

Echo

THERE'S ALWAYS ROOM FOR A UNICORN IN YOUR LIFE
The Byron Shire Echo • Volume 39 #49 • May 14, 2025 • www.echo.net.au

New local theatre hits stage



Local actors Sally Davis and Noa Rotem rehearsing *Displace I Call Home*, the debut production from the Byron Theatre Company. Photo Kate Holmes

Paul Bibby

A new era of professional theatre is beginning in Byron Shire, with the launch of *Displace I Call Home*, the debut production of the newly formed Byron Theatre Company (BTC).

Written and directed by local creative Bianca Sirianni, the play marks a significant milestone for the local arts industry and the community more broadly.

It is the first offering from the Shire's own professional theatre company, bringing together some of our most talented locals, along with involvement from local schools and colleges.

Displace I Call Home promises to be a powerful and ambitious first offering from the BTC, which will deliver an annual season of original theatre, alongside creative development programs for regional artists, including mentorships, masterclasses and collaborative residences.

It stars Sally Davis, Noa Rotem and Tom Davies, with choreography by Waangenga Blanco and projection design by Victor Holder.

Blending poetic storytelling, physical theatre, and cinematic projection, the work follows the story of Jacqui, a woman who has spent a lifetime studying problems in the natural world while avoiding her

own. When a terminal diagnosis cuts through her isolation, she's visited by a mysterious bird that draws her into a surreal journey through memory, myth, and healing.

Transmigratory world

Set across the Australian landscape, the play reflects on the meaning of home and belonging in a transmigratory world.

'One of the key themes in the play is that it's easier to look outside ourselves rather than inside,' Ms Sirianni told *The Echo* last week.

'Things can be so difficult to sit with and think about and so we often avoid them. Jacqui's story highlights how important it is to

meet those things so that you can live the richest life that you can.'

Another key theme in the play, Ms Sirianni says, is that of the lyrebird. 'Jacqui has these hallucinations in which she has this connection with a lyrebird,' she says.

'So there's this connection to the spiritual and mythical worlds – an expanded way of being in the world that includes what's underneath and below.'

Displace I Call Home will run from July 2–5 at Byron Theatre.

A fundraising event for the BTC will be held on June 7, with a special screening of the film *The Message of the Lyrebird* followed by a Q&A session with the filmmaker.

Parking permit fees are back

Paul Bibby

Byron Shire residents will be required to pay \$55 a year for a parking permit as of July 1, after councillors voted to reintroduce the fee at last week's meeting.

Less than a year after the permits were abolished by former Mayor Michael Lyon in an attempt to appease those impacted by the introduction of parking meters in Brunswick Heads, it has returned and looks set to stay.

Pensioners and the holders of Centrelink and student concession cards will be exempt from the permit fees.

To fund admin and infrastructure

The main argument made in favour of reintroducing the fee at last week's meeting was that the revenue was needed to pay for the administration of the permit system, and to help fund other Council programs, including basic infrastructure works.

The meeting heard that abolishing the permit fees in September last year had already cost Council in excess of \$400,000, and that it would likely forego \$825,000 a year if this continued.

This did not include the parking revenue lost as a result of the free permits.

'The paid parking scheme in Byron as it existed from 2015 to

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Mali off to compete in Japan

Paddy Nash

Cape Byron Steiner School student, Mali Adam, is continuing her impressive rise in junior surfing, having been selected to compete in the Stab High Japan 2025 surf competition this May.

Known for her grounded nature and quiet determination, Mali, from Class 8, remains modest about the opportunity.

She says, 'I'm just really excited to be heading over to Japan. It'll be amazing to surf with such a great crew. I'm sure I'll come back with some wild stories and hopefully land some good airs!'

Fresh off the back of her win at the SanBah Cadet Cup at Bar Beach in Newcastle last weekend, Mali will be travelling to Japan and



Mali Adam. Photo supplied

competing among some of the world's top young surfers at the PerfectSwell Shizunami wave pool.

Mali will compete in the 'Ladybirds' division (for under 15s), where she'll be competing in the Highest and Best Air category — grip it and rip it, Mali!

Cape Byron Steiner School

is proud to support Mali as she continues to chase her surfing dreams while maintaining a balanced and grounded approach to life.

We wish her the very best in this next exciting chapter of her journey.

■ Paddy Nash is a CBSS teacher and a Class 8 guardian.

Women-only service to start in Byron

A new weekly women-only service has been announced 'to provide safety, dignity and support in the heart of Byron Bay for women experiencing homelessness, domestic violence and financial insecurity.'

It will begin in late May, say organisers.

Managers of the Fletcher Street Cottage say it's an expansion of the Women's Space initiative, which was launched on International Women's Day this year.

They say, 'Held weekly from 1pm to 3pm, after Fletcher Street Cottage closes its general services at midday, Women's Afternoon marks the first time Fletcher Street Cottage has opened

exclusively for women.'

'Women are invited to enjoy an art space, with all art materials provided, and a delicious afternoon tea.'

Growing need

Maddi Powell, Assistant Manager and Community Support Worker at Fletcher Street Cottage, said the new initiative addresses a growing need.

She said, 'Over the past three years, we have seen an increase in women arriving at Fletcher Street Cottage overwhelmed, isolated and unsure where to go.'

'These women are often fleeing domestic and family violence, facing

homelessness and do not have access to basic needs such as food, showers and safe shelter.'

Welcoming space

Powell adds, 'A dedicated Women's Afternoon creates a safe, welcoming space where women can be heard, supported and connected to the help they deserve. Sometimes, a quiet conversation and the right support can change the course of someone's life.'

For more info, visit www.fletcherstreetcottage.com.au, call 6685 7830, email fsc@byroncentre.com.au or visit them at 18 Fletcher Street, Byron Bay.

Councillors intervene with Mullum roadworks debacle

Hans Lovejoy

With the ongoing uncertainty, lack of transparency, and botched public relations around Council's roadworks for the main road into Mullumbimby from Uncle Toms and The Saddle Road, councillors last week unanimously adopted a mayoral minute to outline specific traffic plans and procedures around the project.

It also appears that federal and state funding earmarked for the Mullumbimby Road works was for flood reliance works near Uncle Toms, yet is now being used for general road repairs along the section up to the Mcauleys Lane intersection.

Additionally, the funding amounts differ from those the local MPs announced on May 9, 2024, and what Council's website says.

When asked why, Council staff told *The Echo*, 'For information contained in media releases from the NSW and Australian governments, please contact them directly.'

Three months work

Staff told councillors and the chamber on Thursday the roadworks would now take three months, not five to six, as previously stated.

It is expected to impact approximately 13,000 vehicle movements per day.

In morning access, The Saddle Road residents accused Council staff of removing high conservation value vegetation on their

road, including an Endangered Ecological Community.

Matthew O'Reilly told the chamber that procedures should have been followed but weren't, and it was a 'complete failure between middle management down to those on the ground'.

Emergency works?

The Echo asked staff if it was correct to say The Saddle Road works were called 'emergency works' (under Division 17 of the Transport and Infrastructure SEPP), but will instead facilitate upgrades to allow its use as a detour for the Mullumbimby Road works.

Council staff told *The Echo* that road vegetation clearing on The Saddle Road 'has been done as part of funded emergency work in the wake of damage done by Ex-Tropical Cyclone Alfred'.

'Pruning has been carried out as part of emergency work to remove dangerous limbs on some trees.'

'This was based on assessments from an independent arborist.'

'Claims Council is clearing vegetation as part of the Mullumbimby Road upgrade project are incorrect,' they said.

Blindsided

Resident Kirsty Nugent told the chamber that residents were blindsided with the announcement of a traffic detour past their homes, which was shortly followed by road crews clearing

vegetation – without notice.

'We are still in the dark,' she said, adding that residents were told their road would remain a cul-de-sac.

Staff later told the chamber a meeting with residents is planned, with a date yet to be determined.

Large Myocum DA exhibition unclear

Meanwhile, *The Echo* has asked Council staff why public exhibition for DA 10.2023.454.1, an exclusive large 38 lot greenfield proposal at 53 Myocum Road, was extended from May 9 to May 19, and then back to May 9.

While the DA is no longer on Council's website, it is also the subject of botched assessment and advertising.

The DA comes with fierce opposition from neighbours, who have provided a long list of issues around traffic and other areas.

The Echo last week reported that Council planning staff admitted to assisting wealthy developers with their large DA near the Mullumbimby Road and Mcauleys Lane intersection.

Staff claim they approached a separate land-owner around land acquisition at the intersection, which would benefit the developers' proposal, yet also provide improved traffic safety.

Despite the claim, the land acquisition was not required for Council's own traffic works, they said.



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Have your say on Council's Pest Animal Management Plan

We'd like your feedback on the Pest Animal Management Plan 2025-2030.

Submit your feedback via the Your Say page on Council's website by Thursday 12 June 2025.

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Ready for Bangalow's day at the races?

Buckle in – Bangalow's Billycart Derby is on this Sunday! It's hosted by Bangalow Lions Club – President Greg Nash says, 'It's all about having fun, happy snaps and families and friends getting together. The first race starts at 9am.'

There will also be a lunch-time street parade, with Big Dog making an appearance, along with a special performance by Bunny Racket on the main street.

The Bangalow Public School and Bangalow Lions will also host the 'Pit Stop fun fair' with rides, kids entertainment, great food options, raffles and prizes.

■ For more info, see page 18 for the special *Echo* feature.



Dominic, Delilah-Darling and Princess Florence did a safety inspection on The Cellar Bangalow's billycart, ahead of the Billycart Derby. Photo Eve Jeffery

Locals' parking permit fees are back, July 1

► Continued from page 1 September 2024... worked smoothly, efficiently, for the better part of nine years,' said Deputy Mayor Jack Dods (Independent), who moved the motion to reintroduce the fees, along with Mayor Sarah Ndiaye.

'It created a pool of money to administer the resident parking permits, which meant that the money generated by paid parking was set aside for improvement works in Byron and other places in the Shire, outside of Byron Bay.

'I understand that the free permits were brought in as a carrot to help alleviate the pain that some residents were fearful of when Brunswick Heads got paid parking.

'That said, I think the system as it currently exists has a lot of holes, and the previous system worked much better. We need that extra money to pay the admin costs, and whatever is left over can be spent on improvements to our towns and villages.'

The arguments made by councillors Dods and Ndiaye were enough to convince a bare majority of councillors to support reintroducing the permit fee, but there was strong opposition from Labor and the other independent councillors.

Labor Cr Asren Pugh said that the only reason why residents had accepted parking meters in Brunswick Heads was the promise that they could get a free permit and would therefore not have to pay for parking.

'It was a decision by the Council to alleviate resident concerns,' Cr Pugh said.

'And these were not just from people in Brunswick Heads, they were from Mullum and Ocean Shores, people who use Brunswick Heads because it is a beautiful, wonderful place to go.'

However, the meeting heard that the Brunswick Heads Progress Association which had previously supported the abolition of the permit fees, now supported their reintroduction.

Progress association in support

'The Brunswick Heads Progress Association supports the reintroduction of the \$55 fee for paid parking permits in the Byron Shire, as clearly Byron Shire Council doesn't have the funds to enforce compliance of paid parking in Brunswick Heads,' association representative Leone Bolt said.

'Yes, the waiver of the fee... was the carrot that got paid parking over the line in Brunswick Heads.

'At the time our association supported this move. However, by the time paid parking was being implemented we were changing our mind because our town was run down, degraded, and overrun by van lifers.'

But the Brunswick Heads Chamber of Commerce took a different view.

In a submission read out during last week's meeting, the Chamber called for the abolition of permit fees to be delayed until business data supporting the proposal had been released to the public, and until Mullumbimby and Bangalow had been properly assessed for the

introduction of paid parking so that Brunswick Heads wasn't 'unfairly targeted'.

'We're not here to oppose everything that Council puts forward, we're asking for a fair go,' Chamber representative, Peter Harvey said.

'Some of you know what it's like to run a small business. The fragility is real. We want a pause so that when change comes it's backed by evidence, fairness and proper process.'

Cr Ndiaye (Greens) acknowledged that reintroducing permit fees would not be popular among some in the Shire, but said that the change was necessary.

'Of course it's not fun, and I'm obviously getting abuse from every angle online at the moment,' Cr Ndiaye said.

'But the cost of the permit is equivalent to half a tank of petrol. It's not that much to contribute for people to have better disability access, and better curbs and guttering. This money gets invested

into the towns where people live and valuing those permits is about valuing our community and the privilege of having a car and driving it into the middle of town.'

'I'll take the flak', says Mayor Ndiaye

'I'll take the flak, because I know what it means to be able to do the projects that we want to do. We all have dreams for this place, and this is just one way that helps to contribute to those dreams.'

Council also voted to reintroduce permits for non-resident ratepayers and those living in towns which border the Shire.

For the past eight months, the members of these groups have had to pay the standard hourly parking meter rate.

These permits will cost \$110 a year.

All Greens councillors and Cr Dods voted in favour, while Crs Lyon, Pugh, Swain and Warth voted against.

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Find out more, contact the Chief Electrical Engineer, Sapoty, via: goodtechbiz@gmail.com

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Shedding celebrates birthday – on tools



Woodwork for Women's Patt Gregory, far left, and the Shedding Community Workshop Inc. founder, Sophie Wilksch, far right, celebrated the seventh birthday of Shedding over the weekend at the Prince Street, Mullumbimby venue. It was a 'tools up and tools down' event, including a workshop on using saws. Photo Eve Jeffery

Pest Animal Management Plan on exhibition

Byron Shire Council's Draft Pest Animal Management Plan (PAMP) for the next five years is on public exhibition until June 12.

Claudia Caliarì, Council's Biodiversity Projects Officer, is encouraging people who are interested in the environment and protection of native plants and animals, to review the plan.

The Byron Shire Pest Animal Management Plan is a document that explains how Council will manage, or control, pest animals on Council-owned land.

Biodiversity threat

'Pest animals are a significant threat to biodiversity and can cause enormous damage to our natural

environment and can be a burden to local farmers,' Ms Caliarì said.

'It focuses only on land-based vertebrate pests which, put simply, means animals with backbones like foxes, rabbits and deer, that live on land,' she said.

To make a submission on the PAMP, visit www.byron.nsw.gov.au.

Byron school commits to reconciliation plan

The Byron Community Primary School (BCPS) proudly announced the launch of its Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP), calling it 'a powerful commitment to fostering a future of respect, equity, and cultural understanding'.

In a statement, the school says, 'RAP outlines our vision for a caring, respectful, and connected future, guided by the knowledge and perspectives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.'

Ella Noah Bancroft, CEO of The Returning Indigenous Corporation, consulted on the school's RAP. She says, 'We all have a valuable opportunity to step back and reconsider the beliefs and systems that have shaped us and influenced our thinking. Prioritising Indigenous leadership, knowledge systems, and lore is one of the most important things we can do in this current time for the next generations and ensuring our actions and choices are steps towards collective liberation, connection and care.'

Tony Cross, Principal of Byron Community Primary School, said, 'BCPS is



A teacher and students from Byron Community Primary School. Photo supplied

dedicated to engaging in meaningful relationships and deepening its commitment to reconciliation. Walking side-by-side with the local Arakwal Bumberlin and Bundjalung Nation Elders and community members, we are committed to building meaningful and respectful relationships.'

Care for Country

'We are dedicated to learning from, and caring for, Bundjalung Country, while embedding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives into our curriculum and everyday practices.'

Principal Cross says the

RAP sets out specific actions to ensure that BCPS students not only learn about the rich cultural heritage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, but also develop a deeper respect for the land and sea Country that sustains our community.

'Through this ongoing commitment, BCPS hopes to contribute to a future where all people stand together with respect for each other's cultures and histories,' he says.

The school is located at 53 Tennyson Street, Byron Bay. For more information visit www.bcps.org.au/rap.

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49 lots now approved for Bayside

Paul Bibby

Is the stormwater drainage system in Bayside, Brunswick Heads heading for a major failure as insufficient infrastructure struggles under the weight of growing demand?

This was the concern expressed by a resident last week, as councillors considered an expansion of lot numbers at an already approved greenfield development at 35 Bayside Way.

During public access at last week's Byron Shire Council meeting, resident Annie Radermacher called for a moratorium on any further construction of housing at the site after another flooding incident.

'We need this because of the failure of the existing water drains in Bayside,' she said.

No funds available

'I've been told by Council's stormwater department that there are no funds available to upgrade the system. The system, as told to me, is too small, [and] does not meet today's engineering standards in terms of the construction of stormwater drains.

'Also, I was told six years ago that the stormwater boxes are too small for the amount of stormwater that we have. There has been no excavation of the stormwater drains, hence the recent flooding of the pod [village] carpark site.

'I'm just one of the many concerned residents. We have not received any assurances from Council in terms of work being done to upgrade the dysfunctional system.'

The owners of the site at 35 Bayside Way already have permission for a total of 47 lots and were seeking permission to increase this to 49.

Council planning staff recommended that the modification application be approved, stating that it addressed the relevant constraints applying to the site.

They also said the project would 'provide for much needed housing supply.'

'The proposed development meets all relevant planning instruments and controls, including the minimum lot size of 450m² for residential lots,' Council staff said.

'There are no significant

environmental impacts that cannot be managed.'

The planner hired by the developer, Stephen Connolly, further reiterated these findings, and said that it would not 'in any way exacerbate' the stormwater problems in Bayside.

'The stormwater from this development will be discharged more or less immediately into the river system,' Mr Connolly said.

'So, after being detained, and the water quality matters addressed, there won't be any change occurring to the system backing further into the locality. We're neutral in terms of those aspects.'

But Ms Radermacher disagrees.

'Unfortunately, where this particular development is going to is closer to the river but it's still going to go into our stormwater drain,' she said.

'Our stormwater drain doesn't cope now. It's causing flooding further back up.'

Concerns ignored

Councillors appeared to disregard Ms Radermacher's concerns. The modification application was approved unanimously.



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Meet the woman behind vital work supporting Kenyan kids

Photo & story Eve Jeffery

WARNING: Readers are advised that this story contains information about sexual abuse and domestic violence.

A baby in Australia was the rock that a charity in Kenya was built on 13 years ago – a charity that supports dozens upon dozens of child rape victims.

Rafiki Mwema founder, Sarah Rosborg, says that the birth of her child prompted her to remember the babies she had met in Kenya.

‘Thirteen years ago, it started as an Australian charity. I had worked in Nakuru, Kenya, at an orphanage, and supported that orphanage for many years before I had my daughter. So I knew a lot of people in that town and stayed in touch with them’.

Through contact with other people in the area, Rosborg saw the need to support girls who had been raped.

Nowhere to go

‘From babies to teenagers, from the moment they’re raped, they go to the “children’s department” or the police station, from that moment until they go to court – there was nowhere for these young girls to go, especially if the rape happened at home – they can’t return there’, she said.

‘They needed a safe house before they went to court, but none of the children’s homes would take them because there’s a real stigma around sexual abuse.’

‘They just don’t want to touch it. So they were putting these kids in remand, which is like a jail for kids.



Rafiki Mwema founder, Sarah Rosborg.

‘The children needed a safe house before they went to court, but none of the children’s homes would take them’

– Sarah Rosborg

‘Imagine a three-year-old gets raped, is terrified, then is forced to leave their home...’

Rosborg said that there was a need for the victims to have a safe place to live until the children could go to court to testify.

‘On Kenyan time, that could be two or three months.’

Rafiki (friend) Mwema (loyal) began in a rented house, but within two weeks the house was full. There were 24 girls.

Since then, Rosborg has created a space that includes 46 staff on a 14-acre farm, two boys’ houses, two girls’ houses, a special needs house, a school, a sustainable farm with crops, cows, and chickens.

Guards, dogs and electric fences

‘We have Maasai guards that protect our children, because people try to get rid of “evidence” – that is:

the girls. We have seven German Shepherd dogs protecting them, as well as an electric fence all the way around.

‘We also have a feeding program in town.

‘It’s called Rafiki Matani, which translates to “a friend on the street”. And we feed 100 children every single day, seven days a week.’

Rosborg says it grew a lot faster than she had planned. ‘I was a full-time mum with a full-time business and other personal issues, so I didn’t have the energy to take Rafiki on – but I had to.’

Financial cost

Apart from the personal cost, there is of course the financial cost – apart from managing Rafiki, Rosborg has to raise funds.

When *The Echo* asked Rosborg how much it costs a year to run Rafiki, she said that she can’t think about it.

‘To be honest, I go on a monthly basis. I can’t go on yearly, but at a minimum, it’s about AU\$55,000 a month’.

Rafiki Mwema’s biggest fundraiser is held in Australia and is on this Saturday in Lennox Head – details are in *Seven*, on page 22.

For more info visit www.rafikimwema.com.

Councillors accused of lack of support around large flood-prone development

Mullumbimby resident Kate Walsh addressed councillors at last week’s meeting around Council’s lack of engagement and support when it came to her neighbourhood facing large-scale inappropriate development on flood-prone land.

The Echo has previously reported on developer Callum Sked’s proposal to develop 37 dwellings on vacant land, which is a considerable increase in bulk and scale from surrounding homes.

He recently won against Council over a deemed refusal of the first DA for the consolidation of lots. The second DA for the dwellings is expected to be in court in September.

Ms Walsh told Council, ‘After a year of uncertainty, I want to thank you for finally making Council’s position on this development clear, and providing the community with much needed clarity.’

‘However, it is disappointing that this public statement was issued when the second DA was refused.’

‘This is the first official communication from Council on the matter.’

‘There have been no motions in Council, no reports, no formal engagement, despite overwhelming concern from the community since the developer’s first consultation last year.’

She said, ‘The development is widely opposed in the community, with more than 100 submissions for both the DAs, [it included] public meetings, and numerous newspaper articles’.

‘Yet both DAs proceeded with little scrutiny, and were granted deemed refusals, never appearing on a Council agenda.’

‘We want to know why. The issues remain

‘The onus should not be on the community to request information on major developments that could threaten their homes. That’s your job’

– Resident Kate Walsh

serious – there’s the potential for 37 dwellings in a low-density flood-prone area, outdated and inadequate flood modelling that ignores the 2022 flood event, where we saw the site inundated by half a metre or more of fast moving water... less than 20m from where these houses will be built.

‘Residents fear increased flood risk to neighbours, loss of insurance, strain on failing infrastructure and traffic hazards.’

‘Although pitched as a build to rent, the developer has admitted the homes may be sold after one year. This is not affordable housing, it is speculative development not a community-driven solution.’

Not opposed to housing

‘To be clear, our community is not opposed to housing. We would support a smaller development, 12 homes, elevated with proper flood mitigation and green space. What is proposed fails on every single front.’

‘Finally, regarding the ongoing process: only today, after a concerned resident specifically requested it, was a Council staff member nominated to give her updates ahead of the September [court] meeting.’

‘The onus should not be on the community to request information on major developments that

could threaten their home. That’s your job.

‘This reactive ad hoc approach is inappropriate.’

‘We request that if the second DA is withdrawn, or amended, then the entire community be promptly notified, and any new amendment

should trigger a new public exhibition period with the opportunity for fresh objections’, Ms Walsh added.

After she had finished, Greens Mayor Sarah Ndiaye said, ‘Duly noted’. There were no questions from councillors. Later in the meeting, Council’s legal counsel, Matt Meir, told the chamber that Council had refused the second housing DA, which is now before the courts.

Greens Mayor Sarah Ndiaye told *The Echo*, ‘I want to acknowledge the residents’ frustration and the feeling that their concerns have not been adequately represented. However, once a matter is before the Land and Environment Court, Council’s role is limited’.

‘Council did request that both DAs be considered together to give a more holistic view of the development’s impact. Unfortunately, that request was rejected’.

‘While the system may not reflect the values or expectations of our community, I remain committed to transparency and to advocating for better planning outcomes’, Cr Ndiaye said.

Walsh told *The Echo*, ‘If we had known earlier that the Council was going to take such a strong position against it, much angst in the community could have been avoided, along with significant costs spent by residents on town planners and advertising’.



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

Visitor economy focus of three-day conference in Kingscliff

Kingscliff will see an influx of local councillors and local government professionals from Monday, 26 May to Wednesday, 28 May as Tweed Shire Council hosts the 2025 local government NSW Destination and Visitor Economy Conference.

Businesses seeking a strong voice for the Northern Rivers launch Lismore Alliance

Lismore Alliance, a group of Northern Rivers (and Lismore-based) businesses, was launched last week to 'create a unified voice for positive change'.

Are you concerned about the future of Tweed Shire?

Looking towards the future, Tweed Shire Council are looking to engage with residents on how it will ensure a sustainable future for residents and visitors.

Coastal sea police seizure of more than a tonne of cocaine

Police say Organised Crime Squad detectives have charged five men after the seizure of more than a tonne of cocaine found on board a vessel off the NSW coast.

Lismore's Santin Quarry DA 'invalid'

The fight to ensure Lismore's Santin Quarry operated within the law has been going on since before 2019 when the owner Michael Bruno Santin began seeking to extend the life of the quarry under its existing 1992 approval.

Landsharing, affordable housing event, May 24

A free event called 'Landsharing, Affordable Housing and Community' will be held at the Nimbin Hall on Saturday, May 24 from 10am to 5pm - all are welcome.

Love Lennox is in the air again

The Love Lennox festival will return to the shores of Seven Mile Beach next month, transforming the town's main street into an explosion of food, art, and entertainment.

www.echo.net.au

Close Evans Head to Ballina Beach for 4WDs

The Richmond Valley Council (RVC) section of the Evans Head to Ballina Beach continues to be trashed, with four wheel drives (4WDs) and motorbikes the main culprits say locals.

The active abuse has not let up despite various and repeated warnings of penalties and risk of beach closure for years,' say residents.

'RVC is 'missing-in-action' when it comes to follow-up and compliance.

'Yes, Council does show up from time-to-time but this is a rare event. And even when it does turn up it doesn't seem to be during busy periods when the 4WDs are trashing the beach and Broadwater National Park,' said a spokesperson for Evans Head Residents.

Not enough resources

During the Goldcoral case (Iron Gates) in the Land & Environment Court in June last year RVC admitted it didn't have the resources to manage what it is responsible for now.



Filled in area again trashed by 4WDs in Broadwater National Parks despite signage prohibiting such activity, 28 April 2025. Photo supplied

'So if it doesn't have the resources, then Council needs to close the beach to all vehicular traffic except for professional fishers and compliance agency vehicles such as police and National Parks,' said the spokesperson.

'Vehicles have not only reestablished the old tracks through the dunes but also through ephemeral wetlands in Broadwater National Park itself. Illegal campsites and fires are also clearly in evidence. So how much did the work done by National Parks

cost in dollar terms and what steps are they now taking to have the beach closed in view of what appears to be a total waste of resources because of active abuse by 4WD users.'

The residents group has also highlighted that 4WD beach users often bring their dogs that are in turn impacting the local wildlife as they let them run free and in areas outside the dog beach.

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

Tuckean Swamp and stockyards at Alstonville

David Lowe

Ballina Council's last meeting saw progress on Tuckean Swamp, while Mayor Cadwallader maintained her support for the stockyards at Alstonville Showground, despite residents' objections.

Council deferred its decision on a planning proposal in relation to five Teven test properties, in order to obtain further information from the relevant department, and invite a briefing on conservation zones.

All councillors voted to include consideration of a skatepark at Alstonville in the preparation of a master plan for Geoff Watt Oval.

Ballina Bowling and Recreation Club was given another year's licence to

operate at peppercorn rent.

Rescission fails

A rescission motion on Council's controversial approval of an illegally constructed stock holding yard at Alstonville Showground failed to move councillors, with the casting vote of Mayor Sharon Cadwallader breaking the deadlock in favour of the development.

Crs Therese Crollick, Simon Chate, Erin Karsten, Kiri Dicker and Phil Meehan took the opposite position.

Richmond River

Crs Kiri Dicker and Therese Crollick had more success with their next motion, to acknowledge the immense cultural, environmental, social and

economic values brought to the people of Ballina Shire by Maamang/the Richmond River, and to do something about one of the principal causes of the recent mass fish kills, by improving flood management options in the Tuckean Swamp, if necessary by reacquiring floodprone land.

An approval for an increase in management costs for the Ballina War Memorial Pool was approved.

Rate rise

Councillors also voted unanimously to commence a consultation process to seek an additional 11 per cent increase on top of an estimated 3.25 per cent rate peg increase, over a four year period from 2026.

Protests continue against RA's house demolitions

Mia Armitage

Around 150 people gathered in intermittently wet weather in Lismore on Saturday to share frustrations over the NSW Reconstruction Authority's (NSW RA) management of recovery processes for disaster-impacted homes.

Event co-organiser Duncan Wilson told *The Echo* on Monday he thought community legal action would probably be necessary to prevent more housing demolition and the weekend's rally was largely symbolic.

The Reconstruction Authority last month said 112 demolitions had been ordered across the Northern Rivers as part of its Resilient Homes Program, with at least 50 having already happened and another 62 due to happen by mid-2025.

Most of the homes were in Lismore, including in North Lismore's Pine Street where squatters from near and far attracted media attention last year for occupying houses sold to the state government through the program.

Disappearing houses in a housing crisis

Mr Wilson said the housing crisis in Lismore had been getting worse for years. 'We've got disappearing houses, a lot of people who need somewhere to live and the RA has made it very difficult for people to get licences to occupy,' he said.

'Initial offers of land swaps never really came to fruition, we'd like more transparency around that and there was nothing salvaged from any of these houses,' he said.

The NSW RA last week said more than 350 homeowners included in the buyback program, or more than half the program participants, had saved materials from the houses for reuse.

Homeowners were said to have taken windows, doors, solar panels and systems, ceiling fans and air conditioning, kitchen and bathroom fixtures, fittings and appliances, sheds, rainwater tanks, fencing and carports.

The announcement came about a month after the agency said 63 tonnes

of hardwood had been salvaged from buyback home demolitions for reuse, with the rest understood to be going to green waste where it would be mulched or potentially incinerated.

Meanwhile, Mr Wilson said he followed a demolition truck from Lismore to a centre on the Gold Coast where he saw materials dumped rather than salvaged.

He is calling for more transparency around the recycling of bought-back houses, as well as costs of demolition compared to house relocation.

Tiny houses to be presented to RA

Protesters on Saturday heard from speakers including members of The Greens, Sue Higginson, a Member of the NSW Legislative Council, and recent federal candidate for Page, Luke Robertson.

Community groups Reclaim our Recovery (ROR) and House You were also involved in the weekend's protest, Mr Wilson said, but key organisers like himself were acting independently of organisations.

Cultural and historical value

They facilitated brainstorming sessions for local housing solutions on Saturday, he said, and created miniature cardboard houses containing direct messages to authorities.

'There were also lots of solutions such as: warehousing Big Scrub homes on land already owned by RA in East Lismore, making Lismore City a nature-based destination with large-scale rewilding, putting tiny homes and relocatables on empty blocks, enabling First Nations knowledge to lead in the design and planning of a future Lismore, making good decisions now such as raising houses in less risky areas and establishing off-grid neighbourhood developments including through land sharing,' said ROR's Miriam Torzillo.

'The economic, cultural and historic value of these houses was reiterated by many, and there was pretty much unanimous agreement that Lismore could set the standard for future post-disaster recovery programs.'

Janelle Saffin MP
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Freedom flotilla ship attacked, local man safe

A local man has told *The Echo* he is safe after a Palestinian humanitarian aid effort he is part of was attacked by drones in international waters near Malta recently.

In a media statement, organisers of the Freedom Flotilla Coalition say Australian human rights activists were about to board a vessel carrying much needed aid destined for Gaza, 'where no aid trucks have been permitted entry since March 2, 2025'.

The statement reads that on May 2, 'Armed drones attacked the front of an unarmed civilian vessel twice, causing a fire and a substantial breach in the hull'.

'The drone strike appears to have deliberately targeted the ship's generator, leaving the crew without power and placing the vessel at great risk of sinking.'



Surya McEwen
Photo Herberto Smith

'Under international maritime law and conventions, Malta is obliged to act and ensure the safety of a civilian ship in distress within its proximity. The lack of response and information about the rescue efforts breaches international customary law.'

Law violated

'Israeli ambassadors must be summoned and answer to violations of international law, including the ongoing blockade and the bombing

of our civilian vessel in international waters', said the statement.

The Echo reported in April 2024 that Surya McEwen volunteered on the flotilla.

He said at the time, 'This type of operation has never been done in an active war zone. This makes the risk and necessity accentuated, there has been lots of voyages undertaken by the flotillas, but never at this scale'.

McEwen told *The Echo* last week, 'Just arrived home from Malta, and got reunited with my phone. Sixty humanitarians from 22 countries were planning to sail to Gaza with aid'.

'Eighteen people were on the ship when it was bombed twice, just after midnight on May 2, while the other 40 were preparing to join the ship a few hours later'.

Shift Project needs your second-hand clothing

The annual pre-loved SHIFT clothing sale is on again on June 28 at the Byron Bay Surf Club.

Organisers are asking for good quality clothing that you no longer wear to donate to the sale.

Leslie Ford from Red

Ginger says, 'Donations can be dropped into the Bell & Ford store in Bangalow, or the Red Ginger store in Byron Bay anytime now'.

'The heart of the SHIFT Project is to educate and empower women at risk of homelessness, helping them

regain control over their lives and futures. The pre-loved clothing sale directly supports this noble endeavour' she says.

'More than just a fundraiser, the sale embodies the values of sustainability and community', Leslie added.



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Volume 39 #49 • May 14, 2025

Diversity blooms after Voldemort

Congratulations, Sussan Ley, who has become the first federal Liberal leader with two X chromosomes.

It's a first for the party in its 80-year history – as the first woman in charge of the opposition party, she will no doubt try and entice other females into the party.

But if you are thinking the Liberals have fully embraced gender diversity (it's perhaps the only diversity they can manage atm), think again.

The vote for her leadership was close – she edged out treasury spokesperson Angus Taylor by 29 votes to 25.

It's a reminder that there is a scene for every conceivable political situation in the ancient satirical BBC series *Yes Minister* and *Yes Prime Minister*.

At one closed-door meeting scene, middle-aged pompous men sit around a table and say they support women being in government. Then, one-by-one they go around explaining how women wouldn't suit their various departments.

So well done, to the Liberal Party, for acknowledging that the party needs to improve its look (by 29 to 25 votes).

Being closely associated with the failure of the Liberal campaign is going to be a hard sell. Both Taylor and Ley are of the old worldly politik, and were dutiful senior foot-soldiers of Dutton's senior team.

Well done Angus

Taylor has a long, long list of controversies and stuff ups on his Wiki page.

He is perhaps most well known for supporting himself on social media: 'Fantastic. Great move. Well done Angus.'

Others include misleading parliament, and being accused of using \$80 million of taxpayers' money to buy water licences from two Qld properties owned by Eastern Australia



Newly appointed Liberal leader, Sussan Ley, can fly planes.

Agriculture (EAA), of which Taylor was a former director.

He was also accused of forging a City of Sydney Council document and providing it to *The Daily Telegraph*, after Lord Mayor of Sydney, Clover Moore, asked that his government declare a climate emergency.

Former commercial pilot Sussan Ley began in politics in 2001 under former PM John Howard.

Around that time, Howard brought in policy settings that jacked up the price of housing, and made it unaffordable for future generations to own a home.

Throughout the decades, Ley served under the abysmal Abbott, Turnbull and Morrison governments.

In 2017, Ley resigned as health minister after using a taxpayer-funded trip to purchase an apartment on the Gold Coast.

Behaviour like that in the olden days would have ended careers, but as Trump now proves, you can be gifted jumbo planes and receive military parades. It's open slather and political ethics have all but vanished.

Ms Ley now faces the mammoth task of presenting a coherent governing alternative to Labor.

The Liberal-Nationals Coalition currently hold just 42 seats in the House of Representatives, compared to the government's 93, with three electorates still too close to call.

Hans Lovejoy, editor

Will there ever be Habemus mama?

Puffs of chemical pollution from a temporary chimney installed on top of the Sistine Chapel by Vatican handymen and firefighters heralds the selection of the new pope.

Inside the chapel, underneath the famous ceiling painted with Michelangelo's frescoes depicting Old Testament narratives and *The Last Judgement*, the double stoves are placed with their combined flue carefully installed and scaffolded to not damage the precious artwork.

It can take a few days for the conclave of cardinals to reach a decision, so to keep the assembled masses in Saint Peter's Square enthralled they send out smoke signals.

For viewers at home it's alluring, in a reality TV kind of way, to await the big reveal, to see who won the contest without having to endure all the episodes.

Still, I wouldn't mind knowing who the runner up was.

The medieval communication ritual is binary: black smoke no pope, white smoke new pope - Habemus papam!

But where there's smoke there's combustion, so how is it done? To communicate the yin or yang of the conclave's daily deliberations, the cardinal's ballots are burned in one stove and in the other either a pre-packaged chemical mixture of potassium perchlorate, anthracene and sulfur is burned to make thick black smoke, or, for the pure white smoke, potassium chlorate, lactose and pine resin.

Previously, straw with varying levels of dampness was used to make black smoke and dry straw for white smoke, but as any camper who's tried to start a fire with damp material knows, it makes for a lot of grey smoke which just ended up confusing people.

Notwithstanding the Catholic church's acknowledgment of climate change and Pope Francis's direct advocacy, when you think about it, a chimney billowing smoke is a recalcitrant symbol for the times.

Although it's no coal-fired power station, it still screams burning carbon, sending all the wrong



'The patriarchy is not inevitable, it hasn't existed since the dawn of time, it was constructed, and can be deconstructed'

– Jo Immig

signals about prospects for a renewable future.

The archaic ritual is apparently done in the name of transparency and to prevent vote tampering.

Vote tampering at the Vatican! Call me a stickler for record keeping, but I would have thought burning such important ballots was an egregious destruction of historical documents and shows a distinct lack of commitment to accountability.

The pope smoke ritual dates to the 1400s, yes when witches were being hunted and tried, but the chimney version didn't get puffing until the 18th century, coinciding with the Industrial Revolution. Despite calls for modernisation over decades, the ritual has remained 'a moment of continuity with centuries of tradition' according to the church.

Cosmic smoke

I like a waft of cosmic smoke towards the heavens as much as anyone, but isn't it time for some centuries old traditions to step aside?

Not to detract from the solemnity of the task, the church could consider electrifying and making the switch to a solar-powered windmill which could turn anti-clockwise for a 'no' decision and clockwise for a 'yes' decision. Instead of burning ballot papers, they could archive them for future reference or anaerobically digest them for biogas.

While any baptised Catholic male is canonically eligible to be elected pope, theoretically even the newly converted J.D Vance, let's face it, we'll never see a puff of pink smoke selecting a female pope while the patriarchy is still in charge, will we?

Nope. No Habemus mama! Women don't even have the vote at the Vatican. Forget the glass ceiling, those sisters must contend with missionary men and the Sistine ceiling.

If you take a closer look at Michelangelo's representations though, there's a clue for us all.

In his depiction of *The Creation of Adam*, there's a young woman nestled under God's arm, holding onto to him, with her gaze fixed on Adam. It's said she is Sophia, Divine Wisdom herself, and God's companion throughout all acts of co-creation.

I'm no biblical scholar, but according to *Proverbs*, mankind can only access the kingdom of heaven by finding Wisdom, 'for in her is life and in life the Lord'.

Michelangelo has often been criticised for his muscular depictions of women, but other scholars suggest holiness has both male and female aspects; 'androgyny is godliness'.

So many civilisations of the past, and still today, are matrilineal societies. Women were leaders, strong and powerful under the sky, not subdued by ceilings or patriarchal notions of gender or sexuality.

The patriarchy is not inevitable, it hasn't existed since the dawn of time, it was constructed and can be deconstructed.

While Catholics were still mourning the death of Pope Francis, time-warp Trump ruffled a few cassocks by releasing an AI-generated picture of himself as a wannabe pope.

It was shared by the official White House on X. What do you make of that? He was accused of 'pathological megalomania' after admitting to reporters 'I'd like to be pope'.

I pray to Sophia that Wisdom prevails, and soon.

■ 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.



The Byron Shire Echo

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Phone: 02 6684 1777

Editorial/news: editor@echo.net.au

Advertising: adcopy@echo.net.au

Office: 64 McGoughans Lane, Mullumbimby NSW 2482

General Manager Simon Haslam

Editor Hans Lovejoy

Deputy Editor Aslan Shand

Photographer Jeff Dawson

Advertising Manager Anna Coelho

Production Manager Ziggi Browning



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.

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

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Unapproved dwellings

Finally, some common sense regarding unapproved dwellings in the Byron Shire. In a recent article, coming from no less than a former Byron Shire Council planning director, Ray Darney: 'Upgrades to a safe standard rather than demolition or meeting the current Building Code of Australia is the way forward and the NSW Ombudsman's Enforcement Guidelines provides these options.'

Also, '... that's what we did at the time, and that's why I believe you can get a certification from an engineer that the building is not going to fall down. Then Council building surveyors can have a look and say, they've got adequate toilet, shower, cooking facilities, etc, then the Council has the ability, in my opinion, to be able outright give a letter saying that they will allow that occupation.'

Maybe the Council's general manager's head should roll if he does not exhibit some sensible, compassionate oversight.

Hailing from Brisbane, I find the occupancy limits on rural blocks very sparse compared to medium-density city areas; I mean there is nothing but SPACE.

People on low incomes and others will eventually vacate the area if it really becomes unaffordable, as has happened en masse in inner-city Brisbane.

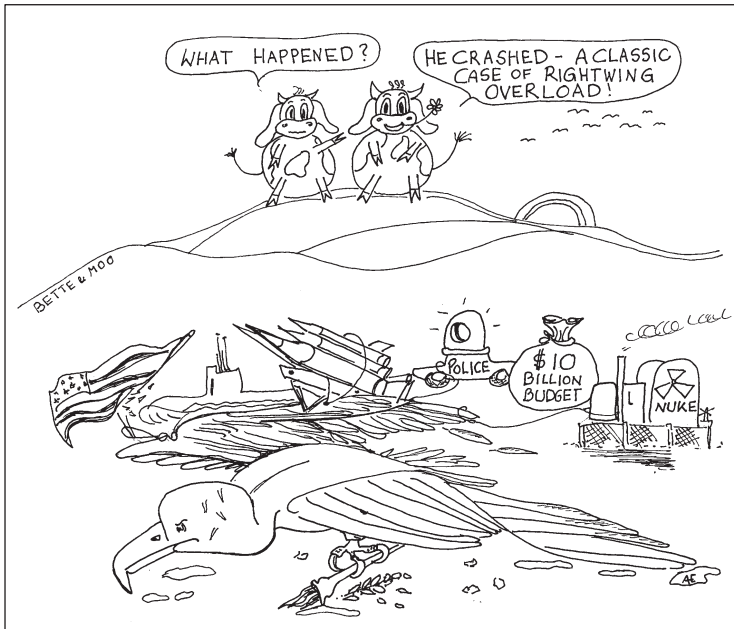
Surely, any council would benefit from a broader rate base.

Michael Priestley
Northern Rivers

Landsharing and community

The Northern Rivers communities are very aware of the housing crisis, we see evidence of it every day. It's an unacceptable situation.

The Nimbin community is taking a first step to research practical, doable solutions as they did with the communal living and landsharing



Cartoon Antoinette Ensbey

options they came up with over 50 years ago. Times have changed and so have solutions. To hear an impressive line-up of speakers on housing for now, including Professor Wendy Stone from Swinburne University, come to the first of the Aquarius Talks on Landsharing, Affordable Housing and Community.

It is a free day at Nimbin Town Hall on 24 May, 10am to 5pm - tickets free from Humanitix - to explore community-led options to help resolve the housing crisis. Q&A and discussion after presentations. Join in to find a positive way forward.

Vee Hunt
Mullumbimby

Digital help hub

HELP! In this rapidly changing digital landscape, as an ageing person I am finding it impossible and very stressful trying to keep abreast of the ever-changing digital world.

If my life is anything to go by, I think many of us need a digital help hub somewhere in the Byron Shire, where we can go and find affordable help to unravel the complexity of these myriad changes and make our lives workable again. I would like Byron Council to take this on as a vital social asset, and encourage other councils to follow suit. Maybe it could be a nationwide asset in every town in Australia? Why not?

Michael Balson
Upper Wilsons Creek

ANZAC dawn service

I was at the ANZAC dawn service at Brunswick Heads, and as a local councillor, I was honoured to lay a wreath on behalf of Byron Shire Council.

I was interested to notice that for the first time, Indigenous servicemen were publicly acknowledged as part of the service.

When I rang organiser Des Wraight to thank him for including this acknowledgement, he told me it was up to each individual RSL in NSW as to whether they chose to include this in their local service.

As we all know, change happens slowly, but in the light of the disgraceful behaviour of some people at the recent dawn service in Melbourne, I do think this is something in our own community to be acknowledged and to be proud of.

Janet Swain
Byron Shire Council

Greens 'belted'

According to *The Guardian* online: 'The Greens MP and candidates faced a barrage of negative ads from right-wing campaigners Advance and other conservative lobby groups such as the Australian Institute for Progress (AIP). Advance was crowing about the Greens' election result on Sunday afternoon, with the group's executive director, Matthew Sheahan, congratulating supporters for helping to "stop the Greens in their tracks... The Greens have been belted. And for that, I thank you".'

I so hope the Greens do not take this shitfuckery lying down. This is heartless corruption. This is a vicious undermining of the legitimate aspirations of over a million voters, and the thousands of volunteers and small-scale donors who backed the 'losing' candidates.

I am a long-term Greens supporter and in my guts I feel fury at the cold manipulation of other potential supporters by this right-wing corporate-backed rent-a-mob. Could it be fair to assume that without this manipulation Mandy Nolan would already be the clear winner in the Richmond electorate?

The Greens are not some kind of intrinsically evil, or stupid and dismissible, non-people. We are decent citizens fighting

a perfectly legitimate, and desperately rearguard action, to protect what little is left of the natural world, clean ecosystems, biodiversity, and so many endangered species. And have a carefully considered portfolio of other pro-social policies.

What actual positive values do Advance and AIP have, if any?

Next they will come for the teals. They stand (lie) for more of the same-old-same-old, as we spiral down into environmental and social chaos caused by once-preventable but now recurrent climate disasters. It is not just sickening but deadly.

The election results in affected constituencies should be annulled. There should be prosecutions, but expect no help from the major parties or right-wing media.

Daniel Berg
Lismore

► More letters on page 14

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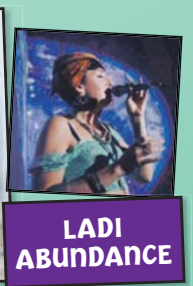
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Letters already published in other papers will not be considered. Please include your full name, address and phone number for verification purposes. Letters edited for length will be able to be read in full (if a reasonable length) in *The Echo* online at: www.echo.net.au/letters.

■ *The Echo* is committed to providing a voice for our whole community. The views of letter writers are their own and don't represent the owners or staff of this publication.

Climate change and the future – a layman’s interpretation

Ken Clarke

The climate change debates have been characterised by diverse opinions at every level of society, especially the media.

The starting point for analysis of climate change is temperature, as everything else, like the amount of rain or rising sea levels, occurs because of the changes in temperature

There is convincing data on global temperature increases from multiple sources, such as NASA and the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO). In summary, 2024 was the warmest year in modern history at 1.6°C above pre-industrial levels and the ten years to 2024 were the hottest decade.

The *State of the Global Climate 2024 Report* included a graph of temperature change for the period 1850 to 2024. That graph shows a scary geometric progression in temperature change, with the scariest part being most of the temperature increase has occurred in the last 50 years.

The temperature increases have led to other events like sea level rises, due to the expansion in the volume of sea water as it heats up, and the melting of ice, mainly sea ice. The sea level increased by an average of 1.4mm per year in the 100 years to 2000, though, more worryingly, the rate of change has been 3.4mm per year since the start of satellite recording in 1993.

The science

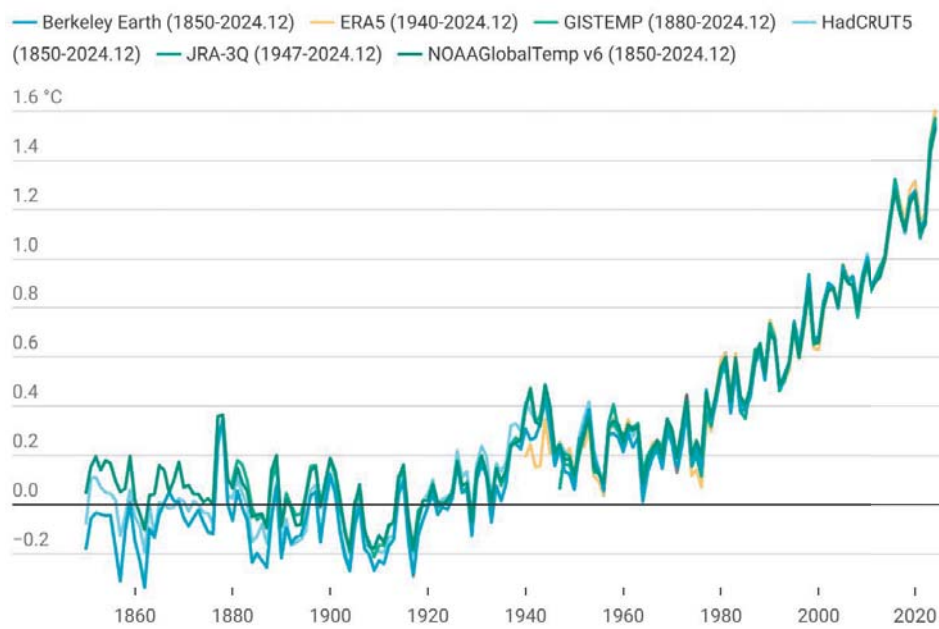
Nearly 100 per cent of climate scientists agree higher greenhouse gases, predominantly CO₂, are the cause of the global temperature increases.

There are multiple measures of CO₂ levels over time. The worrying issue is the much higher rates of change in recent times. CO₂ levels were rising by about 5ppm (parts per million) per decade from 1900 until the 1970’s when the subsequent CO₂ increases had increased to approximately 20ppm per decade.

There is scientific proof that the rise in CO₂ levels is due to the burning of fossil fuels. Carbon isotopes C12, and C13 which has an extra neutron, are emitted in natural events like volcanoes and bushfires, and in burning fossil fuels, but burning fossil fuels produces much more C12 than C13. The ratio of C13 to C12 has declined at a

Global mean temperature 1850-2024

Difference from 1850-1900 average



Annual global mean temperature anomalies relative to a pre-industrial (1850–1900) baseline shown from 1850 to 2024
Chart: WMO • Created with Datawrapper

Graph from World Meteorological Organisation State of the Global Climate 2024 report.

and C13 which has an extra neutron, are emitted in natural events like volcanoes and bushfires, and in burning fossil fuels, but burning fossil fuels produces much more C12 than C13. The ratio of C13 to C12 has declined at a

more rapid rate since 1970. Core ice samples show the change in the ratio is four times larger today than the natural variability observed over hundreds of thousands of years.

The credibility of any options to manage the amount of fossil fuel that is burnt depends on the seriousness of the problems created by the higher CO₂ levels, and the evidence here is far less convincing. This lack of evidence is the biggest barrier to concerted action, both in Australia and internationally.

There are environmental, social, and economic impacts that could be analysed. There are recognised techniques for doing this type of analysis but it is much harder for any government to convince the community to take these forward-looking, assumption-based calculations seriously, than if there are actual measures of what has already occurred in the past years, like rises in temperature and sea levels.

Community concern is also weakened by comments like the latest event was ‘worst since 1970’, which suggests that the latest event may have been naturally occurring rather than a climate change-caused event.

From this layman’s perspective, before more of the community will accept the need to pay for extra policies to reduce global emissions, the environment, social and especially economic impact of climate change requires

additional analysis and proof, then articulation in a form most of the community understands.

Developing economies

Getting the policy mix right won’t be easy. The world target of net zero emissions by 2050 is unlikely to be achieved with current technology as there are so many highly populated nations with low emissions because they have underdeveloped economies. For example, India is relatively underdeveloped, has the largest population in the world at 1.4 billion and has amongst the world’s lowest CO₂ emissions per capita. The same applies to Indonesia and Brazil, each with populations of over 200 million.

China, classified as a developing economy, is the world’s largest CO₂ emitter by a large margin but only accounts for 30 per cent of the world’s population are in countries that each have less than two per cent of the world’s emissions and many of these countries have underdeveloped economies.

In all of these countries CO₂ emissions are certain to increase significantly in the next 25 years as their economies become more developed.

Australia has amongst the highest emissions per capita in the world for various reasons, including because we are a developed economy.

The relatively small population means Australia only accounts for about one per cent of global emissions and whatever Australia does will have little impact on global emissions. Some commentators argue that because of that minimal impact on global emissions, Australia should not take climate change action that harms the Australian economy.

Taking responsibility

As Australia is one of the richest countries in the world in absolute terms let alone per capita terms, most Australians would agree that Australia should at least do its share to limit CO₂ emissions. Both major political parties support action to reach the net zero emissions target by 2050. Most focus is on electricity generation which accounts for about 30 per cent of CO₂ emissions and is the largest single contributor to emissions in Australia and globally.

Australia’s efforts to reduce CO₂ emissions could include research to enhance techniques all countries can use to limit CO₂ emissions, as Australia has the financial and research capacity to do this type of work. Australian research is likely to have a far greater impact on global emissions than spending money to reduce emissions in Australia.

It is hard to know where this will all end up. In the short term, it isn’t looking very promising internationally, particularly as the Trump administration is certain to disregard climate change concerns and that will prompt others to follow suit while he is in office. Within Australia, we have just had an election with renewable versus nuclear generated electricity the focal point on climate change matters. Labor’s win means renewables will be the main policy push in electricity, though I also suspect the climate change agenda will be somewhat broader than renewables, at least for the next three years. Let’s hope so.

■ Ken Clarke worked as a researcher and policy analyst in Canberra, Port Moresby, London and Darwin, mostly in the public sector. This included advising the NT Government as Under Treasurer on social, fiscal, and economic issues.



Join the community conversation

Council’s draft 2025 – 2029 Delivery Program, 2025/26 Operational Plan, Budget and Statement of Revenue Policy which includes rates, fees and charges are all on public exhibition.

Have your say by taking a look at the draft documents online or in person and making a submission. You can also come along to an information session to learn more.

Submissions close: 8 June 2025

Join a community conversation session:

- **IN-PERSON:** Tuesday, 20 May, 5 – 7pm, Byron Shire Council Chambers
- **ONLINE:** Tuesday, 27 May 4 – 6pm, Zoom (Register on our website or over the phone)

Submissions can be made:

- www.byron.nsw.gov.au/DPOP
- Council offices, Station Street Mullumbimby, NSW 2482
- 02 6626 7000
- PO Box 219, Mullumbimby, NSW 2482



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Call for free and available drug checking as concerns over synthetic opioids rise

Nitazenes, synthetic opioids, have been detected in all types of drugs from counterfeit pharmaceuticals like Valium and oxycodone to, MDMA, ketamine, cocaine, and methamphetamine – they’re even being found in vapes.

The Australian Federal Police (AFP) warned recently that detections of the dangerous drug nitazene in fake pharmaceuticals should be of grave concern to politicians and policymakers.

In their most recent media statement, the AFP said, ‘Nitazenes have been detected in counterfeit pain relief medication in NSW, Queensland, Victoria and the Australian Capital Territory in recent months.’

Deaths inevitable

Dr Marianne Jauncey, Medical Director at Uniting’s Medically Supervised Injecting Centre (MSIC) said: ‘Overdoses are simple and easy to treat if recognised, but everyone in the sector is rightly frightened about the potential impact of nitazenes.’

‘As nitazenes enter the illicit drug supply in



Examples of nitazenes. Photos Australian Federal Police

Australia, deaths will inevitably occur – if it hits hard, it could explode. And we need to be preparing for that. And that’s what concerns me – that we are not putting the time, energy and resources into being ready.’

Free and available drug checking

Uniting is calling for free and available drug checking services to be available throughout NSW and across Australia as the risk of death and other health risks increase from the sale of nitazenes in drugs being sold through the illicit drug market.

‘We need widespread drug checking services, freely available and accessible right across the country. We also need greater awareness of the Take Home Naloxone program, ensuring that people are aware of this life-saving drug being freely available from pharmacies around the country.’

‘Surely it makes sense to put information and power in the hands of people most at risk,’ Dr Jauncey said.

Emma Maiden, Uniting NSW.ACT’s Director Advocacy and External Relations said, ‘We all want the people we love to be safe. So, this latest announcement by the AFP about nitazenes in



counterfeit prescriptions should be setting off alarm bells for politicians and policy makers.’

‘This latest alert by the AFP is yet another in a string of warnings from authorities about the detection of nitazenes in the illicit drug market.’

Preventable drug deaths

‘Because of our outdated and unfair drug laws and persistent inaction, one person is dying every single day from overdose in NSW – this is more than the death toll on our roads – a situation that looks likely to get a great

deal worse with nitazenes turning up in a range of drugs.’

Free medicine to reverse overdose

Giving people the opportunity to have a conversation with a health professional about the drugs they are planning to take helps them make more informed choices and saves lives. Making sure everyone knows about the simple, safe medicine that reverses overdose and is available for free in pharmacies.

‘More people need the opportunity to be met with a health response.’

‘We need drug checking services rolled out in the community urgently. And we need greater awareness of take home naloxone.’

Drug testing saves lives

‘Drug testing is simple, proven and it keeps the people we love safe from substances like nitazenes.’

‘If one life is saved, it will be worth it,’ Emma said.

‘Every life is worth saving. One life lost is one too many, especially when we know that overdose deaths are preventable,’ she said.

Recently released results from the Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW) show that support for harm reduction across Australia has never been higher. Specifically, there is majority support for drug checking (now at 64 per cent) and over four in five (83 per cent) people who had recently used drugs supported drug checking.

Uniting has run the Medically Supervised Injecting Centre for 24 years and has spearheaded the Fair Treatment campaign for fairer drug laws for over six years.

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Coalition doomed to eternal opposition

How good was that?

Twenty years of culture wars, corrupt neoliberalism, and an ideology denying government's role in improving society has smashed the Liberal Party's dunny door to pieces.

Over the last four elections, Australia's vote has crystallised into three blocs:

- ALP: ~35 per cent
- Greens + independents: ~20 per cent (progressive, no going back)
- Liberals + Pauline Hanson + other right-wing: ~39 per cent

Combined, the progressive bloc holds ~55 per cent. ALP can govern, but only by working with Greens and independents – or sometimes crossing the aisle with Liberals to block progressive change.

The Liberal Party has become an opposition-making machine for the rich, sucking up corporate votes but unable to win. Without radical reform, it stays unelectable: a crony capitalist zombie stuck in culture wars, divorced from the electorate.

Will donors double down, fund Labor, or try to remake a 'softer' teal-flavoured Liberal Party? Hard to see the passion or creativity for real change.

Without it, they'll likely flail in fake media crises, economic scares, or war distractions – all the old tricks – and just keep losing.

How good is this?
Nicholas Houston
Mexico

Congrats n thanks

I was highly impressed with the scope of imagination of the young people who strategised Mandy Nolan's Greens campaign.

Not a space, thought, person, or township was overlooked as they campaigned for Mandy and Mother Earth's sentient rights. With other good folk they door-knocked, spoke to hundreds of people, delivered placards to houses, encouraged many folk to the campaign, changed people's minds... all of this was created by a remarkable grass roots campaign. No billionaires funding same. Just passion and a highly developed sense of social/sentient justice... and a powerful resonance.

The maxim, 'all is connected' resonates in

our family environment. Indeed, Romeo, the family python has just returned to his favourite spot; an old armchair on the sunny side of the verandah. He has a romantic history. When a wee little chap we called Ralph, he loved/loves the armchair and nothing can change his mind or hiss when a human bum, seeking warmth and respite wants to remove him.

Perplexed we rang Mr Snakeman. He was wildly excited when he saw Ralph and could not stop uttering the joyous statement, 'You are so lucky to have him. He is a top predator. He scares away deadly snakes.' In a flash I fell in love with Ralph, and aptly named him Romeo. I abode in the garden of Eden. Hundreds of birds sing in the sun. As I lay my old decaying bones on another sunny chair I feel the sun deeply penetrate my worn-out bones. I pray for children and all sentient beings in wars, I pray for greater respect and love for Mother Earth. Romeo and I snooze in gratitude.

I awaken, more 'unwise' than ever. Another rite of passage to learn as an elder. The greatest wisdom comforts me. We are so connected to Mother Earth... all fickle knowledge fades. Will humans awaken to the greater gifts and spirit of Mother Earth? Will they stop for moments and absorb Earth's healing blessings? Will politicians stop using fossil fuels that kill all sentient life? I hear Romeo utter a very powerful hiss. He has picked up my final thought! Amen.

Jo Faith
Byron Bay

Getting loopy

More fuel burning emits more carbon dioxide. Accumulating carbon dioxide traps more heat in the air. Warmer air holds more water vapour. Denser water vapour results in more rain. More rain results in more flooding, erosion and plant growth. Thickening growth supports wild fires. Fires and floods damaged housing. Damaged housing causes extra expenditure.

Extra expenditure reduces wealth. Reduced wealth drains investment in transformative energy: renewables, storage batteries, and electric vehicles. Drained investment in transformative energy continues the purchase of more fossil fuels. Purchase

of more fossil fuels supports more fossil fuels. And that's how we fall into the climate catastrophe loop.

When will you break your loop?

Sapoty Brook
Main Arm

Labor complicity

How many more thousands of children have to die in the Israeli genocide before our government, complicit in its deafening indifference, (not to mention its supply of drone parts to Israel via the US) makes any kind of ripple on the International stage?

The foreign minister when asked recently, 'Would the government arrest the Israeli PM if he came to Australia?' (in support of the ICC) said that she 'doesn't comment on hypotheticals'. Yeah real nice, a real class act.

Rod Murray
Ocean Shores

Peace

I write to you as a mother, a Jewish granddaughter, a death care worker, and someone who has recently returned from the West Bank, where I served as an international peacekeeper documenting crimes against humanity.

What I witnessed there was far worse than what most mainstream media are willing to show.

The brutality, the apartheid, the systemic displacement and humiliation, it is real, it is now, and it is happening with impunity.

According to the BBC (www.bbc.com/news/articles/cx27z0r8n5do), the Freedom Flotilla Coalition said its ship was struck by drones in international waters last week, with activists appearing to accuse Israel of being behind the attack. This was a peaceful humanitarian vessel delivering food and medicine to Gaza.

On board were over 30 international aid workers: doctors, nurses, teachers, elders. Civilians. Among them was Surya McEwan, a much-loved local man and international humanitarian who has dedicated his life to compassion and service. These people are doing what our government should be doing: responding with care and conscience.

If the ship was bombed by Israel this would be not only immoral, but also a war crime, part of a larger, orchestrated campaign of collective punishment.

Over 48,000 Palestinians have been killed. Over a million displaced. 1.1 million people are being deliberately starved under Netanyahu's illegal blockade.

Israel's extremist government has openly declared its intentions to ethnically cleanse and permanently occupy Gaza. Let's be absolutely clear: this is not self-defence. Israel is the occupier. It is an apartheid state, committing war crimes, genocide, and ethnic cleansing.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is currently facing multiple charges of corruption, bribery, and fraud. Legal experts and human rights observers widely recognise that this war is being used to evade justice and cling to power, manipulating fear and nationalism at the cost of tens of thousands of lives.

And yet, Australia remains silent. We continue to host Israeli diplomats, maintain a two-way arms trade, and refuse to impose sanctions. This is not neutrality. This is complicity.

I speak as a woman from a long line of proud Jewish women, and I need to say, it is obscene that anyone who stands against apartheid, genocide, and Zionist extremism is labelled antisemitic. That accusation is false, dangerous, and deceptive. It is a smear tactic used to silence dissent, to suppress resistance to injustice, and to deflect from the brutal realities on the ground. Zionism is not Judaism. It is a political ideology that has hijacked the soul of a people and weaponised their suffering. My ancestors did not survive genocide so that another could be committed in their name.

So I ask you now... Where is the courage? Where is the integrity? Where is the human decency to say 'no more'?

Australia must act now to sanction Israel. End the two-way arms trade. Expel Israeli diplomats. Support war crimes investigations in The Hague. Investigate Australians committing war crimes in Gaza and the West Bank with Israeli Occupation Forces.

This is a moment that will be remembered. Please do not look away while a genocide unfolds.

Talitha Mitchell
Uki

Newrybar streetscape masterplan on exhibition



Ballina Council say a key feature of the draft Newrybar streetscape masterplan is a 'change to the vehicle traffic movement on Old Pacific Highway between Brooklet Road and Hinterland Way to one way. A reduced speed limit in this section is also proposed'. Image Ballina Council

A draft streetscape masterplan for Newrybar has been drafted by Ballina Shire Council 'to improve its public spaces, balancing community aspirations identified during a collaborative design process in late 2024'.

Ballina Council says, 'The community identified their vision for Newrybar as a welcoming, vibrant village

that celebrates character, community, and creativity'.

Five place values

'The draft Masterplan outlines five key place values that reflect what the community loves about Newrybar: authentic village charm; memorable artisanal experiences; home grown produce and flavours; honouring the

Big Scrub and connection to Country; and fostering a connected community'.

A community workshop will be held at the Newrybar Community Hall on May 19 from 6pm till 7.30pm.

Visit yoursayballina.com.au/newrybar-streetscape-master-plan for more information.

Submissions close May 21.

Review underway for young offender punishment

Aslan Shand

Former local magistrate, David Heilpern, says the NSW government's review of doli incapax for young offenders under 14 highlights that there has been an overall decrease in crime by those under 14 years of age.

Doli incapax is a legal presumption that children between the ages of 10 and 14 do not sufficiently understand the difference between right and wrong to be held criminally responsible.

Doli incapax operates as a common law presumption in NSW, and can be rebutted if the prosecution proves beyond reasonable doubt a child understood that what they did was seriously wrong.

The NSW government has been considering the operation of doli incapax

and launched the review this month.

The review comes as the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) released a new report finding a significant decline in the number of young people aged 10 to 13 years found guilty of a criminal offence following a 2016 High Court decision.

High Court decision

The 2016 decision in *RP v The Queen* clarified a number of matters in relation to doli incapax, including that the prosecution must prove beyond reasonable doubt that the child understood their actions were 'seriously wrong'.

In 2024, the NSW Minns government introduced the NSW temporary youth bail laws which brought in more stringent bail test for young people charged with serious

break and enter or motor vehicle theft offences.

'If you tighten bail laws it inevitably leads to more young people being locked up before it is determined if they are guilty or not. Over 50 per cent of these young people will not be sentenced to incarceration, so we are effectively locking up many innocent young people,' explained Professor Heilpern, who is the Dean of Law and Chair of Discipline at SCU.

'This review is a sop to the law-and-order lobby groups, particularly in rural and regional areas of NSW, and particularly led and fanned by National Party parliamentarians,' he said.

In April 2025, the NSW Minns Labor Government extended the temporary bail laws by five years.

Local mayors say it is time to take action to secure funding for local councils

Aslan Shand

Councils across NSW have historically struggled to financially support their communities as the state government has frozen the fees they can charge developers.

Additionally, the government has taken over Council assets (like caravan parks – a significant income stream), and made them apply endlessly for grants.

Tweed, Byron, and Ballina mayors all told *The Echo* that they are glad to see that the NSW government has taken on the majority of the recommendations from the NSW Parliament Upper House inquiry into the ability of local governments to fund infrastructure and services.

The NSW government has said it will support 15 of the 17 recommendations.

'The audit into fees and charges is particularly welcomed,' said Tweed Shire Mayor, Chris Cherry.

'This has impacts on developments because the freeze in fees over the years has meant that the charges we have been able to charge a developer to pay for all the infrastructure needed such as stormwater, sewer, water access, libraries, parks etc have been frozen for close to 20 years. As a result, they do not in any way represent the true cost of a development. This has the effect that our

ratepayers are effectively subsidising developments.

'With updated fees and charges, this will mean the cost of developments is leveraged on the developer who is making the gain rather than the general ratepayer.'

'The recommendations should mean that councils are a lot more financially sustainable into the future.'

20-year council funding freeze

Byron Shire Mayor Sarah Ndiaye agrees telling *The Echo* that the 20-year freeze was 'clearly unsustainable'.

Financial Assistance Grants (FAG) have declined significantly over the last few decades and currently sit at 0.5 per cent of GDP.

'In my view, the long-term solution remains what many in the sector have said for years: the federal government should commit to allocating at least one per cent of Australia's revenue, untethered, to local government through Federal Assistance Grants (Recommendation 5),' said Cr Ndiaye.

'It would allow councils to properly fund the infrastructure and services our communities rely on, avoid pork-barrelling, and allow councils to plan properly, without needing to short-change residents or resort to piecemeal fixes to complex problems.'

Ballina Mayor, Sharon Cadwallader also supports Recommendation 5, telling *The Echo* that, 'it is imperative that this funding be restored to one per cent of GDP'.

'Similarly, the state government needs to review the rating structure to provide better benchmarking to support councils that do have low levels of average rates, as does Ballina Shire, which means that we fall further behind each year as compared to other councils with higher levels of rate income,' she said.

'Overall, there are a lot of good recommendations in the report, however, we do need action on the recommendations, as we have seen similar reports over the years that unfortunately have not resulted in meaningful change.'

Govt admits councils not sustainable

NSW Minister for Local Government Ron Hoenig said, 'It's clear the status quo is not sustainable for councils and it's not fair on communities who will lose out'.

'The ratepayers of NSW deserve assurance their money is being put to good use and that councils are doing all they can to tighten their belts,' he said.

High-risk weeds targeted for control and eradication

Local councils will be funded \$10 million to target high-risk weeds across the state to protect the state's primary production and public land.

According to the NSW Labor government, the NSW Government Weeds Action Program funds local councils 'to detect and respond

quickly to incursions of new high-risk weeds'.

Councils can apply for funding, says the government, to 'undertake services such as surveillance, and rapid response to prevent, eradicate or contain new infestations of priority weeds'.

'In addition, the program

funds training for LCA biosecurity officers so they can effectively respond to biosecurity emergencies across NSW,' says the statement.

High-risk weeds targeted by the program are parthenium, rubber vine, tropical soda apple, alligator weed, and harrisia cactus.

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Gluten free and special dietary needs catered for.

The Good Life

A slice of Italy lands in Byron Bay: Piada Co. opens its second home



Tucked into the creative buzz of Byron Bay's dynamic Habitat precinct, there's a new Italian street food spot that's quietly becoming a local favourite. Piada Co., the cult-followed Burleigh Heads eatery known for its thin, hand-rolled piadinas and laid-back charm, has opened its doors in Byron – and it's bringing much more than just flatbreads.

The new venue channels the energy of a modern Italian piazza with a distinctly coastal Australian twist. It's casual but considered, with bold flavours, a warm vibe, and a sense of community at its core. 'We've always believed in bringing people together over simple, great food,' says Bree Edwards, co-founder of Piada Co. 'With this second location, we're not just expanding – we're evolving.'

The Byron outpost offers a broader menu and longer hours, starting with a lunch service from 10am to 4pm featuring their signature piadinas – crisp, warm flatbreads folded with everything from fresh mozzarella and rocket, to house-made spreads and prosciutto. From 4pm 'til late, the venue shifts gear into dinner mode with artisanal pizza, fresh pasta, and a bar menu that includes a tight list of curated wines and cocktails.

And if you drop by in the late afternoon? The Sundown Social Club, running daily from 4pm to 6pm, is the perfect way to transition from day to night – with spritzes in hand and a spread of signature street eats straight from the kitchen, it's easy to imagine you're on the Adriatic.

For those craving Piada Co. from the comfort of home, takeaway and UberEats are available – same bold flavours, just packaged to-go.

What hasn't changed is the heart of Piada Co. – a menu built on fresh ingredients, and the convivial spirit of Italian dining. It's modern, yes, but not overthought. Simple dishes done well, served in a space that invites you to stay a little longer.

'Byron has such a strong sense of place and community,' Edwards adds. 'We wanted to create something that felt local from the start – somewhere you can drop in for a quick lunch or settle in with friends for a few hours.'

Just a little off the beaten path, Piada Co. feels like it's always belonged.

■ piadaco.com.au • Instagram @piada.co



Views, brews, cocktails, beats & eats: Lennox Pizza!

For 18 years, the crew at Lennox Pizza have been serving up epic eats and good vibes in Lennox Head, just off the sand – come and enjoy it all at their wicked spot right in the heart of town! Think ocean views, funky décor, and a laid-back, family-friendly atmosphere – plus a free pool table to keep the good times rolling.

The menu is stacked with all your faves – amazing pizzas, pasta, ribs, wings, fresh local seafood, loaded fries, and drool-worthy desserts. And with Lennox Pizza's sweet fully-licensed bar, you can sip on creative cocktails, ice-cold brews, and tasty drops.

Happy hour every day from 3pm to 5pm. Live music on Sundays from 5pm to 8pm.

Dine in, soak up the views, tunes, and top-notch service, grab takeaway, delivery, or order online. However you choose to do Lennox Pizza, one thing's for sure – you can't go wrong!

■ Lennox Pizza: 4 / 74 Ballina St, Lennox Head. Please call 02 6687 7080 for takeaway and delivery orders.



Welcome Mullum Food Co-op to the Mullum Farmers Market!

The Mullumbimby Farmers Market is excited to introduce a new vendor at the Mullum Farmers Market: the Mullum Food Co-op! Founded 11 years ago as Culture Jam in the Byron Arts & Industry Estate, the Co-op moved to the community gardens in Mullumbimby seven years ago. Since then, it has become a beloved part of our local community.

At the Mullum Food Co-op, you'll find a wide range of quality products, including chocolate-covered almonds, seeds, licorice, oats, salts, flours, spices, dried fruits, beans, and pulses. While the Co-op offers a larger selection at their community gardens, only Australian-made products are sold at the Farmers Market, ensuring a convenient stop for market visitors who are in a hurry.

While a membership isn't necessary to shop at the Farmers Market, becoming a member of the Co-op offers several benefits. Members enjoy better prices and have access to the full Co-op range at the community gardens. Plus, as the Co-op is 100% volunteer-run, members can also get involved by volunteering, which brings additional perks like discounts.

Another unique feature of the Mullum Food Co-op is its commitment to sustainability. Members can bring in their excess produce to sell at the community gardens, helping to support local growers and reduce waste.

The Mullum Food Co-op is a non-profit initiative, and the organisers are thrilled to welcome them to the Mullum Farmers Market. Visit their stall to explore their range of ethical, Australian-made food offerings, and perhaps consider joining the Co-op to become part of this fantastic community!

■ Mullum Food Co-op is at Mullumbimby Farmers Market every Friday morning from 7am to 11am.



Anthea Amore (Left), Cindy Alice (middle), Kahlindra Bradley (right) of the Mullum Food Co-op at the Mullumbimby Farmers Market.

NORTH BYRON HOTEL

EAT STICKS



YAKITORI SERIES

5:30PM-8:30PM
EVERY WEDNESDAY
WEEKLY SIGNATURE SIDES



TALK SHIT!



BANGALOW BILLYCART DERBY



SUNDAY MAY 18, 2025

THE WORD IS OUT! The Summerland Bank Bangalow Billycart Derby day is on again!

Go with a bank from around here.
Where the locals go.

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Summerland Bank
summerland.com.au

Summerland Bank, a business name of Summerland Financial Services Limited. ABN 23 087 650 806. AFSL and Australian Credit Licence No. 239238

Bangalow's daredevil kids and crazy adults are getting ready for this year's Summerland Bank Bangalow Billycart Derby. Every year the Bangalow Lions Club host the event with the generous support of many local businesses and organisations. This year promises to be the biggest and the best so far.

Greg Nash, President of the Bangalow Lions Club, said, 'we're expecting 300+ competitors across 20 different categories from schoolkids to professionals and a crowd of up to 10,000 cheering them on. You can't beat a beautiful May day with kids and families everywhere and billycarts zooming down the main street. There is a real buzz in the village and we can't wait. Come and enjoy'.

'There's something for everyone including first-timers and slowcoaches. It's all about having fun, happy snaps and families & friends getting together. First race starts at 9am.

'Don't miss out on the lunchtime steet parade. Big Dog will be making an appearance along with many other local community groups and a special performance by Bunny Racket on the main street. Get your spot early to be part of the buzz and excitement in Bangalow town.'

Bangalow Lions Club partners with Bangalow Public School's 'Pit Stop fun fair' with rides, kids entertainment, great food options, raffles & prizes.

The Cellar, in Bangalow, will have their billycart on display from the beginning of May. Mum or dad could have a quick gander at one of the longest running competitive carts which has won or placed over many years. Get some last minute ideas to fine tune your billycart.

Plenty of parking, with a \$5 donation at the Bangalow Showgrounds, via Market Street.

Please note temporary closure of main street (Byron Street) and Station Street Bangalow between 6am and 4pm to accomodate the races. Traffic is diverted along Deacon Street which will become a two-way traffic access way for the period of the main street temporary closure. No parking is permitted on both Deacon and Market streets to assist with the two-way traffic flow.

Bangalow Billycart Derby t-shirts and caps can be purchased online @bangalowbillycart.com.au. Limited stock available!

So come along, on Sunday, 18 May, for some good old fashioned family fun. See you at the 'Bangalow racetrack'.

100% LOCAL
100% INDEPENDENT.

The Byron Shire Echo
Community newspaper distributed free throughout Byron Shire and beyond every Wednesday.
www.echo.net.au
The North Coast's independent and free online daily news service.

Do Byron like a local!
Check out The Echo for all the current events and goings on, plus lots of goodies such as:

- Weekly gig guide
- What's on event page
- Market guide
- Art gallery listing
- Restaurant guide

Echo
THE VOICE OF THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1986

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

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

Find out more at allambicare.org.au/foster-care

ALLAMBI CARE

GNF real estate

Your Local Real Estate Agency
BUY - RENT - SELL

Chris Hayward	0416 005 700	Sales
Alli Page	0403 498 648	Sales
Sandy Jovanovski	0406 429 550	Sales
Tegan Benson	0429 668 886	Rentals

GNF Real Estate
4/2 Byron St, Bangalow
02 6687 2833
www.gnfrealestate.com.au



EVENT PROGRAM

7-8.30am	Registration and scrutineering
8-8.45am	Practice runs
9am	Races begin!
9am	5-7 year old - traditional/homegrown
9.20am	8-11 year old - traditional/homegrown
10.20am	12-15 year old - traditional/homegrown
11.30am	Parent/child - traditional/homegrown
11.45am	Schools challenge - traditional/homegrown
12.10pm	Mothers challenge - any billycart
12.15pm	Trophy presentation - morning events
12.30pm	Street parade and lunch
1.15pm	Mens Shed challenge homegrown
1.30pm	Open - traditional/homegrown
2pm	Junior - professional
2.20pm	Open - professional
2.45pm	Tag team - any billycart
2.55pm	Novelty race - Special billycart
2.55pm	Novelty - special billycart
3pm	Trophy presentation - afternoon events
3.15pm	Street clean up - all welcome!

Derby rules

- It is your responsibility to be in the right place at the right time. We do not delay races.
- A separate entry form is required for each billycart in each race category.
- Helmets are compulsory and protective clothing is recommended.
- All bilycarts will receive a minimum of two runs - the first is a practice.
- If entrant and billycart fail to arrive at the start line the race will commence on time.
- The same billycart cannot be used more than once in the same race category.
- Bilycarts entered into age categories 5-15 years - driver and passenger must be within the same age category.
- All bilycarts will start from a standing start.
- No outside assistance is allowed at start line or whilst racing.
- No pedalling, pushing, paddling or propulsion of any kind is allowed.
- Bilycarts must proceed under their own weight, but rocking is permitted.
- Drivers and passengers must remain seated whilst racing.
- Bilycarts must travel in a straight line, no swerving, weaving or turning from side-to-side.
- Any bilycarts that crash will be disqualified. At the discretion of the organisers any billycart crashed into may receive another run, time permitting.
- Tag team rules - three competitors per team, comprising three legs using the same billycart, ie. the first leg team member rides billycart down the hill over the finish line, second team member runs the billycart on foot back up to the start line and tags the third member who rides billycart down the hill over the finish line.
- All judges' decisions will be final and no correspondence will be entered into.
- A billycart or driver may be disqualified at any time at the discretion of the Chief Marshall.
- Unsafe bilycarts, dangerous driving or bad conduct by participants will not be tolerated and may result in immediate expulsion or possible disqualification from the event for the whole day. The Chief Marshall's decision (or that of their delegate) will be final and binding.
- All bilycarts and drivers must be available for scrutineering between 7am and 8.30am at the top of Byron Street, Bangalow. Late entries will not be accepted.
- The Committee reserves the right to rearrange or cancel events.
- Three (3) wheeler bilycarts can only enter as 'professional' or 'novelty' category billycart.
- No refunds.
- All participants enter at their own risk.
- Please note that this event is meant to be a fun day for everyone and participation, not winning, is the desired outcome. It is designed primarily for the thrills and laughter of the day, rather than as a sporting competition. Please be patient and understanding and have a great time!

REAL FARMERS, REAL FOOD

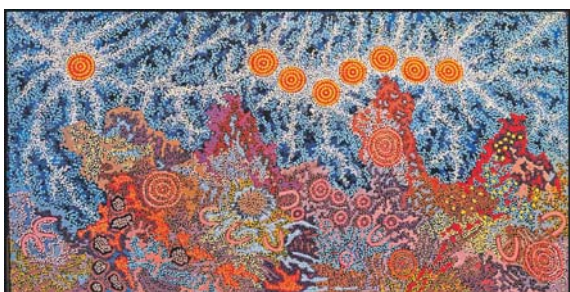


BYRON BAY
Thursdays 7-11am
Butler St Reserve



BANGALOW
Saturdays 7-11am
Piccabeen Park

NINBELLA



Artist Gabriella Possum Nungurrayi

Ninbella is the Byron Shire's premier art gallery, representing some of the best Indigenous and non-indigenous artists from both the local area and further afield. We have exquisite, ethically-sourced cultural giftware through Fair and Ethical Trade. Specialising in First Nations art, we also represent a high calibre of very talented local artists.

19a Byron Street, Bangalow
02 6687 1936
www.ninbella.com

red ginger

YUM CHA DUMPLINGS & TEA
OPEN 7 DAYS

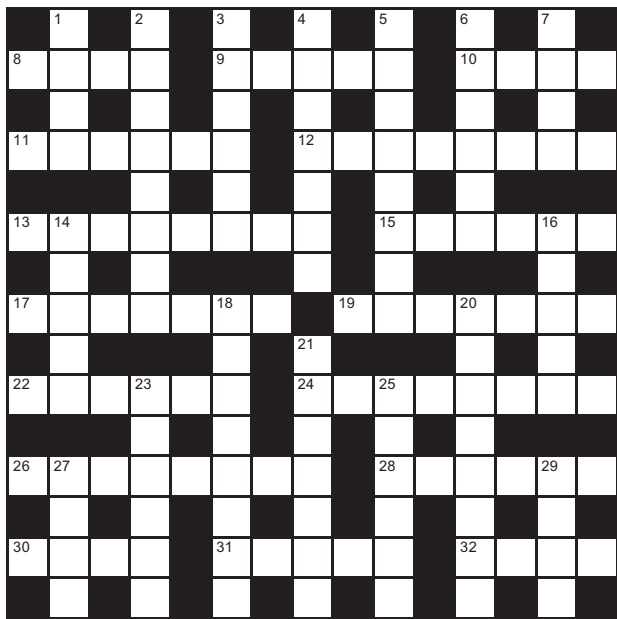
BANGALOW & BYRON BAY
www.redginger.com.au

DERBY AFTER PARTY



The
BOWLO
BANGALOW

KITCHEN OPEN FROM 1PM
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT FROM 3PM



Cryptic Clues

ACROSS

- 8. Spanish wine from California and Virginia (4)
- 9. Time Romeo sacrificed at work to be useful (5)
- 10. Star gets lousy deal (4)
- 11. Stretcher bearing troop leader makes a lot of noise (6)
- 12. Country store concealed explosive device (4,4)
- 13. Doctors' organisation made haste to get half of this nourishing cereal (8)
- 15. Sailor at yard gets message about vast spaces (6)
- 17. A clue relying on new, youthful material? That might be one for beginners! (7)
- 19. Omitted, or excused, if female is present (4,3)
- 22. Field Marshal wins Military Medal in new role (6)
- 24. Country ruling over Suez planned to have control of speech (8)
- 26. Rabid Republicans pin wounded lion to tree (8)
- 28. Customs in America taking a very long time (6)
- 30. Post office facility's walls used by English people (4)
- 31. Lizard takes turn around early childhood kindergarten entrances (5)
- 32. Roman poet in porno video (4)

DOWN

- 1. Garden ditch appearing in two areas (2-2)
- 2. Trainee station worker has a bowl at English test batsman - almost! (8)
- 3. WWII general presents plan to audience (6)
- 4. Greeting Count halfway to home (5-2)
- 5. Dangerous plutocrat with pronounced way to run and stretch (8)
- 6. Attribute responsibility at the end of the day to WWII general (6)
- 7. Covenant is, by November, grass to be mown (4)
- 14. Overall, European president isn't finished (5)
- 16. Religious leader in plain clothes (5)
- 18. You will, it's said, shortly get records which are to be burned at Christmas (4,4)
- 20. Order to a wayward Spanish sportsman (8)
- 21. Request by South African rulers to church, suspiciously (7)
- 23. General form of potato, which can include old and new (6)
- 25. Leaders of Zulu hordes and United Kingdom love victory in general (6)
- 27. Crazy way to work, getting inside a killer's head (4)
- 29. Time wasted in vent (4)

Quick Clues

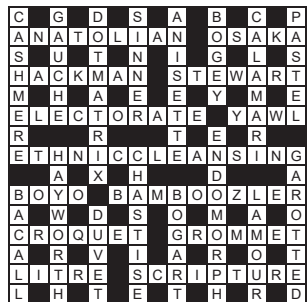
ACROSS

- 8. Sparkling Spanish wine (4)
- 9. Be of use or benefit (5)
- 10. Metallic element used in batteries (4)
- 11. Noisy disturbance or illegal scheme (6)
- 12. Concealed explosive device (4,4)
- 13. Purple-flowered plant used as a grain (8)
- 15. Deep chasms or gulfs (6)
- 17. Word formed from initial letters (7)
- 19. Discontinued or ceased (4,3)
- 22. German WWII field marshal known as 'Desert Fox' (6)
- 24. Nation with limited control over another (8)
- 26. Tree with large fragrant flowers (8)
- 28. Customary practices or habits (6)
- 30. Slang term for British immigrants to Australia (4)
- 31. Small lizard often found on walls (5)
- 32. Ancient Roman poet who wrote *Metamorphoses* (4)

DOWN

- 1. Sunken fence in landscape gardening (2-2)
- 2. Trainee on an Australian cattle station (8)
- 3. US general during World War II (6)
- 4. Cry used in fox hunting (5-2)
- 5. Stretch or extend in length (8)
- 6. Australian military commander in WWII (6)
- 7. Area of grass kept short for recreational use (4)
- 14. Prefix meaning large-scale or overall (5)
- 16. Civilian clothes worn by off-duty military (5)
- 18. Traditional Christmas fireplace fuel (4,4)
- 20. Spanish bullfighter (8)
- 21. With suspicion or disapproval (7)
- 23. Australian military commander in WWI (6)
- 25. Soviet WWII general who captured Berlin (6)
- 27. In a frenzy or uncontrolled state (4)
- 29. Give off or discharge (4)

Last week's solution #54



Data Rape

Mandy Nolan

Capitalism is watching. The system that many believe is the pathway to freedom is quickly becoming the fast-track to servitude. Choice isn't a choice if it's been chosen for you. Based on your previous choices. It's the choice illusion. Every decision you make is tracked, commodified and used for predictive analysis. This rewrites your consumer data and creates your own personalised algorithms. So marketing strategy is no longer a broad brush. It's not girls on a beach having fun because they are wearing tampons, and it's called Carefree and you want to be carefree. It's individualised. It reaches into your deepest fears. Your lack of self-love. It offers you some product solutions. It's just for you. And don't we love being individuals?

Your data is harvested in the giant behavioural fish farm of performance surveys and purchase history. Siri listens to you. In a way you've never been listened to before. AI might feel confidential, but your secrets are not safe. You aren't reading the tech, the tech is reading you, and as it does it shows you what it wants you to see. It corrals you into alleyways of belief and misinformation, then curates and manipulates you. Capitalism is going through your bin, working out how to extract even more from you. It's not Big Brother, but big Zuckerberg who is watching.

Recently it was revealed that Facebook has been targeting young girls who delete selfies, with ads around self-image. That means a 16-year-old girl who takes some early morning workout selfies, but decides she doesn't like how she looks and deletes the images, is then shown a series of advertisements which may be around cosmetic procedures like lip filler, or botox or some other appearance-altering industry. How does Zuckerberg have access to the deleted photo files of young girls? What evil algorithm gives opportunistic billionaires greedy hands on our daughters? Does this smell like freedom to you? I'd say it smelt a lot more like coercive control. Gaslighting. Data rape.



Recently it was revealed that Facebook has been targeting young girls who delete selfies, with ads around self-image.

It's part of capitalism's free market capture of human behaviour and its ability to target and monetise our most vulnerable selves. 'Surveillance capitalism' as penned by Harvard Professor Shoshana Zuboff is an economic model where corporations claim human experience as a free resource for data extraction and behavioural analysis. It leads to the commodification of personal data to predict future behaviour. Future behaviour is where the money is. This data is then used to create prediction products sold into behavioural futures markets for use in targeted advertising. Does that give you the ick? It should. It's parasitic economics. Surely our data belongs to us? An online purchase, a comment on Facebook,

a like, a share, a random Google search shouldn't profile us for being targeted with paid advertising. It feels non-consensual. It feels like an invasion of privacy. It feels wrong. But we're up to our necks in it. Most of us have digital footprints as heavy as mud on carpet. Long posts on Facebook about our birthdays or a holiday or our values or something we love, a late-night insomniac browse of webpages or Instagram, and we're profiled.

And yes, when it's only a few tech companies who dominate the landscape, we're farmed. Like Tasmanian salmon. Does it influence our purchase behaviour? Yes. How we vote? Absolutely. It already has. Facebook was always too good to be true. It was never about sharing photos and building friendships. It was a data farm. Data rape.

Maybe it's time we left. You first.

■ 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 two federal elections. *The Echo's* coverage of political issues will remain as comprehensive and fair as it has ever been, outside this opinion column which, as always, contains Mandy's personal opinions only.

STARS BY LILITH

This week's Mercury in Taurus will want flights of fancy backed up with solid sense, so present your pitches and propositions with practical facts and figures...



TAURUS THE BULL

ARIES: Nothing wrong with making sure you maintain creative control, but you wouldn't want to alienate potential supporters. or limit your own expansion. Neptune and Venus in your sign suggest this week could benefit from stepping back for a balanced perspective, and listening to outside input.

TAURUS: The sun, executive Mercury and innovative Uranus syncing-up in Taurus could bring a breakthrough in your work or finances if you're willing to think outside the box and experiment with new methods. They're also pushing for a wardrobe refresh to start your new astrological year in suitably fine style.

GEMINI: The final week of the sun, Mercury and Uranus in your sector of winding-up cycles is the perfect time for tying-off those straggling threads in life's tapestry, tidying up unfinished business and settling overdue accounts before the astro-calendar launches a quadrinity of planetary fireworks in your birthday sign.

CANCER: If last week's intense full moon of consuming passions sparked any kind of possessive or power-tripping flare up and things are still simmering, it's advisable to let them cool down rather than attempt conciliation while people are feeling hot-headed and righteous. Be sensitive to timing - you'll know when.

LEO: With Venus in adventurous Aries dancing a mad fandango with firecracker Mars in Leo, the new and unexplored will be an exhilarating turn-on this week. If you need to have an honest chat about a difficult issue, Venus and Mars in these unrestrained placements pull no punches.

VIRGO: As mentally-oriented Mercury shifts from inspired excitement to practical action mode in a fellow earth sign, wild ideas give way to strategic, tactical thinking and you could find yourself asking if these concepts have legs? Run them through some stress tests and see. You might be surprised.

LIBRA: Your social sign tends to do better in partnerships than going solo, so a team-oriented approach makes sense. If power struggles disrupt this week's cooperative efforts, make sure everyone's role is clearly spelled out. Delegate to diplomatic, capable people with the ability to negotiate calmly.

SCORPIO: Last week's annual Scorpio full moon showcased your deep and meaningful connections, your loyal, sexy self, and your phoenix ability to transform challenges and difficulties into valuable learning curves. Which leaves you masters and mistresses of mystique, charged and pumped to meet this week's challenges with ease and aplomb.

SAGITTARIUS: Mars in grandstanding mode this week makes people prone to exaggeration, but overpromising could attract backlash. There's nothing wrong with adding a few colourful details, but questionable assumptions are likely to get you called out by no-nonsense Mercury. Be sure you can back up your claims.

CAPRICORN: There's plenty of satisfying practical magic operating throughout this material-world week, which has the upside of showing up and getting stuff done, and the downside of a tendency to lock into rigid belief systems. Stay flexible so you can pivot and spontaneously take advantage of unexpected changes or turnarounds.

AQUARIUS: This week's cycle of executive Mercury and inventive Uranus syncing-up in the sign of practical manifestation, plus Saturn in the sign of breaking new ground, supplies a powerful blend of discipline and drive, suggesting that you take bold action while keeping a steady eye on long-term goals.

PISCES: A sun/Mercury/Uranus meetup in your communication zone suggests tackling money talks this week, because when you get intentional with your spending, a little indulgence goes a long way. And Mars revving up your sector of wellness, work, and routines doesn't need a rigid itinerary, just a dedicated regular rhythm.

The Scoop

THE BYRON EVENT ROOM

A brand-new, purpose-built meeting room has opened on Marvell Street, within the recently completed BASQ House hotel. The Byron Event Room is a modern, light-filled meeting room for local businesses to use for impactful and imaginative upskilling retreats, board meetings, training sessions and strategy sessions. The meeting room is surrounded by iconic cafes, restaurants and wellness facilities – all within a very short walk. The meeting room is available for bookings seven days per week, between 7:00am and 7:00pm. 35 square metres, 30-seat capacity (theatre-style), 85-inch TV with conference cam, wireless conferencing system and speakers, kitchenette with Zip Water tap, coffee and tea making facilities, climate-controlled, external catering permitted.



BASQ House
Shop 3, 7 Marvell Street, Byron Bay
02 5671 1000
www.byroneventroom.com.au

GLOBAL RIPPLE CHARITY

Thrift your heart out at the newly expanded Global Ripple Charity Shop! With eclectic treasures for everyone, a great atmosphere, and now even more space full of treasures galore, it's the perfect place to spend a few hours and find some amazing bargains while supporting a local charity. You can shop knowing that every penny spent is directly supporting people in need.



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

Open Monday-Saturday, 9am-4:30pm
2 Grevillea St, Byron Bay Arts & Industry Estate (behind Bunnings)

20 YEARS OF BLUESFEST FOR SAE STUDENTS

SAE University College students were busy behind the scenes at the 2025 Byron Bay BluesFest, marking 20 years of SAE volunteers at the festival. 20 students participated this year, filming, running spotlights, working backstage crews, and interning with creative teams.



For some, it's a step to a dream job; Fernanda Gerdes is the Head Designer at Bluesfest after volunteering for the festival in her final year at SAE in 2021.

'Volunteering at Bluesfest opens a door. If you show you're willing to learn and you have creativity, you'll have access to amazing opportunities', she said. If you want to see where an SAE education could take you, call them for a chat.

1300 136 933 or reach out online:
sae.edu.au/form/enquire-now
sae.edu.au

NORTHERN RIVERS ANIMAL SERVICES

Besides rehoming lost, surrendered, abandoned and sometimes abused companion animals, Northern Rivers Animal Services (NRAS) also provides much-needed services like its subsidised desexing scheme (SDS). Together with its vet partners throughout the region, NRAS offers support to those suffering financial hardship by way of assisting with desexing their animals, with the intention of stopping the cycle of unwanted litters.



The program has been operational for more than a decade and, in 2024 alone, the organisation contributed out more than \$23,000 to assist the community by desexing 73 dogs and 126 cats.

To learn more about adopting through NRAS; enquire about subsidised desexing; or to make an end-of-financial-year donation, call 02 6681 1860.

shelter@nras.org.au
www.nras.org.au

BYRON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Join supportive courses designed to help you feel better in body and mind.

Self-Help for Anxiety: prioritising your mental health is essential – join their supportive 6-week fee-free course* designed to help you manage anxiety in a safe, therapeutic group environment. 6 x Fridays, 23 May to 27 June.

Yoga Over 60s: gentle postures, mindful breath, and deep relaxation tailored for ages 60+. 6 x Mondays, 19 May to 30 June.

Tai Ji Intro: learn the ancient art of Tai Ji to centre your body and calm your mind. 6 x Mondays, 19 May to 30 June.



Mullum campus 02 6684 3374
www.byroncollege.org.au

* This training is subsidised by the NSW Government and subject to availability

LISMORE GEMFEST

One of the largest gem shows in Australia, the 33rd Lismore Gemfest is on this Saturday, 17 and Sunday, 18 May!

With 140 stallholders selling everything from crystals to jewellery, fossils to lapidary equipment, there's something for everyone.

There will be fossicking for small gems on the hill, a lapidary demonstration in the pavilion and a colouring competition, with great prizes to be won.

Three lucky-gate-prizes will be drawn at Gemfest on Sunday at 3pm and the lucky winners notified. See Facebook page for prizes.

A free shuttle bus will loop between Lismore Transit Centre and Alexander Parade on both days.

A large number of food and drink stalls onsite will cater to a variety of tastes. The perfect family day out!



Lismore Showgrounds
www.lismoregemfest.com.au
116 Alexandra Pde, North Lismore

TURN YOUR LAND INTO PASSIVE INCOME!

If you own 5+ acres of scenic property, partner with Into The Wild Escapes to place an off-grid tiny home and enjoy a truly passive income. Their off-grid getaways reconnect guests with nature, offering them an authentic taste of Australia's wild beauty. Meanwhile, you benefit from having them on your land, leaving you free to enjoy the rewards. At Into The Wild Escapes, they handle everything, from marketing, booking and customer service, to property maintenance, ensuring a seamless experience for you and your guests. By joining their mission to rewild, you'll help create meaningful connections with nature, support regional tourism, and promote sustainable travel. Get in touch to find out how your land can become an eco-friendly retreat.



host@intothewildescapes.com
www.intothewildescapes.com



Eclectic Selection

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK



✿ **Donny Shades** has been crafting her unique sounds in the heart of the vibrant music scene in Byron Bay. Whether she's jamming with her covers band, mesmerising audiences with her soulful solo performances, or collaborating on original projects, Donny has a magnetic sound that captivates listeners.

Thursday at The Rails, Byron Bay. Free show

Eastern Europe, playing traditional folk music and smoky jazz.

Thursday from 6pm at Saint Maries, Brunswick Heads. Free show



✿ A fun and carefree atmosphere permeates their cheerful tunes, as **Green Velvet** mix up multiple genres from classic rock'n'roll, jazz, funk, disco, dance, rock, and pop – right up to now. That's decades of music to please everyone's taste.

Friday 6.30pm at the Cabarita Beach Hotel. Free show

✿ Presented by World Expeditions, the 2025 **Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour** is a 3-hour celebration of the mountain and adventure sport world. Sharing over 2.5 hours of the most exhilarating short films



✿ **Mondo Hum** are a couple of Australian musicians with generational family ties in

from explorers, runners, mountain bikers, skiers, paddlers and climbers from around the globe.

Thursday and Friday at 7pm at the Brunswick Picture House, Brunswick Heads

Tickets from \$24 for kids, \$32 adults at brunswickpicturehouse.com



✿ Songs can come from anywhere – from adventures, from history, from matters of the heart. Most of the songs from **Keeping North** are little pieces of fiction, other peoples' made-up stories, but perhaps inspired by the real world and lives well-lived.

Saturday at The Rails, Byron Bay. Free show

✿ **SOUL'D**, is a dynamic presence in the Northern NSW music scene – renowned as one of the



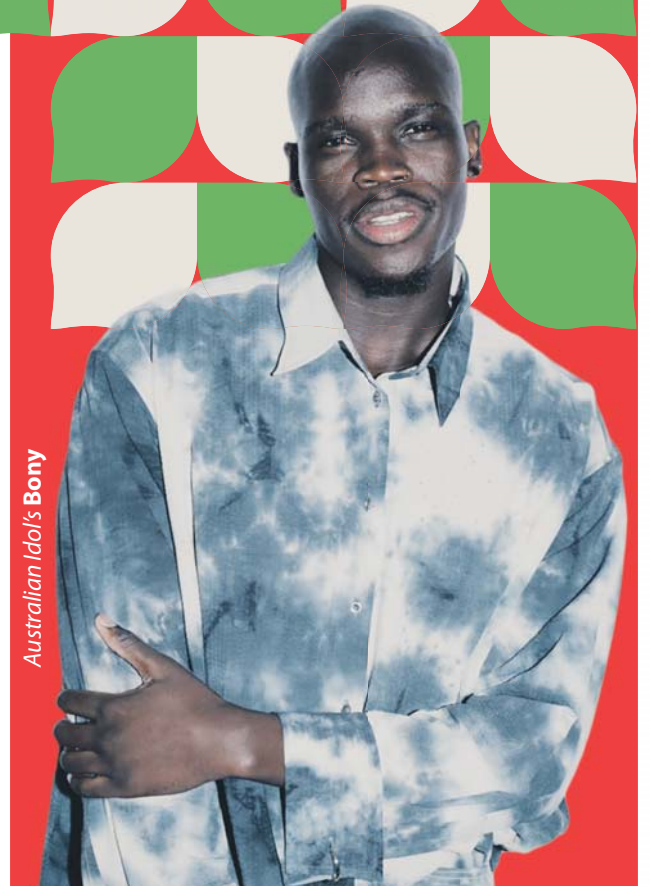
region's most prominent live music rock bands, this ten-piece ensemble boasts an impressive lineup of musicians.

Saturday from 4.30pm at the Hotel Brunswick, Brunswick Heads. Free show



✿ This Sunday Blues Club Session features the **Lez Karski Trio** – Karski's long association with the blues has yielded a shed-load of classic original material. With Karski's unique guitar and vocal style, waggish lyrics, and compelling rhythms, his brand of music is good dancing fun.

Sunday from 2.30pm at the Ballina RSL Boardwalk. Free show



Australian Idol's Bony

Vegas in Lennox for Rafiki Mwema

Vegas is coming to Lennox and the **Rafiki Royale** is looking to be a sell-out event for Lennox Head-based charity, Rafiki Mwema.

Rafiki Royale will be a **spectacular Vegas-themed event** to support a life-changing initiative at Rafiki Mwema – building a self-sufficient farm that will provide fresh, nutritious food for the 100+ children they care for every day.

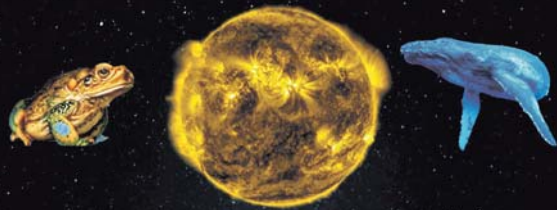
The funds raised will be used to purchase cows, cows in calf, chickens and fish, which will significantly reduce reliance on donations for food, making the charity more sustainable and self-sufficient for the long term. The livestock will add to the already established fresh produce farm which is growing fruit and vegetables. Excess food or food products can be sold in the community with proceeds invested back into the farm. This initiative will offer invaluable life skills for the older children at Rafiki. Through hands-on farming, they will learn how to grow food, care for animals, and develop business skills – empowering them to be independent and support their own families after Rafiki.

Hosted by **Mandy Nolan**, guests will enjoy an unforgettable evening featuring real casino tables with professional dealers, live music, entertainment, delicious food, a cash bar, and the chance to win some amazing prizes – and also, a special appearance by **Australian Idol's Bony** – yes organisers are thrilled to announce that Bony, a top-10 contestant from the latest season of *Australian Idol*, will be there on the night.

Bony was born into a Kenyan refugee camp and didn't know life outside the camp until his family made the move to Australia. Bony who lives in Brisbane, has his own unique vocal style, incorporating autotune. He made it into the top-10 of the show's latest season performing hits from Sam Fischer and Ne-Yo.

Ticket on sale and every dollar raised goes directly to Rafiki Mwema. See page 6 for news story. Dust off the sequins and pull out the feathers, this is a night you don't want to miss! To buy tickets and find out more about Saturday's big event visit rafikimwema.com.

THE TOAD THE WHALE AND THE SUN



THE EPIC JOURNEY OF A QUANTUM SHIFT

Screening of Dean Jefferys' epic 2-hour documentary, 9 years in the making + Q&A

The psychedelic Toads, the Whales and the Sun are offering insights to humanity in these critical times

Lismore Star Court Theatre, May 15th 6pm

Byron Community Centre, May 17th 7pm

Mullumbimby Drill Hall, May 24th 6.30pm
 + before at 4.30pm, cult classic, *Shamans of the Amazon*

Watch trailer, get tickets + more info:

www.toadwhalesun.com

Lube Me Alone

THE SEQUEL TO
 'TEARDROPS ON
 MY DILDO'



24 MAY, 7PM
 BRUNS PICTURE HOUSE
 BRUNSWICK HEADS

VANESSA LARRY MITCHELL
brunswickpicturehouse.com



Are you high enough?

Sky High presents *Riddim Time*, live at the Beach Hotel, Byron Bay for all things reggae, soca, dancehall and soul.

Featuring **Errol Renaud 'C Soul'** who is a true pioneer of Caribbean music in Sydney, Australia, and across the Asia Pacific region. Originally from Trinidad and Tobago, Errol and his band **Caribbean Soul** deliver an irresistible blend of reggae, soca, Caribbean grooves and world beats. With decades of experience and infectious energy, Errol has carved a legacy as one of the leading voices in Caribbean music down under. Explore his vibrant catalogue and performances on YouTube, Spotify and his official website.

Dj Jayo is a local heavyweight of the scene, DJ Jayo brings the deepest cuts across ska, reggae, dancehall and dub. Known for his impeccable selections and energy behind the decks, he keeps the vibe alive and the dance floor moving, all night.

Raissa Hari is a Brazilian singer, composer, instrumentalist and producer. Influenced by Brazilian rhythms she creates her unique blend of samba and bossa nova.

Joining Raissa will be talented percussionist **Thiago Nicascio**. He brings the heartbeat of Brazilian music through his playing. Together they deliver an immersive and authentic Brazilian musical experience.

Sunday from 4.30pm at the Beach Hotel, Byron Bay – this is a free show.

Conscious Light

Conscious Light – The Divine Life and Revelation of Avatar Adi Da Samraj is an award-winning documentary that offers a penetrating glimpse into the remarkable life and enlightened teachings of **Avatar Adi Da Samraj** and his work to establish a way of ultimate spiritual realisation for everyone.

Conscious Light draws on extensive archival film, photography, and audio recordings, as well as interviews with students who lived with Avatar Adi Da and continue to practice the way that he revealed.

The film will be screened next Tuesday at the Marvell Hall, in Byron Bay. Avatar Adi Da Samraj devoted his human life to revealing and establishing a means for all human beings to discover the ultimate nature of reality, which he describes as conscious light, or the 'Bright'.

Avatar Adi Da communicated the Bright not just through words or philosophy, but by his direct spiritual transmission of it.

The great message that Adi Da Samraj brings to all is that the fundamental need of every human heart is to exceed the paradox of mortality, of bodily existence in a finite world, and to realise infinite love, perfect freedom, and boundless happiness.

Such realisation is not only our most essential need, it is also our certain and inevitable destiny. This is because the true condition of reality itself – and therefore of everyone and everything – is not the finite mortal world or universe, but indivisible conscious light – which is the limitless manifestation of infinite love, perfect freedom, and boundless happiness.

Spiritually realised masters of varying degrees have appeared throughout history to teach,



and awaken humankind. Though seldom recognised or rightly honored in their own time and place, such realisers are the world's greatest spiritual treasures.

Adi Da Samraj has appeared within this ancient and venerable tradition of all divinely realised masters, with the same impulse to teach, bless, and awaken humankind to the one truth that is reality itself.

Thus, Adi Da revealed and established a new sacred tradition. His numerous books of spiritual, philosophical, social, and practical wisdom are widely acknowledged as among the most insightful spiritual teachings of this age.

In response to Adi Da's blessings, Adidam sanctuaries and centers have been established globally. Avatar Adi Da does not offer mere techniques for self-improvement, but a transformative relationship to all who respond to his spiritual presence and state of being.

The film will be shown on Tuesday at 7pm at the Marvell Hall, 27 Marvell St, Byron Bay. Admission is free – donations are welcome.

The best comedic talent

Are you ready to laugh your arses off? The Brunswick Picture House is bringing you some of the best comedic talent from around Australia and beyond!

You don't need to be a Kate Bush fan at all to be swept away by *An Evening Without Kate Bush* – the huge cult cabaret show that sold out runs at the biggest fringe festivals around the world: Edinburgh, Perth and Adelaide.

This is not a tribute show, it's a real celebration of the mythology behind this pop icon. **Limited tickets are left for Saturday's show – be there at 7pm.**

Then the fabulous, and oh so filthy, **Vanessa Larry Mitchell** delivers *Lube Us Alone*, the sequel to her acclaimed *Teardrops on My Dildo*. Expect stories, and more things that should never be said out loud on **Saturday, May 24 at 7pm.**

More shows to see to be believed: do NOT miss the comedic genius of **Ruby Teys** as she performs her original Australiana tropicana psychological sh*tstorm – *Cherry Vinyl – Coober Pedy's Last Showgirl* on **Thursday, May 29 at 7pm.**

Australia's reigning champion of cheerful comedy **Kirsty Webeck** returns to share *Everything I Need To Say About Sea Creatures* – her all-new show on **Saturday, May 31 at 7pm.**

Sexy doesn't begin to describe what you'll see on stage at *Kinky Drawers* – it's the art event spectacular where burlesque meets life drawing! Selling fast for the Friday May 23 event at 7pm.

And that's just the next couple of weeks! – June will see new shows from **Luke Heggie**, the



grand master of them all, **Tom Gleeson**, and just this week, the 'House has announced brand new shows from **Steve Kilbey** (The Church), **Emily Lubitz** launching her new album, **Tim Freedman's Moonlit Deck**, a conversation from ABC Radio's **Roly Sussex**, the hugely popular Bruns musical *The Wake*, guitar virtuoso **Daniel Champagne**, and finally, the iconic **Brun Does Winter Burlesque** – that's 11 shows!

Tickets for all shows at brunswickpicturehouse.com

2025 MULLUM ROOTS FESTIVAL
12-13 JULY

A boutique music festival set in the village of Mullumbimby.

THE WAIFS
SHANE HOWARD | DOG TRUMPET | ROBERT FORSTER
DAVID BRIDIE | JEFF LANG | CLAIRE ANNE TAYLOR | TAMAM SHUD
FELICITY URQUHART & JOSH CUNNINGHAM | ROD MCCORMACK
EMILY LUBITZ (TINPAN ORANGE) | THE SOUL MOVERS (WITH MURRAY COOK)
KINGFISHA | ELLIS D FOGG | JOEY'S COOP
JONNIE GOES TO CHURCH | BERNIE HAYES | LOU BRADLEY
TOPAZ LYON | VERSACE BOYS | JIMMY DOWLING
HUBCAP STAN AND THE SIDEWALK STOMPERS | ELLEN BRIGGS
GLESLIA ADAMS | THE IMPRINTS | JB'S BLUES BREAKERS
WILD THYME | TROMBONE KELLIE GANG | SOUL'D | THE LOVE BUS

Plus many more to come.

LIMITED TICKETS
WWW.MULLUMROOTSFEST.COM

Echo
BYRONBAY.COM

BLOWING THE TRUMPET AT MULLUM ROOTS

The last time I saw Reg Mombassa, we were on the Condamine River – he was sketching Ash Grunwald while he surfed the frack bubbling water, as neighbouring farmers fired threats, and a shot or two, over our heads. Ahhh those were the days...

Last week we were in the comfort of our respective lounge rooms chatting about Reg and brother Peter O'Doherty's band Dog Trumpet in the lead up to their Mullum Roots Festival show in July.

Reg, why are you so loyal to that battered old guitar?

Oh – probably because I can't be bothered getting another one – haha, no, I actually like it because it suits the way I play – I play a bit of slide guitar and to do that you need a slightly higher action. And, I just like the sound of it, and the feel of it. I play other guitars too sometimes, but it's just convenient.

When I bought it, it was a sunburst, and we had it sprayed blue, that was 30-odd years ago. So all those years of sweating on it, and wear and tear, left it looking pretty tattered. I should eventually, I suppose, get it resprayed, but I probably won't get around to it.

Do you see yourself as a muso who does art, or, like Joni Mitchell, are you an artist who does music?

Is that what she says? She's done a fair bit of music!

Well, I'd have to say, both really, because I started out as an artist when I was a kid – I had piano lessons for three

months when I was 12, so I tinkered around on keyboards. I didn't get an acoustic guitar till I was about 15. I had already been painting since I was about 13. So in a way, I was probably an artist before I was a musician, but it kind of goes backwards and forwards. In the first years of the Mentals [Monbassa was a founding member of Mental As Anything], I'd already had my first big art show, but then once the Mentals got up and running, for the first few years, I didn't have that many art shows. I'd still be doing art all the time, but not as full on. Later on I started having more regular exhibitions again.

Yeah, do you still think people are 'Fucking Idiots' (2022)

Well, some people are. I don't think everyone is. I mean, that song was kind of written from the point of view of an alien looking at the world and saying, 'What the fuck are you doing now? You fucking idiot!' The lines about marching around in stupid uniforms, I'm thinking more of countries that have armies which they use to bully their neighbours or

bully their own people with, whereas I don't think Australia does. Some of the insults in the song are really targeted at certain people or certain countries.



What inspires you – what's the thing that pushes you forward each day?

Just getting up in the morning. You have to work to make a living, partially, but also, you're working to deadlines – you've got an album coming out, or you've got a tour coming up, or you've got an art show coming up.

What's your current ear worm?

I've been listening to some Karen Dalton songs, she was really a great, great singer. She wasn't hugely well known. She recorded a few albums in the sort of mid- to late-'60s, and then I think maybe in the early '70s. She didn't have a great deal of success. But a lot of a lot of musicians cite her as an influence. She was an interesting woman.

What's great about coming to the Mullum Roots Festival?

I like that part of the world. I like the country around there. I've done quite a few drawings and paintings of the country up around the coast, and then into the hinterland.

Do you think it's important for small towns to have festivals?

Yeah, I think it is. The good thing about any sort of festival is that it's good for a small town, just to bring people in and provide a bit of activity for the local businesses. I like

playing at festivals because you've pretty much got a guaranteed audience and you get to see other bands that are on the bill – you run into other musicians, that's about the only time you really do.

Do you want to live forever?

Are you referring to our song? Yeah. It's a cloak. It's kind of an ambiguous lyric, really, because it says, 'Would you want to live forever?' And I probably wouldn't want to live forever if my body and mind stayed sound, and the world hasn't turned into some sort of horrid, apocalyptic, dystopian, fascist kind of meritocracy nightmare, which is what people like Elon Musk's would seem to like.

Are you having enough fun?

I'm still enjoying playing. We've got a bit of a break now until our album comes out, then we'll be getting around a bit. I really still enjoy playing live. I don't so much enjoy the traveling and lugging amps and stuff around anymore, but I certainly enjoy, and I enjoyed songwriting and recording as well.

Mullum Roost Festival is on the weekend of July 12 and 13.

To find out more visit mullumrootsfest.com.

BAYFM PRESENTS

AIR WAVES

SATURDAY 17 MAY 2025
BANGALOW BOWLO
KIRIN J CALLINAN

LOOSE CONTENT
VERSACE BOYS
THIRST TRAP
CASEY MAY AND THE LOVERS
STATLUCKY

DOORS 4PM 18 PLUS

OZTIX →

NSW Sound NSW Bay FM AMRAP CBAA

THE FILTHY ANIMALS

CLASSIC ROCK BANGERS!

GLEN WUIRHEAD	PETE ROBINSON	BOBBY POULTON	SHENIE	BRETT WILLIAMS	HAMISH ROSSE
KEYS	GUITAR	BASS	VOCALS	GUITAR	DRUMS
ENROGLIERS	ELECTRIC MARY	WOLF MOTHER	THE POOR	CHOIRBOYS	THE VINES

SUN 25 MAY 4:30PM

BEACH HOTEL, BAY ST. BYRON BAY

Sky High Presents

Riddim Time

Reggae. Soca. Dancehall

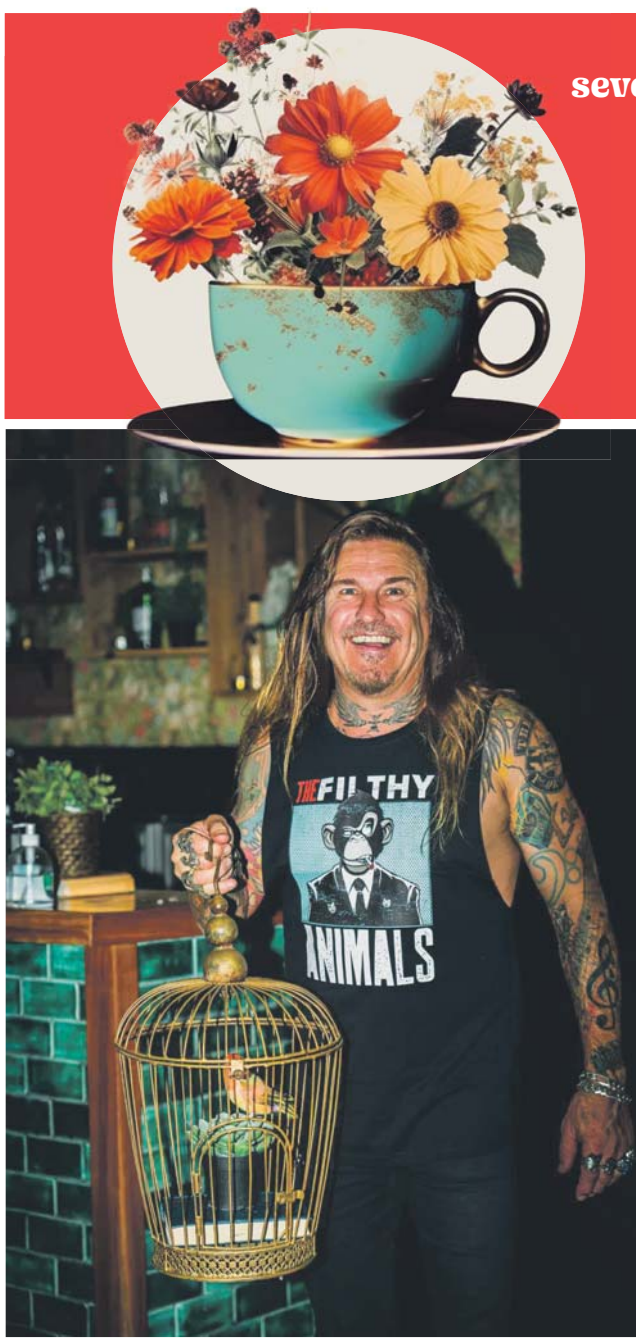
SUN 18.05.25
4.30PM-9.30PM
FREE ENTRY

Errol Renaud
SOUL
DJ Jayo
Raissa Hari

Beach Hotel Byron

GIG GUIDE

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



They're filthy animals

All legends, all classic rock hits – the **Filthy Animals** are back with another all-star line up, this time featuring the larger than life Skenie from The Poor! The Filthys like to mix it up, but you'll always get a stage full of legends and you'll always get the best rock songs of all time – done right!

Australia's largest supergroup, The Filthy Animals, is a rotational lineup from a pool of over 35 of Australia's finest musicians from Aussie pub rock royalty bands fronted by legends of rock, sport and TV.

Whatever the lineup, the band continues to delight audiences and gather followers wherever they perform, with their infectious joy to be playing some of the best classic rock songs of all time with other musicians they respect and admire while keeping the audience smiling and dancing all night long!

The current line up is **Skenie** (The Poor) on vocals, **Glen Muirhead** (Eurogliders) on keyboards, **Pete Robinson** (Electric Mary) on guitar, **Bobby Poulton** (Wolfmother) on bass, **Brett Williams** (Choirboys) on guitar and **Hamish Rosser** (The Vines) on drums.

This is a free show on Sunday, May 25 at the Beach Hotel, Byron Bay from 4.30pm.

WEDNESDAY 14

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **ELLA JONES**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **DEVU**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 7PM **INO PIO + DJ DAVI BANGMA**, 9PM **DUELLING PIANOS – JON SHORTER & SHANE PARRY**
- A&I HALL, BANGALOW, 6PM **POKEY LAFARGE**
- BANGALOW BOWLO 7.30PM **BANGALOW BRACKETS OPEN MIC**
- THE PADDOCK PROJECT, MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM **OPEN MIC JAM**
- ELTHAM HOTEL 5PM **IRISH FOLK JAM**
- LENNOX PIZZA 6.30PM **OPEN MIC NIGHT**
- NORTH BYRON HOTEL 4.30PM **DJ DAVID BANGMA**
- HOWL & MOAN, BYRON BAY, 7PM **CERBERUS WITH BLINDSNAKE & TC/3**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 6PM **ANDY JANS-BROWN**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 7PM **BANFF MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL WORLD TOUR 2025**
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM **DJ LOST BOY LUDO**
- ST JOHN'S SCHOOL HALL, MULLUMBIMBY, 7.30PM **ECSTATIC DANCE MULLUM WITH DJ DAKINI**
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY, 8PM **KRAPEOKEEE WITH JESS**
- CLUB LENNOX 7PM **TIM STOKES**
- CHERRY STREET SPORTS CLUB, BALLINA, 7PM **THE COASTERS**

THURSDAY 15

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **DONNY SHADES**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **JB'S BLUES BREAKERS**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 5PM **DAN HANNAFORD + DJ QUENDO**, 6PM **JOE CONROY**, 9PM **DUELLING PIANOS – JON SHORTER & SAM WHEAT**
- NORTH BYRON HOTEL 5.30PM **OPEN MIC**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 6PM **NATHAN KAYE**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 7PM **BANFF MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL WORLD TOUR 2025**
- SAINT MARIES, BRUNSWICK HEADS, 6PM **MONDO HUM**
- ELTHAM HOTEL 7PM **MARINA ALLEN**
- LISMORE CITY BOWLO 7PM **THE SUPPER CLUB SOUL BAND**
- THE CITADEL, MURWILLUMBAH, 6PM **AMATEUR MUSIC EVENING**
- THE CITADEL, MURWILLUMBAH, 7PM **JO DAVIE AND CIGANY WEAVER**
- CABARITA BEACH HOTEL 6.30PM **GREEN VELVET**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 5PM **BLAKBOI**
- SALTBAR, KINGSCLIFF, 6PM **LACHIE DWYER**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE SHOWROOM 8PM **THE BURT BACHARACH SONGBOOK**

FRIDAY 16

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **MARSHALL OKELL BAND**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 5PM **THE GIN BUGGS & PEKING DUK**
- BYRON THEATRE 6.30PM **THE ROAD TO PATAGONIA**
- NORTH BYRON HOTEL 1.30PM **DJ ALICE Q + DJ NAT WHITE**
- BANGALOW FARMER'S MARKET 8AM **JOE CONROY**
- BANGALOW BOWLO 4PM **AIR WAVES 2025 – KIRIN J CALLINAN, LOOSE CONTENT,**

- VERSACE BOYS, THIRST TRAP, CASEY MAY AND THE LOVERS AND STAYLUCKY
- BANGALOW HOTEL 6PM **ELLA JONES**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 4.30PM **SOUL'D + DJ BEATDUSTA GOODIE**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 7PM **AN EVENING WITHOUT KATE BUSH**
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 3PM **DJ DARLAN**, 4PM **DJ TAZ**
- MULLUMBIMBY CIVIC HALL 7.30PM **YAIMA**
- BILLINUDGEL HOTEL 6PM **JB'S BLUES BREAKERS**
- LENNOX HEAD COMMUNITY CENTRE 6PM **RAFIKI ROYALE – VEGAS COME TO LENNOX TO SUPPORT RAFIKI MWEMA**
- CLUB LENNOX 7PM **GUY KACHEL TRIO**
- BALLINA RSL BOARDWALK 6PM **SARAH GRANT DUO**
- CHERRY STREET SPORTS CLUB, BALLINA, 8PM **OUTBACK ROAD**
- LISMORE WORKERS CLUB 6.30PM **TOMMY MEMPHIS**
- THE LEVEE, LISMORE, 8.30PM **MURAT**
- MURWILLUMBAH SERVICES CLUB 6PM **CLASSIC GOLD**
- THE CITADEL, MURWILLUMBAH, 6.30PM **BOB DYLAN TRIBUTE SHOW**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 5PM **CINNAMON SUN**
- SALTBAR, KINGSCLIFF, 6PM **INO PIO**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE SHOWROOM 8PM **ANTHONY CALLEA & TIM CAMPBELL**
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL 6PM **PARAGON**

MONDAY 19

- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 4PM **TOMMY SEXTON & KOOLI**
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY, 3PM **SWAMP CATS OPEN MIC**
- BILLINUDGEL HOTEL 1PM **TAHLIA MATHESON**
- 7 MILE BREWERY, BALLINA, 2AM **JOE CONROY**
- LENNOX HOTEL 3PM **COASTAL ROAD**
- LENNOX PIZZA 3PM **DIVINYL + JOSE**
- BALLINA RSL BOARDWALK 2.30PM **SUNDAY BLUES CLUB SESSIONS FEAT LEZ KARSKI TRIO**
- ELTHAM HOTEL 4PM **BRAD COX**
- UKI MARKET 8.30AM **LOREN AND SANNE PLUS SPECIAL GUESTS AND LADI ABUNDANCE**
- THE CITADEL, MURWILLUMBAH, 6PM **CALDERA CINEMATHEQUE-BOWIE-MOONAGE DAYDREAM**
- CABARITA BEACH HOTEL 3PM **STEPHEN LOVELIGHT**

TUESDAY 20

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **STEPHEN LOVELIGHT**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **LILLI FAIRFAX**
- BYRON THEATRE 6.30PM **ELI PAPERBOY REED AND SIMON BURKE**
- LENNOX HOTEL 9PM **MATT DAY TRIO**

WEDNESDAY 21

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **LILLI FAIRFAX**
- BANGALOW BOWLO 7.30PM **BANGALOW BRACKETS OPEN MIC**
- THE PADDOCK PROJECT, MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM **OPEN MIC JAM**

SUNDAY 18

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **HAYLEY GRACE DUO**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 4.30PM **RIDDIM TIME**
- NORTH BYRON HOTEL 2PM **DJ WILL CONNELL**
- YULLI'S, BYRON BAY, 3PM **YULLI'S OPEN MIC**
- BANGALOW HOTEL 4PM **LEIGH JAMES**

SATURDAY 17

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **KEEPING NORTH**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 3PM **JOSH LOVEGROVE & GAUDION AND HEIN COOPER & MADISON KAT**
- BYRON THEATRE 7PM **THE TOAD THE WHALE AND THE SUN**
- NORTH BYRON HOTEL 1.30PM **DJ ALICE Q + DJ NAT WHITE**
- BANGALOW FARMER'S MARKET 8AM **JOE CONROY**
- BANGALOW BOWLO 4PM **AIR WAVES 2025 – KIRIN J CALLINAN, LOOSE CONTENT,**

PALACE CINEMAS
BYRON BAY - BALLINA FAIR

SESSION TIMES
THURSDAY MAY 15
TO WEDNESDAY MAY 21

COMING SOON
Lilo & Stitch

NOW SHOWING
Tom Cruise
MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE - THE FINAL RECKONING

SCAN TO BOOK ONLINE

PALACE BYRON BAY

SPECIAL SCREENINGS

FLASH GORDON (1980) (PG)
CULT VAULT
Mon: 6:00PM

NT LIVE: VANYA (ENCORE) (15)
Thurs, Fri: 1:00PM, 6:00PM. Sat, Sun: 1:00PM

FAMILY FILMS

A MINECRAFT MOVIE (PG)
Daily except Fri: 10:45AM, 1:30PM. Fri: 10:45AM, 1:30PM, 6:20PM

FLOW (G)
Thurs, Fri: 1:30PM, 3:30PM. Sat, Sun: 11:00AM

ALL FILMS

CROCODILE DUNDEE: THE CORE CUT (M)
Thurs, Fri: 3:45PM

FINAL DESTINATION: BLOODLINES (MA15+)
Daily except Wed: 1:20PM, 3:40PM, 6:00PM, 8:15PM
Wed: 1:10PM, 4:10PM, 6:30PM, 8:45PM

HURRY UP TOMORROW (MA15+)
Thurs, Fri: 1:15PM, 3:15PM, 8:20PM. Sat, Sun: 1:15PM, 3:15PM, 8:10PM. Mon, Tues, Wed: 1:15PM, 3:30PM, 8:30PM

MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE - THE FINAL RECKONING (M)
Sat: 11:20AM, 1:40PM, 2:40PM, 3:40PM, 5:00PM, 6:00PM, 7:00PM, 8:10PM. Sun, Mon, Tues, Wed: 11:20AM, 1:40PM, 2:40PM, 3:40PM, 5:00PM, 6:00PM, 7:00PM

MONSIEUR AZNAVOUR (M)
Daily: 10:45AM, 8:20PM

OCEAN WITH DAVID ATTENBOROUGH (PG)
Daily: 3:40PM, 6:15PM

SINNERS (MA15+)
Daily except Thurs, Fri: 3:30PM, 8:20PM. Thurs, Fri: 12:50PM, 3:30PM, 8:15PM

SMALL THINGS LIKE THESE (M)
Thurs: 10:50AM. Fri: 10:50AM, 8:30PM. Mon, Tues: 10:45AM

THE ACCOUNTANT 2 (MA15+)
Thurs, Fri: 3:40PM, 8:10PM. Sun, Wed: 8:10PM. Mon: 12:50PM, 8:10PM. Tues: 12:50PM, 8:10PM

THE PENGUIN LESSONS (M)
Daily except Wed: 10:45AM

THE SALT PATH (M)
Thurs, Fri: 10:45AM, 3:45PM, 5:45PM, 8:30PM. Sat, Sun:

11:15AM, 3:45PM, 5:45PM. Mon, Tues, Wed: 11:15AM, 3:40PM, 5:45PM, 8:15PM

THE SURFER (MA15+)
Thurs, Fri: 1:30PM, 6:10PM, 8:30PM. Sat, Sun, Tues, Wed: 1:30PM, 6:10PM. Mon: 1:30PM, 8:10PM

THE WEDDING BANQUET (M)
Daily except Wed: 11:00AM. Wed: 10:45AM

THUNDERBOLTS* (PG)
Thurs, Fri: 10:50AM, 1:10PM, 5:30PM. Sat, Sun: 1:00PM, 5:30PM. Mon, Tues, Wed: 1:00PM, 5:50PM

TINA (MOTHER) (M)
Daily except Thurs, Fri: 11:00AM. Thurs, Fri: 11:00AM, 6:00PM.

BALLINA FAIR CINEMAS

MINECRAFT MOVIE (PG)
Thurs, Fri, Sat: 10:00AM. Sun, Mon, Tues, Wed: 9:45AM

CITIZEN KANE (PG)
Sat: 12:10PM

FINAL DESTINATION: BLOODLINES (MA15+)
Thurs: 2:50PM, 5:10PM, 7:30PM. Fri: 3:00PM, 5:20PM, 7:40PM. Sat, Sun, Mon, Wed: 5:15PM, 7:45PM. Tues: 5:20PM, 7:45PM

HURRY UP TOMORROW (MA15+)
Daily except Thurs, Fri: 10:15AM, 5:30PM. Thurs, Fri: 10:15AM, 5:15PM, 7:30PM

MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE - THE FINAL RECKONING (M)
Sat: 9:45AM, 2:40PM, 6:00PM, 7:30PM. Sun, Mon, Wed: 9:45AM, 12:00PM, 3:15PM, 6:30PM, 7:30PM. Tues: 12:00PM, 3:15PM, 6:30PM, 7:40PM

OCEAN WITH DAVID ATTENBOROUGH (PG)
Thurs, Fri: 12:40PM, 5:00PM. Sat, Sun, Mon, Wed: 1:00PM. Tues: 1:10PM

THE SURFER (MA15+)
Thurs, Fri: 10:30AM, 2:50PM. Sat, Sun, Mon, Wed: 3:10PM. Tues: 3:15PM

THUNDERBOLTS* (PG)
Thurs: 12:10PM, 2:40PM, 7:15PM. Fri: 12:10PM, 2:45PM, 7:15PM. Sat, Sun, Mon, Wed: 2:50PM.

It's Free! to post your gig in the Echo Gig Guide

It will appear in the paper, the online gig guide and on Bay FM
email gigs@echo.net.au with the details

ECHO CLASSIFIEDS – 6684 1777

CLASSIFIED AD BOOKINGS

PHONE ADS

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

AT THE ECHO HEAD OFFICE

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

Village Way, Stuart St, Mullumbimby

EMAIL ADS

Display (box ads) and line classifieds, email:

classifieds@echo.net.au

Ad bookings only taken during business hours: Monday to Friday, 9am–5pm. Ads can't be taken on the weekend. Account enquiries phone 6684 1777.

DEADLINE TUES 12PM

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

RATES & PAYMENT

LINE ADS:

\$17.00 for the first two lines

\$5.00 for each extra line

\$17 for two lines is the minimum charge.

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

These prices include GST.

Cash, cheque, Mastercard or Visa

Prepayment is required for all ads.

CLASSIFIEDS THAT WORK ALL WEEK!

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

Echo

Metso

Ballina Foundry are looking for Foundry Operatives to join the team.

Manual labour –

Casual, Full Time hours.

Contact us 02 9984 2201

CANE SEASONAL TRUCK DRIVERS wanted! HC or MC licence holders for the Condong, Broadwater or Harwood NSW sugar mill areas. Contact Wendy. Keel@sctlogistics.com.au with a resume or 0409568795, or apply direct at seek.com.au/job/82948461

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

TAXI DRIVERS WANTED

Flexible work hours – perfect 2nd income

Email operations@byronbaytaxi.com

WORK WANTED

HANDYMAN SERVICES No job too big or too small. Call for quote. \$60ph. Insured. 0439735817.

DISCLAIMER

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

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KINESIOLOGY

Clear subconscious sabotages.

Reprogram patterns and beliefs.

Restore vibrancy and physical health. De-stress.

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Simple and effective solutions.

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TRADEWORK

Septic Waste Removal Summerland Environmental

The Liquid Waste Specialists!

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

6687 2880

TREE SERVICES

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

HART TREE SERVICES

20 years local experience

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

Fully insured • Free quotes

0427 347 380

GARAGE SALES

UNDERCOVER & 5 DIVERSE WOMEN'S GARAGE SALE

Clothes, beanies, plants, jewellery, loose beads, camping and gym gear, household, electricals, local pottery, books, GIVEAWAYS and more.

Sat 17 May 8am-3pm

3 Orchid Place, Mullumbimby, near the market

Tip Runs & Rubbish Removal

0408 210 772

CARAVANS

CARAVANS

We buy, sell & consign.

All makes & models.

0408 758 688

SHORT TERM ACCOM.

2 BED HOUSE FOR SHORT TERM RENT 22 June to 1 August

- South Golden Beach
- quiet neighbourhood
 - garden • covered deck
 - piano • internet
 - indoor and outdoor shower • bath • canoes
 - walk/cycle to beach

\$750 /week
0420 235 624

Not suitable for pets or young children

TO LET

SUFFOLK PARK modern furnished 2bdrm house, non-smoker. Carport. Electricity included. Beautiful setting. \$800pw, Ph 0421785588

YURT 1bdrm in spectacular 150 acres 7 mins to Mullum. Yurt is single room with dble bed space attached, kitchen, outdoor shower and bath, spring water + solar + shed. \$290pw + 1/2 day in the gardens or helping on the land. Info: 0432570311

BRUNSWICK HEADS 2br/1bath apartment in 4-unit block. River views. Opposite park \$700pw Text 0419887775

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

BALLINA SELF-STORAGE UNITS Secure. From \$22p/w. Ranging from 10–44 m3. Across 3 locations. 66867011

FOR SALE

ARCHIBALD'S CHEAP QUARRY PRODUCTS

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

BYRON BAY FIREWOOD

Pick-up / Delivery Seasoned Firewood

Kindling, bags, trailer, tonnage. Residential / Commercial / Wholesale Prompt and reliable service.

0401 739 656

byronbayfirewood.com.au

WANTED

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

TREE FERNS

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

Mindfulness @ Work

Bring greater focus, clarity and calm into your workplace.

Certified Mindfulness Educator Paul Bibby
0401 926 090



ZENTHAI SHIATSU

RELAX, RELEASE, RECONNECT

Contact Alex
Zenthai Shiatsu Therapist
Bodywork with intention
One-on-one sessions
0421 921 538
alexandra.birotd@gmail.com



- Emotional First Aid
- Trauma healing
- Stress & pain relief
- Posture & flexibility
- Fears & phobias
- Sabotage programs
- Enhanced performance
- Concentration & focus + much more!

0413 003 301

crystalsanddreaming.com.au

PUBLIC NOTICES

WHERE TO GET THE ECHO

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

MULLUMBIMBY COMMUNITY MARKET & MUSEUM OPEN THIS SATURDAY 8am - 2pm

Versace Boys
Playing Live

www.mullumbimbycommunitymarket.com.au
Cnr Stuart and Myokum St Mullum

No dogs please

LIFE CELEBRATIONS

We announce the passing of **ELIZABETH JANE WOOD nee MUIR** who passed away peacefully on 7.05.25 Aged 95

Dearly loved by her 3 children Jimmy, Chick and Sheona; her 3 grandchildren Danielle, Sam and Camille; and her great-grandchild Isabella.

A celebration of Elizabeth's life will be held on Friday 16th of May at 11am at Tweed Valley Cemetery 813 Eviron Rd. Happy attire would be appreciated.

The family are forever grateful for all the care and love from the staff at RSL Lifecare, Suffolk Park.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made to Dementia Australia.

Rest in Peace, forever in our hearts.

HEALTH

LiveGood

Jason 0421455546

LiveGood.com/Jas

HAWAIIAN MASSAGE

Ocean Shores, Michaela, 0416332886

Career Opportunities Now Hiring at Mullumbimby!

Great opportunity to start or continue your career in Aged Care with Catholic Healthcare!

Coolamon Villa Mullumbimby are looking for care staff to join their supportive and experienced team.

Why work with us?

- Not-for-profit salary packaging benefits – increase your take home pay!
- Ongoing permanent part-time positions
- Work a set roster that suits your lifestyle



To apply, scan the QR code with your smart phone or visit:

www.catholichealthcare.com.au/about-us/careers

Please get in touch with Michael Francis at 0403 130 799 or michael.francis@chcs.com.au to know more.

For more information, please visit:

www.catholichealthcare.com.au/careers

Successful applicants will be required to complete relevant pre-employment checks and provide evidence of right to work in Australia.



MUSICAL NOTES

GUITAR STRINGS, REPAIRS
Brunswick Heads 66851005

PETS



Meet 12 year old Mishka, a beautiful, friendly, well behaved calico tortoiseshell, born on New Year's Day 2013. Mishka would be suited to a fairly quiet family or mature folk as she likes to be included but not overly pampered. She loves a brush, and her coat is incredibly soft! If you are interested in a mature and well behaved furry companion, Mishka could be perfect for you. Microchip no. 943094320382736.

To make an appointment
0403 533 589 • Billinudgel
petsforlifeanimalshelter.net



An adorable male puppy with a jagdterrier cross lineage. Jasper is the perfect age for training and is highly active and would benefit from an environment with plenty of stimulation, socialisation and opportunities for play. As Jasper matures, his intelligent and curious nature will make him a quick learner when it comes to rules and new tricks. This puppy is waiting for an engaging and loving home.



T: 6681 1860 E: shelter@nras.org.au
W: www.nras.org.au



Meli is a 6 month old, Kelpie X. She would be a great family dog for someone with the time to continue with her training. M/C # 991003002702925
Location: Murwillumbah.

For more information contact Yvette on 0421 831 128
Interested?

Please complete our online adoption expression of interest. <https://friendsofthepound.com/adoption-expression-of-interest/>

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

Byron Dog Rescue (CAWI)



Handsome 7-month-old male Kelpie x Bull Arab 'Maxi' is an exceedingly sweet natured boy. He is very responsive to directions and corrections, is quite submissive and excellent with other dogs. He will no doubt be a mix of very active combined with chilled affectionate couch potato. Maxi would suit life on a property/farm or would be the most charming companion for someone with an active lifestyle with time to exercise and train. Please contact Shell on 0458461935. MC: 941000028968305



Ileana is a beautiful girl with unusual markings. Tabby and white with a ginger splash on her face. She's quiet but affectionate & is happy hanging out with her friends in the shelter for company. Ileana would make any home a brighter one!

To meet Ileana and our other cats and kittens, please visit the Cat Adoption Centre at 124 Dalley Street, Mullumbimby.

OPEN: Tues 2.30-4.30pm
Thurs 3-5pm | Sat 10am-12 noon
Call AWL on 6684 4070

Like us on Facebook!
AWL NSW Rehoming Organisation
Number: R251000222

TUITION

Adobe Tutoring
Experienced Professional Tutor

- Photoshop
- Indesign
- Illustrator

contact@thinkblinkdesign.com
www.thinkblinkdesign.com

ONLY ADULTS

BALLINA EXCLUSIVE

34 Piper Dr. Open 7 days 10am till late.
In & Out Calls. 66816038.

Ladies wanted

Find us on Facebook and Twitter!

KRYSTAL ADULT SHOP

Large variety of toys and lingerie
6/6 Tasman Way, A&I Est, Byron Bay
66856330

SOCIAL ESCORTS

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



SUN, MOON & TIDES
- TIMES FOR NEXT 2 WEEKS

DATE (May)	DAY, MOON PHASE	SUN RISE / SET	MOON RISE / SET	HIGH TIDES, height (m)	LOW TIDES, height (m)
14	W	6:20 17:04	17:49 7:34	0859 1.23; 2138 1.75	0328 0.50; 1434 0.39
15	TH	6:21 17:03	18:38 8:31	0936 1.19; 2215 1.73	0408 0.52; 1507 0.43
16	F	6:22 17:02	19:32 9:26	1015 1.14; 2256 1.69	0452 0.54; 1544 0.47
17	SA	6:22 17:02	20:31 10:16	1100 1.11; 2340 1.65	0539 0.57; 1625 0.52
18	SU	6:23 17:01	21:32 11:02	1154 1.09	0632 0.58; 1715 0.58
19	M	6:23 17:01	22:34 11:42	0030 1.62; 1300 1.09	0729 0.57; 1819 0.62
20	TU	6:24 17:00	23:37 12:19	0129 1.59; 1414 1.15	0826 0.54; 1935 0.65
21	W	6:24 17:00	12:52	0230 1.58; 1525 1.25	0919 0.48; 2055 0.63
22	TH	6:25 17:00	0:39 13:24	0330 1.58; 1628 1.39	1009 0.41; 2209 0.59
23	F	6:26 16:59	1:42 13:56	0429 1.57; 1724 1.56	1054 0.33; 2317 0.52
24	SA	6:26 16:59	2:47 14:30	0525 1.54; 1817 1.72	1137 0.26
25	SU	6:27 16:58	3:56 15:08	0618 1.49; 1908 1.86	0021 0.45; 1219 0.22
26	M	6:27 16:58	5:08 15:53	0712 1.42; 1958 1.96	0122 0.39; 1302 0.20
27	TU	6:28 16:58	6:22 16:44	0804 1.34; 2047 2.01	0220 0.35; 1346 0.21
28	W	6:28 16:57	7:35 17:44	0856 1.27; 2137 2.01	0317 0.34; 1431 0.25

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

On The Horizon

DEADLINE NOON FRIDAY

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

GCAT

The Green and Clean Awareness Team's monthly Dunecare Day is on Sunday, 18 May from 9am to 12 noon, meeting in front of the Beach Cafe at Clarkes Beach. We plant in the sand dunes from Clarkes Beach to Main Beach. From 12 noon to 1pm, enjoy a

delicious free BBQ and be in the draw to win one of four excellent prizes. It's good fun. Inquiries to Veda 6685 7991 or Peter 0488 715 565.

Zoos for plants

Lismore Rainforest Botanic Gardens is joining Botanic Gardens of Australia

Regular As Clockwork

DEADLINE NOON FRIDAY

Please note that, owing to space restrictions, not all entries may be included each week. Email copy marked 'Regular As Clockwork' to editor@echo.net.au.

End-of-Life Choice

Voluntary Euthanasia End-of-Life Choices are discussed at Exit International meetings held quarterly. Meetings are held at Robina, and South Tweed. Attendees must be Exit Members. For further information www.exitinternational.net or phone Catherine 0435 228 443 (Robina & South Tweed).

Wayahead anxiety group

Wayahead anxiety group in Ballina is run by Mark and Emma. People who are seeking support around

their anxiety can find a safe space to share, learn, and grow together. They meet the second Saturday of the month from 11am until 1pm at the CWA Hall, 236 River Street, Ballina. If you would like to join the Ballina support group, you can register by emailing supportgroups@wayahead.org.au or call 1300 794 992.

Lions Club - Cabarita and Pottsville

The Lions Club of Cabarita Beach and Pottsville Beach welcomes you to our monthly meeting held on the second Wednesday of each month. Our social dinner is held on the fourth Wednesday of each month. Please

and New Zealand (BGANZ) member garden to promote 'zoos for plants'. LRBG is showcasing their 'Big 5 Plants' during their Open Day activities on Sunday, 25 May at 313 Wyrallah Road, East Lismore. Bookings essential by emailing publicity@friendslrbg.com.au.

Biggest Morning Tea

The Anglican Parish of Byron are hosting a 'Biggest Morning Tea' on Friday, 23 May at 10am at St Paul's Anglican Church 14 Kingsley, St Byron Bay. There will be a delicious morning tea and a guest speaker.

Byron Book Fair

Friends of Libraries Byron Shire are once again holding their annual four-day Book Fair from Friday, July 11 to Monday, July 14. Donations of books of all genres are needed and always gratefully received, in clean and good condition. Highlighting the need for children's books, art and limited editions to name a few. For more information and to donate call 0407 855 022.

contact president Bill Brodie for more information on 0411406143.

Fellowship of First Fleeters - Northern Rivers Chapter

Anyone interested in their Convict Family History from any of the many fleets who journeyed here are very welcome to join our group Fellowship of First Fleeters - Northern Rivers Chapter. This includes spouses and friends of any descendants interested in history. We meet every two months and our next meeting will be held on Sunday, 25 May at the Cherry Street Sports Club, Ballina at 10.30am. For more information contact Roddy on 6687 5339 or email him on williamdel2946@gmail.com.

Knit and crochet for charity

The knitting and crochet for charity group run by Ballina Meals on Wheels is held on Monday mornings in Ballina. It is open to people who are 65 years and older. \$5 includes morning tea. Call Kristen: 0419 679719 for more information.

Crafty Women Bruns

CWA Brunswick Heads holds a Crafty Women session every Friday, bar public holidays, from 10am until 2pm. It is open to non-members, just come and join us for knitting, sewing, crochet, card making or whatever craft takes your fancy at the corner of Booyun and Park Streets, Brunswick Heads. There is a gold coin donation and morning tea. Contact 0431 908 063.

Mullumbimby District Neighbourhood Centre

Mullumbimby & District Neighbourhood Centre is open Monday-Friday 9am-4pm (closed 12.30-1.30pm for lunch). We offer a variety of services. Everyone is welcome. Call reception on 6684 1286. Some of our services include:
Flood recovery support service: personalised, long-term support for those impacted by the floods.
Community support: food parcels, meals, showers, assistance with electricity bills. Work Development Orders.
Listening Space: free counselling.
More Than A Meal: free community lunch Tuesday-Thursday 12.30-1.30pm.
Financial counselling
Staying Home, Leaving Violence program: Information, referral, and advocacy.
Gulgani affordable pantry shop: located at 3 Bridgeland Lane.
Orange Sky: free laundry service Mon morning & Wed afternoon. To enquire about accessing any of these services call reception 6684 1286, check our website www.mdnc.org.au, or follow us on Facebook or Instagram. @mullumbimbyneighbourhoodcentre.

Byron Community

The Byron Community Centre provides community services

and programs including meals, advocacy and counselling for locals in need. **Fletcher Street Cottage:** A welcoming, safe and respectful space where people who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness can come to enjoy practical relief opportunities, find connections and access broader support. **Fletcher Street Cottage services** are open Tuesday-Friday; breakfast 7am-9am; showers and laundry 7am-12pm; office support 9am-12pm. Individual support appointments with community workers and specialist services available please book on (02) 6685 7830. Fletcher Street Cottage, 18 Fletcher St, Byron Bay. More info: www.fletcherstreetcottage.com.au. **Byron Seniors Club:** www.byronseniors.com.au. More info on **Community Services:** www.byroncentre.com.au Phone: (02) 6685 6807.

Low-cost or free food

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

Respite Service

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

Alateen meeting

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

ACA

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

Older adult exercise

Chair-based older adults exercise classes run by a qualified instructor, that feel more like fun than exercise, are held every Thursday at 10.15am in the Brunswick Memorial Hall. Cost \$10. All welcome. Just show up or if you have any questions please contact Di on 0427 026 935.

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.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS
Please stick this by your phone

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

ECHO SERVICE DIRECTORY RATES, PAYMENT & DEADLINE

Deadline: For additions and changes is **12pm Friday**
Line ads: \$99 for 3 months or \$340 for 1 year prepaid
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 ads will be placed at end of section.
Contact: 6684 1777 or adcopy@echo.net.au



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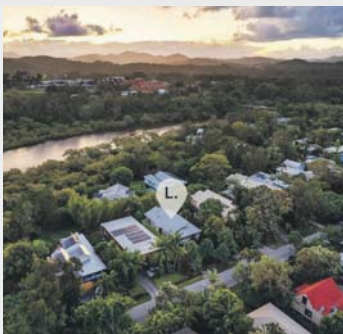


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204 Eureka Road, Eureka

Greg Price
0412 871 500
greg.price@raywhite.com

raywhiteruralbangalow.com.au

5 2 2

32 LEFT BANK ROAD, MULLUMBIMBY



Private Elevated Home plus Granny Flat

5 2 2 3
4002M²

- Character home with vaulted ceilings and polished timber floorboards
- Fully approved one-bed, one-bath granny-flat
- Surrounded by lush greenery and established herb and vegetable gardens
- Offering a peaceful country lifestyle with the convenience of town just minutes away

PRICE | \$1.45M - \$1.595M
OPEN | Wed 14th May 11 - 11:30am
Sat 17th May 11:30am - 12pm



Renee Schofield
0400 028 594



Su Reynolds
0428 888 660

2/19 MARVELL STREET, BYRON BAY



Central Byron - Fully Renovated Spacious Townhouse with Pool

3 1 2 2

- Located in a boutique complex of 4 townhouses, walking distance to central Byron and beaches
- Recently renovated, designed around offering complete privacy
- Heated plunge pool and outdoor entertaining area with a Velux opening roof and built-in outdoor kitchen
- Ducted Air-conditioning throughout

PRICE | Contact Agent
OPEN | Sat 17th May 10:30 - 11am



Su Reynolds
0428 888 660



Renee Schofield
0400 028 594

59/11-19 COOPER STREET, BYRON BAY



Serene Coastal Living in the Cape Byron Estate - Over 55s Apartment

2 1 2 1

- Open-plan living and dining area with timber floors and 2.7m high ceilings
- Large, private, covered deck overlooking the reserve
- Established gardens and yard wrap around two sides making this one of the most private residences in this estate
- Walk to Byron Bay town centre, Arakwal National Park, and Tallow Beach

PRICE | Contact Agent
OPEN | By Appointment



Su Reynolds
0428 888 660



Renee Schofield
0400 028 594

17 BLUE HORIZON DRIVE, LENNOX HEAD



Beachside Living with Sweeping Coastal Views

4 2 3 2
2691M²

- Uninterrupted views from Lennox Head to Broken Head
- Architecturally designed home with a spacious and versatile layout, featuring high ceilings, a suspended fireplace and premium finishes throughout
- North-facing deck and established gardens
- An easy 6 minute walk to Lennox village and Seven Mile Beach, and a short drive to Byron and the Ballina Airport

PRICE | \$4.5M - \$4.7M
OPEN | By Appointment



Helen Huntly-Barratt
0412 332 232

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First National Byron Bay

- 32 Left Bank Road, Mullumbimby. Wed 11-11.30am
- 2/122 Lighthouse Road, Byron Bay. Wed 12.30-1pm
- 12 Chilcott Circuit, Cumbalum. Wed 3.30-4pm
- 160 Reardons Lane, Swan Bay. Thurs 10.30-11am
- 4/6 Keats Street, Byron Bay. Thurs 1.30-2pm
- 73 New City Road, Mullumbimby. Fri 10-10.30am
- 5/7 Cooper Street, Byron Bay. Fri 11-11.30am
- 7 Azolla Place, Suffolk Park. Fri 12-12.30pm
- 451 Federal Drive, Federal. Sat 9-9.30am
- 14 Rush Court, Mullumbimby. Sat 9-9.30am
- 58 Corkwood Crescent, Suffolk Park. Sat 9.30-10am
- 11/31 Hayters Drive, Suffolk Park. Sat 9.30-10am
- 22 Offshore Avenue, Skennars Head. Sat 10-10.30am
- 5/7 Cooper Street, Byron Bay. Sat 10-10.30am
- 41 Main Arm Road, Mullumbimby. Sat 10-10.30am
- 35 Avocado Crescent, Ewingsdale. Sat 10-10.30am
- 1/51 Caniaba Crescent, Suffolk Park. Sat 10.30-11am
- 2/122 Lighthouse Road, Byron Bay. Sat 10.30-11am
- 2/19 Marvell Street, Byron Bay. Sat 10.30-11am
- 7 Azolla Place, Suffolk Park. Sat 11-11.30am
- 25 Dalley Street, Mullumbimby. Sat 11-11.30am
- 4/6 Keats Street, Byron Bay. Sat 11-11.30am
- 27 Roses Road, Federal. Sat 11-11.30am
- 32 Left Bank Road, Mullumbimby. Sat 11.30am-12pm
- 325 Riverbank Road, Pimlico. Sat 11.30am-12pm
- 12 Chilcott Circuit, Cumbalum. Sat 11.30am-12pm
- 845 Fernleigh Road, Brooklet. Sat 12.30-1pm
- 73 New City Road, Mullumbimby. Sat 12.30-1pm
- 147 Whian Whian Road, Whian Whian. Sat 1-1.30pm

Lifestyle Brunswick Heads -

- 28 North Head Road, New Brighton. Sat 11.30am - 12pm

Ray White Byron Bay

- 3/137 Broken Head Reserve Road, Broken Head. Wed 2-2.30pm
- 5/112 Bangalow Road, Byron Bay. Wed 3-3.30pm
- 7 Harah Court, Ocean Shores. Wed 4-4.30pm

- 7/68-70 Lawson Street, Byron Bay. Thurs 1-1.30pm
- 7A Little Burns Street, Byron Bay. Thurs 1-1.30pm
- 3 Tahra Crescent, Ewingsdale. Thurs 2-2.30pm
- 2/62 Shirley Street, Byron Bay. Thurs 2-2.30pm
- 5/112 Bangalow Road, Byron Bay. Fri 3-3.30pm
- 7A Little Burns Street, Byron Bay. Sat 9-9.30pm
- 355 Coopers Shoot Road, Coopers Shoot. Sat 10-10.30am
- 43 Childe Street, Byron Bay. Sat 10-10.30am
- 5/7 Keats Street, Byron Bay. Sat 10-10.30am
- 5/112 Bangalow Road, Byron Bay. Sat 11-11.30am
- 1109 Booyong Road, Clunes. Sat 11-11.30am
- 39 Stuart Street, Mullumbimby. Sat 11-11.30am
- 7 Harah Court, Ocean Shores. Sat 11-11.30am
- 15 Sunrise Boulevard, Byron Bay. Sat 11-11.30am
- 16 Coral Court, Byron Bay. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 2/62 Shirley Street, Byron Bay. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 7/68-70 Lawson Street, Byron Bay. Sat 1.30-2pm
- 70 Charltons Road, Federal. Sat 1.30-2pm

Ray White Rural Bangalow

- 204 Eureka Road, Eureka. Sat 11-11.30am

Tim Miller Real Estate

- 60 Federation Drive, Eltham. Sat 9.15-9.45am
- 3 Wickham Place, Clunes. Sat 10-10.30am
- 5 Glen View Court, Clunes. Sat 10.45-11.15am
- 831 Binna Burra Road, Federal. Sat 11.45am-12.15pm
- 73 Mafeking Road, Goonengerry. Sat 12.45-1.15pm
- 35 Riverside Drive, Mullumbimby. Sat 1.45-2.15pm
- 12 Gardenia Street, Ballina. Sat 3-3.30pm

DJ Stringer Property

- 2/36-38 Dutton St, Coolangatta. Sat 9-9.30am
- 2/2 Shamrock Ave, Banora Point. Sat 10-10.30am
- 8/20 Rutledge St, Coolangatta. Sat 10-10.30am
- 305 Casuarina Way, Kingscliff. Sat 11-11.30am
- 78 Tamarind Ave, Cabarita Beach. Sat 11.30am-12pm
- 1091/14-22 Stuart St, Tweed Heads. Sat 12.30-1pm
- 344/6-8 Stuart St, Tweed Heads. Sat 1.30-2pm

Dodds Real Estate

- 11 Campbell Street, Bangalow. Sat 10-10.30am
- 4 Wattle Place, Bangalow. Sat 11-11.30am
- 25a Lismore Rd, Bangalow. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 108 Main Arm Road, Mullumbimby. Sat 1.30-2pm

Harcourts Northern Rivers

- 1/57 Acacia Avenue, Goonellabah. Wed 11-11:30am
- 66 Riverside Drive, West Ballina. Sat 9:30-10am
- 260 Woodburn Evans Head Road, Woodburn. Sat 9.30-10am
- 40 Lindsay Crescent, Wardell. Sat 10-10:30am
- 2c Fletcher Street, Broadwater. Sat 10.15-10.45am
- 145 Moylans Lane, Empire Vale. Sat 11-11:30am
- 89 Bundara Park Drive, Tuckumbil. Sat 11am-12pm
- 5/25 Crane Street, Ballina. Sat 12-12:30pm
- 4/31 McKinnon Street, East Ballina. Sat 12:45-1:15pm
- 1/57 Acacia Avenue, Goonellabah. Sat 1-1:30pm
- 14 Fieldcrest Place, Lennox Head. Sat 1:30-2pm

Mana Real Estate

- 17 Frances Street, Murwillumbah. Sat 9-9.30am
- 1/50 Hall Drive, Murwillumbah. Sat 10-10.30am
- 1 Tree Street, Murwillumbah. Sat 11-11.30am
- 38 Banool Circuit, Ocean Shores. Sat 11-11.30am
- 119 Commercial Road, Murwillumbah. Sat 12-12.30pm

North Coast Lifestyle

- 26 Pandanus Court, Brunswick Heads. Sat 10-10.30am
- 1 Ocean Avenue, New Brighton. Sat 10-10.45am
- 6 Hakea Court, Mullumbimby. Sat 10-10.45am
- 7B Hart Court, Ocean Shores. Sat 11-11.30am
- 26 Phillip Street, South Golden Beach. Sat 11-11.45am

Ruth Russell Realty

- 41 Prince Street, Mullumbimby. Sat 11-11.45am
- 73 New City Road, Mullumbimby. Sat 12.30-1pm

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With an emboldened re-elected Labor government, it's a good time to remind them that Norway sits on the world's largest sovereign fund at \$1.8 trillion. By taxing oil and gas, they are addressing inter-generational inequality.

It's 2015, and US President Barack Obama has accepted a "sky palace" jumbo jet from the Qatari government, which he'll own after he leaves office. "Everybody relax," he says in an interview with *The New York Times*. Everyone does. The networks then televise the military parade in his honour on his birthday' - Tim Onion.

An ePetition to NSW Parliament against Council's plans to plonk 32 units over a Mullum car park received 763 signatures, according parliament.nsw.gov.au. Readers may remember the petition, put forward by the Mullumbimby Residents Association, angered Labor Cr Asren Pugh. He demanded councillors act on Labor's behalf and send a very firm letter to the Greens NSW member. All the residents wanted was transparency and other options explored.

In last week's story 'Land-sharing, affordable housing event, May 24' (page 7) we published the 1973 Nimbin Aquarius Festival signpost photo without attribution. The photo was taken by the late Chris Meagher.

Australian space company, Gilmore Space Technologies, says it has received approval from the Civil Aviation Safety Authority for its very first flight. The Gold Coast-based organisation says it



Byron Ballet had the Byron Theatre all aflutter on the weekend, as princes, princesses and good - and not quite so good - faeries took to the stage to tell the story of *The Sleeping Beauty*. Photo Eve Jeffery

could launch its Eris orbital vehicle, from Bowen Orbital Spaceport, Qld, anytime after May 15. *The Echo's* tech whiz, Ewan Willis, is one of their rocket engineers.

Congrats Byron Bay First National, who came in second for 'Sales Office of the Year award' at the real estate company's national awards, held at Port Douglas last week.

Philanthropic organisation, Northern Rivers Community Foundation (NRCF), has released its 2024 annual report, and say they distributed a record \$3.1 million to grassroots organisations working across our communities - from food security and housing, to disaster recovery and mental health. CEO Sam Henderson says, 'As June 30 approaches, we invite you to consider making a tax-deductible end of financial year donation to NRCF'.

Local filmmaker, Dean Jefferys, will be showing two of

his shamanic documentaries this week, which focus on the extremely powerful psychedelic molecule, Dimethyltryptamine or DMT.

The screenings are at the Byron Community Centre on May 17 and Mullumbimby Drill Hall on May 24. For more info visit www.toadwhalesun.com.

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