



## Community divided over future of Main Beach carpark

Paul Bibby

The local community is evenly split regarding the future of Byron Bay's Main Beach carpark, a wide-ranging survey and consultation process conducted by Byron Shire Council suggests.

And it seems we will have to wait until later in the year to discover which of the two main options for the popular oceanfront spot will be chosen by councillors, with ongoing delays in preparing Council's Coastal Management Program (CMP) way-laying the planning process.

The split in opinion over the future of the carpark is revealed in a staff report coming before this week's Council meeting in relation to *The Byron Bay Foreshore Concept Plan*.

The concept plan, the major document setting out the future of the Byron Bay foreshore from Fishheads to the northern end of Clarkes Beach, includes the results of a community consultation process about the future of this iconic stretch.

### Evenly split views

This consultation found that the views of respondents were evenly split between the two main options for the carpark, which is located directly adjacent to Main Beach.

These options are: 1) Retaining the oceanfront parking while providing open space and access

► Continued on page 3

## Hugo fearlessly takes on the challenge



Rare good weather shone down on Bangalow last Sunday, as the annual Billycart Derby drew crowds to the much-loved community event. Local police said the under-sevens cohort reached a top speed of 34km/h coming down the hill on Byron Street. At almost two years old, Bangalow bub Hugo was hoping he might be allowed into the under-sevens division. Photo Eve Jeffery

## Council GM, mayor defend staff over land deal

Hans Lovejoy

Council's General Manager, Mark Arnold, and Greens Mayor Sarah Ndiaye, have strongly backed planning staff after claims they improperly intervened to assist wealthy developers with their controversial large, exclusive 38 lot greenfield proposal near McAuleys Lane and Mullumbimby Road.

Submissions for development application (DA) 10.2023.454.1 at 53 McAuleys Lane closed on Monday; the DA faces fierce opposition from

neighbours armed with their own peer reviews, along with a myriad of unanswered questions.

### Botched assessment

Already, the DA is the subject of a botched assessment and re-advertising by Council staff.

If approved, it could have considerable impact on the busy Mullumbimby Road – it is estimated 13,000 vehicles use the road daily.

One crucial point for the DA appears to be whether a deal can be brokered to acquire a piece of

land on the corner of McAuleys Lane and Mullumbimby Road.

Landholders who own that corner parcel told *The Echo* they were approached three months ago by Council staff, asking them if they were interested in selling a portion of land to facilitate the DA, and were told the land is not required for the Mullumbimby Road upgrade.

They said, 'No offer was made at the meeting with Council staff, nor has there been any further communication since, from either Council or the owner/developer'.

The landholders say they felt confused by this approach from Council and require further clarification, 'especially with the imminent upgrade of the intersection and Mullumbimby Road and the advertising for submissions on the DA closing'.

*The Echo* asked Council staff, 'If staff's intervention on behalf of developers proposing the DA was for "improved safety", why didn't staff instead require the developer to upgrade that intersection at their own cost as part of their DA application?'

► Continued on page 2

What's behind the Buttery doors?  
► p2

New big industry hub proposed on Ewingsdale Road ► p6

Palestine supporters leaving area after abuse ► p15

Mullum the location of great local biz ► p18

Health and healing Byron style ► p24

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# What's behind the Buttery doors?

Hans Lovejoy

There's an immortal line from Paul Kelly's hit song, 'To Her Door' which reads, 'He went to The Buttery, stayed about a year. Then he wrote a letter, said I want to see you, she thought he sounded better, she sent him up the fare.'

Kelly's artful lyricism was of course referring to a broken marriage that was mended after drug rehabilitation at a small humble facility, located near Bangalow.

On Thursday, The Buttery opened its doors to the community to give an insight into how they change lives and mend those broken by addiction and mental health issues.

After a Welcome to Country and a speech from Mayor Sarah Ndiaye, personal, heartfelt stories were shared by those who had overcome their substance misuse through expert guidance and self-discipline.

Buttery CEO Leone Crayden told the packed room the history of the NORCO dairy facility, built in 1913.

By 1973, it had become a drop-in rehab centre called 'The Churn'. There's been recent improvements, Leonie said, including repainting and the addition of town sewerage.

## First open day since 1977

Leone told *The Echo*, 'It was our first open day since 1977! We are now not just a residential rehab, but offer free



From left are staff member and former resident, Dan Ward (from the Post Custodial Support Program), CEO Leone Crayden, and staff member, David Dalton (Senior Clinician and Maintenance to Abstinence (MTA) Coordinator).

drop-in community services (for those suffering from drug and alcohol addiction and mental health issues at all ages, including under 18) from Tweed Heads to Port Macquarie.

'We are a not-for-profit that survives purely from government grants and the generosity of the community - we are always in need of funds (especially at the moment) to be able to accommodate the growing number of Northern

Rivers locals with drug and alcohol, and mental health issues seeking treatment.

'As well as to be able to maintain and improve our 100-year-old hinterland site', added Leone.

The not-for-profit charity offers a range of services, including outreach programs around the state.

For more information visit [www.buttery.org.au](http://www.buttery.org.au).

# Byron Community Market to temporarily relocate



Byron Community Market. Photo byroncentre.com.au

Owing to extensive drainage works being carried out by Byron Shire Council in Byron's town centre, the Byron Community Market will temporarily relocate to the Main Beach foreshore from July 2025.

Organisers say, 'The Byron Community Market on Sunday June 1 will take place at the current town centre location as scheduled. This will be the final market at that site until further notice.'

## Twilight Market not affected

'The first market at the new foreshore location will take place on Sunday, July 6 from 8am to 2pm.'

'All subsequent Byron Community Markets will continue at Main Beach for the duration of the drainage construction period.'

'The Byron Twilight Market will not be affected by this move, and will remain at Railway Park from October 2025 to April 2026.'

'The Byron Markets team is coordinating the relocation to ensure a smooth transition and all stallholders have been informed and will be supported in the lead-up to the move. Maintaining the continuity and vibrancy of the markets remains a key priority' they said.

For more info, visit [www.byronmarkets.com.au](http://www.byronmarkets.com.au).

# Council GM, mayor defend staff over land deal that benefits developers

► Continued from page 1

Mr Arnold told *The Echo* that 'Byron Shire Council strongly and absolutely refutes any suggestion that staff have not followed correct processes in relation to assessment and processing of development applications, including land on McAuleys Lane and Myocum Road'.

'Staff, at all times, adhere to NSW legislation and the planning framework', he said.

Mr Arnold also added that 'In the case of the draft planning agreement, it will

be reported back to Council in June. Council's decision will inform the report on the development application to be presented to the Northern Regional Planning Panel (NRPP) for determination', Mr Arnold said.

There is a clause in the planning agreement where Council can withdraw from the deal. On page 16, it reads: 'Council may discontinue the acquisition process should the compensation payable to the owner of the acquired land become, or is likely to become

the subject of an appeal to the Land and Environment Court of NSW pursuant to the *Just Terms Act 1991*'.

## Policy breach?

*The Echo* asked Greens Mayor Sarah Ndiaye whether she thought staff had breached their Code of Conduct for Council Staff 2022 policy around fairness and equity. On page 8, part 3, 3.3 of the policy reads: 'You must deal with matters in accordance with established procedures, in a

non-discriminatory manner'.

She told *The Echo*, 'Staff have acted in a transparent and appropriate manner within the framework of established planning procedures and legislative obligations. I have no reason to accept the suggestion that there has been any improper conduct by Council staff'.

Despite staff admitting it was not ordinary practice to intervene on behalf of a developer, she said, 'I believe it's not unusual for staff to engage with landowners in

the early stages of large-scale proposals - particularly when potential safety or infrastructure upgrades are involved. These conversations do not equate to an endorsement of a development, and any necessary land acquisitions are considered through formal processes that require a resolution of Council.'

'I appreciate that some landowners may have had concerns or questions, and it's important those are heard and responded to respectfully as part of the assessment

process. However, any implication of favouritism or breach of conduct does not align with my understanding of how this matter has been handled. The property in question sits within the Rural Land Use Strategy and has been subject to a separate planning proposal to amend the LEP. So, movements toward ensuring necessary works can be done sit well inside Council's purview', Cr Ndiaye said.

■ Editorial page 10

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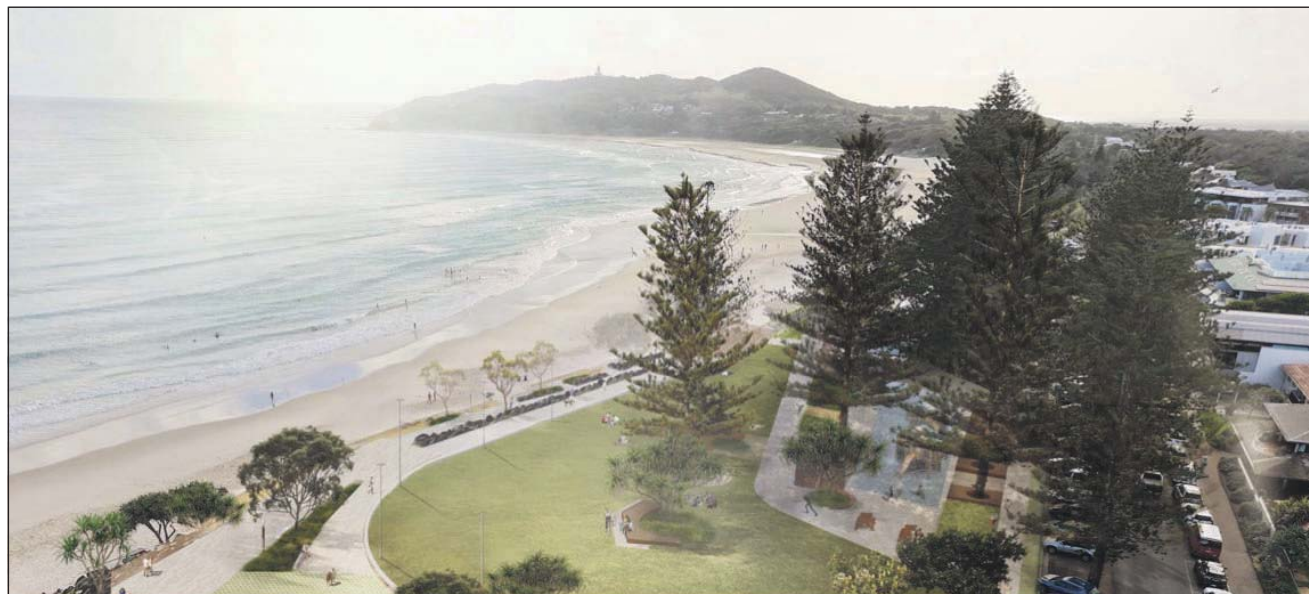
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# Foreshore debate this Thursday



One of the concept images presented in Council's *Byron Bay Foreshore Concept Plan*. Perhaps the most contentious proposal is to remove the carpark on Main Beach and relocate the car spaces to a multi-storey carpark behind the pool.

► Continued from page 1 improvements, or 2) Removing 80-plus car spaces from the beachfront and relocating them to a new multi-storey carpark behind the pool. In the latter option, the carpark would become an extensive oceanfront green space.

The choice between these two options has been a source of much debate within the Byron Bay community since they were first put forward last year.

While some argue that replacing the carpark with a green space will enhance both the recreational amenity and visual appeal of this prime piece of public land, others say the carpark is a cherished spot for local surfers, swimmers and travellers wanting to park in a spot with a clear view of, and immediate access to, the beach.

Council's consultation process, which included a survey of around 800 residents, reflects the division.

Each of the two options received around 45 per cent support, while the remaining 10 per cent said they were 'unsure'.

However, while the staff report noted these opposing

views, it said a final decision on which option to choose could not be made until a related planning document, the Coastal Management Program (CMP), had been completed.

This was because the future of the carpark is dependent, in part, on what happens to the rock wall and groin which lie directly adjacent to it.

With these coastal protection structures covered by the CMP, which is yet to be completed, planning for the carpark remains on hold.

While this omission has left a gaping hole in *The Byron Bay Foreshore Concept Plan*, the document nevertheless contains several significant changes to the remainder of the foreshore area.

This includes new amenities and a new play space for Apex Park, additional planting throughout the foreshore reserve, a new kayak storage space, and the relocation of the beach cafe, Beach.

## Beach cafe moved

The relocation of the cafe, which is being directed by the state government's Crown Lands department,

has also been somewhat controversial.

While there is support for relocating the cafe to address erosion concerns, the community has strong reservations about the proposed two-storey design of the development, and emphasises the need for designs that respect both the environment and public accessibility.

The majority of respondents to Council's consultation process opposed adding a second storey owing to

visual impact, environmental fit and precedent.

Ensuring the cafe remains accessible to the public was crucial, and that it should cater to the local community, including offering affordable food and beverage options.

*The Byron Bay Foreshore Concept Plan* will come up for discussion and debate at this week's Council meeting.

More information can be found in the agenda to the meeting, located on Council's website.

## Youth regenerative scholarship open

A regenerative systems scholarship is on offer for young people up to 30 years old, with the aim of increasing the resilience of local food systems through youth empowerment.

It's led by Green For You, a social impact initiative based in the Northern Rivers.

Organisers say the diploma-level scholarships will explore both the theoretical and practical principles of regenerative systems.

The deadline for applications is July 14, and applications can be made via [www.greenforyou.com.au](http://www.greenforyou.com.au).

# Man dies in car crash near Mullumbimby

A man believed to be 19 years old died following a single-vehicle crash on Left Bank Road, Mullumbimby on Sunday night.

Police say emergency services were called at around 7.10pm following reports of the crash.

They said, 'Police attached to Tweed/Byron Police District have been told a vehicle had left the

roadway and crashed into a tree. The driver was assisted by community members who commenced CPR prior to the arrival of emergency services. NSW Ambulance paramedics arrived and treated the driver; however, he was unable to be revived.

'While yet to be formally identified, the driver is believed to be a 19-year-old man', said police.

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## Byron Centre celebrates vollenie week

Volunteers at Fletcher Street Cottage, which is run by the Byron Community Centre. Photo supplied

It's National Volunteer Week (19–25 May), Australia's largest annual celebration of volunteering, that recognises the vital role volunteers play in building stronger, more connected communities.

At the Byron Community Centre, over 250 volunteers dedicate their time and skills across every part of the organisation.

The centre's managers say they support performances at the Byron Theatre, assist vulnerable community members through Fletcher Street Cottage, help deliver seniors

programs and social events, provide visitor information services, coordinate arts and wellbeing activities and work behind the scenes on administration, community events and fundraising.

Marketing manager, Kate Love, told *The Echo*, 'Our volunteers are the lifeblood of Byron Community Centre.'

### 130 years of vollies

'Their generosity and community spirit has carried us through the past 130 years, and their impact continues to be felt every single day.'

'The 2025 celebrations form part of the community centre's wider 130 Years of Community Spirit campaign, honouring the people who have shaped Byron's community life across generations and ensuring that community connection remains at the heart of Byron's future', says Kate.

Anyone interested in volunteering, donating, or supporting Byron Community Centre's work can find more information at [www.byroncentre.com.au](http://www.byroncentre.com.au) or [www.fletcherstreetcottage.com.au](http://www.fletcherstreetcottage.com.au).

## Calls for an end to rooster dumping

Paul Bibby

A local animal welfare charity is calling on Byron Council to support them in addressing the ongoing issue of rooster dumping in the Shire.

In a presentation to Byron Council this week, Julie O'Shea from 'Who Gives a Cluck', will ask for a range of measures to stop, or reduce, this cruel and resource-taxing practice.

Ms O'Shea told *The Echo* around 50 roosters had been dumped in the Shire in the past six months alone.

Particular hot spots included the Yelgun Rest Area off the Pacific Highway, and the area behind the Brunswick Heads Bowling Club. Parks in and around Mullumbimby were also notable dumping locations.

She said after years of volunteers rescuing dumped roosters, the group decided to be proactive.

### Pilot program

Who Gives a Cluck is seeking help to undertake a pilot program in the Shire to stop the dumping of roosters.

This would include putting up large posters where roosters are commonly dumped



Head 'mother clucker' Julie O'Shea and volunteer Mel just love the chooks they rescue at the Who Gives a Cluck world headquarters in Mullumbimby. Photo Eve Jeffery

asking people to refrain from the practice and including QR code links to information about alternatives to dumping. The charity is also calling on Byron Shire Council to introduce significant fines for rooster dumping as both a deterrent and a way of sending a message that the practice is taken seriously.

Another important aspect of rooster dumping that a pilot program would address, Ms O'Shea says, are the issues that stem from hatching programs in pre-schools and primary schools.

She says while the intention for hatching programs is well-meaning, 'unfortunately what happens is that a few

weeks after the chicks have hatched, the parents end up being encouraged to take them home.

'Then a month or so after that they discover that the chick they've taken home is a boy, and that not only will it not lay eggs, but that there are clear regulations stating that you can't have roosters in urban areas.'

Ms O'Shea and her group want to offer schools and pre-schools alternative ways for kids to learn about hatching that don't involve producing more unwanted roosters.

For more information or to get involved visit [www.whogivesacluck.org](http://www.whogivesacluck.org).



## Byron Shire Community Awards 2025

Do you know someone who deserves an award to recognise their achievements and contributions to the Byron Shire?

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## Off-grid and low carbon footprint for Living School

In an inspiring step towards a greener and more resilient future, the Living School in Lismore has been awarded a significant grant by the AIS (Australian Independent Schools) program to install an impressive solar and battery energy system.

Ben Pietzsch from ProSolar Australia, who installed the array, told *The Echo*, 'This project is more than just a win for the school – it's a shining example of how community spirit, innovation, and sustainability can come together for the greater good'.

'The new system not only dramatically reduces the Living School's carbon footprint and energy bills, but it also offers a powerful gift to the broader Lismore community.'

### Peer-to-peer

'Thanks to a pioneering peer-to-peer energy trading platform, the school can share its surplus clean energy with local households, delivering cheaper, greener power to the community.'

'More critically, in times



Living School conductor, John Stewart, pictured with Ben Pietzsch, says the new solar system is not only practical, it is also educational as students learn about how power consumption works. Photo Eve Jeffery

of disaster – whether storms or floods – the Living School will act as a beacon of energy security. With its own renewable power generation and storage capabilities, the school will be able to provide vital electricity, making it a true lifeline for Lismore families when they need it most.

'This initiative is a testament to what's possible when we face the challenges of climate change and rising living costs and

energy reliability that are pressing hard on regional communities'.

Pietzsch said, 'Lismore has weathered more than its fair share of hardships in recent years'.

### National model

'Today, thanks to vision, courage, and community collaboration, it also stands as a national model for energy resilience and sustainability. Here's hoping more schools

– and more towns – follow this bright lead.

'We are very excited to be a part of this cutting edge project for the Living School and our region.'

'Many businesses and organisations can now take advantage of the rebates available in NSW to create their own power, store it, use it and/or sell it on to the community-keeping our power local, produced by us for us,' adds Ben.

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# Big fill needed for industry hub proposal on Ewingsdale Rd

Paul Bibby

A large industrial estate would be built on land opposite the Cavanbah Centre in Byron Bay under a planning proposal coming before Byron Shire Council on Thursday.

Proposed by the developer behind the nearby Harvest housing estate (NSPT Pty Ltd) the so-called 'Byron Bay Industry Hub' would be located on the site of the former Sunnybrand poultry processing plant at 268 Ewingsdale Road.

The development would see the 18.6-hectare site become home to 24 large industrial lots with an average size of 2,500–3,000 square metres.

The site had previously been earmarked by Council as suitable to help address the shortage of industrial land in the Shire, and the developer says that the hub would generate 802 full-time jobs and \$92.1 million in wages annually.

However, much like the Harvest housing development further down Ewingsdale Road, the entire site is flood-prone.



The former Sunnybrand poultry processing plant, located next to Island Quarry and opposite the Cavanbah Centre. Photo Council agenda

## 250,000 cubic metres of fill

According to the developer's own documents, the site would require the importation of 250,000 cubic metres of fill prior to construction.

That is more than triple the amount of fill required to build the entire Harvest housing estate.

Nevertheless, the private consultants hired by the developer to assess the flood impact, BMT Commercial Australia, concluded that the

development would 'not have any significant impact on the Belongil Creek floodplain and will not result in any notable changes to the flood extent in the locality'.

Council staff agreed both with this assessment, and the proponent's other assessment reports, recommending that councillors green-light the planning proposal when it comes before them this week.

'Land constraints such as flooding, stormwater, ecological impacts, bushfire risks, land contamination,

groundwater conditions and traffic concerns have been addressed to the satisfaction of internal staff,' staff said in their written report accompanying the application.

Should councillors agree with staff, the developer would be a significant step closer to the central goal of the planning proposal – having the site rezoned from RU2 (rural landscape) to E4 General Industrial.

The proposal would then proceed to the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure for a 'gateway determination'.

This would then pave the way for a more detailed development application (DA) to be submitted in relation to the site.

However, in addition to this planning process is an ongoing process of negotiation between the developer and the Native Title Holders for the land, the Bundjalung of Byron Bay Aboriginal Corporation (Arakwal).

The staff report notes that 'negotiation is currently underway with the Arakwal Corporation and NTS Corp to acquire the land'.

'The Arakwal board met

on April 17 to discuss the land. The outcomes of this meeting are under review by the proponent...' the report states.

From an ecological perspective, the staff report notes that the site is already 'heavily disturbed', having been home to the poultry processing facility until 2014, and then other industrial uses including a nursery, timber storage, taxi parking, and a fruit and vegetable packing operation.

## Freshwater wetlands

However, there are freshwater wetlands to the south of the site which staff say must be protected in any future development.

This includes avoiding any impact on protected wetlands and any significant impacts or changes to the hydrology regimes both inside and outside the development footprint.

It is not clear how these conservation aims will be achieved, given the 250,000 cubic metres of fill that would need to be imported onto the site prior to construction.

# Byron Bay chamber hosts open forum, May 26

The Byron Bay Chamber of Commerce will again host an open forum board meeting on Monday, May 26 from 6pm at the Byron Bay Services Club.

## Connect with board

Organisers say, 'This is your chance to connect directly with the chamber board, hear updates on current initiatives, and share your ideas or concerns about the local business environment'.

'Whether you're a long-time member, or new to the chamber and Byron business, all are welcome – come along, get involved, and help shape the future of business in Byron.'

## Support prosperity

According to [www.byronbaychamber.com](http://www.byronbaychamber.com), 'Our aim is to support prosperity for our members, enhance the well-being of the broader community, and uphold Byron Bay's reputation as a vibrant, values-driven place to do business'.

**"The Big Picture Program has been life-changing. She has absolutely blossomed and is doing things she never thought possible."**

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## Dispatches from Stone Brew Day

Paula Johnston

**W**e were excited to be among the guests at the Stone and Wood's Stone Brew Day last week.

It was a special occasion that they take seriously and with much pride.

This is an alchemist's happy place!

The team outlined our night, which included beer tastings, a yummy roast by 100 Mile Table, and of course the ritual of placing red-hot stones from the fire pit into the wort. The resulting beer will become a limited release.

The knowledge the staff shared was impressive, to say the least.

Thank you, Stone & Wood for putting on a great night!

Keep an eye out for Festival Of The Stone on June 14, now in its 11th year.



From left, Pat Keeble (Brewery Manager) and Scott Hutton (Brewer). Photo supplied

## Tough day for the Giants at Cudgen

Ross Kendall

The Mullumbimby Giants first-grade rugby league side endured their first loss of the season after travelling away to take on table toppers Cudgen, going down 64-10.

The local side has posted wins against Casino and Tweed Heads this season, but has also missed a few games to weather before last Sunday's outing saw them conceding 12 tries to two against a side that has won all five games it has played so far this season.

Cudgen are also

undefeated in reserve grade, with five wins from five, and were able to hold out the Giants winning 20-14, in a four tries to three encounter.

In the women's touch, Cudgen were again too strong winning 40-0.

The U/18s did bring some joy however, winning their encounter 24-6. The win leaves them three from three for the season, and equal on top of the ladder with Murwillumbah and Ballina.

### Local derby weekend

The Giants' energies will now be firmly fixed on the

upcoming weekend, when they host the Byron Bay Red Devils across four grades at home on the Les Donnelly Fields, this Sunday, May 25.

It's a big game too, for the Byron Bay first-grade side that hasn't yet made it onto the winners board this season.

The women's touch kicks off the day from 10.50am, with the other three grades following throughout the afternoon.

The Giants are also taking the opportunity to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the club's clubhouse and relocation to its current position.

## Tennis league gathers mid-season momentum

Jesse Taylor, NET League

As the NET League hits its stride in its inaugural season, courts across the region are alive with Saturday afternoon energy.

Players, young and old, are embracing the thrill of structured team competition, with rankings on the line, and new opponents to test their skills. Many are relishing the chance to play in new surroundings, while juniors are rising bravely

to the challenge of facing seasoned adults, and gaining confidence with every match.

### Standings snapshot

In Division A, Bangalow have just nudged into the lead thanks greatly to a lethal pairing of coaches Jack Cox and Pedro Giro.

On show was a very high level of play such as a gripping match-up between Masters Tour player Bruce Conroy (Suffolk Park) and rising junior

Che Ward (Byron Bay).

Division B is equally tight, with Suffolk Park, Byron Bay and Brunswick Heads all within two points of each other after round six.

The standout story here is the fantastic junior inclusions as players as young as ten step into adult competition.

Hats off to Sonny Reid, Frankie Smith, Marley Campbell and Harper Clinton for their fearless debuts.

## Elders' Hub in Mullum, May 24

The next Elders' Hub meeting will be on Saturday, May 24, held in the yurt in the Gordon Street permaculture gardens in Mullumbimby.

Co-organiser Anjali Walsh says, 'the event will feature a

talk (with slides) by Dr David Miller, 'who is now retired, but still remembered as the much-loved Main Arm "baby catcher"'

'He will speak on "How to Stay Inspired" and will focus

on the anatomy of breathing and the Vagus nerve in maintaining resilience and health. Our sharing circle will start at 10am and the talk will follow.

'All are welcome!'

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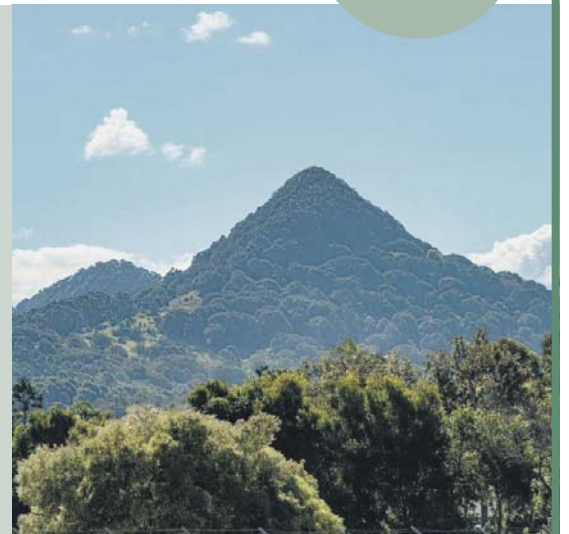
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**Echo**

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**Murwillumbah businesses report sales increase**

Murwillumbah businesses have reported increased sales as part of a state government pilot program aimed at boosting the local business economy through new volunteer business levies via Community Improvement Districts.

**Lismore City Council's community scorecard, residents not happy**

In late 2024, 1,678 Lismore residents participated in a community scorecard that delivered a frank assessment of their council's performance.

**Collaboration key to fighting fire ants in NSW**

A call for a collaborative effort in the fight against fire ants was delivered yesterday by the Minister for Agriculture and Regional New South Wales, Tara Moriarty, as she announced the start of Operation Victa, a joint three-day operation with NSW Police and the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator.

**\$2 million for Lismore Boulevard in state footpath funds**

The Byron, Tweed, Kyogle, Clarence and Lismore local government areas are included in a list of approved state-funded projects aimed at improving physical health, mainly through walking.

**Drugs seized, man charged – Kingscliff**

A man has been charged after police allegedly located and seized drugs inside a home in Kingscliff on Thursday, 15 May.

**Second teen charged over alleged trespass – Tweed Heads**

A second teenage boy has been charged as part of an ongoing operation focusing on anti-social behaviour in Tweed Heads.

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

**Lismore Council ask RA to salvage materials from buyback homes**

Aslan Shand

Lismore City councillors voted to write to the NSW Reconstruction Authority (NSW RA) asking to 'investigate a partnership for the sale of salvaged materials from buyback properties condemned for demolition to the community'. Councillor Harper Dalton-Earls brought the motion to Tuesday's Lismore Council meeting and most councillors came out in support of the motion.

Cr Dalton-Earls highlighted the unique elements of Lismore's historic houses as well as the quality of products compared to modern doors, windows etc.

Cr Adam Guise spoke in favour of the motion, saying it was 'long overdue' and highlighting that the NSW RA

had failed to acquire land and relocate these historic buildings as they had originally promised.

**Lismore heritage burning?**

'Here we are three years on, and we have a state minister sipping the demolition companies onto the communities of Lismore to demolish their houses, and it's a real tragedy,' said Cr Guise.

'It's a real tragedy in our community, that prides itself on a fair flood recovery, that looks after the most vulnerable, that prides itself on a circular economy strategy – where we've pretended that we would recycle, reuse, avoid sending things to waste. Yet here we are allowing this travesty to happen – and bespoke, 100-year-old

hardwood homes are being sent to an incinerator in Queensland. It's a travesty, and it has to stop...'

'This is a great start, but it's three years too late, and what I've said from day one is we need to acquire land to enable relocations. Land is the expense here, and you might talk about it's expensive to salvage or move houses, but boy, when you've seen the price tag for demolishing them, turning them into splinters, trucking them up the highway to burn in an incinerator at \$100,000 a pop? Well, that's an expensive, stupid, and environmentally destructive process. We've got to get smarter about it.'

The motion was ultimately supported by all other Council members apart from Big Rob.

**Tweed Council opts for WWAG over direct consultation with Hasting Point community**

Aslan Shand

The upgrade of the Hastings Point Wastewater Treatment Plant (HPWTP) has been a contentious issue for the Tweed Shire Council (TSC) with strong community lobbying for the most environmentally sensitive option, which is also the most expensive option by around \$20m.

In February, the decision over which option to adopt was deferred with Council staff pushing for option 4 and the local Hastings Point community pushing for option 5. Additional engineering assessment works are currently underway for both option 4 and 5.

At Thursday's TSC meeting (14 May) Mayor Chris Cherry proposed that, 'the general

manager bring back a report on how Council can best liaise with the nominated community representative in the concept design phase of the HPWTP upgrade; how the mechanism works for them to be able to provide feedback on the draft concept design; and that Council actually resolves to pursue the best outcome available based on environmental, social and economic grounds in the upgrade.'

Cr Cherry focused on the value an informed and engaged community could bring to the process.

Dr Nola Firth then put an alternative motion that sought to establish a Waste Water Advisory Group (WWAG) that would look at all waste water issues across

the Tweed Shire.

'This decision has to be made between option 5 and option 4 and the difference between those two is financially huge,' said Cr Firth.

The difference between the cost of the two options is around \$20m and Cr Firth said that this was a cost that would be paid for by the entire Tweed Shire ratepayer base.

'I believe the whole community needs to be involved' so that 'all stakeholders in the whole community have a chance to be involved'.

The motion to set up a WWAG was carried with Crs Cherry and Deputy Mayor Meredith Dennis, voting against.

■ Read full story in *The Echo* online: [www.echo.net.au](http://www.echo.net.au).

**Eleven years since the police didn't show up at Bentley, but the community did**



Thousands of people at Gate A, Bentley Blockade, in April 2014. Photo David Lowe

David Lowe

May 15 was eleven years since the victory of the Northern Rivers over invasive gasfields at Bentley, west of Lismore.

Those who were there in 2014 will remember the wave of relief when everyone at Camp Liberty learned that the promised hundreds of riot police weren't coming, and Metgasco was being referred to ICAC. The community had won.

V Day was the culmination of years of organising and protest across the Northern Rivers against CSG and other forms of unconventional gas development, and led to a complete victory a few months later, when the threat of gas – in this corner of Australia at least – was removed.

Sadly, this destructive industry continues elsewhere.

The latest incarnation of Lismore Council recently removed signs across the region acknowledging the democratic results of community surveys showing majority opposition to

unconventional gas, showing that the threat is still alive.

**Confusing Them With Our Joy**

To mark the eleventh anniversary, and remind the Northern Rivers community of its historic achievement, Cloudcatcher Media have just released the cinema cut of their project covering the story of the blockades, from Glenugie to Bentley, called *Confusing Them With Our Joy*.

This film has previously been only available to Chuffed supporters, and tells the story with a mixture of music, interviews, art and comedy. Originally developed for an epic three-screen multimedia style performance, this shorter version is designed to be seen on a single screen.

For those who can't get enough CSG-fighting nostalgia, a large number of bonus films are also available to watch on Cloudcatcher Media's Vimeo ([vimeo.com/showcase/9943302](http://vimeo.com/showcase/9943302)) and YouTube channels ([www.youtube.com/@cloudcatchermedia/videos](http://www.youtube.com/@cloudcatchermedia/videos)). Crank up the volume!

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**The Byron Shire Echo**  
Volume 39 #50 • May 21, 2025

## Fewer voices is our loss

Two well-known Byron Shire identities are moving, and say that the reason is in part from constant harassment for speaking publicly of their views around the genocide in Gaza.

On page 15, Subhi Awad and musician Áine Tyrrell provide their reasons. As a community, we might believe we project tolerance, respect and fairness, but that wasn't Subhi's or Áine's, experience.

It is a great loss of diversity when those with informed views move away. And those who opt for harassment against opinion they don't like simply lose all credibility.

Australia is a successful multicultural nation, and despite its many flaws, there is much to learn from all those who have chosen to call it their home. Fewer voices does not make this a better place, only one which becomes more tribal, and less compassionate.

And as Áine points out, dangerous.



**T**he Greens mayor has courageously opted again to back staff – see page 1.

It's been a constant theme of recent mayors to put the interests of Council staff before residents. And it didn't really end all that well for them. It's a perilous decision to make given what's at stake. Bravo!

Yet is protecting staff her job? Within section 226 of the *NSW Local Government Act 1993*, which defines the role of mayor, there's nothing in it about defending Council staff.

There is mention, however, of advancing community cohesion and promoting civic awareness, and 'engagement between the Council and the local community'.

The specific complaints made by residents around Council staff's intervention on behalf of developers remain – all that the general manager has said is that he refutes them. Dismissed with a meaningless sentence! Kapow!

And no, the general manager is not correct to say that 'Staff, at all times, adhere to NSW legislation and the planning framework'.

They didn't when the development application (DA) 10.2023.454.1 at 53 McAuleys Lane was first assessed and advertised. Residents had to point out that they had got it wrong. But hey, everyone makes mistakes. Repeatedly.

The mayor went further, saying the staff intervention was justified, as it's land ear-marked for development under the *Rural Land Use Strategy*.

That's terrible governance, given the proposal has a very long, detailed list of issues that have not yet been addressed.

It's not addressing affordable housing, either, so overall, her comments are not a great look from a Greens mayor. Why the strong support?

Do the Greens back wealthy developers at all costs?

The only win in this taudry governance mess is that the GM has committed to providing a staff report on the DA prior to it being handed to the Northern Regional Planning Panel (NRPP).

It's not what residents at Chinbible Avenue in Mullumbimby were afforded prior to a large inappropriate DA going to court. There is still no answer from staff as to why they let that dreadful DA go to court in the first place.

Come on councillors! Step up and bring us long-term, long-suffering residents along with you on this bumpy, pothole-riddled ride.

Hans Lovejoy, editor

## There's a tectonic shift in Canberra

**S**ome on the right have jubilantly written off the Greens as a political force because, by a quirk of preferences, they lost three of their four seats in the lower house and failed to win this electorate of Richmond.

The Greens vote was only a fraction less than it was three years ago, and this was quite likely caused by voters scared of Peter Dutton and voting for Labor first.

### Dirty tactics

Also, there were well-funded dirty tactics employed against the Greens by vested mining interests. Notwithstanding, the Greens have 11 seats in the Senate and now hold the balance of power on their own.

Albo says the Greens should 'get out of the way' and let his government do what it wants.

He won 94 House of Representatives seats and the Coalition a meagre 44, but Labor only won 11 of those seats without preferences. If seats had been allocated on the basis of the share of votes, Labor would have won 52 and the Greens 18.

He would do well to remember that.

Now Senator Larissa Waters has been elected Greens party leader and Mehreen Faruqi her deputy, it's a whole new ball game.

Larissa is an immensely talented and fearless advocate for the environment and the disadvantaged. She was a lawyer with the Environmental Defenders Office (EDO) and made history as the first woman to ever breastfeed her baby, daughter Alia, on the floor of parliament.

As she said after her election, she wants to see, 'politics with a heart'. If Albo thinks she's a pushover, he'd better think again.

Meanwhile, over in the devastated Liberal camp, they too have finally elected a woman to lead the party for the first time.

Sussan Ley is no pushover either. She has shown her capacity to bounce back.

She suffered from appalling sexism when she tried to become an airline pilot after having



*'Hopefully the newly beefed-up Labor government won't be so timid making much-needed reforms'*

– Richard Jones

qualified to be a commercial pilot at 19.

They told her bluntly it wasn't a woman's job. Instead, she started a job as an air-traffic controller in her early 20s.

While at work, a male co-worker asked her: 'How does it feel coming to work every day knowing you are not wanted because you're a woman?'

Sussan was 23 and the impact made her hide in a cupboard, curl up into a ball and cry. That was in 1984.

It took 80 years for the Liberal Party to elect a woman leader.

### Cleaning up the mess

Many women have remarked she's just there to clean up the mess before a man takes over again when the Liberal Party has a chance of regaining government.

As well as the new leaders, other women are finally making inroads in the federal parliament.

Over half of senators are women and 63 of 150 seats in the House of Representatives are now held by women. Liberal women, as usual, are greatly underrepresented.

So, the question is: How will Albo deal with Larissa Waters and Sussan Ley?

It was disappointing to see Albo attacking the Greens so soon after his huge victory. He was biting the hand that fed him after so many of his colleagues were elected on Greens preferences.

Bob Brown and other Greens, appalled by his behaviour, are now advocating for an open preference ticket at the next federal election rather than automatically recommending preferences to Labor.

That would threaten Labor's majority next time.

It's very unlikely the Coalition,

despite Sussan Ley's best efforts, will get close to winning the next election. It would be a Herculean task to claw back nearly 40 seats.

Hopefully the newly beefed-up Labor government won't be so timid making much-needed reforms, now that it seems safe for at least six years.

Many people, not just Greens, are calling for much swifter action on inequality, on lifting the JobSeeker allowance to at least the poverty level so those unable to work can both pay rent and buy food.

### Public housing need

There's an urgent need for faster action on public housing that has been neglected for decades.

The Greens squeezed an extra \$3 billion for housing out of a reluctant government and were then pilloried for 'blocking' the inadequate Labor housing bill for a few months.

There's also a vital need to accelerate the path to Net Zero.

Will the government listen to the pleas of people in need or stubbornly continue down its current conservative path? So far it appears it will be slow business as usual.

Depending how Sussan Ley operates, and harnesses her colleagues in the Senate to resist any overreach of the government, Albo may not have an easy ride.

If Sussan Ley chooses to work with the Greens, the unlikely allies could make a real difference.

Albo would be well advised to regard the Greens as partners, otherwise he risks driving them into the arms of Sussan Ley and her colleagues.

■ Richard Jones is a former NSW MLC and is now a ceramicist.



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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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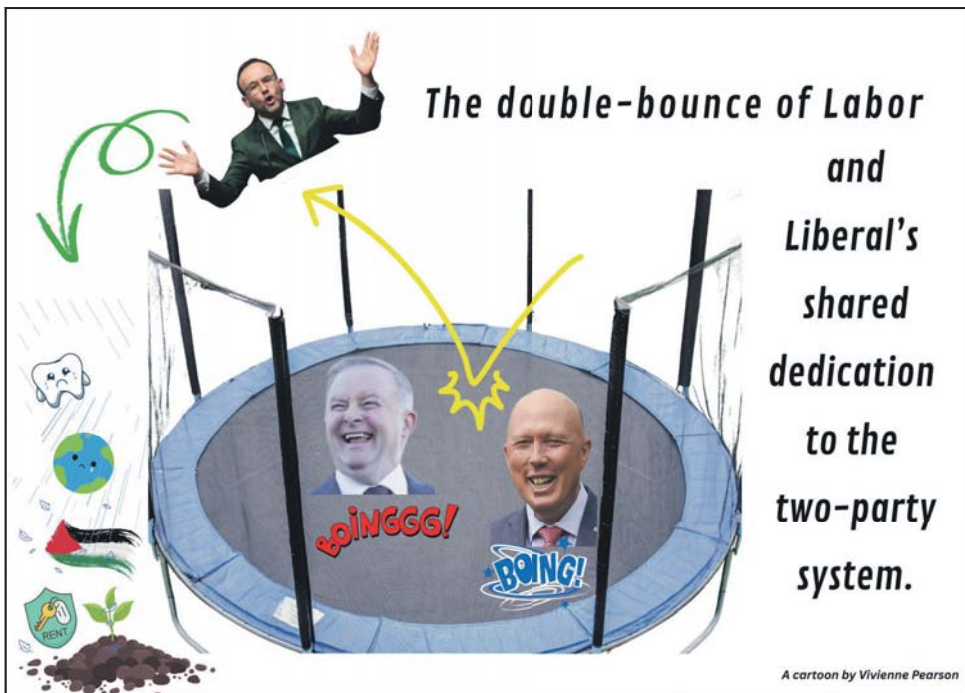


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Cartoon by Vivienne Pearson

### DA obstacle hazard

Byron Council has now claimed that the developer's DA design for the McAuleys Lane intersection improves traffic safety over the work that Council had proposed.

Council proposed line marking. The developer of 53 McAuleys Lane, in their DA, introduced raised traffic islands.

Mullumbimby Road in this area is currently obstacle-free and marked with an 80 km/h speed limit. Raised traffic islands introduce obstacles and potential confusion to through traffic using Mullumbimby Road, e.g travelling from Mullumbimby to Uncle Tom's.

This increases the risk of accidents and reduces safety for Mullumbimby Road users.

Everywhere else the focus of road design and safety improvements is to reduce the hazards of obstacles on, and alongside, the road that could become a point of impact for vehicles.

Mullumbimby Road is not a local road with a 50 or 60 km/h speed limit that might benefit from 'traffic calming' devices.

Council has proposed carrying out roadwork (at Council's cost) to facilitate the DA design with raised traffic islands.

It seems ridiculous that Council should carry out work that Council does not

deem necessary under its own traffic plan, and that results in reduced safety for through traffic.

It must also raise questions as to the basis of the relationship between Council and this developer.

**Thomas George**  
Brunswick Heads

### Koala road death

It is Saturday night, 9pm, and I have just returned home from attending another koala fatality on Bangalow Road, Byron Bay; not how I envisioned I would be spending my Saturday night after a beautiful morning spent planting koala and rainforest trees in a very safe haven space for koalas.

This poor defenceless, very young female koala was hit and killed coming down Bangalow Road near the golf course within the Koala Zone, where road paint signs warn of active koalas in the area, and within a roadwork area with reduced speed limits.

As the driver who hit this koala, you would have to be aware that you have hit an animal on the road, especially one of this size. Another driver had the awful task of having to pull the deceased/dying koala off the road and call for assistance.

We do not deserve to have koalas living amongst us in our communities, we

do not take enough care to drive to conditions in wet weather within koala habitat zones. Do not worry, if the insidious chlamydial disease does not kill them off, drivers will!

My fellow rescuer and I were in fear of our lives as we attempted to rescue this koala off the side of the road, we had headlamps and high-vis gear on, but still drivers did not slow down in the least!

How have we got to this point, that some drivers do not seem to care, and you cannot slow down for people on the road attempting to rescue a precious koala, let alone considering that koalas may be on the road as you drive through their territory.

Why can't all drivers slow down at night and drive with awareness of koalas possibly being on the road in THEIR territory?

Why can't we have reduced speed limits within koala habitat zones from dusk to dawn to protect koalas?

Why can't all drivers slow down in darkened road areas to expect the unexpected, to save a life?

This poor little female koala would not have been more than 3-4 years old, had not had a joey yet herself. So not only did we lose her, but also all the joeys she could have given birth to if she could have been allowed to live.

What a waste of a critical life and all the future joeys she SHOULD have had. It is all just such a waste and a tragedy.

We really do not deserve these trusting beautiful souls that bless our lives.

We must do better than this!

**Dale Viola**  
Binna Burra

### Division – Bangalow Garden Club

Having been a member of the Bangalow Garden Club in the past, and on the verge of rejoining, I now wonder if I will, after reading the letter on 'Division in the Bangalow Garden Club' (*Echo*, 7 May).

An acknowledgement of, and show of respect to, the traditional custodians of this land should in my opinion never have been an item to take a vote on in the first place. Apart from an Acknowledgement of Country, one could have included a short story about a plant from our area with great Indigenous significance for example. What a missed opportunity to learn and be respectful at the same time.

**Mary Boelen**  
Possum Creek

### Scourge of potholes

On our community with roads over two kilometres in length, we fill potholes professionally every ten years or so. Other councils fill potholes properly with compaction, which is the recommended procedure for lasting results.

Why does Byron Shire not use compaction, resulting in pothole 'fixes' which last no time at all?

**Noah Yamore**  
Mullumbimby

### Underground infrastructure

I lack confidence in the decisions of Council and councillors regarding the current DA in Bayside Brunswick.

Regarding building in the vicinity of underground infrastructure, the policy says, in considering any application to build in the vicinity of underground

infrastructure the Director of Infrastructure Services shall take into account conditions of the infrastructure, soil characteristics, influence of the loads proximity of existing structures, and access for maintenance and replacement.

The requirement is: To ensure that new development does not reduce the effectiveness of existing drainage patterns. To minimise the impacts of storm water runoff on adjoining properties. To provide acceptable levels of protection against personal injury and property damage to localised storm water runoff.

I can say with confidence that I have no confidence in this decision of Council to go ahead with this DA without rectifying the existing storm-water drainage problems.

**Annie Radermacher**  
Brunswick Heads

### Mandy: data rape!

Mandy, sorry to see you did not get in.

I agree with you about 'data rape'. Personally, I think all Australians should consider an American divorce! Get rid of everything related to the government of losers: their cars (Chinese EVs are better built anyway!), their

► Continued on next page

<b>WED 21 MAY</b>	<b>LILLI FAIRFAX</b>
<b>THU 22 MAY</b>	<b>TBC</b>
<b>FRI 23 MAY</b>	<b>THE WHISKEYS</b>
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## Letters to the Editor

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■ *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.

# Action can be, and needs to be, taken to reduce domestic violence

Ken Clarke

**D**omestic abuse is a problem for Australia. Domestic abuse can be classified in multiple ways but the main focus of this article is violence against women by intimate partners. An intimate partner includes current or past partners, whether cohabitating or not.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) conducts a Personal Safety Survey every five years. The latest report for 2021/22 shows 23 per cent of women over 18 years of age had been assaulted by a male intimate partner at some point in their lives, 1.5 per cent of which was in the last 12 months.

This means over 100,000 women were assaulted by an intimate partner in 12 months which, to put this in better perspective, is nearly three times the number of road accident victims admitted to hospital, and that excludes women in remote areas who were not included in the survey. Most of the assaults were by cohabitating partners.

## Death and DV

Homicide is the worst possible outcome of domestic violence and the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare reports that in 2023, a woman was killed by an intimate partner every 11 days, though that was up from the one woman killed every 14 days in the previous year.

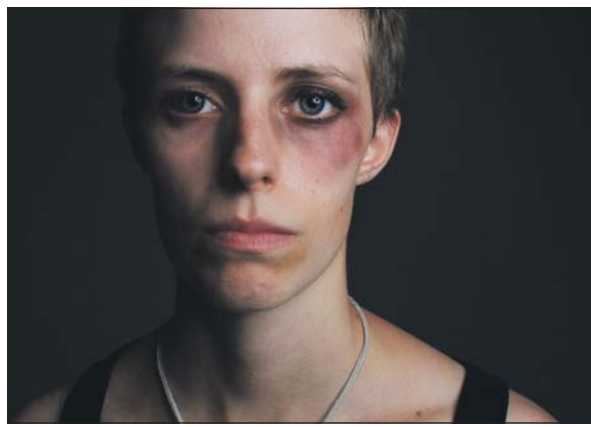
While these numbers are appalling and hard to wrap the mind around, the only good news is that the homicide rate is today is about half the rate it was 35 years ago, so at least something is happening in our society to improve the incidence of domestic violence.

Longer term data shows Queensland, WA, and Tasmania have slightly higher measures of intimate partner domestic violence since age 15 than their respective population shares and NSW a somewhat lower share but as a general rule, the rates of domestic violence are proportional to population numbers. This means data for any jurisdiction is likely to be applicable to all other jurisdictions.

## Punishment

More importantly, it also means that learnings from different policies are transferable between jurisdictions, so successes, and failures, in doing something about this type of domestic violence can and should be regarded as learnings in all states and territories.

Interestingly, NSW's lower rate of intimate partner domestic violence since age 15 compared to other jurisdictions may be due to NSW's greater use of imprisonment as a



harsher punishment for breaches of domestic violence court orders. Maybe that gives us a lead on a possible answer to the problem!

Women at risk of domestic violence can seek a court order preventing the perpetrator from coming near the victim. The precise definitions and processes vary slightly across Australia. For example, NSW has Apprehended Violence Orders (AVOs) whereas Victoria and SA have Intervention Orders (IVOs) and other jurisdictions the same or slight variations on these, but the objectives are similar in all jurisdictions.

Sadly, these court orders are often ignored. One of the most disturbing news items are murders by intimate partners that have AVOs against them, often breached multiple times.

Here despite a known risk of murder, somehow our society could not do enough to stop it. Mind you,

murder is the ultimate end of a violent crime and there is certain to be a progression of the seriousness of the crime.

There does not appear to be data on the relative severity of the violence and that is another area worthy of analysis to enhance communities understanding of this type of violence. Understanding

is a necessary condition for taking concerted action.

## Approaches

No single approach to violent domestic abuse will solve the problem as not all people and situations are the same. The issues must be tackled on multiple fronts, making incremental changes that reduce the problem.

The Australian Institute of Criminology has identified three classifications of intimate partner homicides that I have summarised as planned fixated, unstable, and impromptu.

Planned fixated offenders are one category that should be targeted by policy action as these homicides are by successful, middle-aged men who exercise control over their spouse and the homicide arises when the spouse chooses to leave the relationship. This category accounts for 33 per

cent of all intimate partner homicides, so any successful action here would have a material impact on injury and homicide numbers.

As this group of offenders make considered decisions to harm their spouse, they are likely to carefully contemplate the implications of all their actions. More thought needs to be given to the punishment for offences by this type of offender, though of course any new laws would apply to all offenders.

## Measurable outcomes

Data and observation are required for the understanding, to decide how to curb domestic violence. New approaches should be tried and tested in different jurisdictions with outcomes measured and publicised, as that will help convince the politicians the community wants change, as well as identifying what works. Maybe enhanced naming and shaming will help for breaches of AVOs, together with harsher sentences for repeated breaches.

My wife mentioned that aggressive male dogs are sometimes castrated to achieve better behaviour...

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

► Continued from page 11 money-hungry social media and phone/computer apps etc, etc.

Unfortunately it seems the US is a nation of car-petbaggers trying to extort from the rest of the world. The reality is we really do not need them. Trump just found this out when the Chinese waited for Trump to approach them about the ludicrous tariffs. (I feel the Chinese won round one!)

In my opinion the rest of the world should work around the US instead of trying to make Trump see

sense. If Trump needs Australia, make him come to us like the Chinese have done. We do not need AUKUS. Why we cancelled the French contract that had an end date I do not know!

We should look to the Japanese or others if we really need last century's submarine technology; everything is now visible from satellite, so we should look to other technologies like drones. Even better, design our own and sell to other countries that also want to bypass the US!

The US is also illegally

supporting one country to starve another population as well as attack it into oblivion. The new Australian government should not help the US in any way that could be found to be illegal by the International Criminal Court: We supplied weapon parts to the US that were on-sold to this operation in the Middle East. This needs to stop I feel.

Doug Foskey  
Tregagle

## Correction!

My letter (*Echo*, 7 May) about a decision reached by Bangalow Garden Club via a

secret ballot was published. It should have read 'Acknowledgement of Country' not 'Welcome to Country'

Sorry, my error that should perhaps be clarified as of course it was incorrect and confusing.

Carole Gamble  
Mullumbimby

## Eliminate parking meters

Parking fees have long been justified as a necessary tool for managing urban spaces, but their impact on individuals and communities often goes overlooked. Rather

than serving the public good, parking meters frequently function as revenue-generating mechanisms that expand bureaucratic structures without delivering meaningful benefits to residents.

There was a time when Byron Council operated without parking meters, and the community thrived. The introduction of paid parking across Australia has largely served to inflate administrative departments, funding unnecessary programs while placing an undue financial burden on everyday people. Charging residents simply

for the ability to park their vehicles is not a fair or sustainable approach to governance.

A more effective and equitable solution would be to eliminate parking meters altogether. The cost of administering free parking passes for locals could be offset by removing the infrastructure that perpetuates unnecessary fees. This would not only reduce administrative overhead but also restore a sense of fairness and accessibility to public spaces.

► Continued on page 14

**OUT NOW**

# Eat Drink

Your free guide to the Northern Rivers' tastiest offerings.

Issue #8 - Easter 2025

A celebration of the amazing food, drinks, and delights of the Northern Rivers. FREE for you to take.

## Call to establish Richmond River koala parks

The largest stronghold of koalas in the Richmond catchment is a genetically different population from that found in the Great Koala National Park (GKNP), and North East Forest Alliance (NEFA) are calling for the establishment of Richmond River koala parks (RRKPs).

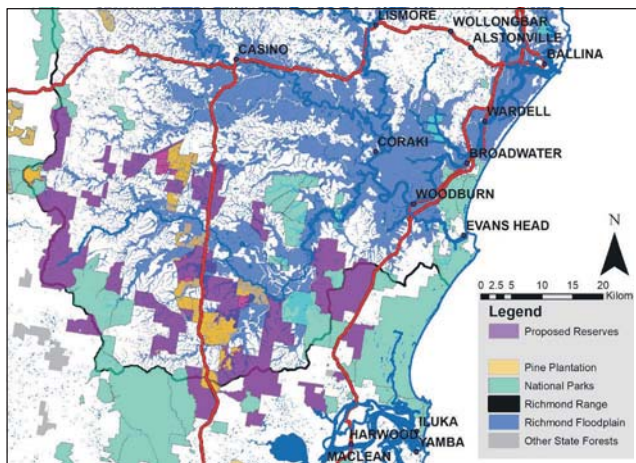
Conservation groups and local communities are calling on the NSW government to permanently protect 56,200 hectares of state forests in the Richmond River valley and along the southern Richmond Range (south of the Bruxner Highway).

'The area forms part of the Banyabba Area of Regional Koala Significance (ARKS), which represents the largest area of high-quality koala habitat in the Richmond catchment,' said Dailan Pugh spokesperson for the NEFA.

'The proposed reserves encompass 28,000 hectares of Nationally Important Koala Areas, designated by the Commonwealth government as a priority for protection.

'These forests are also home to over 130 species threatened with extinction due to habitat loss and climate change.

'Protecting these forests from logging is not just about



Proposed Richmond River koala parks. Image supplied

providing a lifeline for koalas and a plethora of other struggling wildlife, it's about restoring ecosystems and the health of the Richmond River.'

The establishment of the RRKPs would link existing national parks and fragmented animal populations into one continuous protected sanctuary, protect 35,000ha of forest ecosystems and help satisfy Australia's international commitments to protect 30 per cent of this bioregion by 2030.

It would also assist in restoring the health of the Richmond River by improving the quantity and quality of water inflows.

'We urgently need to stop

releasing the carbon stored in forests by logging, and instead enable them to draw down and store the millions of tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> released into the atmosphere by past logging if we want to address climate change,' Mr Pugh emphasised.

'Our forests need time to heal - not further destruction. We are calling on the NSW government to take decisive action and establish the RRKPs to honour their promises to protect koalas.'

The campaign is urging the community to support the push for the RRKPs by signing the petition, contacting local MPs, and spreading awareness. For more info go to [www.nefa.org.au](http://www.nefa.org.au).

## Native logging costs NSW taxpayers \$15m for first half of 2025

Forestry Corporation NSW (FC NSW) is supposed to manage the two million hectares of state forests for tourism, conservation, and renewable timber. Yet what brings it into the news again and again is the significant cost to the public purse of its native forest logging which currently stands at a \$90m loss since 2020.

The first half of 2025 appears to see no improvement in their management of the logging division with NSW FC's hardwood division posting a \$15 million half year loss for 2025.

The FY2025 half year results, tabled in the NSW Parliament last week, show the \$15 million loss was \$9 million worse than expected, with Forestry Corporation blaming weather impacts, falling demand and higher than expected land management costs including the delivery of enforceable undertakings stemming from historical illegal logging.

'It's long past time Premier Chris Minns and Treasurer Daniel Mookhey stepped in to stem the losses

and reorientate the timber industry in NSW to a sustainable plantation-based future,' said Justin Field from the Forest Alliance NSW.

North East Forest Alliance spokesperson Dailan Pugh said, 'Logging public native forests is an economic basket case as the FC NSW does not even recover the costs of cutting down the trees and transporting them to the mills, without any consideration of repairing environmental damage or the massive impacts on wildlife.'

### Illegal activities

Part of the ongoing losses incurred by FC NSW are coming from ongoing regulatory failures. Since 2020, the corporation has copped over \$1.7m in fines and legal costs as a result of successful prosecutions and penalty notices due to breaches of environmental laws and logging rules.

In 2024 the Land and Environment Court judgement by Justice Rachel Pepper found that, '...FC NSW's offending conduct was not

trivial and occasioned substantial actual and potential environmental harm. FC NSW will continue to undertake forestry harvesting activities and has not sufficiently demonstrated genuine contrition and remorse for its commission of the offences.'

Justice Pepper also accepted submissions from the state's Environment Protection Authority (EPA) that FC NSW was likely to reoffend and did not have good prospects of rehabilitation according to *The Guardian*.

'Native forest logging in NSW clearly does not have a viable future,' said Jacqui Mumford from the Nature Conservation Council.

'In stark contrast, the plantation-based forestry industry remains profitable and provides around 90 per cent of our timber products from just 1.3 per cent of the forest estate. It makes no sense that taxpayers are subsidising a loss-making business that destroys precious habitat when we should be supporting local communities and viable industries that do have a future.'

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**BALLINA RSL**

# Humanity's great future challenge – climate change

Charles MacFarland

**K**en Clarke's article about climate change in the last *Echo* makes many valuable points. I think the whole issue is a fascinating challenge for humanity, with many aspects to consider. Some are little known.

Cement, for example. Cement is made largely by heating limestone, which is calcium carbonate, CaCO<sub>3</sub>, to drive off the CO<sub>2</sub> and make lime, calcium oxide, CaO. Later water is added to harden the cement, and the CO<sub>2</sub> remains in the air, along with all the CO<sub>2</sub> from the fossil fuels burned in heating the limestone.

Cement accounts for about seven per cent of the CO<sub>2</sub> in global warming. So whenever the population increases, and we have to make new houses and buildings, we make global heating worse.

## Population impacts

Population increase is, I think, the most fearful factor in climate change. We not only have to decrease CO<sub>2</sub> production, we also have to do it in the face of expanding needs.

It would be a lot easier to mitigate climate change if the population were stable or decreasing. But that would require a major shift in attitudes.

It is not easy to change human attitudes, even when the need is very clear. Take transport, for example. We could plainly reduce carbon emissions by driving less, or not driving in such big cars. But people have gotten used to driving wherever they want in whatever car they want. How many people would give up a trip or a much-loved petrol hog, just because they didn't want to cause climate change?

## What are you willing to give up?

Have you ever given up a car trip, or for that matter a jet trip, just to benefit the future of humanity? I'm not very good on this score myself, and I can't say I've ever heard anyone say, 'I'd like to do a trip, but I hate to produce all that carbon.'

Much less, 'I'd like a baby, but climate change is such a worry.'

What is the chance that



we can change the belief in Africa and India, much less here, that the way to happiness is having lots of children?

India already has twice as much solar electricity as the total electricity generated in Australia, but if they are to bring their standard of living even close to ours, they will need 500 large electrical plants built in the next ten years. Population pressure is a huge factor. The only likely scenario is to burn a lot of coal. (And where will they buy all that coal?)

Really to combat climate change, people will have to make adaptations and sacrifices for the future, but we human beings are not good at that. The philosopher

David Hume believed that 75 per cent of human misery, in our personal affairs, comes from our inability to give up present pleasure for the sake of future good.

It's no good expecting the politicians to lead us. In a democracy, politicians are supposed to do the people's will. They get voted out if they don't.

We could do a lot for the climate problem if we put a heavy tax on beef and other meats, because cattle and other animals produce a lot of methane, a much more serious greenhouse gas than CO<sub>2</sub>. But what is the chance that people will give up their burgers and steaks? And what would happen if politicians imposed the tax?

Plant foods are another worry. In the short term, climate change may increase crops, because of longer growing seasons in places like Russia and the northern US states. But hot places like Africa are already suffering lower yields, and before long many places will be so hot that corn and other grains will not produce at all.

It's not just the meat in your burgers that is threatened. Before long we will not even be able to afford the bun.

## How much can science do?

There is some hope that scientists will be able to save us from this mess. Solar electricity is expanding rapidly, and to some extent this is because of thoughtful people who want to do something about climate change. But mainly it's because scientists have managed to make solar electricity cheaper than other sources.

Electric cars are very promising, but to me it is significant that no politician in the recent election even

mentioned subsidies for electric cars. Indeed there was recently a movement for an extra tax on electric cars because they don't pay highway taxes, which come mostly from taxes on petrol.

Many proposals for green cement have been made, but none are anywhere near as cheap as conventional cement. Maybe we should consider promoting green cement with a tax on conventional cement used in new buildings? Yeah, right.

Or a tax on babies?

Population stability is by far the change that would achieve the most. It would have the advantage that people would be much richer, without the expense of babies, and would be able easily to save money for their old age. They could prepare for the extra expenses that climate change is surely going to cause, like storm damages, coastal flooding, and food shortages.

Might help with the housing crisis too.

■ Charles MacFarland is a former high school teacher of mathematics with a Bachelor of Physics from MIT.



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## Continued from page 12

Research has shown that parking fees can contribute to economic inequality, disproportionately affecting lower-income individuals who rely on personal vehicles for work and daily activities. Additionally, parking enforcement often operates with a predatory mindset, prioritising revenue over genuine urban planning needs. The environmental impact of parking infrastructure is also significant, with large-scale parking lots contributing to pollution and inefficient land use.

While some level of regulation is necessary, councils should focus on policies that genuinely serve their communities rather than expanding bureaucratic influence at the expense of residents. Historically, communities have thrived when they were empowered to create and implement their own solutions, rather than being subjected to excessive administrative control.

It is time to reconsider the role of parking fees and the broader implications they have on society. A return to simpler, community-driven approaches would foster innovation, fairness, and a

more balanced relationship between local governance and the people it serves.

**Peter Rowan**  
 South Golden Beach

## People's Peace Summit

Talitha Mitchell's (Letters, *Echo*, 14 May), expresses the horror we all should feel at the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, but Israelis do not deserve to be generalised, stereotyped, or dehumanised by Talitha, any more than Palestinians should be.

She witnessed the abhorrent in-your-face conflicts there, but fails to understand either the bases of the conflict, or the efforts of Israelis and Palestinians joining together to build peace there.

On May 9, over 5,000 Israelis and Palestinians peace activists came together in Jerusalem for the People's Peace Summit, an alliance of more than 60 peace, reconciliation, and shared society organisations. It was the second recent major gathering of the coalition, and included a speech in support by the head of the Palestinian National Authority, President Mahmoud Abbas. Another group of passionate and

outspoken young Israelis and Palestinians, dedicated to working together for a peaceful future, recently held a coordinated bicycle event on both sides of a dividing wall, themed 'walls will not divide us'.

Talitha is a birth assistant. As I write, an Israeli medical team (of Palestinians and Jews) were fighting to save the lives of a pregnant Jewish woman, the baby, and her husband, who were shot yesterday as they drove to the delivery room. The baby was delivered, but today's report is the mother has died. Hamas posted 'the shooting was heroic'.

Here, Israeli peace negotiators Gershon Baskin and Palestinian political leader Samer Sinijlawi, who work together in Israel, have come to Australia for a speaking tour, including events in Sydney (May 28) and Melbourne (May 29), themed 'Peace is possible, but only if we build it together'.

Perhaps Talitha, who claims she is 'an international peacekeeper', should attend. As should the Greens, whose 'progressiveness' slogan should be 'We hated Israel and Jews before it was cool'.

**John Lazarus**  
 Byron Bay

# Palestine supporters leaving area after abuse

Hans Lovejoy

Another 144 people were killed in Gaza last week, as the ongoing genocide by Israel continues.

A blockade by Israel of all aid reaching starving Palestinians has now entered its 11th week.

It again spurred Northern Rivers Friends of Palestine (NRFOP) into action, with members this time occupying the roof of federal Labor MP Justine Elliot's electoral office in Tweed Heads last Thursday.

Among those arrested included a Freedom Flotilla survivor.

As reported last week, The Freedom Flotilla was bombed near Malta around midnight by drones suspected of being operated by Israeli forces.

The flotilla was destined for Gaza, with volunteers onboard carrying critical humanitarian aid.

Another activist arrested on Thursday was Subhi Awad, from NRFOP.

## Invasion Day

He said, 'This action takes place on Palestinians' Invasion Day - Nakba Day, May 15 - marking 77 years since over 750,000 Palestinians were violently ethnically-cleansed from their homes during the founding of the Israeli state.'

He added that, 'Every night, before I try to sleep, I picture the faces of my friends' children in Gaza, their small bodies growing weaker with each passing day. We hear the bombs, even from here, in our hearts.'

'We climbed onto this roof not because we want to be criminals, but because our government's inaction is criminal. How can they stand by while a million children are deliberately starved?



Aine Tyrrell. Photo Eve Jeffery



Subhi Awad. Photo supplied

'We are here to demand our humanity be recognised, and for Justine Elliot to finally look us in the eye and explain her complicity. Let the children of Gaza live.'

The group say they are calling on Mrs Elliot, who has refused to meet with them for 18 months, to meet with them directly and explain her continued silence and support for Israel.

Responding to the protest, Mrs Elliot said, 'My electorate office provides assistance to constituents on many matters including Medicare, social security, aged care, NDIS and other matters, and many people were not able to get that assistance owing to this protest.'

'Peaceful protests are fundamental to our democracy, but they must be peaceful. My staff working in the office deserve respect, not abuse and unsafe work environments.'

## Subhi Awad

Subhi is an Australian-Palestinian man living in Mullumbimby, and while the rainbow region is known for its inclusiveness and open minds, he says he is leaving the area owing to repeated

**'For speaking out against the killing of children in Gaza, I've faced abuse online and in person, threats, surveillance at shows, posters being ripped down, blacklisting, and censorship. And not just here, but all across Australia.'**

— Aine Tyrrell

harassment and intimidation by Zionists for speaking up.

He told *The Echo* he was born as a refugee in Lebanon and then moved to the UK with his family at age seven as a 'stateless' economic migrant.

'My father was gifted academically, and received a scholarship there,' he said.

'My grandfather was a driver and interpreter for the British Army in WWII', he added.

Despite the harassment he has endured, he says, 'This community is incredible.'

## Nearly \$75,000 raised from events

'In the last 18 months alone, NRFOP has held over 39 major events and raised nearly \$75,000, with the vast majority going to children's charities in Palestine.'

'Our group has

unwavering anti-racism principles and stands for safety, equality and freedom for all people.

## Organised attacks

'Despite this, there is a group that organises to attack us using smears, cynical pressure campaigns, threats and intimidation against venues, artists, speakers, our group as a whole, and members personally.'

'Our personal property has been spat at and abused, and all of our events are spied on and participants filmed.'

'Crucially, we have never retaliated or targeted their events.'

'This includes two instances of what we believe was Murdoch press setups designed to bait and incite us, with cameras that just happened to be there.'

'The most viciously singled out and targeted are Palestinians and anti-Zionist Jews, specifically because of our race or religion. It can only be described as a racist hate campaign.'

'We are an inclusive and democratic organising team, well-represented by diverse voices, including Jewish community members.'

'We don't feel safe in our own community, so we're re-locating, but our resolve to support this community and NRFOP is undiminished.'

## Aine Tyrrell

Similarly, musician Aine Tyrrell is leaving, and not just the area, but the country.

She told *The Echo* she is heading home to Ireland with her family in June.

'I moved here ten years ago', she says, 'and was drawn to the vibrant artistic culture of the Northern Rivers.'

'The first place on these lands that felt like home.'

'In these years on Bundjalung, I have learned a lot. It was a thriving arts scene here until Covid hit, and the arts community hasn't fully recovered.'

'Standing up for human rights has never been separate from who I am, it's woven into my upbringing and my art.'

'I was raised in a home where art and activism went hand in hand. With a musician father, attending protests and performing at events in support of human rights, including Palestinian rights, was simply part of life.'

'That legacy runs deep,

rooted in Ireland's long tradition of speaking out against injustice.'

'It's been revealing and painful to witness how many artists and activists here, who speak boldly about Indigenous issues or the climate, fall silent when it comes to Palestine.'

'This is where Ireland has felt different. In the Northern Rivers, the silence from the artistic community has been not only disappointing, but dangerous and starkly at odds with the values I believed this community stood for.'

'That silence has left artists like me exposed and isolated.'

'For speaking out against the killing of children in Gaza, I've faced abuse online and in person, threats, surveillance at shows, posters being ripped down, blacklisting, and censorship. And not just here, but all across Australia.'

'I had no idea how deep Zionist influence ran in the arts and other sectors.'

'My last local show (for now) is June 8 at the Bruns Picture House. But I'll be back yearly. You haven't heard the last of me or my voice, which will always speak out for Palestine and all social justice', she added.

## Govt wins squatter case

The NSW Reconstruction Authority (RA) said in a statement on Tuesday that it welcomes Monday's judgement in the NSW Supreme Court involving illegal occupants in Pine Street in Lismore, 'and other government-owned properties in the Northern Rivers.'

An RA spokesperson said, 'These homes were bought back by the government because they pose a serious

and ongoing risk to human life. We will now seek to obtain a writ of possession from the court to enforce the judgement. The RA will continue working through the courts and with the police to resolve this issue.'

Up to 40 Lismore flood-affected residents had occupied the homes, highlighting the lack of affordable accommodation, while claiming the homes were safe.

## CALLING ALL SPORTS

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Please send stories, pics, match reports, upcoming events, tall tales (not too tall mind you), results and anecdotes to [sport@echo.net.au](mailto:sport@echo.net.au).



# Good Taste

# Eateries Guide

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Rosefina went retro and bought  
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## BYRON BAY



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# The Good Life

## Byron Farmers Market says no to single use!



Some of the reusable options at Byron Farmers Market.

Byron Farmers Market manager Tom Carey and waste champion Ree Usable (in red suit).

Byron Farmers Market is the first market in the region to ban the use of all single-use food and drink vessels. While the market has had a cup-washing station in place for many years – saving more than 18,000 disposable cups from landfill every year – in January it stepped up its war on waste, offering market-goers reusable plates and bowls as well as cups.

And now the market has taken this initiative to the next level by no longer offering single-use items for takeaway food and drinks. Byron Farmers Market manager, Tom Carey, says the move has been met with great feedback and support from the community.

‘Everyone has been incredibly positive about it,’ Tom says. ‘Our local community is very passionate when it comes to environmental issues, so it’s about changing people’s mindset about single-use items in the market. They are used for such a short period of time, but their impact on the environment lasts for decades.’

Tom says that for people wanting to eat and drink at the market, nothing really changes – there will still be reusable cups, bowls, plates and cutlery, which are then returned to the tubs provided where they are picked up and run through a commercial dishwasher before being used again and again.

‘What has changed, is our takeaway options,’ he says. ‘Our food and drink stalls

no longer provide single-use coffee cups, plates or bowls to takeaway. Instead, we are asking our customers to BYO cup or container if they plan to take food or drink offsite. They can also check with the stall as to what their reusable options are as some have a deposit system in place so you can takeaway and later return their cup or container.

‘But to be honest, most people are happy to simply take five minutes to soak up the vibes and listen to live music, or chat with friends while they finish their food and drink at the market.’

‘As a market, and a community, we can take this simple step to move to reuse which results in less emissions, less waste generation and less litter in our environment.’

So, when visiting Byron Farmers Market next, don’t forget to bring your reusable cup and containers, along with your market bags and baskets, or use the reusable options provided and help the market and the planet.

■ Byron Farmers Market is held every Thursday morning from 7am to 11am at Butler St Reserve, and Bangalow Farmers Market is held every Saturday morning from 7am to 11am in Piccabeen Park.

## Aurum: a bold new chapter in Australian beverage innovation

A new wave is sweeping through Australia’s premium drinks scene – and it’s made from honey.

Meet Aurum, a modern reinvention of the world’s oldest alcoholic beverage, crafted with a level of sophistication that’s turning heads across the food and wine industry.

Founded in Byron Bay by French-Australian winemaker Louis Costa, Aurum blends centuries-old tradition with modern winemaking techniques to produce sparkling and still wines that rival champagne and fine wine – but with a unique twist. Rather than using grapes, Aurum is made from medicinal-grade Australian honey and pure spring water, resulting in a beverage that’s naturally gluten-free, better for your health and the environment, and with no next-day side effects.

‘It’s a clean, conscious alternative for people who love the ceremony of a glass of good wine, but want something lighter, purer, and more original,’ says Costa, who draws inspiration from his Bordeaux winemaking roots and Australia’s rich biodiversity.

Aurum’s range spans from refined sparkling cuvées to elegant dry still wines that pair beautifully with food – each one crafted with such purity and finesse that you’d be forgiven for not realising it’s made from honey. In fact, some of the world’s best sommeliers have been fooled during tastings, mistaking Aurum for high-end wine or champagne. This is not traditional mead – it’s something entirely new.

This innovative approach has not gone unnoticed. Aurum has already won gold, and Best in Show at the Australian Nationals, and was voted in the Top 20 Drinks of 2024 in the Australian Financial Review, receiving praise for its balance, complexity, and elegant packaging.



Aurum’s sophistication and complexity: turning heads across the food and wine industry. Check out Aurum’s Cellar Door on Saturdays at Newrybar Hall – they offer a huge 50% discount on their wines to those visiting the cellar door to make them accessible for their local community. Also, tastings are free with the purchase of any wine or Manuka honey. Photo Nelly Le Comte

Beyond the awards, Aurum is building a community of conscious drinkers and culinary leaders who see its potential as a premium pairing for fine food and modern entertaining. With sustainability at its core, and a growing fan base of wellness-conscious drinkers in Australia and

globally, Aurum is poised to redefine what’s possible in the world of drinks.

In short: it’s not wine, it’s not champagne – it’s Aurum, and it’s here to stay.

■ Cellar door info: @aurummead, info@aurummead.com, and www.aurummead.com.



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



# MULLUM ON THE MAP

## A WORD FROM THE MULLUM CHAMBER



Mullum Chamber of Commerce & Community has had a busy month. Hosted by Mullum Co-op, we gathered at Wards Landscaping last Tuesday for our bi-monthly collective, which is always informative, and great to see how local businesses operate. Our first meeting with Council to discuss members ideas on better outcomes for the community went well. Some safety issues at bus stops and the future of our historic station and cottage were among

items on the agenda. A successful Breakfast for Cancer fundraiser was recently held, and we extend big thanks to all who supported and attended. We are looking forward to the Chinny Charge in September. Feel free to reach out to discuss any suggestions you may have. - Paul Prior President [mullumbimby.org.au](http://mullumbimby.org.au)

### 1. MADE IN MULLUM

Made in Mullum is an amazing collective of 64 local artists and makers sharing one shop. Open seven days a week, they have everything from handmade clothes, toys, ceramics and jewellery to original art, tie-dye kits and perfume. **22 Burringbar Street**  
Instagram/Facebook: Made in Mullum  
[www.madeinmullum.com.au](http://www.madeinmullum.com.au)

### 2. SON OF DRUM

See their inspiring range of world instruments, shamanic flutes, percussion, and sound healing tools. Loved by locals, it's a 'must-visit' for anyone with an interest in music. New didgeridoos just in! **02 6684 1742**  
**1/31 Burringbar Street**

### 3. BREAKFAST AT THE PADDOCK

The Paddock offers great coffee, fresh croissants, breakfast cups, and bacon, egg & halloumi rolls. Easy parking and stunning gardens make it the perfect morning stop. **Contact: Karen at [paddockworkready@gmail.com](mailto:paddockworkready@gmail.com) or on 0400 348 209**  
**64 Argyle st**

### 4. DEVINE QUALITY MEATS

At Devine Quality Meats, they do whole beast butchery - respecting the whole animal. Locally-raised, seriously tasty cuts straight from their farms to Mullumbimby plates. Real meat for real people. **[devinequalitymeats.com.au](http://devinequalitymeats.com.au)**  
**02 6684 2015**  
**64 Stuart Street**

### 5. HEMP CULTURE

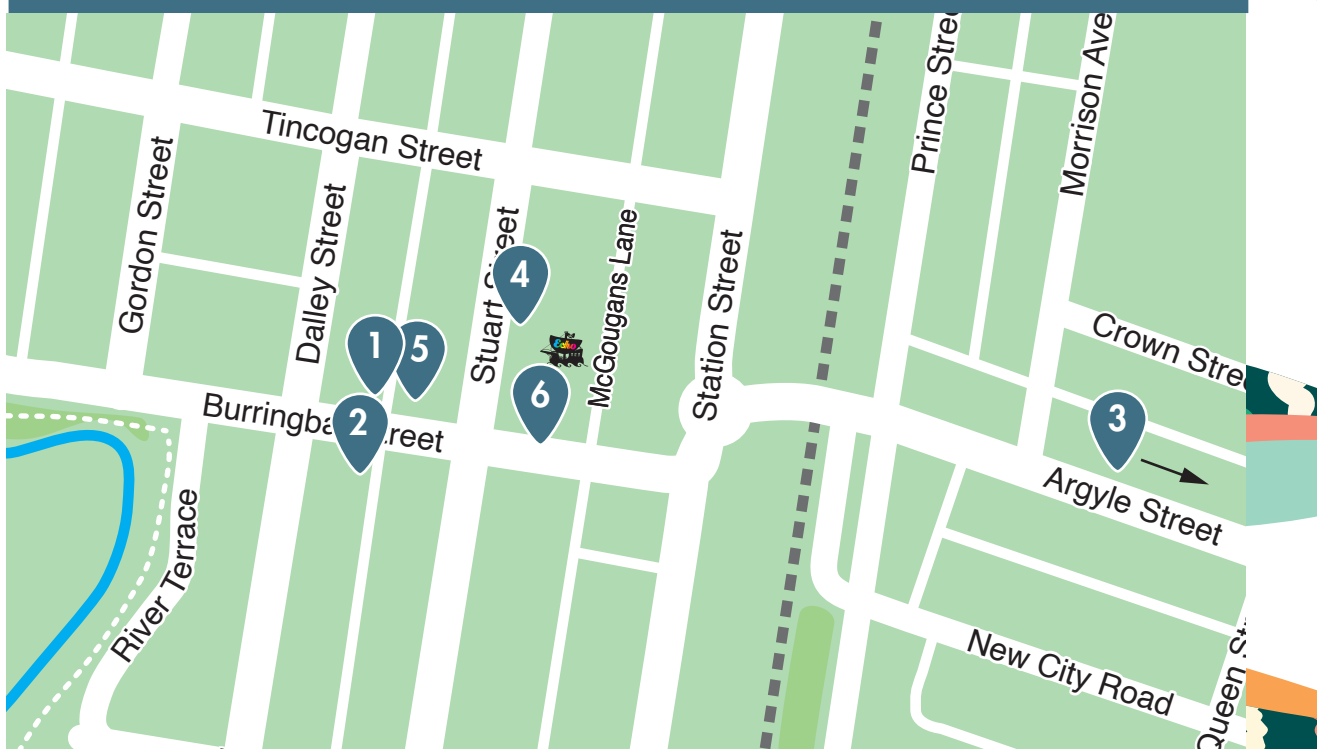
Hemp Culture's shelves are stocked with high-quality and local products. Explore blue lotus extracts, potent tinctures, medicinal mushrooms, ceremonial cacao and drinking chocolate. Uplift your spirit and support the body naturally. **40 Burringbar Street**  
**[hempculture.com.au](http://hempculture.com.au)**  
**@hempculture\_au**

### 6. STEWART'S MENSWEAR

A consistent best-seller in cooler months, Stewart's Menswear's quality flannelette shirts are flying off the racks (ladies are snapping up these Aussie classics too). Perfect for casual everyday warmth. **52-54 Burringbar St**  
**02 6684 2148**  
**[stewartsmenswear.com.au](http://stewartsmenswear.com.au)**



## MULLUMBIMBY CBD



19-25 MAY 2024

# National Volunteer Week

Connecting Communities



## Volunteering in a busy world

Aslan Shand

Sometimes the amount of activity going on in our worlds can be overwhelming; from constant online engagement, to work, study, families, and lives. As our lives have become busier it seems the time we have to give to others has decreased, and yet giving even a little time can be incredibly rewarding, connect us to our local communities, and create connections that are sometimes lost in our busy worlds.

National Volunteer Week highlights not just the important role that volunteers play in our everyday lives, in a myriad of ways, but also how much the experience of volunteering can give to you as an individual.

When I stopped to think, I began to realise just how much of our communities, at all levels, rely on volunteers. From helping our youth, the environment, vulnerable women and children, the homeless, LGBTQI+, men, animals, flood and fire victims, our elections, raising money for charities and research. When you stop and think, there are so many ways that volunteers make our everyday, and future lives, safer, more connected, and fun.

This year the theme for National Volunteer Week is 'Connecting Communities', it is about bringing people together through volunteering and the good that volunteering does for every one of us.

'Let's acknowledge the spirit of connection and the incredible impact volunteers have in building thriving and inclusive communities,' say National Volunteer Week organisers.

'Volunteering creates lasting relationships that enrich lives and strengthen communities. Join

us as we explore how giving to others fosters community engagement, connection, and belonging.'

The experience of disasters, like the 2022 floods, allowed many people to really understand the importance of bringing communities together, as people came out and worked together not only to save lives, like the tinny brigade in Lismore, but small isolated communities who were cut-off, came and worked together for each other's safety.

I know being flooded-in meant coming together with my neighbours to help clear roads and check-in on one another. Being a member of the Rural Fire Service (RFS) meant that help was provided to the wider community and when a tree fell on my house after the floods I cannot tell you how grateful I was to the SES.

Looking after native animals who have been injured, from koalas to possums and birds, can be wonderfully rewarding but losing the animals you care for is heartbreaking.

From sitting on a hall committee, to volunteering to teach ethics, to providing food and shelter to the homeless, to working with young people, or repairing things at Shedding, or a men's shed, in my experience volunteering can lead you on unexpected journeys, to wonderful friendships, and plenty of laughs, as well as sadness. But most of all volunteering helps you create the fabric of your own world and the world around you reminding everyone of the wonderful capacity for understanding, generosity, and kindness that humans are capable of.

## The Mullumbimby & District Neighbourhood Centre (MDNC)

The Mullumbimby & District Neighbourhood Centre (MDNC) was founded by volunteers, creating a pathway to strengthening the community by caring for others. To this day, volunteers are the backbone of the MDNC.

They want volunteering to work for you, and there are a number of options. You may be happy to cook, drive or undertake admin tasks, or you might be interested in learning, building skills, experience, and an opportunity to improve employability.

More Than a Meal – a community meal – a place to eat, be with others, make friends. Volunteers can cook and connect with people.

Gulgani Community Pantry – access to affordable food, and is an opportunity to develop retail experience.

Food Recovery – food that would otherwise end up in landfill is collected and goes into meals, food parcels, compost, and animal feed (if not fit for consumption). Tasks - drivers, food sorters, recyclers.

Listening Space – counselling.

Gardening – so many places to beautify.

Social activities – you may want to join a crochet group, Spanish lessons, or you may want to use your wonderful skills to run a group bringing people together.

There are many more opportunities but whatever you gift to them... it will be meaningful and valued.

@mullumbimbyneighbourhoodcentre  
www.mdnc.org.au



## Your Neighbourhood Centre – we're in it together

**We're looking for a win-win! Do you have money you haven't spent yet? We need support and if you need a tax-free donation we can support our community together. 48% of every karmic dollar donated!**

**The MDNC offers so much to the Byron Shire community. So much it is beyond this advertising space! Specialist domestic and family violence programs, disaster recovery program, information and referral, infrastructure for other services and a big heart.**

**BUT so much of our work is not funded, like just opening the doors!**

- More Than a Meal: a meal for the community to eat, connect, meet new people. **Serving up over 62,000 meals to the community since 2016.**
- Gulgani Community Pantry: the cost of living is real and Gulgani provides access to affordable pantry items and the dignity of choice when finances are stretched **5,523 people helped.** There is also access to free items from Food Recovery.
- Food Recovery: harvesting excess food from local supermarkets, cafes and restaurants. **45,532kg of food that went into people's bellies, not landfill.**

- Frozen Meal Program: sometimes people just need a meal not a parcel. People living under financial stress, not able to cook, people who are homeless, some of our older community members,

or those who are going through health challenges and cooking is just too hard. **4,200 helped.**

- Listening Space: free counselling.
- Community Support / Emergency relief: material aid, advocacy, referral, electricity vouchers, Work Development Orders (fines) or identifying issues impacting on day-to-day living. **People supported 3,706 times.**
- Christmas hampers. **300-400 each year.**
- Volunteer Program. **40+ at any one time.**
- Supporting people who are homeless, at risk of homelessness.
- Supporting community groups to secure small grants.
- Showers. **2,000+ used.**
- Tea, coffee, hugs.

**And this doesn't include the five unfunded staff who make it all happen!**

**These services are not funded by the Government.**

**Registered Tax-free donations for 2024-2025 financial year, if paid before 30th June.**

**55 Dalley Street , Mullumbimby NSW 2482 | 02 6684 1286 | volunteers@mdnc.org.au | mdnc.org.au**

Connecting Communities

19-25 MAY 2024

# National Volunteer Week

## Volunteers power 130 years of community spirit

This National Volunteer Week (19-25 May), Byron Community Centre is celebrating their 250 volunteers who help deliver vital services to the Byron Shire.

From Byron Theatre to Byron Markets and Fletcher Street Cottage, their dedication keeps community programs thriving and ensures support reaches those who need it most.

Thinking about giving back? Volunteering is a powerful way to connect, learn new skills and make a real impact.

Find out how you can get involved at [www.byronvolunteers.com](http://www.byronvolunteers.com)

## Bayfm community radio, volunteers helping volunteers

BayFM is the Byron Shire's own and only local radio station, connecting our community live on air and online with information, entertainment and good vibes. Now in its 35th year, one of BayFM's key services is daily Community Service Announcements (CSAs).

These CSAs publicise the services of dozens of charities and not-for-profit initiatives in our region, many of which are volunteer-run.

As an independent, not-for-profit charity, BayFM is almost entirely powered by volunteers.

As well as a large team of on-air

presenters, there are vollies helping with production, fundraising, admin, tech, finance and many other roles.

BayFM is volunteers helping volunteers.

If you can spare a couple of hours a week, email [frontdesk@bayfm.org](mailto:frontdesk@bayfm.org). [bayfm.org](http://bayfm.org)



## Make a Real Difference in the Northern Rivers

Our Northern Rivers Emergency Services volunteer team is recruiting! Help people navigate crisis situations and rebuild their lives, providing crucial psychological, social, and practical support before, during and after disasters.

If you'd like to become an Emergency Services volunteer our Northern Rivers team will be hosting 8 free training days across the Northern Rivers. These will cover:

- Emergency Management Framework
- Recovery Basics
- Psychological First Aid
- Wellness & Self Care
- An opportunity to meet other local volunteers and staff

To find out more or RSVP please contact Eleanor on 0404 029 978 or via email [etaylorperkin@redcross.org.au](mailto:etaylorperkin@redcross.org.au)

Your time, skills, and compassion can change lives. Join our wonderful team today!

## Make a real difference with Australian Red Cross

As an emergency services volunteer, you can take on many different roles - from directly supporting people in crisis to providing education and training that helps communities prepare for future disasters. Whatever your skills or interests, there's a role for you!

Help people navigate crisis situations and rebuild their lives long after the emergency has passed, providing crucial psychological, social, and practical support before, during and after disasters.

By volunteering you will;

- Support people in times of crisis.
- Stay active and engaged in your community.
- Be part of a global movement of care and compassion.
- Gain new skills.
- Boost your employability.

To find out more or RSVP please contact Eleanor on 0404 029 978 or via email [etaylorperkin@redcross.org.au](mailto:etaylorperkin@redcross.org.au)

## Calling all animal lovers!

The Owl & The PussyCat Farm Animal Sanctuary is a registered charity set on 130 peaceful acres in Crabbes Creek. 100% volunteer-run (no staff costs), they're a safe haven for neglected, abused, and unwanted farmed animals.

Through rescue, rehoming, lifelong care, and community engagement, they work to create a kinder world for all beings.

They are currently seeking dedicated volunteers to help care for the animals, build/repair infrastructure, or assist remotely with admin/grant writing. Your support will truly make a difference.

Help us help them: [volunteer@owlandpussycat.org](mailto:volunteer@owlandpussycat.org)



# AMPLIFY

YOUR VOLUNTEER IMPACT

BayFM local radio is vollies helping vollies. Every day we serve our community with messages from other not-for-profit services, many of which are also volunteer-run.

Whether you can help us with some admin, fundraising, production or design we'd love you to join us. Tech know-how and tradie skills most welcome!

If you can spare a couple of hours a week, email [frontdesk@bayfm.org](mailto:frontdesk@bayfm.org)



[bayfm.org](http://bayfm.org)  
Listen like a local

BYRON COMMUNITY CENTRE

## BYRON VOLUNTEERS

CELEBRATING 130 YEARS OF COMMUNITY SPIRIT

This National Volunteer Week (19-25 May), Byron Community Centre is celebrating the 250 volunteers who power Byron Theatre, Byron Markets and vital community services like Fletcher Street Cottage. Your time, energy and dedication help shape a more connected, vibrant and caring Byron. We simply couldn't do it without you - volunteers are the heart of our community.

WANT TO VOLUNTEER?  
(02) 6685 6807  
[volunteers@byroncentre.com.au](mailto:volunteers@byroncentre.com.au)  
[www.byronvolunteers.com](http://www.byronvolunteers.com)



EST. 2012  
Owl & PussyCat  
FARM ANIMAL SANCTUARY

### Calling All Animal Lovers!

Would you like to help care for rescue animals? Can you lend a hand with building/repairs or admin and grant writing? Whether you can help out once or regularly, your support will make a real difference to neglected, abused and unwanted farmed animals in need.

Get involved: [volunteer@owlandpussycat.org.au](mailto:volunteer@owlandpussycat.org.au)

Can't volunteer?  
Support the animals by following our socials or by donating:

[www.owlandpussycat.org.au](http://www.owlandpussycat.org.au)  
OwlandPusCatFarm @owlandpuscatfarmsanctuary



Connecting Communities

19-25 MAY 2024

# National Volunteer Week



## Bangalonians please come forward and volunteer - 2479 needs you!

During Volunteer Week 2025, Bangalow Lions Club is asking locals to please come forward and volunteer to assist at the many community events, fundraisers and charity functions. Did you know that Bangalow Lions Club hosts or is involved in the following community events:

- Bangalow BillyCart Derby.
- Byron Writers Festival.
- Bangalow Show.
- Bangalow Xmas Eve Carnival.

- Many other smaller events at the A&I Hall or Showgrounds in 2479.

Please consider volunteering to help bump in, bump out, serve on bar or BBQ, as a team member supporting the event or perhaps even consider joining Bangalow Lions Club. They're a fun, busy not-for-profit club with all funds raised going to worthy causes in 2479 and beyond. All welcome - men and women, boys and girls.

Contact President John Singh on 0418 662781 or email [punjab@byronbaypork.com.au](mailto:punjab@byronbaypork.com.au)



## Brunswick Mullum Lions Club

Are you interested in making your local community a better place to live?

Are you interested in helping to support research aimed at preventing cervical cancer, prostate cancer and a whole range of apparently curable childhood cancers?

Would you like to assist young people from around the Pacific and Australia with severe facial deformities be operated on so they can lead normal lives?

Are you interested in helping to bring down our road toll?

Can you cook a sausage on a BBQ?

If you answered 'YES' to any of these questions, then the Brunswick Mullumbimby Lions Club is looking for you.

**If you would like to be a part of an organisation that makes a difference locally and globally, every day, call now on 0400 484 419, and come along to a meeting**

## Play a role in disaster recovery and resilience with Resilient Lismore

Resilient Lismore welcomes volunteers to help deliver disaster recovery and resilience programs. They have the following roles:

- Help repair flood-damaged homes.
- Support community events and workshops.
- Work in their tool library helping people to access tools and equipment.
- Help with administration and phone calls, supporting people to access recovery programs.
- Register now to help clean up after a flood or disaster.
- And more!

**New volunteers are always welcome! For more information and to register, please go to their website at [resilientlismore.org.au/volunteer-with-us/](http://resilientlismore.org.au/volunteer-with-us/) or call 0455 218 692**

[www.resilientlismore.org.au](http://www.resilientlismore.org.au)

## The YAC

The Byron Youth Activity Centre (The YAC) is a sanctuary for young people, but did you know it is also blossoming into a vibrant permaculture garden?

The grounds offer a haven for birds, reptiles and several species of butterflies. This thriving green space behind the new skatepark provides young people and families a place to connect with nature and learn about sustainable gardening.

The YAC's garden is home to edible plants that support local wildlife and promote environmental conservation. They are seeking a Volunteer Garden Coordinator to help grow the project.

**If you have a green thumb, have a few hours per week to spare and you love working with community and nature please call Christian on (02) 6685 7777**

[www.bys.org.au](http://www.bys.org.au)

## Lions Club of Brunswick / Mullumbimby Inc



*Ordinary People Doing Extraordinary Things*



PO Box 12, Mullumbimby, NSW 2482  
[Brunswickmullumbimby.nsw@lions.org.au](mailto:Brunswickmullumbimby.nsw@lions.org.au)  
**0400 484 419**

**The 5th Lions Club in Australia**

**Meeting at the Ocean Shores Country Club  
On the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each  
month at 5:30 for 6pm.**



Come forward and volunteer to assist at the many community events organised and run by the Bangalow Lions Club.

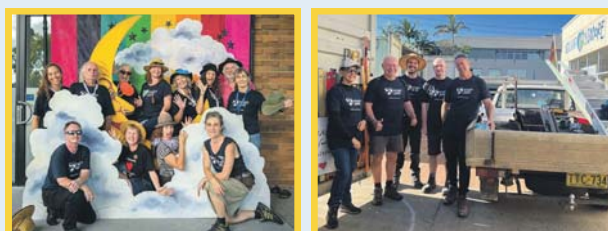
A fun, busy Not-For-Profit Club with all funds raised going to worthy causes in 2479 and beyond.

All welcome - men and women, boys and girls.

Contact President John Singh on 0418 662781 or [punjab@byronbaypork.com.au](mailto:punjab@byronbaypork.com.au)



Play a role in disaster recovery & resilience



### Volunteer with us!

- Repair flood-damaged homes
- Events, workshops
- Tool library
- Administrative support
- Post-flood clean up

Sign Up



[www.resilientlismore.org.au](http://www.resilientlismore.org.au)



**02 6685 7777**  
**WWW.BYS.ORG.AU**



# National Volunteer Week Connecting Communities



## SEEKING ANIMAL LOVERS & THOSE THAT LOVE CUDDLES!

Volunteering is one of the most important ways you can help Byron Dog Rescue. We couldn't save dogs were it not for volunteers & foster carers. If you love having a pooch around but cannot commit to full time dog ownership, fostering is a win-win solution for you and the dog. It's also OK if you are not in the position to take a dog into your home! You can still help by becoming a VOLUNTEER.



Contact us 0492 862 905  
byrondogrescue.org  
**AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE TODAY**

byrondogrescue.org • Ph 0492 862 905

## Support your local hospital through the Byron Bay Hospital Auxiliary!

A volunteer community service that helps raise funds for our local hospital.

Members meet on the third Monday of each month from 1.00pm.

Contact Maureen Weir on 6685 3162 for more info.



## OFFICE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- Weekday shifts 9:30am – 4:00pm
- Dealing with phone & email enquiries
- Completing adoption paperwork
- Friendly team
- WORD & EXCEL experience preferred
- Good organisational skills and an eye for detail
- Based at the NRAS Rescue Shelter, Ballina



Email: secretary@nras.org.au for details



support for new mums

## Supporting Mums, Building Confidence Together

0490 409 039

www.supportfornewmums.com.au



## Byron Dog Rescue

Byron Dog Rescue aims to provide care and find homes for unwanted or surrendered dogs, and to rehabilitate orphaned, sick or injured dogs.

Volunteering is one of the most important ways you can help! Byron Dog Rescue couldn't save dogs were it not for wonderful volunteer foster carers who look after the dogs in their own homes until they are adopted.

If you can't volunteer, donations translate into second chances for these wonderful dogs. You can make a difference and add to the building fund for Byron Dog Rescue's Animal Adoption Centre.

0492 862 905  
byrondogrescue.org



## Marine Rescue now recruiting

Marine Rescue Cape Byron is a marine radio base located within the beautiful Cape Byron lighthouse precinct, in Byron Bay.

A long-serving team of dedicated volunteers maintain a radio safety watch over all boaters within the Byron waters region, working closely with their Marine Rescue colleagues in Ballina and Brunswick Heads to ensure that when the call goes out from a vessel in distress, they provide the rescue boat with all the detail they need to ensure a safe result.

Training and uniforms are provided cost-free, with the added opportunity to develop your skills in the marine and emergency response service spheres.

If you are interested in joining as a volunteer, follow the link [mrns.com.au/join](http://mrns.com.au/join)

## Support for New Mums

Volunteers with Support for New Mums provide emotional and practical support to mums in the Northern Rivers shires helping them navigate the challenges of early motherhood.

By offering your time and support, you'll help reduce isolation, boost confidence and create a caring community for new mums.

Contact us through our webpage [supportfornewmums.com.au](http://supportfornewmums.com.au) or phone 0490 409 039



## Northern Rivers Animal Services

Make a real difference—volunteer with Northern Rivers Animal Services. Whether at the op shop, shelter, office, or as a foster carer, your time helps save lives and support vulnerable cats and dogs. Join a passionate team creating lasting impact in your community.

Visit [www.nras.org.au](http://www.nras.org.au), call 6681 1860 weekdays, or email [shelter@nras.org.au](mailto:shelter@nras.org.au) to get involved today.  
[www.nras.org.au](http://www.nras.org.au)



## NOW RECRUITING

Volunteer with Marine Rescue Cape Byron and help **save lives** on the water

Find out more: [mrns.com.au/join](http://mrns.com.au/join)



## Volunteer opportunities

Join our team of dedicated community supporters and learn new skills and experience!

Contact us to register your interest

02 6672 3003

[reception@mccentre.org.au](mailto:reception@mccentre.org.au)

### positions available:

- Reception & office admin
- Youth recreation and support
- Food HUB shop assistant - cashier
- Community meal assistant
- On call spontaneous volunteer for disaster response



# National Volunteer Week 19–25 MAY 2024

## Byron Bay Hospital Auxiliary

Have you considered doing volunteer work to support your local hospital? Why not join the Byron Bay Hospital Auxiliary!

Volunteers are warmly welcomed and there's always something you can do to assist the team in their good work, including helping with cake and plant stalls or selling raffle tickets.

Meetings are on the third Monday of the month.

Contact Maureen Weir on 6685 3162



## Free support to rewild your Brunswick riverfront land!

Positive Change for Marine Life (PCFML) is calling on riverfront landholders to join our Rewilding Our Floodplains program and receive free support to restore your riparian areas.

Whether it's a paddock, degraded bank or previously grazed land, if your property borders the Brunswick River, we want to hear from you!

We've already restored over 5,000m<sup>2</sup> of mangrove and riparian habitat locally—and we're ready to do more, with funding, partners and resources available now.

Why? Because after years of floods and extreme weather, the Bruns River needs our support.

Interested? Join the Brunswick River Community Hub:  
[www.community.pcfml.org.au](http://www.community.pcfml.org.au) or email us at: [info@pcfml.org.au](mailto:info@pcfml.org.au)  
to share more about your land

## Murwillumbah Community Centre

Community starts with people - and at Murwillumbah Community Centre, they support that spirit from the ground up. Grassroots organisations like this often operate on limited funding but rely deeply on the passion, skills and knowledge of local people. Their Volunteer Program offers meaningful opportunities to grow, gain new skills and explore new career pathways.

They are currently seeking volunteers with skills and interests in reception and office admin, youth recreation and support, food hub shop assistant and cashier, community meals preparation, and spontaneous disaster response. Whether you're looking to give back, build confidence or gain experience, they welcome you to join them in creating real change, together.

Please contact them on 02 6672 3003 or [reception@mccentre.org.au](mailto:reception@mccentre.org.au) for more information.  
[www.mccentre.org.au](http://www.mccentre.org.au)

# OCEAN CONSERVATION VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Passionate about protecting our oceans and making a real impact?

Local NGO Positive Change for Marine Life (PCFML) is looking for enthusiastic volunteers to support vital ocean and river conservation efforts in the Byron Shire.

MAY 22

Mangrove Marine Debris Survey

MAY 23

Tree Planting and Wildlife Habitat Creation Day

MAY 24

Byron Bay Beach Clean Up with TWOOBS

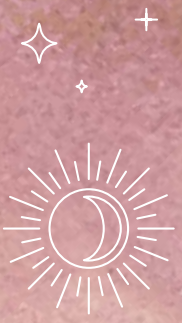


Scan to sign up!

GRAB A FREE T-SHIRT when you donate \$50 or more. Your contribution directly supports programs that empower the community to take action for our rivers and oceans.

[pcfml.org.au/donate](http://pcfml.org.au/donate)  
[info@pcfml.org.au](mailto:info@pcfml.org.au)





# health & healing

## Byron Community College

Byron Community College offers a diverse range of health and wellbeing courses designed to support physical, mental, and emotional wellness. These courses cater to both personal enrichment and professional development, with options spanning from movement-based classes such as Yoga Over 60, Tai Ji, Tennis and Golf, to healing practices including Reiki, Reflexology and Massage. They also provide opportunities for self-discovery through courses like Tarot Reading, Astrology and Psychic Development, alongside mental wellness support with offerings such as Self Help for Anxiety and Digest Your Best. Whether participants are looking to unwind, gain new skills or build community connections, these programs nurture the body, mind and spirit. Many students find the knowledge gained enhances both their personal lives and careers.



[www.byroncollege.org.au](http://www.byroncollege.org.au)  
02 6684 3374

## Surfit Gym

Surfit Gym in Byron is excited to announce the commencement of seniors group fitness classes at their gym located in Mercato above Woolworths in Johnson St. Seniors group fitness now has the biggest growth in the fitness industry. They're about creating a community of like-minded people wanting to feel better, get stronger and live better. Their class environment is supportive and caters for all fitness levels. The classes focus on stability, mobility, strength and cardiovascular fitness improvement. Their Lennox Head gym now has seven heavily-booked classes a week. Their plan is to match that in Byron Bay. The classes are at 10.30am on weekdays. For more information and schedule please email.



[byron@surfitgym.com](mailto:byron@surfitgym.com)  
[surfitbyronbay.com](http://surfitbyronbay.com)  
Level 1, Mercato Jonson Street, Byron Bay

## Move Freely, Live Fully

With over 20 years as a soft tissue therapist specialising in complex foot pain and biomechanics, Nathan Montgomery brings world-class expertise to Northern Rivers Podiatry Byron Bay. Known for his down-to-earth approach and clinical precision, Nathan blends hands-on experience with cutting-edge tech - including 3D-printed orthotics and advanced pressure plate gait analysis - to deliver truly personalised care. Whether it's persistent foot pain, postural imbalances, or sports-related injuries, Nathan's deep understanding of movement and muscle function gets to the root of the problem.



The result? Improved strength, better balance, and a renewed confidence in every step. Discover how expert foot care can elevate your whole-body wellbeing.

Northern Rivers Podiatry Byron Bay  
02 6619 2939  
10/6 Marvell St, Byron Bay  
[northernriverspodiatry.com.au](http://northernriverspodiatry.com.au)

## Santos

### What you need to know about Organic Milk and mRNA?

With rising concerns about food safety, Santos Organics has recently received questions from customers about mRNA vaccines in dairy. To reassure the community, mRNA vaccines are not approved for use in livestock in Australia, and are strictly not permitted under Australian organic standards. As a certified organic health food store, Santos Organics sources dairy only from trusted suppliers like Mungalli Creek and Barambah Organics, who uphold the highest organic and animal welfare standards.



The team at Santos encourages open, respectful conversations around food choices and transparency in sourcing.

For more information, drop in and chat with one of their knowledgeable staff or email: [ethics@santosorganics.com.au](mailto:ethics@santosorganics.com.au).

Santos Organics remains committed to your health, and to offering food that nourishes both people and planet.

51-53 Burringbar St, Mullumbimby | 02 6684 3773  
105 Jonson St, Byron Bay | 02 6685 7071  
3/7 Brigantine Street, Byron A&I Estate | 02 6685 5685

## Protect Your smile

Playing impact sports without a mouthguard puts your teeth, jaw and gums at serious risk. At Byron Bay Denture Clinic, the Protect Plus + Custom Mouthguard is expertly crafted by local dental prosthetist Troy Fraser, offering a precise fit for maximum comfort and protection.



Custom-made in a fully-equipped Byron Bay lab, these mouthguards help prevent injuries like broken teeth, cut lips, jaw fractures, and even concussions. Unlike generic versions, they're tailored to your bite - ensuring better protection and easier breathing.

Research shows custom mouthguards can reduce oral injuries by up to 60%. Choose a locally-made solution that lets you focus on your game with confidence.

Protect your smile - play smart with a Protect Plus + Custom Mouthguard.

02 6685 8744  
8/14 Middleton Street, Byron Bay  
[byronbaydentureclinic.com.au](http://byronbaydentureclinic.com.au)

## Dr Sam Gartland

Dr Sam Gartland is a UK-trained doctor, whose practice of medicine has been profoundly influenced by his own recovery from multiple sclerosis (MS). His area of interest is Lifestyle Medicine, a lifestyle approach centering on plant-based nutrition. Sam's new practice, Life Medical Mullumbimby, offers Lifestyle Medicine consultations that address the causes of disease alongside GP services, skin-checks and natural therapies. Sam also holds a Masters in Sports Medicine.



He has worked with Premier League and 'A' League football clubs and has been published in Sports Medicine literature. He has been a retreat facilitator for Overcoming MS and is a co-author of the *Overcoming MS Handbook*. Sam is committed to empowering others with the skills and knowledge to optimise their health.

Life Medical Mullumbimby  
02 6680 2486  
113 Stuart St, Mullumbimby  
[lifemedicalmullumbimby.com.au](http://lifemedicalmullumbimby.com.au)



# health & healing



## Winter Wellness Retreat in Byron Bay

### Reset your rhythm

Book now for a rejuvenating Winter Wellness Retreat with Odette Blacklock on 13-15 June — aligned with World Wellness Day. Set within 50 acres of beachfront bushland at Elements of Byron, this immersive weekend experience is designed to reset your nervous system and support physical and mental resilience. Led by Odette, health science expert and world champion beach sprinter, the retreat blends guided breathwork, mindful movement, and science-backed seminars in a small-group setting. Enjoy nourishing meals, luxury villa accommodation, and full-day retreat activities.



Whether you're new to wellness or seeking deeper connection, this retreat offers space to rest and reconnect with purpose.

From \$1130 per person. Limited spaces available. Book now or call 02 6639 1565.

[elementsofbyron.com.au](http://elementsofbyron.com.au)  
[reservations@elementsofbyron.com.au](mailto:reservations@elementsofbyron.com.au)  
144 Bayshore Drive, Byron Bay  
02 6639 1565

## Kinesiology & energy psychology

Your body is an incredible database that stores records of every experience you've ever had, and Kinesiology is a remarkable modality that can access all parts of this database. Using gentle biofeedback muscle testing Kate communicates with your physical body, sub-conscious mind and energy systems, tapping into this database in a very precise and targeted way—identifying the root cause of your issue, and utilising the most appropriate therapeutic techniques to free your innate healing capacity, allowing you to move towards health and wellbeing.



Kate can work with you around physical and emotional issues, trauma, stress release, pain relief, postural and flexibility issues, fears and phobias, sabotage programs, compulsive behaviours, herbal and nutritional support, learning issues and more! Contact her for a free discovery call.

Mullumbimby  
[www.katemessengerkinesiology.com.au](http://www.katemessengerkinesiology.com.au)  
[@katemessenger\\_kinesiology](https://www.instagram.com/katemessenger_kinesiology)  
0413 003 301

SAVE THE DATE

# byron healing

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

Byron healing is a go-to website featuring informative and entertaining articles on health and wellbeing. It features a host of practitioners and businesses in the industry, offering a range of modalities and services across the Northern Rivers.



byron healing New magazine coming soon

### Self help for anxiety

**Held by:** Byron College  
**Date:** 6 x Fridays, 23 May – 27 June  
**Time:** 11am-1pm  
**Address:** Mullum campus (6/8 Burringbar St, Mullumbimby NSW 2482)  
**Booking:** (02) 6684 3374  
[customer-care@byroncollege.org.au](mailto:customer-care@byroncollege.org.au)  
[www.byroncollege.org.au](http://www.byroncollege.org.au)

### Teach, engage, inspire

**Held by:** Byron College  
**Date:** 2 x Saturdays, 24 – 31 May  
**Time:** 9:30am-3:30pm  
**Address:** Mullum campus (6/8 Burringbar St, Mullumbimby NSW 2482)  
**Booking:** (02) 6684 3374  
[customer-care@byroncollege.org.au](mailto:customer-care@byroncollege.org.au)  
[www.byroncollege.org.au](http://www.byroncollege.org.au)

### Introduction to massage

**Held by:** Byron College  
**Date:** 4 x Tuesdays, 3 – 24 June  
**Time:** 9am-4pm  
**Address:** Mullum campus (6/8 Burringbar St, Mullumbimby NSW 2482)  
**Booking:** (02) 6684 3374  
[customer-care@byroncollege.org.au](mailto:customer-care@byroncollege.org.au)  
[www.byroncollege.org.au](http://www.byroncollege.org.au)

### Reiki Level 1

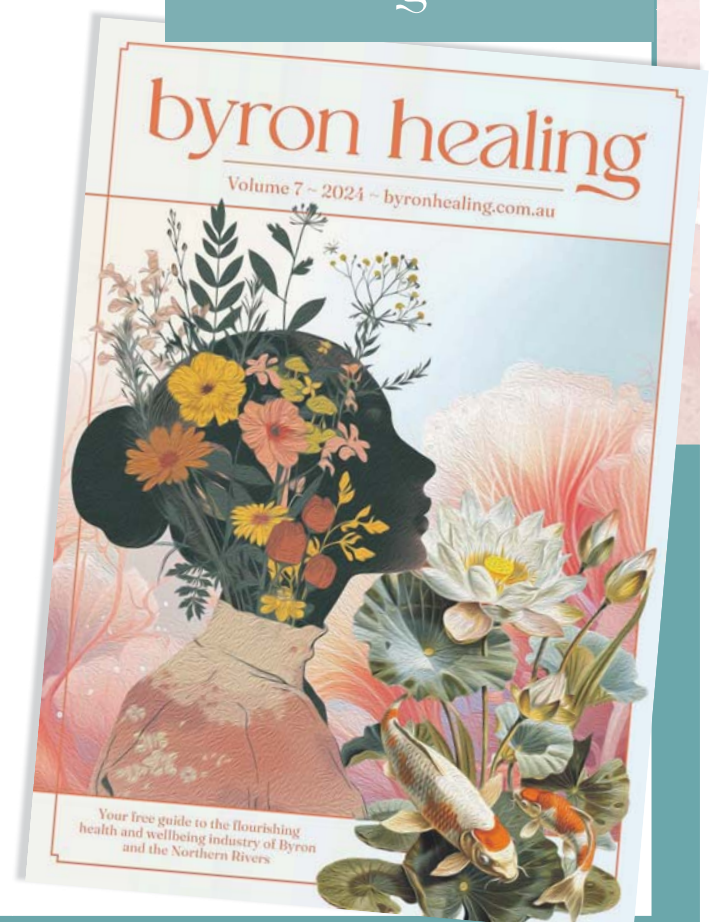
**Held by:** Byron College  
**Date:** Saturday & Sunday, 14 – 15 June  
**Time:** 10am-4pm  
**Address:** Mullum campus (6/8 Burringbar St, Mullumbimby NSW 2482)  
**Booking:** (02) 6684 3374  
[customer-care@byroncollege.org.au](mailto:customer-care@byroncollege.org.au)  
[www.byroncollege.org.au](http://www.byroncollege.org.au)

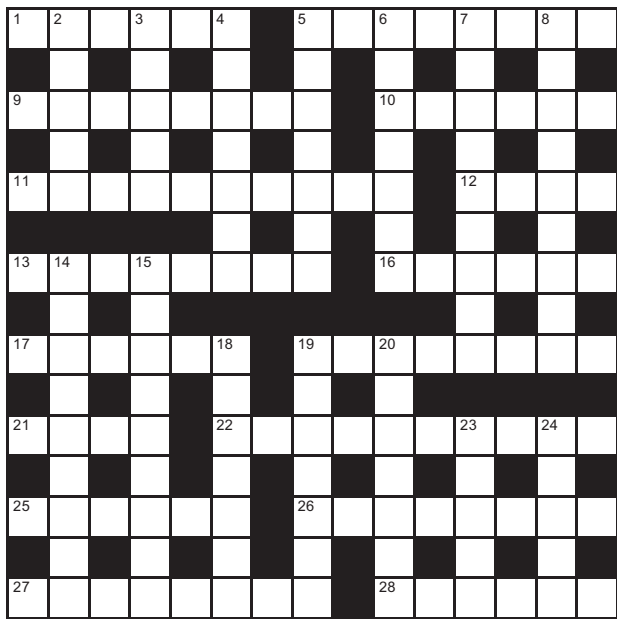
### Face yoga

**Held by:** Byron College  
**Date:** Saturday 28 June  
**Time:** 10am-3pm  
**Address:** Mullum campus (6/8 Burringbar St, Mullumbimby NSW 2482)  
**Booking:** (02) 6684 3374  
[customer-care@byroncollege.org.au](mailto:customer-care@byroncollege.org.au)  
[www.byroncollege.org.au](http://www.byroncollege.org.au)

### Vagus Nerve & Cortisol toning

**Held by:** Byron College  
**Date:** Saturday 28 June  
**Time:** 10am-1pm  
**Address:** Mullum campus (6/8 Burringbar St, Mullumbimby NSW 2482)  
**Booking:** (02) 6684 3374  
[customer-care@byroncollege.org.au](mailto:customer-care@byroncollege.org.au)  
[www.byroncollege.org.au](http://www.byroncollege.org.au)





**Cryptic Clues**

**ACROSS**

- Mum comes back with Romeo and something starts in South Indian city (6)
- Ideas about trendy locations for audience (8)
- French leader to descend into depression (8)
- Old episodes sure to be edited to include royal name (6)
- Wickedly cold place one inhabits by mistake (10)
- Senior officer briefly goes to jail (4)
- Old Yankee embraces subtle change, in a dumb way (8)
- Historically named cycle caught out parking at intersection (6)
- Incompetent university bank left Echo (6)
- French leader makes magnificent display with vow to union leader (8)
- Exposed by Frank (4)
- Hold back at rugby with naval hero (4,6)
- Boring range on trial (3,3)
- Misrepresentation of Arab lore about trees (8)
- French painter briefly trimmed 80s hairstyle for French leader (2,6)
- Yelling at cast to keep away (6)

**DOWN**

- Called Obama to come up and keep house (5)
- Store licensed to stock old item (5)
- Function to expire without a time limit (4,3)
- In a perfect world thought doesn't stop everybody having a happy ending (7)
- French leader sarcastic about Australia (7)
- Historical Italian hero starts to get all Rabelaisian with one (9)
- Expert sportsperson swamps netball beginner with misleading pointers (6,3)
- French leader with a role in China, perhaps (9)
- Foundations of ancient ruins in cosmopolitan African capital are part of the city (5,4)
- Fuel additive splashed around on lathe (7)
- Convict involved in accumulation of loot (7)
- Transport vehicle brings take away – including, essentially, ribs (7)
- Oral parts rearranged to maintain good musical form (5)
- Love a bit of visual work that's illusory (2,3)

**Quick Clues**

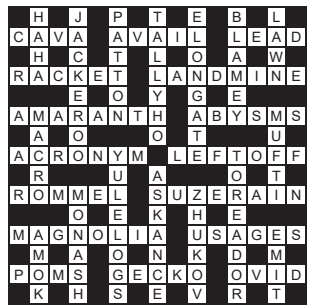
**ACROSS**

- South Indian city known for its spicy cuisine (6)
- Moments of clarity or understanding (8)
- French president 2012 to 2017 (8)
- Repeated TV show episodes (6)
- Minor fault or sin (10)
- Naval prison or two-masted vessel (4)
- In a slow-witted or uncomprehending manner (8)
- Archaic term for 'by the name of' (6)
- Lacking required skill (6)
- French president 1969 to 1974 (8)
- Not closed or restricted (4)
- Wrestling hold involving an arm (4,6)
- Practice attempt or rehearsal (3,3)
- Relating to trees or tree-dwelling (8)
- Free French leader in WWII and long-serving president (2,6)
- Tendency to yell or speak loudly (6)

**DOWN**

- Place of residence (5)
- Object of historical or religious significance (5)
- Latin phrase for 'without a set date' (4,3)
- In the best possible way (7)
- French president 2007–2012 (7)
- Italian unification leader and biscuit namesake (9)
- Skilled racquet sport competitor (6,3)
- Famous French imperial family name (9)
- City or town and its surroundings (5,4)
- Alcohol used as fuel or in beverages (7)
- Plunder or loot, especially in wartime (7)
- Small passenger vehicle (7)
- Musical term for a slow tempo (5)
- Visual style creating optical illusions (2,3)

**Last week's solution #55**



# Killing Them Softly

Mandy Nolan

What does starvation feel like? What does it feel like to bury a baby your body couldn't feed? What does it feel like to hear your children cry because their bellies are swollen with hunger?

It has been said that starvation is the worst way to die. It's slow. It's cruel.

The body literally consumes itself. Metabolism slows. The body can no longer regulate its temperature. Kidney function is impaired and the immune system weakens. That means if you are exposed to illness or poor water quality, that very often your body doesn't have the reserves to survive.

When the body is using what is in reserve to function it can't maintain the nutrient supply to vital organs and tissues. So organs shrink. Muscles shrink. You feel weak. Confused. Angry. Unlike yourself. You become desperate. Anxious. The body is scavenging for any nutrient, any stores that can be used to sustain life. Eventually all that is left is muscle. So your body takes that. Your heart is a muscle. Your body takes that too. You start to experience hallucinations, convulsions and irregular, disrupted heart rhythm. Eventually your heart stops.

There is no definitive time frame. This can take weeks. But not months. Without water, it's days. With dirty water, with disease, death comes more swiftly. This is torture. This is ancient. It's barbaric. In a world where we, many, have too much – where Australians throw away more than 300 kilos of food waste every year – no human being should die from hunger.

Right now in Gaza that's exactly what is happening. 2.1 million people facing food shortages. Almost half a million people on the brink of starvation. Even if food was brought in today, many of those people would have chronic health issues from the organ damage they have sustained from the starvation.

Last night on ABC News I saw footage from Gaza of starving people lining up in the soup kitchens. I watched the faces of children and adults crying and screaming as they scrambled for food. As they pushed and shoved each other to get just a morsel. It's not something



All image sourced from Freepik.com

**The World Food Program has said there are 116,000 tonnes of food sitting just outside Gaza, enough to feed the population for four months, if Netanyahu allowed it in. It is a humanitarian crisis of inconceivable proportions.**

you can unsee. In an attempt to force the return of 58 hostages, millions of innocent people are being punished as Israel continues to blockade the deliveries of food and medicine. People are being starved as a weapon of war.

The World Food Program has said there are 116,000 tonnes of food sitting just outside Gaza, enough to feed the population for four months, if Netanyahu allowed it in. It is a humanitarian crisis of inconceivable proportions. Since the ceasefire has ended, food prices in Gaza have increased by up to 1,400 percent. The cost-of-living crisis in

Palestine has become the cost of dying. Children and babies are most vulnerable to death by starvation. Little kids who can't comprehend the complex geopolitical narrative that has authored their agony, who don't understand what a genocide is, are dying in the most painful inhumane way. It haunts me. It should haunt everyone.

Yesterday I travelled to Brisbane to join thousands of people around the country to commemorate the Nakba, when in 1948 over 700,000 Palestinians were driven from their homes, and to recognise the genocide happening in Gaza now. The blockade on food and humanitarian aid must be lifted, the brutal war on civilians must stop and somehow the world community must put differences aside, to stand for peace. For the sake of children who are being starved in the bombed rubble of what was once their home, there has to be hope. Can we not agree on that?

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

As our weather moves towards winter, this week's sun flits into the mobile, talkative sign of Gemini, and the halls are alive with the sound of mouth music...



GEMINI THE TWINS

**ARIES:** The light of Venus in Aries shines bright this week, and the sun in a heady, 'mental as anything' air sign encourages you to explore new ways of making your daily tasks more efficient, perhaps by experimenting with the latest technology or trying out different strategies and approaches.

**TAURUS:** If an unexpected plot twist catches you off guard this week, and you get the feeling you're not being told the whole story, or something just feels off, pay attention to people's body language. What's not being said? Keep researching till Mercury addresses the elephant in the room next week.

**GEMINI:** Welcome to your season in the sun Gemini, as this year's Gemini new moon kindles exciting synergies with kindred spirits old and new, bringing opportunities to join forces with others who share your enthusiasm. A Neptune/Saturn alignment could attract collaborators with a rare mix of ingenuity and stability.

**CANCER:** The zodiac season of socialising and interacting has begun, and this week suggests that the best place for that might well be your own backyard, or workplace. So check out your local scene, and perhaps collaborate with neighbours and/or colleagues to get some community action happening.

**LEO:** Life could morph from mild to wild as this outgoing week of meeting new people with different ideas and attitudes could bring an unexpected breakthrough. A good cycle to team up on short-term collaborations, though if a promising offer comes your way, do your homework before committing.

**VIRGO:** Venus in 'tell it like it is' mode and the sun at its most communicative offer ample opportunities this week to clear the air where that may be needed to make things right. Unsure how to start? Try getting feedback from a sympathetic sounding board who will listen without judgment.

**LIBRA:** This week definitely speaks your language as it flicks on the celestial fairy lights in a fellow air sign which happens to be your astrological sector of new adventures – exciting! So expect to be revelling in all the latest, up-to-date styles, trends, buzz and fizz.

**SCORPIO:** As the sun sashays into its most curious and inquisitive mode, this fact-finding solar cycle asks questions in the name of getting to the bottom of what's really going on. Although if you investigative types plan to probe, best be prepared for others doing the same to you.

**SAGITTARIUS:** With Mercury and Pluto in incisive air signs, this week is buzzing with snap judgments and opinions. If an unexpected question requires an immediate response, think strategically and don't feel pressured to disclose anything you don't want to. A touch of mystery can work to your advantage.

**CAPRICORN:** Entering the season of the zodiac's most ultra-modern sign could very well ignite a desire for a stylish refresh, whether it's revamping your home décor, updating your wardrobe or shopping for the latest technology upgrade. Expect a week of vivid socialising, business interactions and conversational marathons.

**AQUARIUS:** If you've been feeling stuck or hit a creative wall lately, support is all around you this week, but you will have to ask for it. It's worth getting your smart friends together for a good old brainstorm, though good luck staying focused during this highly distractible cycle.

**PISCES:** There could be a scarcity of sensitivity in this week's astral mix, so if people unintentionally rub you the wrong way, it's worth letting them know how you feel. This is a transit when Piscean empathy, caring and compassion are needed to counterbalance an increasingly digital, often robotic, mindset.

Volume 39 50  
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 Editor: Eve Jeffery  
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 Copy deadline: 5pm each Thursday  
 Gig Guide deadline: 5pm each Friday  
 Advertising: adcopy@echo.net.au  
 P: 02 6684 1777  
 W: echo.net.au/entertainment

# seven

seven days of entertainment



Jess Flynn from Stone & Wood

## Brewing the stones

Held each year, **Stone Brew Day** pays homage to a brewing tradition that dates back to 2008, when Stone & Wood's founder, Brad Rogers, brought volcanic stones home from Fiji and began what has now become a winter ritual. On the day, the stone brewing tradition is honoured by heating stones over a woodfire before lowering them into the tank – an ancient process that helps create the brewery's limited-release woodfired porter, Stone Beer.

Invited guests had the opportunity to learn, and speak with **Brewery Manager Pat Keeble** about the story behind the Stone Beer, which will officially be unveiled at the **Festival of the Stone** on **Saturday, June 14** – Stone & Wood's annual celebration of community, beer and music, all while raising funds for Byron's Fletcher Street Cottage.

For more information visit: [stoneandwood.com.au](http://stoneandwood.com.au).

## Forever Lisa's soul

**Lisa Hunt's Forever Soul** returns to the **Beach Hotel** on Sunday, June 1, and you need to get ready to ride the soul train – Lisa Hunt's Forever Soul is rolling back into town for an evening of powerhouse vocals, feel-good funk, and the kind of energy only Lisa can deliver.

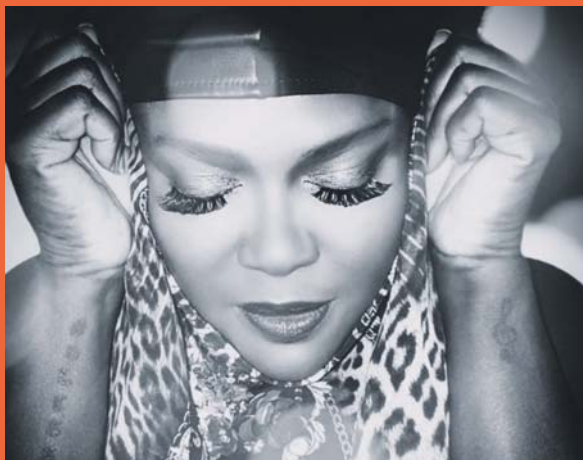
A Beach Hotel icon and audience favourite, Lisa brings her signature blend of gospel roots, R&B, Motown, and disco magic for an unforgettable Sunday session.

From the gospel churches of America to sharing stages with legends like Ray Charles, Pavarotti, and Eric Clapton, Lisa Hunt's career is nothing short of extraordinary. Her soulful voice has graced recordings with Zucchero, Jimmy Barnes, and Lauryn Hill, and topped dance charts from Italy to the UK as the voice behind Lovestation and Club X.

Forever Soul is more than a show – it's a celebration. Expect powerhouse renditions of Aretha, Otis, Tina, and more, as Lisa and her incredible band lift the roof with songs that make you want to move, sing, and remember the power of soul music.

So, gather your friends and get ready for another heart-stirring, dance-floor-filling celebration of soul.

**Lisa Hunt's Forever Soul on Sunday, June 1 at the Beach Hotel, Byron Bay from 4.30pm – this is a free show.**



# LISA HUNT

4:30PM SUN  
1<sup>ST</sup> JUNE



FREE ENTRY

1 BAY STREET, BYRON BAY

**THE FILTHY ANIMALS**  
 CLASSIC ROCK BANGERS!

GLEN WUIRHEAD	PETE ROBINSON	BOBBY POULTON	SHENIE	BRETT WILLIAMS	HAMSH ROSSER
KEYS	GUITAR	BASS	VOCALS	GUITAR	DRUMS
EXHIBITORS	ELECTRIC MARY	WOLFMOTHER	THE POOR	CHOIRBOYS	THE VINES

**SUN 25 MAY 4:30PM**  
**BEACH HOTEL, BAY ST. BYRON BAY**

Help Buy Wallum  
**Bush Dance**  
 featuring 'Mountain Road' band  
 Saturday 31st May  
 Brunswick Heads Memorial Hall  
 4:00pm | \$18 Adults  
 Kids Free  
 Yummy Food  
 Please book by 24th May to help with catering  
 fb: Help Buy Wallum  
 Get Tickets Here  
 www.clai.au



## Heel and toe hits Brunswick Heads

Byron Shire locals and visitors are invited to dust off their dancing shoes for a family-friendly **Bush Dance** at the **Brunswick Heads Memorial Hall** on **Saturday, May 31**.

The lively four-piece bush band, **Mountain Road**, led by experienced caller Mal, will have everyone on their feet remembering the classic dances in no time.

With tickets just \$18 for adults and free for kids under 16, it's an affordable night of wholesome fun for all ages.

Hosted by the registered charity Community Land Acquisition Initiative (CLAI), this event raises funds for their 'Help Buy Wallum' initiative – a campaign to purchase and permanently protect the endangered Wallum heathland at Brunswick Heads.

'Wallum Bush Dance is our first community event since launching the Help Buy Wallum initiative in Mullumbimby last month,' said Brunswick Heads local and CLAI co-creator, Wendy Royston. 'It's a chance to come together, celebrate community, and support a project that safeguards critical habitats for our threatened species locally, including the koala and the glossy black cockatoo.'

Light meals, desserts, and hot & cold drinks will be available on the night. This event is alcohol free. Wallum Bush Dance, Saturday May 31 from 4pm to 9pm at the Brunswick Heads Memorial Hall, Fingal St, Brunswick Heads.

**Tickets via Humanitix:** <https://events.humanitix.com/wallum-bush-dance>.

# seven

## Eclectic Selection WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK



✿ **Lilli Fairfax** lives in the world of country/folk/pop music. Hailing from the small town of Maitland, and now calling the Sunshine Coast her home, Lilli is a singer-songwriter whose music radiates with the warmth of her coastal lifestyle and her country town roots.

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



✿ **Adam Harpaz's** music is uniquely relatable, painting pictures of hope for the listener through lyrical integrity, and warm, heartfelt performances. The music has more often than not wandered within the realm of indie-folk, while featuring a distinct world music influence.

**Friday from 5pm at  
Elements of Byron, Byron  
Bay. Free show**

✿ Local legends, **Goodrich**, are going to rock the Coorabell Hall in a fundraiser for the venue – playing their favourite hits from the '70s and '80s, Goodrich will raise the roof of this beautiful hall as never before. Joining the fun will be legend guitarist Rick Fenn and guitarist and comedy star, George Smilovici.

**Saturday at Coorabell Hall  
from 7pm. Tickets \$45  
from [humanitix.com](http://humanitix.com)**



✿ **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!

**Saturday at 7pm at  
the Brunswick Picture  
House, Brunswick Heads.  
Tickets from \$35 –  
[brunswickpicturehouse.com](http://brunswickpicturehouse.com)**

✿ 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 get a stage full of legends and the best rock songs of all time – done right!

**Sunday from 4.30pm at  
the Beach Hotel, Byron  
Bay. Free show**

✿ **Soren Carlberg Quartet (SCQ)** sees Soren share vocal and guitar duties with **Louis Muller**. SCQ has the duo of John Buschelle and Michael Pellmore, two of the best vocal harmonies you'll hear, a treat for the ears, plus, a rhythm section of Martin and Derek Armistead.

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

✿ **Chris Aronsten** plays guitar, mandolin, fiddle, harmonica, and spoons and there is no shortage of energy – a typical show includes original songs and selected covers from his extensive folk and blues repertoire – he blends the songs with fiddle tunes, American-style bluegrass flat-picking on guitar, and instrumentals on mandolin.

**Monday evening at The  
Rails, Byron Bay.  
Free show**

# NRYO

Northern Rivers Youth Orchestra

Three days of stimulating workshops focusing on music for orchestra, string ensemble and concert band.

As a member of the Northern Rivers Youth Orchestra, you'll have the opportunity to hone your skills, collaborate with other talented musicians, and perform in the grand finale on the big stage.

8 - 10 July 2025  
School holidays

Juniors \$175  
Seniors \$195

More info: 6621 2266  
[nryo@nrcac.edu.au](mailto:nryo@nrcac.edu.au)



Enrol here



Northern Rivers  
Conservatorium



## Could you be BayFM's next Treasurer?

Put yourself at the heart of BayFM Community Radio – currently celebrating 35 years of service to our local region.

Our Treasurer is stepping down, so we are looking for an experienced hand to hold the purse strings.

You don't need to have formal accounting qualifications (it's an advantage of course), but you do need to know your way around a P&L and be an experienced business manager.

BayFM is a registered charity and we run lean and keen. This voluntary role requires just a few hours a week, working together with our supersmart bookkeeper.

For more details please email  
[president@bayfm.org](mailto:president@bayfm.org).



[bayfm.org](http://bayfm.org)

# CINEMA



## I Want It All

As part of the **German Film Festival**, screening across **all Palace Cinemas in May**, comes the story of Hildegard Knef – a global star, style icon and grand dame of chanson. A woman who was opinionated, controversial and simultaneously an archetype and antithesis of her time.

As an actress, singer, and writer, Knef became a public figure in Germany at the age of 20 and never returned to anonymity. In 1951, a six-second scene from the film *The Sinner* caused a nationwide scandal in the newly formed Federal Republic, when Knef's breasts were visible on screen. After falling from grace, she pursued a career abroad and remained creatively active for over five decades, celebrating successes and experiencing crushing defeats. Published in 1970 and translated into 17 languages, Knef's highly successful autobiography *The Gifted Horse* topped the *Der Spiegel* bestseller list for six months.

Marking the 100th anniversary of her birth in 1925, cinematic biography *I Want It All (Ich Will Alles)* showcases Knef's unwavering spirit and artistic brilliance using rare archival footage and interviews to present a portrait of a highly-talented, ambitious and astute woman who showed the world how to survive fame and failure.

**This week you can see *I Want It All* on Thursday at 8.20pm at Palace Byron Bay – [www.palacecinemas.com.au](http://www.palacecinemas.com.au).**

# GIG GUIDE

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



### WEDNESDAY 21

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **LILLI FAIRFAX**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 7PM **INO PIO + DJ DAVI BANGMA**, 9PM **DUELING PIANOS: DIZZY J & JON SHORTER**
- BANGALOW BOWLO 7.30PM **BANGALOW BRACKETS OPEN MIC**
- THE PADDOCK PROJECT, MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM **OPEN MIC JAM**

### THURSDAY 22

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **TBC**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **ERIN SHAY**
- BYRON THEATRE 6PM **HEATH FRANKLIN – CHOPPER: THE LAST HARD BASTARD**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 5PM **OLE FALCO + DJ QUENDO**, 6PM **SPANGLED THURSDAY FT. SHLUFFY, CASEY MAY & THE LOVERS MOHILAA AND MOPOKE**, 9PM **DUELING PIANOS: JON SHORTER & SAM WHEAT**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 6PM **ALLY PALMER**
- SAINT MARIES, BRUNSWICK HEADS, 6PM **MONDO HUM**
- LISMORE CITY BOWLO 7PM **THE SUPPER CLUB SOUL BAND**
- THE CITADEL, MURWILLUMBAH, 6PM **SEEN – THE MOVIE AND Q&A**

### FRIDAY 23

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **THE WHISKEYS**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **HAYLEY GRACE + JEROME WILLIAMS BAND**
- NORTH BYRON HOTEL 4.30PM **DJ NAT WHITE**
- ELEMENTS OF BYRON 5PM **ADAM HARPAZ**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 7PM **MATT ARMITAGE + DJ BILLY BAILEY**, 7.30PM **BILLY GUDGEON**, 8PM **DUELING PIANOS: SHANE PARRY & DIZZY J + JON SHORTER & SAM WHEAT**
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM **DJ LAINE GODIVA**
- CLUB LENNOX 7PM **ADAM BROWN**
- CHERRY STREET SPORTS CLUB, BALLINA, 7PM **NATHAN KAYE**

### HOTEL BRUNSWICK 6PM DJ NO SCRUBS

- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 7PM **KINKY DRAWERS**
- ST JOHN'S SCHOOL HALL, MULLUMBIMBY, 7.30PM **ECSTATIC DANCE MULLUM WITH DJ ISHWARA**
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY, 8PM **KRAPEOKEEE WITH JESS**
- THE LEVEE, LISMORE, 8.30PM **LIZA**
- MURWILLUMBAH SERVICES CLUB 6.30PM **STEPHEN LOVELIGHT**
- THE CITADEL, MURWILLUMBAH, 7PM **NEIL YOUNG TRIBUTE CONCERT**
- CABARITA BEACH HOTEL 6.30PM **THE COMPLAINERS**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 5PM **BRETT HEALY**

### SATURDAY 24

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **CHILDREN OF BOB**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 3PM **SALLY BRACEWELL + THE VYBEZ BAND**
- BYRON THEATRE 8PM **THE HONEY SLIDERS**
- NORTH BYRON HOTEL 1.30PM **DJ WILL CONNELL + AFRODISEA**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 7PM **KANE MUIR + DJ BILLY BAILEY**, 8PM **DUELING PIANOS: JOHN WHEAT & SHANE PARRY + JOHN HILL & JON SHORTER**, 8PM **BARRY MCLAY**
- BALLINA RSL BOARDWALK 6PM **ISAAC FRANKHAM**, LEVEL ONE 8PM **WENDY MATTHEWS**
- CHERRY STREET SPORTS CLUB, BALLINA, 8PM **JOCK BARNES BAND**
- WILLIAMS STREET KITCHEN & BAR, LENNOX HEAD, 5.30PM **JOE CONROY**
- CLUB LENNOX 7PM **JABIRU**
- COORABELL HALL 7PM **GOODRICH, GEORGE SMILOVICI AND RICK FENN**
- BANGALOW HOTEL 6PM **THE HILLBILLY SKANK**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 2PM **SHORTY BROWN & WILD LIFE TWINS**, 7.30PM **LUKE HAYWARD BAND**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 7PM **VANESSA LARRY MITCHELL**
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM **DJ OREN SELECTA**

### DRILL HALL THEATRE, MULLUMBIMBY, 4.30PM SCREENINGS – DOCUMENTARY SCREENINGS, SHAMANS OF THE AMAZON + THE TOAD THE WHALE AND THE SUN

- MULLUMBIMBY EX-SERVICES CLUB 8PM **IN2XS – THE AUSTRALIAN INXS TRIBUTE SHOW**
- THE LEVEE, LISMORE, 8.30PM **DJ ABEL EL TORO**
- BILLINUDGEL HOTEL 6PM **GRAVITY'S GUMBO**
- MURWILLUMBAH SERVICES CLUB 6PM **GLENN SHIELDS**
- THE CITADEL, MURWILLUMBAH, 7.30PM **ALICE NIGHT – WILD IVY LAUNCH**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 5PM **RICK BARRON**
- SALTBAR, KINGSCLIFF, 6PM **PETER THORNLEY**
- SHEOAK SHACK, FINGAL HEAD, 7PM **SKY EATER & JESSE MORRIS**
- SEAGULLS, TWEED HEADS, 7.30PM **HIGH VOLTAGE – THE AC/DC EXPERIENCE**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE SHOWROOM 8PM **THE STARS OF COUNTDOWN**

### SUNDAY 25

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **JOCK BARNES DUO**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 4.30PM **THE FILTHY ANIMALS**
- NORTH BYRON HOTEL 2PM **DJ MONSIEUR DIOP**
- TREEHOUSE, BYRON BAY, 2PM **JOE CONROY**
- YULLI'S, BYRON BAY, 3PM **YULLI'S OPEN MIC**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 7PM **JORDAN MAC + DJ EWING**, 9PM **DUELING PIANOS: DIZZY J & JON SHORTER**
- BALLINA RSL BOARDWALK 2.30PM **SUNDAY BLUES CLUB SESSIONS FEAT SOREN CARLBERGG QUARTET**
- LENNOX PIZZA 5PM **GUY AND NICCI**
- CLUB LENNOX 5PM **THE MUMBLERS**
- ELTHAM HOTEL 2.30PM **THE LONESOME BOATMAN**
- BANGALOW HOTEL 4PM **BEN AMOR**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 4PM **GEED UP**
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY, 3PM **SWAMP CATS OPEN MIC**

### WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 3PM DJ XUJA

- MULLUMBIMBY CIVIC HALL 5PM **OHAD REIN**
- OCEAN SHORES COUNTRY CLUB 3PM **OPEN MIC**
- BILLINUDGEL HOTEL 1PM **KANE CALCITE DUO**
- LISMORE BOWLING CLUB 2PM **SLEEPING GOANNA FUNDRAISING CONCERT**
- CABARITA BEACH HOTEL 3PM **SCOTT DAY VEE**
- SALTBAR, KINGSCLIFF, 6PM **JEROME WILLIAMS**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE SHOWROOM 8PM **LETZ ZEP**
- CHINDERAH TAVERN 2PM **BEAR AND SHERIFFS**

### MONDAY 26

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **CHRIS ARONSTEN**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **JOCK BARNES**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 7PM **MARK USHER + DJ BENJAMIN HONEY**, 9PM **DUELING PIANOS: DIZZY J & MITCHELL DORMER**
- ELTHAM HOTEL 7PM **ANDY GOLLEDGE AND QUEENIE**

### TUESDAY 27

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **TRILLA**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **AKOVA**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6.30PM **MARSHALL OKELL**, 9PM **DUELING PIANOS: MITCHELL DORMER & SHANE PARRY**

### WEDNESDAY 28

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **TRILLA**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **INO PIO**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6.30PM **DAN HANNAFORD + DJ DAVI BAGMA**, 9PM **DUELING PIANOS: JON SHORTER & SHANE PARRY**
- BANGALOW BOWLO 7.30PM **BANGALOW BRACKETS OPEN MIC**
- THE PADDOCK PROJECT, MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM **OPEN MIC JAM**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 6.30PM **KINGY COMEDY – PETER BERNER**

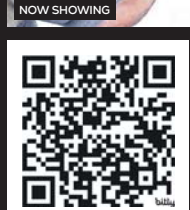
It's **Free!** to post your gig in the Echo Gig Guide



It will appear in the paper, the online gig guide and on Bay FM  
email [gigs@echo.net.au](mailto:gigs@echo.net.au) with the details

## PALACE CINEMAS

BYRON BAY - BALLINA FAIR  
SESSION TIMES  
THURSDAY MAY 22  
TO WEDNESDAY MAY 28



### PALACE BYRON BAY

#### SPECIAL SCREENINGS

**BRING HER BACK** (MA15+) FRIGHT NIGHT PREVIEW  
Mon: 8:00PM

**THE DOOM GENERATION** (MA15+) CULT WALK  
Mon: 6:10PM

#### FAMILY FILMS

**A MINECRAFT MOVIE** (PG) ME NBT  
Daily: 11:00AM, 1:20PM

**FLOW** (G)  
Daily except Thurs: 10:45AM

**LILO & STITCH** (PG) NFT  
Daily: 10:45AM, 11:45AM, 1:15PM, 2:15PM, 3:45PM, 4:45PM, 6:00PM, 7:15PM

#### ALL FILMS

**FINAL DESTINATION: BLOODLINES** (MA15+) ME NBT  
Daily: 3:40PM, 8:10PM

**HURRY UP TOMORROW** (MA15+) ME NBT  
Daily except Mon: 8:30PM. No screening Mon

**MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE – THE FINAL RECKONING** (MA15+) ME NBT  
Daily except Wed: 11:00AM, 12:40PM, 2:30PM, 4:00PM, 6:10PM, 7:20PM.  
Wed: 11:00AM, 12:40PM, 2:30PM, 4:00PM, 6:30PM, 7:20PM

**MONSIEUR AZNAVOUR** (M) ME NBT  
Daily: 3:40PM

**OCEAN WITH DAVID ATTENBOROUGH** (PG) ME NBT  
Daily: 3:45PM, 6:00PM

**SINNERS** (MA15+) ME NBT  
Daily: 1:00PM, 8:30PM

**THE ACCOUNTANT 2** (MA15+) ME NBT  
Daily: 8:20PM

**THE PENGUIN LESSONS** (M) ME NBT  
Daily: 1:10PM

**THE SALT PATH** (M) ME NBT  
Daily: 10:45AM, 3:30PM, 5:50PM, 8:15PM

**THE SURFER** (MA15+) ME NBT  
Daily: 10:45AM, 6:20PM

**THUNDERBOLTS\*** (PG) ME NBT  
Daily except Mon: 1:10PM, 5:50PM. Mon: 1:10PM

**TINA (MOTHER)** (M) ME NBT  
Daily: 10:45AM

### BALLINA FAIR CINEMAS

**A MINECRAFT MOVIE** (PG) ME NBT  
Thurs, Fri, Mon, Tues: 5:15PM.  
Sat, Sun: 9:45AM.  
Wed: 12:30PM

**BRING HER BACK** (MA15+) FRIGHT NIGHT PREVIEW  
Mon: 7:30PM

**FINAL DESTINATION: BLOODLINES** (MA15+) ME NBT  
Thurs, Fri, Tues: 2:50PM, 5:10PM, 7:30PM.  
Sat: 7:30PM.  
Sun: 4:00PM, 7:30PM.  
Mon, Wed: 2:50PM, 5:10PM

**LILO & STITCH** (PG) NFT  
Thurs, Fri: 10:10AM, 12:30PM, 2:50PM, 6:45PM.  
Sat, Sun: 10:10AM, 12:30PM, 2:50PM, 5:10PM, 6:45PM.  
Mon, Tues, Wed: 10:10AM, 12:30PM, 2:50PM, 7:30PM

**MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE – THE FINAL RECKONING** (MA15+) ME NBT  
Thurs, Fri: 12:10PM, 3:30PM, 7:20PM.  
Sat: 12:00PM, 3:10PM, 6:30PM.  
Sun: 12:00PM, 3:20PM, 6:30PM.  
Mon, Tues, Wed: 12:10PM, 3:30PM, 6:45PM

**OCEAN WITH DAVID ATTENBOROUGH** (PG) ME NBT  
Daily except Sat, Sun: 10:00AM.  
Sat, Sun: 10:20AM

**THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT!** (PG) MATINEE MEMORIES  
Sat: 3:45PM

**THUNDERBOLTS\*** (PG) ME NBT  
Daily except Sat, Sun: 10:00AM

SCAN TO BOOK ONLINE

FOR ALL GERMAN FF SESSIONS, PLEASE VISIT [GERMANFILMFESTIVAL.COM.AU](http://GERMANFILMFESTIVAL.COM.AU) • 6686 9600 BALLINA FAIR • 6680 8555 BYRON BAY

# 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](http://www.echo.net.au/classified-ads)

# Echo



## ZENTHAI SHIATSU

**RELAX, RELEASE, RECONNECT**

Contact Alex  
Zenthai Shiatsu Therapist  
Bodywork with intention  
One-on-one sessions  
0421 921 538  
[alexandra.biro@gmail.com](mailto:alexandra.biro@gmail.com)

## DISCLAIMER

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

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

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

## 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 Providore Newrybar;  
Richies IGA Ballina, Ballina RSL,  
One Stop Shop Ballina, Ballina Golf Club East Ballina, Brighton St Takeaway near the Shawsy, Seaqgrass Lennox. Lennox pub drive-through, Station St Grocer Lennox.



Mullumbimby & District  
Neighbourhood Centre  
*Connecting the Byron Shire Community*

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- Kitchen Hands -
- Retail Assistants -
- Drivers and Co-driver -
- Community Support Assistants -

MDNC is in needs of dedicated volunteers to be part of a big loving family. All skill sets welcome.

Contact Sylvia -  
Volunteer Coordinator  
Mon-Fri  
**6684 1286**



## Consultation prior to development application

The landowners of 8 Marvell Street, Byron Bay, are preparing a Development Application (DA) to lodge to Byron Shire Council to redevelop the site. The development would involve the construction of a mixed-use development containing ground level retail uses and 12 residential apartments above with basement car parking. The twelve residential apartments would include:

- 6 three-bedroom apartments.
- 6 two-bedroom apartments, 3 or which are affordable housing.

Planit Consulting is undertaking community consultation prior to lodgment of the DA. Draft plans are being shared with the community until 30 May to gain local feedback. The DA will then be finalised and lodged with Council. There will be further opportunities for community input when Council holds their formal public exhibition period.

A 'Community information and feedback' session will be held at Byron Community Centre on Friday 23 May from 2.30–4.30PM for those who would like further information or to provide feedback in person.

Please register your interest to attend this informal community session at [administration@planitconsulting.com.au](mailto:administration@planitconsulting.com.au), and include '8 Marvell Street' as the subject to your email. More details will be provided about this session through this registration process.

You can view project details on Planit's website

<https://planitconsulting.com.au/8marvellstreet/>

## COMMUNITY HOT BRUNCH FREE

### FIRST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH

- Sausage sizzle • Hot dogs • Sandwiches
- Coffee & tea • Fruit Salad

### EVERYONE WELCOME

Come one come all and join us in a meal or just a chat. Takeaway most welcome: COVID safe rules apply. Frozen takeaway meals now available.

**10am to 12pm**  
**In the Ballina**  
**Presbyterian Hall**

Corner of Cherry & Crane. Just behind the Presbyterian Church.



## LIFE CELEBRATIONS

Please join us for a celebration of life in honour of

### BARRY ROBERT CASON

Late of Bungawalbin, formerly of New Brighton.

On Wednesday 28th May at 10 a.m.

To be held in Casons Road, New Brighton.

Followed by refreshments at the venue.

Lovingly remembered by his brother and sister, Allan and Mavis, and their families.

Feb 1, 1950 – Apr 27, 2025.



0427 743 817

*Celebration of life*  
for  
**Colin Tarbox**  
Colin's final send off.  
We welcome you to share some memories.

Anyone that wants to speak is welcome. Refreshments and finger food will be served.

Attire: smart casual, whatever is comfortable for you. Colour is welcome.

25th May, 2025 – 2 to 8pm  
Ocean Shores Country Club  
113A Orana Rd.  
Ocean Shores

## HEALTH

### HAWAIIAN MASSAGE

Ocean Shores, Michaela, 0416332886

## THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE

Relax, Revive, Restore. Techniques in Swedish, Remedial, Sports, Deep Tissue, Relaxation, Full Body & ASMR or combination. 60, 75, 90 minutes. Mark 0448441194

## KINESIOLOGY

Clear subconscious sabotages. Reprogram patterns and beliefs. Restore vibrancy and physical health. De-stress. 0403125506

SANDRA DAVEY, Reg. Pract.

## HYPNOSIS & EFT

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

## HYPNOSIS & NLP

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

## FULL BODY MASSAGE

A divine experience. Nurturing, healing, regen. 28 yrs exp. Lucy 0427917960



- 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](http://crystalsanddreaming.com.au)

## Body Based Psychotherapy Somatic Practice

Julie Wells  
Anne Goslett  
*(nee Mannix)*  
Dip.Som.Psych, Clinical PACFA Reg.  
Individual and Couple Therapy  
Supervision and Coaching  
**(02) 6685 5185**  
9 Fletcher St, Byron Bay

## Mindfulness @ Work

Bring greater focus, clarity and calm into your workplace.

Certified Mindfulness Educator Paul Bibby  
**0401 926 090**

## 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



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



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

## FOR SALE

SOLID GOLDEN OAK oval table 106cmx152cm over 100yo \$320. SOFA 3-seat grey as new \$320. 0412877122

## 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](http://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

# Classifieds

## GARAGE SALES

### AN ENCORE

Undercover & diverse women's sale with new treasures.

Sat 8am-3pm. 3 Orchid Pl Mullumbimby

## Tip Runs & Rubbish Removal

0408 210 772

## CARAVANS

### CARAVANS

We buy, sell & consign. All makes & models. 0408 758 688

## TO LET

**MYOCUM:** peaceful & private furn. studio \$550pw incl. elec, gas, water (tank), wifi. 4 weeks bond. Up to 3 month stay. Please email: myocumrental@gmail.com

## 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

## SHORT TERM ACCOM

### LUXURY 4 BEDROOM HOUSE WITH PRIVATE PLUNGE POOL

Available 4th June - 7th October  
Byron Bay Town location  
Modern furnishings and fully equipped kitchen  
\$1750 per week including utilities and wifi  
Please phone 0409 821113

## 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 •  
• walk/cycle to beach  
  
\$650 /week  
0420 235 624  
Not suitable for pets or young children

## WANTED TO RENT

I'M LOOKING to rent a secure single garage in central Byron Bay to store a small vehicle. Please call Ed 0418660063

## TO LEASE

BYRON industrial warehouse upstairs studio, large floorspace. Clean, lots of light, balcony & carspace. Ideal for merch. storage \$575pw. Txt 0424906036

## POSITIONS VACANT

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

## 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](http://seek.com.au/job/82948461)

## TAXI DRIVERS WANTED

Flexible work hours - perfect 2nd income  
Email operations@byronbaytaxi.com

## WORK WANTED

WORDPRESS WEBSITE CREATION  
Fair rates info@wordpressit.com.au

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

## TUITION

# Adobe Tutoring

Experienced Professional Tutor

- Photoshop
- Indesign
- Illustrator

contact@thinkblinkdesign.com  
www.thinkblinkdesign.com

## MUSICAL NOTES

LIGHT DRUMMER wanted for jazz duo with keys/guitar player. Ph 0488235179

GUITARS, RECORDS, HI-FI  
WE BUY AND SELL 66851005

## PETS



**MAGGIE**

Meet Maggie, a sweet, petite little 6 month old girl, with a beautiful, soft black coat and cute white markings. She's affectionate, happy to be held and stroked, and loves to explore the shelter! If you want a young cat but a young kitten is too much, then Maggie is a perfect choice.  
D.O.B 01/12/24 Microchip no. 953010007017330

To make an appointment 0403 533 589 • Billinudgel [petsforlifeanimalshelter.net](http://petsforlifeanimalshelter.net)



**TARA**

Meet Tara, a sweet and serene 10-year-old domestic short hair tabby with the most mesmerising green eyes and a purr that melts stress away.  
Tara is a classic beauty with her soft, striped coat and calm demeanour, she has been socialised with a dog, and they got on well.  
Tara is the perfect match for someone who appreciates the gentle, mature love only a senior cat can give.



T: 6681860 E: [shelter@nras.org.au](mailto:shelter@nras.org.au)  
W: [www.nras.org.au](http://www.nras.org.au)



**Melody** is a 6 month old, Mastiff/Staffy X. She has a sweet nature and loves a cuddle. Melody would suit a family with the time to continue with her training.

M/C # 991003002702918

Location: Murwillumbah

For more information contact Yvette on 0421 831 128.

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

Visit [friendsofthepound.com](http://friendsofthepound.com) to view other dogs and cats looking for a home. ABN 83 126 970 338

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# 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	<a href="http://kyoglebazaar.com.au">kyoglebazaar.com.au</a>
4th SUN	Bangalow	02 6687 1911
4th SUN	Nimbin	0475 135 764
4th SUN	Murwillumbah	0415 328 672
4th SUN	Coolangatta (in a 5 Sunday month)	
5th SUN	Nimbin	0475 135 764

The Echo updates this guide regularly, however sometimes markets change their routine without letting us know. Please get in touch if you want to advise us of a change.

## 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

## SUN, MOON & TIDES

- TIMES FOR NEXT 3 WEEKS

DATE (May/June)	DAY, MOON PHASE	SUN RISE / SET	MOON RISE / SET	HIGH TIDES, height (m)	LOW TIDES, height (m)
21	W	6:24 17:00	12:52	0230 1.58; 1525 1.25	0919 0.48; 2059 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
29	TH	6:29 16:57	8:42 18:50	0948 1.21; 2227 1.96	0415 0.35; 1518 0.31
30	F	6:29 16:57	9:40 19:59	1042 1.16; 2316 1.87	0510 0.39; 1608 0.39
31	SA	6:30 16:57	10:28 21:05	1138 1.12	0604 0.44; 1701 0.48
1	SU	6:30 16:56	11:08 22:08	0006 1.76; 1239 1.11	0657 0.49; 1800 0.58
2	M	6:31 16:56	11:42 23:06	0056 1.65; 1345 1.14	0747 0.52; 1904 0.66
3	TU	6:31 16:56	12:12 24:02	0147 1.54; 1453 1.19	0836 0.53; 2017 0.72
4	W	6:32 16:56	12:39 0:02	0239 1.45; 1556 1.27	0922 0.52; 2130 0.74
5	TH	6:32 16:56	13:06 0:55	0331 1.38; 1649 1.37	1004 0.50; 2239 0.73
6	F	6:33 16:56	13:32 1:48	0423 1.32; 1735 1.47	1043 0.47; 2339 0.69
7	SA	6:33 16:56	14:00 2:40	0512 1.28; 1815 1.57	1118 0.44
8	SU	6:34 16:56	14:31 3:35	0558 1.25; 1853 1.65	0030 0.63; 1153 0.41
9	M	6:34 16:56	15:07 4:30	0640 1.23; 1930 1.71	0116 0.58; 1226 0.39
10	TU	6:34 16:56	15:47 5:27	0721 1.21; 2007 1.75	0159 0.53; 1300 0.38
11	W	6:35 16:56	16:34 6:25	0801 1.19; 2045 1.78	0238 0.50; 1335 0.38

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

# Community at Work

## On The Horizon



### DEADLINE NOON FRIDAY

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

### Senior Lifestyle Expo

The free Noosa and Ballina Retirement Living and Senior Lifestyle Expo will be held in Ballina on Thursday, 5 June at Ballina Jockey Club from 10am until 1pm. Free entrance. The Australian Independent Retirees (AIR) meeting will be held the next day at the Ballina RSL Club, 1 Grant Street, Ballina, commencing at 10am.

### Death Cafe

A Death Cafe is being held on Saturday, 7 June at 10.30am until 12 noon at the Function Room at St Mary's Anglican Church, cnr Norton and Burnet Streets, Ballina. For further information and/or to register attendance please email kerrymj@ymail.com.

### Zoos for plants

Lismore Rainforest Botanic Gardens is joining Botanic Gardens of Australia 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](mailto: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.

# 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.

### Women's afternoon Byron

A Women's Afternoon will be held at Fletcher Street Cottage to support vulnerable women with a new, life-changing service launching in late May. The program includes access to showers, laundry, one-on-one support, specialist services, creative art activities and afternoon tea in a safe, welcoming environment.

### 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](http://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](mailto: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 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 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](mailto: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.mdn.org.au](http://www.mdn.org.au), or follow us on Facebook or Instagram. @mullumbimbyneighbourhoodcentre.

## 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](mailto:adcopy@echo.net.au)



### SERVICE DIRECTORY INDEX

Accountants & Bookkeepers.....	32
Acupuncture .....	32
Air Conditioning & Refrigeration .....	32
Architects .....	32
Automotive .....	32
Barber Shops.....	32
Blinds, Awnings, Curtains, Shutters.....	32
Bricklaying .....	32
Building Trades .....	32
Bush Regeneration .....	32
Carpentry & Joinery .....	32
Cleaning .....	32
Computer Services .....	33
Concreting & Paving.....	33
Decks, Patios & Extensions .....	33
Design & Drafting.....	33
Driveway Maintenance .....	33
Earthmoving & Excavation .....	33
Electricians .....	33
Fencing .....	33
Floor Sanding & Polishing .....	33
Garden & Property Maintenance .....	33
Gas Fitters, Suppliers & Servicing .....	33
Guttering.....	34
Handypersons.....	34
Health .....	34
Hire .....	34
Landscaping .....	34
Locksmith.....	34
Pest Control.....	34
Painting .....	34
Photography .....	34
Physiotherapy.....	34
Picture Framing .....	34
Plastering .....	34
Plumbers .....	34
Removalists.....	34
Roofing .....	35
Rubbish Removal Self Storage .....	35
Septic Systems .....	35
Solar Installation .....	35
Television Services .....	35
Tiling.....	35
Transport.....	35
Tree Services .....	35
Truck Hire & Haulage.....	35
Upholstery .....	35
Valuers.....	35
Veterinary Surgeons .....	35
Water Filters .....	35
Welding .....	35
Window Cleaning & Repairs .....	35
Window Tinting.....	35

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# First National Byron celebrates national recognition at 2024 awards

First National Byron are extremely proudly to be recognised as the number two sales office across the entire First National Real Estate network, which includes more than 400 offices nationwide. This prestigious honour was announced at the 2024 First National Awards, held recently at the Sheraton Grand Mirage Resort in Port Douglas.

In addition to the office-wide achievement, Su Reynolds, was named the number two Salesperson of the Year across the entire network. This accolade is a testament not only to Su's exceptional dedication and experience, but also to the tireless efforts

and unwavering professionalism of her entire team.

The annual First National Awards celebrate excellence and commitment across the real estate sector, spotlighting individuals and offices that set the benchmark for performance and service. The achievements of First National Byron underscore a culture of integrity, diligence and focus on client satisfaction.

'These awards are a reflection of the hard work and passion our entire team brings to the table every day and we are incredibly honoured to be recognised on a national

stage. It's not just about numbers – it's about helping people with one of the most significant decisions of their lives.'

The recognition at this year's awards not only reinforces First National Byron's position as the leading force in North Coast real estate, but also highlights the team's deep connection to their community. With a strong focus on providing exceptional customer care, the office prides itself on delivering a seamless and supportive experience for both buyers and sellers. 'It has taken years to collate the local, national and international database of buyers we have, and our sales

results are testament to the quality of this.'

'We love our community, and we love what we do. It's a privilege to support people as they buy or sell their homes. Being recognised like this only deepens our commitment to raising the bar in everything we do.'

First National Byron extends heartfelt thanks to its loyal clients and community for their continued support and trust. The team looks forward to another year of excellence, innovation, and community service in the Byron Bay and surrounding area property market.

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Price Guide: \$1,350,000 - \$1,450,000  
Open: Sat 24th May, 10.00am - 10.30am

5 2 2 6362m<sup>2</sup>

## 3 WICKHAM PLACE, CLUNES



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4 2 2 974.7m<sup>2</sup>

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59/11-19 COOPER STREET, BYRON BAY



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

2 beds 1 lounge 2 baths 1 car

- 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

7 AZOLLA PLACE, SUFFOLK PARK



### Solid Home with Room to Grow in Beachside Suffolk Park

3 beds 1 lounge 2 baths 1 car

528M<sup>2</sup>

- Located in a quiet cul-de-sac, just a short walk from Tallow Beach
- The open-plan living and dining area is light-filled with seamless access to the backyard
- Generous sized bedrooms each with built-in robes, the main includes an ensuite
- Walk to Suffolk Park amenities, bike ride or a short drive to Byron and local schools

PRICE | \$1.79M - \$1.9M  
OPEN | Sat 24th May 11 - 11:30am



Sharon McInnes  
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27 ROSES ROAD, FEDERAL



### Beautifully Updated 1920s Cottage in Sought-After Federal

3 beds 2 lounge 2 baths 1 car

963M<sup>2</sup>

- North aspect with abundant natural light, high ceilings and polished timber floorboards
- Sunroom with glass louvered windows and views of the yard which backs on to a reserve
- The kitchen and living areas flow effortlessly onto a large covered deck
- Walking distance to Federal Village, 15 mins drive to Bangalow and 25 mins drive to Byron Bay

PRICE | Contact Agent  
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17 BLUE HORIZON DRIVE, LENNOX HEAD



### Beachside Living with Sweeping Coastal Views

4 beds 2 lounge 3 baths 2 car

2691M<sup>2</sup>

- Uninterrupted views from Lennox Head to Broken Head
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  - 4 / 6 Keats Street, Byron Bay. Thurs 12.30-1pm
  - 2 / 122 Lighthouse Road, Byron Bay. Thurs 12.30-1pm
  - 3 / 6 Keats Street, Byron Bay. Thurs 1-1.30pm
  - 12 Chilcott Circuit, Cumbalum. Thurs 3.30-4pm
  - 73 New City Road, Mullumbimby. Fri 10-10.30am
  - 11 / 31 Hayters Drive, Suffolk Park. Sat 9-9.30am
  - 5 Barby Crescent, Bangalow. Sat 9-9.30am
  - 451 Federal Drive, Federal. Sat 9-9.30am
  - 27 Roses Road, Federal. Sat 9.30-10am
  - 2 / 19 Marvell Street, Byron Bay. Sat 10-10.30am
  - 58 Corkwood Crescent, Suffolk Park. Sat 10-10.30am
  - 2 / 122 Lighthouse Road, Byron Bay. Sat 10-10.30am
  - 14 Rush Court, Mullumbimby. Sat 10-10.30am
  - 41 Main Arm Road, Mullumbimby. Sat 10-10.30am
  - 17 Blue Horizon Drive, Lennox Head. Sat 10-10.30am
  - 22 Offshore Avenue, Skennars Head. Sat 10-10.30am
  - 496 Myocum Road, Myocum. Sat 11-11.30am
  - 1 / 51 Caniaba Crescent, Suffolk Park. Sat 11-11.30am
  - 25 Dalley Street, Mullumbimby. Sat 11-11.30am
  - 3 / 6 Keats Street, Byron Bay. Sat 11-11.30am
  - 7 Azolla Place, Suffolk Park. Sat 11-11.30am
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  - 4 / 6 Keats Street, Byron Bay. Sat 11.30am-12pm
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- Harcourts Northern Rivers**
- 2/57 Acacia Avenue, Goonellabah. 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

- 66 Riverside Drive, West Ballina. Sat 11-11.30am
  - 89 Bundara Park Drive, Tuckombil. Sat 11am-12pm
  - 20 Stanley Park Road, Wollongbar. Sat 11.30am-12pm
  - 1149 River Drive, South Ballina. Sat 12-12.30pm
  - 3/20 The Terrace, East Ballina. Sat 12.30-1pm
  - 3/121 Kalinga Street, West Ballina. Sat 1-1.30pm
  - 14 Fieldcrest Place, Lennox Head. Sat 1.15-1.45pm
  - 5/25 Crane Street, Ballina. Sat 2-2.30pm
  - 4/31 McKinnon Street, East Ballina. Sat 3-3.30pm
- MANA RE**
- 6 North Head Road, New Brighton. Sat 10-10.30am
  - 1/50 Hall Drive, Murwillumbah. Sat 10-10.30am
  - 14 North Head Road, New Brighton. Sat 11-11.30am
  - 1 Tree Street, Murwillumbah. Sat 11-11.30am
  - 38 Banool Circuit, Ocean Shores. Sat 12-12.30pm
  - 119 Commercial Road, Murwillumbah. Sat 12-12.30pm
- Real Estate of Distinction**
- 15 Broadway, Burringbar. Sat 10-10.30am
  - 126 Harwood Road, Burringbar. Sat 11-11.30am
  - 39 Edwards Lane, Kynnumboon. Sat 12.30-1pm
  - 11 Bian Court, Ocean Shores. Sat 2-2.30pm
- Ruth Russell Realty**
- 73 New City Road, Mullumbimby. Fri 10-10.30am
  - 73 New City Road, Mullumbimby. Sat 11-11.45am
  - 41 Prince Street, Mullumbimby. Sat 12:30-1.15pm
- NEW LISTINGS**
- First National Byron Bay**
- 478 Tuntable Creek Road, The Channon
  - 3/6 Keats Street, Byron Bay

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The Echo wishes Subhi Awad and Aine Tyrrell all the very best, and thanks them for their courage highlighting horrific war crimes which mostly go uncriticised by politicians and mainstream media – see page 10 and 15.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■  
A large-scale solar farm in the Richmond Valley has been approved by NSW Labor, which will power more than 36,000 homes. NSW Labor say the \$312 million Summerville Solar Farm, located 57 kilometres southwest of Lismore, still needs federal approval. It will generate 90 megawatt (MW) of power and comes with a 360-megawatt hour (MWh) battery energy storage system.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■  
While the Greens were unable to gain a seat in the lower house in the election, they say they 'are set to have more influence in the coming parliament than we've had in over a decade'. New leader Larissa Waters, replacing Adam Bandt who lost his Melbourne seat, said the Greens now hold the balance of power in the Senate. 'In this parliament, Labor cannot pass any legislation without either working with the Greens or the Liberals – and we know that the Coalition would drag us backwards'.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■  
America is doing so well under the management of a former TV host and convicted felon it has just had its credit rating downgraded from the equally dodgy credit rating agencies who rate countries. Meanwhile the re-elected Australian PM is in Rome talking with the European Union (EU), who raised the prospect of a security pact.



U/18 Mullumbimby Giants player Ryder Nelson touches down for one of the two tries he scored in the club's only win at Cudgen last weekend. The Giants first-graders endured their first loss of the season, after travelling to take on the undefeated Cudgen. Full story on page 7. Photo by Sarah

■ ■ ■ ■ ■  
The state's first-ever 3D-printed social housing project has been completed in Dubbo, says NSW Labor, 'marking a major milestone in the state's efforts to tackle the housing crisis'. The media release says, 'the two modern, two-bedroom homes will soon be home to Aboriginal social housing tenants'. The 'contourcrete' structures were printed in just 16 days. For more information visit: [www.nsw.gov.au/homes-nsw/MMC](http://www.nsw.gov.au/homes-nsw/MMC).

■ ■ ■ ■ ■  
The Qld Environment Defenders Office (EDO) say the Qld government is ending their community legal grant worth almost \$500,000 a year. The EDO says, 'Before winning government, the Liberal-National Party committed to continuing EDO's state funding, which provides Queenslanders with a critical pathway to legally defend the environment from harmful

projects. But the Crisafulli government is now going back on its word, breaking

a key election promise just months into its first term'. ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

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