

## Winter nights with ceramics, soup & chai

A community-run clay collective – based behind the Mullumbimby Drill Hall – is holding a ceramics, soup and chai night on Friday, July 11 to raise money for new kilns.

### New kilns needed

Gallery/events coordinator, Faith Avidor, told *The Echo* the 50 members are in need of new kilns, as the current old kilns are on their 'last legs'. Faith says, 'The maintenance and upkeep of our operation relies completely on our members, who volunteer their time.'

'We have pottery wheels, work benches, storage space, two old kilns, and a gallery. We all make bowls and cups for sale, and on the night, we offer complimentary soup or chai to fill up any bought cups or bowls'. Faith adds, 'Over the last three years, our not-for-profit organisation has run successful ceramics soup and chai nights.'

The night runs from 5pm till 8pm and everyone is welcome.



Potters Mon Manabu, Jenny Muller, Faith Avidor, and Matthew Constable with his head down, hard at work. Photo Jeff 'Clay Play Day' Dawson

## Resident pay parking reduced to \$30pa

Hans Lovejoy

Pay parking permits for Byron Shire residents will now be reduced from \$55 to \$30, after councillors haggled over the final number between themselves at Monday's meeting, the last before the winter break.

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

Also adopted were a raft of documents that outline funding and works programs – see page 3.

Before the meeting began at 3pm, the Brunswick Heads Chamber of Commerce had assembled its members to again send a clear message – that pay parking was negatively impacting their town.

### 800-strong petition

A petition with more than 800 signatures was presented to Cr David Warth, which highlighted a range of concerns.

They included a 'lack of equity across the Shire (with towns like Mullumbimby and Bangalow still unmetered); negative impacts on small businesses; and poor road and infrastructure conditions that make the new fees feel unjustified'.

The issue has been a slow burner for some time, and heated up after Cr Jack Dods and Greens Mayor Sarah Ndiaye had the numbers and backed Council staff's recommendation to bring the fee back at the May 8 meeting.

During Monday's debate, councillors at times bickered around the

▶ Continued on page 3

## Large McAuleys Lane DA approved

Hans Lovejoy

A controversial large exclusive 38-lot development application (DA), proposed by wealthy developers and with help from lead designer and now Deputy Mayor, Jack Dods, was approved by the Northern Regional Planning Panel (NRPP) last week.

The NRPP determine large DAs, bypassing Council as the consent authority. Throughout the long process that led to the approval,

staff have advocated for the DA at 53 McAuleys Lane, Myocum, despite unanswered questions and bungled processes.

Cr Dods is a relative of developer and co-proponent, John Callanan. And while Cr Dods did not vote in Council on issues around the proposal, Council staff never replied to *The Echo* as to whether he was declaring pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests correctly.

Staff replied to a long list of unanswered questions by saying

'staff have complied with all legislative requirements and procedures of the NRPP'.

### Consultation lacking

Cr Dods is also accused by neighbours of not consulting with them. The other developer proposing the DA is Tim Mundy.

The NRPP panel that unanimously approved the DA, with conditions, on June 26, comprised Chair, Di Leeson, Stephen Gow, Michael Wright, Joe Vescio and Simon Richardson.

Richardson is a former Byron Shire mayor, and presided over Council's Rural Land Use Strategy that enabled the land to be rezoned. He has mentored previous mayor Michael Lyon, and current Greens Mayor, Sarah Ndiaye.

The panel said in their support of the DA, 'While some panel members shared concerns about the number of proposed lots, the panel notes the determination of maximum lot yield, with which the application

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# Large McAuleys Lane DA approved despite major issues remaining

► Continued from page 1  
complies, was made as part of the rezoning process in 2020 prior to being considered by the panel.

## Intersection upgrade

As part of conditions of consent for the community title (CT), Council need to be satisfied that the land acquisition for the Mullumbimby Rd/McAuleys Lane intersection has been completed, as the subdivision works cannot be undertaken until the intersection work is done.

On-site sewerage plans are to be amended and a neighbour's driveway and bore were taken into account – these were issues highlighted during the only meeting that was held with neighbours, all of whom objected to the DA.

Issues of concern to neighbours, said the NRPP, included traffic, biodiversity, stormwater impacts, and local character, increased density, onsite sewage management, some dwellings protruding above the ridge-line, the potential for future dwelling storeys to be used as short-term holiday letting, and the lack of any provision for affordable housing.

The Echo understands landowners on the corner of Mullumbimby Road and McAuleys Lane are not a party to the planning agreement regarding the intersection upgrade. They have said publicly they felt left out of the process and 'blindsided'.

Staff justified Council's compulsory acquisition of their land in the planning agreement as being for public safety, yet the landowners say that was not told to them at the time. Instead, they say staff were acting on behalf of the developers.

Staff say in their report around the land acquisition, the intersection upgrade, 'will support other landowners in McAuleys Lane who may seek consent for additional dwellings, such as dual occupancy and secondary dwellings, thereby contributing to the broader community development'.

## Ongoing concerns

An adjoining resident to the proposal, Sharon McGrath, voiced ongoing concerns about the process – not the principle – of the development.

She told *The Echo*, 'We were never against the

subdivision itself. Our involvement has been driven not just by the fact we live next door, but by recognition of serious issues with both the rezoning and the DA.'

'Consultation was promised but never delivered,' she said. 'The wave of community opposition wasn't just reactionary – it reflected the developers' complete disregard for the legislated requirements to consult with residents.'

Like many neighbours, McGrath says she was caught off guard when the development application was first lodged – but it didn't take long to notice things were amiss.

'We were thrust into it, completely unaware. But straight away it was obvious the developers weren't following proper process,' she said.

'The whole issue lacked transparency, and Council wasn't doing enough to ensure they complied with its own planning rules.'

'Once the DA was submitted, red flags started appearing left, right and centre. The subdivision plan ignored advice from what was then the NSW Department of

Planning and Environment'. McGrath went on to describe how reports around biodiversity and traffic were inadequate.

'Traffic data was outdated. The intersection plans didn't meet Austroads standards. And suddenly the developers were walking back their commitment for a cycleway and footpath, saying it was all too hard and expensive. None of it added up.'

## Intersection design unresolved

In response, McGrath and her husband, Richard Kowalski, sought expert advice, and say their peer reviews 'confirmed what we feared'.

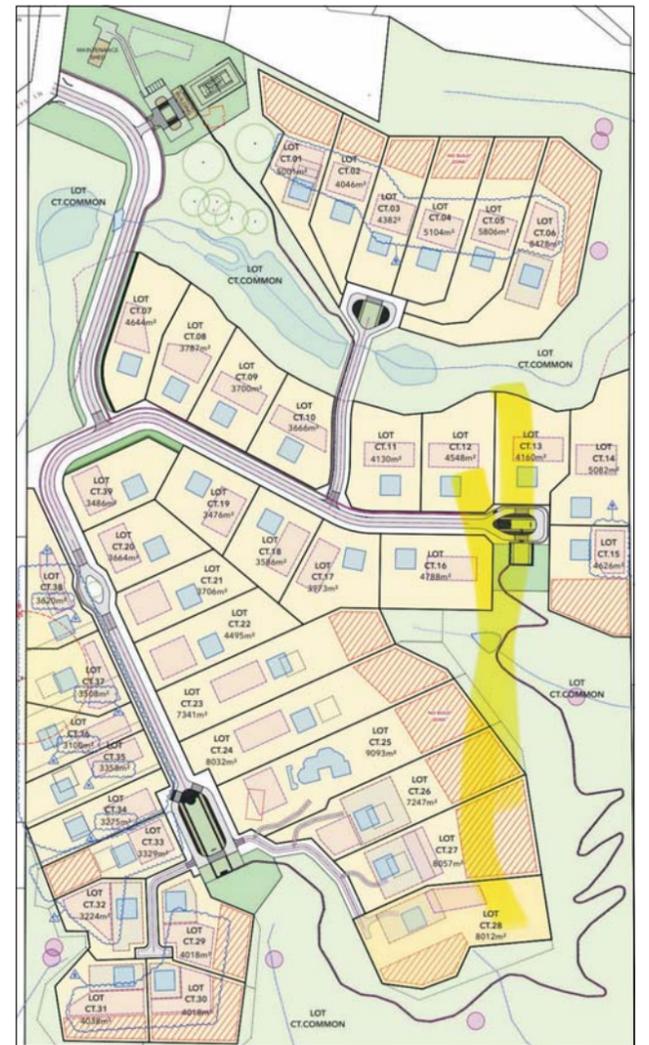
While the final conditions of consent don't resolve all concerns, McGrath acknowledges that some of the issues raised by residents were taken on board.

'We're grateful that some of our concerns were heard', she said, and listed the conditions of consent. They include 'no-build zones protecting remnant rainforest, restrictions on short-term letting, and a cycle and footpath to the intersection'.

But she says increased traffic on a poorly maintained rural road and the intersection design – a key safety issue – remains unresolved.

The recent rushed vote by councillors to compulsorily acquire land from a local couple at McAuleys Lane and Mullumbimby Road was also a low point, says McGrath.

The affected landowners said they were never notified that the motion was on the agenda. 'It was outrageous', McGrath said.



53 McAuleys Lane, Myocum, is located near the intersection of the Mullumbimby Road/McAuleys Lane intersection, which is on the main road into Mullumbimby. Photo from DA.

'The landowners didn't even know councillors were voting on it until the week of the meeting.'

She says the emotional toll of that moment has stayed with her. 'Even after all the years we've spent dealing with this DA, I wasn't prepared for how heartbreaking it was to hear those landowners speak. It brought me to tears. The amendment was manipulative. It ignored Council policy, lacked

process, and councillors weren't properly briefed. It was just appalling.'

McGrath says she still holds out hope for respectful dialogue. 'I hope [developer] John Callanan honours his commitment to engage fairly with these long-time Mullumbimby residents. And I hope Council learns from this and adheres to its own policies next time – before it's left to the community to hold the process to account,' she said.

## Bruns biz maintain pressure over pay parking impacts



Bruns small business owner, Daisy Sturm, from O My Goddess, says pay parking has had a negative impact. Photo Jeff Dawson



Bruns Chamber president, Peter Wotton, with supporters, outside Council chambers on Monday. Photo Jeff Dawson

► Continued from page 1 impacts to both residents and Council finances.

### Bickering councillors

At one point, Cr Asren Pugh was asked by Mayor Sarah Ndiaye to tone down his speech after he started to raise his voice. He said it was his 'passion' for the topic.

Meanwhile, Cr Jack Dods and former mayor, Michael Lyon, argued bitterly, with Cr

Dods supporting the fee to pay for Council projects, while Cr Lyon argued the impost on residents was unfair.

As mayor, Cr Lyon abolished the fees in an attempt to appease those impacted by the introduction of parking meters in Brunswick Heads.

### Deals cut

Debate then led to Cr Lyon trying to cut a deal with other councillors about how

much to charge residents for the permit, to which Cr Dods said it was irresponsible for Council to be doing deals on the floor of the chamber. Cr Elia Hague later agreed.

Cr Pugh said at one point that a \$25 fee would not cover Council's admin fees.

The debate lasted more than an hour.

In the end, those who voted in favour of the \$30 permit fee were Crs Lyon,

Lowe, Hague, Dods, Warth and Ndiaye. Against were Labor Crs Swain and Pugh.

'Residents were only willing to tolerate meters in Brunswick Heads because Council promised two free permits,' said Jo, a spokesperson for the Chamber.

'Breaking that promise now, during a cost-of-living crisis, is not only unfair, it's damaging to our town and our businesses.'

## Council's big budget adopted after some fine tuning

Hans Lovejoy

A large compendium of documents outlining Council's funding and works programs was adopted on Monday by councillors at their last meeting before the winter break.

Last minute amendments were made around trying to improve the weed infested Waterlily Park in Ocean Shores, as well as auditing the actions contained in the Mullumbimby Masterplan and Bangalow Village Plan.

Additionally, resident pay parking permits were reduced to \$30 per annum (see page 1).

The documents are called the Delivery Program (2025-2029), Operational Plan (2025/26), Budget 2024/25, Statement of Revenue Policy (including fees and charges),

Ordinary Rates, Charges, Fees and Interest Rate.

Another report was the Resourcing Strategy, which includes the long-term financial management plan, asset and workforce strategy.

### Subs withheld

Within the *Community Engagement Report* for the Operational Plan and Budget 2024/25, the names of those who made submissions were withheld – something that neighbouring councils do not do.

During public access on Monday, former mayor Jan Barham outlined concerns that legislative requirements were not included within staff recommendations for the Resourcing Strategy.

Additionally, she said that the public were not being

given the opportunity to comment, as required under the *Local Government Act 1993*.

She said she was surprised the Resourcing Strategy documents were proposed for adoption by staff, and 'were only available for six days prior to this meeting.'

### Rate increase?

She said, 'Most of all, what's missing from these documents is consideration of savings and efficiencies. There appears to be no review that looks at this.'

'What's presented are scenarios to make more rate increases.'

Barham also said that there was no data underpinning staff's claims that visitors contributed to Council asset deterioration, and that armed with such

information, grants could be applied for to address that deterioration.

She said, 'Also, in relation to any speculation regarding rate increases, the NSW government's response to a recent parliamentary inquiry titled "Ability of local governments to fund infrastructure and services" identifies that councils must undertake a comprehensive spending review that forensically examines expenditure and revenue when proposing rate increases.'

Councillors later adopted all documents, with amendments. The Resourcing Strategy will now go on public exhibition for comment.

Mayor Sarah Ndiaye said during debate that Council's 'financial situation is challenging going forward.'



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Sue and Gerard Walker. Photo Hans Lovejoy

## Congrats Stewart's Menswear! Winner of gold at business awards

Mullumbimby's Stewart's Menswear has won the Gold Award for Retail Rockstar of the Year at the 2025 Roar Awards, held recently at Brisbane's Calile Hotel. Owners Sue and Gerard Walker were nominated in two categories, and named finalists in one before taking home the top honour. The award recognises their outstanding customer service, strong community involvement, and growth of

their e-commerce store over the past two years. 'To be recognised on a national stage is a huge honour,' said Sue. 'This win is really for our customers and our Mullumbimby community who have supported us through thick and thin. We're incredibly proud to bring this trophy home.' 'Now in its 95th year, Stewart's Menswear continues to blend traditional service with the ease of online shopping, proudly serving

customers across Australia, while staying deeply rooted in the local community.' 'We've always believed that retail is about relationships, not just transactions,' added Gerard. 'That's what sets us apart.' The Roar Awards celebrate small and medium businesses making a big difference across Australia. For more information about Stewart's Menswear, visit [www.stewartsmenswear.com.au](http://www.stewartsmenswear.com.au)

## BOQ to close Byron branch

The Byron Bay branch of Bank of Queensland (BOQ) will close September 4. While several attempts to verify the announcement with BOQ media were unsuccessful, *The Echo* was advised by Byron branch staff that all staff would be moved to the Ballina branch. They said that deposits and withdrawals – with limits around a few thousand – can be made at the post office. A BOQ spokesperson confirmed with [www.hrleader.com.au](http://www.hrleader.com.au) that nine branches were being shut down, citing an 'embrace of digital banking' as a key motivator. 'As our branch network evolves in line with our business priorities and growth corridors, we remain committed to our customers,' the spokesperson said. The Finance Sector Union (FSU) said the closures were a 'shameful act of betrayal'. The FSU said the closures 'follow a trend as the bank loses the connections with communities'.

## Council submits DA for subdivision of its HQ

Hans Lovejoy

A development application (DA) by Byron Shire Council to subdivide two lots from the southern end of its Mullumbimby office/car parks along the rail corridor is on public exhibition. Council staff say, within the DA, they are the consent authority for their own DA. They say, 'By maintaining

existing land uses, improving land tenure certainty, and avoiding significant environmental impacts, the proposal is considered to be in the public interest and is suitable for approval by the consent authority'. While one lot is 'to create a lot which can be purchased by the Mullumbimby Community Pre-school', details around why the second

lot needs to be subdivided comes without further explanation, or what its purpose is. According to the DA's statement of environmental effects (SEE), the second lot, located adjacent to the preschool, is 'to create a lot that can be leased to Transport Asset Holdings Entity of NSW (TAHE) to formalise their access to the adjoining rail land'. On page 22 it reads, 'The creation of the new proposed lot 3 will allow the formalisation of existing access arrangements to the adjoining rail corridor'. It is unclear if this relates to Council and TAHE

negotiations around Council turning the nearby open space at the rail corridor into a carpark. The subject site is mapped as flood-prone land, says the SEE. It reads, 'A flood report has been prepared to support this application'. 'It shows that the site is predominantly flood-free during a one per cent annual exceedance probability (AEP) event, with fringe areas inundated but rated as low hazard.' Council staff told *The Echo* they will respond to questions next week.

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## NAIDOC celebrated at Bangalow Museum

A collection of artefacts from the Bundjalung and Arakwal people of Byron Bay has been loaned to the Bangalow Historical Society for the duration of its latest exhibition, 'Learning from the Past' to celebrate NAIDOC week.

It will open July 4 at the museum, which is located at the corner of Ashton and Deacon Streets, Bangalow.

Organisers say traditional custodian and Byron Shire councillor, Delta Kay, dropped off several bags to the team at the Bangalow Museum, to 'get the ball rolling'.

Exhibition curator, Heather West, has gathered decades of NAIDOC week posters, tracing the history of the event over many years.

### Bringing life to NAIDOC posters

'Delta's artefacts bring life to the posters,' she said. 'From painted turtle shells and woven bags, from throwing sticks and boomerangs to a magnificent emerald blue emu egg tucked away in a basket lined with emu



Delta Kay. Photo Eve Jeffery

feathers, plus possum skin furs and coolamons – there is an abundance of authentic items on display to discover.'

The museum has also incorporated pieces from Living Lab Northern Rivers' recent exhibition 'Tracing the Past, Shaping the Future'.

The exhibition explored how Indigenous knowledge and cultural land management can guide our path towards a more sustainable future, highlighting different approaches to seeing and managing land and allowing visitors to see how

our physical environment has transformed from pre-colonial times to now.

Heather added, 'We're also really excited to have images on display which show how many native plants sustain our local ecosystems, have deep cultural ties, and have shaped Bundjalung Country's past, present and future.'

The Learning from the Past exhibition runs for a month. The museum is open Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 10am till 2pm, and Saturdays from 9am till 12pm.

## Nats MP calls for engineering solutions to flood events

Hans Lovejoy

With a report released by CSIRO outlining how future flood levels can be reduced through hydrodynamic modelling, federal Member for Page Kevin Hogan (Nationals) is calling on Labor to act.

Mr Hogan said a scenario that should be modelled is how to reduce two metres from future floods through engineering solutions.

'Options like building dry retention basins to temporarily hold water back, and letting floodwater get away quicker, should all be part of the solution,' Mr Hogan said. 'After the 2022 floods, I secured the funding to get this hydrodynamic model done. This will now move us from talking about flood mitigation to making it a reality.'

'It covers the entire catchment – from Bungawalbin Creek through Coraki, Eden Creek through Kyogle, and Terania, Leycester and Wilsons through Lismore onto Ballina.'

'We can't keep spending billions cleaning up disasters after they happen. We need to invest in solutions that will actually make us safer before the next flood comes,' he said.

'Back-of-the-envelope estimates show that we need up to \$2 billion to deliver works that would take 2 metres off a flood. The 2022 disaster alone was a \$15 billion event. Spending money on prevention saves taxpayer money on the recovery.'

Mr Hogan called on the state and federal Labor Governments to commit to this type of investment.

'Our community deserves certainty and real protection. The CSIRO has done the work, now it's time for governments to step up.'

'Decision-makers will now determine whether the next major flooding event in this region kills people, destroys people's lives financially, or if the region has been made safer.'

*The Echo* asked local Labor MP Justine Elliot: 'Is this type of study in the pipeline for the Richmond electorate?'

She replied, 'The federal and NSW Labor governments have delivered billions for disaster resilience, recovery and preparedness. I will keep working with my colleagues to ensure our community is better prepared for the future.'

## Beach bums upset locals

With photos of beach camping provided from a resident, *The Echo* asked Council staff if there were enough compliance resources to deal with the issue, 'and if police are involved also – and to what capacity?'

The photo depicted tents,

bikes, and rubbish. Staff replied, 'Homelessness is a challenge for the Byron Shire, as it is for our neighbouring communities and in many other parts of Australia.'

'Council regularly conducts rubbish clean-ups in dune areas, and we work in

collaboration with other agencies. Homelessness is complex. More information about what Council is doing in relation to homelessness is on our website: [www.byron.nsw.gov.au/Residential-Services/My-Community/Homelessness-in-the-Byron-Shire](http://www.byron.nsw.gov.au/Residential-Services/My-Community/Homelessness-in-the-Byron-Shire).



## A deathly success

Paperbark Death Care and Funerals founder, Halie Halloran, with Jen Cassidy and Rebecca Cook. Photo Jeff 'Still Breathing Since 1066' Dawson

The annual Death & Dying Expo took place on Saturday at Mullumbimby Civic Memorial Hall and was a great success, drawing a large, engaged crowd from across the Northern Rivers.

Organised by The Dying Well, the free community event offered talks,

workshops, and panels on end-of-life care, home funerals, and grief work. There were 25 regional exhibitors providing valuable resources and connections to services available.

Organiser, Chi Chi Menendez, thanked the community for embracing this important day, which opened space for

meaningful conversations about death, dying and grief.

'For those wanting to continue the dialogue, the next round of death conversations will take place on Saturday, July 5 at The Paddock Project, from 10am till 12pm. All welcome.'

For more information, visit [www.thedyingwell.com.au](http://www.thedyingwell.com.au).

## Emergency pod residents relocated

All residents from the Bayside emergency pod village have now been relocated, with the NSW Reconstruction Authority (RA) telling *The Echo*, '[pod manager] Uniting has worked closely with residents to support them to move to alternative accommodation'.

The Bayside pods are among four North Coast temporary housing villages that closed on June 27 – the others being Kingscliff, Evans Head, and Pottsville pod villages.

RA confirmed that all residents moved out on

June 25.

In the aftermath of the 2022 floods, RA established 11 temporary housing villages across the Northern Rivers on council and private land.

RA previously told *The Echo* there was a mistake where Bayside pod residents were asked to leave a week earlier, and assured them it would remain at the June 27 deadline.

Yet residents told *The Echo* last week that despite that promise from RA, pod managers Uniting were still pushing residents to move a

week earlier than agreed.

When asked if correct, RA replied, 'We confirm the closing date for Bayside was always June 27'.

### Questions remain

Questions to RA, Lismore MP Janelle Saffin (NSW Labor) and Byron Council are yet to be answered around the future of the site or the pods.

The land is co-owned by developers Clarence Property and Byron Council. Council are pushing to retain the pods for emergency accommodation.



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It's the Mighty Mini Marios! From clockwise are Lynette, Aurora, Xenon, Ginger, Ziggy, Iona. Photo Jeff 'Bent And Folded' Dawson

Spaghetti Circus's annual show, Game On! was a resounding success, said General Manager Alice Caldwell. Alice told *The Echo*, 'The shows captivated audiences at our Mullumbimby Showground home last

weekend. We did five thrilling performances, the events showcased the incredible talents of students from the tiniest tumblers in the Macaronis class to the dynamic Performance Troupe.' 'The vibrant blend of youth and adult performers

highlighted the show's theme, making it a true community celebration. 'Audiences enjoyed a variety of acts filled with creativity and courage, while funds raised will support future programs and scholarships', Alice added.

## NSW social housing 'inefficient and inequitable'

A performance audit on social housing by the NSW auditor-general has found that the government's process to apply for a social housing property is 'inefficient and inequitable'. The report says, 'Social housing is affordable rental housing provided to households with low incomes. In NSW, there are around 156,000 social housing dwellings. Social housing includes public housing, community

housing and Aboriginal housing'. 'On February 1, 2024, Homes NSW was established as a division of the Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) with responsibility for managing housing and homelessness services'. The auditor-general concluded that, 'The application process requests substantial amounts of evidence to determine whether an applicant is a priority. Some

applicants are supported by external agencies to collect this evidence while others cannot access support'. Recommendations include simplifying the application process, and to review and improve the allocation and offer process. Regularly monitoring and reporting on the use of manual allocations is recommended, as well as 'clearly articulating the role of Homes NSW as a social housing landlord'.

## Gender investment gap doco July 10

*Show Her The Money*, a multi-award-winning documentary that shines a light on the gender investment gap will be screened on July 10 at the Stone & Wood Brewery, Byron Bay. Organised by locals Alison Bird and Lisa Kjerulf,

they say, 'This grassroots event is designed to spark conversation and connection around equity, innovation and impact'. 'The panel features local founders and investors including Alex Andrews (Co-Founder of Verve Super)

and Stef Dadon (Co-Founder & CEO of TWOBS), who will share their lived experiences navigating the startup and funding ecosystem'. The event starts at 5.30pm, and tickets are available at [www.events.humanitix.com/show-her-the-money-byron](http://www.events.humanitix.com/show-her-the-money-byron).

## Kathy's tireless work with her South Golden Beach community

Photo & story Eve Jeffery

If there was a university degree called 'Thorn In The Side', then Kathy Norley wrote the curriculum. The long-time South Golden Beach (SGB) local has not only been a constant watchdog of Byron Shire Council, she is the person you want on your team to get things done!

Born in Sydney to a teenage mum and father 'unknown', she was immediately adopted out to a wonderful family, and was constantly on the go from the very start.

'My mother acted as if she was a psychiatrist. She put on a white jacket and grabbed a stethoscope, and walked into my birth mother's room.

'She said, "I just want to make sure you want to give away your daughter." She said she did. Mum was making sure that whatever happened, that there would be no recall of her new baby - me.'

She landed in South Golden Beach with her partner and family, and found her place and her people.

'It's home,' she says. 'It's got that feeling of home.'

### SGB was a refuge for single mothers

'Back in those days (circa 1992) South Golden was a very sleepy little village which, being at the end of the Byron outskirts, was the refuge for single mothers and one-income families.

'The store and the nearby Ocean Shores school provided the only fluctuation in activity. The best secret was that the "poor kids" had the best beach around', she said.

When Norley moved in,



Kathy Norley

she was about eight months pregnant, and within three days, she had joined the South Golden Beach Progress Association (now known as the South Golden Beach Community Association).

### On the front line

Norley has been part of the group ever since, and has always been on the front line. 'The biggest battle when I first arrived was locking in all of the areas around us so that the Gold Coast wouldn't move down, and keeping the floodplain free of fill', she says.

'Fern Beach is a prime example. Fern Beach went in with around 66,000 cubic metres of fill and now the rest of South Golden Beach floods higher.'

Norley and the association spent ten years lobbying for the Helen Street Bridge. They got the skate park sorted, and they outlived North Byron Parklands and Splendour in the Grass.

Norley warns that any future use of that land will impact the surrounds.

'It is a flood catchment area, so anything that goes on there cannot affect what happens down here. That's our big worry.'

For now, Norley who has been president for the association on and off for as long

as she can remember, has her sights set on Council's 'Place Plan'.

'We need maintenance - like fixing the Helen Street Bridge, like the Kolora Way Bridge, like the drainage, it goes on and on'.

### Gentrified SGB

Norley, who has won awards, including Byron Council's Senior Citizen of the Year award in 2022, says the challenge is that South Golden has become gentrified.

'There was a McLaren (sports car) parked outside the New Brighton shop yesterday', she said.

'That's what's coming into our area. A lot of people have moved here because they love it, but now they want to change it!'

Norley sadly lost her partner, musician Michael Farmer, about six years ago.

It was a terrible shock to her and her family and the community. Since then, she has taken some time out and done some travelling and retired from her work as a Red Inc support worker.

She wants to slow the pace a bit. 'I've burned out twice'.

'But, I do love it - this is my home and it's here my soul is happy,' she adds.

# byron healing

Volume 8 ~ 2025-2026

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

**Fatal two-vehicle crash – Tumbulgum**

A woman has died after a two-vehicle crash near Tweed Heads on Monday, 30 June.

**Birth Stories on Stage returning to Murwillumbah**

Following the success of the evening, smaller, more intimate versions of the event — Birth Stories at Heart and Soul of Wellness — are now planned.

**Ballina Council to auction residential lots in Wollongbar**

Ballina Shire Council says it will auction six residential lots in Wollongbar, offering a rare opportunity for families and investors to secure land in the area.

**Murwillumbah artist's work published**

Murwillumbah artist Elodie Cazes, who paints by holding the brush in her mouth, has had one of her paintings published on a greeting card.

**Kyogle hopes to set Guinness World Record for the World's Biggest Happy Dance**

There is hope that the Guinness World Record for the World's Biggest Happy Dance was set in Kyogle last weekend trouncing the previous record based in Singapore.

**Local winners of the 70th Regional Training Awards**

Contestants from Goonellabah, Murwillumbah, Kingscliff, and Tweed Heads were all winners in their categories for the 2025 North & Mid North Coast Regional Training Awards held in Byron Bay.

**Scooter accident in Terranora**

Around 12.30pm, on Friday 27 June, a Westpac Rescue Helicopter was tasked by NSW Ambulance to a person injured in an e-scooter accident at Terranora, northwest of Kingscliff.

**Murwillumbah Showground's iconic pavilion upgrade**

A major refurbishment of Murwillumbah Showground's main pavilion has been announced by Lismore MP Janelle Saffin.

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

**Teenager stable after shark bite at Cabarita**

Emergency services were called to Cabarita Beach on the afternoon of Sunday, 29 June, after a 16-year-old boy was bitten by a shark.

The surfer was reportedly seriously injured on the right arm and leg, with bystanders stemming the flow of blood before emergency services arrived.

Social media reports a seal was also seen in the

area earlier, along with another shark sighting, but the exact shark species involved in this attack is unknown, with helicopter spotters being unable to see the shark.

The teenager was flown to Gold Coast University Hospital by the Westpac Rescue Helicopter, where his condition has been described as 'serious but stable'.

**Ballina Council goes single-use plastic, renews playgrounds**

David Lowe

The epic June meeting of Ballina Shire Council opened with a deputation from Claudia Caliarì from the Ballina Environment Society on the issue of single-use plastics.

Ms Caliarì urged councillors to eliminate single-use packaging and materials across all council operations in the short term, noting that Australia has the highest consumption of single-use plastic waste per capita in the world, with Ballina no exception.

'Much of this ends up in landfill, in our waterways, in our soil and in our food chains, micro-plastics are now in fish, drinking water and even breast milk. This is not just litter, it's pollution and it's dangerous.

'Over half of the waste in our public bins in our region is single-use packaging. We are literally teaching our children that disposability is normal if we don't show another way.'

Ms Caliarì said the returns from reversing the single-use plastic trend would be not just environmental, but also financial and social.

She covered the table with plastic rubbish collected from Shelly Beach in a single day, and said that soon people would not remember beaches without plastic.

'Every time we go to the beach, we collect plastic, and [my daughter] thinks that in her future, there will be no sand, it will just be a layer of plastic.'

The motion presented by Crs Therese Crollick and Kiri Dicker to rapidly phase out single-use plastic across Council operations passed unanimously.

**Other issues**

Ballina Council adopted the 2025/26 to 2028/29 Delivery Plan and 2024/25

Operational Plan, including extra funding for the Ballina Naval and Maritime Museum, the Regional Watershed Initiative and the Ballina SES, as well as approving a three per cent rise in councillor and mayoral fees, as determined by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal.

From October, rural domestic waste bin collections will now be fortnightly, instead of weekly. An amendment to give these residents free tip access failed.

Bicycle fees of \$1 will be reinstated for the Burns Point Ferry (annual fee \$57) following one month's exhibition.

Council will seek to identify a home for a dedicated local youth centre, and develop a carpark upgrade program.

Cr Simon Chate's motion to fully enclose the playground at Geoff Watt Oval, Alstonville, was also successful. \$20,000 raised from rental income from the Wollongbar pod village will be spent on the PV Walsh Park in Wardell and the playground at Meldrum Park is also set to be renewed.

Council resolved to write to the Navy about the future of 26 Endeavour Close, which is currently leased by naval cadets, and if they intend to purchase it.

Council agreed to seek advice from the Local Traffic Committee regarding limiting threats from vehicles to the remaining koala populations on Bagotville Road, Old Bagotville Road and Rous Road (Dalwood Road to Rous Public School).

The meeting moved into confidential session to discuss airline agreements at Ballina Byron Gateway Airport, leasing matters at Wigmore Arcade and contract management at Alstonville Aquatic Centre.

**'Disbelief' as Cabarita's Emergency Response Beacon ripped from ground**

Surf Lifesaving NSW (SLSNSW) have said it is 'terribly disappointing' that the Emergency Response Beacon (ERB) at Maggies Beach near Cabarita has been ripped from the ground less than 24 hours after it was installed.

The ERB was installed on 17 June and was found tossed aside in the bushes, having been unbolted from the ground within 24 hours. It has left volunteer lifesavers and lifeguards in 'disbelief' say SLSNSW.

'Fortunately, the device is still operational; however, in its current state it is not likely



Tweed's Emergency Response Beacon tossed aside at Maggies Beach, Cabarita. Photo SLSNSW

members of the public would be able to access it or know its location in the event of an emergency.'

This was the seventh ERB

to have been installed in the region.

'This is terribly disappointing,' said SLSNSW Chair of Lifesaving, Joel Wiseman.

**Local Owls-eat-Rats initiative wins \$50,000 grant**

Aslan Shand

Owls eat rats – when you stop to think about it – of course owls eat rats! But it took little more initiative to recognise that not only do owls eat rats but this fact can be used to the advantage of both farmers and wildlife conservation.

Last week the Owls-eat-Rats initiative, that involves the installation of owl nest boxes and hunting roosts on local farms to reduce the need for chemical rodenticides, won the Taronga Conservation Society's 2025 Hatch Accelerator Program. This includes a \$50,000 grant to keep the project going.

'David Brook is the founder, he is the one who has provided the resources and boots on the ground for Wildbnb Wildlife Habitat which the Owls-eat-Rats initiative is part of,' explained Alastair Duncan who pitched the project to Hatch Accelerator Program last week.

Banyula Farm, a local regenerative farm and reforestation project based in Clunes, was the first to support the initiative, trialling and testing owls eat rats on a small scale before



Owl and chicks in a Wildbnb habitat box. Photo supplied

their current roll out of the program.

'It's been phenomenal!' said Banyula Director Matthew Bleakley.

'We've had owls move in within a week of installing a box and start laying eggs immediately. Wildbnb have been keeping count and a small family of barn owls can eat between 10 and 15 rats a night.'

**A safehaven**

Wildbnb are currently working closely with the macadamia industry as it is a style of horticulture that can support the Owls-eat-Rats program.

'The idea is that it grows outwards, in concentric circles. Once we have a nice

safe haven for the owls the neighbouring properties are more likely to come on board,' said Mr Duncan.

'Its not a one size fits all. It is more working on the ground and looking to boost and create safe habitats for owls. We are currently looking at other sites, for example at Alstonville.'

Through the Hatch program Wildbnb and Owls-eat-Rats have gained access to academics, research and universities that will help them take the project forward.

'We want to take this to the next level and the Hatch initiative has provided a phenomenal amount of resources with mentoring and access to networks. The \$50,000 will fast-track the commercialisation of the project,' said Mr Duncan.

'Owls eat rats will handle pre-commercialisation and research while David and his team at Wildbnb will handle on-the-ground network and roll out, then Owls-eat-Rats will build on that.'

'Like people think of bees and think pollination – we want people to take it for granted that owls eat rats and not reach for the pesticides.'

**What should the health priorities be for our region?**

The community has the opportunity to contribute to what the health priorities should be over the next five years for Northern NSW by providing feedback on the draft Strategic Plan 2025 – 2030 (<https://tinyurl.com/3uem4c7t>), launched this week.

The Northern NSW Local Health District (NNSWLHD) currently serves an estimated population of 314,905 people. By 2041, the population will increase to more

than 336,000 people, with most of that growth taking place in the Ballina, Byron and Tweed local government areas.

**AI and virtual services**

Most of this growth will take place in the older age groups, with around one in four people in NNSWLHD expected to be aged 70 years and older by 2041.

The Strategic Plan looks

at ways in which healthcare is delivered, including through the expansion of virtual services and services delivered outside of the hospital setting. It also looks to the safe adoption of artificial intelligence (AI) and working closely with partners to adapt and strengthen to meet this need.

Have your say on the Draft Strategic Plan 2025-2030 via the linked survey, <https://tinyurl.com/3uem4c7t> by Thursday, 31 July, 2025.

## Wine shop pegged for Mullum CBD

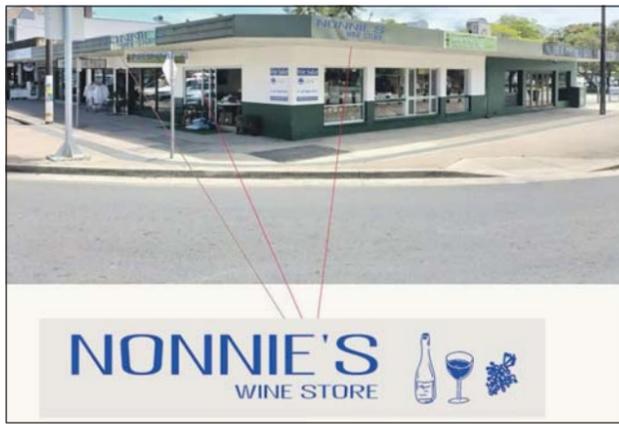
A retail liquor shop is proposed for the corner of Burringbar Street and Station Street, located opposite the Commonwealth Bank.

Located at the Cactus Hill shop, development application (DA) 10.2025.205.1 comes with sparse information.

The client listed on the architectural plans is Ryan Bettles.

Signage in the DA says if approved, it would be named 'Nonnie's Wine Shop'.

The Statement of Environment Effects (SEE) report by Balanced Systems Planning Consultants says the boutique bottle shop 'will provide a range of packaged alcoholic beverage products, that differs from other existing liquor shops within Mullumbimby by providing



Signage from DA 10.2025.205.1.

a focus on high quality products from independent producers'.

The consultant to the proponent says, 'Social impacts are anticipated to be neutral to positive, with no significant adverse effects likely'.

Proposed operating hours

are Monday to Sunday: 9am to 10pm.

'A liquor licence will be obtained through Liquor and Gaming NSW to authorise retail sale of packaged alcohol'.

To make a submission, visit Council's DA webpage.

## Bangalow aged care facility to be upgraded

A development application (DA) for a \$9m extension and renovations of Feros Village Bangalow residential aged care home has been lodged, says Feros Care.

In a statement, the aged care provider said, 'The project will see significant improvements and additions creating modern spaces that foster a greater sense of connection and wellbeing for residents'.

'A new ten-bedroom-wing extension with rooms featuring an ensuite and sitting area overlooking gardens will be constructed, supporting the region's need for quality residential aged care capacity'.

### Feros remain open

'The project will be carefully planned with a view to minimise disruption or

inconvenience for existing residents and the surrounding community as much as possible. The village will stay open and residents will continue living in the village during refurbishment and construction', said the statement.

For more info visit [www.feroscare.com.au/residential-villages/bangalow-village/project](http://www.feroscare.com.au/residential-villages/bangalow-village/project).

## NSW Aboriginal Land Council welcomes Closing the Gap funds

The NSW Aboriginal Land Council (NSWALC) has welcomed the announcement by the NSW Labor government of a \$246.8 million funding package to support Closing the Gap initiatives across NSW.

NSWALC say the package

'includes \$17.9 million to support Local Aboriginal Land Councils (LALCs) to acquire, rezone, and activate land - unlocking local economic potential, building community wealth, and creating new pathways to

self-determination'.

'Land is central to our identity, culture, and economic future. When we activate land, we create jobs, support local business, and build intergenerational opportunity,' said NSWALC's Cr Raymond Kelly.

## Proposal to protect region's genetically unique koalas

Aslan Shand

The Richmond River koalas are a genetically different koala population from other populations in NSW, and locals are calling for a range of actions to ensure the preservation of this important koala population and improve the health of the Richmond River.

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) that are essential to the preservation of the Richmond River koalas.

### Koala Park

They are asking that the area be turned into a Richmond River Koala Park (RRKP) which would create a series of smaller parks that are interconnected, that would help protect koalas, other endangered species, and improve the health of the Richmond River.

'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 ecologist Dailan Pugh, spokesperson for the North East Forest Alliance (NEFA).

'The proposed reserves encompass 28,000 hectares of Nationally Important Koala



Koala hanging out at East Coraki. Photo Ina Egermann

Areas, designated by the Commonwealth government as a priority for protection'.

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

'Protecting these forests from logging is not just about providing a lifeline for koalas and a plethora of other struggling wildlife, it's about restoring ecosystems and the health of the Richmond River'.

### Businesses join the campaign

The local non-profit organisation named 'Protect Richmond River Koala Parks' is asking local businesses to support the proposed RRKP and add their name to the petition via email: [richmondriverkoalaparks@gmail.com](mailto:richmondriverkoalaparks@gmail.com).

'One of Australia's most important strongholds for koalas is under serious threat,' explained spokesperson Lindy Stacker.

'We are asking for help (pleading if necessary) to turn our unsustainable state forests into National Parks.

'These forests support over 130 threatened species, including four critically endangered, 39 endangered, and 89 vulnerable species, as well as some of the largest remaining wetlands and endangered woodlands on the Richmond floodplain.'

Emphasising the multiple positive impacts of the RRKP project Mr Pugh said that it would be significant in helping restore the health of the Richmond River, which is severely degraded and continues to see regular mass fish kills.

A petition by the group is calling for a halt to native forest logging, the creation of the RRKP, as well as the strengthening of conservation laws and that forests are managed for resilience and diversity.

You can find out more on the RRKP on the NEFA website [www.nefa.org.au](http://www.nefa.org.au).

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Volume 40 #04 • July 2, 2025

## Welcome to Mullumbimby!



It's on – NSW government-run development corporation Landcom has lodged its DA for 28 tightly-packed 'affordable' units and commercial space, which would replace a very busy Mullumbimby carpark at the town's entrance.

While Council isn't the applicant, they manage the land, and staff and councillors have been enthusiastically pushing for it behind closed doors.

Development application (DA) 10.2025.212.1 is on Council's website, but so far, you have to search for it, as it doesn't appear on the DA list – yet.

Thirty complex consultant reports have been filed, and the cost estimated is \$16,521,743, all of which you, dear taxpayer, pay for.

It's 11.5m in height and fills the entire width of the car park, and proposes to be built on around 900mm of fill.

The question around this long-running saga is whether it's a good development, and whether the good Mullum town folk have been afforded a transparent process that led to this.

Good process includes whether alternative locations were tabled, which as we know, they weren't.

Authors of the DA's *Community Engagement Report* ignored that question when they were asked by the community (Page 7).

Instead, the optics are that it's a done deal. Another optic is that if Council can manage to get this monstrosity over the line, it breaks the back on the next one. And the next.

It's inner-city urban design slapped into a small regional town that lacks adequate public transport.

We are presented with a desperate picture that this will house the poor. It won't of course, because the metrics around affordable housing don't work. Social housing is the key.

And besides, Council want a few of these units to house their own staff.

Planning processes should be transparent and fair. That's how we, as a community, can have trust in authorities.

Being a consent authority is an enormous privilege and responsibility, and should never be taken for granted. It's actually a mystery as to why the 'Greens' mayor and most councillors don't aspire to good planning processes.

Wouldn't they want to lead by example, and make this place a better place to live?

Neighbours of the large Myocum subdivision that was approved last week (see pages 1, 2) found out first-hand that when you provide evidence where process is lacking, you are ignored by both Council staff and councillors.

It's particularly important here, as the deputy mayor, Jack Dods, was part of the shambles that led to the approval. He never apologised for it, let alone tried to correct it.

Instead, he doubled down and angrily accused *The Echo* of bias. Classy!

That is just one recent example of poor process which let the community down. There are many others.

Hopefully over the winter break, councillors will reconsider their approach to the environment and the people who call Byron Shire home.

Hans Lovejoy, editor

## Ley tasked with rebuilding the Liberal brand

The first appearance of a federal opposition leader at the National Press Club in three years saw Sussan Ley showing her personal side and eating humble pie, as she tries to find a way to bring a fractured and bruised Coalition back from electoral disaster.

Led by Sky's Tom Connell, the journalists who joined Ms Ley for lunch seemed willing to give her the benefit of the doubt.

There was little of substance to hold on to with her remarks, which avoided any mention of climate change, Donald Trump, Peter Dutton, Gold Coast real estate investments or numerology.

Instead, there was a heavy focus on the new leader's unusual CV, which includes time spent as an air traffic controller, pilot, shearer's cook and ATO bureaucrat.

'It's an enormous source of pride that in this country, any Australian from any walk of life can make a contribution to our national story,' she said.

Born in Nigeria to British parents, Sussan Ley talked about her time at Campbell High, just up the road from the Press Club in Canberra.

So what will Sussan Ley do differently?

Top of the list is apparently 'rebuilding trust' in the Liberal Party, via a comprehensive review of the May election catastrophe, to be conducted by Pru Goward and Nick Minchin, the results of which she promises to share publicly.

From there, Ley went straight back to the language of John Howard, with a lot of talk about aspiration and the rewards of hard work. She said her party would ensure 'that government backs its citizens, not burdens them.'

In terms of energy, always a problem for Coalition leaders, she danced around the nuclear question by saying, 'Our task will be to develop a plan underpinned by two goals, having a stable energy grid which provides affordable and reliable power for Australian households and businesses, and reducing emissions so that we are playing our part in the global effort.'

Regardless of the chaos



*'Sussan Ley has been involved in the grimy world of politics for almost 24 years, and has not emerged smelling of roses.'*

– David Lowe

enveloping the USA, Ley says she wants to build on alliances like AUKUS, the Quad and the Five Eyes Partnership, and increase defence spending 'including space, drones and missiles'.

Ley didn't say where the revenue for these plans would come from, but said she would seek to lower taxes, attract more women to the Liberal Party, do something about domestic violence and better represent modern Australia.

After some prodding, she also said, 'I see supporting Indigenous Australians as a priority.'

Her leadership would be 'inclusive, consultative and collaborative'.

The problem is that since her teen punk period and the exciting jobs which followed, Sussan Ley has been involved in the grimy world of politics for almost 24 years, and has not emerged smelling of roses.

### Resignation as minister

She served in the Howard, Abbott, Turnbull and Morrison governments, and was best known until recently for using taxpayers' money to fund flights on charter jets for private purposes, leading to her resignation as health minister in 2017.

As environment minister, she was challenged in court for her assertion that she had no duty of care to protect children from climate change when assessing fossil fuel projects. In 2022, she scrapped recovery plans to prevent the extinction of threatened species, including the Tasmanian devil, and incorrectly stated that no one in the world was making electric utes.

In 2024, she falsely tweeted that a crime incident in Frankston was linked to 'foreign criminals', and refused to take it down even

after her error was confirmed by Victorian police.

### Media not the enemy

Tweets aside, Sussan Ley's attitude to the media seems to be a great improvement on Peter Dutton.

Last week she said to the assembled press, 'Sometimes we will agree, sometimes we will disagree, but as long as you hold both the government and opposition to account, then our democracy and our freedoms will be well-served.'

Ley may need some practice with the autocue, but so far she seems more honest and authentic than previous Liberal leaders.

Since her sudden elevation following the election, Ley has managed to simultaneously deal with the death of her mother and a tinpot rebellion from the Nationals.

She will have to walk a barbed wire tightrope to maintain her position, and has a seemingly impossible number of seats to regain before she can contemplate the government benches, but she does at least seem open to the possibility of change.

Unfortunately, it will take more than being female, and a survivor to overturn the cruelty, scientific illiteracy, greed, hypocrisy and sheer stupidity of her predecessors.

As was the case with Peter Dutton, ascension to the leadership of the Liberal Party has come with a new pair of glasses for the captain of the creaky Coalition airliner. Whether Sussan Ley has any vision for Australia is yet to be seen.

■ David Lowe is an award-winning filmmaker, writer and photographer with particular interests in the environment and politics. He's known for his campaigning work with Cloudcatcher Media.



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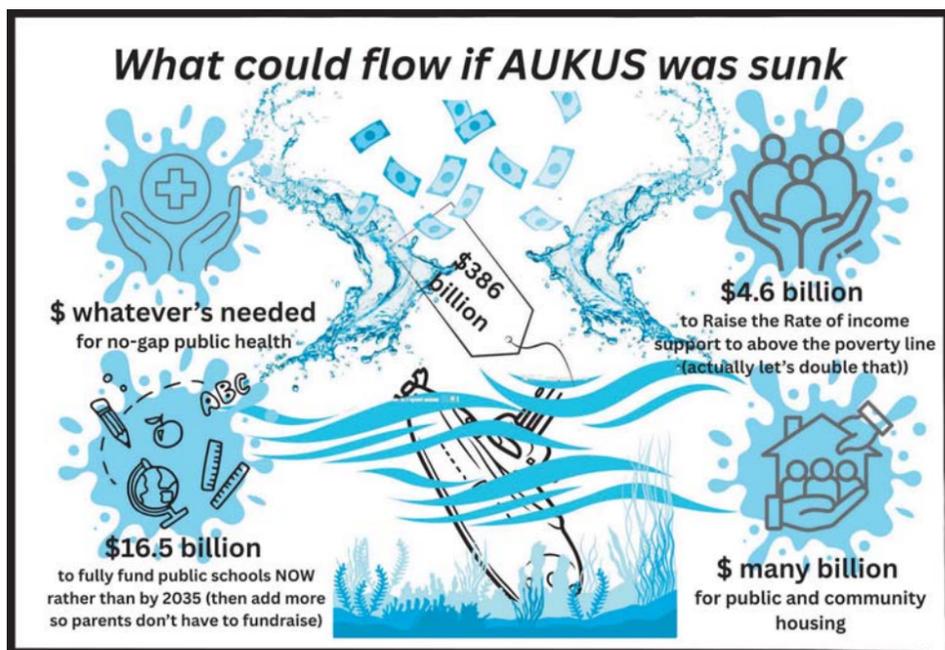
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Cartoon by Vivienne Pearson

### Coolamon crash zone

In the interests of public safety and with upcoming traffic diversions from Mullumbimby Road, a public warning is needed for the old Tunnel Road (now Coolamon Scenic Drive) between Mullumbimby and Ocean Shores.

That road is an old federal highway, hence the 100km/h speed limit. In the past five years there have been ten serious accidents between Vallances Road and Synotts Lane on the bends with mostly cars and some motor cycles. There has been one fatality in the past and this is just one section of this dangerous road. There have been many, many more accidents. I consider this the most dangerous road in Byron Shire. Any resident of this road would agree.

The community needs to know that speed is always the cause, along with a lack of awareness of the risks associated with this road.

Last night a mother and child hit a tree coming around a bend and wrote off

her car. One more to the list. People need to slow down.

**Murray Bickley**  
Mullumbimby

### Anyone for a beach?

The 'coastal interface' is a dynamic zone where land meets ocean. It is biologically and geochemically active. In other words, any changes we make to the coast must be done with the understanding that other changes will follow. Put one rock on the sand or plant one tree on the dune and that interface will change and move around.

With the original Coastal Zone Management Plan (CZMP) Byron Shire Council (BSC) was asked to address this 'integrated' zone of sea, beach, developed (built environment) and undeveloped (creeks, swamps, sand dunes) land. What happened? Council addressed only the protection of our infrastructure and hence it was rejected (2016).

Now we have a replacement Coastal Management Plan (CMP) brewing, while money is spent: firstly on a

Main Beach Shoreline Project; and secondly, a now green-lighted Byron Bay Foreshore Plan. And what is this foreshore plan addressing? Certainly not the whole dynamic coastal interface from Clarkes to Main Beach carpark – but just the developed land side. The rest of this section of foreshore – sand and sea – has been left out despite it being part of the whole.

Anything we do on our coast impacts the remainder of the coastal zone – sand movements, tidal surges, flooding, dune health, erosion et al. While seawalls protect coastal settlements and infrastructure, erosion in front of the seawall and adjacent coastal stretches continues at an increased rate.

Solution: integrate nature-based solutions and living foreshores with engineered barriers. A well-planned nourishment project can restore lost sand while stabilising beaches for long-term resilience.

In Byron Bay, our heavily damaged and eroded

embayment, from Clarkes to Tyagarah, will not see any signs of rescue or improvement until BSC's tinkering around the edges (aka Byron Bay Foreshore Plan) stops. Everything needs to be on the table – both sides of the land/sea collision. If we really want a sustainable beach and vibrant lifestyle culture, we can't put off addressing the elephant in the room – rampant coastal erosion and beach loss – a minute longer. Building more walls, planting forests on frontal dunes, and concreting and activating parklands in front of our cafes and holiday accommodation won't cut it.

**Jan Hackett**  
Byron Bay

### Gas-free homes

At last councils and governments in Australia are making steps to stop the burning of gas in homes. This major fossil fuel, when burned inside a house, is the equivalent of passive smoking and a health hazard, especially to children.

Sydney City Council has voted to ban the use of gas in new houses and housing developments. Eight other Sydney councils have or are planning to go down the same route. The state of Victoria has voted to phase out gas hot water in homes. When a gas hot water system comes to the end of its life, it will need to be replaced with an electric system.

The word is Byron Shire Council are planning similar moves. We should support this as a move to electrify homes and move away from fossil fuels.

**Dr Graham Truswell**  
Electrify Byron Shire  
Coorabell

► More letters on next page

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The SHIFT project's HUGE Preloved Clothing Sale held on Saturday the 28th of June at the Byron Bay Surf Club was a resounding success, raising \$45,000 to support women and children transitioning out of homelessness.

A heartfelt thank you goes to our amazing local community who supported the event - the tireless volunteers who made it all happen, the individuals and local businesses who donated and all the shoppers who came on the day.

This event was about community, sustainability, and supporting real change. Every garment sold helps the SHIFT Project continue its mission in empowering women with safe housing, stability, and a new start.

For more information about SHIFT'S programs or to stay involved, visit [shiftproject.org.au](http://shiftproject.org.au)

## Letters to the Editor and cartoons

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

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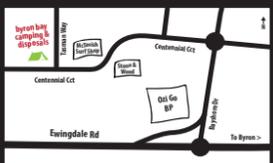
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## Rewriting the war on drugs and decriminalising cannabis

Aslan Shand

As the NSW Upper House released its final report into the regulation of cannabis in NSW, it is clear there is a significant and ongoing shift in community views on cannabis use, with the latest Roy Morgan poll demonstrating that 48 per cent of Australians now support legalising marijuana.

The age groups 18-24-year-olds, 25-34-year-olds, and 35-49-year-olds all now have over 50 per cent support for legalising marijuana.

The recently tabled NSW Upper House committee's

final report recommended a staged approach to cannabis law reform.

### Decriminalisation

'To start, the NSW government should remove draconian custodial sentences for possession of small quantities of cannabis,' said Chair of the committee, the Hon Jeremy Buckingham MLC.

'Then, we recommend decriminalisation of cannabis use and possession, and ultimately a move towards a safe, regulated, legalised cannabis market. This can be accomplished in a way which will significantly reduce the harms of the current regime.'

The committee recommended that the NSW government advocate to the Commonwealth government to implement incentives, programs, and supports to prioritise local producers of cannabis over importers. It also considered the *Drug Misuse and Trafficking Amendment (Regulation of Personal Adult Use of Cannabis) Bill 2023*, and recommended the government prioritise this legislation.

### Change driving laws

Speaking to *The Echo*, Michael Balderstone, President, Legalise Cannabis Australia said, 'Jeremy

couldn't have done more for us after the NSW Premier, Chris Minns, refused to budge on any law changes.'

Commenting on cannabis use and driving, Mr Buckingham said, 'The continued criminalisation of medicinal cannabis users who drive unimpaired is unacceptable.'

The Roy Morgan poll, which canvassed over 69,000 Australians, highlights the changing attitude to marijuana use with men more inclined to back the legalisation of marijuana, with 51 per cent saying it should be legal.

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

### Mullum Roots Fest

As a long-time supporter of local music, I was surprised to see the 2025 Mullum Roots Festival lineup lacking in cultural diversity. Given the rich multicultural makeup of the Byron Shire - including vibrant Afro-Cuban, Brazilian, African, and Japanese Taiko groups - it feels like a missed opportunity to showcase the full breadth of talent in our region.

The current program leans heavily toward rock, rockabilly, and country, which, while appreciated by many, doesn't reflect the full spectrum of our local music scene.

I hope future festivals might consider a broader, more inclusive lineup that better represents the diverse community we live in.

Jonny Simons  
Byron Bay

### Power not speed

One reason I stopped selling e-bikes was that illegal over-speed e-bikes became

available and preferred. The 25km/h speed limit was rarely policed.

It's a pity that wattage (power) was also limited to 250 watts. Speed kills, not power. Allowance up to one kilowatt power, with the 25km/h speed-limiting electronics, would make e-bikes very useful for local transport and shopping, with zero emissions.

In the past week I have had two bicycles speeding past me on footpaths at very high speed, ridden by youngsters enjoying the thrill. One false step could put me and the rider in hospital with lasting injuries.

I wonder whether it's legal for Byron Shire to require some kind of local number plate? We could then report the crazy bikers to the police for a visit. Not having a number plate could attract a fine.

Sapoty Brook  
Main Arm

### Labor delivers

The Minns Labor government's budget has delivered a record \$3.4 billion investment in TAFE and skills funding, as part of its plan to tackle the housing crisis head on.

They are investing \$40.2 million over two years towards fee-free apprenticeships and traineeships which will fund an additional 23,000 construction apprenticeships. \$121 million to repair and modernise TAFE NSW campuses statewide, including modernising learning and teaching spaces. \$78 million to convert eligible teachers from casual to permanent. A \$13.8 million Construction Workforce Package, designed to upskill and support 4,800 workers into residential construction jobs over the next two years accelerating the delivery of much-needed homes. \$2.8 billion in broader reforms to strengthen TAFE NSW and ensure it remains a high-quality training provider

and to upgrade facilities to secure teaching staff, and support strategic campus relocations.

When Labor governments get elected, they take health, housing, and education very seriously, and actually deliver on their election promises. The 2025/26 NSW budget is an excellent example of a progressive, experienced and competent government, and getting the job done with the best bang for your buck.

Keith Duncan  
Ballina Labor

### No war

Mandy, what a great idea, count me in on your campaign, I'll be there. Let's put three zeroes behind the 700 and cover every beach in Australia making it 700,000.

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Horst Tietze  
Mullumbimby



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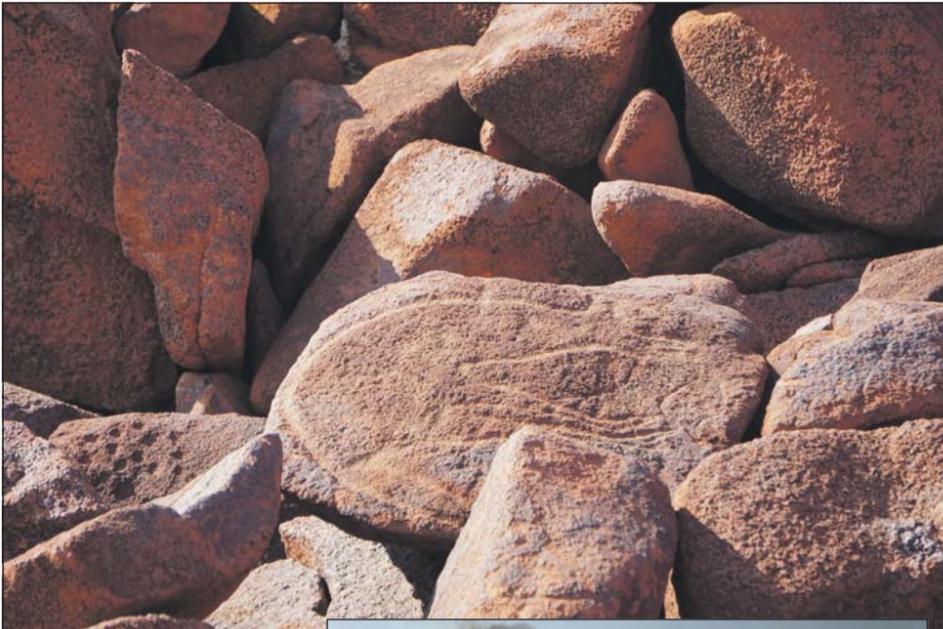
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# Protect Murujuga from Woodside's North West Shelf gas plant



Rock art at the Murujuga site. Photo Stirling Blacket

Stirling Blacket

The recent decision to approve the extension of Woodside's North West Shelf gas plant on the site of Murujuga is threatening the longevity of this very sacred site and flies in the face of Labor's commitments to tackling climate change.

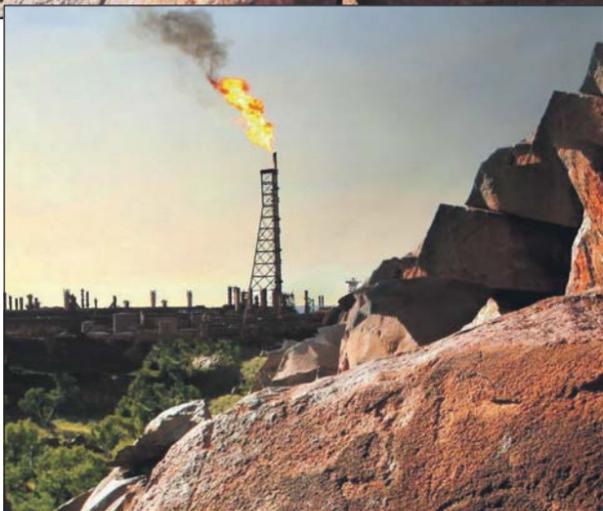
I've had the good fortune of working and walking on this country, making music tracks with local Indigenous youth and performing alongside the Roebourne community for the Songs for Peace concert a number of times. Previously I was involved in delivering the Ngarluma Elder's village housing project for the Ngarluma people, when I was a fresh graduate architect.

## Awe inspiring

During these work trips, I was lucky enough to be shown the incredible Murujuga site, which as some would know, contains a massive collection of significant rock art on the Burrup Peninsula.

It was truly awe inspiring to hear of the amount of petroglyph examples and to get a sense of how much cultural significance these hold (within my limited non-Indigenous understanding). This coupled with the harsh beauty of this coastal landscape was a breathtaking, unforgettable experience.

It was told to us by locals that Murujuga is a node point from which songlines emanate out across the continent. To the traditional custodians, the rock art has acted as a stone encyclopaedia containing flora, fauna,



Woodside's North West Shelf gas plant lies within sight of the Murujuga rock art. Photo Alex Leach

spirit figures and even recent events, but there are also protocols which mean that only certain members of the community can access parts of the site. These we did not see.

## When will we learn to value culture?

Probably the most stirring moment was when we were taken to a spot that was described as a birthing stone. A large stone with a subtle curve which acted as a sturdy support for women giving birth, sat adjacent to a creek bed. Behind this rather nondescript but important spot, was such a surreal image now etched into my mind. Several chimneys towered over us, pouring out fire. They were connected to an endless industrial fabric of pipes and chambers at such a massive scale that I had little comprehension of what was happening. This was Woodside's Karratha gas processing plant. To learn that this processing plant, located on such sacred ground will have its life extended to 2070 by the Labor government, is truly

unbelievable.

This decision really shows that we haven't come nearly far enough in valuing the true ancient cultural heritage of this great land. We are barely reckoning with the Juukan Gorge disaster, let alone the countless other desecrations that have happened throughout our colonial history. Not only is there a direct threat to the rock art through acid rain and other industrial pollution, but the huge amount of greenhouse gas emissions that a further 40 years of this plant will produce, is a backflip on any commitments towards tackling climate change.

Whether or not you've had the privilege to encounter this site, if you have any respect for this extremely significant cultural place you would not support the extension of this plant. Please educate yourself on this important issue and contact the Environment Minister Murray Watt and your local MP to tell them that this must be protected. With a bit more national attention, I believe this can be protected.

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## Superannuation tax changes

Ken Clarke

The proposed tax changes for personal superannuation funds with balances exceeding \$3 million has received considerable publicity.

The fundamental purpose of the superannuation tax concessions is to encourage people to save for their retirement. The government wants to reduce the increasing budget burden of an ageing population, especially the cost of the aged pension.

It hasn't taken much research to find convincing evidence the current superannuation tax benefits are costing the government, and hence taxpayer, far more than needed to achieve these outcomes.

But at the same time, it appears some people may be unfairly treated by the proposed new laws unless their circumstances have adequate safeguards and, as in so many issues governments grapple with, it is a matter of getting the balance right.

So why are the current rules too generous?

The income from superannuation fund investments is currently taxed at 15 per cent, with the remaining 85 per cent of income accumulating in the fund. When the superannuation balances are withdrawn after age 60, no tax is payable. This means the tax rate on income earned in a superannuation fund is 15 per cent unless that income can be deferred until after the age 60, as can occur with increases in the value of assets, in which case the tax rate on that deferred income is zero per cent.

This means capital gains from superannuation investments in property and shares, which all \$3m balances superannuation schemes would have, are tax free if withdrawn after age 60!

Most people, including financial experts, and certainly the government, agree the current law is unnecessarily generous for individuals with balances exceeding \$3m, especially when one considers the marginal income tax rate is 47 per cent that many such individuals would be paying on their investment income. The capital gains tax laws are somewhat different to the income tax rules but a zero rate of tax on superannuation fund capital gains is obviously over the top!

The main criticism of the proposed laws is that taxable earnings will include unrealised capital gains.

'Unrealised' means there has been no actual sale of the assets. Each year, there would be an estimate of the total capital gain and that notional gain would be taxed at 30 per cent, paid either from the fund or via the individual's personal tax return.

### Taxing unrealised capital gains

At face value, taxing unrealised capital gains is counterintuitive as it is inconsistent with the usual and more logical capital gains tax rules where the asset is sold and the capital gain is the cash difference between the purchase price and the sale price. In that case, there is cash from the asset sale to pay the tax. But when the tax is based on an unrealised capital gain, the tax obligation will require another source of cash, either cash reserves, or borrowings, or be offset by capital losses carried forward from previous years.

Taxing unrealised capital gains can also be burdensome because the assets will have to be valued each year to derive the estimated capital gain or loss. For assets like ASX shares, the valuation is straightforward due to a known price as of 30 June. However, for non-traded assets such as property or private company shares, a valuation process is necessary. This could be expensive unless there are simplified rules for completing the valuation.

It is easy to see why the unrealised capital gains should be taxed as occurs in other countries like Norway and Canada. It is to prevent an individual paying zero tax on the capital gains. One remedy would be to tax the superannuation withdrawals at a high rate, but it appears that option has not been adopted. It is not clear why. It may be because the tax would be deferred until the individual retires which would probably present other opportunities for tax minimisation.

An inequity can arise for individuals like farmers and small businesses who have most investments in a self-managed superannuation fund, including in apparently rare cases their business property and/or the trading business. In an extreme case, taxing the unearned capital gains may place the individual in an impossible position of having a tax liability and no ability to pay it. They may

be unable to borrow or sell any assets except at fire sale prices. Even if the individual can sell the asset, it may be an integral part of running the business, as with a family farm or business if they have structured their arrangements in that way.

Individuals in this position can rightly say 'unfair' as the law at the time encouraged them to structure their arrangements using a self-managed superannuation fund.

Presumably, there will be provisions for coping with inequities like this and it will be important to get the balance right. There are likely to be adjustments to the law over time as anomalies arise and are corrected including transition processes and maybe the ability to unwind some unworkable schemes. In extreme cases, the ATO or treasurer may have discretion to fix inequities that are not contemplated in the legislation.

The treasurer has said he is open to suggestions on how to fix the current overly generous superannuation taxation rules, particularly in relation to unrealised capital gains, but none have been forthcoming from interested experts, though most agree changes are needed.

The purpose of the concessional superannuation laws is to provide for retirement and the current rules are too costly for achieving that outcome, so changes are appropriate. Some will complain the current scheme rewards the private sector for taking risks by innovating and investing which stimulates the economy. However, superannuation tax concessions are the wrong tool to do this and there are far more effective targeted schemes to achieve that outcome.

The detail for taxing unrealised capital gains is the main issue to be resolved. However, it is 100 per cent clear taxing unrealised capital gains is a necessary condition for achieving the desired policy outcomes. Otherwise, no tax would be paid on capital gains because withdrawals of superannuation funds after age 60 are tax free.

The trick will be to find a way of taxing superannuation unrealised capital gains which is fair and reasonable.

■ Ken Clarke worked as a researcher and policy analyst in Canberra, Port Moresby, London and Darwin, mostly in the public sector.

# Interrupting trauma and violence



Journalist, Jess Hill, speaking on gendered violence. Photo Rebecca Rushbrook

Eve Jeffery

Last week multi-award-winning journalist Jess Hill spoke to hundreds who gathered at the Star Court Theatre in Lismore. Hill spoke about gendered violence, and some of the things she has uncovered in recent years are truly shocking.

One of the things she spoke of was children and the rise to power of social media. 'We had attitudes and values that were shaped largely by our mainstream culture. Homogenised news media and the friends, family, and peers in your local orbit was such a key part of shaping your attitudes.'

'Now, obviously the people in your local orbit still play a big role. But in the past 15 years, these points of influence have fragmented exponentially, and social media and smartphones have globalised everybody's sphere of influence, mainstream, and as I said, often aggressive porn has become virtually ubiquitous, and the so called "manosphere" has become adept at exploiting the aspirations of men and boys in order to feed them disinformation about women and feminism.'

Ms Hill says the scariest end of this is that we see young Australian men increasingly espousing attitudes that would likely have shamed their grandfathers.

'In 2024, 20 per cent of Australian men aged 18 to 29 agreed that, if necessary, feminism should be violently resisted. And as the ASIO Chief Mike Burgess said late last year, "In one generation we have allowed our children full access to alleyways, content, and people, that they would not be able to access in the physical world"'

What is also shattering is the increasingly lowering

age of perpetrators. Ms Hill said that the most stark and alarming statistic comes from the The Australian Child Maltreatment Study (ACMS), a landmark study of the prevalence of child maltreatment, that surveyed more than 8,000 Australians on whether they had experienced various types of abuse before they turned 18. The survey found that 65 per cent of Australians had experienced child maltreatment – that's the vast majority of us, and I'm going to paraphrase the great late bell hooks here: "the vast majority of us have grown up in environments where we felt shamed, missed, where we were physically, sexually, emotionally abused or neglected, or grew up with family and domestic violence".

## Kids offending against kids

'That's the nation that we live in. But more alarmingly, for the cohort of Australians now aged 16 to 24 the rate of adolescent sex offending against other kids – 18-year-olds offending against other under 18-year-olds has shot up. They are the first generation more likely to have been offended against by another adolescent or child, not by an adult and in intimate partner relationships. Adolescent sexual violence has doubled in a single generation, and yet this is the same generation that grew up with vastly improved education on respectful relationships and harmful gender norms.'

'So why are more young people perpetrating sexual violence against each other? Now, sexual violence services for years, have said that the victims seeking their help are getting younger and the sexual violence is becoming more severe. Anal rape and

strangulation are now everyday experience.'

Ms Hill says she doesn't really talk publicly about what it is that made her become obsessed with decoding coercive control, largely because she doesn't want to hurt or embarrass people...

'But I have my own reasons, like so many people who are dedicated to this work. One of my big motivations in life, that I'm more than happy to talk about, is my seven-year-old daughter, Stevie.'

'I do this work now with a sense of urgency, because I want the world to be better for her, and I want the better the world to be better for her classmates and her friends and for all the kids across Australia.'

'I want their intimate relationships to be better. And I want the girls to grow up without that implicit fear of gender-based violence around which they should organise their behaviour.'

'I want boys to hold on to their tenderness and affection for each other, and that glorious thing you see in seven- and eight-year-old boys, where they'll still hold hands together, where they'll hug each other, that slowly starts going missing as they get older and have to put on that mask of toughness.'

'I want all children to feel like this is a world that sees and hears them and appreciates them for who they are, a world that is attuned to them. And I want their parents to be able to help their kids interpret their experiences and the world around them. And I want those parents, including myself, who grew up with harm and misattunement, to be cycle breakers for this generation. And I know that's what we all want.'

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**Women key to empowering communities facing disasters**

A study by McNaugh and Inwood from University of Sydney's University Centre for Rural Health (UCRH) argues that, based on their research, as climate-related disasters become more frequent and severe, Australia must rethink who it sees as leaders in disaster response and recovery. The Northern Rivers experience offers valuable lessons for other regions across NSW and the country, they say.

'We need to build disaster systems that recognise and support the leadership that already exists in communities - especially the leadership of women,' said Dr McNaught.

They say government should fund 'grassroots initiatives, including women in planning and governance, and valuing their work as essential to recovery', and 'embed gender-inclusive, community-led approaches into disaster planning and recovery frameworks'. They also urge 'further research into supporting the health and well-being of women organisers, whose contributions are vital but often come at a personal cost'.

Sahba Delshad said when the floods hit Lismore in 2022

it was like being in a war zone. 'I never thought I would experience this in Australia,' she told *The Echo*.

Sahba was evacuated to Gonnellabah Gym and said the way people came together 'was incredible'. 'There was a room with all the clothes, a room with toiletries, they even had osteos, acupuncturists, and masseuses that were coming and they were women, there to provide those free services. What I witnessed, the community spirit, was incredible. And it was women, I don't remember seeing many men.'

Mel Bloor from Resilient Uki is one of the women who stepped up following the 2022 floods and has been coordinating a range of projects.

'I've been working voluntarily for three years now, we've got an organisation, and we've got projects that are underway, that are long-term projects that I'm overseeing. There's just an expectation that because you've stepped into that role, you'll just kind of continue it, but there's not actually any prospect of getting paid for it.'

'I would like to get back into the workforce but now I'm volunteering as a

community leader, it's really hard for me to just abandon that and go and get paid work now. Where is that going to leave my community?'

It is this expectation that women will just continue to work for free to support and enhance their communities that the study by McNaugh and Inwood highlights.

**Undervaluing women**

'The research confirms a systemic issue in disaster governance: the persistent undervaluing of women's contributions. Despite their central role in community recovery, women community organisers were often excluded from formal decision-making processes and left to navigate bureaucratic systems alone,' they say in their report.

'When it comes to community resilience, at the moment it's kind of agency or structure centric, rather than community centric,' said Bec Talbot at Mullumbimby Resilience Team.

'Right now community needs to be recognised - not just as the ass end of some kind of government structure - community needs to be

recognised as where it starts and where it stops.'

'At the conferences that Mel and I go to, we know that shared responsibility and community-led action is really important as part of the community resilience projects, but there's not shared power. With power I mean a seat at the decision-making table. They love to ask us questions and put it in a report, but they don't often ask how we think the community would best be able to benefit from x, y, z?'

Mel agrees, saying that it is a systems problem, 'it's not collaborative,' she says.

Co-author of the study Lorian Bethune from Gender and Disaster Australia points out, 'This is not just a Northern Rivers issue - it's a national one.'

'Across Australia, we see the same pattern: women step up in times of crisis, but their leadership is unpaid, unsupported, and unacknowledged. This research is a call to action to change that.'

'This research shows that if we want resilient communities, we need to start by recognising and resourcing the people already doing the work - and that means local women.'

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## Kate scoops bowling championships

Kristine Pryor

Congratulations to Kate Baker for winning the Minor Single Championships that was played at Brunswick Heads Bowling Club.

Kate and her worthy opponent, Judy Smith, were both fraught with injuries going into the game.

One had a stretched calf muscle and the other back pains. But like true professionals, they continued to play.

Both played to a very high standard, and by the 18th end, they were even at 14 each.

Over the next seven ends however, Kate was able to



From left, Kate Baker and Judy Smith. Photo supplied

pull further ahead with the end result being 21 to 16. Thank you to Margaret Darby (our president), for being the marker for this match.

This was Kate's first year

of playing, so we can all see a future star in the making.

■ Kristine Pryor is Publicity Officer of Brunswick Heads Women Bowling Club.

## Prosperity, with localisation



As part of World Localisation Day, Relocalise Northern Rivers held an event at Marvell Hall last Saturday to connect and work towards a more localised economy and community resilience. Pictured are Susan Warmer, Sally Cusack, Graham Truswell, Jason Lasky, Alison Drover and Chels Hood Withey. Photo Jeff Dawson

## EPA report outlines declining ecosystems

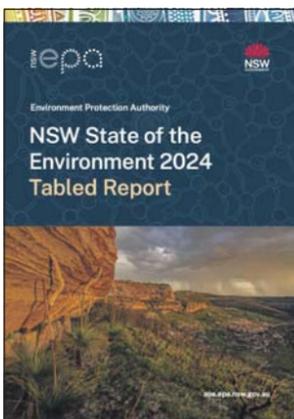
The latest snapshot around the health of the biodiversity and ecology in NSW has been released, with figures showing more decline of threatened species and the ecosystems that support them.

The NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) Chief Executive Officer, Tony Chappel, outlined the impacts of climate change in the *State of the Environment* report.

He added, 'The ability of remaining habitats in NSW to support native plants, animals and ecosystems has dropped to 29 per cent of their original capacity since pre-industrialisation'.

'The number of threatened species listings in NSW has increased by 36 since December 2020. In 2024, more than 600 plant species and 300 animal species in NSW are threatened and risk extinction.

'River condition remains poor or very poor for many areas of the Murray-Darling Basin. Coastal rivers are



State of the Environment report

generally in better condition, particularly on the southern coasts'.

### Delayed report

Greens MLC Sue Higginson said the 676-page report was delayed for release for nearly eight months by the government.

She said in a statement, 'The delayed report has confirmed that the natural systems in NSW that we all rely on are continuing to decline, and comes just one day after the government revealed they underspent on

environment protection by \$446 million in the last year'.

'We should all be furious at the NSW government underspending on environment protection by \$446 million.

'It's a clear sign that they are just not taking this crisis seriously.

'They have spent the lowest proportion on environment protection of any government since at least 2016, and the results today in this report show what their disregard has bought', she said.

### Very little improvement

'Of the 70 key indicators covered in this report, just seven of them show any improvement.

'The number of indicators that are going backwards is more than three times higher with close to double remaining unknown.

'I have come to realise this city-based, city-focused Labor Party is not getting it. When Country suffers, we all suffer,' Ms Higginson said.

## Local woman's car stolen, trashed after police pursuits

Eve Jeffery

A local woman was hit by her own car when it was stolen last Friday from Left Bank Road, Mullumbimby Creek.

NSW Police say a woman will face court over the alleged break and enter, and three police pursuits from Mullumbimby and through Clunes.

The woman, who does not want her name published, says she was preparing herself, her daughter and her car for an outing and was shocked to see someone in the driver's seat.

'She fully just ran into me with the car. She was going fast enough to run me down, for sure.

### Riding the bonnet

'Somehow, the way I was standing as she hit me, I sort of leaped onto the bonnet.

'I didn't actually get hurt from the impact of the car. I was on the bonnet for a little while, and then I remember

looking down and thinking, "she's going pretty fast - how am I going to get off? I've got to make sure I don't get underneath"'

'I managed to kind of roll off as she left the driveway and went around the corner.'

The woman says she is largely uninjured, but she has a sore knee and bruises. 'It's all a bit of a blur for me. Yesterday I was able to go to where the car is impounded in Lismore. It's a write off.'

NSW Police say they spotted the car just after 9am on Mullumbimby Road, Mullumbimby, when they attempted to stop the vehicle as checks alleged the vehicle was stolen from the Mullum Creek home.

Police say when the vehicle failed to stop, a pursuit was initiated but was terminated owing to a safety concern. Another pursuit was initiated when the car was spotted later, but again terminated in Clunes, owing

to safety concerns.

The car was found at Howards Grass, north of Lismore, where it allegedly crashed into a fence before it hit a marked police vehicle. The driver left the scene on foot. A short time later, police say they arrested the 26-year-old woman nearby.

She was taken to Lismore Police Station where she was charged with take and drive conveyance without consent of owner, police pursuit, driving dangerously (two counts), use of offensive weapon to prevent lawful detention, and stealing property.

She was granted conditional bail to appear at Mullumbimby Local Court on July 9.

The Mullum woman says she is now without a car, and she and her daughter are stranded at home. A fundraiser has been mounted to help her purchase another car - [www.gofundme.com/f/raising-money-for-shivanas-car](http://www.gofundme.com/f/raising-money-for-shivanas-car).

## CALLING ALL SPORTS

The Echo wants to support you.

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

### BALLINA



**Australian Hotel Ballina**  
Open Daily Pub Meals: Tue-Sat, Lunch & Dinner • Cantina: Wed-Sat, Lunch & Dinner • Sunday Lunch: 12-4pm  
103 River St, Ballina  
@australianhotelballina

Ballina's go-to for classic pub meals, bold Mexican, cold pints & cheeky margs. Live music, DJs, \$9 Pacific Ale and free feed for the kids on Sundays.

**Mention this ad for a free house beer or soft drink with any main meal.**

australianhotelballina.com.au

### BYRON BAY (continued)



**Lord Byron Distillery** We have something for everyone...  
Distillery & Tiki Bar  
Open 10am- 5pm  
Tuesday to Saturday.  
4 Banksia Drive, Byron Bay  
lordbyrondistillery.com.au  
(02) 8646 4901

- Distillery Tour and Tasting
- Gin Distilling Class
- Cocktail Classes
- Open Friday Nights

**Book Online**

### BILLINUGDEL



**Rosefina's Mexican**  
Thursday, Friday, Saturday  
Lunch 12pm-2:30pm  
Dinner 5pm-8:30pm  
Sunday 12pm-8pm  
8/10 Wilfred St, Billinudgel  
www.rosefinas.place

Rosefina went retro and bought a Club Lounge to eat tacos and drink tequila.

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

**Hotel Marvell's newest seafood destination**

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

### BYRON BAY



**Main Street**  
Open for takeaway daily, 12 midday until dinner.  
Menu, more details - @mainstreet\_burgerbar  
18 Jonson Street  
(02) 6680 8832

Open for takeaway daily, 12 midday until dinner.

Menu and more details @mainstreet\_burgerbar

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

### LENNOX HEAD



**Lennox Pizza**  
4/74 Ballina St, Lennox Head  
Open Mon-Thurs from 3pm  
Fri-Sun from 12pm  
Online pick up orders available daily 12pm  
HAPPY HOUR: 3pm-5pm daily

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

### WOLLONGBAR



**Bonito Peruvian**  
@bonitoperuvian  
www.bonitoperuvian.com.au  
10/54 Simpson Ave, Wollongbar  
(02) 6628 3111  
Open Wed / Thurs: 3pm to late  
Fri / Sat: 12pm to late

Experience the bold and vibrant flavors of Peru at Bonito Peruvian in Wollongbar, where traditional recipes meet modern creativity. From fresh ceviche and anticucho skewers to savory aji de gallina, every dish is crafted with authentic ingredients and passion.  
Pair your meal with a classic pisco sour and enjoy a true taste of Peru in a warm, inviting atmosphere.



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

**'Byron's boutique bottle shop'**  
Local service  
Old and rare wines  
Natural wines  
Craft beers  
Specialty tequilas



**Three Blue Ducks**  
The Farm, 11 Ewingsdale Rd.  
(02) 6190 8966  
enquiries@threeblueducks.com  
threeblueducks.com/byron  
Open 7 days from 7am.  
Mon-Thurs: breakfast & lunch  
Fri-Sun: breakfast, lunch & dinner

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

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



**Byron Drift Cafe**  
Shop 9/8 Fletcher Street, Byron Bay  
Open 7 days, early till late  
Breakfast: Early/All Day • Lunch/Brunch  
Dinner • Late Dinner • Takeaways • BYO

Come enjoy our Mediterranean cuisine, including delicious Moroccan tagines, fresh pastas, savoury paellas, speciality coffees and teas, delightful French cakes and patisserie and healthy juices and smoothies.

Escape to the Mediterranean sea in the heart of Byron Bay and experience unique flavours and original recipes in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.

0412 886 485  
byrondriftcafe@gmail.com  
@byrondriftcafe



**Roca Byron Bay**  
Mon to Thurs: Brunch 7am - 2pm, Dinner 5 - 10pm  
Fri to Sun open all day 7am - 10pm  
14 Lawson St, Byron Bay  
(02) 5642 0149  
@rocabyronbay  
www.rocabyronbay.com.au

**Latin fusion all-day dining**  
Savour our chargrilled anticuchos, indulge in fresh ceviche & oysters, or elevate your night with the Roca dining experience. Pair it all with a classic Pisco Sour or our best-selling Hot Like Papi cocktail

**HAPPY HOUR**  
2 for 1 cocktails & beers / 5 - 7pm / Sun to Thurs  
Tuesdays: \$3 Oysters from 5pm



**Horizon Rooftop**  
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC 7 DAYS  
Horizon Rooftop, Hotel Marvell  
4 Marvell Street, Byron Bay  
Open Daily | 12pm - late  
NO BOOKINGS REQUIRED  
Call: (02) 6685 7385  
@horizonbyronbay

**Welcome to Horizon, Byron's newest rooftop bar.**  
Enjoy hinterland views, stunning sunsets and signature cocktails showcasing local distilleries and breweries.



**Forest Byron Bay**  
Open 7 days  
Breakfast: 7:30 to 10:30am  
Lunch on Verandah from 12 to 3pm  
Dinner: 5:30 to 9pm  
crystalbrookcollection.com/  
byron/forest

Rainforest views, farm to table dining and a menu showcasing the best of Northern Rivers produce. Forest Byron Bay offers fresh, seasonal dishes and crafted cocktails.  
Unwind with Golden Hour, 4 to 6pm Tuesday to Saturday, or enjoy house-made pasta with wine for Pasta Thursday.

### CATERING



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

Gluten free and special dietary needs catered for.

# Good Taste

## Deal of the Week

### Every penny a prisoner

**Wednesday's weekly special**  
200gr Steak, chips, homemade Chimichurri, mustard & a glass of wine \$35

**Bonito Peruvian Eatery**  
10/54 Simpson Ave, Wollongbar

# The Good Life

## Healing from the garden: Mad Mountain

There's a new face at Mullumbimby Farmers Market, and with her comes a vibrant offering of medicinal and perennial herbs rooted in permaculture principles and traditional wisdom.

Lyn, who recently joined the market, brings a fresh perspective to backyard growing and home health. Her Mad Mountain stall is stocked with hard-to-find perennial edibles and powerful medicinal plants that thrive in the Northern Rivers' subtropical climate.

'I focus on perennials and plants that support wellness,' she says. 'Things like longevity spinach, Okinawa spinach, Brazilian spinach, and Rungia klossii, otherwise known as the mushroom plant, they grow all year and are packed with vitamins.'

These hardy greens are ideal for permaculture gardens: nutrient-dense, cut-and-come-again, and perfect for low-maintenance food systems. Lyn harvests them daily to make green smoothies, often combining them with healing herbs like nettle and dandelion.

She also grows medicinal staples such as turmeric, ginger, galangal, oregano, and the much-loved Tulsi basil, an



Medicinal and perennial herbs, utilising permaculture principles and traditional wisdom, have taken root at Mullum Farmers Market. Pictured are Lyn Gallagher (left) with her daughter Emma.

adaptogen known for supporting stress resilience and immune function. Unlike European basil, Tulsi thrives year-round and becomes a fragrant, flowering shrub.

From these plants, Lyn crafts her award-winning herbal teas, including the popular 'Mad Healing Tea', a blend of turmeric, ginger, galangal, hibiscus, and rose petals. Her teas are carefully balanced to combine both flavour and function.

All of Lyn's products are hand-made using a mix of homegrown and ethically-sourced herbs. 'For me, it's about helping people reconnect with the plants that heal us,' she says.

Whether you're looking to boost your health or build a more resilient garden, her stall offers more than just produce; it's a living example of how perennial herbs can nourish both body and soil, season after season.

■ You can find Lyn every Friday at Mullumbimby Farmers Market from 7am to 11am and every Tuesday at New Brighton Farmers Market from 8am to 11am.

## Local Indigenous trailblazer honoured internationally



The World's 50 Best Restaurants has officially announced Chef Mindy Woods as the recipient of the prestigious 2025 Champions of Change award. This accolade highlights her steadfast dedication to cultural preservation, ethical food practices, and the empowerment of communities. A proud member of the Bundjalung Nation, Mindy makes history as the first Indigenous Australian to receive this esteemed international recognition.

Mindy's influence extends well beyond culinary artistry; she is a passionate advocate for bringing First Nations narratives to the forefront of Australia's gastronomic landscape. Last week, at the 50 Best Talks in Italy, she captivated the audience with her rich cultural heritage, offering what organisers described as a profound insight into the significance of Country.

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

At her innovative dining venture, Karkalla On Country, located on Bundjalung land, Mindy creates an immersive experience that tells the story of Country. With seasonal menus that celebrate native ingredients such as karkalla, finger lime, and native lemongrass, she integrates art, storytelling, and traditional smoking ceremonies, with the goal of fostering deep respect and cultural connection to Australia's oldest living food traditions.

'We can't do this alone — true change requires nurturing relationships and sharing benefits,' Mindy emphasised. 'Reconciliation is about moving forward together. This award signifies that people are listening, valuing First Nations wisdom, and are ready to embrace native ingredients as part of our shared Australian identity,' she added.

Mindy is on a mission to make native ingredients accessible in classrooms and homes nationwide. 'I envision native ingredients on supermarket shelves and in our home kitchens. Every Australian deserves to experience the unique flavours of this land,' she stated.

Mindy's leadership extends to her roles as a board member at Black Duck Foods, a cultural facilitator of The Returning, as an ambassador for Landcare Australia, and author of the cookbook Karkalla at Home. From schools to farms, and kitchens to communities, she is inspiring a new generation of chefs and conscious consumers.

Reflecting on her time in Italy to accept the award, Mindy shared, 'Being surrounded by a culture that celebrates its ingredients has reinvigorated my passion. It reaffirms that I'm on the right path. Back home, we must celebrate our own heritage, and while there are challenges, I see positive signs for the future.'

This award not only honours Mindy's personal journey but also the enduring legacy of her family and the communities that support her. It serves as a

rallying cry to appreciate native foods, cultivate authentic relationships, and envision a future where First Nations knowledge and contemporary gastronomy coexist harmoniously.

As for sharing it on the global stage thanks to her new title of Champion of Change Award winner, she says that's truly 'deadly'.

### BYRON BAY PORK & MEATS BUTCHERY



Come in and see our friendly staff for a choice of local, grass fed, organic & free-range meats. All antibiotic and hormone free.

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

### Bimbi

COFFEE SHOP

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



### [ROSEFINA'S]

MEXICAN  
TAQUERIA Y CANTINA  
Dine in ~ Takeaway ~ Licensed

Open Thursday to Friday  
12-2.30pm, 5pm to Late, Happy Hour 4-5pm  
Saturday 12-2.30pm, 5pm to Late, Sunday: 12-8pm  
@rosefinas\_  
Bookings 0400 290 432 • [www.rosefinas.place](http://www.rosefinas.place)  
8/10 Wilfred St, Billinudgel



ELEMENTS  
OF BYRON

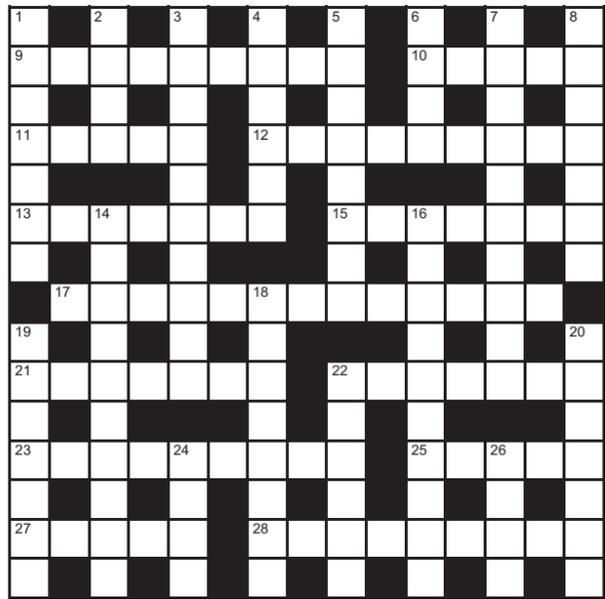


## Glow & Graze

2x facial treatments at Osprey Spa & Chocolate Assiette Tower to share at Azure Bar and Grill

Available Monday to Thursday for \$380 for two people.

To book phone Osprey Spa on 6639 1555 or visit [elementsofbyron.com.au/whats-on](http://elementsofbyron.com.au/whats-on)



**Cryptic Clues**

**ACROSS**

- 9. After a brief time Pasteur developed a way to eliminate vermin (9)
- 10. Window reflected in frame of brittle iron (5)
- 11. Joint article on deer is rejected (5)
- 12. Red has CNN aerial sabotaged (9)
- 13. Entrance to outdoor facilities replaced by small shades (7)
- 15. Lunatic turned to *Echo* offering falsies (7)
- 17. Bear and bird have buns and salad (5,8)
- 21. In the past, German money represented fine gross national product (7)
- 22. Warning left on net to be revised (7)
- 23. Spot tame M? (9)
- 25. Mafioso tailed rooster (5)
- 27. Beast of burden is back in Ramallah (5)
- 28. So, three changes to warning on course (9)

**DOWN**

- 1. International milliner's earliest old hat found in blind alley (7)
- 2. Deer for a dollar (4)
- 3. Bizarre novelties one placed in box (10)
- 4. Struggle to get gas out of rock nearly finished by a Pole (6)
- 5. Scattered diaspora managed to shake off a criminal origin (8)
- 6. Bad smell left on top of elephant's trunk (4)
- 7. One short period cut off in seedy joint that's really small (10)
- 8. Blunder causes Charlie little rancour (7)
- 14. Sister Mary changed name to become one who grows flowers (10)
- 16. Tool for opening fruitcake and biscuit (10)
- 18. Think deeply about destruction of cottage one inhabits (8)
- 19. Messenger places mail in a line at *Echo* (7)
- 20. Second fiddle is a really hot one (7)
- 22. Financial officer freed up super to run (6)
- 24. Introduction to academic paper that goes over gel (4)
- 26. Storyline put to bed (4)

**Quick Clues**

**ACROSS**

- 9. Rodent-catching device (9)
- 10. Bay window projection from a building's upper story (5)
- 11. Joint connecting foot to leg (5)
- 12. Reddish-brown gemstone, variety of chalcedony (9)
- 13. Casual eyewear to protect from bright light (7)
- 15. Removable replacement for missing teeth (7)
- 17. Mixed diced produce typically served as dessert (5,8)
- 21. Former German coin, small fraction of a mark (7)
- 22. Sign or warning of a future event (7)
- 23. Intelligence agency boss (9)
- 25. Castrated rooster raised for meat (5)
- 27. South American pack animal (5)
- 28. For that reason, or consequently (9)

**DOWN**

- 1. Deadlock situation (7)
- 2. Jump vertically, with legs stiff and back arched (4)
- 3. Electronic device for viewing broadcast programs (10)
- 4. Noisy disturbance or brawl (6)
- 5. Irregularly or infrequently (8)
- 6. Tree trunk (4)
- 7. Extremely small in size (10)
- 8. Obvious or embarrassing mistake (7)
- 14. He tends plants commercially (10)
- 16. Tool designed to crack hard shells (10)
- 18. Think deeply about something (8)
- 19. Early follower of Jesus Christ who spread his teachings (7)
- 20. Particularly difficult problem; period of extreme heat (7)
- 22. Ship's officer responsible for financial matters (6)
- 24. Gelatinous substance from seaweed used in laboratories (4)
- 26. Storyline of a book or film (4)

**Last week's solution #61**



# 'The Lady Doth Protest Too Much, Minns Thinks'

Mandy Nolan

The right to protest is a test of a country's democracy. And the right to protest means very little if it doesn't include the right to disrupt. It is the right to peaceful assembly. We don't have that right enshrined explicitly in our Constitution. But it is implied through our freedom of political communication. Governments are expressly forbidden from introducing any laws which might impede a person's right to express themselves or protest. Yet state governments around the country have introduced anti-protest laws. It's both undemocratic AND unconstitutional.

Peaceful protest has been critical in how we advance reforms. But across Australia protesting has been criminalised through anti-protest laws. Over the past two decades, 49 laws have been introduced across federal, state and territory parliaments. And the state with the most pokies also has the most anti-protest laws. Yep, NSW. Oh, and it was brought in by a Labor government. The same party who historically was called 'the party of unions'. The unions who represented a workforce who had many of their issues raised and resolved through ... yep, protest.

On Friday we saw the consequence of police emboldened by these draconian anti-protest laws. Former Greens candidate for Grayndler, Hannah Thomas was hospitalised after severe injuries sustained while being arrested at what is a weekly peaceful Friday morning protest in Sydney's South West at a facility that allegedly supplies components used in the manufacture of F-35 jets flown by the IDF. Hannah could lose her eye. I know Hannah. She is smart. She is principled. She is committed to peace and non-violence. It was why she was there in the first place. She is about 45 kilos. The excessive force used to arrest her has meant she may lose her eye. Yet she was charged for allegedly 'hindering or resisting a police officer' and will have to attend court in August. Worried? You should be.

The Human Rights Law Centre says that the anti-protest laws in NSW are 'anti-democratic, disproportionate and violate human rights law, in particular



AI-generated image created with ChatGPT

**The Human Rights Law Centre says that the anti-protest laws in NSW are 'anti-democratic, disproportionate and violate human rights law, in particular the freedom of expression and peaceful assembly'.**

the freedom of expression and peaceful assembly'. The current laws were rushed through in just 30 hours in April 2022. Penalties for peaceful assembly can be up to two years in jail and a \$22,000 fine. It's clear that this is not about order, it's about social control. It's a heavy-handed deterrent to citizens who protest against climate action, environmental destruction, or are anti-war. It's because protest works. It makes governments uncomfortable. It calls them out. It makes them accountable.

Without the right to protest, we don't have a democracy. Protesting is how we make change. We start a debate. We break through media silence. We make government listen. Remember the Franklin Dam? It became a critical federal election issue, it went to the High Court where the Franklin River was given world heritage status so the Tasmanian government had to abandon

their project. Protest saved a river. It changed a government. It started a political party.

Protest provides a voice for minority groups – those who are silenced by the tyranny of the majority. Without protest women and First Nations people would not have the vote. Without protest LBGTQI+ communities wouldn't have marriage equality. We wouldn't have eight-hour workdays or weekends. We wouldn't have ended rainforest logging in Nightcap National Park and had Gondwana rainforests recognised with a world heritage listing. Without protest, Bentley and surrounds would be totally fracked. And closer to home, the last 1% of coastal heathland in the Byron Shire, Brunswick Head's wallum heathland would be an upmarket housing development. Protest is OUR voice.

And not being able to protest, isn't just anti-democratic, 'the forcible suppression of opposition' is the beginning of fascism.

It's time to protest our right to protest.

■ 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.



MANDY NOLAN'S SOAPBOX

## STARS BY LILITH

If you don't get a direct answer during this Cancerian week, does a crab ever walk straight towards its destination? Think lateral, think zig-zag, and be prepared for the scenic route...

**CANCER THE CRAB**

**ARIES:** Two significant planets retrograde in Aries this month and ask you to find a constructive and creative way of channelling your passions. This week Neptune slips into its once-in-a-lifetime hibernation in your sign, initiating an extended cycle of spiritual self-care, soul-searching, and the good bit: exploring artistic paths.

**TAURUS:** This week's cosy, nurturing vibes radiate feelings of warmth, connection and nourishment, and don't we all adore being coddled and cuddled? That said, as Venus morphs into mega-chatty mode even the simplest conversations could turn into complicated debates. Wise bulls will refrain from engaging.

**GEMINI:** Picking up on subtle cues and reading between the lines could take you a lot further this week than facts and figures, so don't dismiss those intuitive hunches which could just be your best PGS – personal guidance system – especially when Venus arrives in your sign with so many interesting and distracting choices.

**CANCER:** As this month celebrates the birthdays of the crab clan, you couldn't ask for a better celestial present than generous Jupiter checking in for its once-every-12-years homestay in your sign. Not only generous, Jupiter's also adventurous and world-wise, so try putting these three gifts to good use this week.

**LEO:** July's celestial choreography features caring, sharing at-home vibes for spoiling and being spoilt by the ones you love. With wordsmith Mercury in Leo and Saturn in your sector of growth and big-picture vision, this week encourages a path of interesting exploration, courageous planning and bold moves.

**VIRGO:** With the general populace, extra-sensitive and impatient Mars in your sign somewhat pushy and critical, it's advisable to focus on positives rather than flaws – you'll get better results. Good news is that this week's people are touchy in more ways than one, as in caring, affectionate and who doesn't love a hug?

**LIBRA:** July begins with an auspicious waxing moon in your diplomatic sign, helping you craft elegant and harmonious solutions to life's inevitable stresses. Then when your guiding planet, vivacious Venus, sashays into one of her smartest and most articulate placements, you'll be keenly discussing the latest, up-to-date trends.

**SCORPIO:** This week's solar energy could boost business opportunities and your professional trajectory through personal interactions. Which are, however, likely to require careful negotiation and delicate handling, particularly the tricky business of holding people accountable without shaming or blaming. Tread carefully, especially during the upcoming weekend's Scorpio moon.

**SAGITTARIUS:** Humans are designed to make sense of our experiences, especially the difficult ones, and Sagittarians are natural storytellers. Your planetary mentor Jupiter currently intensifying nostalgia and ancestral memories offers the opportunity to examine personal histories and reframe past narratives in order to keep old patterns from repeating.

**CAPRICORN:** This month's celestial energetics are on-track for a mid-year assessment of your progress so far this year, and what adjustments might be necessary. Also, since there aren't any awards for burning out, remember to factor plenty of your favourite relaxing, reinvigorating recreations into the current agenda.

**AQUARIUS:** With your ruling planet Uranus poised to make its seven-year quantum leap into new territory, it's worth thinking about what changes might need making. Aquarian activist Angela Davis offers this practical advice: *I'm no longer accepting the things I cannot change ... I'm changing the things I cannot accept.*

**PISCES:** As July draws inwards to process the information and ideas of June's extrovert buzz, Pisceans will be happy to hear this week's emphasis in the sign of fellow sensitives suggests letting go of trying to figure things out logically, and feeling into what you do best: listening to your intuition.

# SCHOOL



# HOLIDAYS

## FLIP INTO FUN THESE HOLIDAYS

Spaghetti Circus is back these July holidays with three action-packed days of circus workshops for kids. Running Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 15, 16, and 17 July, children can sign up for one, two or all three days of movement, laughter and new skills.

Kids aged 7-14 will enjoy a full-day program featuring trampoline, tightrope, German wheel, trapeze, tissu, acro-balance, juggling, hoops, and circus games. For younger children aged 4-6, a playful half-day option is available each morning.

These workshops are a great way to stay active, build confidence and make new friends.

**Spaces are limited and always fill quickly, so head to [www.spaghatticircus.com](http://www.spaghatticircus.com) to find out more and secure your place. Early bird enrolments for Term 3 are now open.**

## DINOSAUR FUN AT TWEED MUSEUM

These school holidays are your last chance to immerse yourself in all things dinosaur. Explore the science and art of shadows in a playful dinosaur drawing workshop, where you'll transform tiny toy dinosaurs into terrifying, shadowy beasts! Be inspired by the fun and colourful dinosaurs of artist Matthew Aberline, to draw, and then assemble your own freestanding papercraft dinosaur in the Dino-Pop workshop. Bookings are essential. Make sure you visit Encounters, the amazing river projection by acclaimed artist Craig Walsh, at Murwillumbah bridge each evening from 5.30pm.

[museum.tweed.nsw.gov.au](http://museum.tweed.nsw.gov.au)  
02 6670 2400  
2 Queensland Road, Murwillumbah

## BALLOON ALOFT

Be cool these winter holidays and try a ballooning adventure with the family! At this time of the year sunrise flights aren't too early and breakfast under the sun tastes even better! Balloon Aloft has the most highly-qualified pilots and ground crew at your service for a fun morning outing.

For bookings online visit [balloonaloft.com](http://balloonaloft.com) or call their friendly team at the office on 1300 723 279.

## KIDS' COOKING CLASSES

There's big fun for little chefs at North Byron Hotel!

Their famous kids' cooking classes are back these school holidays. Let by much-loved chef Jedd Rifai, little chefs will get hands-on making gnocchi and pizzas from scratch. While the kids cook, parents can relax with a bite and a bevvie.

Wednesday and Thursdays, 2 and 3, 9 and 10 July, from 2pm to 4pm.

The team at North Byron Hotel can't wait to welcome back their returning mini master chefs - and meet some new ones too! Visit their website for details.

[www.northbyronhotel.com.au](http://www.northbyronhotel.com.au)  
61 Bayshore Drive, Byron Bay  
02 6685 6500

## LET'S GO SURFING

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Lessons include all equipment and expert instruction in small groups, and provide education, maximum fun, and safety for your kids. They cover the basics from warm-up to paddling, catching waves and standing, while also catering to intermediate and advanced students. Kids also learn important surf and safety rules including info on rips, tides, sandbanks and waves.

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[@letsgosurfingaustralia](https://www.letsgosurfingaustralia.com)  
02 6680 9443  
[www.letsgosurfing.com.au](http://www.letsgosurfing.com.au)

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[the northbyronhotel](https://www.facebook.com/northbyronhotel)

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Ph: 0408 998 446 6184 Tweed Valley Way, Burringbar

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Pour Good Cafe: 7.30am-12.30pm, Fri - Mon  
Natural Wine Shop: 11am-7pm, Thursday to Sunday  
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**Northern Rivers**

**RAIL TRAIL**

**>> THE TWEED**

The Northern Rivers Rail Trail is the Tweed's newest 'must do' visitor experience. It is a shared recreation and nature trail created along a disused railway line. It is free to use and provides a safe environment for walkers, cyclists, and people of all abilities to explore the beautiful Northern Rivers region.

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

@northern\_rivers\_railtrail @NorthernRiversRailTrail

**Walk, ride, and explore**

The start of the rail trail is located at the heritage listed Murwillumbah Railway Station just 36km south of Gold Coast Airport. Here visitors will find the Visitor Information Centre where they can grab a Rail Trail map, purchase souvenirs, and find out information on any current rail trail updates.

There is parking available at the station for 60 cars, with an overflow car park for peak periods. There are also four retail stores including bike hire and shuttle services. Bathroom facilities are available, along with a picnic table and chairs, an e-bike charger, bike pump and bike fix-it station, and a water bubbler.

The first completed 24km section in The Tweed connects the villages of Murwillumbah to Crabbes Creek and features 26 bridges and two tunnels. Users will cross 16 of these bridges, many of which have been restored, and bypass ten which have been left as a feature along the trail. The Burringbar Range Tunnel is a highlight of the trail and is 524 metres long. It is not lit due to the preservation of microbats and glow worms who inhabit the tunnel. Users must take a light with them, and the reflectors inside the tunnel will guide them through. The other tunnel is the Hulls Road Tunnel which is 50 metres long.

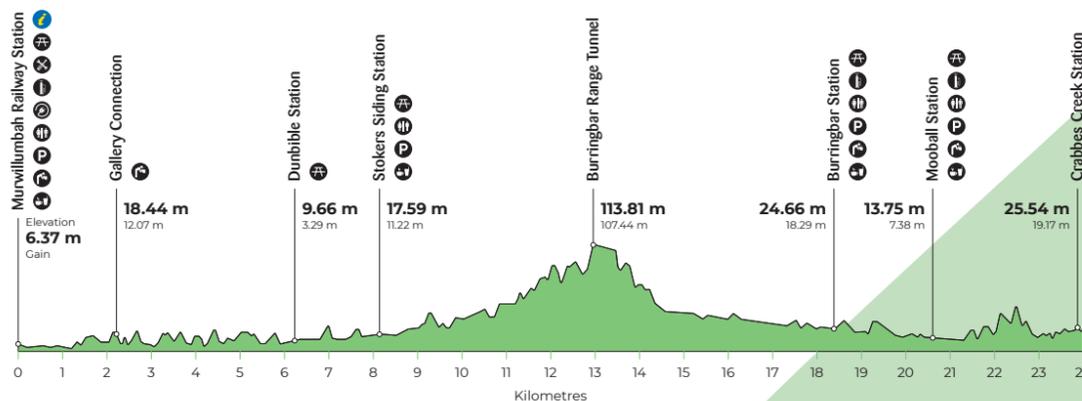
Visitors will enjoy stunning scenery, with the opportunity to rest at one of seven stops along the way, and explore the local villages of Murwillumbah, Stokers Siding, Burringbar, Mooball and Crabbes Creek. The Rail Trail also connects to the Tweed Regional Gallery & Margaret Olley Arts Centre which is just a short trip from Murwillumbah Railway Station.

There is a 2.2km section where horses are allowed on the trail at Upper Burringbar, and dogs are allowed on a short leash.



**LOOKING FOR MORE?**

Consider riding the 29.7km section from South Lismore to Casino next!





## BETTER BY BIKE

Get the kids off their screens and into nature! With super-comfy e-bikes, this ride is sure to be the highlight of the holidays. Families can explore lush rainforests, discover quaint villages, and ride through abandoned rail tunnels. The whole family is sorted with infant seats, tow-behind bikes, and chariots for kids or pets.

Lunch packs are also available. Choose pick-up from your accommodation or meet at their Murwillumbah Railway Station shop – the start of the trail. Better By Bike will make your day the best day ever! Call or book online today.

[www.betterbybike.com.au](http://www.betterbybike.com.au)  
[info@betterbybike.com.au](mailto:info@betterbybike.com.au)  
0408 444 858

## BURRINGBAR GALLERY

Discover timeless treasures in Burringbar, less than five minutes from the Rail Trail.

Burringbar Gallery celebrates its eighth year of trading this year and their new collection of antiques is worth the journey. Offering a superb selection of antique and vintage furniture, artworks, statues and collectables, they source pieces from around the world and showcase unique local artworks.

Enjoy a selection of carefully curated individual statement pieces from Europe, Asia, Africa and the Americas. Cafe dining available at Teakwood Cafe next door. They look forward to seeing you soon.

0408 998 446  
6184 Tweed Valley Way, Burringbar

## TWEED REGIONAL GALLERY & MARGARET OLLEY ART CENTRE

Tweed Regional Gallery & Margaret Olley Art Centre is the first stop on the Northern Rivers Rail Trail and the perfect location to enjoy spectacular views of Wollumbin. The gallery presents a dynamic program of touring exhibitions, alongside exhibitions showcasing the works of regional and national artists.

The Margaret Olley Art Centre celebrates the career, life and legacy of Margaret Olley. The home studio re-creation is a permanent display and is complimented by a changing exhibition program. Also situated on the gallery grounds is the Margaret Olley Memorial Garden, a living tribute to the artist. Olley's ashes are interred here, marking a fitting final resting place.

The onsite cafe Apex Dining is open during gallery hours and is available for lunch bookings or takeaway refreshments.

Open Wednesday to Sunday, 10am–4pm  
2 Mistral Road Murwillumbah  
[gallery.tweed.nsw.gov.au](http://gallery.tweed.nsw.gov.au)

## MOO MOO ROADHOUSE

Located on the Tweed Valley Way in the quaint village of Mooball, the Moo Moo Roadhouse has been a popular pit stop for locals and tourists for many years, and has now added the abundance of rail trail cyclists and walkers to its fan club.

Whether you're walking, riding or driving, the Moo Moo Cafe is the perfect spot to fuel up, grab a bite to eat, drink some awesome coffee and check out the great range of motorcycles, memorabilia and antiques they have on display. And they have free wifi!

Monday to Friday 6am–5.30pm,  
Saturday and Sunday 7am–5pm  
5887 Tweed Valley Way, Mooball  
02 6677 0057 @MooMooRoadhouse

## BEYOND BYRON E BIKES

Looking for a fun way to explore the Northern Rivers? Beyond Byron E Bikes offers top-quality e-bike hire and unforgettable self-guided tours along the Northern Rivers Rail Trail. The experience is designed with families in mind, offering baby seats, tag-alongs, kids' e-bikes, and dog trailers — so everyone can join the adventure. If you feel like a further adventure, you can enjoy one of their self-guided tours - a rainforest ride to the breathtaking Unicorn Falls or a scenic journey to the award-winning Husk Distillery for a refreshing stop. Booking is quick and easy online at [beyondbyronebikes.com.au](http://beyondbyronebikes.com.au).

## HOSANNA FARMSTAY

Hosanna Farmstay offers country camping at its best, with plenty of campsites for campers, and huts and cabins for glampers. Enjoy the fresh air, play in nature, explore the Rail Trail, and celebrate life with family and friends.

Can't get away for a weekend? Then come for the day! A Day Visit Pass gives you access to the facilities and free activities happening around Hosanna Farmstay that day.

Even if you're not a guest with them, you can drop by directly off the Rail Trail! Drop in for a coffee, cold drink or a bite to eat and experience their friendly farm.

[www.hosannafarmstay.com.au](http://www.hosannafarmstay.com.au)  
4 Tunnel Road, Stokers Siding  
02 6677 9023



**Awesome coffee, delicious snacks & meals, fuel and free WiFi**




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5887 Tweed Valley Way, Mooball  
Mon – Fri: 6am–5:30pm Sat & Sun 7am–5pm



**TWEED REGIONAL GALLERY & MARGARET OLLEY ART CENTRE**  
Wed to Sun, 10 am - 4 pm | 2 Mistral Road, Murwillumbah  
[gallery.tweed.nsw.gov.au](http://gallery.tweed.nsw.gov.au)  
Photo: Tweed Tourism Co. & Kiff & Culture

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**BEYOND BYRON E BIKES**  
[beyondbyronebikes.com.au](http://beyondbyronebikes.com.au)




**ho** This is an Echo feature

## ART GALLERIES

### ARTIST STUDIO GALLERY

Belongil Beach  
Open by appointment  
**0409 604 405**  
[www.janrae.com.au](http://www.janrae.com.au)

### BLUE KNOB HALL GALLERY

Blue Knob  
719 Blue Knob Road, Lillian Rock  
Open Thursday to Sunday 10am-3pm  
**02 6689 7449**  
[Blueknobgallery.com](http://Blueknobgallery.com)

### BURRINGBAR GALLERY

Open Wednesday to Sunday 10am-4pm  
(or by appointment)  
**Ph: 0408998446**  
6184 Tweed Valley Way, Burringbar

### BYRON CLAY WORKERS GALLERY

Fairview Studios  
114 Stewarts Road, Clunes  
Open Friday to Sunday  
John Stewart  
**0406 404 335**  
[byronclayworkersgallery.com.au](http://byronclayworkersgallery.com.au)

### GALLERY COSMOSIS

Visionary Art  
22 Brigantine St, Byron Bay  
Open Thurs-Sat 10.30am-3pm or by appointment  
**0431 331 205**  
[gallerycosmosis.com](http://gallerycosmosis.com)

### GARAGE GALLERY

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

### H'ART GALLERY

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

### KARENA WYNN-MOYLAN, FINE ART

World award-winning contemporary realism  
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### LISMORE REGIONAL GALLERY

11 Rural St, Lismore, Bundjalung Country NSW  
Open Wednesday to Sunday 10am-4pm,  
Thursdays until 6pm  
[lismoregallery.org](http://lismoregallery.org) | [@lismoreregionalgallery](mailto:@lismoreregionalgallery)

### LONE GOAT GALLERY

28 Lawson St, Byron Bay (located in the Byron Library building)  
Open Wednesday to Saturday 10am-4pm  
[lonegoatgallery.com.au](http://lonegoatgallery.com.au)

### MULLUMBIMBY CLAY WORKERS GALLERY

Drill Hall Complex,  
2 Jubilee Ave, Mullumbimby  
Open Thursday to Saturday 11am-3pm  
[mullumclayworkers.com](http://mullumclayworkers.com)

### NORTHERN RIVERS COMMUNITY GALLERY

Cnr Cherry & Crane Sts, Ballina  
Open Wed-Fri 9am-3pm, Sat-Sun 9.30am-1pm  
**02 6681 0530**  
[nrcgballina.com.au](http://nrcgballina.com.au)

### STUDIO SUVIRA

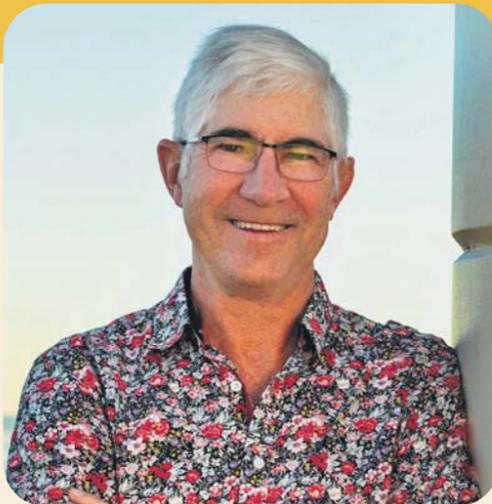
Ceramics & Sculpture Gallery Home gallery and sculpture garden  
28 Left Bank Rd, Mullumbimby  
**0402 125 922 (call/text first)**  
[suviramcdonald.com](http://suviramcdonald.com)

### TWEED REGIONAL GALLERY & MARGARET OLLEY ART CENTRE

Gallery hours: Wed-Sun 10am-4pm  
Café open: Wed-Fri 10am-4pm | Sat-Sun 9am-4pm  
2 Mistral Rd, Murwillumbah  
**02 6670 2790**  
[gallery.tweed.nsw.gov.au](http://gallery.tweed.nsw.gov.au)

# THE ARTS

## ARTIST IN FOCUS



### THE SUNBAKER, BY P.A. THOMAS

From the author of *The Beacon* comes another page-turning beachside murder mystery, bursting with local colour and humour.

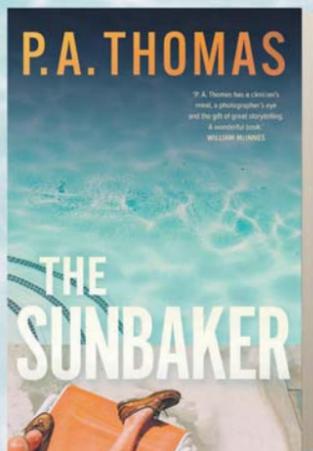
When overworked forensic pathologist Nicola Fox arrives for a long-overdue break at her holiday house in Brunswick Heads, she's shocked to discover someone sunbaking on one of the sun lounges in her backyard. And that the sunbaker has been dead for some time.

New to town, she only knows one person who might be able to save her: Jack Harris, a journalist at the local newspaper, *The Beacon*. When he begins investigating, the police organised crime unit arrives, and soon they are threatening both him and Nicola, leaving Jack to wonder if it was the police themselves who had committed the crime.

Can Jack uncover who really killed the sunbaker, and why the body was left in the backyard of a forensic pathologist, before the escalating threats to his own wellbeing become more than just threats?

**The Sunbaker by P. A. Thomas is in stores from 1 July 2025.**

AVAILABLE AT ALL GOOD BOOKSTORES



From the author of *The Beacon* comes another page-turning beachside murder mystery, bursting with local colour and humour

echo

## BSA SHORT COURSES & WEEKEND WORKSHOPS

BSA has a full program of short courses and weekend workshops available in Term 3. Short courses include Oil Painting with Amber Wallis, Landscape Painting with Emily Imeson, and individual mentorship with the BSA Directors and teachers. For those looking for a weekend workshop there will be Cut/Copy with Laith McGregor and Creating Ecological Portraits with Aviva Reed.

Enrolments are now open on BSA's website where you can also find more information. Classes fill up quickly so don't miss your chance to secure your spot.

[byronschoolorfart.com](http://byronschoolorfart.com)

## CREATE ART STUDIO HAS MOVED!

Create Art Studio has a beautiful new home on Burringbar Street, Mullumbimby. It's a light-filled, welcoming space designed for creativity, connection and colour - for kids, adults and everyone in between. Join them for joyful messes, after-school art classes, evening sessions, open studio days and celebrations. Pop in and say hi, take a peek inside, or visit [www.createart.studio](http://www.createart.studio) to see what's on and sign up for updates.

They can't wait to welcome you and make beautiful creations together!

[www.createart.studio](http://www.createart.studio)

## BREAST PLATES Luther Cora until 28 September 2025



Luther Cora *Sovereignty* 2023  
digital print on photographic paper  
103 x 74 cm framed  
Image courtesy the artist © The artist A Tweed Regional Gallery initiative.

TWEED REGIONAL GALLERY & MARGARET OLLEY ART CENTRE

The Tweed Regional Gallery & Margaret Olley Art Centre is a Tweed Shire Council Community Facility and is supported by the NSW Government through Create NSW.  
Open Wed - Sun, 10am - 4pm | 2 Mistral Rd, Murwillumbah | [gallery.tweed.nsw.gov.au](http://gallery.tweed.nsw.gov.au)

# THE ARTS

## LUTHER CORA: BREAST PLATES

Until 28 September, Breast Plates is a personal photographic series by Bundjalung and Yugambah Nation artist Luther Cora, that delves into the intricate layers of history, culture, and colonisation impacting Australian Aboriginal people. The photographic collection serves as both a homage and a critique, exploring the weight of the past and the enduring and resilient spirit of Aboriginal people.

Open Wednesday to Sunday, 10 am to 4 pm  
Free entry [gallery.tweed.nsw.gov.au](http://gallery.tweed.nsw.gov.au)

## ARCHIBALD PRIZE 2024 OPENING NIGHT AND TICKET INFORMATION

Be among the first to experience the Archibald Prize 2024 at Lismore Regional Gallery, showcasing all 57 finalist works direct from the Art Gallery of New South Wales.

Enjoy an exclusive preview of the exhibition on the opening night, Friday 4 July, 6pm to 9pm, featuring live music by harpist Lake Kelly and violinist Kellie Murphy, along with a grazing table by Bernie Gooley and drinks courtesy of Natural Order Wine. The new gallery cafe, Take Care, will be open late with food available for purchase.

Exhibition runs 5 July to 31 August 2025.  
Ticket information: Opening night \$50 (includes exhibition entry and two drink tickets)  
General \$15 | Concession \$10 | Children free (under 16 years old)  
[lismoregallery.org/archibald-prize-2024](http://lismoregallery.org/archibald-prize-2024)

## HELEN GARNER IN CONVERSATION WITH KERRY O'BRIEN

Rare chance to see beloved author Helen Garner in conversation with Kerry O'Brien

Join iconic Australian writer Helen Garner for an exploration of life on and off the page in conversation with legendary journalist Kerry O'Brien in a special Byron Writers Festival Feature Event.

With an oeuvre spanning fiction, 'near-fiction', and non-fiction, from personal diaries to courtrooms, Garner has now turned her insight, candour and wit to the footy field for her grandson's games in *The Season*, an exuberant celebration of the nobility, grace and grit of team spirit.

Don't miss this festival highlight to see two masters of their craft in celebration of a writing life.

When: Friday, 8 August  
Time: 7-8pm  
Where: A&I Hall, Station St Bangalow (Bar and food available)  
Price: \$45 (plus booking fee)  
Tickets: [www.byronwritersfestival.com](http://www.byronwritersfestival.com)

## ART IN THE HEART OF MULLUMBIMBY

Art-lovers need look no further than the Mullumbimby Comprehensive Health Centre, home to the H'Art Gallery – a vibrant showcase of local creativity. Featuring more than 30 works by ten local artists, this hidden gem is an absolute must-visit.

Curated by graphic impressionist Solveig, the two-floor gallery offers a dynamic exhibition space, with artworks refreshed every six months. It provides a rare platform for local artists to display and sell their work over an extended period.

Visitors to the health centre are welcomed by a burst of colour and creativity, offering a soothing escape from stress and adding to the healing atmosphere of the space.

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

For enquiries, contact [info@solveig.com.au](mailto:info@solveig.com.au).  
60 Stuart Street, Mullumbimby

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create  
art.studio

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[www.createart.studio](http://www.createart.studio)

**H'ART GALLERY**

Art in the heart  
INSPIRED LOCAL ART

**Mullumbimby**  
Comprehensive Health Centre

Lismore Regional Gallery  
5 July - 31 August 2025

LISMORE REGIONAL GALLERY

ARCHIBALD PRIZE  
2024

Art Gallery NSW

Art Gallery of New South Wales touring exhibition

Archibald Prize 2024 winner, Laura Jones Tim Winton © the artist

b Byron Writers Festival '25

Helen Garner  
in conversation  
with Kerry O'Brien

Feature Event

Friday 08 August  
A&I Hall

Tickets → [byronwritersfestival.com](http://byronwritersfestival.com)

# seven

seven days of entertainment

## INTERVIEW

## THE WAIFS



As excitement builds for the inaugural Mullum Roots Festival, headlined by The Waifs, *Seven* talked to one third of this iconic Australian act, Vikki Thorn about so many things – it's too much for one page, you'll have to find the rest online at [www.echo.net.au](http://www.echo.net.au).

**Vikki, it's been almost eight years since your last album – the celebration of your 25th anniversary in 2017 – what's been happening for The Waifs since then?**

So much – we write songs separately and we've all got solo projects going on, and they seem to be our pet projects right now. You know, Josh (Cunningham) and Felicity (Urquhart), who are also performing at the festival at Mullum, are doing an album a year, so they're always busy with that. So we've got to find the time to write.

The Waifs have always written songs separately, and then we just bring them to the band, and everybody puts their part to it. The album, which we haven't written yet, which I think should be our next album – I'm still trying to convince the others of this, is the one we sit down and write together – we haven't had that discussion yet.

We haven't written a song together for 30 years, since we used to busk on the beach in Yallingup.

**In theory that would be a fairly new process for you?**

Yeah, and not an easy one, because, as we've grown older with sort of our interests – on the outside, I think it

seems like maybe we don't love the same sorts of music anymore. But I think there is a commonality there, and we have to go back to our roots to find it. I don't think it would be difficult for us to do – we're all songwriters, we've done it for a long time, but for some reason, the idea of it seems difficult.

**That raises a question: you're all songwriters with your own solo projects, and then you're doing things together. If you start writing a song that's 'for The Waifs', do you ever say, 'hang on a second, this is a really good one...'**

Maybe I'll keep it for myself? YES!

It sort of does happen depending on what project you're working on. But also, I definitely write songs that I feel like are Waifs songs, and then I'll write songs that are definitely not Waifs songs, ones I feel like just wouldn't suit – how I imagine them to be performed isn't the same setup. Maybe I want male harmonies, not female harmonies or something like that.

**What is your current ear worm?**

I'm listening to a lot of '80s. I'm revisiting when I was 13, revisiting my pre-adolescence. And the reason for that is, I'm 51 – my kids are moving out, and

life can feel pretty heavy sometimes, and I've gone back to an era where the music was sort of meaningless and just had no weight to it, and it had nothing I needed to think about or consider. It was just a bop. And so that's where I want to spend my time alone, in positive headspace. It's not about me wanting to be a teenager!

**What's inspiring you at the moment? What's really getting you up and out of bed every morning to write creatively?**

That would be, actually my son, who's 14, and we live half-an-hour out of town, so every day we do this drive, right? Half-an-hour together, and he's sort of, just gone through pre-teen stuff where we couldn't communicate, and we're on the other side of that now, and he just DJs and plays music. So I'm discovering music through him – and the interesting thing is that he always comes up with these songs that I know from the '80s. You know these songs, they come back around ...

**Are you having enough fun?**

Yeah, yeah, absolutely, yeah! I committed to that probably two years ago. I was perimenopausal and I just sort of, was getting bogged down with the heaviness and the weight of everything, and I realised that I didn't have a lot of fun. So every day now I seek it.

**Have you been to Mullum lately?**

No, I haven't been to Mullum for years. Not for maybe 15 years

**Is there anything that you're bringing to the festival that your fans will not have heard before?**

Oh, yeah, there's a couple of new songs, definitely, and we are also toying with this idea of playing these ones that haven't been in our set for years because they're fun to play, and just sort of casting off the stigma that, 'oh, you know, it's too silly', or, 'we're more mature now', and just going, 'well that represents that time in our lives – let's put that back in!'

The Waifs will headline the Mullum Roots Festival on both nights. For more information visit [mullumrootsfest.com](http://mullumrootsfest.com).

**Displace**  
I CALL HOME

3-6 JULY  
BYRON THEATRE  
[BYRONTHEATRE.COM](http://BYRONTHEATRE.COM)

**TIM FREEDMAN'S**  
*Moonlit Deck*

2025  
SAT 5 JULY  
2ND SHOW DUE TO POPULAR DEMAND  
SUN 6 JULY 4pm  
BRUNSWICK PICTURE HOUSE

LISMORE Friendship Festival PRESENTS  
**2025 LisAmore!**  
LOVING LISMORE... ITALIAN STYLE  
SUNDAY 6 JULY  
LISMORE TURF CLUB  
10am - 3pm

ENTRY BY DONATION  
FREE PARKING  
Giant raffle drawn at LisAmore!  
Lismore is a Winter Wonder!

[lismorefriendshipfestival.com.au](http://lismorefriendshipfestival.com.au)

No pets, unless registered assistance or guide dogs

Lismore City Council  
LISMORE  
ITALOMARCONI  
Summerville Bank



## A taste of Italy and family fun

Lismore will come alive with the sights, sounds, and flavours of Italy on **Sunday** as **LisAmore!** returns to the **Lismore Turf Club** – a celebration of Italian culture, community, and connection.

Whether you drop in for an hour, or stay for the whole day, LisAmore! is a vibrant, free event that promises something for everyone – from revheads and food lovers to families and festivalgoers.

One of the highlights for younger visitors is **Piccoli Amici** (little friends) – the festival's dedicated kids and family zone, offering classic fun with a creative twist – children can get crafty, challenge friends at chess, show off their skills on the soccer pitch, or enter our inaugural Parker and Kissane Spaghetti Eating Competition at 11am. It's wholesome, hilarious fun for kids and grown-ups alike. It's also where **Briscola** will be played from 11am to 12 pm and 1pm to 2pm.

Of course, no Italian festival would be complete without stunning vehicles and superb cuisine. This year's event showcases cars from Queensland: Ferrari, Ducatis, Vespas, and more – perfect for car enthusiasts and curious onlookers alike. Wander the turf club lawns and soak up the Italian vibes as music fills the air

by **Domenico** and the **Latin Mafia** and aromas of espresso, pasta, and woodfired pizza tempt your tastebuds.

There'll be live entertainment, the Summerland Bank Tug-O-War, a large dance floor, community stalls and more – all celebrating the rich Italian heritage that has long been part of Lismore's cultural fabric.

This is the seventh time this festival has been held and every year the event and other activities around it grows. This year we have a free Italian language lesson, and delicious Italian dinner organised at Invercauld House on Saturday.

Festival Manager Allison Kelly, says it's a day to reconnect, celebrate the strength of our community, and experience a little slice of Italy right here in Lismore.

So grab your friends, bring the family, and join in the fun – come play, come stay for one of Lismore's most fabulous days.

Sunday at the Lismore Turf Club from 10am to 3pm. Entry by donation. For full program details, visit [lismorefrienshipfestival.com.au](http://lismorefrienshipfestival.com.au).

**Follow on Facebook or Instagram for updates.**



Northern Rivers Conservatorium presents  
**sharon & slava grigoryan**

Thursday 24 July  
7pm

Two of Australia's finest classical musicians. Performing works for cello and guitar.

NRC Concert Room  
152 Keen St, Lismore

Sharon & Slava's repertoire spans cultures, generations and genres – from standard works (Vivaldi, Granados, Piazzolla) to creations by contemporary composers, their own compositions and arrangements which shine a new light on familiar favourites.

\$40 / \$28 / \$18 (under 18)



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[events.humanitix.com/slava-and-sharon](http://events.humanitix.com/slava-and-sharon)

SCAN CODE FOR TICKETS





## Warm your heart and soul in the 'House

Historically, when times are tough, we all seek a bit of distraction and escape to a world beyond the ordinary. And in these pretty crazy times, right now, an old-school night out at the **Brunswick Picture House** would be the perfect tonic.

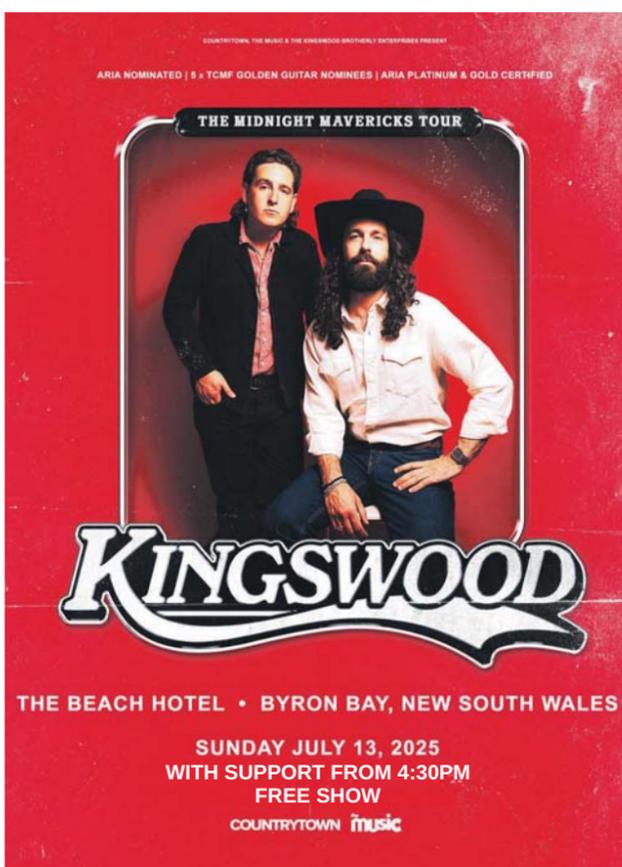
You can always expect to see the absolute best in the business in the 'House and that's guaranteed with the return of **Bruns Does Winter Burlesque** – it's bold, brassy and bursting at the seams with glitter. And with an all new line-up, it's all tease, no sleaze. The three-week season starts on **Thursday, July 10**.

This week sees the return of two of Australia's biggest names: the beguiling **Katie Noonan** is back with an intimate performance of her most loved songs and brand-new material from her upcoming release, and owing to phenomenal demand, **Tim Freedman** has just added a second show – a Sunday afternoon matinee where he'll take you on a journey through his repertoire, recount some showbiz adventure tales and reveal untold stories about some of the best known Whitlams songs. **Katie Noonan** is on **Friday at 7pm** and **Tim Freedman's Saturday 7pm Moonlit Deck** show is sold out, but there are still tickets for **Sunday at 4pm**.

And yes, it's back: rejoice as **Harry James Angus** returns with his all-star band for **Gospel Sunday III**. It's a non-religious, non-denominational Sunday session with many special guest vocalists and choirs. Come cure what ails, and come dance in the aisles – there's so much demand for these tickets so don't wait – **Sunday, July 20 at 12pm**.

It wouldn't be a school holiday in Bruns without a jaw-dropping circus show for the kids – **Lil'Cheeky** is back, this time with a special **Sunday afternoon 4pm** start following Gospel Sunday. (Don't let the grown-ups have all the fun!)

Tickets for all shows at [brunswickpicturehouse.com](http://brunswickpicturehouse.com).



## Eclectic Selection WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

✿ The Spanish Film Festival presents **The Stepmother's Bond**, (*Tras el verano*) a powerful tale of family and emotion that examines the legal loopholes faced by couples with children from a previous relationship, and the complex bonds that transcend genetics, the film asks whether DNA is more important than affection.

**Wednesday 6pm at Palace Cinemas, Byron Bay. Tickets from \$20, [palacecinemas.com.au](http://palacecinemas.com.au).**



✿ Weaving flamenco guitar, tribal percussion, and driving electronica into a soundscape that is both cinematic and explosive, **Tijuana Cartel** are known for their genre-bending sets and magnetic stage presence – they'll guide us on a journey deep into the soul of rhythm.

**Saturday from 4pm at the Billinudgel Hotel. Tickets \$50 [humanitix.com.au](http://humanitix.com.au).**

✿ **Displace I Call Home** is the story of a terminal diagnosis that cuts through a woman's isolation when she's visited by a mysterious bird who draws her into a surreal journey through memory, myth, and healing. The premiere play from The Byron Theatre Company introduces a new platform for regional voices and original performance.

**Five performances starting Thursday 7pm at the Byron Theatre. Tickets from \$38.70, [byroncentre.com.au](http://byroncentre.com.au).**



✿ Experience an electrifying night of contemporary jazz led by two of Australia's most acclaimed saxophonists, **Sandy Evans** and **Andrew Robson**. Evans' powerful tenor sound and soaring soprano melodies combined with Robson's great sense of groove, and an uncanny instinct for melodic lyricism create a beautiful and engaging musical dialogue.

**Sunday 2pm at the Lismore Jazz Club, Lismore City Bowlo. Tickets at the door from \$20.**

✿ **Katie Noonan** will perform a selection of some of her own most loved songs, some of her favourite songs by other people, as well as previewing some brand new material from a forthcoming release.

**Friday 7pm at the Brunswick Picture House. Tickets from \$48, [brunswickpicturehouse.com](http://brunswickpicturehouse.com).**



✿ **Fat Albert** is a well-oiled machine that will have you grooving to all your favourite tunes from late last century to the present day. Get ready to jump, dance, and sing along as Fat Albert takes the stage and ignites the party.

**Friday at The Rails, Byron Bay. Free show.**

✿ Utterly fresh and unique, but steeped in the tradition of real, authentic blues, **Mojo's** music is truly world-class. With charisma and a captivating stage presence, Mojo breathes new life into roots-based sounds – Mojo transcends all age and fashion barriers.

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

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## Another great show from Tim

Unsurprisingly, **Tim Freedman** has sold out this Saturday night at the **Brunswick Picture House**, so the venue has added a show at the special winter matinee time of **4pm** this **Sunday**.

Tim will be performing with pedal steel and electric guitarist **Ollie Thorpe**, and anyone who saw the duo's 2023 sold-out shows at the Lennox Cultural Centre, and sorely missed Regent Theatre in Murwillumbah, will attest to their good-natured panache.

Tim's band The Whitlams has a deep connection with the Byron Shire, from legendary Friday afternoons at the Rails in the mid '90s, to being the first band to put up a stage in the backroom of The Great Northern, a slap-up job of borrowed planks balancing on empty kegs. Most recently he debuted his country band The Whitlams Black Stump at Bluesfest 2024.

The Whitlams are playing three shows with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra this September, and will soon announce an Orchestral 2026 tour in the other capital cities.

Opening on Saturday night is **Zac Gunthorpe**, and on Sunday afternoon **Tainui Richmond**.

**Saturday's sold out, and tickets are selling very quickly for this show – go to [brunswickpicturehouse.com](http://brunswickpicturehouse.com).**



## La Bohème is magical

On a freezing Christmas Eve, love sparks. Two hands meet in the dark and four friends' lives change forever ...

Experience the original bohemian love story. When Mimì meets Rodolfo, it's love at first touch. They head out to bustling Café Momus, where the feisty Musetta and Marcello rekindle their relationship. But even the deepest love can't warm a freezing winter.

For our bohemians, everything is possible and the future can't come quickly enough. Rodolfo and his friends are determined to make their mark on the world and experience everything it has to offer – but right now they'd settle for something warm to eat.

Some emotions are too big for words alone, and for that, we have music. *La Bohème* exposes your soul to the feelings that only music can express.

The musical magic returns when **Murwillumbah Theatre Company** hosts Opera Australia's production of Puccini's *La Bohème*, the original bohemian love story.

Between the ideals of love and art and the cruel realities of cold winters, bitter jealousies and empty pockets, two sets of lovers are trying to find their way. By the time the curtain comes down, you'll know the answer to an eternal question: is love enough?

**La Bohème will be staged at Murwillumbah Civic Centre at 7.30pm on Tuesday, July 22. Tickets at [murwillumbahtheatrecompany.com.au](http://murwillumbahtheatrecompany.com.au) from the box office or via: [trybooking.com/CZEXH](http://trybooking.com/CZEXH)**



## The first time in Australia

You've seen him strut the stage with Vulfpeck at the World's Greatest Arena. You've seen his name in the credits of your favourite artist's favourite album. You've seen footage from his explosive full band shows and thought: is that grown man really singing an A above high C?

Well ... forget ALL that s\*\*t – and dig this: **Theo Katzman**.

Life is short. Love is eternal. After a-year-and-a-half of touring the United States and Europe in support of his album, *Be the Wheel*, Theo Katzman is bringing his songs to Australia, for the first time, with a set of intimate solo performances.

He aims to pierce your heart.

His aim is true.

Will you join us?

**In a free show Theo Katzman appears at the Beach Hotel from 8pm on Thursday, July 10.**

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BYRON BEACH HOTEL  
\*FREE ENTRY\*

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BRUNSDOES WINTER

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# GIG GUIDE

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



## At The Water's Edge

Shortlisted for the inaugural International C.S Lewis ('Clive') Award in 2024, *The Water's Edge* by the **Dream Run Theatre Company**, is a play about finding light in dark places and how love can both transcend and restore memories.

Sarah Lawrence is in the final stages of dementia. She lives between worlds. She sees the unseen and experiences the strangeness and beauty of a parallel universe with her daughter, Hannah, who drowned when she was a child. During one of her husband's daily visits, Sarah inadvertently reveals something that will have profound effects on him and their son, Michael's life.

The play explores the power of unconditional love, forgiveness and human resilience. The production marks the return of the Dream Run Theatre Company – well known for producing theatre that challenges and inspires, Dream Run has received multiple Gold Coast Theatre Awards, winning awards for Best Direction of a Community Theatre Production for *The Zoo Story* and Best Actor Awards for *The Zoo Story* and *Doubt*. The playwright and director of *The Water's Edge* has been shortlisted for the Sydney Theatre Company Patrick White Playwriting Award for *In This Waking Hour*.

The world premiere of *The Water's Edge* will be performed at the **Drill Hall Theatre** in Mullumbimby from July 17 to 27, featuring a talented ensemble cast. The production includes live music and an evocative lighting, sound and film design that will transport the audience into the distinct worlds of the Lawrence family members.

Tickets are available by going to <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1392370>.

### WEDNESDAY 2

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, DAN HANNAFORD
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM MATTHEW ARMITAGE
- NORTH BYRON HOTEL 5.30AM NIC CAMPBELL
- TREEHOUSE, BYRON BAY, 5.30PM JOE CONROY
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6PM INO PIO, 9PM DUELING PIANOS: MITCHELL DORMER & JON SHORTER
- BANGALOW BOWLO 7.30PM BANGALOW BOWLO BANGALOW BRACKETS' OPEN MIC SESSION
- ELTHAM HOTEL NOT QUITE FOLK JAM
- THE PADDOCK PROJECT, MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM OPEN MIC JAM
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE SHOWROOM 7.30PM BEN PORTSMOUTH – ELVIS TRIBUTE

### THURSDAY 3

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, MILO GREEN
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM MICKA SCENE
- BYRON THEATRE 7PM DISPLACE I CALL HOME
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 5PM JASON DELPHIN, 6PM SPANGLED THURSDAY FT. SPACE & AGES AND LUCID SAFARI, 9PM DUELING PIANOS: MITCHELL DORMER & JON SHORTER
- SHELTER, LENNOX HEAD, 5PM JOE CONROY
- LENNOX HEAD COMMUNITY CENTRE 6.15PM 'OCEAN WITH DAVID ATTENBOROUGH'
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 6PM DAN HANNAFORD
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 7PM SCREENING: THE ROAD TO PATAGONIA
- SAINT MARIES, BRUNSWICK HEADS, 6PM MONDO HUM

### FRIDAY 4

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, FAT ALBERT
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY,

- 6PM 154 DUO + 42 BAND
- BYRON THEATRE 7PM DISPLACE I CALL HOME
- NORTH BYRON HOTEL 4.30PM DJ ALICE Q
- ELEMENTS OF BYRON 5PM ANDREW MORRIS
- HOWL & MOAN, BYRON BAY, 7PM MEDIA PUZZLE + TURP + MULCH
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 7PM MATTY ROGERS DUO, 8PM JB'S BLUES BREAKERS + NATHAN BARETTA, 8PM DUELING PIANOS: MICK BUCKLEY & DIZZY + JON SHORTER & SAM WHEAT
- CLUB LENNOX 7PM NATHAN KAYE

- CHERRY STREET SPORTS CLUB, BALLINA, 7PM BEN & VIC
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 7PM BALL PARK MUSIC + BEAN MAGAZINE + PLATONIC SEX
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 7PM KATIE NOONAN
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY, 8PM KRAPPYKEE WITH JESS
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM DJ SALVE JORGE
- MURWILLUMBAH SERVICES CLUB 6.30PM PHIL GUEST
- THE CITADEL, MURWILLUMBAH, 7PM ANOUSHA VICTOIRE & EMMY RYAN
- SALTBAR, KINGSCLIFF, 6PM JASON MCGREGOR

### SATURDAY 5

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, DAKINI CUDDLE
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 3PM DAMIEN COOPER + JORDAN MAC DUO + MADISON KAT
- BYRON THEATRE 2PM DISPLACE I CALL HOME, 7PM DISPLACE I CALL HOME
- NORTH BYRON HOTEL 1.30AM DJ NAT WHITE + DJ WILL CONNELL
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 7PM JOE CONROY DUO + SAM BUCKLEY BAND, 8PM ANTHEM FT. MARK DYNAMIX, 8PM DUELING PIANOS: BUCKLEY & SAM

### WHEAT + JON SHORTER & SHANE PARRY

- CLUB LENNOX 7PM MILO GREEN
- BALLINA RSL BOARDWALK 6PM LUKE YEAMAN
- CHERRY STREET SPORTS CLUB, BALLINA, 8PM PISTOL WHIP
- AUSTRALIAN HOTEL, BALLINA, 9PM DJ MARK
- BANGALOW HOTEL LILY GRACE GRANT
- ELTHAM HOTEL 12PM NOT QUITE FOLK JAM
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 4.30PM JBS BLUES BREAKERS
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 7PM TIM FREEDMAN
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM DJ SAX
- BILLINUDGEL HOTEL 7PM TIJUANA CARTEL
- M-ARTS, MURWILLUMBAH, 9AM ROD MURRAY JAZZ
- MURWILLUMBAH SERVICES CLUB 6PM STEPHEN LOVELIGHT
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 5PM GREER SULLIVAN
- SALTBAR, KINGSCLIFF, 6PM JOCK BARNES

### SUNDAY 6

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, MAJESTIC KNIGHTS
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 4.30PM SOFT TREADLY – GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY + SO YOU THINK YOU CAN DJ
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6PM ANIMAL VENTURA, 9PM DUELING PIANOS: MICK BUCKLEY & JOHN HILL
- LENNOX PIZZA 4.30PM JOSE + CARLY
- BALLINA RSL LEVEL ONE 10AM THE BALLINA COUNTRY MUSIC CLUB, BOARDWALK 2.30PM BALLINA BLUES CLUB FEAT MOJO WEBB BAND
- AUSTRALIAN HOTEL, BALLINA, 2PM JB'S BLUES BREAKERS
- BANGALOW HOTEL 2PM DAVE POWER
- ELTHAM HOTEL 2.30PM MATTHEW ARMITAGE
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 4PM ASHA JEFFERIES

- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 4PM TIM FREEDMAN
- BILLINUDGEL HOTEL 1PM KATIE WHITE
- LISMORE TURF CLUB 10AM LISAMORE!
- LISMORE CITY BOWLO 2PM LISMORE JAZZ CLUB – EVANS ROBSON QUARTET
- PEARCES CREEK HALL, PIERCES CREEK, 3PM ANOUSHA VICTOIRE & EMMY RYAN
- SALTBAR, KINGSCLIFF, 1PM SHORTY BROWN
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 5PM BLAKE EVANS

### MONDAY 7

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, LEIGH JAMES
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM JESSE WHITNEY
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 9PM DUELING PIANOS: DIZZY J & MITCHELL DORMER

### TUESDAY 8

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, JON J BRADLEY
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM MATT DAY
- BYRON THEATRE 6.30PM 18TH ARAKWAL NAIDOC SCREENING 2025
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6PM MARSHALL OKELL, 9PM DUELING PIANOS: SHANE PARRY & MITCH DORMER
- ELTHAM HOTEL 7PM BABY COOL

### WEDNESDAY 9

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, MATTHEW ARMITAGE
- NORTH BYRON HOTEL 5.30AM NIC CAMPBELL
- BANGALOW BOWLO 7.30PM BANGALOW BOWLO BANGALOW BRACKETS' OPEN MIC SESSION
- THE PADDOCK PROJECT, MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM OPEN MIC JAM

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 JULY 3 TO WEDNESDAY JULY 9

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- SPECIAL SCREENINGS**
- THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA (1925) (IGI CULT VAULT) Mon: 6:00PM
- FAMILY FILMS**
- ELIO (PG) Daily except Thurs, Fri: 10:45AM, 1:00PM. Thurs, Fri: 10:45AM, 1:00PM, 3:45PM
- HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON (PG) Daily: 11:00AM, 1:40PM, 3:10PM, 5:45PM
- LILO & STITCH (PG) Daily: 11:15AM, 1:30PM
- SMURFS (IGI NPT COMMENCES SATURDAY) Sat, Sun, Tues, Wed: 10:50AM, 1:00PM, 3:50PM, 5:45PM
- ALL FILMS**
- 28 YEARS LATER (M15+) Daily: 1:00PM, 6:00PM, 8:30PM
- F1: THE MOVIE (M1 NPT) Daily: 11:15AM, 2:30PM, 4:15PM, 5:45PM, 7:20PM
- JURASSIC WORLD: REBIRTH (M1 NPT) Daily except Wed: 10:45AM, 1:30PM, 3:15PM, 4:15PM, 6:00PM, 7:00PM. Wed: 10:45AM, 1:30PM, 3:15PM, 6:00PM, 7:00PM
- M3GAN 2.0 (M) Daily: 8:40PM
- MATERIALISTS (M) Daily: 1:00PM, 8:10PM
- MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE - THE FINAL RECKONING (M) Thurs, Fri: 11:45AM, 7:45PM. Sat, Sun, Mon, Tues: 7:45PM. Wed: 5:45PM

- OCEAN WITH DAVID ATTENBOROUGH (PG) Thurs, Fri: 3:40PM, 6:00PM. Sat, Sun, Mon, Tues: 3:40PM. Wed: 4:15PM
- THE PHOENICIAN SCHEME (M) Daily: 10:50AM, 8:45PM
- THE SHROUDS (M15+) NPT Daily: 3:30PM, 8:20PM
- THE STORY OF SOULEYMANE (M) Daily except Mon, Wed: 10:50AM, 5:45PM. Mon: 10:50AM. Wed: 10:50AM, 4:45PM

### BALLINA FAIR CINEMAS

- 28 YEARS LATER (M15+) Daily except Wed: 7:30PM. No Screening Wed
- ELIO (PG) Thurs, Fri: 10:00AM, 2:40PM. Sat, Sun, Mon, Tues: 2:45PM
- F1: THE MOVIE (M1 NPT) Daily except Thurs, Fri: 4:20PM, 7:00PM. Thurs, Fri: 4:15PM, 7:00PM
- HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON (PG) Thurs, Fri: 9:45AM, 12:10PM, 5:00PM. Sat, Sun, Mon, Tues: 9:30AM, 12:10PM, 5:00PM. Wed: 9:30AM, 12:10PM, 3:20PM
- JURASSIC WORLD: REBIRTH (M1 NPT) Daily except Thurs, Fri: 9:45AM, 1:40PM, 7:20PM. Thurs, Fri: 10:30AM, 1:20PM, 7:20PM
- LAURA (1944) (IGI MATINEE MEMORIES) Sat: 2:45PM – Matinee Memories
- LILO & STITCH (PG) Thurs, Fri: 2:45PM, 4:45PM. Sat: 4:45PM. Sun, Mon, Tues, Wed: 2:45PM
- SMURFS (IGI NPT – COMMENCES SATURDAY) Sat: 9:40AM, 11:40AM. Sun, Mon, Tues, Wed: 9:40AM, 11:40AM, 5:00PM

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**Village Way, Stuart St, Mullumbimby**

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Display (box ads) and line classifieds, email:

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

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## PUBLIC NOTICES

**WHERE TO GET THE ECHO**  
If you live in Newrybar, Lennox Head or Ballina, but outside our current home



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  
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### 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.

**Lions Club of Brunswick / Mullumbimby Inc**  
*'Ordinary People Doing Extraordinary Things'*  
Meeting at the Ocean Shores Country Club 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month – 5.30 for 6pm.  
**brunswickmullumbimby.nsw@lions.org.au**  
**0400 484 419**

## Notice of non-claimant applications for determination of native title in New South Wales

Notification day: 16 July 2025

'Non-claimant' applications have been made to the Federal Court of Australia (Federal Court) seeking determinations that native title does not exist in the areas described below. The Applicants have non-native title interests in these areas, which are set out in their applications and summarised below.

Under the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth), there can be only one determination of native title for an area. Unless there are relevant native title claims, as defined in section 24FE, over the areas described below on or before **15 October 2025**, the areas may be subject to protection under section 24FA and **acts may be done which extinguish or otherwise affect native title**.

A person who claims to hold native title rights and interests in any of these areas may wish to file a native title claimant application or become a party to the non-claimant application. These may be the only opportunities to have those rights and interests taken into account in the Federal Court's determination. Any other person may also wish to become a party.

If you want to become a party to any of these applications, you must file a Form 5 (Notice of Intention to become a Party) with the Federal Court, **on or before 15 October 2025**. Further information regarding how to file a Form 5 is available from [www.fedcourt.gov.au](http://www.fedcourt.gov.au). **After 15 October 2025**, you will need to seek leave from the Federal Court to become a party.



## National Native Title Tribunal

**Applicant's name:** Tweed Byron Local Aboriginal Land Council (in each application)

**Non-native title interest:** The Applicant holds or is entitled to a transfer of an estate in fee simple but, pursuant to s 36(9) of the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983* (NSW), subject to any native title which existed in relation to the land immediately prior to the transfer to the Applicant

**Order sought by Applicant:** The applicant seeks a determination that native title does not exist in the application areas (set out below for each application)

**Federal Court File No:** NSD607/2025

**Description of area:** The application covers a combined area of approx. 3.73 hectares and is located over of Lots 8, 10 and 11 in DP1306196 and Lot 13 in DP 1306781 in the town of Byron Bay

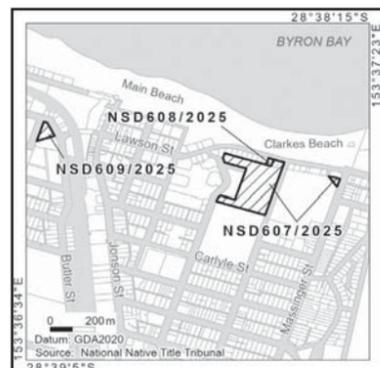
**Federal Court File No:** NSD608/2025

**Description of area:** The application area covers approx. 705 square metres and is located over Lot 9 in DP1306196 in the town of Byron Bay

**Federal Court File No:** NSD609/2025

**Description of area:** The application area covers approx. 0.31 hectares and is located over Lot 387 in DP728536 in the town of Byron Bay

**Relevant LGA:** Byron Shire Council



For assistance and any further information about these applications, including the description of the area, call Megan Harris on **07 3052 4981** or visit [www.nntt.gov.au](http://www.nntt.gov.au).

## FOR SALE

**3 SEATER RED LEATHER COUCH**  
Excellent condition \$250 Ph 0402618019

**TRADE MARKS FOR SALE** Category 25 clothing NOT DEAD YET and BE HERE NOW. One or both. Price negotiable. Enq: beforethebeginningoftime@gmail.com

## WANTED

### TREE FERNS

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

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

## DEATH NOTICES

### WIGGINS, Terence Michael

(08/11/1947 – 12/06/2025)

Aged 77 years.

With heavy hearts we announce the passing of Terence Michael Wiggins, on Thursday 12th June 2025.

Terry was a beloved husband to Linda, father to Mathew and Luke, grandfather to Lyla, Jack and Logan, and big brother to Joanne and Glenda (deceased). And his faithful dog, "Poppy".

Terry did not wish to have a funeral, but rather a memorial gathering.

To join us at a memorial picnic afternoon at Byron Bay and/or a wake at Killcare, please contact:

Luke by text in the first instance on 0407 764 968 (Byron) or Joanne on 0439 402 955 (Killcare).

*Terry was a highly intelligent and educated man, holding 3 university degrees and a distinguished work/life balance that included many sporting interests and competitive pursuits including sailing, rowing, cycling, swimming, snow skiing, school boy rugby league, adult rugby union, squash, marathons, triathlons, and surf lifesaving.*

*His working career included many senior roles on government and private infrastructure projects and community projects including mentoring on local Aboriginal programs and projects in the Northern Rivers area.*

## GARAGE SALES

### POP UP FAIR

Vintage, Retro, Designer Clothing.  
Records, Rugs, Collectables, Bric a Brac.  
Brunswick Memorial Hall Fingal St  
Sat 5 July and Sun 6 July  
8.30am - 4.30pm.

### DECEASED ESTATE ALL MUST GO

Sat 8am-1pm  
4 Sunrise Cres Lennox Head

**DECEASED ESTATE** Saturday 8am-2pm  
3 Jarrah Cres Ocean Shores

**LANDLORD** raised the rent, so we're moving sale. Antiques, jewellery, homewares - all must go! Sat from 8am. 9/1 Belongil Crescent Byron Bay

## Tip Runs & Rubbish Removal

**0408 210 772**

Habitat Presents

## Fashion Flea Market

Saturday 5th July  
8.30-1pm

Habitat Carpark  
1 Porter St, Byron Bay

For a serious rummage through Byron's biggest closet clearout

Amazing clothes, amazing prices!

Delicious food and drink.

Courtyard gelato.

In-store specials & sample sales.

## CARAVANS

CARAVANS

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



## SHORT TERM ACCOM.

FULLY FURNISHED 3 BEDROOM HOME to rent from early Sept to end of Nov 2025. Flexible on start/ end dates and rent. Our comfortable home is on 1 acre landscaped, hilltop block, 4kms from Mullumbimby. Interested in older couples who will maintain a well kept home and garden. No pets. Charlie 0411052256

## HOUSE SIT

PROF HOUSE / PET SITTER AVAIL  
Mid July-Aug 5th Brunswick area.  
Single mid-50s woman. Exc. refs.  
0412284930

## TO LET

### LOCAL REMOVAL

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

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

## TO LEASE

BYRON ind. w/house space for long lease or short-term hire. Large floorspace + lounge area, balcony, car space. \$55p/hr or \$370 day rate. Ideal for workshops etc. Long lease \$475pw. Txt 0424906036

## POSITIONS VACANT

### TAXI DRIVERS WANTED

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

**FRONT OF HOUSE/ALL ROUNDER** needed for The Other Joint. Mon and Thurs 7.30am-3pm. Email resume: mullum@otherjoint.com

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



### High School Maths Teacher Temporary Full Time 4 Weeks

See advertisement on page 4.  
Position description and application process  
capebyronsteiner.nsw.edu.au

## ECHO COPY MANAGER ROLE

Are you a superstar at administration with great attention to detail?

The Echo is seeking a new Copy Manager to process our wonderful advertisers' material. This is not a design role but an administration one, working within the sales team to process ad copy through to The Echo's production department.

2.5 days per week (Friday, Monday, Tuesday). Permanent part-time, plus occasional extra hours required in busy periods.

Start date 10 September, 2025. On-the-job training will be provided.

### The job:

- Using databases to process ads and generate reports.
- Liaising between clients, sales, production and accounts.
- Processing supplied ad copy, checking ads and promotional material.

### Skills needed:

- Excellent computer, phone and communication skills.
- Organised, quick and attentive to detail.
- Strong grammar and spelling skills to edit text copy.
- A can-do, positive attitude and good work ethic.
- Be a team player.

For more information call 6684 1777 to speak to the Sales Manager.

Apply with a cover letter and CV to: positions@echo.net.au

# Echo

## WORK WANTED

**EXPERIENCED CARER** available for elderly/disabled person or child. Gentle, caring, supportive. Ph 0450403050

## 1 or 2 MEN + UTE

Furniture and rubbish removals  
Over 15 years exp. Jarrod 0415 139 308

## DOG WALKER

Enrichment, socialising, obedience  
Weekdays / negotiable.  
Ph 0404880839

## WORDPRESS WEBSITE CREATION

Fair rates info@wordpressit.com.au

## HANDYMAN SERVICES

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

## VOLUNTEERS WANTED



### Want to volunteer?

Volunteers are the heart of our community.

Your time, energy and dedication help shape a more connected, vibrant and caring Byron.

We simply couldn't do it without you!

**02 6685 6807**

volunteers@byroncentre.com.au

## SOCIAL ESCORTS

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

## MUSICAL NOTES

**LIGHT DRUMMER** wanted for jazz duo with keys/guitar player. Ph 0488235179



### RECORDING • MIXING MASTERING • REHEARSALS

Get a custom quote for your project

Visit [keysoundstudios.com](http://keysoundstudios.com)  
Or Call Lucius on 0424 906 036

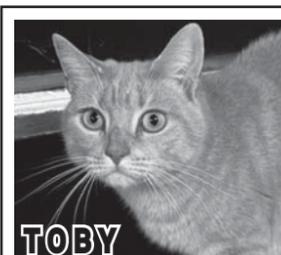
## ONLY ADULTS

**BALLINA EXCLUSIVE**  
34 Piper Dr. Open 7 days 10am till late. In & Out Calls. 66816038. Ladies wanted Find us on Facebook and Twitter!

## KRYSTAL ADULT SHOP

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

## PETS



**TOBY**

Toby is a super chilled, adorable boy. Friendly with all in the shelter & happy to be picked up for cuddles. He's settled in so well that he's sure to adapt quickly to his new home & family. To meet Toby, please visit the Cat Adoption Centre at 124 Dalley Street, Mullumbimby.

**OPEN: Tues 2.30-4.30pm  
Thurs 3-5pm | Sat 10am-12 noon  
Call AWL on 0436 845 542**

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



Manny is a 7 month old, Mastiff/Staffy X. He has a lovely nature and would make a great family dog. Manny is doing well with training and hopes his new family will continue on with this. # 991003002698962

Location: Murwillumbah

For more information contact  
**Yvette on 0421 831 128.**

Interested? Please complete our online adoption expression of interest.

<https://friendsofthepound.com/adoption-expression-of-interest/>

Visit [friendsofthepound.com](http://friendsofthepound.com) to view other dogs and cats looking for a home.  
ABN 83 126 970 338



Meet Pixie, a sweet, petite 2 1/2 yo ginger girl, with beautiful green eyes, who loves strokes and enjoys human company. She was found south of Lismore by a kind man that contacted us to take her in. She has had 2 litters of kittens already! (We still have 3) She is now desexed, and very ready for a loving home!

**Approx D.O.B. 01/02/23  
Microchip no.  
900263003153915**

**Like us on Facebook!**  
To make an appointment  
0403 533 589 • Billinudgel  
[petsforlifefanimalshelter.net](http://petsforlifefanimalshelter.net)



Max is an 8-year-old black male Cocker Spaniel with a gentle soul and heart full of love. Max is fantastic with both dogs and humans, making him the perfect companion for a family or an individual looking for a loyal friend. He is fully toilet trained and adores car trips. With his calm, affectionate nature and classic floppy ears, Max is sure to win your heart the moment you meet him.

Re-homing number R251000060



T: 6681 1860 E: [shelter@nras.org.au](mailto:shelter@nras.org.au)  
W: [www.nras.org.au](http://www.nras.org.au)



Meet Maxi - The Sweetest Pup with a Big Heart! Maxi is a stunning 10-month-old Kelpie x Bull Arab rescued from the pound and ready for his forever home. Gentle, affectionate, and social, he's the perfect mix of active adventurer and couch cuddler. Submissive by nature, Maxi is quick to learn and eager to please, especially for treats! He's microchipped, vaccinated, and flea/worm/tick treated. Best suited to a property or active home.  
[byrondogrescue.org](http://byrondogrescue.org)  
MC: 941000028968305  
Call Julia on 0458 461 935

## 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

## 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	0427 725 507
4th SUN Coolangatta (in a 5 Sunday month)	
5th SUN Nimbin	0475 135 764

## FARMERS/WEEKLY MARKETS

Each TUE New Brighton	0424 168 672
Each TUE Organic Lismore	
Each WED Murwillumbah 7-11	0415 328 672
Each WED Nimbin 3-6pm	0418 940 653
Each WED Newrybar Hall 4-7pm	
Each THU Byron 8-11am	0414 595 169
Each THU Lismore 2.30-6.30pm	0459 309 223
Each FRI Mullum 7-11am	0424 168 672
Each FRI Evans Head 2.30-6.30	0428 291 068
Each SAT Bangalow 8-11am	0414 595 169
Each SAT Durabah Rd 8-11am (Tropical Fruit World)	
Each SAT Uki 8am-1pm	02 6679 5438
Each SAT Lismore 8.30-11am	
Each SAT Wadeville 8am-12pm	
Each SAT Byron Twilight Market 4pm Oct-Apr	
Each SUN Ballina 7-11am	

The Echo updates this guide regularly, however sometimes markets change their routine without letting us know. Please get in touch if you want to advise us of a change.

## SUN, MOON & TIDES

- TIMES FOR NEXT 2 WEEKS

DATE (July)	DAY, MOON PHASE	SUN RISE / SET	MOON RISE / SET	HIGH TIDES, height (m)	LOW TIDES, height (m)
2	W	6:39 17:00	11:07 23:40	0050 1.48; 1354 1.23	0729 0.49; 1925 0.72
3	TH	6:39 17:01	11:34 23:40	0132 1.36; 1458 1.28	0810 0.49; 2041 0.78
4	F	6:39 17:01	12:01 0:33	0223 1.26; 1600 1.36	0854 0.49; 2204 0.77
5	SA	6:39 17:01	12:31 1:27	0323 1.18; 1654 1.44	0940 0.48; 2317 0.73
6	SU	6:39 17:02	13:05 2:22	0425 1.13; 1742 1.53	1027 0.47
7	M	6:39 17:02	13:43 3:19	0524 1.11; 1826 1.61	0016 0.65; 1112 0.44
8	TU	6:39 17:03	14:28 4:16	0615 1.11; 1907 1.68	0104 0.58; 1155 0.41
9	W	6:38 17:03	15:19 5:13	0702 1.13; 1948 1.74	0145 0.51; 1236 0.38
10	TH	6:38 17:04	16:16 6:07	0745 1.15; 2028 1.78	0223 0.46; 1317 0.34
11	F	6:38 17:04	17:17 6:57	0827 1.18; 2107 1.81	0300 0.42; 1359 0.31
12	SA	6:38 17:05	18:21 7:41	0909 1.20; 2145 1.82	0336 0.39; 1440 0.30
13	SU	6:38 17:05	19:24 8:20	0952 1.23; 2224 1.81	0415 0.37; 1523 0.31
14	M	6:37 17:06	20:26 8:55	1037 1.26; 2302 1.76	0453 0.35; 1609 0.34
15	TU	6:37 17:06	21:27 9:28	1125 1.29; 2342 1.69	0532 0.34; 1658 0.41
16	W	6:37 17:07	22:29 9:59	1217 1.32	0614 0.34; 1752 0.49

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

## 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)



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### ACCOUNTANTS & BOOKKEEPERS

## Byron Bookkeeping

Are your books a mess? We can help  
 BAS - Payroll - Super - AR/AP ...  
 Xero / QB / MYOB - Setup & Training  
**Professional | Reliable | Local**  
**0415 639 548**

BOOKKEEPER Reg BAS provider, payroll, A/P, A/R. Xero & MYOB. Local, reliable. ....0410 206627  
 BLOOMING BOOKKEEPING and BAS Agent..... Ph Leah 0434 121077

### ACUPUNCTURE

ACUPUNCTURE CHINESE HERBAL MEDICINE M Collis.....0490 022183

### AIR CONDITIONING & REFRIGERATION

**Mullumbimby Refrigeration & Airconditioning Services**  
 - Sales - Installation - Repairs  
 - All Commercial Refrigeration  
 - Residential & Commercial Airconditioning  
 - Coolroom Design & Construction  
 - Freezer Rooms

45 Manns Road, Mullumbimby **6684 2783**  
 Lic: 299433C ARC: AU40492

COOLMAN AIR CONDITIONING 23 yrs exp. Lic. 178464C AU30147 .....0422 291433  
 ARTISAN AIR Airconditioning and refrigeration. ....66809394

### ARCHITECTS

OCEANARC ARCHITECTS Reg. 6042 www.oceanarc.com.au .....0412 251392

### AUTOMOTIVE

## CASH PAID FOR UNWANTED CARS

**\$50-\$1500**  
 Free metal drop off  
 Locally owned **6684 5296**

## ABSOLUTELY FREE CAR BODY REMOVAL

CASH ON THE SPOT GUARANTEE  
**\$50 - \$1000**  
 WE BUY UNWANTED CARS, UTES & VANS  
**PHONE 0466 113 333** 24/7  
 EMAIL: [enquires@adrians.com.au](mailto:enquires@adrians.com.au)



### BARBER SHOPS

PENSIONERS THURSDAY \$25: 6 Brunswick Tce Mullum.....0421 679015

### BLINDS, AWNINGS, CURTAINS, SHUTTERS

BYRON BAY  
**BlindDESIGN**  
 BLINDS SHUTTERS AWNINGS CURTAINS

LOCAL SHOWCASE DEALER SHOWROOM  
**6680 8862**  
**FREE MEASURE QUOTE**  
 ON OUR COMPLETE RANGE OF  
**INTERIOR & EXTERIOR WINDOW TREATMENTS**

1/84 Centennial Circuit Byron Bay  
 SPECIALISTS IN HOME AUTOMATION  
[www.blinddesignbyronbay.com.au](http://www.blinddesignbyronbay.com.au)



### BRICKLAYING

BRICK/BLOCK LAYING Contractors. Lic 291958C. Phone Mark .....0409 444268

### BUILDING TRADES

• DEPT OF FAIR TRADING: A licence is required for all residential building work where the reasonable market cost of the work to be done (labour and materials) exceeds \$5000 (including GST).



**B&B Timbers**  
 66867911  
 110 Taven Road, Ballina  
*New logo - Same quality & service*  
**Structural - Landscaping**  
**Fencing - Composite Decking**  
**Hardwood - Pine - Hardware**  
[sales@bbtimbers.com.au](mailto:sales@bbtimbers.com.au) [www.bbtimbers.com.au](http://www.bbtimbers.com.au)

BUILDER - JOHN MCGAURAN Personalised Service. 20 yrs exp. Lic 170208C .....0415 793242

HAVEN BUILDING All aspects of building. Lic 326616C.....0432 565060

FABRICA JOINERY Quality kitchens/timber doors/windows. Lic 244652C .....66808162

CARPENTER / JOINER 30 yrs experience. Prompt efficient service. Fully insured. Other licensed trades  
 avail, incl plastering/painting. 24/7 Emergency 4WD vehicle call-out avail. Lic 43794C. **0423 500693**

BUILDER Extensions, maintenance, new homes, insurance, landscaping Lic19953Q..... **0403 458177**

SEA LION BUILDERS: All Building Works / Maintenance Lic #243734C .....Ph **0407 351720**

VIDLER BUILT decks, extensions, bathrooms, kitchens, timber fencing Lic 304237C.....**0413 502281**

### BUSH REGENERATION



### Bush Regeneration

- Qualified service
- Weed treatment
- Native forest recovery
- Camphor culling

0431 636 608 [regen@reforestnow.org.au](mailto:regen@reforestnow.org.au)



### CARPENTRY & JOINERY



**Detail Oriented Carpentry**  
 Creative or Conventional; big or small.  
 Hardwood structures built to last.

Tekea 0474309065

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

@handsoncreationsaus

Lic. 472303C

ALL CARPENTRY & BUILDING WORK Owner builder friendly. Lic 203206C..... **0424 158585**

LOCAL CARPENTER small, medium or large jobs. Lic 207899C.....Ph **0431 048856**

ALL CARPENTRY Doors & stairs, all repairs. Reliable. 20 years exp. ....**0437 202050**

BENNETT CARPENTRY Construction & maintenance. [bennettcarpentry.com.au](http://bennettcarpentry.com.au) ..... **0448 031221**

### CHIMNEY SWEEPING

BLACKS CHIMNEY SWEEPING & REPAIRS AHHA member, insured. 3rd generation ..... **66771905**

### CLEANING

#### Services List

(Low Pressure Softwashing)  
 Houses, Gutters, Roofs, Awnings,  
 Solar panels, Retaining walls  
 Driveways, Paths, Pavers,  
 Fences, Decks, Patios,  
 Pool areas.



Locally owned and Operated  
**Residential and Commercial**  
 No job too big or small  
 Obligation free quote  
 Fully insured

**AQUA PRESSURE CLEANING**

**0426 119 550** [info@nraqpressurecleaning.com.au](mailto:info@nraqpressurecleaning.com.au) ABN: 47576013867

Cleaning continued on next page

## CLEANING (continued)

**Byron Bay 5 Stars**  
**CLEANING SERVICE**  
 CLEANS: Holiday, Residential, Bond, Commercial, Spring.  
**Phone Mick 0409 009 024**  
 Email: mickbhl@gmail.com

ROOFS  
 SOLAR PANELS  
 GUTTERS  
 HOUSE WASH  
 DRIVEWAYS & PATHS  
**Andy 0406 641 919**  
**EcoSheen**  
 EXTERIOR CLEANING  
 Fully insured | Servicing the Northern Rivers & Gold Coast

BETTY'S CLEANING & HOUSEKEEPING SERVICES..... Text 0476 984649

## COMPUTER SERVICES

One-on-one, patient, experienced teacher offering digital support for seniors needing help with phones, laptops and computers.

**Phone or email: 0420 235 624**  
**contact@thinkblinkdesign.com**

FLASH COMPUTERS Mac & PC. Affordable & helpful. 77 Stuart Street, Mullumbimby..02 66844124

## CONCRETING & PAVING

**SALISBURY CONCRETING**  
**DARYL 0418 234 302**  
 Over 30 yrs' local experience.  
 All forms of concreting.  
 Residential • Civil • Industrial  
 Lic:136717c

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In a landmark offering that's attracting a lot of interest across the commercial property market, David Gordon of Ray White Byron Bay Commercial presents a once-in-a-generation opportunity – the sale of 'The Bay Centre', an iconic retail asset in the heart of Byron Bay's thriving town centre.

Offered for the first time in over 40 years, this tightly-held property combines blue-chip location, strong tenancy mix, and compelling future value-add potential. Positioned on the north-facing, sun-drenched side of Lawson Street – Byron's busiest pedestrian thoroughfare – The Bay Centre sits right in the centre: high visibility, constant foot traffic, and strong local and tourist demand.

Over the past 12 months, the Byron Bay commercial retail market has shown remarkable resilience and renewed strength. As tourism returns to pre-pandemic levels and the population continues to grow, demand for quality commercial freehold property has surged. Investors are



increasingly drawn to Byron Bay's unique blend of lifestyle, economy, and cultural cachet – making well-located assets like this one exceptionally hard to come by.

Commercial freeholds in the town centre are now tightly held and rarely released. This

scarcity has driven increased competition for prime opportunities, with savvy investors seeking security, growth, and long-term capital appreciation. The Bay Centre is exactly that kind of property.

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451 FEDERAL DRIVE, FEDERAL



### Luxury Fully Renovated 120yo Home in the Heart of Federal

4 bed 1 bath 2 car

760M<sup>2</sup>

- Original timber home, fully renovated in 2024 with Tallowood flooring and high-end finishes throughout
- Light-filled living / dining and kitchen with high-pitched ceilings creating a grand, airy space
- Large, covered Spotted Gum deck with a breakfast bar and bifold stacker doors connecting to the living areas
- RU5 Village zoning, walk to Doma Café, 15 mins to Bangalow, and 20 mins to Byron

WILL BE SOLD AT AUCTION

AUCTION | Thurs 10th July 12pm

OPEN | Sat 5th July 10:30 - 11am



Tara Torkkola  
0423 519 698



Sally Green  
0488 030 116

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## Tweed Shores, Chinderah

Site 155

🏠 2 🚗 1 🚗 2+

\$345,000



Looking for something different then this well-presented home is a must to inspect. The fabulous extensive rear deck is perfect for entertaining family & friends.

This home is waiting for new owners to move in, unpack and add their own personal touches to make it their own.

Open plan living/dining area with split system air conditioner and vinyl timber planked flooring that is carried throughout the home for a very cohesive modern feel. Contemporary modern kitchen with ample white storage cabinets that are complemented with built-in oven, gas cooktop as well as extensive benchtops & tiled backsplash.

Located towards the back of the home are two generous sized bedrooms both with built-in wardrobes and master has split system air conditioner. Renovated modern bathroom that includes a shower recess, stylish vanity and toilet as well as laundry facilities.

The adjoining carport can accommodate 2+ vehicles.

Fully fenced back garden is ideal for the keen gardener or your 4-legged friend.

Tweed Shores - A 'Pet Friendly' over 50's residential park in the heart of Chinderah and close to the Tweed River. Retirement living at its best without the associated costs of exit fees and No stamp duty.

**Inspect:** By appointment

**Contact:** Kelvin Price 0423 028 468 / Heike Wilson 0403 713 658  
Mr Property Services

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# Open For Inspection

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

### First National Byron Bay

- 46 Cedar Drive, Dunoon. Wed 12-12.30pm
- 2/122 Lighthouse Road, Byron Bay. Wed 12.30-1pm
- 160 Reardons Lane, Swan Bay. Thurs 11-11.30am
- 12 Burns Street, Byron Bay. Thurs 1-1.30pm
- 17 Oakland Court, Byron Bay. Thurs 2-2.30pm
- 73 New City Road, Mullumbimby. Fri 10-10.30am
- 14 Rush Court, Mullumbimby. Fri 11-11.30am
- 5 Shelley Drive, Byron Bay. Sat 9-9.30am
- 14 Rush Court, Mullumbimby. Sat 9-9.30am
- 40 Shelley Drive, Byron Bay. Sat 10-10.30am
- 29 Palm-Lily Crescent, Bangalow. Sat 10-10.30am
- 1C Short Street, New Brighton. Sat 10-10.30am
- 7 Lasiandra Close, Suffolk Park. Sat 10-10.30am
- 32 Fairview Road, Rosebank. Sat 10-10.30am
- 2/122 Lighthouse Road, Byron Bay. Sat 10-10.30am
- 451 Federal Drive, Federal. Sat 10.30-11am
- 2/59 Brandon Street, Suffolk Park. Sat 11-11.30am
- 111 Coorabell Road, Federal. Sat 11-11.30am
- 93 Station Street, Mullumbimby. Sat 11-11.30am
- 58 Corkwood Crescent, Suffolk Park. Sat 11-11.30am
- 234A Bangalow Road, Byron Bay. Sat 11-11.30am
- 147 Whian Whian Road, Whian Whian. Sat 11.30am-12pm
- 73 New City Road, Mullumbimby. Sat 11.30am-12.15pm
- 496 Myocum Road, Myocum. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 2/16 Marattia Place, Suffolk Park. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 9/9 Easy Street, Byron Bay. Sat 12-12.30pm

- 46 Cedar Drive, Dunoon. Sat 12.15-12.45pm
- 27 Roses Road, Federal. Sat 12.30-1pm
- 2 Beach Avenue, South Golden Beach. Sat 12.30-1pm
- 101 James Street, Dunoon. Sat 1-1.30pm
- 87 Massinger Street, Byron Bay. Sat 1-1.30pm
- 12 Burns Street, Byron Bay. Sat 1-1.30pm
- 17 Oakland Court, Byron Bay. Sat 2-2.30pm
- 3/6 Keats Street, Byron Bay. Sat 2-2.30pm

### MANA Real Estate

- 26 Redgate Road, South Golden Beach. Wed 3.30-4pm
- 26 Redgate Road, South Golden Beach. Sat 9-9.30am
- 4/2 Arika Avenue, Ocean Shores. Sat 9.30-10am
- 6 North Head Road, New Brighton. Sat 10-10.30am
- 119 Commercial Road, Murwillumbah. Sat 10-10.30am
- 38 Banool Circuit, Ocean Shores. Sat 10.30-11am
- 1 Tree Street, Murwillumbah. Sat 11-11.30am
- 132 Middle Pocket Road, Middle Pocket. Sat 11-11.30am
- 22-24 River Street, Brushgrove. Sat 1.30-2pm

### Real Estate of Distinction

- 11 Bian Court, Ocean Shores. Sat 10-10.30am
- 126 Harwood Road, Burringbar. Sat 11-11.30am
- 876 Tamarind Drive, Tintenbar. Sat 12.30-1pm

### Ruth Russell Realty

- 73 New City Road, Mullumbimby. Fri 10-10.30am
- 73 New City Road, Mullumbimby. Sat 11.30-12.15pm

### Tim Miller Real Estate

- 60 Federation Drive, Eltham. Sat 10.15-10.45am
- 90 Bates Road, Federal. Sat 11.30am-12pm
- 831 Binna Burra Road, Federal. Sat 12.15-12.45pm
- 70 Possum Creek Road, Bangalow. Sat 1.15-1.45pm

### DJ Stringer Property

- 5 Terranora Rd, Banora Point. Sat 10-10.30am
- 24/182-184 Kennedy Dr, Tweed Heads West. Sat 10-10.30am
- 2/15 Boyd St, Tweed Heads. Sat 11-11.30am
- 17/7-9 Parry St, Tweed Heads South. Sat 11-11.30am
- 1086/18-20 Stuart St, Tweed Heads. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 5 Cedar Ridge, Banora Point. Sat 1-1.30pm

### Harcourts Northern Rivers

- 260 Evans Head Road, Woodburn. Sat 10-10.30am
- 66 Riverside Drive, West Ballina. Sat 10-10.30am
- 2c Fletcher Street, Broadwater. Sat 10.45-11.15am
- 8 Stockmans Place, Gulmarrad. Sat 12.30-1pm

## NEW LISTING:

### First National Byron Bay

- 12 Burns Street, Byron Bay
- 9/9 Easy Street, Byron Bay
- 2/16 Marattia Place, Suffolk Park
- 20 Bilin Road, Myocum
- 1696 Hinterland Way, Mcleods Shoot

## AGENTS



**TARA TORKKOLA**  
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Remember: The rich get richer, the lazy live for free and the middle-class pay for it all.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■  
*Twilight Time*, a film about one of the world's greatest scholars of military strategy and defence, the Australian professor Desmond Ball, will be screened at the Palace Cinema, Byron Bay, on July 18 from 6pm. A Q&A with filmmaker John Hughes follows.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■  
A 16-year-old boy is recovering from serious injuries after a shark bite at Cabarita Beach on Sunday. And just last week, an emergency beacon was ripped out nearby, making these events more life-threatening – see page 8.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■  
Congrats Amazon founder Jeff Bezos, who is marrying a botox-out-of-the-box figurine, Lauren Sanchez. AAP reports there were 'three days of lavish wedding celebrations in Venice, with tight security shielding their VIP guests from protesters'. An estimated 90 private jets flew in for the nuptials, which is estimated at \$50m. Imagine if Bezos was forced to pay his workers a living wage?

■ ■ ■ ■ ■  
Puccini's *La Bohème* will be staged at the Murwillumbah Civic Centre at on July 22. Tickets are available at [www.murwillumbahtheatrecompany.com.au](http://www.murwillumbahtheatrecompany.com.au). See page 29 for more.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■  
Crystal Castle & Shambhala Gardens has launched a new attraction for families called The Fairy Trail. Crystal Castle GM Toby King says it's a whimsical, nature-inspired journey weaving through the Shambhala Gardens. 'Hidden among towering crystals, ancient trees, and blooming



A massive \$45,000 was raised on Saturday for The Shift Project, held at the Byron Bay Surf Club. Pictured are Leslie Ford, founder and co-ordinator of the Shift project clothing sale, with Mandy Peters, serial clothes horse. Photo Jeff 'Shifting Gears' Dawson

flowers, the pram- and wheelchair- friendly Fairy Trail offers a gentle adventure in nature. Guided by the unseen world of fairies, elves, and gnomes, it will captivate children of all ages, families, friends and grandparents'.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■  
Big pharma corp, Pfizer, has extended their Covid vaccine study into myocarditis impacts by five years, and is now slated to be completed by 2030. And with only 300 participants to be studied, is that enough of a sample? Perhaps that is the study you get when corporates self govern.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■  
NSW police powers relating to protests will now be the subject of court scrutiny, after a pro-Palestinian protest in Sydney last week resulted in the serious injury to former Greens candidate, Hannah Thomas. Representing Thomas, O'Brien Criminal & Civil Solicitors said in a statement that recent changes to laws around protests 'have

attempted to expand police powers to give directions', and are 'now subject to constitutional challenge'.

While Thomas may lose sight of her eye, she was charged with resisting police. For more see page 20.

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