EXHIBITION AND STUDIO SALE**  
**LAST DAYS**

**OPEN DAILY:**  
Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> until Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.davidlane.com.au)  
Email: [lanes31@bigpond.net.au](mailto:lanes31@bigpond.net.au) Telephone: 0418 794 860

# festive season



the perfect gift

## 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](http://www.balloonaloft.com)

## Vae Medical Aesthetics

This festive season get event-ready with Vae Medical Aesthetics in Newrybar. Vae offers Broad Band Light & Moxi laser, cosmetic injectables, bioremodelling/biostimulating treatments, Rejuran (salmon facial), SkinPen Microneedling, PRP treatments & Healite LED packages. Vae is a doctor led and owned clinic offering considered and evidence-based skin treatments and rejuvenation in the beautiful Byron Bay hinterland.

Book in today with one of their lovely female GPs; Dr Kate Allan, Dr Clare McLennan and Dr Jemma Buultjens. (Good Luck to Dr Tash Stark who is off to have her third baby!)

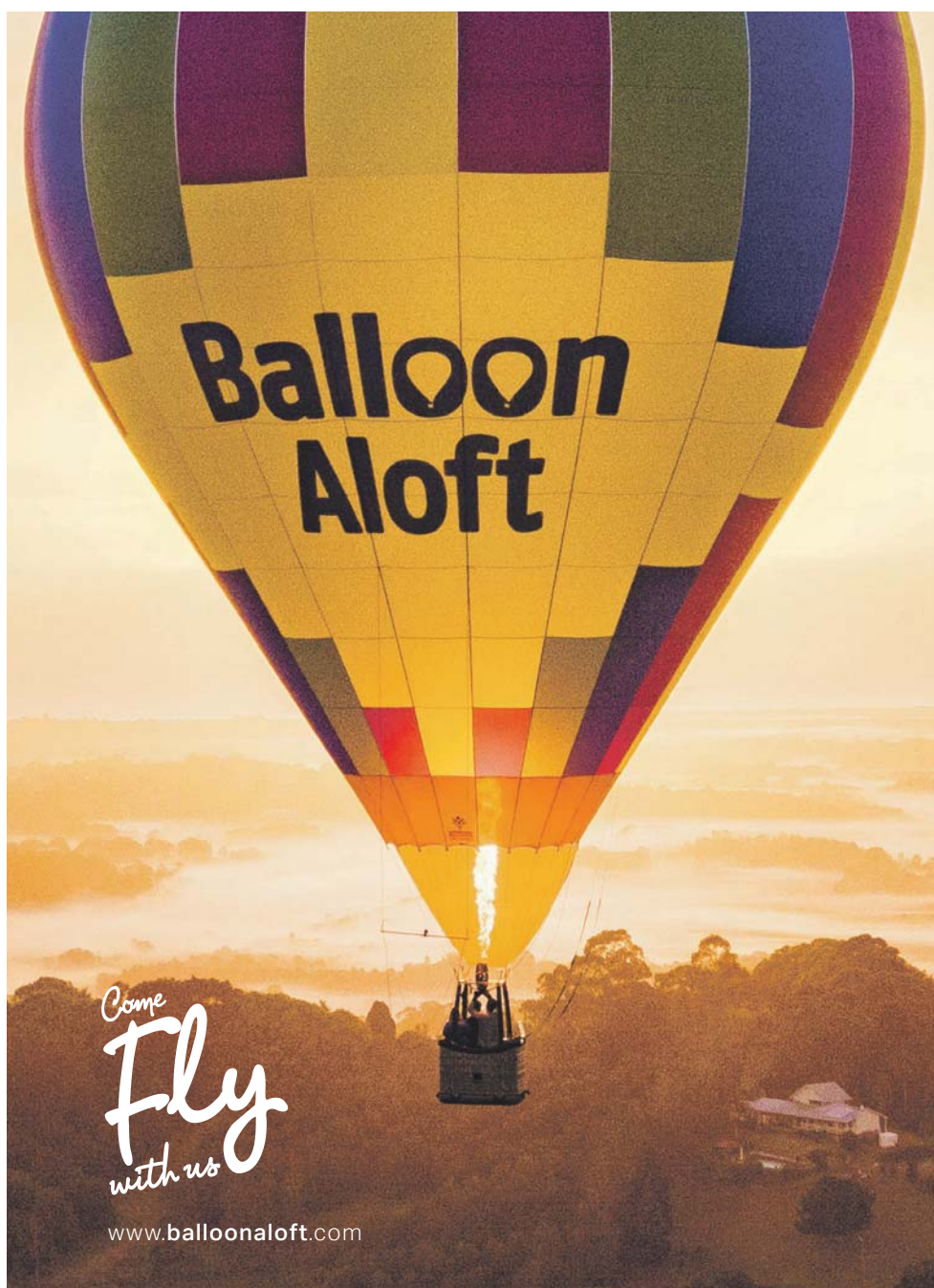
[www.vaemedicalaesthetics.com](http://www.vaemedicalaesthetics.com)

IG: @vaemedicalaesthetics

The Harvest Precinct,

16 Old Pacific Highway, Newrybar

0422 639 013



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### Summer ready skin at Vae Medical Aesthetics!

Vae would like to welcome our incredible skin whiz Samantha. She will be visiting monthly (this month the 14th of December). Book any skin/dermal treatment with Samantha at 50% off.

### Book now for your HALF PRICE Christmas Hydrafacial!

This festive season get event ready with laser Broad Band Light & Moxi, cosmetic injectables including volume, bioremodelling/biostimulating, Rejuran (salmon facial), PRP treatments & Healite LED packages or our special BBL probiotic photofacial with healite LED, perfect for collagen stimulation at \$350.

Book in today with one of our lovely female GPs; Dr Kate Allan, Dr Clare McLennan and Dr Jemma Buultjens. (Good Luck to Dr Tash Stark who is off to have her third baby!)

0422 639 013 • [info@vaemedicalaesthetics.com](mailto:info@vaemedicalaesthetics.com)

[www.vaemedicalaesthetics.com](http://www.vaemedicalaesthetics.com) • [@vaemedicalaesthetics](https://www.instagram.com/vaemedicalaesthetics)

The Harvest Precinct, 16 Old Pacific Highway, Newrybar  
(next to Misko Jewellery, below The Merchants)

# ★ festive season

## 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  
sonofdrum.com.au

## 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

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

# festive season



the perfect gift

## 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

## The Book Warehouse

The Book Warehouse looks forward to helping you with your Christmas gifts over the coming weeks, and don't forget they have the best range of beautiful artist gift cards in the area plus art supplies, games and a huge selection of bargain titles.

Merry Christmas from Sarah and the team at The Book Warehouse, Lismore, Coffs Harbour, Ballina and Grafton.

**Lismore: 107-109 Keen Street, Lismore | 02 6621 4204**  
**Ballina: 85 River Street, Ballina | 02 6686 2436**  
**Grafton: 89 Prince Street, Grafton | 02 664 25187**  
**Coffs Harbour: 26 Harbour Drive, Coffs Harbour | 02 6651 9077**  
www.thebwh.com

## Byron Photo Magic

Visit Byron Photo Magic for all your photography needs, including instore or online printing, large-format, canvas printing, photo books and calendars.

They have full 35mm/120mm film Colour & BW processing and printing services, batteries, memory cards, camera bags, Fujifilm Instax & Polaroid Cameras, along with the full range of GoPro and accessories.

They handle old video tapes, to USB. They stock frames, photo albums and an extensive range of Promaster photographic accessories, tripods, filters, binoculars, telescopes and the largest range of 35mm film on the north coast, as well as pre-owned 35mm film cameras. Passport photos are covered professionally instore; Call in and see Stephen, Karen, Kristen, Isabella, Jemma and Bruna.

Open Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat (school holidays) 10am-2pm, Sunday/Public Holidays closed.

www.photomagic.com.au  
Shop 20, Mercato on Byron, 108-114 Jonson St, Byron Bay  
02 6685 5877

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

# BOWER CAMP CO.



## Stargazing Camps

@bowercampco

# FUJIFILM

photomagic.com.au



## Byron Photo Magic

# Holiday Gifts

from the heart



Shop 20 Mercato on Byron, 108 - 114 Jonson St,  
Byron Bay NSW 2481 - Ph 02 6685 5877



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Illustrated by ROBERT INOPRES  
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20 FESTIVE DESIGNS TO REVEAL  
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26 Harbour Drive  
6651 9077

**BALLINA**  
85 River Street  
6686 2436

**LISMORE**  
107-109 Keen Street  
6621 4204

**THE BOOK WAREHOUSE: • GIFT VOUCHERS • LAY-BY • SCHOOL & LIBRARY ACCOUNTS WELCOME**

# festive season

## festive feasting



### Byron Bay Pork & Meats

It's that very merry time of year again and the butchers at Byron Bay Pork are preparing the finest cuts of Christmas meats and selections for customers.

Your local family-owned business in Mullumbimby and in Byron Bay, they source premium quality pork, beef, lamb and goat from their family farms. All meats are antibiotic and hormone-free.

They have locally-sourced and smoked leg hams along with free-range chickens, ducks and turkeys. Their specialty sausage range includes a gluten-free variety, salami and they stock a range of locally-produced smallgoods, sauces, spices and products.

Come in and see the friendly staff, or place an order on the phone, for all your festive season needs.

**Open Monday to Saturday.**

**70 Dalley Street, Mullumbimby or 130 Jonson Street, Byron Bay  
6684 2137**

### North Byron Hotel Christmas Bazaar

It's the most wonderful time of the year. The Christmas Bazaar at North Byron Hotel is happening this Saturday, 7 December from 12pm to 8pm, fun for the whole family! The garden is set to be sparkling, with local suppliers serving their delicacies whilst resident drag queens entertain, and the main man in a red suit pays a visit with a selection of his favourite Zephyr-based reindeers, saddled and ready to ride. Nikau will be selling her signature wreaths, Cromwell Farms and Devine Quality Meats will be on hand with pre-order requests for the finest delivered hams and cuts for the festive period. Other highlights include; Australian Bay Lobster, Salumi, Morelli, and for the final sweet treat, a scoop of traditional Italian gelato from everyone's favourite, Benilato.

[www.northbyronhotel.com.au](http://www.northbyronhotel.com.au)

**61 Bayshore Drive, Byron Bay  
02 6685 6500**

### Eclair at the Bay

This year, Eclair at the Bay is celebrating the season with desserts that speak of tradition, warmth, and cherished moments.

Think comforting classic desserts meet Eclair at the Bay's modernity and delicious flavours.

This menu is available as a limited edition. So mark your calendar, and check the important details below.

The Menu:

- The Black Forest Scene (Christmas log)
- The Cranberries Crumble-Tart
- Box of 9 gold-brushed profiteroles

Important Details:

- Pre-order by: Monday, December 16 (or until sold out)
- Pickup date: Tuesday, December 24, 10am-3pm

**Pre-order online or in-store**

[www.eclairatthebay.com](http://www.eclairatthebay.com) • **0466 242 214**

**Shop 3A/1 Byron Street, Byron Bay**

## BYRON BAY PORK & MEATS BUTCHERY



**BYRON BAY PORK**

Come in and see our friendly staff for a choice of local, grassfed, organic and free-range meats.

All organic, antibiotic and hormone free.

**70 Dalley St, Mullumbimby | 6684 2137  
Mon-Fri 6am to 5pm / Sat 6am to midday**

EXCLUSIVE MENU. PICKUP ON 24.12 ONLY

## PRE-ORDER your CHRISTMAS DESSERTS NOW



Limited quantities.

Order online or in-store.

[www.eclairatthebay.com](http://www.eclairatthebay.com)

Pre-order by December 16<sup>th</sup> or until sold out

**ECLAIR**  
AT THE BAY

# festive season ★

## Devine Quality Meats

Devine Quality Meats in Mullumbimby are here to help with all your festive feasting needs. They have delicious hams that are smoked in-house, as well as a range of turkeys, ducks and chickens.

All meats are locally-sourced, antibiotic-and hormone-free and their award-winning sausages are a must try. Also stocking quality deli and small goods, they have a great range.

**Order now for Christmas by dropping in to the store or calling 02 6684 2015**  
64 Stuart St, Mullumbimby

## 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**

**NORTH BYRON HOTEL**



# CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

OF LOCAL DELIGHTS

**7TH DECEMBER / 12-8PM**

CHRISTMAS PRODUCERS MARKET ★  
FOOD & WINE TASTINGS ★ FREE KIDS XMAS ACTIVITIES  
REINDEER RIDES ★ FACE PAINTING ★ SANTA CLAUS

[WWW.NORTHBYRONHOTEL.COM.AU](http://WWW.NORTHBYRONHOTEL.COM.AU)



Register to book a table



## WE WISH YOU A YUMMY CHRISTMAS

For over 30 years, Devine Quality Meats has helped Mullum locals and visitors alike savour the flavour of a delicious Christmas.

We are now taking Christmas orders for our award winning & locally famous, Traditional Wood-Smoked Hams, Turkey, Chicken & BBQ meats.

And from our family to yours, we wish you a mouth watering and Devine Christmas.



We are now taking  
**CHRISTMAS ORDERS**  
Scan this QR Code to  
email your order to us today!  
Or mention this ad when you call  
the Devine team on 02 6684 2015.



**64 STUART ST,  
MULLUMBIMBY  
6684 2015**  
[devinequalitymeats.com.au](http://devinequalitymeats.com.au)

## LET LOOSE WITH FESTIVE FINERY

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



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

# festive season

things to do



## Spaghetti Circus

**Special Spaghetti Circus offer – enrol and get a free t-shirt**

Enrol and pay for Term 1 by Friday, 20 December and get a free fire-engine-red Spaghetti Circus t-shirt!

Spaghetti Circus starts back on 3 February 2025 with new classes in stilts and tumbling, in addition to the 30+ classes already on offer. Classes offer something for everyone irrespective of age, fitness or skill level. As well as a wide-range of classes for kids from 2–18 years they offer adults classes twice a week aimed at having fun and getting fit – no circus experience required and it's a fabulous way to meet new people!

By enrolling by the end of Term 4 you can also access their early bird offer.

[www.spaghetticircus.com](http://www.spaghetticircus.com)

## Paradise Golf

Paradise Golf is Byron Bay's go-to destination for fun, food and unforgettable golf experiences. Their indoor virtual golf bar features state-of-the-art simulators, offering something for everyone—from seasoned golfers looking to sharpen their skills, to complete beginners eager to try interactive games in a relaxed setting.

Enjoy locally-made pizzas and sip on signature cocktails from the fully licensed bar while you play. With a welcoming atmosphere and engaging activities, Paradise Golf is perfect for all ages (children over 5) and occasions.

Take on world-class courses or dive into fun mini-games. At Paradise Golf, the laughs are endless, the food is delicious, and the shots are always memorable. Swing into the action and discover why Paradise Golf is a hole-in-one for fun in Byron Bay!

**Contact info:**

[hello@paradisegolf.com.au](mailto:hello@paradisegolf.com.au)

[www.paradisegolf.com.au](http://www.paradisegolf.com.au)

The Hive (next to Stone & Wood Brewery)

88-94 Centennial Circuit, Byron Bay Arts & Industry Estate



## SPECIAL OFFER



**Enrol and pay for Term 1, 2025  
by 20 December to receive a  
FREE Spaghetti t-shirt!**

[www.spaghetticircus.com](http://www.spaghetticircus.com)

# Paradise Golf



**#1 INDOOR ACTIVITY  
IN BYRON BAY**

HIVE BYRON BAY  
92 CENTENNIAL CCT  
NEXT DOOR TO STONE & WOOD

Open 12-9pm Tues - Sat  
Book at  
[paradisegolf.com.au](http://paradisegolf.com.au)



VIRTUAL GOLF - PIZZA - BEER - COCKTAILS

# Magic Murwillumbah



Murwillumbah is heading into the festive season with lots of fun and activity, as businesses and the town enjoy the continued success of the rail trail and the great community feelings from the recent Street Party with the window dressing competition underway.

'The final lovely little cafe has just opened on the rail trail route and like a number of other local businesses will be operating seven days a week,' said Rebecca Whan President of Business Murwillumbah.

'The rail trail is continuing to bring people into town and support local businesses, and we are encouraging more businesses to look at opening over the weekend to take advantage of this trade.

'We just had the Street Party which everyone said was great, despite the rain, and South Murwillumbah really felt the love with lots of community support. There are also some exciting activations coming up and the

sentiment from the retail sector is that things are going really well.'

### M-Arts Artisan Market

This Saturday, December 7, will be a great chance for people to head into Murwillumbah and explore the Artisans Makers Market at the M-Arts centre between 9am and 2pm. Bringing together the region's best artists and makers this is a great opportunity not only to support local creativity but to get some great gifts for the festive season. A range of music will also feature from 10am to 2pm so don't miss out on this exciting local event.

'We are looking at the recent survey to understand what most people want,' said Rebecca.

'Public art and lighting were both key outcomes of the survey. People have highlighted the need for passive lighting for the town we are also looking at a heritage grant to facilitate heritage illumination. With the seed funding from the activation grant we are going to look at how we

rebuild the CBD and get things rolling to help local businesses and the main street.'

Currently, the window dressing competition is underway and businesses are encouraged to decorate their shops or shopfronts with a Christmas/ festive theme.

Tweed mayor Chris Cherry, said the campaign was launched to celebrate local businesses and encourage the community to throw their support behind our stores and shopping precincts this festive season. 'This new and wonderful initiative is a great way for businesses to connect with their community. It also adds a little extra festive spirit to people's shopping experience in business precincts and inspires them to choose local this festive season', Cr Cherry said.

Businesses can register for the Tweed Festive Shopfronts 2024 competition until midnight, December 15 (<https://tinyurl.com/yc4a5bw3>). There is no entry fee, however, businesses need to register online to be eligible for inclusion on the map and entry into the campaign.

## The Imperial Hotel

Within walking distance of the rail trail is The Imperial Hotel. Sitting in the heart of Murwillumbah, this historic pink pub has been pulling pints in cane country since 1931. Today it remains a bar, bistro, bottle shop and hotel in one, welcoming the community through its doors from 10am, 7 days a week.

If you wish to stay the night, the iconic Art Deco building boasts 29 renovated hotel rooms, all equipped with ensuites. It also hosts a line-up of popular weekly events, including Happy Hour from 4-6pm weekdays, and Trivia Tuesdays at 6pm.

**115 Murwillumbah Street, Murwillumbah**  
**02 6672 7000**  
**[imp.com.au](http://imp.com.au)**

## Tweed Regional Aquatic Centres

### Get ready for summer!

Summer is here!! The outdoor 50m pool, toddler area, BBQ and slide at Murwillumbah pool are open every weekend.

The slide will run from 10am to 3pm every day from 19 December through the school holidays.

### Learn to swim and squad

Learn to swim lessons and squad sessions are getting busy across the three centres, (Murwillumbah, Tweed Heads and Kingscliff). Please come in, meet their friendly staff and book in to improve your swimming skills this summer.

**Tumbulgum Road, Murwillumbah**  
**02 6670 2750**  
**[trac.tweed.nsw.gov.au](http://trac.tweed.nsw.gov.au)**

## Tweed Regional Museum

Invites you to step into a world where imagination meets science in How to Draw a Dinosaur - a new exhibition opening on 5 December that explores the fascinating relationship between art, science, and the mysteries of pre-historic creatures.

This exhibition is a dynamic playground for your own creativity, where the boundaries between fact and artistic interpretation blur, and the past comes alive in vivid detail.

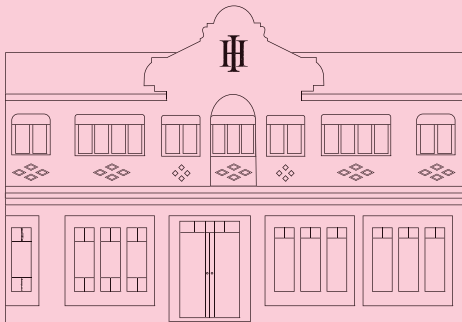
See real fossils, explore the science behind why we think dinosaurs look the way they do, experience breathtaking artworks by local and internationally acclaimed artists, and create your own dinosaur in the interactive rainbow room.

Supported by the NSW Government through Create NSW.

**2 Queensland Rd, Murwillumbah**  
**[Visit museum.tweed.nsw.gov.au](http://museum.tweed.nsw.gov.au)**



### THE IMPERIAL HOTEL



**MURWILLUMBAH'S ICONIC PINK PUB  
 BAR BISTRO BOTTLESHOP & HOTEL**

115 Murwillumbah St, Murwillumbah  
 Open from 10am, 7 days a week

**LIVE MUSIC FRI, SAT & SUN  
 HAPPY HOUR 4-6PM MON-FRI**

[www.imp.com.au](http://www.imp.com.au)



### Tweed Regional Aquatic Centres Murwillumbah, Tweed and Kingscliff Centres



Murwillumbah outdoor 50m pool and Toddler pool are open. The slide is currently open every weekend from 10am - 3pm. From Thursday 19 December the slide will be open every day for the school holidays from 10am - 3pm. Open 7 days a week from 10am-3pm.

Please see website for opening times:  
<https://trac.tweed.nsw.gov.au/Home>



## HOW TO DRAW A DINOSAUR

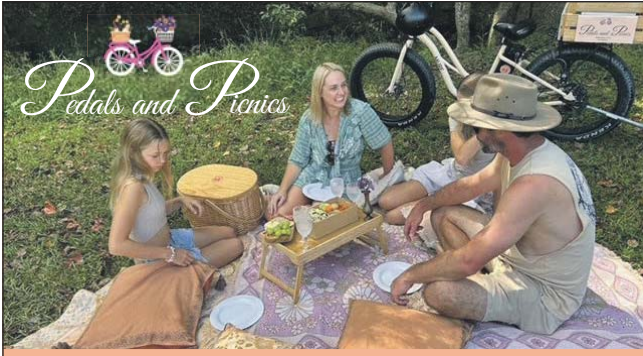


**M TWEED REGIONAL MUSEUM**

**5 DEC - MAY 2025**

# FEATURE Magic Murwillumbah

FEATURE



Pedals and Picnics

Ride and Picnic The Northern Rivers Rail Trail  
www.pedalsandpicnics.com.au PH 0401000460



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include:

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sales@tweedrivertimbers.com.au  
or call Peter on 0428 454 504.



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Their European made shoes are of highest quality leather, sizes from 36 - 42.

Socials @BELLE M BOUTIQUE

114 Main Street, Murwillumbah. 2484

0266 721 224



TWEED REGIONAL GALLERY & MARGARET OLLEY ART CENTRE

Wynne Prize 2024 finalist, Noel McKenna Cape Pillar, Tasman Sea (detail) © the artist

WYNNE PRIZE

Tweed Regional Gallery & Margaret Olley Art Centre

7 December 2024 – 2 February 2025

2024



## Tweed River Timbers

Tweed River Timbers is an Australian-owned wholesale and retail company using locally-sourced timber species. Their services include saw milling, kiln drying, sanding and dressing and supplying DIY timber products. They specialise in custom timber bench tops, vanities, tables and shelving. Tweed River Timbers also create timeless, one-off bespoke pieces from sustainable products including lamps, bird feeders and coffee tables.

0428 454 504  
sales@tweedrivertimbers.com.au

## Pedals and Picnics

Explore by bike, picnic in style discover the Northern Rivers Rail Trail with Pedals and Picnics! Glide along on two e-bikes and a DIY Picnic complete with a grazing box, or indulge in a Destination Picnic where everything is expertly arranged for you. Perfect for birthdays, corporates, couples, and families. Your experience ensures a memorable, delightful day amidst stunning landscapes on the trail.

pedalsandpicnics.com.au  
F: pedalsandpicnics | @pedalsandpicnics

## What's on at the Gallery!

The Wynne Prize 2024 presents the winning and finalist works on tour for 2024, showcasing an impressive collection of landscape paintings and figurative sculpture by Australian artists. An Art Gallery of New South Wales touring exhibition.

Claude Monet's painting, *Meules, milieu du jour [Haystacks, midday], 1890* is currently on display as part of the National Gallery's 'Sharing the National Collection' initiative.

The Margaret Olley Art Centre (MOAC) celebrates the career, life and legacy of Margaret Olley. MOAC combines exhibitions, interactives and the permanent re-creation of areas of Olley's famous home studio.

Visit the Gallery website to find out more.  
2 Mistral Road, South Murwillumbah  
Open: Wednesday – Sunday, 10am – 4pm  
gallery.tweed.nsw.gov.au

## Belle M Boutique

In the heart of Murwillumbah, Belle M Boutique has all your fashion and accessories covered, with a great range of lingerie, stylish footwear, handbags and jewellery. Their friendly staff will assist you with finding the perfect pieces to enhance your confidence and complete your look, as well as offering assistance with bra fittings. Gift vouchers and 8 week lay-by are also available.

114 Murwillumbah Street, Murwillumbah  
Call 0266 721 224 or 0428 135 092  
missey.bell359@gmail.com  
Find them on Facebook & Instagram.

# Magic Murwillumbah

## Knit Happens

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

commitment to quality and sustainability, Knit Happens is the go-to destination for all your knitting and crochet needs. Creative Kids Vouchers are happily accepted.

**Shop 3, 132 Murwillumbah Street, Murwillumbah**  
**0408 321 209**  
**www.knithappens.com.au**

## Crystal Creek Rainforest Retreat

A romantic couples retreat, nestled amongst 250 acres of pristine rainforest, Crystal Creek Rainforest Retreat is located within the beautiful Northern Rivers of NSW, just 50 minutes from the Gold Coast airport. 13 luxurious villas and lodges are individually positioned throughout the private estate, carefully hidden amongst the contours offering incredible rainforest and mountain views and providing the utmost in privacy and seclusion. Each of the well-appointed cabins hosts spacious lounges, king-size beds, soft 800 thread count linen, couples' spa baths and cozy log fireplaces. Explore 8km of stunning walking trails, passing ancient trees, flowing mountain-fed creeks and glistening rock pools, all bathed in musical birdsong. Unwind with a pampering massage and finish off the day at the wine bar and lounge.

**201 Booka Rd, Upper Crystal Creek**  
**02 6679 1591**  
**relax@ccrr.com.au**  
**www.ccrr.com.au**



**Knit Happens**

**YARN & THREAD, TOOLS & NOTIONS, BOOKS & MAGAZINES, CLASSES & WORKSHOPS, PRIVATE LESSONS**



Knit Happens brings the world of yarn right to your doorstep, from the locally sourced, sustainable materials of Australia to the globally celebrated yarns that have inspired crafters around the world.

**Shop 3/132 Murwillumbah St, Murwillumbah**  
**0408 321 209**  
**www.knithappens.com.au**



**Crystal Creek**  
 RAINFOREST RETREAT



## CRYSTAL CREEK RAINFOREST RETREAT

A luxury couples getaway, specialising in romantic escapes and rejuvenating holidays. Just 13 elegant cabins, bungalows and lodges individually hidden amongst 250 acres of stunning ancient rainforest, offering the utmost in privacy and seclusion. Featuring plunge pools, log fireplaces, couples' spa baths, floor to ceiling windows and spectacular rainforest views. Located just 45 minutes from Gold Coast Airport.

**www.ccrr.com.au • 02 6679 1591 • relax@ccrr.com.au**



# 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.

The Mullumbimby Chamber of Commerce and Community (MCCC) play an enthusiastic role in bringing both businesses and the community together not just during the festive season but throughout the year.

Right now they are encouraging everyone to shop local with the great option of winning a \$100 voucher each week in the lead up to Christmas if you shop at one of the participating Mullumbimby stores. There is no shortage of variety when it comes to Mullumbimby and what is on offer from a personal treat, an unusual Christmas present to something a little more extravagant for your family and friends. There is definitely plenty on offer throughout the town and industrial estate.

But it is not just about shopping local and keeping those dollars moving around in, and

supporting, our local community the MCCC work with businesses and the community throughout the year supporting a range of events including the dynamic Laneways Festival, the Chinny Charge up Mount Chincogan as well as the Mullum Show, school fetes, and The Brunswick Historical Society (Mullum Museum).

### CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

The upcoming Carols by Candlelight is another of these great ways for the community to come together that is put on with the support of the MCCC. This year it is being held at the Mullumbimby Showgrounds on December 15, from 6.30pm. So bring a blanket, partake of the barbeque that is fundraising for Mullumbimby Primary School and relax and enjoy your local school choirs while you wait for Santa to arrive.



## This weeks Winners

**Week 2 winners and where they shopped:**

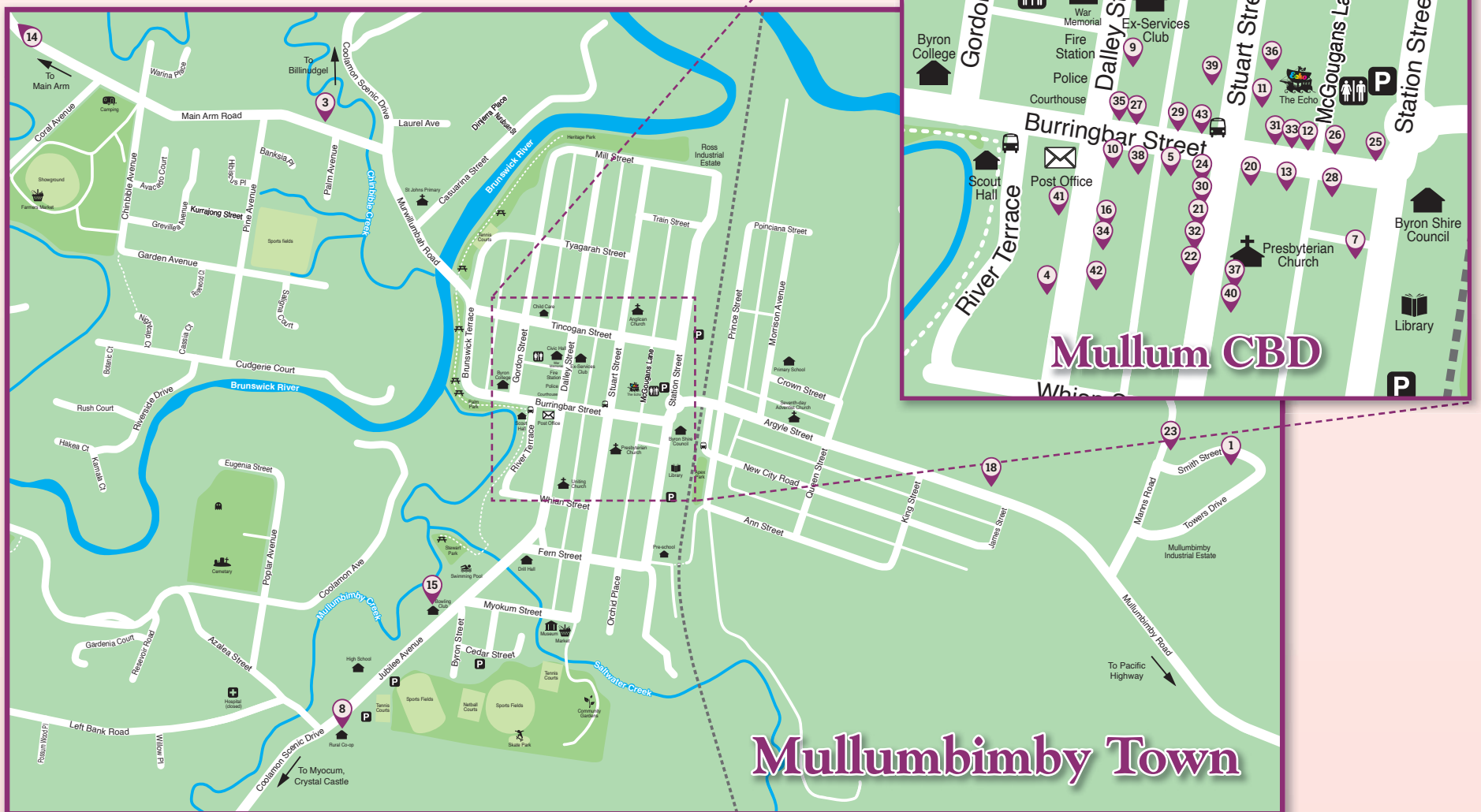
1. **Rachel Kelly** – Bodypeace Bamboo Clothing
2. **Row Turne** – The Source
3. **Susie Boyer** – In Style Living
4. **M Watson** – Mullum Newsagency
5. **Brodie Magee** – Mullumbimby Comprehensive Health

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 Chocolate Shop
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

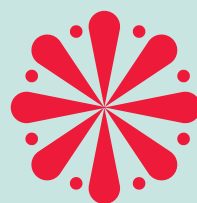
43. Mullumbimby Newsagency

Volume 39 #26  
 4-10 December, 2024  
 Editor: Eve Jeffery  
 Editorial/gigs: gigs@echo.net.au  
 Copy deadline: 5pm each Thursday  
 Gig Guide deadline: 5pm each Friday  
 Advertising: adcopy@echo.net.au  
 P: 02 6684 1777  
 W: echo.net.au/entertainment

# SEVEN

seven days of entertainment

## Eclectic Selection WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK



🌸 Celebrating the grand opening of **Zócalo's** new shop in Newrybar are **Paul A George** – frontman of **Tijuana Cartel** – united with the bohemian folksy beauty **Felicity Lawless**. This event is a journey through gypsy/folk sounds, infused with flamenco and classical guitar.

A portion of every Zócalo sale in store, and online, is donated to four charities in Mexico including a dog rescue, recycling center, a soup kitchen and a medical not-for-profit for kids.

**Wednesday from 4pm at Zócalo, Newrybar. Free show.**

🌸 **Ooz** is an acoustic roots-reggae artist with a huge and eclectic repertoire of crowd favorites. His laidback but lively style is relaxed and he'll have you remembering those forgotten classics. He's a loop pedal creative laying bass guitar and beats to get the audience on their feet – he'll have your heads nodding and your toes tapping!

**Monday from 7pm at The Rails, Byron Bay. Free show.**



🌸 Singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist **Chris Costello** has been entertaining audiences for many a year. Joining him on the musical adventure are the **Hedonic Orchestra**; a collective of some of the region's finest musicians. **Mike Keogh** on trombone and keys, **Jake Bryant** on saxophone, **Glenn Bloomfield** on bass and guitars, and held together at the rear by **Rex Carter** on drums.

**Thursday 7pm at The Citadel, Murwillumbah. Tickets \$27 – humanitix.com.**

🌸 **Southwall** is a dynamic four-piece rock/funk/blues dream team with vocalist **Mark Heazlett** backed by an experienced band with **Matt Bone** on bass, **Mat Akehurst** on drums and **Toby Andrews** on lead guitar – Southwall have refined their sound over a decade and bring a unique musical experience to every show.

**Friday from 8pm at The Rails, Byron Bay. Free show.**

🌸 **One of a Kind – The Adventures of Cleo from Go-Set Magazine**, is the memoir of **Clelia Adams** that is being launched in Mullumbimby this weekend. Special guests **Ray Essery, Rod Coe, Amber Weedon, Stu Eadie**.  
**Saturday at 10.30am at the Mullumbimby Ex-Services Club. Free show.**



🌸 **Drop Legs** are heading out on tour to promote their new single 'East Coast Nasty' – a song written in the rusting solar-powered shipping container at frontman Ham's house, with the five members jamming on the groove for about 30 minutes straight before deciding it NEEDED to be the next song released. The track features a 'nasty' hip-hop style bassline with a signature fat kick and snare decorated by dubbed-out horns, flute and synths.

**Sunday from 4pm at the Hotel Brunswick, Brunswick Heads. Free show.**

DRILL THEATRE  
 CREATED BY MICHAEL SHARMON  
 5-8 DEC & 12-15 DEC  
 10 MINUTES OF FAME  
 DRILLHALLTHEATRE.ORG.AU



🌸 Postponed due to stormy weather, this all-ages event involves relaxing on the grass at the Quad, in (late) celebration of the official reopening of the Lismore Regional Gallery and Lismore Quadrangle – **Emily Lubitz** and **The Family Jordan** will be gracing the **Quad** with a delightful evening of live music. Bring your picnic blankets, chairs, and dinner for a night filled with the soulful folk and country sounds.

**Friday at 6pm at The Quad, Lismore. Free show.**

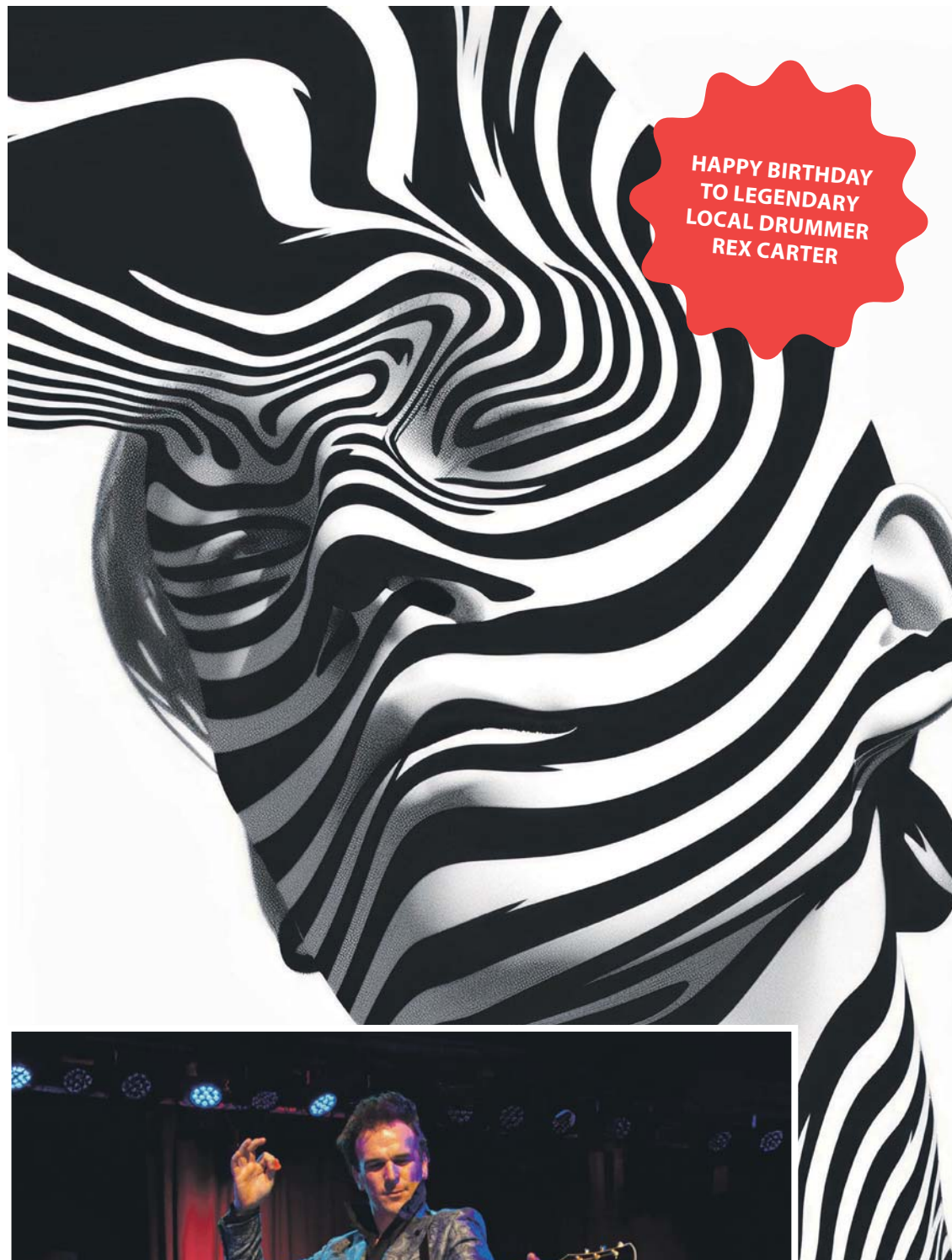


🌸 **Upbeat** play a vibrant mix of modern jazz, Latin and funk-infused tunes that appeal to a whole range of audiences, from youngsters to older jazz lovers.

Upbeat's five members are seasoned local musicians who have variously played international jazz festivals, recorded albums or performed for years around Byron Shire in other local bands and vocal groups.

**Sunday from 1pm at Three Blue Ducks, Byron Bay. Free show.**

DAN KELLY'S REGIONAL CRISIS  
 MINOR PREMIERS  
 GOLDFEELS ALBUM TOUR  
 SATURDAY DEC 14  
 ELTHAM HOTEL



HAPPY BIRTHDAY  
TO LEGENDARY  
LOCAL DRUMMER  
REX CARTER



## Global beats, local impact

This month **Nudge Nudge Wink Wink** delivers double DJ headliners for international heat – get ready for a December to remember at the Nudge. With a special early start of **3.30pm on Saturday**, the iconic event returns to **The Shed at The Billinudgel Hotel** with an unmissable line-up of music, community spirit, and joyful vibes. This month's event continues to raise funds for Women Up North, a vital local charity supporting women and children impacted by domestic violence.

Double the headliners, double the groove as the Cunning Stunts' December edition boasts a dynamic double-header featuring internationally acclaimed **DJs Scott Pullen and Nick Field**, each delivering electrifying two-hour sets. They'll be joined by surprise Sydney-based duo **Cat + Tony Tiger**, who kick off the day with a special early start of 3:30pm, all joining the beloved resident **DJs Lord Sut and Dale Stephen**, guaranteeing a seamless sonic journey to keep you moving all night.

**Saturday from 3.30pm to 11pm – this is a ticketed 18+ event at The Billinudgel Hotel. This event is SOLD OUT, head to Tixel.com for legitimate resale tickets.**

You have helped Cunning Stunts raise over \$416,500 to date, helping 39 local charities since 2015. Community supporting its own!



## Morning Melodies with Tommy Memphis

Just as Hamburg was the crucible that forged the Beatles, a venue where they honed their craft with marathon six to seven hour sessions, sometimes performing seven nights a week, it takes a special artist to thrive in such an environment. It was a place that sorted the truly talented from the rest. Fast forward half a century, and one of the East Coast's most cherished acts, Tommy Memphis, found his own crucible in Ibiza, where he spent five northern hemisphere summers.

In Ibiza, Tommy Memphis graced the stage of a resort, performing seven nights a week for a diverse audience that ranged from lively backpackers to affluent European holidaymakers, and everyone in between. This experience pushed him to dig deep, searching for unique ways to entertain and captivate his ever-changing audience.

Upon his return to Australia, Tommy embarked on a journey that led him to perform at some of the country's grandest venues, including The Palms at Melbourne's Crown Casino, supporting acts like The Platters and Gary Puckett and the Union Gap. Through these experiences Tommy honed his ability to command the largest audiences, holding them in the palm of his hand.

Tommy Memphis is a musical chameleon, seamlessly transitioning between rock 'n' roll and country in his epic 90-minute shows, while sprinkling in other genres for good measure. His performances are imbued with a genuine warmth that can only come from doing what he loves.

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

**See Tommy next week – Friday the 13 is your lucky day at the Ballina RSL, Level One from 10am. For tickets visit: [ballinarsl.com.au](http://ballinarsl.com.au).**

## BRUNSWICK PICTURE HOUSE

# END YOUR YEAR WITH A BANG!



WED 4 DEC - SUN 15 DEC **TIX** [brunswickpicturehouse.com](http://brunswickpicturehouse.com)

# SEVEN

seven days of entertainment



## Lil' Cheeky

The family-friendly circus bonanza is back for one last show this year with an all new, all ages circus show that no one – young or old – should miss!

Taking inspiration from the much cheekier 'grown-up' version, Brunswick's signature circus/cabaret/variety show the *Cheeky Cabaret*, it's always a thrill to present an all ages bonanza for the kids. It's the show that opened the Brunswick Picture House way back in 2016.

*Lil' Cheeky* is what you get if you cross family-friendly cabaret with the circus and then throw in a bit of comedy and a good dose of hi-jinks and surprise. When we roll *Lil' Cheeky* out, you can expect things you've never seen before from a crazy talented, hugely entertaining, and eclectic crew of performers from around the corner and throughout Australia.

Tailored for the young, and tailor-made for the young at heart, this show will razzle and dazzle its way into your hearts, and tickle your funny bones. Get in quick as this one sells out fast – it'll be our last *Lil' Cheeky* for the year!

**Sunday at 2pm at the Brunswick Picture House, Brunswick Heads – [brunswickpicturehouse.com](http://brunswickpicturehouse.com).**



## Give Back This Christmas!

Searching for a gift that truly gives back? This festive season, consider donating to your local radio station, BayFM! Your support benefits everyone—local news, musicians, and the culture that connects us all.

We're raising funds to refit our second studio. A new microphone is \$300 and a CD player is \$1600. Every contribution counts!

Head to [bayfm.org/donate](http://bayfm.org/donate) or scan this QR Code.

Thank you from all of us at BayFM, and have a merry Christmas!



## A Country WITCHmess!

Want something less commercial and a little more pagan to mark your end-of-year celebrations?

Marking the fifth summer solstice gathering of **The Country Witches Association** are Mandy Nolan and Áine Tyrrell.

You are invited to a solstice celebration unlike any other – a potent, soulful experience where your witches are real, deep and messy like the rest of you gathering witches who are craving something deeper than a usual holiday show.

Yep, the world is a mess and witches need an honest space to be together in the cauldron of the WitchMESS. Injustice after injustices are being played out globally by patriarchal war machines where women and children suffer the most. US and Queensland – they have been calling for an end to women's reproductive rights. If these aren't witch burnings, we don't know what are!

It's never been more important for bad ass witches to rise up! And The Country Witches Association, has always been a space where we can

feel our way through the messiness of resistance and the end of another year. Surely every witchy resistance movement comes with laughter, anthems, tears, gold lame hotpants, big hair and chunky boots?

Are you a fellow witch too? Probably. Historically, difficult women of strength have been outlawed and called witches. That's been the fate of ordinary women with extraordinary voices. Women like Áine Tyrrell and Mandy Nolan.

If you've never been, then come along and if you have been waiting for them to re-emerge, good news, your favourite (dis)organisation is back!

Musician Áine Tyrrell and comedian Mandy Nolan mix genres in an uncomfortable collaboration cook up as they bring dangerous dialogues to the boil!

Tyrrell say, 'if you're not doing something that you would have been burnt for 400 years ago then you're not trying hard enough.'

The CWA, or Country Witches Association, is a tongue-in-cheek

reimagining of the traditional CWA with full respect to the iconic Australian women's organisation (to which Mandy actually belongs) that has long pioneered for the rights and equity of women and children. The Country Witches Association however is a little different – it is an anarchic melting pot of politics, comedy and song – bringing disparate and dispossessed women together, to share in the camaraderie of conversations and inspiration loosely modelled on a meeting format, but here, the audience gets to set the agenda!

Swap out the commercialism of Christmas for something both rebellious, anarchic, and deeply rooted in Irish and pagan traditions: fiery conversations, spicy storytelling, and the warmth of gathering in the mess of this past year. Don't miss out on the opportunity to plant seeds of rebirth for your solstice in song, laughter, and a true sense of belonging.

**Brunswick Picture House, Saturday 21 December, 7pm. Tickets at [brunswickpicturehouse.com](http://brunswickpicturehouse.com).**

# Magic at the Ocean Shores Hub

Christmas is such a magical time of the year – **The Ocean Shores Baptist Church** loves to celebrate this beautiful time-honoured tradition with a free event for the community.

Join in as the community celebrates the joy of Christmas – a wonderful time to bring people together for hospitality, to integrate the lonely and isolated and to connect with the wider community. Bring your family and friends for a night of fun. There will be activities for the kids, a community BBQ, face-painting, a fire truck, Santa and so much more.

Later in the evening there will be carols in the hall – another wonderful tradition. There will be all the traditional carols you love, a message of hope and creative displays that highlight the true meaning and majesty of Christmas.

This is one of the only Christmas carol events in Ocean Shores so don't miss out and seize the opportunity to celebrate, gather and connect.

**Friday, December 13, from 5.30pm with carols starting in the hall at 6.30pm. There will be something for everyone at The Hub on the corner of Bindaree Way and Rajah Road, Ocean Shores.**



## Behind the scenes of 10 Minutes of Fame

As opening night approaches this Thursday, audiences are getting a glimpse of the creative energy fueling *10 Minutes of Fame* at the Drill Hall Theatre in Mullumbimby.

Renowned movement director Philip Channells has been hard at work with the cast, choreographing an intense fight sequence that promises to captivate. Meanwhile, rising choreographer Rees Laird has crafted a show-stopping musical finale that will leave audiences tapping their feet.

Playwright Michael Sharmon assures this fast-paced dramedy has something for everyone. With action heroes, a hilarious song-and-dance number, and a sharp exploration of fame's double-edged sword, the play navigates the chaos of a comic convention during a global pandemic.

Blending humour, drama, and unexpected twists, *10 Minutes of Fame* is more than just a performance, it's a theatrical journey.

**Don't miss it! The show runs from December 5 to 15, Thursdays to Saturdays at 7.30pm and Sundays at 5pm. Book now at [www.drillhalltheatre.org.au](http://www.drillhalltheatre.org.au).**



**BRUNSWICK PICTURE HOUSE**

THE ANNUAL WITCHES SOLSTICE

WE BREAK UP

WE ARE THE GRANDDAUGHTERS OF THE WITCHES YOU COULDN'T BURN

WE TAKE ACTION

WE ARE NOT AFRAID TO BE DISRUPTIVE

WE SWEAR

WE DON'T FUCKING AT

WE MAKE TROUBLE!

WE ARE TROUBLE BE AFRAID

WE ARE THE GRANDDAUGHTERS OF THE WITCHES YOU COULDN'T BURN

WE DON'T FUCKING AT

WE MAKE TROUBLE!

**WITCHES ASSOCIATION**

AVE TYRRELL

MANDY NOLAN

**SATURDAY DECEMBER 21st**

brunswickpicturehouse.com

30 FINGAL STREET

TIKTIX

CUNNING STUNTS

**nudge nudge Wink wink**

PARTY WITH A CONSCIENCE

FEATURING DJS

**SCOTT PULLEN**

**NICK FIELD**

**CAT + TONY TIGER**

**DALE STEPHEN**

**LORD SUT**

SATURDAY DEC 7 / 4 - 11PM / The Billinudgel Hotel

BUY TICKETS / [www.cunningstunts.com.au](http://www.cunningstunts.com.au)

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VOX CALDERA CHAMBER CHOIR PRESENTS

**LIGHT ETERNAL**

CHRISTMAS CHORAL CONCERT

BACH, BRUCKNER, ELGAR, POULENC, PÄRT, CJEILO, AND CAROLS

**SUNDAY DECEMBER 15**

**3 PM**

\$25 / \$20 CONCESSION

CHILDREN FREE

TICKETS AT THE DOOR (CASH PREFERRED)

OR BUY ONLINE AT [WWW.THEMUSICESTUARY.ORG](http://WWW.THEMUSICESTUARY.ORG)

DIRECTED BY NICHOLAS ROUTLEY

ST MARY'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, 38-42 NORTON STREET, BALLINA

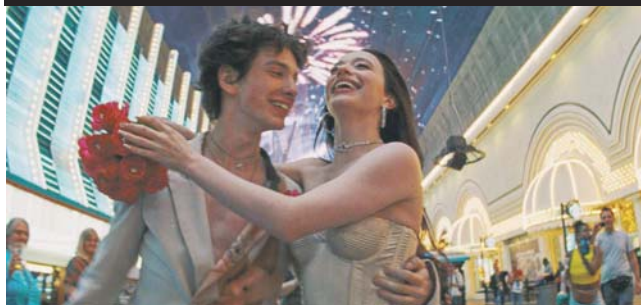
Photograph: "Morning has Broken..." by Karen Roe is licensed under CC BY 2.0.

Northern Rivers Conservatorium THE MUSIC ESTUARY

BUY ONLINE



# CINEMA



## Anora

Winner of the Palme d'Or at the 2024 Cannes Film Festival, acclaimed director **Sean Baker's** new film follows *Anora*, a sex worker from Brooklyn, who gets her chance at a Cinderella story when she meets and marries the son of an oligarch.

Anora 'Ani' Mikheeva is a young stripper living in Brighton Beach, a Russian-speaking neighborhood in Brooklyn. As Ani is the only stripper in her upscale Manhattan strip club who speaks Russian, her boss introduces her to Ivan 'Vanya' Zakharov, the dissolute and immature son of wealthy Russian oligarch Nikolai Zakharov. Vanya is ostensibly in America to study, but prefers to party and play video games in his family's Brooklyn mansion. His parents pay his godfather Toros and henchmen Garnick and Igor to keep an eye on him and clean up his messes.

Vanya hires Ani for several sexual encounters. He grows attached to her and pays her \$15,000 to stay with him for a week and pose as his girlfriend, triggering a whirlwind romance. Vanya and his entourage fly to Las Vegas, where Vanya asks Ani to marry him. Although Ani is initially skeptical, Vanya insists his love is genuine, and they elope in a small Vegas wedding chapel.

After the wedding, Vanya offhandedly mentions that he hopes to use Ani to obtain a green card so that he will not have to go home and work for his inattentive father. Ani quits her job at the club and throws herself into the role of Vanya's devoted wife.

**Anora screens at Palace Byron Bay this week – [palacecinemas.com.au](http://palacecinemas.com.au).**

# GIG GUIDE

It's **FREE** to list your gigs in the gig guide.  
[gigs@echo.net.au](mailto:gigs@echo.net.au) w: [echo.net.au/gig-guide](http://echo.net.au/gig-guide)



### WEDNESDAY 4

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **LILLIAN FAIRFAX**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 4PM **TRILLAH**, 7PM **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**
- BANGALOW BOWLO 7.30PM **BANGALOW BRACKETS' OPEN MIC SESSION**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 4.30PM **CALLUM CREELMAN**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 7PM **CHEEKY CABARET**
- ELTHAM HOTEL 6.30PM **NOT QUITE FOLK JAM**
- SEFA KITCHEN BYRON 6PM **OPEN MIC POETRY SLAM/ SPOKEN WORD WITH WREN**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 8.30PM **LAURA KING & WISER**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 7.30PM **PHIL & TILLEY**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 7PM **CHEEKY CABARET**
- PALACE CINEMAS, BYRON BAY, **BRITISH FILM FESTIVAL**
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM **DJ SALVE JORGE**
- ST JOHN'S SCHOOL HALL, MULLUMBIMBY, 7.30PM **ECSTATIC DANCE MULLUMBIMBY WITH DJ WILD HONEY**
- DRILL HALL THEATRE, MULLUMBIMBY, 7.30PM **10 MINUTES OF FAME**
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY, 8PM **KRAPEOKEEE WITH JESS**
- TINTENBAR HALL 7.30PM **FUNKATU**
- CLUB LENNOX 7PM **LUKE YEAMAN**
- LENNOX HOTEL 9PM **SONIC FX**
- BALLINA RSL BOARDWALK 6PM **BEN WHITING**
- CHERRY STREET SPORTS CLUB, BALLINA, 7PM **NATHAN KAYE**
- THE QUAD, LISMORE, 6PM **EMILY LUBITZ AND THE FAMILY JORDAN**
- THE CHANNON TAVERN 6.30PM **KARAOKE**
- MURWILLUMBAH SERVICES CLUB 6.30PM **PHIL GUEST**
- SALTBAR, KINGSCLIFF, 6PM **GABRIELLE LAMBE, JASON DELPHIN**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 6PM **ADAM BROWN**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 4PM+7PM **CHEEKY CABARET**
- PALACE CINEMAS, BYRON BAY, **BRITISH FILM FESTIVAL**
- BANGALOW HOTEL 2PM **LEE HOOKER**
- MULLUMBIMBY EX-SERVICES CLUB 10.30AM **CLELIA ADAMS BOOK LAUNCH**
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM **DJ PAPA BITCHO**
- DRILL HALL THEATRE, MULLUMBIMBY, 7.30PM **10 MINUTES OF FAME**
- BILLINUDGEL HOTEL 3.30PM **NUDGE NUDGE WINK WINK – DJS SCOTT PULLEN, NICK FIELD, CAT + TONY TIGER, DALE STEPHEN & LORD SUT**
- CLUB LENNOX 7PM **FAT ALBERT DUO**
- CHERRY STREET SPORTS CLUB, BALLINA, 8PM **CATH SIMES BAND**
- ELTHAM HOTEL 7PM **ANDY SHAU(CAN)**
- THE CHANNON TAVERN 6.30PM **GLITTERATI RIOT**
- MURWILLUMBAH SERVICES CLUB 6PM **MARK AITKEN**
- CABARITA BEACH SPORTS CLUB 4PM **ROD MURRAY**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 6PM **STEVE SAVAGE & SYSTEMATIC**
- SALTBAR, KINGSCLIFF, 6PM **JOCK BARNES**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH HOTEL 7PM **THE FERAMONES**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE SHOWROOM 8PM **BJORN AGAIN**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 4PM **DROP LEGS + 4'20 SOUND**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 2PM **LIL' CHEEKY**, 6PM **CHEEKY CABARET**
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY, 3PM **OPEN MIC WITH THE SWAMP CATS**
- DRILL HALL THEATRE, MULLUMBIMBY, 5PM **10 MINUTES OF FAME**
- CLUB LENNOX 4PM **JB'S BLUES BREAKERS**
- BALLINA RSL BLUES CLUB, BOARDWALK 2.30PM **SUNDAY BLUES CLUB SESSIONS FEAT. TROMBONE KELLIE GANG**
- ELTHAM HOTEL 2.30PM **YAZMINDI**
- DUNOON SPORTS CLUB 4PM **PLUCKERS AND POET'S OPEN MIC**
- LISMORE CITY BOWLO 2PM **LISMORE JAZZ CLUB – THE CLARENCE JAZZMEN (WARREN BYRNES TRIBUTE)**
- THE CHANNON TAVERN 3PM **FUNKATU**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH HOTEL 3PM **AUSTIN MACKAY**
- TWEED HEADS CIVIC CENTRE 2.30PM **NORTHERN RIVERS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA – 'SYMPHONIC FESTIVAL CONCERT'**

### THURSDAY 5

- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 7PM **VERSACE BOYS W/ KENZO CRUZE**
- PALACE CINEMAS, BYRON BAY, **BRITISH FILM FESTIVAL**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 8PM **THE VANDASTRUTS, PJ SHEEK & THE TUBE WARMERS**
- DRILL HALL THEATRE, MULLUMBIMBY, 7.30PM **10 MINUTES OF FAME**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 6PM **JASON DELPHIN**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 7PM **CHEEKY CABARET**
- THE QUAD, LISMORE, 6PM **TIMBUKTU AND YAZMINDI**
- LISMORE CITY BOWLO 7PM **THE SUPPER CLUB**
- THE CITADEL, MURWILLUMBAH, 6PM **CHRIS COSTELLO AND HIS HEDONIC ORCHESTRA**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 7PM **WEST WIND**, 9PM **JAM HOT LIVE**
- BYRON THEATRE 6PM **SOLOISTS' CONCERT – ENCORE PERFORMANCE STUDIO**

### FRIDAY 6

- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 2PM **AUSTIN MILLZ + KLP**, **STACE CADET**, **TYSON O'BRIEN**, **JADE ZOE**, **LUEN & DJ MACARONI**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 4.30PM **ANDY V + BEATDUSTA GOODIE**

### SATURDAY 7

- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 4.30PM **EPIC**
- PALACE CINEMAS, BYRON BAY, **BRITISH FILM FESTIVAL**
- YULLI'S, BYRON BAY, 3PM **YULLI'S OPEN MIC**
- THREE BLUE DUCKS, EWINGSDALE, 1PM **UPBEAT**
- BANGALOW HOTEL 4PM **LUKE YEAMAN**

### MONDAY 9

- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **JASON DELPHIN**

### TUESDAY 10

- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **TIM STOKES**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE SHOWROOM 11AM **BACK TO THE TIVOLI!**

### WEDNESDAY 11

- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 4PM **INO PIO**, 7PM **THE MARK DIVOLA DUO**
- BANGALOW BOWLO 7.30PM **BANGALOW BRACKETS' OPEN MIC SESSION**
- ELTHAM HOTEL 5PM **IRISH FOLK JAM**

**PALACE CINEMAS**  
 BYRON BAY - BALLINA FAIR

SESSION TIMES  
 THURSDAY DECEMBER 5  
 TO WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 11

MY FAVOURITE CAKE  
 NOW SHOWING

MOANA 2  
 NOW SHOWING

SCAN TO BOOK ONLINE

**PALACE BYRON BAY**

**SPECIAL SCREENINGS**

A REAL PAIN (MA15+) Fri: 7:00PM

ANDRÉ RIEU'S 2024 CHRISTMAS CONCERT: GOLD & SILVER (CTC) Sat, Sun: 1:00PM

BIG WEDNESDAY (M) Mon: 6:30PM

CONCLAVE (PG) Sat: 6:30PM

GIRL FROM THE NORTH COUNTRY (M) Sat, Sun: 1:00PM

LA SCALA: LA RONDINE (CTC) Sun: 1:00PM. Wed: 11:00AM

LAUFEY'S A NIGHT AT THE SYMPHONY: HOLLYWOOD BOWL (M) Fri: 8:00PM. Sun: 4:00PM

**FAMILY FILMS**

MOANA 2 (PG) Daily except Sun: 10:45AM, 11:30AM, 12:30PM, 1:45PM, 2:45PM, 4:00PM, 5:00PM, 6:10PM, 7:15PM, 8:20PM. Sun: 10:45AM, 11:15AM, 12:30PM, 1:45PM, 2:45PM, 4:00PM, 5:00PM, 6:10PM, 7:15PM, 8:20PM

RED ONE (PG) Thurs, Fri, Mon, Tues: 1:10PM. Wed: 1:40PM

**ALL FILMS**

AQUARIUS (CTC) Daily except Thurs, Fri: 10:45AM. Thurs, Fri: 10:45AM, 6:30PM

GLADIATOR II (MA15+) Thurs: 10:45AM, 4:20PM, 5:30PM. Fri: 10:45AM, 4:20PM, 5:15PM. Sat: 4:30PM, 5:30PM. Sun: 4:30PM, 6:20PM. Mon, Tues, Wed: 10:45AM,

4:20PM, 6:30PM

GOODRICH (M) Thurs, Fri, Wed: 4:10PM. Mon, Tues: 11:00AM, 4:10PM

HERETIC (MA15+) Thurs, Mon, Tues, Wed: 3:50PM, 8:30PM. Fri: 3:50PM. Sat, Sun: 8:30PM

LEE (M) Sun: 8:30PM. Mon: 4:00PM. Tues: 1:20PM, 4:00PM. Wed: 4:45PM

MY FAVOURITE CAKE (M) Thurs: 11:00AM, 1:20PM. Fri: 11:00AM, 1:10PM. Sat: 10:50AM, 1:20PM. Sun: 10:50AM, 1:10PM. Mon, Tues: 11:00AM, 1:45PM. Wed: 11:00AM, 2:30PM

OUT OF SEASON (M) Thurs, Sat: 10:50AM, 1:00PM, 3:30PM, 6:00PM. Fri: 10:45AM, 1:00PM, 3:30PM, 6:00PM. Sun: 10:50AM, 1:20PM, 3:45PM,

6:10PM. Mon, Tues: 11:15AM, 1:00PM, 3:30PM, 6:00PM. Wed: 12:00PM, 2:00PM, 4:30PM, 7:00PM

PIECE BY PIECE (CTC) Thurs, Sat: 11:00AM, 3:30PM, 8:20PM. Fri: 11:00AM, 3:15PM, 8:20PM. Sun: 11:00AM, 6:00PM, 8:30PM. Mon, Tues: 11:00AM, 3:50PM, 8:20PM. Wed: 12:00PM, 4:10PM, 8:30PM

THE DEAD DONT HURT (M) Thurs, Fri, Mon: 1:40PM, 8:30PM. Sat: 4:00PM, 8:30PM. Sun: 3:20PM, 8:00PM. Tues: 1:40PM, 6:30PM, 8:30PM. Wed: 1:40PM, 7:15PM

WICKED (PG) Thurs, Mon, Tues, Wed: 11:00AM, 1:00PM, 2:10PM, 5:20PM, 6:20PM, 7:20PM. Fri: 11:00AM, 1:00PM, 2:10PM, 5:20PM, 8:10PM. Sat, Sun: 11:00AM, 2:10PM, 5:20PM, 6:40PM, 7:30PM

**BALLINA FAIR CINEMAS**

ALL FILMS

ANDRÉ RIEU'S 2024 CHRISTMAS CONCERT: GOLD & SILVER (CTC) SPECIAL SCREENING Sat, Sun: 1:00PM

GLADIATOR II (MA15+) Thurs, Sat: 7:20PM. Fri: 7:20PM. Sun: 4:30PM. Mon, Tues, Wed: 2:20PM, 7:30PM

HERETIC (MA15+) NT Thurs: 12:10PM, 4:40PM. Fri: 12:10PM, 5:00PM. Sat: 4:30PM. Mon, Tues, Wed: 12:00PM, 5:15PM

LEE (M) Thurs, Fri: 9:45AM. Mon, Tues, Wed: 9:30AM

MOANA 2 (PG) NT Daily except Sat, Sun: 9:50AM, 12:10PM, 2:30PM, 4:50PM, 7:10PM. Sat: 9:50AM, 11:45AM, 12:15PM, 2:30PM, 4:50PM, 7:10PM. Sun: 9:50AM, 12:15PM, 2:30PM, 4:50PM, 7:30PM

WICKED (PG) Thurs, Fri: 10:00AM, 3:40PM, 6:50PM. Sat: 9:45AM, 7:00PM. Sun: 9:45AM, 11:20AM, 7:00PM. Mon, Tues, Wed: 9:45AM, 4:00PM, 7:15PM

# HAVE YOU SENT US YOUR GIG?

[gigs@echo.net.au](mailto:gigs@echo.net.au)

Submit your event to the Echo's free Gig Guide. Running in *The Echo* and online at [echo.net.au](http://echo.net.au).



# Keep it Clean

Mandy Nolan

Clutter makes me angry. When I open a cupboard and things fall out I feel emotionally precarious. I am in a constant battle with stuff. In fact, I feel like the older I get, the more stuff I have. The more stuff I have, the more time I have to spend cleaning, arranging and sorting stuff. Most of the stuff I don't use, but it's nice stuff. Or it's stuff I'm emotionally attached to. Or it's stuff my kids have left at my house because they don't feel like sorting through it. I work so hard that by the end of the week I'm literally stuffed. Which is ironic because tidying my stuff when I'm stuffed is crucial to maintaining my mental health.



CREATED USING AI BY THINK-BLINK DESIGN

Sunday was my first day off in weeks. I could have got a massage. I could have had lunch with a friend. I could have gone to the beach. But the rain was torrential so I was under house arrest. Me and the mess. I knew it had to be done. But where to start?

I looked at the clothes bulging from my wardrobe. I have clothes in suitcases, under beds, and in three other wardrobes. They have to go. I faced the music and took clothes I used to fit into, that I'd kept in hope that I'd ever be a size 10 again, and passed them on to my daughter. Those clothes are vintage now so she thinks I'm a cool mum. If not also a little fat.

And if I'm suddenly a size 10, I'll just wear her clothes.

Once complete I moved onto the fridge. Or bacteria exhibit. I found medication for my dog who died three years ago. Pickles that had become hallucinogenic. And every type of milk opened and unused hiding on the top shelf. It was a strangely soothing activity. As I removed the shelves, stained with rogue soy sauce and honey and washed them in the sink, I felt a strange calm. Like my wellbeing was being restored. As I cleaned, I enjoyed that smug resentment you feel when you know you're the only person in the house who does this properly. They better bloody notice.

I've always been like this. I need order to feel calm and happy, I need

**The constant visual stimuli from a chaotic environment can contribute to a sense of being mentally burdened, making it challenging to focus and concentrate.**

- Dr Grace Hula

my surroundings to be clean. My kids think I'm crazy. My husband thinks I'm controlling. They're both right.

But yesterday I read in an article that living in a cluttered space can induce feelings of overwhelm and anxiety. In fact 'the constant visual stimuli from a chaotic environment can contribute to a sense of being mentally burdened, making it challenging to focus and concentrate.' Oh! I am hearing you Dr Grace Hula! I feel so seen!

Studies show there is a correlation between a cluttered environment and

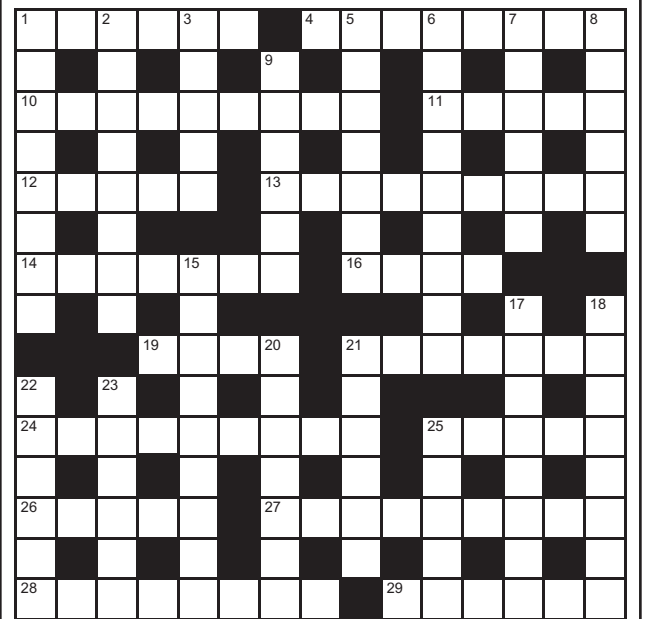
increased levels of the stress hormone cortisol. Chronic exposure to mess can lead to anxiety and depression! All this time it wasn't my fault! I wasn't a grumpy pain in the arse picking towels off the floor - I was a woman fighting for her mental health. It seems at times my family were conspiring to bring me undone. But I kept vigil. And I sent them the article.

It seems weird to think that cleaning a bin can be self care. It's not as sexy as going to a day spa, or having your toenails painted. But in the long run, if you fold my washing, if you iron my shirts (yes, I do iron), and if you replace the toilet roll once it's used, you will have contributed to my mental wellbeing. And if I'm happy then so, generally, is everyone else.

So if you're wondering what to get your mother this Christmas, clean her windows. Dust her photographs. And when you stay there - pick up your shit! It's not just good manners. It's science.

■ 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.

## Crossword by Stephen Clarke #32



### Cryptic Clues

#### ACROSS

- Guardian spirit of nomad returning to ring *Echo* (6)
- Church of England guerrilla infiltrates first storage facility (3,5)
- Cricketer perhaps, repository of a sixth sense, makes splash (9)
- Any of 5, 12, 15, 21, 23, 25, 28 called out for side dish (5)
- Victorian writer only just ignoring Latin (5)
- Thing for eating pieces of meat getting mark of approval (9)
- Rural king entering shire (7)
- Complain bitterly about story-teller (4)
- Narcotic drink of potassium initially accepted by Virginia (4)
- Victorian writer to sleep with the fish (7)
- Fast bowlers, spinning, preferred to dance (9)
- Women at quiet game of cards (5)
- Team from Milan has place in ground (5)
- Brew of lactose with almond and raspberry starters that can get you up or down! (9)
- New sonnet about big city by Victorian writer (8)
- Stoically shoulder Teddy out of bed (4,2)

#### DOWN

- Twisted, bad, sexy weekend with water bird (8)
- Broadcast hour ends with wrap (8)
- Oboeist's first to switch to organ (5)
- Victorian writer mimics sound of *The Christmas Song* (7)
- Cheat bit fish, according to Spooner (4,5)
- Nine lire in exchange for invigorating drink (6)
- Cheers for veteran movie star (6)
- Solid punch by unknown catches Tszu's head (6)
- Victorian writer, one cracking codes in the Arrernte and Ylongu originals (9)
- Threatening of nun outside hotel not new (8)
- US soldier into Pop Art movement, a vehicle for disseminating ideology (8)
- Cunning code, cracking style (3,4)
- How to end a fight: a little kiss, then money (6)
- Cock-eyed Pole has leave to lock up knight (6)
- Short athletic event not taken up by puritanical writer (6)
- Victorian writer has misdirected delivery left inside (5)

### Quick Clues

#### ACROSS

- A spirit holding a middle place between gods and men; a devil (6)
- Refrigerator (3,5)
- Sprinkle; defame (9)
- Indian dish of chopped vegetables, esp cucumber, in yoghurt (5)
- Author of *Jude the Obscure* (5)
- Oriental eating implement (9)
- Rustic; state (7)
- Purveyor of misinformation (4)
- Ceremonial drink used by Pacific Islander communities (4)
- Author of *If* (7)
- A fast foxtrot (9)
- Trick-taking card game (5)
- Bury (5)
- Moving staircase (9)
- Author of *In Memoriam* (8)
- To maintain one's spirits; carry a burden (4,2)

#### DOWN

- Small grebe (8)
- To cloak or conceal (8)
- Female reproductive gland (5)
- Author of *Jabberwocky* (7)
- Person who uses skill and/or deception to win at poker (4,5)
- Liquid with the power to indefinitely prolong life or transmute metals (6)
- Ta (6)
- Mesomorphic (6)
- Author of *Vanity Fair* (9)
- Baleful (8)
- Bureau of the Soviet Union Communist Party for promoting its ideology (8)
- Style of decorative art characteristic of the 1920s and 1930s (3,4)
- Obsolete Russian coin, one hundredth of a rouble (6)
- Strabismus (6)
- Author of *Paradise Lost* (6)
- Author of *The Ballad of Reading Gaol* (5)

### Last week's solution #31



## STARS BY LILITH

With six planets spreading retrograde shade, expect the unexpected this week. Don't overbook yourself. Leave as much breathing space as possible in your schedule for happy surprises and enough wiggle room to pivot if arrangements go haywire ...



SAGITTARIUS THE ARCHER

**ARIES:** No question that the sun and Mars, both in energetic fellow fire signs, fuel your tank to power through December's provocations and aggravations. This week's best advice? If you have to redo or repeat something, just be patient with yourself and others, and blame it on the stars.

**TAURUS:** The leadup to Christmas is invariably hectic, but busy isn't a bad thing if it involves walking away from arguments and attending to Mercury retrograde requirements like making a plan B, reconfirming travel plans, checking insurance details, backing up files and disengaging from time-wasting online controversies.

**GEMINI:** Despite the inevitable snags and glitches of your mentor planet Mercury's current retrograde at a time of peak inconvenience, there is actually something to be said for this week's obligatory delays, with their invitation to slow down, relax, stop rushing, be creative and start thinking outside the box.

**CANCER:** Not one, but two new moons bookending this month are December's celestial Christmas gifts to you lunar beings. As this week nudges your generosity button, is there someone who could really use a secret Santa? Just be advised that with Mars retrograde, over-spending isn't recommended.

**LEO:** With Mars heading into retrograde in your sign for the rest of the year, do what you can to minimise friction by not taking things personally. Everyone's under stress, so maintain a positive focus and remember *noblesse oblige*, which means setting an example of behaviour befitting a regal Leo.

**VIRGO:** With the official silly season in full swing, it's not unusual for Virgos to experience outbreaks of 'giftitis' caused by the angst of trying to find affordable, sustainable, earth-friendly presents. Clue: why not give vouchers for a local business that's struggling - a bookshop, restaurant or other service?

**LIBRA:** This week demonstrates what Librans already know: that black and white thinking isn't helpful, and finding a median line is. If exercising the Libran art of weighing pros, cons and alternate options is messing with your mind, then forget who, what, where, when, how, and ask yourself why?

**SCORPIO:** This month's merry mayhem is, as always, set to push limits. With argumentative Mars joining Mercury in retrograde it may be difficult to reach consensus on holiday plans or festive arrangements. So if simmering tensions erupt, you might try asking questions and tactfully addressing what's not being said.

**SAGITTARIUS:** This week's planet mix brings your annual reminder to turn end-of-year problems into adventures. Mercury retrograde in Sagittarius and Mars also reversing in a fellow fire sign both recommend a laidback approach to Christmas shopping, because cruise control is your key to surviving the season of merry madness.

**CAPRICORN:** This month's rotating sextet of retrograde planets calls for patience in steering a steady, practical course through end-of-year challenges. But if anyone knows how to take care of business, especially Christmas business, it's Venus in Capricorn, so perhaps start by looking at slashing the to-do list.

**AQUARIUS:** This month's retrograde frustrations and pre-Christmas cacophony could make people more than usually sensitive to teasing. Attempts at humour might touch an unexpected nerve during this angry period, so smart waterpourers (are there any other kind?) will navigate this week's social media carefully. Very carefully.

**PISCES:** If you start getting some reality checks that your festive plans mightn't actually be totally achievable, don't think it's Saturn being a Christmas grinch. Instead of getting discouraged, consider this a blessing in disguise, and go back to the drawing board to lighten and tighten up your game plan.

# 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:  
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# Echo

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20 years local experience  
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## MIELE WASHERS

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## ARCHIBALD'S CHEAP QUARRY PRODUCTS

Road base, gravel, blue metal and metal dust. ALL SIZE DELIVERIES.  
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## TREE FERNS

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

## GARAGE SALES

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Pool pumps, sand filters, office reception desk, timber bench seats, pool mats and rollers, tin/timber garden boxes, glass fence panels, corrugated iron panels, electric bar heater, timber posts in good condition, swim platforms, small fridge and assorted pieces. Ph 0448649150

## MIMI & FLO

Pop Up Garage Sale Sat 7 Dec 9am-2pm  
18a Nana St, Brunswick Heads

**THE POCKET. Sat 9am-12pm.** Building materials, clothing, toys. Rural equip.  
829 The Pocket Rd. 0427517317

## Tip Runs & Rubbish Removal

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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

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## BANK GALLERY ART & CRAFT FIESTA

The Bank Gallery in Mullumbimby (behind the old NAB bank building at 68 Burringbar St) will be having an art and craft fiesta over the holidays! There will be workshops, and donated art and craft supplies for sale. Keep a lookout for our upcoming workshops run by Phoenix Menswear and Madame Butterfly, and get in touch to donate any supplies you no longer need - we would like to sell them. The space will be open on Thursdays from 2pm to 6pm, or email phoenix.menswear@yahoo.com

### NOTICE OF LEASE

Area of Road Reserve adjoining Lot 127 DP405405

on 325 Myocum Rd Ewingsdale.

In accordance with Section 156(2) of the Roads Act 1993 (NSW) Council advises it has granted a short-term lease over 4757m<sup>2</sup> Road Reserve adjoining 325 Myocum Road, Ewingsdale NSW 2481.

Inquiries: Byron Shire Council  
Tracy Armstrong (02) 2628 7000  
File Reference: E2024/139076



## Osho's Birthday Celebration Saturday 7 Dec, 5p.m

5p.m. Osho Dance  
Meditation  
with live music

6p.m. Osho Video

7p.m. Dinner with Osho  
friends

Call Shahido 6688 2494

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Neighbourhood Centre  
Connecting the Byron Shire Community

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- Kitchen Hands -
- Retail Assistants -
- Drivers and Co-driver -
- Community Support Assistants -

MDNC is in needs of dedicated volunteers to be part of a big loving family. All skill sets welcome.

Contact Sylvia -  
Volunteer Coordinator  
Mon-Fri

6684 1286

## COMMUNITY HOT BRUNCH



### FIRST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH

- Sausage sizzle • Hot dogs • Sandwiches
- Coffee & tea • Fruit Salad

### EVERYONE WELCOME

Come one come all and join us in a meal or just a chat. Takeaway most welcome: COVID safe rules apply. Frozen takeaway meals now available.

10am to 12pm  
In the Ballina  
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Corner of Cherry & Crane. Just behind the Presbyterian Church.



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Permanent part-time role:  
4 days per week, some flexibility.

Echo Publications publishes *The Byron Shire Echo* (free weekly community newspaper), a daily news website (echo.net.au) and multiple subsidiary magazines throughout the year.

Applications are open for a Sales Account Representative. The role involves selling advertising and creating multi-channel marketing campaigns for clients across the website, newspaper and individual magazines.

Work in a friendly and supportive team of six, in our Mullumbimby office, handling advertising and publicity for our large local and small interstate client base.

**Start date: January 2025.**

### Key requirements:

- Computer literacy
- Friendly telephone manner
- People person
- Sales and marketing experience preferred
- High level of organisation and ability to multitask
- Experience with databases, in particular CRM databases, will be highly regarded.
- Must own a vehicle and maintain a current driver's licence.

To apply for this role please email a cover letter and resume to: [positions@echo.net.au](mailto:positions@echo.net.au)

## COUPLES THERAPY

Deepen Intimacy  
Dissolve Barriers to  
Love and Understanding



Body Centred Psychotherapy  
Leyolah Dekanic  
Bangalow Clinic: 0409 226737

## Mindfulness @ Work

Bring greater focus,  
clarity and calm into your  
workplace.

Certified Mindfulness  
Educator Paul Bibby  
0401 926 090

## TREE SERVICES

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

## SUMMERLAND TREE SERVICES

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

Byron Bay & Surrounding Areas

**6681 3140**  
Mobile 0417 698 227

# Classifieds

## SHARE ACCOM.

**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 m<sup>2</sup>. Across 3 locations. 66867011

## TO LEASE

### 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.

## POSITIONS VACANT

### 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@byronbaytaxi.com

### KITCHENHAND @ The Other Joint.

Tues & Wed. 9am-3pm. Email mullum@otherjoint.com

**CASUAL HELP WANTED** with storage, moving, weekend stalls etc \$25 per hour + % of sales. Call 0450500656



**Domestic & Family Violence Case Worker - Women's Resource Service**  
Mullumbimby & District Neighbourhood Centre  
Permanent part-time.  
Applications close Friday 13 December.  
Interviews Wednesday 18 and Thursday 19 December.  
Email manager@mdnc.org.au for application package.

## WORK WANTED

**DELIVERIES:** after hours and weekends. 4-tonne load on 6m flatbed + 2.5-tonne load on 3.6m tiptruck. Ph 0419425491

### WORDPRESS WEBSITE CREATION

Fair rates info@wordpressit.com.au

## MUSICAL NOTES

**GUITARS, RECORDS, HI-FI**  
WE BUY AND SELL 66851005

### THE BYRON BAY BAGPIPER

Highland bagpipe Byron area: Weddings, functions, funerals, tutoring. 0473174033

### DJ FUNKY BLUE MOON

for hire in Ballina area. Call 0400 817 392

**Doe** - a deer, a female deer

**Ray** - a drop of golden sun

**Me** - a name I call myself

**Far** - a long long way to run

**Sew** - a needle pulling thread

**La** - a note to follow so

**Tea** - a drink with jam and bread

## LOST & FOUND

**LOST:** Nev's mind - if you happen to find it, please give it back to him.

www.echo.net.au

## TUITION

# Adobe Tutoring

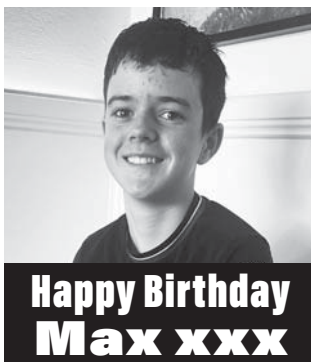
**Experienced Professional Trainer**  
• Photoshop • Indesign • Illustrator

contact@thinkblinkdesign.com  
www.thinkblinkdesign.com

## BIRTHDAYS



Happy Birthday to The Echo's favourite Bowel Cancer survivor  
*We love you The Echo crew xx*



Happy Birthday  
**Max xxx**

## DEATH NOTICES

### JOHN VIVIAN DEEGAN



Aged 71, 'Johnny', 'Deegs', 'Junta' passed away peacefully on 23.11.2024 with family by his side. After a short battle with cancer he is now set free, and laid to rest in Tasmania. He was much loved, and will be missed dearly by his girls, family and friends.

Shine On You Crazy Diamond

### PAUL DUNN



2/8/1954 - 12/11/2024  
Late of Mallangane, Newrybar, Federal and Beacon Hill. Beloved Brother, Father, Uncle and Grandfather. A loyal friend, partygoer, Renault enthusiast and all-round good bloke. Join his family for a loving send-off. All welcome: Federal Hall, Federal Drive 14 December from 1pm

## PETS



'Tis 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 2.30-4.30pm**  
**Thurs 3-5pm | Sat 10am-12 noon**  
**Call AWL on 0436 845 542**

Like us on Facebook!  
AWL NSW Rehoming Organisation  
Number: R251000222

### Byron Dog Rescue (CAWT)



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



Kody is a 5 months old, Border Collie X. He is a smart and eager learner, progressing well with his training. Kody would thrive in an active family on a property where he can enjoy plenty of enrichment and stimulation to keep him happy and engaged.  
#991003002698971  
Location: Murwillumbah  
For more information contact Yvette on 0421 831 128  
Interested? Please complete our online adoption expression of interest  
<https://friendsofthepound.com/adoption-expression-of-interest/>

Visit [friendsofthepound.com](https://friendsofthepound.com) to view other dogs and cats looking for a home.  
ABN 83 126 970 338



## KITTEN SEASON IS UPON US!

We have several kittens - some ginger, some tabby and one ragdoll x grey and white and more coming. All kittens will be desexed, microchipped and have one vaccination. We also have some adorable 1 year olds and older cats.

Please make an appointment  
0403 533 589 • Billinudgel  
[petsforlifeshelter.net](https://petsforlifeshelter.net)

## SOCIAL ESCORTS

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

## 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

## 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

## 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	

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.

## SUN, MOON & TIDES - TIMES FOR NEXT 3 WEEKS

DATE (Dec)	DAY, MOON PHASE	SUN RISE / SET	MOON RISE / SET	HIGH TIDES, height (m)	LOW TIDES, height (m)
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	0447 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 24:05	0109 1.04 1339 1.60	0634 0.42 2029 0.37
8	SU	5:40 19:35	11:59 24:07	0216 1.07 1432 1.55	0741 0.47 2122 0.34
9	M	5:40 19:35	13:02 2:00	0329 1.15 1530 1.49	0856 0.51 2215 0.30
10	TU	5:41 19:36	14:05 3:02	0437 1.28 1631 1.42	1015 0.52 2303 0.25
11	W	5:41 19:37	15:10 4:04	0540 1.43 1732 1.35	1132 0.50 2351 0.20
12	TH	5:41 19:37	16:18 5:07	0637 1.58 1833 1.29	1245 0.45
13	F	5:41 19:38	17:28 6:10	0730 1.71 1930 1.23	0036 0.16 1351 0.38
14	SA	5:42 19:39	18:39 7:13	0821 1.81 2025 1.18	0121 0.14 1450 0.32
15	SU	5:42 19:39	19:48 8:15	0911 1.87 2116 1.14	0206 0.13 1545 0.28
16	M	5:42 19:40	20:50 9:15	0959 1.88 2204 1.11	0250 0.15 1634 0.27
17	TU	5:43 19:40	21:44 10:11	1044 1.85 2251 1.08	0335 0.18 1721 0.29
18	W	5:43 19:41	22:29 11:05	1128 1.79 2336 1.06	0420 0.24 1806 0.33
19	TH	5:44 19:42	23:06 12:00	1209 1.70 2418 1.01	0504 0.32 1848 0.37
20	F	5:44 19:42	23:38 13:00	1248 1.61 2498 1.00	0550 0.40 1929 0.41
21	SA	5:44 19:43	24:07 14:00	0113 1.04 1327 1.50	0639 0.50 2010 0.44
22	SU	5:45 19:43	0:07 15:00	0211 1.05 1408 1.40	0735 0.59 2052 0.45
23	M	5:46 19:44	0:34 16:00	0317 1.09 1454 1.30	0842 0.67 2138 0.44
24	TU	5:46 19:44	1:00 17:00	0425 1.17 1547 1.22	0958 0.71 2225 0.43
25	W	5:47 19:44	1:26 18:00	0525 1.26 1647 1.15	1118 0.70 2310 0.40

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

# Community at Work



## On The Horizon

### DEADLINE NOON FRIDAY

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

### AGM Bruns Progress

Brunswick Heads Progress Association's AGM is on Monday, December 2, at 6.30pm, at the CWA Cottage in Park Street. Serving our village for over 100 years!

### Free Tango

Free Tango at 'Casa Luna', 9 Fletcher St, Byron Bay, 6pm to 7.30pm every Thursday. This is a social event. For more information email: janrae7@gmail.com.

### AIR

The next meeting of the Australian Independent Retirees (AIR) will be held in the Ballina RSL Club, Spinnakers room, on Friday, December 6, from 9.30am for 10am start. This will be followed by the Christmas party, bookings required, contact Anne Nalder. The following meeting will be on Friday, 7 February, 2025. Any enquiries please contact the President, Jill Huxley on 6686 8958.

### Prostate Cancer Support

The final gathering of the Northern Rivers Day Prostate Cancer Support Group for 2024 is to be held on Wednesday, December 11. This is a Christmas luncheon rather than a regular meeting commencing 11.30am for 12 noon at the Alstonville Plateau Sports Club, Deegan Drive, Alstonville. It is imperative that convenor Bob receives bookings. Partners and carers welcome. Enquiries Bob Corney 0493 075 612 or 0400 747 630.

### BV VIEW

The Brunswick Valley VIEW Club Christmas luncheon meeting is on December 12 at the Brunswick Bowling Club from 10.30am and costs \$30. Apologies call Wenda on 0449 563 580 or email: wjhunt@yahoo.com. No later than the Monday before. Next meeting is in February 2025.

### 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](mailto: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](http://www.rtrl.nsw.gov.au) or phone (02) 6685 8540.

### 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](http://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](mailto:kerrymj@gmail.com).

### 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.

## SERVICE DIRECTORY RATES, PAYMENT & DEADLINE

**DEADLINE:** For additions and changes to the Service Directory is 12pm Friday.  
**LINE ADS:** \$99 for 3 months or \$340 for 1 year prepaid.  
 For line Service Directory ads email classifieds@echo.net.au.  
**DISPLAY ADS:** \$70 per week for colour display ad. Minimum 8 week booking 4 weeks prepaid.  
 Please supply display ads 85mm wide, 38mm high. New display ads will be placed at end of section.  
 For display Service Directory ads email adcopy@echo.net.au.  
 The Echo Service Directory is online – [www.echo.net.au/service-directory](http://www.echo.net.au/service-directory)  
**ACCOUNTS & BOOKINGS: 6684 1777**

## INDEX

Accountants & Bookkeepers	42	Landscaping	44
Acupuncture	42	Locksmith	44
Air Conditioning & Refrigeration	42	Microcementing	44
Architects	42	Painting	44
Automotive	42	Pest Control	44
Blinds, Awnings, Curtains, Shutters	42	Photography	44
Bricklaying	42	Physiotherapy	44
Building Trades	42	Picture Framing	44
Bush Regeneration	42	Plastering	44
Carpentry & Joinery	42	Plumbers	44
Cleaning	43	Removalists	44
Computer Services	43	Roofing	45
Concreting & Paving	43	Rubbish Removal	45
Decks, Patios & Extensions	43	Self Storage	45
Design & Drafting	43	Septic Systems	45
Driveway Maintenance	43	Solar Installation	45
Earthmoving & Excavation	43	Swimming Pools	45
Electricians	43	Television Services	45
Fencing	43	Tiling	45
Floor Sanding & Polishing	43	Transport	45
Garden & Property Maintenance	43	Tree Services	45
Gas Fitters, Suppliers & Servicing	43	Truck Hire & Haulage	45
Guttering	44	Upholstery	45
Handypersons	44	Valuers	45
Health	44	Veterinary Surgeons	45
Hire	44	Water Filters	45
		Welding	45
		Window Cleaning & Repairs	45
		Window Tinting	45

## ACCOUNTANTS & BOOKKEEPERS

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## BUILDING TRADES

• DEPT OF FAIR TRADING: A licence is required for all residential building work where the reasonable market cost of the work to be done (labour and materials) exceeds \$5000 (including GST).



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 New logo - Same quality & service  
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## BUSH REGENERATION



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 • Native forest recovery  
 • Camphor culling

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 Renovations, new work, domestic, commercial, fully insured.  
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 Lic No 452607c



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 QBCC License Number: 15454495  
 @handsoncreationsaus

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[orangestar02@gmail.com](mailto:orangestar02@gmail.com) Lic. 266174C

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## CLEANING

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# Service Directory



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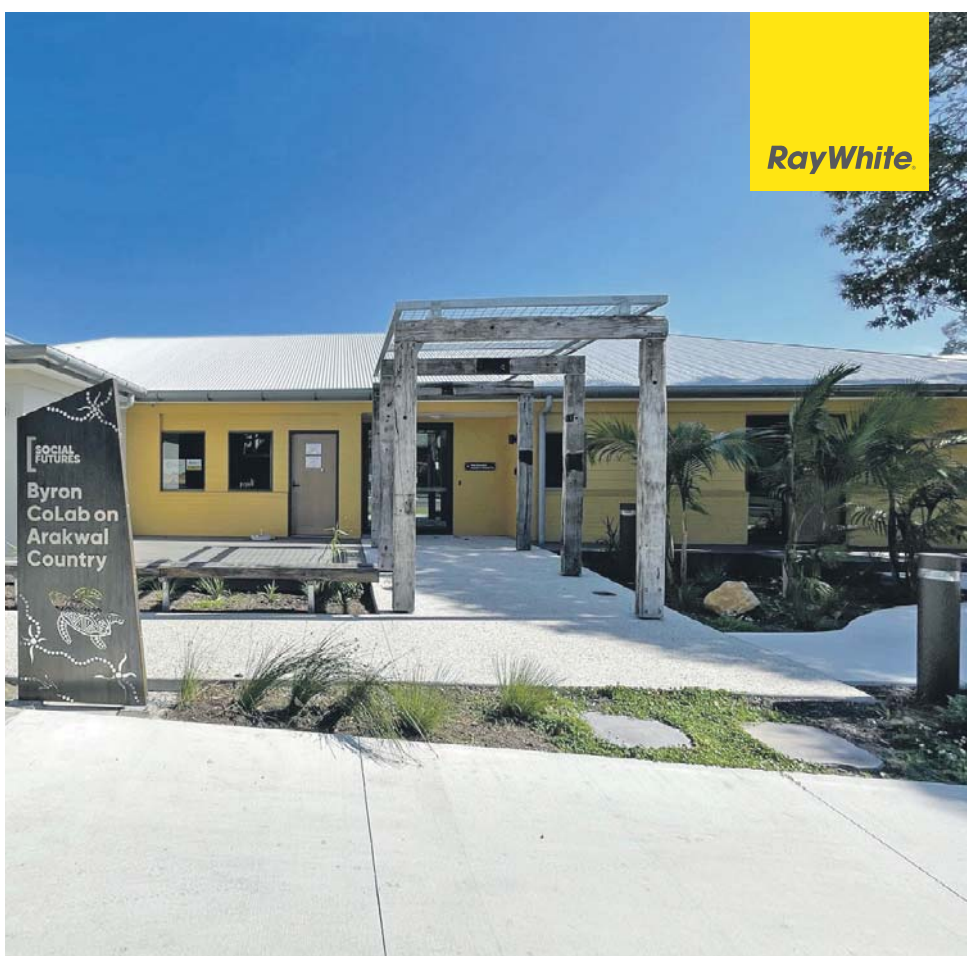


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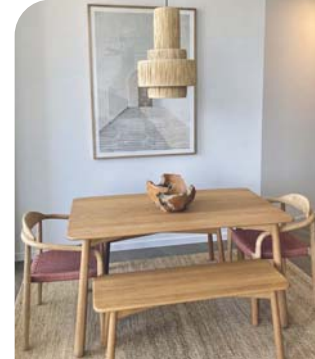
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- 8 Northcott Drive, Goonellabah. Sat 9.45–10.15am
- 26 Palmvale Drive, Goonellabah. Sat 10.30–11am
- 301 Friday Hut Road, Possum Creek. Sat 11.45am–12.15pm

### First National Byron Bay

- 29B Julian Rocks Drive, Byron Bay. Wed 11–11.30am
- 18/6 Firewheel Place, Suffolk Park. Thurs 2.30–3pm
- 22 Offshore Avenue, Skennars Head. Sat 9–9.30am
- 15/24 Scott Street, Byron Bay. Sat 9–9.30am
- 24 Swell Avenue, Skennars Head. Sat 9–9.30am
- 6 Coachwood Close, Byron Bay. Sat 9–9.30am
- 3/2–6 Cemetery Road, Byron Bay. Sat 9–9.30am
- 346 Coorabell Road, Coorabell. Sat 10–10.30am
- 2/37 Childe Street, Byron Bay. Sat 10–10.30am
- 5 Bombora Place, Lennox Head. Sat 10–10.30am
- 56 Parrot Tree Place, Bangalow. Sat 10–10.30am
- 29B Julian Rocks Drive, Byron Bay. Sat 10–10.30am
- 3/60 Lawson Street, Byron Bay. Sat 10–10.30am
- 20 Ridgeland Close, Boat Harbour. Sat 10–10.30am
- 22 Karalauren Court, Lennox Head. Sat 10–10.30am
- 2/8 Julian Rocks Drive, Byron Bay. Sat 10–10.30am
- 12/213 Coorabell Road, Coorabell. Sat 11–11.30am
- 835 Federal Drive, Goonengerry. Sat 11–11.30am
- 10 Muli Court, Myocum. Sat 11–11.30am
- 2/4 Corkwood Crescent, Suffolk Park. Sat 11–11.30am
- 23 Clover Hill Circuit, Bangalow. Sat 11–11.30am
- 18/6 Firewheel Place, Suffolk Park. Sat 12–12.30pm
- 11 Lizray Road, Federal. Sat 12–12.30pm
- 16 Bryce Street, Suffolk Park. Sat 12–12.30pm
- 14 Oakland Court, Byron Bay, Sat 12–12.30pm
- 100 Broken Head Road, Newrybar. Sat 1–1.30pm

- 65 Citriadora Drive, Ewingsdale. Sat 1–1.30pm
- 4/113 Paterson Street, Byron Bay. Sat 1–1.30pm
- 1145 Friday Hut Road, Binna Burra. Sat 2–2.30pm
- 58 Ruskin Street, Byron Bay. Sat 2–2.30pm
- 325 Riverbank Road, Pimlico. Sat 2.30–3pm
- 3 Palm–Lily Crescent, Bangalow. Sat–By Appointment
- 23/24 Scott Street, Byron Bay. Mon 1–1.30pm

### Ray White Byron Bay

- 4 Tamarind Court, Suffolk Park. Thurs 10–10.30am
- 3/66 Lawson Street, Byron Bay. Thurs 2–2.30pm
- 15 Little Burns Street, Byron Bay. Sat 9–9.30am
- 243 Broken Head Road, Suffolk Park. Sat 10–10.30am
- 4 Tamarind Court, Suffolk Park. Sat 10–10.30am
- 1/134 Alcorn Street, Suffolk Park. 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
- 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 Bunjil Place, Byron Bay. Sat 12.30–1pm
- 9 George Street, Bangalow. Sat 1–1.30pm

### Ray White Rural Bangalow

- 400 Dorroughby Road, Dorroughby. Sat 10–10.30am
- 362 Coorabell Road, Coorabell. Sat 11.30am–12pm
- 8 Coachwood Court, Federal. Sat 12.30–1pm

### Ruth Russell Realty

- 6 Murumba Close, Ocean Shores. Sat 11–11.45am
- 73 New City Road, Mullumbimby. Sat 12.30–1.15pm

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### Tim Miller

- 9 Walker Street, Clunes. Sat 9–9.30am
- 11 Booyong Road, Clunes. Sat 9.45–10.15am
- 390 Binna Burra Road, Federal. Sat 10.45–11.15am
- 35 Riverside Drive, Mullumbimby. Sat 12.15–12.45pm

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- 1/34 Coolangatta Rd, Coolangatta. Sat 9–9.30am QLD Time
- 40 Korina Ave, Coolangatta. Sat 9–9.45am QLD Time
- 12/28 Coolangatta Rd, Kirra. Sat 10–10.30am QLD Time
- 1066/20–22 Stuart St, Tweed Heads. Sat 10–10.30am NSW Time
- 5 Pimpala Court, Tugun. Sat 11–11.30am QLD Time
- 35 Navigators Way, Tweed Heads. Sat 11–11.30am NSW Time
- 5/17 Endeavour Parade, Tweed Heads. Sat 12–12.30pm NSW Time
- 33/74 Greenway Drive, Banora Point. Sat 12–12.30pm NSW Time
- 1/305 Golden Four Drive, Bilinga. Sat 12–12.30pm QLD Time
- 4/14 Lorikeet Drive, Tweed Heads South. Sat 12–12.30pm NSW Time

### North Coast Lifestyle Mullumbimby

- 18 Cockatoo Crescent, Mullumbimby. Sat 10–10.45am

## NEW LISTINGS:

### First National Byron Bay

- Lot 3, 12 Davidson Place, Mullumbimby Creek
- 22 Offshore Avenue, Skennars Head
- 231 Sneaths Road, Wollongbar
- 29B Julian Rocks Drive, Byron Bay
- 325 Riverbank Road, Pimlico

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Given federal Labor just passed a law to deport non-citizens to third countries, impose travel bans, reverse protection findings for refugees, and ban phones from detention centres, it's worth remembering that illegal aliens have always been a problem. Just ask any Indigenous Australian.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■  
Congrats to Balloon Aloft, who won gold for Adventure Tourism and Excellence in Accessible Tourism at the NSW Tourism Awards in Sydney last week. They operate flights in Byron Bay, Hunter Valley, Camden Valley, and Mudgee.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■  
*Echo* readers might recall developer Sasha Hopkins, who proposed a rather oversized DA in Bruns some years ago. Hopkins has been fined \$1.25 million and banned from running companies for four years for running unregistered investment schemes without a financial licence. His unlicensed conduct lost investors \$27m, according to a [www.businessnewsaustralia.com](http://www.businessnewsaustralia.com).

■ ■ ■ ■ ■  
A rally is planned on Tuesday, December 10 from 5pm in Lismore's Peace Park (Corner of Ballina Rd/Keen St) to highlight the right to protest, and the plight of whistleblower, David McBride, as well as the right to safe housing. Organisers say it will feature Aiden Ricketts, Eddie Lloyd, and Miriam Torzillo.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■  
New 'Koala Zones' on Broken Head Road, Coolamon Scenic Drive, and Coorabell Road (near Federal) have been established, say Council staff. There are vehicle-activated signs and 'Koala Zone' is painted on the roads.



Cassettes creator, Marissa Treichel (left), has been running her women-centered, regional arts business for 12 bedazzling years! As such, it was time to celebrate and honour The Cassettes with their signature '80s dances. Last Friday night they flashmobbed at Byron College's new Garage Gallery, with 120 guests in tow. Pictured with Marissa are Jake Whitfield and Vicki Lawrence. Photo Jeff, 'Stick A Pencil In Me And Twist' Dawson

■ ■ ■ ■ ■  
Cape Byron Rudolf Steiner School board say that Rachel Knight will become acting principal from December 21, following Kelly McBurnie's resignation last week. Ms Knight will be in the role until such time as a principal is recruited, say the board. They say, 'Rachel currently holds the substantive position of deputy principal and brings a depth of experience and wisdom, having been a parent and staff member at CBRSS for over 20 years'.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■  
Slow clap for Murdoch's News Corp press, who ran double-page spreads, sponsored by the gas industry, masquerading as news.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■  
New pet registration requirements introduced by the NSW Office of Local Government are in place, and Council staff are reminding pet owners

they need microchipping, registration and desexing, as quickly as possible, when

they get a new pet. That's for the pets, obviously :)

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