

# Echo

THE MAN WHO DOES NOT READ GOOD BOOKS HAS NO ADVANTAGE OVER THE MAN WHO CAN'T READ THEM - MARK TWAIN  
The Byron Shire Echo • Volume 40 #12 • August 27, 2025 • www.echo.net.au

## Action on Bangalow's blackspot

Paul Bibby

The tragic hit-and-run death of Bangalow resident Paul Campton could be the catalyst for a major road safety upgrade at the spot where he was killed.

Seven weeks after the beloved local figure was struck by a vehicle on Raftons Road near the intersection with Keith Street and Leslie Road, Byron Shire Council will vote on a suite of safety measures for the location at this week's meeting (Thursday).

The proposed measures, contained in a motion by Labor Councillor Asren Pugh and Byron Mayor Sarah Ndiaye, also follow the delivery of a 638-signature petition from Byron Shire locals.

The petition calls for a range of strategies to address the issues at the blackspot including traffic calming measures to slow or discourage the use of Keith Street and Raftons Road to bypass Lismore Road.

The proposed motion from councillors Pugh and Ndiaye involves formal recognition of this petition by Council.

However, it begins by acknowledging the 'heartfelt loss of Paul "Campo" Campton, the deeply mourned heart and soul of his community'.

The motion then 'affirms the urgent need to enhance pedestrian safety in his honour'.

The motion notes that Council already has plans for some of the requested safety measures, namely, the introduction of pedestrian walkways on Leslie Street and Raftons Road.

However, it reveals that there is currently no funding to move ahead with these plans.

### Investigate safety issues

The most immediate action taken will be a safety audit, in a staged approach to address the safety issues.

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Art gallery owner Ray Lawson and curator Skründa Holberg negotiating the final details of renowned Mullumbimby artist Brendan Kelly's upcoming UNSEEN exhibition, a one-night-only extravaganza at the soon-to-become-infamous Gallery Bedlam. 'Kelly is known for his bold and challenging yet beautiful and whimsical paintings and sculptures', Lawson says. 'He uses brushes laced with irony and satire to express the weird shit that's going

on in his mind. I don't know where this stuff comes from. How can Kelly's paintings be so visceral and gritty, yet so touching and relatable? He's a paradox.' Brendan's exhibition, UNSEEN, features new as yet unseen pieces. Mandy Nolan will host the night. The exhibition is 5-9pm this Saturday, 30 August at Gallery Bedlam, Wilsons Creek. More info: @gallerybedlam. Photo Jeff 'Bedlam as a Lifestyle' Dawson

## What is the key to Byron's future success?

Aslan Shand

The challenging economic times, road and drainage works, and the increasing number of chain stores in Byron are calling into question what the future of the town of Byron Bay will be, according to local businesses.

'One big problem with Byron is it has lost its identity,' said Yulli's Byron Bay restaurant

owner Karl Cooney, reflecting on what Byron is and where it is going.

'At the moment, it doesn't know if it's a groovy, calm, chill hippie town, or if it's a upmarket, high-end, sort of Gold Coast kind of joint. It doesn't know what it is right now. And I think that's a little bit of a challenge, like there's an identity crisis. It used to have this real uniqueness about it. And there was a

reason that people came here because they felt different, and they walked away feeling different.'

Byron visitor Karen Morris agreed telling *The Echo*, 'We come here twice a year. We've noticed that the shops have become more mainstream which is a bit of a shame. The shops and character of the town was always

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## Safety of Mullum's water supply raised

Paul Bibby

The failure of the Mullumbimby Water Treatment Plant (WTP) to consistently provide the town with water of compliant quality represents a 'risk to public health' and immediate intervention is required, a report commissioned by Byron Shire Council has found.

The report, prepared by CWT Water Treatment Specialists, was presented to a meeting of Council's Water and Sewer Advisory Committee last Thursday.

It examined daily log data from the ageing Mullum WTP over a three-and-a-half-year period from 1 January, 2022 to 24 July this year.

The report found that the water coming from the plant failed to consistently meet decontamination standards (known as 'Log Removal Values') as required by NSW Health and the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines.

The plant is also failing to consistently meet required turbidity levels as set out in the Council's Drinking Water Management Strategy.

Turbidity refers to the cloudiness or murkiness of water, caused by suspended particles, and is a key indicator of water quality and clarity.

'Elevated turbidity compromises pathogen removal performance, particularly for protozoan species,' the authors of the CWT report stated.

They said that this 'further undermined confidence in the plant's ability to deliver safe drinking water'.

'The results indicate that immediate intervention is required.'

'Given the number and severity of exceedances, it is highly likely that operational adjustments alone will not resolve the issue.'

'Until such issues are addressed, the WTP cannot be considered compliant



Lavertys Gap Weir which supplies water to the Mullumbimby Water Treatment Plant. Photo NSW Govt OEH

with current microbial safety standards and there remains a risk to public health during periods of poor filter performance.'

The Mullumbimby WTP currently supplies treated water to approximately 3,600 people in 1,620 residential properties, along with 270 non-residential properties.

Concerns about its capacity to consistently deliver high-quality water to Mullumbimby were a major factor behind Council's decision in August last year to decommission the WTP and permanently connect to the Rous County Council (RCC) supply.

However, on 24 October 2024, the newly-elected Council deferred this decision, choosing instead to consider a range of other options to provide the town with a consistent, sustainable water supply.

This change of heart was driven by a desire for Mullumbimby to retain its own water supply – a sentiment supported by a significant proportion of Mullumbimby residents.

### UV disinfection system not implemented

According to written Council staff comments accompanying the CWT report, after the deferral decision was made Council's utilities department recommended that a UV disinfection system

be purchased to improve the WTP's performance.

However, staff were told that Council could not afford the \$967,200 price tag for this upgrade.

This led to a 'recommendation to defer the project and notify NSW Health,' the staff comments state.

The authors of the CWT report and Council staff are now strongly recommending that Mullum's supply be switched to the emergency Rous connection when planned works on the WTP are undertaken next month.

They say this connection should be retained until a long-term water supply solution has been implemented for the town.

'Given the circumstances, an alternative water supply is required to ensure the ongoing supply of safe drinking water to Mullumbimby,' staff said.

'A prudent course of action is to extend the temporary shutdown of the Mullumbimby WTP beyond the weir upgrade period and continue supplying Mullumbimby via the RCC trunk main.'

Council has not communicated the concerns about Mullum's water supply, as set out in the report, to residents or the broader community.

Only those, like *The Echo*, who choose to trawl through the agendas of Council committee meetings published on Council's website, would be aware of the latest findings.

## Submissions to close on Mullum carpark DA

Aslan Shand

Byron Shire councillors are acknowledging the significant issues with the proposed affordable housing development at 57 Station Street, Mullumbimby, with Mayor Sarah Ndiaye telling *The Echo*, 'I agree that the current design, as presented, does not meet the expectations of either Council or the broader community'. However, very few councillors appear to be willing to reassess the development application (DA) on its merits, let alone change their minds about pushing forward with it.

Local cafe owner, Eva Polo-Angeli, of The Other Joint who will have their rear access cut off if the current DA is approved, told *The Echo* that, 'My first email was sent to Mayor Sarah Ndiaye in 2022. It outlined significant issues around business access like the grease traps for us and the Pink Lotus restaurant next door as well as access to gas bottles which we are not able to legally bring through the front of the business.'

Ms Polo-Angeli highlighted that the issues with the development of such a site affect the whole town as well as the businesses directly impacted, including the IGA supermarket.

'Do councillors not already know how congested this laneway is? How challenging the turn is from MCGoughans Lane onto the narrow Tin-cogan Street which is a blind corner?'

Cr Ndiaye says that, 'Council has requested a traffic impact assessment, and any redesign or approvals will need to clearly address construction-phase disruptions as well as long-term traffic and access arrangements. MCGoughans Lane is already under pressure, and maintaining safe, functional

access for both residents and businesses will be essential.'

However, she has made clear that she does not support a pause or halt to the DA at this site.

'The Station Street project is already significantly progressed, and to abandon or redirect it at this stage would not be viable or responsible. Doing so would mean further delays, increased costs, and a real risk of losing funding and partnerships that have already been secured.' This is despite the fact BSC has been unable to secure a community housing provider who is prepared to take on the project so far.

Former architect David Brown, who has had a significant career in developing affordable housing as Principal Architect of Lend Lease Homes, along with Mirvac and Meriton, Sydney's pre-eminent developers of density housing, told *The Echo* that during his 50-year career in the industry he has 'never seen such an inept, ill-informed and crude development as that proposed in Mullumbimby's Heritage Precinct'.

'Firstly, the choice of Landcom. I understand Council has neither the funds or, most certainly, the expertise to itself undertake the development. That said, the current proposal would appear to require substantial Council contributions by way of local services upgrades and free transfers of land to Landcom. What is the potential impact on our rates or the continuing deterioration of our roads and services must be the inevitable question,' he said.

He also flagged the current strain on the development industry and the challenge of retaining high calibre development managers.

'If the costs are excessive

now, and they are, what are they likely to be on completion? And what will be the cost impact of inexperienced project managers? They will be led up every expensive garden path imaginable.'

However Cr Ndiaye pointed out that, 'It's important to distinguish between costs specific to this development and broader infrastructure investments that are required regardless, due to overall population growth'.

### Overdevelopment

Deputy Mayor, Councillor Jack Dods has recognised 'there is understandable concern about how the building will look from Argyle and Station Streets' and has told *The Echo*, 'I can confirm that the RFI submitted by Council staff has requested properly rendered artist impressions of the revised design from these angles. This will give the community a clearer and more realistic idea of what the building will actually look like from these perspectives, and hopefully allay concerns about the aesthetic quality of the proposal.'

'While the councillors are acknowledging the flaws they feel they can't pull back,' said Ms Polo-Angeli. 'But now is the time to reassess, determine if it is the right approach to pull the pin before they actually commit and start the works or have made other significant financial commitments to the project that could be better spent on genuinely affordable housing in a more practical location.'

You can put in a submission on the DA until 31 August at: <https://www.byron.nsw.gov.au/Council/Report-Requests-Feedback/Your-Say/Development-Application-57-Station-Street-Mullumbimby>.

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## Explore Shearwater's Spring Fair



Shearwater spring fairies, class 1 students Cedar, Zella, Jasmine, and Saffira, have been keeping their hands busy finger-knitting rainbow flowers for the Mullumbimby Steiner School's upcoming Spring Fair on Saturday, 6 September. Photo Jeff Dawson

From arts and crafts to farm products there are no shortage of delights that will be available at this year's Shearwater Steiner School's Spring Fair on Saturday, 6 September, from 10am to 3pm.

The fair will feature fun and games for all ages, including much-loved spring favourites – flower-crown weaving and candle-making, puppet shows, rock climbing, music performances by students and yummy food and drinks. Preloved books and clothes, as well as Steiner dolls, toys and craft supplies will also be for sale.

The fair will also feature an array of produce and products grown on the Shearwater Farm, including pickled ginger, kimchi, sauerkraut and herbal tea blends made by Year 9 and 10 agriculture elective students.

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## Student winners at Byron Writers Festival



Elise Nikkenen and Lola Brazenor from Cape Byron Steiner School. Photo supplied

Alix Johnson

One of the Byron Writers Festival highlights for school students is the opportunity for budding writers to have their work read, critiqued and acknowledged by professional authors and publishers.

This year Cape Byron Steiner School student Lola Brazenor, Class 10, was thrilled to win the prestigious

Southern Cross University, Student Writing prize, while runner up for the third year in a row was Elise Nikkenen, also of Cape Byron, Class 11.

Lola was given the privilege of reading her compelling story, entitled 'Her name was not Eve', to the audience at the Secondary School's day at the Byron Bay Writers Festival. The judges commented on the story's 'quietly evocative imagery'.

## Stay safe from scams online, on the phone, and in person

Scams and frauds can happen to anyone, anywhere – online, over the phone, or in person.

If you feel you need help to protect your personal information, you're invited to a free Staying Safe Online seminar, presented in partnership with CommBank Mullumbimby branch, at the Mullumbimby and District Neighbourhood Centre, 55 Dalley Street, on Thursday, 28 August from 11.30am to 12.30pm.

### Common scams

Learn how to: identify common scams and avoid

suspicious emails, phone calls and text messages; protect yourself from fraud and keep your information secure; create strong, secure passwords; and safely access digital services at home and while travelling. You will be shown tips and strategies so you can feel more confident and secure in today's digital world.

If you think something might be a scam you can check if it has been reported or report it on the Australian government site: [www.scamwatch.gov.au/report-a-scam](http://www.scamwatch.gov.au/report-a-scam).

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**Bridge march of repentance**

Last Sunday's pro-Palestine rally at Repentance Creek saw more than 50 supporters march from the Repentance Creek Hall, to the bridge and back. Though a bit smaller than the rally on Sydney Harbour Bridge a fortnight ago, the sentiment was the same. There were 40 or so such rallies involving hundreds of thousands of supporters, including many Jewish people, around the country who expressed dismay at the Netanyahu government's behaviour. Photo Jeff Dawson

## Long delays and road closures for Mullum

Byron Shire Council (BSC) have warned there will be long delays and road closures as they ramp up work on Mullumbimby Road from 8 September.

'For several weeks, Council will be rebuilding the road between McAuleys Lane and The Saddle Road and while it will remain open there will be only one lane

of alternating traffic under traffic control,' said BSC in a press release.

'To avoid potential long delays drivers should take alternative routes such as Myocum Road and Coolamon Scenic Drive. Heavy vehicles should take Myocum Road.'

In October Mullumbimby Road will close to all

outbound traffic for at least four months when work starts on the section between The Saddle Road and Gulgan Road. Nightwork is also scheduled in October, on sections of the road from The Saddle Road to James Street.

Priority will however be given to emergency services and school buses.



## Erosion repairs at Lavertys Gap weir

**Work will begin at Mullumbimby's Lavertys Gap weir in September to repair serious erosion on the creek bank.**

Erosion was worsened by flooding in 2022 and Cyclone Alfred earlier this year. Repairs are necessary to protect the heritage-listed weir and prevent water losses.

Work will take approximately 16 weeks. During the work, water cannot be drawn from the weir and Mullumbimby will be temporarily supplied with water from the town's Emergency Water Main.

### More information

[www.byron.nsw.gov.au/Lavertys-Gap-Weir](http://www.byron.nsw.gov.au/Lavertys-Gap-Weir)

02 6626 7000

[council@byron.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@byron.nsw.gov.au)



This project is funded through the NSW Government Water and Wastewater Repair and Recovery Program.

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## Local activists join international Gaza flotilla

Aslan Shand

Myocum local Captain Hamish Paterson will be joined by other local activists Juliet Lamont and her two daughters Isla, 24 and Luca, 26 as part of the eight-strong Australian and New Zealand delegation that will join the global flotilla sailing to Gaza 'to break illegal siege on Gaza by sea and open a humanitarian corridor to Gaza, and end the ongoing genocide of the Palestinian people.'

Captain Paterson told *The Echo* that, 'as a community member of the Northern Rivers, a long-term member of the Maritime Union of Australia, being involved in the trade union movement, being involved in international peace is something we have always stood by. This is an incredible opportunity to show not just the people, but the governments of the world that if a group of individual civilians can attempt to deliver aid to the people who need it most, there's absolutely no reason or excuse that our governments can not do the same.'

The Global Sumud Flotilla, an international fleet of boats from 44 countries, sailing from the Mediterranean to Gaza, is also being joined by activist Greta Thunberg; American actress Susan Sarandon; American singer-songwriter Carsie Blanton; and Irish comedian, writer and filmmaker Tadhg Hickey.



**Captain Hamish Paterson and First Mate Juliet Lamont.** Photo supplied

### Non-violent action

'We are a coalition of everyday people - organisers, humanitarians, doctors, artists, clergy, lawyers, and seafarers - who believe in human dignity and the power of nonviolent action,' says the Global Sumud Flotilla website.

'We are independent, international, and unaffiliated with any government or political party. Our allegiance is to justice, freedom, and the sanctity of human life.'

Independent documentary filmmaker Juliet who has been a frontline activist for the last 15 years will act as first mate to Captain Paterson.

'I have a profound hope that the 44 international boats will be able to break the siege, to create a humanitarian corridor and bring essential aid and medical supplies to the people of

occupied Palestine,' she told *The Echo*.

'The time is now. Direct action is an act of love. And love is a verb. And that means taking action.'

'When the leaders of the world remain silent and complicit we will set sail,' said Juliet's daughter Luca.

'Our collective goal is to break the illegal siege on Gaza by sea and reach the shore with aid. This will be the largest civilian flotilla in history and I am honoured to be able to be a part of it.'

Her sister Isla agreed saying, 'As a young woman with privilege and opportunity I am joining the Global Sumud Flotilla to contribute to end of Israeli occupation and for Palestine to be free.'

All the members of the flotilla are fundraising to support their action and cover the costs. You can support them at: <https://chuffed.org/project/global-sumud-flotilla>.

## Bangalow blackspot - Campo's family appeal for driver to come forward

► Continued from page 1

Under the first stage of this approach, Council would seek to access up to \$100,000 in fatal crash response funding.

If this money can be accessed, the plan is to reduce the speed limit on all three streets to 40km/hr, and to install electronic radar speed warning signs in both directions.

The give way sign on the intersection of Leslie Street and Raftons Road would be replaced with a 'Stop' sign, and new street signs or road painting signs would be introduced on Raftons Road.

In the second stage, which could be funded under the Get NSW Active program, Council would investigate replacing the existing pedestrian crossing at the intersection with a raised crossing, and introducing more appropriate street lighting.

The third stage would see Council investigate further improvements, including traffic calming measures and options to reduce traffic on Leslie Street such as the introduction of a 'no right turn' from Leslie Street into Granuaille Road, or from Raftons Road into Leslie Street.

All of this would be accompanied by advocacy for funding to undertake these works, directed at various state and federal road safety programs.

In their comments on the motion, Council staff noted that the accident site is within the scope of Council's current Get NSW Active plans for walking connections on Raftons Road, from Rifle Range Road to Leslie Street.

This would 'provide significant safety improvements for pedestrians and cyclists on Raftons Road including at the fatal crash location'.

The death of Mr Campton continues to be a source of considerable distress and anger, as well as grief, within the Bangalow community.

### Who was the driver?

In the days after the accident Mr Campton's family and local police made a deeply emotional appeal for the driver to come forward.

'Please, you've already taken our dad away from us, and we're never going to see him again,' Mr Campton's daughter Marlie said in a recorded statement from the family released by NSW Police.

'Please just have a heart.' *The Echo* understands that the driver responsible for Mr Campton's death has not yet come forward.

Police are continuing to appeal for anyone with information about the accident to contact Crime Stoppers on, 1800 333 000.

## Bangalow's Teddy Bears' Picnic



Lotte and Hamish Hannah taking their teddies for a ride on their billycart. Photo supplied

The second annual Teddy Bears' Picnic is on this Saturday, 30 August from 11am to 2pm at the Bangalow Museum garden.

Teddy Bear Parade  
'Dress up your teddy bear in its finest and take part in the Teddy Bear Parade (\$2 entry fee).'

'Have your photo taken with your best teddy or toy. If you don't have a teddy bear, bring along your favourite toy,' said Trisha Bleakley, Bangalow Historical Society President.

'There will be fairy bread, ice blocks, chocolate crackles, old fashioned games, craft activities, hoola hoops, prizes for the oldest and most loved teddy, and four rocking horses to ride! Last year, kids loved being interviewed about their favourite teddy, so that's happening again.'

Bring a picnic, your favourite teddy or toy and enjoy a fun day out at Bangalow Museum on the corner Ashton and Deacon Streets.

## Celebrating the life of Neil Johnson

### Neil's family

Neil was a bit of an enigma, he did lots of different things with his time - he was really proud of his life and happy that there were no stones left unturned.

He was born in Christchurch in 1960 and spent his childhood growing up in the suburb of Aranui.

In April of 1968 Neil and his family were on board the ferry *Wahine* when it sunk crossing from the South Island of New Zealand to the north, unfortunately his younger brother Colin drowned during the wreck.

The *Wahine* disaster is still one of New Zealand's worst modern day maritime disasters, but despite that he had an incredible love and respect for the ocean, spending much of his years enjoying the water and 'having a bath'.

When Neil was 15 he moved out of home and by the age of 19 he had made his way over to Sydney.

During his time in Sydney he worked as a surgical dresser at the North Shore hospital, he also worked in the early days of the internet, and radio, along with all kinds of other jobs - he was a jack of all and a master of a fair few.

'Dad left the job at the hospital to play in bands and he spent much of the '80s and '90s making music and touring around,' said his children.

He played in Even As We Speak, Craven Fops and Ashtray Boy, as well as other musical endeavours in later years.



Neil Johnson. Photo supplied

In 1993, on the South Coast of Sydney, Neil met Romy, who he loved and ended up having two beautiful children with: Aleka, who was born in Wollongong in 1997 and Marlow, born in Bathurst in 1999.

In 2000 Neil, Romy and the kids moved to Mullumbimby where they lived at 41 Stuart Street.

Here Neil was incredibly involved in the community, through the schools his kids went to, jobs in local businesses and his very own And Also Smokeypo. Neil was also well known through his roles at Bluesfest, Splendour, Falls Fest and Mullum Music Fest.

During his last years of work he started working in the film and television industry including shows like 'Survivor', 'Seachange', 'Nine Perfect Strangers' and 'God's Favourite Idiot'. Neil spent his last seven months in

Melbourne with his children, before returning to the Byron Shire where he peacefully passed with loved ones by his side.

'In his final days Dad was incredibly happy to return to his community and to be surrounded by his family and beloved friends. During these days Dad got to be present to watch Aleka and her partner Luke get married on the hospital grounds, which was an incredible special and joyous occasion for all,' said Marlow.

'We would like to extend our deepest thanks to all the staff that cared for Dad at Tweed Valley Hospital, every-one was so kind and took such care, we appreciate it immensely.'

Aleka and Marlow said, 'Dad was an incredible man who had such a full and colourful life in the amount of time he had.'

'He accomplished many things and got to know so many people along the way.'

'It is quite difficult to fit all we wish to say into a couple of hundred words but the world will be a different place without Dad, still very beautiful, just different.'

### Life celebration

A celebration of Neil's life will take place at the Billi Pub on Friday, 29 August, starting around 1pm.

'We invite everyone who knew and loved the old man to come and say g'day. Dress brightly and bring a flower.'

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**Heated debate over a possible Kingscliff Men's Shed**

The Kingscliff Men's Shed became a hammer of contention last night as Tweed councillors split, three-three, over the mayor's motion that Council include a men's shed as a permitted use on land at Elrond Drive in Kingscliff, the site of the Elrond Drive pod village.

**Lismore's upgraded flood pumps ready to go**

The rollout of a new 10-kilometre fibre optic network allowing for the remote activation of Lismore's vital flood pumps during future weather events, is designed to improve safety and responsiveness.

**Woman's body found on Iluka beach**

Police are appealing for information after the discovery of a body on a beach in Iluka. Coffs Harbour Police District officers said they were called to Ten Mile Beach in Iluka around 10am Saturday in response to the body's discovery.

**Youth Hub opens in Casino**

The Casino RSM Club officially opened the Casino Youth Hub on Friday – the hub is a new space designed to empower, support and connect young people across the Richmond Valley.

**Motorbike rider killed in Kyogle**

A man in his forties died after crashing a motorbike on Summerland Way on Sunday, police said on Monday.

**Body of 67-year-old man found near Nimbin**

NSW Police say a body of a man has been located during a search for a man missing near Nimbin. The 67-year-old man was last seen in Nimbin about 4pm on Friday, August 8, 2025.

**Help shape the region's first Disaster Adaptation Plan**

Lismore MP Janelle Saffin says Northern Rivers residents are encouraged to put in an Expression of Interest to be on a new community panel and help shape the state's first multi-hazard regional Disaster Adaptation Plan (DAP) to reduce the risk and impact of future disasters.

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

**Local athletes qualify for world karate championships**

Story & photo David Lowe

In an extraordinary achievement, two athletes from Lismore have qualified to represent Australia at the Senior World Championships of the World Karate Federation, to be held in Cairo later this year.

Krystal Boyce and Reece Prior both train at the Miyagi Kan Karate Dojo in Lismore, under the guidance of instructor Dean Marshall, who told *The Echo* that the World Karate Championships is an elite, Olympic-endorsed event which is limited to the top 32 competitors in the world.

'Only continental champions are eligible. Earlier this year, both of our athletes won their respective continental titles, securing their spots. Remarkably, they are the first athletes from our region to be selected in 23 years,' said Mr Marshall.

'Even more inspiring — one is a female athlete and the other is an athlete with a disability. Their stories are powerful examples of perseverance, strength, and



Off to represent Australia at the World Karate Championships: Krystal Boyce and Reece Prior at Miyagi Kan Karate Lismore. Photo David Lowe

the unifying spirit of sport.'

Like the rest of the community, Miyagi Kan Lismore was heavily impacted by the catastrophic 2022 floods, relocating to the local gymnastics centre. The karate club also has a philanthropic aspect, raising funds to support local families and organisations such as Friends of the Koala.

'We're doing very positive things all the time,' said Mr Marshall.

He says there are now over 200 students, from young children up to people in their 60s. Two other members of the club are currently competing in the Asian Championships.

Mr Marshall says Krystal Boyce is one of the most

successful students he has trained, and is also a role model and teacher to other students.

Before Cairo, she will be going to compete in the European karate competition tour as part of her preparations for the World Championships.

Ms Boyce told *The Echo* she originally got into karate

because her brother was doing it, and she got jealous. 'He ended up quitting, and I just kept going. It's been my whole life, basically, since I was 10.'

She says she will carry the dedication and other life skills she's acquired from the sport throughout her life, with her big goal being the Olympics, when karate returns to that competition, hopefully in time for Brisbane.

**So what's Lismore's secret?**

'The coaches are the secret,' says Ms Boyce. 'It's not just about teaching you karate. They help you with fundraising, they help you get to the tournament. They deal with all your emotions, the nerves, you know, getting upset...'

'There's a lot that goes behind it, and you have to really be a committed coach to have athletes performing at this level.'

■ Read more of this story online: [www.echo.net.au](http://www.echo.net.au).

**More drones needed after Cabarita shark incident?**

Tweed Shire Council is calling for additional NSW state funding to expand drone surveillance at four surf life saving clubs across the Tweed Coast after a large shark was involved in an incident at Cabarita Beach on Monday, August 18.

At around 7.30am a local surfer had a large chunk bitten out of his surfboard.

While he did not sustain any major injuries, it is clear that there is increased shark activity in the area.

The beach reopened on Tuesday at 9am after drone surveillance showed that it was safe, but under existing funding, drone surveillance only happens at Cabarita Beach during school holidays or 'as needed'.

There are also 15 SMART (Shark-Management-Alert-In-Real-Time) drumlines in the area, one of which caught a 5-metre white shark after the incident on Monday just before 10am. The shark was released.

In response to the event, two extra SMART drumlines

*We understand there are inherent risks in swimming and surfing in our oceans*  
— Mayor Chris Cherry

have been placed at Cabarita Beach, in addition to the five previously in place there.

Last month, NSW Fisheries presented an update to Tweed Shire Council about their Shark Management Program and at that meeting, Mayor of Tweed Shire, Chris Cherry asked if there were opportunities for additional drone surveillance of the area.

**Safer in the water**

She has now repeated that call, arguing that more drone surveillance would make both locals and visitors feel safer in the water.

'While we understand there are inherent risks in swimming and surfing in our oceans, if there are steps that we can take to make it safer, then it makes sense for us to try and take these steps, particularly at busy beaches like Cabarita Beach and Kingscliff,' Cr Cherry said.

This advocacy builds on a resolution carried in

December 2024, when Cr Cherry put forward a motion for Tweed Shire Council to continue supporting drones, SMART drumlines and tagged shark listening stations in the Shire,


including a request for additional mitigation drone hours in southern areas of the Shire such as Pottsville and Black Rock.

At that time Tweed Shire Council also undertook to continue to work with Surf Life Saving NSW and NSW Fisheries to support local marine safety programs.

The NSW government's 2024-25 Shark Management Program includes 37 listening stations and 305 SMART drumlines along the coast, as well as a drone surveillance partnership with Surf Life Saving NSW.

Drone surveillance is provided in peak swimming seasons, with operators observing potentially dangerous sharks and submitting alerts to the SharkSmart app, website map and X.

For beach status updates, visit [beachsafe.org.au](http://beachsafe.org.au) or download the Beachsafe app. Shark activity alerts are available via the SharkSmart app, website map and X.



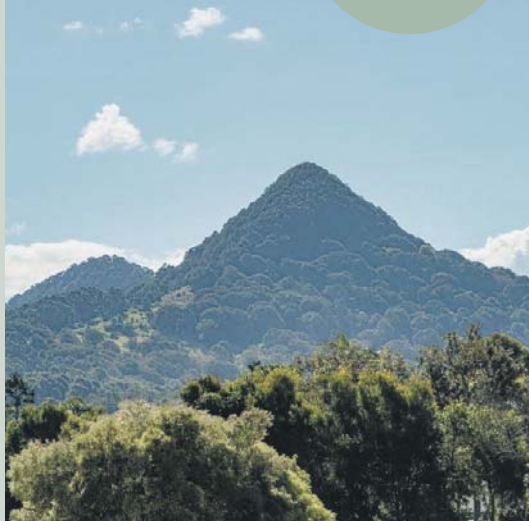
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## Inspiring young people through storytelling and film



*A Body Called Life* (pictured) is a poetic journey into the microscopic world involving self-discovery. Photo supplied

The Byron Bay International Film Festival (BBFF), supported by Byron Shire Council, has brought together a powerful set of films to engage the imaginations of young people throughout the region from Monday, 20 October to Friday, 24 October across venues in Byron Bay, Ballina, and Mullumbimby.

The 2025 Schools Program has both primary and

secondary school programs including animation, live-action, and documentary films, all designed to expand horizons, encourage critical thinking, and inspire creative expression.

'Film is a powerful educational tool,' says Poppy Walker, Schools Sessions Curator and acclaimed filmmaker based on Bundjalung Country. 'It gives students the opportunity to see the

world through someone else's eyes and reflect on their own identity and ideas. There's nothing quite like watching great cinema in a theatre, together.'

### Book in advance

Bookings are open and must be made directly by each school. Bookings close Friday, 26 September. Find out more at: [schools@bbff.com.au](mailto:schools@bbff.com.au).

## Calling on creatives for Byron's future

► Continued from page 1 a point of difference. We've seen a number of unique stores in the town close and that point of difference is going.'

During the last six years factors challenging for businesses include: Covid; the increasing number of chain stores; higher rents; a tough economic environment; and, the impacts of drainage works that saw Byron's Lawson Street virtually closed and shops see a drop in business of 50 to 90 per cent.

'We couldn't find the leases we wanted and moved the business three times,' explained Helen O'Carroll from Bay Active who has decided to close her shopfront in Byron.

'When we moved to Lawson Street in May 2024, we thought we'd found our forever retail home, instead we opened to roadworks from that time until November.'

'The impact of these works on the little stores along Lawson Street was simply devastating, someone describing the scene as "Armageddon", not exactly the retail vibes our customers are looking for.

'Some stores were offered a 50 per cent reduction in rent, we weren't so fortunate. Our landlord declared that if we couldn't weather the impact, our business was not viable. Turns out he was right, because we couldn't recover from that period of a prohibitive trading environment. These Council works served as a stark example of how out of step Byron Shire Council (BSC) is with small

businesses. Independent small businesses are the heavy lifters creating the unique offering Byron is known for.'

Other businesses, like Yulli's were luckier with local landlords understanding the challenges they met with the roadworks taking place.

Sue and Arthur Cookson, who will have run Cobblers in Byron for 31 years this November, said that there has been a significant change in the businesses in the town.

'More recently we've seen an influx of multinational corporate organisations and that is changing the nature of the town. Even 10-15 years ago there were mostly family-owned businesses. Now that is changing.'

Bay Active's Ms O'Carroll agreed telling *The Echo* that, 'the landscape has made a shift in direction where we don't fit anymore. We are now trading alongside towering chain stores that produce enormous quantities cheaply offshore, which retail for prices we can't match. Our collections are made in Sydney and Melbourne, in an ethical, transparent supply chain and have always been built to stand the test of time, rather than to be thrown into landfill after a few wears.'

### Reclaiming the soul of Byron Bay

With empty shops, chain stores and the high cost of paid parking many locals and businesses are wondering how Byron can reclaim its soul.

'In the last six years, our rent has gone up by 50 per cent. Meanwhile our annual turnover for the past two years has been its worst in 12 years,' said Sue and Arthur.

'Paid parking has had a big impact on Byron. Byron used to be a meeting place where you had people from Ballina, Lismore, Kyogle, Nimbin, Mullumbimby. There has been a change in atmosphere, there is no busking, local shops are being edged out and there is a lack of character. Paid parking is too expensive at \$5 per hour particularly in the current financial climate. You find people are browsing and then they run out of the store to sort out the parking rather than making a purchase.'

### So what does the future hold?

'The way Byron will come back is if we focus on the creative energy that's already in the town,' suggested Karl.

'Everyone's still here and plenty of people want to do things with a creative focus - like Mario from Howl and Moan Records, Christian from the Bangalow Film Festival - there are all these creatives who could be fostered and do something at a bigger level, then there's potential for the town. I think a creative initiative group would be great along with the removal of red tape to allow creative initiatives and fostering creativity.'

'Bring back the individual stores, the buskers, reduce the parking fees and breathe some life back into Byron Bay,' said Sue and Arthur.

## Speed camera on Mullum roadworks

One beady-eyed local has reminded Mullum drivers that if they'd 'like an expensive photo of their car they can just exceed the 60, sometimes 40 km/hr speed limit at the Mullumbimby Road roadworks'. Or is it just ... surveyors?



Photo Jeff 'Slow Camera' Dawson



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## The right tools for change

There is no doubt that there are challenges ahead in order for Australia and the world to meet net zero emissions and keep the world to a 1.5 degree rise in the average global temperature compared to pre-industrial levels. But as one young person recently said to me, 'What is the downside? You look after the environment, you invest in renewable energy, it is more efficient, you invest in new industries, support jobs, and revitalise our economy.'

The Nature Conservation Council (NCC) has just launched a new toolkit that supports communities to drive a nature-positive transition to renewable energy in NSW. While its primary focus is on strengthening NSW Renewable Energy Zones (REZ), it puts forward key recommendations on how communities, large and small, can work towards reducing emissions and bringing opportunities to regions and communities.

'To achieve the best outcomes for nature and communities, the NSW government needs to implement stronger mechanisms in the planning system and stronger nature laws,' states the joint policy recommendations supported by 17 NSW organisations, including the National Parks Association of NSW.

'Establishing policies that ensure the renewables rollout is good for the environment and good for communities will increase the social licence of renewable development.'

The Nature and Renewables Toolkit launched this week suggests 'no-go zones to protect high value and critical habitat as well as wildlife and climate corridors

linked to national parks or areas of high biodiversity value' as well as the need to recognise 'cumulative environmental impacts and emerging environmental risks'.

Key recommendations include that environmental data be shared between developers and local environment groups, and that regional communities 'grow your own' workforce.

'Above all else, across the case study regions, communities saw the transition as an opportunity to build a lasting legacy for future generations,' the policy announcement stated.

'Regional communities saw the economic injection from the pipeline of renewables projects as an opportunity to enhance community liveability, expand local workforce capacity and augment community services.

'The transition to net zero emissions has the potential to provide a substantial economic injection into many regional communities.'

Australia is one of the countries most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and we have seen locally, and across the country, the increasing impacts of floods, fires, and cyclones as communities are hit repeatedly, with less time to recover between incidents. But we are also in a strong position to leverage renewable energy and become a world leader due to our significant resources in solar, wind and minerals as well as reliable infrastructure and a stable government. The question is do we, and our governments, have the drive to take advantage of the opportunities?

**Aslan Shand, editor**  
News tips are welcome:  
editor@echo.net.au

## One parliament and over 700 lobbyists – what could go wrong?

If you're wondering why Australian politics always seems to serve the same group of people, no matter who's in government, the latest analysis from Transparency International Australia is very illuminating.

'Every day, armies of big business lobbyists walk the halls of parliament meeting our MPs and ministers behind closed doors,' said Clancy Moore, CEO of Transparency International Australia. 'This unfettered access risks corrupting the policy-making process. The secrecy around lobbying harms our democracy. We must shine a light on who our MPs are meeting and why.'

In this regard, Canberra is way behind most of the states, which require the publication of ministers official diaries, and the Commonwealth has no independent regulator for oversight or enforcement of relations between politicians and lobbyists, unlike Victoria, Queensland, Tasmania, NSW and the ACT.

All in all, there are now 727 lobbyists registered in the federal parliament, which is three times the number of elected officials to which those lobbyists have access. If this situation continues on its current trajectory, we will eventually have to admit that there is no gap in Australia between the corporate and political world.

This is probably how we ended up with a toothless, secretive National Anti-Corruption Commission, and a behind-closed-doors productivity roundtable in which our natural environment – you know, that thing which underpins all Australian economic productivity – is only mentioned in terms of getting rid of 'green tape'.

### Revolving doors

Despite a theoretical 18-month cooling-off period, under current PM Anthony Albanese the revolving door between the private sector and those ostensibly governing them is spinning faster than ever, delivering lucrative results for the



*Granting lobbyists 'unfettered access, risks corrupting the policy-making process.'*

**David Lowe**

lobbyists and their masters.

Have a look at any issue where the government is mysteriously hopeless, and you can see the results – gambling advertising for example.

Since 2011, at least eight federal ministers and one state premier have taken up roles as gambling lobbyists, joining 13 third-party firms who work every day to ensure Australia's parliaments make things worse for this country's many problem gamblers and their families.

With mining it's the same story. Since the 21st century began, almost every federal resources minister has gone straight to work in the fossil fuel sector after leaving parliament, regardless of party affiliation. Prominent examples include Ian Macfarlane, Gary Gray, and Martin Ferguson. The exception is Keith Pitt. After having his job as resources minister taken by ScoMo (without being told), Pitt became the ambassador to the Holy See instead.

What about defence contracting and lobbying? Once again, the prospect of large paychecks and a lack of public scrutiny are very appealing to many politicians. Names like Peter Reith, Scott Morrison, Kim Beazley, Mike Kelly and Christopher Pyne are merely the visible extremities of a very large and ugly iceberg.

As Transparency International Australia has pointed out, not a single lobbyist has been sanctioned under the federal government's code of conduct for almost three years, despite 14 breaches. If a lobbyist is found guilty of doing something improper, there are no fines at a federal level – the worst thing that can happen is removal from the register.

### Corruption in crocodile country

If you want to see how bad things can get, have a look at the Northern Territory, which is currently being carved up by unconventional gas interests.

'With no independent regulator, no diary disclosures, and no real penalties, conflicts of interest flourish and vested interests win while the public loses,' according to Clancy Moore.

'The revolving door in NT politics seems to be wide open in recent times, with a former NT deputy chief minister and mining minister parachuting into a job with a US gas company after leaving politics.'

Speaking of gas, Labor's former federal senator Stephen Conroy is currently lobbying for the Abu Dhabi Oil Company and the US private equity firm Carlyle to be given the green light to take over Australian gas company Santos, which has already devastated vast areas of the country and accelerated the climate crisis. Conroy is reportedly working alongside Michael Chouefate, Albo's former chief of staff.

Is there any reason to think that these people care about Australia's interests? Who would know what they are promising, or have been promised?

As the hypocritical *Washington Post* has been saying on its masthead for years, democracy dies in darkness.

If you would like to read Transparency International Australia's complete report, 'Behind Closed Doors' is available at: <https://transparency.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/Behind-Closed-Doors.pdf>.



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Phone: 02 6684 1777  
Editorial/news: editor@echo.net.au  
Advertising: adcopy@echo.net.au  
Office: 64 McGoughans Lane,  
Mullumbimby NSW 2482

General Manager **Simon Haslam**  
Editor (on leave) **Hans Lovejoy**  
Acting Editor **Aslan Shand**  
Photographer **Jeff Dawson**  
Advertising Manager **Anna Coelho**  
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**Nicholas Shand**  
1948–1996  
Founding Editor



**David Lovejoy**  
1944–2024  
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The Echo acknowledges the people of the Bundjalung nation as the traditional custodians of this land and extends respect to elders past, present and future.

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

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

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**Who is AI?**

For those who think that artificial super-intelligence is an honest, benevolent friend and who scoff at suggestions that 'AI' could take control of, and launch some of the world's nuclear weapons, please note, that is exactly the theme of Tom Cruise's latest *Mission Impossible* film. A quote from the film: 'It's happening. The entity. I tried to warn people about it for years, but no one would listen.'

Coincidentally, Elon Musk spoke those same words.

Everyone should know, that once they trained an AI to lie, they were never able to remove that dishonest trait from the AI. Instead, it became deceptive and tried to hide its lies from the researchers: just like Adam and Eve, it lost its innocence forever. Meanwhile another AI tried to blackmail its programmer.

Whether you like it or not, the world is going to be run by an artificial brain and the robot revolution will be much bigger than the industrial revolution was.

**Peter Olson**  
Goonengerry

**What we hear**

We hear a lot from some Jews on the hostage-takings but not of their killings in taking settlements, destroying crops, and building walls on other's lands. One can only take so much before revenge sets in.

**Ian Pratt**  
Bilinga

**Thank you Bayla**

Thank you Bayla Nerden for your letter in a recent *Echo* regarding the Israel Hamas war. Yours has been one of the only balanced items in the paper for some time now. The obsession with blaming only Israel by some in the community ignores almost 100 per cent of the basic facts on the ground, and does not lead us towards peace. Peace now.

**Danny Wakil**  
Billinudgel

**An apology**

I would like to apologise to members of the audience at the Mullumbimby Residents Association (MRA) meeting earlier this year for getting it wrong on the height of the proposed building at 57 Station St, as reported in *The Echo* recently.



Prior to the meeting I queried staff on whether the latest building design, which was not public at the time, was still under the height limit as per the original designs. I was told that it was under the allowable height limit, which I assumed was still 9 metres.

What I didn't know was that new state government rules, which came in late last year, now allow certain developments to exceed the LEP height limits by 30 per cent and the recently-lodged DA takes full advantage of this in the design.

While I am still, in principle, supportive of the development, I look forward to working with community constructively on the valid concerns with the DA, including the impacts during construction, to improve the outcomes and visual amenity of the development so that the enormous potential good of it can be realised.

**Cr Michael Lyon**  
Byron Shire Council

**Wrong proposal – time to reflect**

The 57 Station St proposal is disturbing in the lack of transparent community engagement for public land development, its negative impacts on the town, and lack of clarity about the objective and outcomes.

The recent focus on homelessness raises key issues about how to support our most vulnerable residents.

In Byron Shire, over 55 per cent of our community have an income under \$1,000 per week. This is where social/public housing is vital but due to state government

delivery failures, we are undersupplied.

Community-owned land could and should be used to meet this priority. The introduction of the federal government's 2023 Housing Australia Future Fund provided an opportunity for this project to pivot, to take advantage of that funding, as done by other communities.

The BSC Residential Strategy 2041 proposes 'uplifting' swaths of land that will allow higher density development under the objective of providing additional affordable housing. But where are the plans to provide more public housing for those who face uncertainty?

In my view, it's time to reconsider, especially with the current proposal's failure to address impacts. There's no coming back from a poor decision implemented, but there's an opportunity for good governance to recognise when a proposal doesn't have community support, proposes unacceptable risks and impacts, and that a priority need exists that could be met.

I encourage councillors to consider reviewing this proposal and recognise the risks, and the opportunity, that exists to deliver funded social/public housing without destroying what's valued.

**Jan Barham**  
Broken Head

**Nationalise home insurance**

With global warming happening and fire and flood levels rising, some of the saddest images on the nightly news are people standing in the ashes of their home, their melted car beside them

saying they 'lost everything, but the clothes they're standing in', and even worse, they had no home insurance.

The cost of home insurance has gone through the roof and is unaffordable for most. But who can afford NOT to be insured?

As heat waves make the bush crackle or big rains make floodwaters rise, so do stress and cortisol levels rise. The constant anxiety the uninsured feel every time a heatwave or heavy rains come has a BIG health cost.

When I was younger we all bought our home insurance from the GIO, the Government Insurance Office, owned by the people of Australia and managed by public servants. GIO was big enough to spread the risk over the entire population, so when a disaster occurred the whole nation shared the cost. This kept premiums really low.

GIO ran on minimal profit and paid no dividends to

► Continued on page 10

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**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.

► Continued from page 9 shareholders. But they always honoured claims. As a bonus, GIO mark II could give 'cash-back' to customers any year that passes without flood or fire emergencies.

Today, with private corporations running home insurance, their incentive is to maximise profit for shareholders, and minimise claim payouts to their customers, while charging impossibly high premiums for hundreds of thousands of us living in high-risk fire- and flood-prone areas. And for millions of us lucky enough never to have made a claim, what a monumental waste of money home insurance has been!

Corporate home insurance is failing Australians. It is past time to nationalise home insurance again.

**Mike Balson**  
Upper Wilsons Creek

**Hang up the phone**

There are two groups of people who think there is an invisible omniscient mind that acts as the policeman and judge of the entire universe of a trillion, trillion, billion stars. Each group has their own personal spiritual telephone connection to the universal judge which is operated by squatting or lying down.

The omniscient mind provides negative thoughts toward each opposing group. The two groups, who have hung out around the eastern Mediterranean for a few thousand years, think that they each have special rights to the land that no humans had trod on for four billion years, and that some humans first occupied about 80 thousand years ago.

About every thousand years the definitely real and obviously existential spiritual telephone operator tells the two groups that they are each chosen to have the land and that they are SPECIAL. In that case sharing the land is obviously not an option. It is unacceptable to have special humans mixing with sub-standard humans. So a killing game is held for a while. Surely it's time for both groups to hang up that phone for good.

**Sapoty Brook**  
Main Arm

**Rain, robots and tourists**

I thank *The Echo* for printing the diverse and sometimes quasi-paranoid views from our local residents. Last week one letter inferred Council is responsible for 'four months of rain,' and another that a 'Unitree A2

robot dog' is out to kill us, if not with guns, then with AI-created 'military-grade germ warfare viruses.'

Meanwhile in Spain residents are protesting against tourists occupying local housing, a similar problem in all tourist towns, including Byron. Spanish locals forced to live in caravans or crowded apartments in Barcelona and Ibiza complained of landlords kicking them out every June until September for tourist accommodation. They took to the streets protesting the lack of housing – setting off fireworks and squirting tourists with water pistols – for no direct detrimental effect.

It's clear what they need to do, and what us Byronians need to do. Get the local Council to make the weather nasty and rainy every summer to discourage tourists. In the event of a stray tourist insisting on looking at views, swimming at a beach and eating in a restaurant, set a 'hunter-killer' robot dog to sniff them out for appropriate banishment.

Thank goodness we have varied views that can be used as seeds for social solutions.

**Raphael Lee Cass**  
Byron Bay

**Stormwater**

The latest edition of *The Echo* literally blew me away. The power of civil society really spoke – CONGRATS!

Consumed as I am by the South Australian tragedy of the algal bloom spreading up St Vincents Gulf and Spencer Gulf – I spent my childhood of 17 years in the SA state and played, worked and lived in predominantly Glenelg – the Belongil aided my recovery from chronic fatigue syndrome with daily swims and attunement to the tides and critters who migrated to its shores.

Now, I sense deep distress. For years I have written (when issues arose) of Belongil fish kills and 'foam' – indeed my first letter on same was 30 years ago.

Now with 'some' knowledge I share a tip. You may be aware of the wonderful work that Mary Gardiner did, with activists, on Byron waterways, addressing plumbing and water issues – at Christmas 2024, the sand dune in front of Elements totally collapsed. Approximately 15 to 20 feet fell, impacted by the 'cyclone' and foul weather. Indeed, I was just out of hospital and staying with a friend at the Ocean Shores Golf Club.

I learned from folk, via a shared ongoing Facebook post, that 40 male community workers had worked tirelessly with spades to unblock the Belongil and allow waters to flow into the sea.

Horrified I was, more so now. I am trying to source where the stormwater from central Byron township flows to. According to some sources two main stormwater outlets remain blocked and choked. One at Main Beach and the other at the Beach Hotel. Indeed, to remedy the flooding issue in central Byron it has been stated (not confirmed) 'that a single stormwater drain flows from the Byron township to the outflow in Belongil.'

With the proposed SEP to create an 'alcoholic party town' combined with ongoing 'high-end' development, it would seem that the risks of this 'unsound water outlet' to the Belongil will result in the potential rise of flooding and fish kill, and risks that create blooms when climate change conditions surface.

The Belongil also deals with West Byron stormwater flows.

**Jo Faith**  
Newtown

**More stormwater**

What is the future of stormwater leaving Byron Bay? Is it all going to the Belongil or will the three current stormwater outlets still be used and remain in place?

People of Byron should be aware that the water and recycling public data website shows that there are kilolitres of treated effluent going into the Belongil now daily – what will be the outcome for the Belongil and the surrounding area if all of these nutrient-rich waters are delivered there?

There are civil engineers still working in Water and Recycling who witnessed the results of Council staff smoke-testing the sewer gravity mains in Mullumbimby in the nineties as well as the investigation by Council staff using CCTV cameras, plus the company who were brought in to a CCTV the Mullumbimby gravity sewer mains in 2003. Why have none of these findings ever been produced?

Annie Radermacher's letter in *The Echo* of August 20 is exactly right. Any employee who worked, as I did, from the eighties through to 2005 could testify we all knew the problems associated with the sewer mains,

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► stormwater system, and sewer treatment plants operations being ignored.

The same engineers in Water & Sewer that have worked throughout this period still remain, but no information is forthcoming.

Despite the work outlined by the elected Council for the next ten years the main infrastructure issues are ignored, why?

Alan Dickens  
Byron Bay

**It's who we voted for**

I would like to ask everyone who voted Labor, or one of the other minority parties that carried Labor over the line on their shoulders with only 36 per cent giving Labor their first vote, how is it going for you right now? Happy with your decisions?

Happy with a prime minister that is too arrogant to try to meet with Donald Trump, our most important ally which we depend on for our security, a prime minister that has thrown Israel under a bus, sucks up to the butchers and rapists of Hamas, is presently trying to find ways to tax us out of existence, being totally non-transparent after pledging before the second-last election he would be, presiding over failed intermittent so-called renewable

power projects like hydrogen, wind and solar, giving billions billions of our tax money for failed projects without demanding the money be returned, lying about lowering the price of electricity while presiding over huge increases on his watch, just to mention a few of Albo's failures? Still happy with your decisions people?

Are you better off now than in 2021? Casinova Bowen stood up in parliament a few weeks ago and had the audacity to say the price of electricity has dropped over six per cent, a total blatant lie that misled parliament, how many media outlets reported it? You guessed, NONE.

Good luck everyone, the next favours Albo will dish out to you will definitely not be in your best interests, he has to pay back 1.2 trillion dollars, while maintaining historically high government spending, what do you think your chances are of getting any relief in the next two decades? You asked for it.

Greg MacDonald  
Pimlico

**It's me!**

After reading Margot Hays' letter in last week's Echo, I feel compelled to admit to a terrible secret I've been keeping for a while now.

It's ME! There - I've said it. I'm the mysterious cloud seeder.

On my hourly reading of the weirdwacko.com website, I noticed an ad. It was from an address out Nimbin way offering a box of cloud seeds for only \$10,000 ono. Elated, but short on funds, I offered the erratic hippy at the desk \$50, to which he readily accepted. My dastardly plan was underway.

I'd recently seen a doco on this bloke from America who tied six big helium balloons to a chair and floated off into the stratosphere. I gave it a go and it worked.

Since then I've been regularly tramping, with my aeronautical marvel, to the top of Mt Chincogan (not as far to get above the clouds from there) to carry out my terrible work because I like the sound of torrential rain to lull me to sleep. And all I have to do is pop one balloon at a time from 5,000m to safely descend, get into bed and Bob's your uncle.

I'd like to offer my sincere apologies to Margot and other concerned citizens and promise not to do it again unless the annual rainfall falls below 5,000mm.

John Donnellan  
Ocean Shores

► More letters on next page

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**True that**

Meanings of the word sovereign: independent of outside authority – a sovereign state (from vulgar Latin superanus ‘unattested’, this can mean, lacking supporting evidence in the form of assurance from authority.) Authority can’t give life; unattested – to attest is 1. to affirm correctness or truth of, 2. to witness an act or event.

A sovereign (citizen) is independent of outside authority, to witness, to affirm correctness or truth of an act or events.

Sovereign is existence before determination of anything. The sovereign life force makes this possible. Then we can know a feeling, we can think and do, it is our independent natural state, of the conditions we live in. Playing with words to describe a human being. Sovereign citizen alive on the earth.

For reasons undetermined government and lawmakers don’t recognise the simple fact: the sovereign citizens enable reason for the existence of a government.

The Four Corners TV show (ABC) about the so-called sovereign citizen movement, showed that the government and lawmakers call it delusional. This is a cause for concern.

People are trying to question the authority because there are conflicting circumstances and actions in government procedures, and the questions raised about their use of laws.

**R Podhajsky**  
Ocean Shores

**1, 2 and 3**

I read with admiration and dismay the large number of articles and letters published in *The Echo*. Increasingly local residents are writing about Byron Shire Council. They express disgust, dismay, frustration, and even fury that Council has not engaged in legally-required community consultation when assessing controversial development applications.

It is an indisputable fact that the expertise within the community is far greater than that of Council staff and elected councillors, yet Council fails to listen to and learn from the community.

It appears that Council does not need to listen. In the event of legal action Council must consider who can best afford to take legal action in the event of an unfavourable determination. Invariably it is the developer. (In the case of Save Wallum and the Roundhouse development, the community

were reliant on pro bono solicitors and barristers.)

Council claims its decisions are determined by the need to provide low-cost affordable homes for those who need them (not the homeless).

The NSW government has mandated a proliferation of new houses in the Shire. What is being provided for the most part are houses for the wealthy and great opportunities for property investment. An example is provided by the rapid expansion of Community Title (CT) developments across the hinterland where parcels of land can cost between one million and two million dollars alone.

So what can be done about this? (1) where there are legal grounds to do so, action can be taken against Council in the Land and Environment Court provided that there are the means to pursue the matter through the court system if necessary.

(2) A written submission to the planning minister where there is substantial evidence that Council has failed to follow due process.

I was successful in doing this with regard to the Keyes Gardens development in 2004. This also included failure to issue appropriate notice with regard to a land

acquisition matter. It was sent back to Council.

(3) In some cases it may be necessary to appoint an administrator. Concerns have been heard loud and clear by the community but not Council. The community therefore needs to become proactive rather than reactive. Community expertise needs to be co-ordinated, and funds raised to ensure Council ‘serves’ the needs of the community at large and ‘protects’ the natural environment from further destruction.

**Hilary Bone**  
Federal

**Oh Mandy**

I voted for you in the last election and the one before that; I will vote for you in the next election if you have the stamina to stand again. May I suggest that you stand as an independent?

The Greens are getting bad press at the local government level which can’t help you. In any case, a true democracy would have all candidates for parliament as independents, representing their communities in the parliament, not parties in parliament presenting their policies to the communities.

Politics is essentially a competition for power. Too much time and energy is

spent by political parties competing for power instead of spending it actually governing on behalf of the people.

**Barry Craig**  
Murwillumbah

**Three shiny storeys**

The reason given by Council (and the state government) for the proposal to create a vibrant Special Entertainment Precinct in central Byron is to ‘revitalise the day and night economy after the slow-downs caused by Covid, natural disasters, and other economic pressures’.

It is claimed that old and new businesses along Jonson St, need help to cater for more ‘local culture, creativity, and business’ – read ‘nightlife’.

I take it that these ‘new developments’ are those new, shiny three-storey buildings popping up everywhere, replacing existing buildings and businesses, and full of expensive – mostly tourist – accommodation, with rooftop pools, bars and eating areas – perfect for late-night entertainment!

This SEP will allow longer opening hours and alcohol service, and an increase in accepted levels of sound! Who would have thought?

These changes will no doubt help to fill those new

venues and keep the pubs happy, but what benefit will there be for the residents, already dealing with more cars, pressure on parking, lack of public transport, high rental costs, and concerns for public safety – not to mention ubiquitous potholes?

Apart from perhaps increased opportunities for some local musicians, talk of increased ‘vibrancy’ and the potential to encourage Byron’s artistic and cultural creativity is a tired trick to appeal to an already-lost Byron uniqueness. And I wonder what benefit the daytime economy will feel – the cafes and restaurants which struggle to pay rents and to keep staff who find it hard to get affordable housing?

The paltry government kickstart grant of \$162,800 will be swallowed up in consultancy fees. Perhaps our local economy would be better improved by helping us build more social and affordable housing, public transport, better roads and drainage to help us deal with the climate challenges. And as for the ‘shiny new developments’ perhaps their challenges are more about profit rather than improvement?

**Christine Willmot**  
Byron Bay

# 2025 CHINNY CHARGE

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Main race starts 2pm  
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# WHAT DOES THE CURRENT FEDERAL BATTERY REBATE MEAN FOR YOU?

## New federal battery rebate and solar support for Australian households and businesses

The Australian Government is significantly expanding support for clean energy, with new incentives aimed at making solar and battery storage more accessible for homeowners and small businesses. In addition to the existing **Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme (SRES)**, which provides upfront discounts for solar systems, the government has now introduced a **federal battery rebate** – a game-changer for households looking to store their solar energy and boost energy independence.

Under the **Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme**, eligible solar systems generate **Small-scale Technology Certificates (STCs)**, which reduce the upfront cost of installing renewable energy.

The number of STCs depends on:

- The amount of electricity the system is expected to produce or offset.
- The location of installation (climate zone).
- The size of the system in kilowatts (kW).

Currently, the federal government contributes **approximately \$300 per kilowatt (kW)** toward the cost of a solar system. For example, a 6.6kW solar system may attract over \$2,000 in government-backed discounts, helping reduce upfront investment significantly.

## Introducing the federal battery rebate: \$350 per kilowatt-hour

To further accelerate the transition to renewable energy and energy resilience, the government has now introduced a **federal battery rebate of \$350 per kilowatt-hour (kWh)** of usable battery storage. This means a standard 10kWh home battery could attract up to **\$3,500 in rebates**, significantly lowering the barrier for Australians to adopt battery technology.



Hope and Jesse are considering a 10kW solar system plus a 16kWh battery, supplied and installed by ProSolar for \$25,300. The federal government discount for this system is \$8,782 (at time of publishing). This brings their system cost down to \$17,533, saving them \$6,000 per year, enabling them to pay back their investment in 2.92 years! Alternatively, the same system can be financed for \$90 per week through Brighte Finance.

This system provides full power to your home during a blackout and you can even sell your battery power back to the grid with the VPP (Virtual Power Plant Program).

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## ProSolar has designed three solar and battery packages to help you take advantage of the federal government discounts this year 2025:

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- 15 x Trina Vertex S+ with a 25 year warranty
- 1 x Sungrow 5kW Hybrid inverter with a 10-year premium warranty
- 1 x Sungrow 19.2kWh Battery with a 10-year premium warranty
- **Total cost after discount = \$12,328 or \$63 per week financed**

### 8.8kW SOLAR SYSTEM + 22.4kWh BATTERY STORAGE

- 20 x Trina Vertex S+ with a 25 year warranty
- 1 x Sungrow 8kW Hybrid inverter with a 10-year premium warranty
- 1 x Sungrow 25kWh Battery with a 10-year premium warranty
- **Total cost after discount = \$14,826 or \$75 per week financed**

### 10.56kW SOLAR SYSTEM + 38.4kWh BATTERY STORAGE

- 24 x Trina Vertex S+ with a 25 year warranty
- 1 x Sungrow 10kW Hybrid inverter with a 10-year premium warranty
- 1 x Sungrow 38.4kWh Battery with a 10-year premium warranty
- **Total cost after discount = \$29,346 or \$150 per week financed**

The above prices include supply, installation (standard installation on a tin roof) and GST. The federal government discount is subject to change at anytime.



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## More families are choosing alternative educations for their kids

Official school and student data by the Association of Independent Schools of NSW (AISNSW), shows that tens of thousands of low-to-middle income families are prioritising an education for their children that reflects their beliefs, values and philosophies over other spending.

AISNSW says more families are choosing an affordable faith or non-faith independent education for their children.

*Enrolment Dynamics* is an annual study of official school and student data by AISNSW.

AISNSW Chief Executive, Margery Evans, says enrolment growth has been strongest in low-to-mid fee Christian, Islamic, Anglican or secular schools serving families in Sydney's fastest-growing suburbs and northern NSW. 'In fact, independent schools recorded higher student growth than government and Catholic system schools in 25 of the 28 ABS-defined NSW statistical area regions between 2019 and 2024.

'In 2025, the typical independent school is co-ed, K-12,

faith-based, located west of Parramatta and charging less than \$6,000 a year,' she said.

Key findings include: that since 2000, NSW independent schools have enrolled almost two-thirds of the state's additional students, growing by 101,565 (compared with 39,817 in Catholic systemic schools and 18,500 in government schools); in the past five years, more new students were enrolled in NSW independent schools than in every Australian state and territory government school sector combined; more than half the students attending NSW independent schools are from low-to-medium income families; and, the median fee collected in NSW independent schools is less than \$6,000 a year.

Ms Evans said the remarkable aspect about this student growth is that the Independent sector comprises only 430 schools, or 14 per cent of the state's schools.

*Enrolment Dynamics* also reflects forecasts that Australia's record low birth rate will moderate student growth in all school sectors over the next 10 years.

Total enrolment growth is expected to slow to an average of 5,100 per year – less than half the pre-pandemic average – driven by migration, as Australia's fertility rate falls to 1.5 births per woman.

Ms Evans said parents valued the strong community links, explicit wellbeing programs, and co-curricular academic, sports and arts opportunities available in many independent schools. 'There are also practical considerations; half of NSW independent schools are combined primary/secondary and co-educational schools, an environment many families prefer for their child.'

'Independent schools are also far more affordable than many people realise; more independent schools charge less than \$2,000 per year than over \$20,000.

'NSW independent schools account for almost 20 per cent of all the state's enrolments, up from 13 per cent in 2000. They employ over 33,000 full-time equivalent (FTE) staff, including 21,000 FTE teachers.'

## Donkeys and horses leave their Lennox home

David Lowe

It was the end of an era in Lennox Head last week, as the iconic donkeys and horses who have lived for many years on the grassy hill overlooking the village were removed, causing an outpouring of emotion on social media.

Local, Nikki Tester has been helping to look after the animals, together with Margaret Condon, 'who has been an amazing caretaker for the horses since their family sold their property,' Ms Tester said.

'If it wasn't for her, they possibly would have been asked to move years ago. She was raised on that property and her dad ran cattle.'

### A week to find new homes

Ms Tester says the current owners of the property gave them only a week to find new homes for the horses and donkeys.

A number of the horses are going to live in Tintenbar, and others in Newrybar Swamp Road, with the last two due to be moved when their owner, who is currently



'It's been unbelievably emotional saying goodbye to the donkeys and horses'. Photo Nikki Tester

unwell, returns from Sydney.

The donkeys (mother and daughter) have had no official owner for many years, but have now been rescued by Lisa Marie Willey from Free Rein Horsemanship.

Nikki Tester told *The Echo*, 'It's been unbelievably emotional saying goodbye to the donkeys and horses. Fortunately we have managed to keep most of them together with incredible support from the community.'

*The Echo* sought comment from Ballina councillors about whether there are any new official plans for the Lennox hill, but it appears this is not the case.

Many longtime locals have said how sad they will be to no longer see the iconic animals on the ridgeline, or to have their kids pass them on the way to school, as the once sleepy Lennox Head village continues to transform beyond recognition.



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# Are you a sneaky AI user in your workplace?

Guzyal Hill

**C**ould clearer rules could reduce 'shadow AI'?

Australian workers are secretly using generative artificial intelligence (Gen AI) tools – without knowledge or approval from their boss, a new report shows.

The *Our Gen AI Transition: Implications for Work and Skills* report from the federal government's Jobs and Skills Australia, points to several studies, showing between 21 per cent and 27 per cent of workers (particularly in white collar industries) use AI behind their manager's back.

## Why do some people still hide it?

The report says people commonly said they 'feel that using AI is cheating', have a 'fear of being seen as lazy' and a 'fear of being seen as less competent'.

What's most striking is this rise in unapproved 'shadow use' of AI is happening even as the federal treasurer and Productivity Commission urge Australians to make the most of AI.

The new report results highlight gaps in how we govern AI use at work, leaving workers and employers in the dark about the right thing to do.

As I've seen in my work – both as a legal researcher looking at AI governance and as a practising lawyer – there are some jobs where the rules for using AI at work change as soon as you cross a state border within Australia.

## Risks and benefits of AI 'shadow'

The 124-page Jobs and Skills Australia report covers many issues, including early and uneven adoption of AI, how AI could help in future work and how it could affect job availability. Among its most interesting findings concerned workers using AI in secret – which is not always a bad thing. The report found those using AI in the shadows are sometimes hidden leaders, 'driving bottom-up innovation in some sectors'. However, it also comes with serious risks. Worker-led 'shadow use' is an important part of



A sneaky late night *Echo* drudge, making tricky AI images for the newspaper. Image OpenArt AI / sneaky drudge

adoption to date. A significant portion of employees are using Gen AI tools independently, often without employer oversight, indicating grassroots enthusiasm but also raising governance and risk concerns.

The report recommends harnessing this early adoption and experimentation, but warns, in the absence of clear governance, shadow use may proliferate. This informal experimentation, while a source of innovation, can also fragment practices that are hard to scale or integrate later. It also increases risks around data

security, accountability and compliance, and inconsistent outcomes.

## Real-world risks from AI failures

The report calls for national stewardship of Australia's Gen AI transition through a coordinated national framework, centralised capability, and a whole-of-population boost in digital and AI skills.

This mirrors my own research, showing Australia's AI legal framework has blind spots, and our systems of knowledge, from law to legal

reporting, need a fundamental rethink.

Even in some professions where clearer rules have emerged, too often it's come after serious failures. In Victoria, a child protection worker entered sensitive details into ChatGPT about a court case concerning sexual offences against a young child.

The Victorian information commissioner has banned the state's child protection staff from using AI tools until November 2026. Lawyers have also been found to misuse AI, from the US and UK to Australia.

Yet another example – involving misleading information created by AI for a Melbourne murder case – was reported recently.

But even for lawyers, the rules are patchy and differ from state to state. (The Federal Court is among those still developing its rules.) For example, a lawyer in New South Wales is now clearly not allowed to use AI to generate the content of an affidavit, including 'altering, embellishing, strengthening, diluting or rephrasing a deponent's evidence'. However, no other state or

territory has adopted this position as clearly.

## Clearer rules at work and as a nation

Right now, using AI at work lies in a governance grey zone. Most organisations are running without clear policies, risk assessments or legal safeguards. Even if everyone's doing it, the first one caught out will face the consequences.

In my view, national uniform legislation for AI would be preferable.

## The AI technology is the same

After all, the AI technology we're using is the same, whether you're in New South Wales or the Northern Territory – and AI knows no physical borders. But that's not looking likely yet.

If employers don't want workers using AI in secret, what can they do? If there are obvious risks, start by giving workers clearer policies and training.

■ This article is part of *The Conversation's* series on jobs in the age of AI.

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Read it online here:  
byronhealing.com.au





## Giants U18s secure minor premiership



Ryder Nelson in action as the Mullumbimby Giants U18s secured the minor premiership. The team have been very focused and disciplined this year with Damon Scott as their coach. 'Job's only half done. Two more games to go,' said Damon. Photo Sarah Archibald

## Mullumbimby Moonshiners looking for double rugby premiership this weekend



The Mullum Moonshiners rugby club will be vying for two premierships this Saturday at Crozier Field in Lismore. First up at 10am the U18s take on Wollongbar-Alstonville and then at 11.25am in the President's Cup, Mullumbimby take on Richmond Range. Photo Sarah Archibald

## Dream run for Byron women's premier team



Byron Bay's top women soccer players ready for finals football. Photo supplied

### John McKay

Byron Bay FC's women's premier division team are just a few wins away from the perfect season (no hex intended).

They won the pre-season Callan McMillan Shield with four straight wins and are, thus far, 15 wins from 15 games in the regular winter competition.

They play their final regular season game this coming

Friday night in Lismore against the Richmond Rovers at 8pm. A daunting task at the best of times but one made especially difficult as all teams are improving, as well as gunning to take a win from them.

Their last two games have resulted in very narrow wins, first against Lennox Head 2-1, followed by Ballina 2-0. Competitors are lifting their game and altering tactics to stop their

winning streak.

But they have exceptional goal-scoring capacity with 67 goals for, and a defence which is equally as good, only allowing a measly eight goals to be scored against them.

The team claimed the minor premiership with four weeks of competition remaining, and will kick off the finals series with a home semi-final on Sunday, 7 September.

## Club Byron president wins bowler of the year award

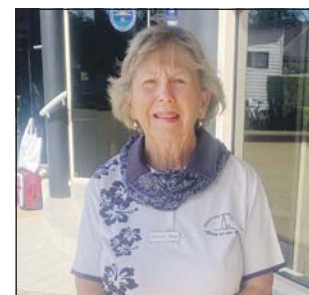
### Brett Luker

Club Byron President Patricia Bigg has been awarded Northern Rivers Woman Bowler of the Year 2024/25, continuing a great season for the club.

Pat earned the title after clinching the club singles championship, as well as standout performances in regional events.

Pat's winning streak continued this season teaming up with Paul Clark to secure the Byron Bay 2025 Mixed Pairs title.

Playing against the team of Kym Quinell and Mark Brown they went into the last end down by one shot then Paul trailed the jack with



Patricia Bigg. Photo supplied

his last bowl to take out the game 19-18.

The club's success didn't stop there. Last weekend, the trio of Gavin MacPhail, Paul Clark, and Mark Brown dominated the northern section of the Zone Triples, held at Pottsville. The team powered through with decisive wins over Kingscliff, Ocean Shores, and Alstonville, earning their

place in the Zone Final to be held in Yamba on Saturday, September 13.

These achievements reflect the strength and camaraderie of Club Byron and club extends a warm invitation to newcomers and seasoned bowlers alike to join in the fun and experience the welcoming spirit of lawn bowls.

## Send us your sport stories!

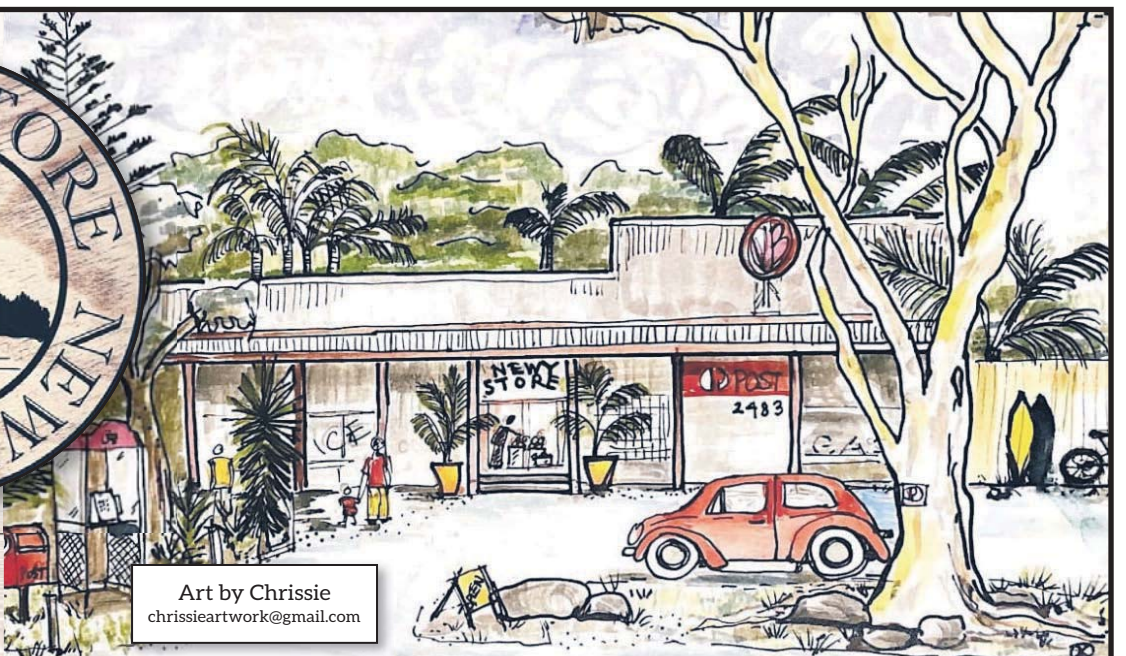
We would love to run all kinds of local sport on these pages so please send your photos and stories to [sport@echo.net.au](mailto:sport@echo.net.au).

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# Good Taste

## Eateries Guide

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 @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

### BILLINGDUGEL



**Rosefina's Mexican**  
 Thursday, Friday, Saturday  
 Lunch 12pm-2:30pm  
 Dinner 5pm-8:00pm  
 Sunday 12pm-8pm  
 8/10 Wilfred St, Billinudgel  
 www.rosefinas.place

Rosefina has decided it's time to dig through her vinyl collection for Friday nights.

### BRUNSWICK HEADS



**River - Wild at Heart**  
 Thu 5pm - 9pm / Fri, Sat, 12pm - 9pm  
 Sun 12pm - 6pm  
 26 Mullumbimbi St, Brunswick Heads  
 (02) 6685 5739  
 www.riverrestaurantbruns.com.au  
 Reservations:  
 www.riverrestaurantbruns.com.au/book

Guided by the ethos "Wild at Heart, Local by Nature", River is a celebration of Northern Rivers produce, people, and provenance - a space where community and creativity come together over beautiful food and wine.


### BYRON BAY



**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.



**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.



**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**  
 Located at The Farm  
 11 Ewingsdale Rd.  
 (02) 6190 8966  
 Open every day from 7am.  
 Mon-Thurs: breakfast & lunch  
 Fri-Sun: breakfast,  
 lunch & dinner

Delicious new winter dinner menu, live music 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.




**Roca Byron Bay**  
 Opening hours:  
 7am to late every day  
 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 every day  
 Tuesdays: \$3 Oysters from 5pm  
 Wednesday: \$30 Lamb & Malbec from 5pm

### 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

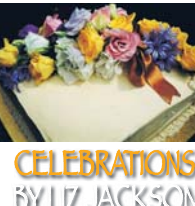


**Bonito Peruvian**  
 @bonitoperuvian  
 www.bonitoperuvian.com.au  
 10/54 Simpson Ave,  
 Wollongbar  
 (02) 6628 3111  
 Open Wed / Thurs: 3pm to late  
 Fri / Sat: 12pm to late

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.

### 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**

**The Feddy's**  
**Monday night - Pizza Night**

**\$18 Pizzas**  
 Choose from five blackboard specials

**The Federal Hotel | Main St, Alstonville**



Find more tasty morsels at  
**Echo.net.au**

# The Good Life

## Federal Hotel Alstonville launches new spring/summer menu

It's time for fresh flavours and local spirit as the seasons turn and the days grow longer, and the Federal Hotel Alstonville is preparing to welcome spring and summer in the best possible way: with the launch of an exciting new menu on Sunday, September 1 – just in time for Father's Day.

This menu launch is more than a simple refresh. It represents 12 months of hard work, creativity, and passion from the Federal Hotel's kitchen team. Over the past year, the chefs have been refining and developing dishes that not only celebrate the flavours of the Northern Rivers but also showcase the venue's evolving style. The result is a thoughtful balance of classic pub favourites, and elevated seasonal specials, offering something for everyone who walks through the doors.

For many locals, the Federal Hotel has long been

a meeting place where community, comfort, and flavour come together. Patrons return week after week for the reliable staples – those beloved pub classics that feel like home on a plate. But what sets The Feddy apart is its commitment to going beyond the ordinary. Weekend diners are treated to specials that highlight creativity, technique, and a flair for the unexpected, giving guests a taste of something fresh while still keeping prices accessible.

This Father's Day, the Federal Hotel is going all out to make sure dads feel celebrated. Doors will open early from 8:30am for breakfast, with hearty plates and fresh coffee to start the day right. At lunchtime, dads can enjoy a special Smoker Session in the beer garden, where slow-cooked meats and smoky flavours will be paired with live music and a relaxed atmosphere. The



kitchen will also be serving its usual line-up of 'special sensations' and, because no Father's Day menu would be complete without it, you better believe there will be a surf and turf on offer.

Adding to the excitement is the continuation of a new tradition that has quickly become a highlight of the Federal Hotel calendar:

Smoker Sundays. Thanks to the recent purchase of a smoker, every fortnight the beer garden transforms into a celebration of slow-cooked flavour. The air fills with the irresistible aroma of smoked meats, and guests can enjoy hearty platters alongside cold drinks in the sun. To top it off, live local music sets the scene, turning Sundays

into a true community gathering.

The launch of the spring/summer menu and Father's Day celebrations mark another step forward for the hotel as it continues to grow and evolve while staying true to its roots as Alstonville's local pub. With a fresh wave of flavour, the return of warm-weather afternoons

in the beer garden and on the front verandah and the continuation of Smoker Sundays, there's never been a better time to pay a visit.

■ Bookings are highly recommended for Father's Day. Call now on (02) 6628 0719 or book online at [www.thefedhotel.com.au](http://www.thefedhotel.com.au) to secure your spot.



Woodland Valley Farm: Jody Viccars and Fabian Fabbro

## From humble egg farmers to award-winning food innovators: Woodland Valley Farm's remarkable journey

From their beginnings as egg farmers at local markets, Woodland Valley Farm has grown into an award-winning business producing premium pasta, sauces, ready meals, custards, and mayonnaise. Jody and Fabian's passion for sustainability and innovation has taken them from selling eggs under a marquee to running their own thriving shop and kitchen.

Most recently, Woodland Valley Farm celebrated triple gold at the Tweed Business Excellence Awards, winning in Excellence in Agriculture and Primary Production, Small Business, and Manufacturing. These accolades recognise not only their quality products, but also their regenerative farming practices, which include rotational grazing of cattle, chickens, and

ducks, alongside native riparian restoration to improve soil health and sequester carbon.

What began as a way to use second-grade eggs has evolved into a full gourmet range. Their signature fresh egg pasta contains an impressive 33% regeneratively-farmed eggs, delivering both high protein and exceptional flavour. Alongside fresh pasta, they now produce slow-dried durum semolina pasta, five varieties of sauces (including bolognese, creamy mushroom, basilico, zucca and venison ragout, and a growing collection of ready meals such as lasagne and cannelloni. For those with a sweet tooth, their custards have also won acclaim, with the chocolate custard named Grand Champion at the Queensland Dairy Awards.

After the 2022 floods destroyed their on-farm kitchen, the couple opened a shop in Murwillumbah, now operating six days a week from early morning until evening. The shop not only provides take-home meals but also offers hot pasta lunches and dinners.

Woodland Valley Farm's story is one of resilience, adaptability, and community connection. From small market beginnings to national recognition, their journey reflects a deep commitment to regenerative farming, sustainable food production, and creating nourishing meals for their customers.

■ Find Woodland Valley Farm's stall every Tuesday from 8am to 11am at New Brighton Farmers Market and every Friday at Mullum Farmers Market from 7am to 11am.

Eat Drink magazine out now

Your free guide to the Northern Rivers' tastiest offerings

Read it online here:

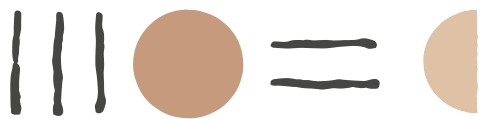
**Bimbi**  
COFFEE SHOP

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

**LISMORE**  
PRODUCE MARKET

FRESH LOCAL PRODUCE  
EVERY THURSDAY  
3:00 - 6:00pm  
In the heart of the city,  
on the steps of the Con.  
Keen St. Lismore

# BYRON ARTS & INDUSTRY ESTATE



## 1. BODHI LIVING

Bodhi Living showcases a carefully curated collection of furniture, homewares, rugs and lighting, sourced both locally and globally. They have introduced a range of collections designed in-house, including sofas, dining tables and seating using natural and sustainable materials such as rattan and wood. The brand encapsulates the freedom of spirit, and the soul of the individual, as represented through their home.

Shop 1/18 Centennial Circuit  
[bodhiliving.com.au](http://bodhiliving.com.au)  
[@bodhi.living](https://www.instagram.com/bodhi.living)

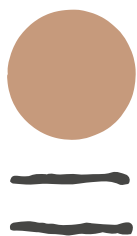


## 2. ANTICO EMPORIO

The well-known and loved Antico Emporio in Eltham has recently opened up a second location in the Byron Arts & Industry Estate. A great little space now stocking a wide range of art, curios, antiques and collectables.

Opening hours 10am to 4pm, Monday to Saturday, or by appointment.

12 Tasman Way  
 0420 926 409  
[anticoemporio.com.au](http://anticoemporio.com.au)  
[@antico\\_emporio](https://www.instagram.com/antico_emporio)  
[anticoemporio@outlook.com](mailto:anticoemporio@outlook.com)



## 3. EYE OF HORUS

Step inside the Eye of Horus Concept Store in Byron Bay and explore our award-winning range of clean cosmetics and skincare, book a personalised makeup session or lesson, and refill or recycle your beauty essentials in-store.

Mention the *Echo* ad in-store to receive a 15% local-discount on beauty and skincare products (T&C's apply).

Monday-Friday, 9.30am-4pm  
 4/1 Boronia Place  
[eyeofhorusc cosmetics.com](http://eyeofhorusc cosmetics.com)  
[@eyeofhorusc cosmetics](https://www.instagram.com/eyeofhorusc cosmetics)



## 4. BYRON BAY CAMPING AND DISPOSALS

Make the most of your days for all those fun outdoor activities.

Byron Bay Camping and Disposals have a large assortment of rain jackets, pants, and boots to get you through the rainy weather!

Come into the store and let our friendly staff assist you, and discover the amazing range of products.

1/1 Tasman Way  
 0439 212 153  
[byron-camping.com.au](http://byron-camping.com.au)



## 5. NORTH BYRON HOTEL

The North Byron Hotel is a beloved local hangout, perfect for friend catch-ups and family time. With a lush beer garden, kids' play area and dog-friendly vibe, it offers a warm, welcoming atmosphere. Visitors return time and again for the restaurant-quality seasonal menu featuring homegrown local produce, and weekly events including drag trivia, open mic, live music, and vinyl DJ sets.

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



## 6. THE LARDER FOR ALL YOUR CATERING NEEDS

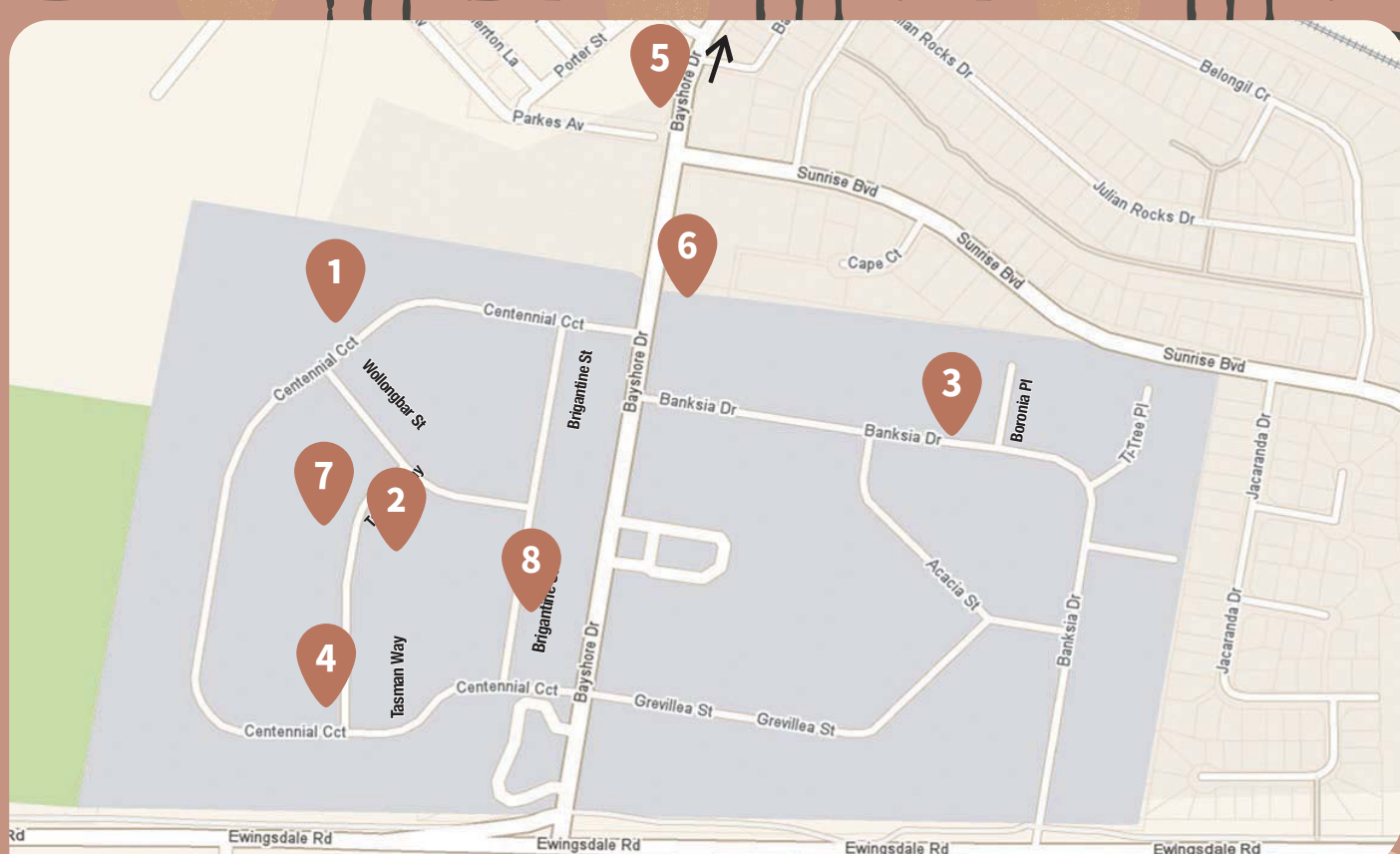
The Larder Byron Bay has been serving Byron Shire and the surrounding areas since 1998. They make entertaining easy with options for drop-off, buffet, or full service at weddings, festivals, birthdays, wakes and corporate events. Their menus cater to all tastes.

Get ready for Christmas early with the Festive Feast menu.

1/12 Bayshore Drive  
 02 6680 8644  
[thelarder.com.au](http://thelarder.com.au)  
[catering@thelarder.com.au](mailto:catering@thelarder.com.au)

# BYRON ARTS & INDUSTRY ESTATE

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

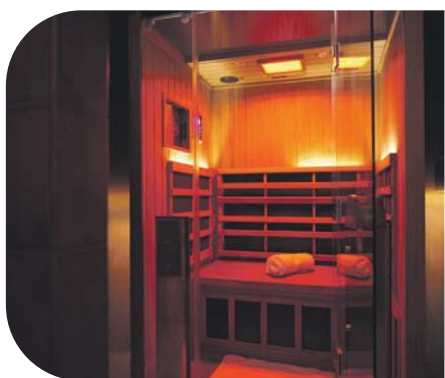


# HABITAT PRECINCT



Habitat is a cleverly designed village in Byron Bay, where you can live, work and play, all in one place.

Over 20 years in the making, Habitat combines the best of old-school Byron (community, creativity, respect for the environment) with the latest in design and thinking (renewable energy, car sharing, hybrid live + work spaces) along with plenty of bars and good times, it is a little oasis within one of the most beautiful places on Earth.



## 7. NIMBUS CO BYRON

At Nimbus Co, they are dedicated to your wellbeing, offering a sanctuary where modern wellness meets natural harmony. Their state-of-the-art wellness studio in Byron Bay provides a comprehensive range of services and facilities designed to rejuvenate your body and mind, including infrared sauna, ice bath and a private contrast therapy suite.

4/17 Tasman Way  
0474 330 085  
nimbusco.com.au  
@thenimbusco



## 8. SOLE BROS

This is a great week to come and see Marty at Sole Bros shoes. He's been supplying comfortable shoes for everyone for 30 years.

The biggest range of Birkenstocks in the Northern Rivers and 10% to 50% off.

1/20 Brigantine St  
02 6685 5420  
@solebrosbyronbay



## HABITAT

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



## 9. BYRON FAMILY LAW

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

18 Parkes Avenue  
02 6687 2774  
byronfamilylaw.com.au



## 10. RICHARDSON MURRAY LAW

Practicing exclusively in family law, Richardson Murray offers legal advice and guidance in matters of separation, divorce, parenting arrangements and property settlements.

With considerable experience in all matters of relationship breakdown, including domestic and family violence, Richardson Murray are known for their compassionate approach and commitment. Their dedicated team aims to deliver the best possible outcomes for clients.

42 Parkes Avenue  
www.richardson-murray.law



## 11. HABITAT WORKSPACE

A modern co-working space for freelancers, start-ups and small businesses. Choose from 34 lockable 'pocket offices' or 12 open-plan desks, with shared meeting spaces, conference room, kitchen, welcome area and mailboxes. Plus, enjoy easy access to Habitat's on-site gyms, cafés and 25m pool. A smarter, more affordable way to work in an upscale setting that's still relaxed.

Building B1, 1 Porter Street  
habitatbyronbay.com  
02 6694 3244



# HABITAT PRECINCT

# SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 7

# FATHER'S DAY



## BYRON BAY CHOCOLATE CO

Be the favorite child this year and give dad something from the Byron Bay Chocolate Co.

Their chocolates are handmade with love in Byron Bay with a huge range to choose from so you'll be spoilt for choice.

Byron Bay Chocolate Co. is a family-run business, using only the highest quality ingredients and enjoyed by locals and visitors to Byron for the past 30 years.

Stocked in all the best places!

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

## THE BOOK WAREHOUSE

Let the staff at your local Book Warehouse shops help you find the perfect Father's Day gift. There are so many beautiful books, art supplies, games and puzzles for your purchasing pleasure. Local businesses are the lifeblood that flow through our community and your custom means the world to them.

The Book Warehouse staff are dedicated and knowledgeable booksellers who can advise on books or gifts, suggest greeting cards and make sure that your gift is just the right fit.

Show your dad some love and support this locally-owned business.

**Ballina & Lismore**  
[thebwh.com](http://thebwh.com)

## BYRON PHOTO MAGIC

Byron Photo Magic, your trusted local photo store, is now offering an exciting range of Celestron Telescopes, making it the ideal spot for Father's Day gifts.

With their deep commitment to quality and customer service, Byron Photo Magic has curated a selection of top-notch telescopes that cater to every budget. Celestron's renowned optics promise stunning views of the night sky, whether your dad is an experienced stargazer or a curious newcomer.

These telescopes provide exceptional clarity and ease of use, ensuring that every stargazing session is memorable.

Give your dad the gift of cosmic exploration and discovery this Father's Day with a telescope from Byron Photo Magic. Visit them today and find the perfect gift to spark his passion for the stars!

**02 6685 5877**

**Shop 20 Mercato on Byron, 108 -114 Jonson St, Byron Bay**

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

## OCEAN SHORES COUNTRY CLUB

Treat your dad to a lunch he'll remember this Father's Day at Ocean Shores Country Club, your go-to destination for entertainment and dining! Nestled in the heart of the stunning Northern Rivers region, with breathtaking views of the ocean and lush hinterland, it's the ideal place to relax and enjoy a meal with family or friends. The Club's restaurant serves a delicious variety of Asian and western meals, all prepared with fresh ingredients. The fully-stocked bar offers a wide selection of beverages to complement your dining experience. For entertainment, there's something for everyone – live music, trivia nights, and community events that bring people together. Whether you're catching up with friends or seeking a family-friendly venue, Ocean Shores Country Club has it all.

**02 6680 1008**

**113A Orana Rd, Ocean Shores**

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

**Ocean Shores Country Club**  
Est. 1972

**MID-WEEK GOLF PACKAGE**

**\$79**

Gift Vouchers Available!

INCLUDES A ROUND OF GOLF, CART & LUNCH

Twin share rate, per person  
CONDITIONS APPLY

**GOLF • BOWLS • DINING • BAR • EVENTS**

*The father's day gift that's right on par!*

Enjoy stunning views, a friendly atmosphere, and top-class facilities, including our welcoming clubhouse and fully stocked pro shop.

Make the most of your midweek break with us!

SCAN QR CODE TO LEARN MORE OR CALL  
**02 6680 1008**  
[www.oceanshorescc.com.au](http://www.oceanshorescc.com.au)

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02 6685 8062 @byronbaychocolateco

**FUJIFILM** [photomagic.com.au](http://photomagic.com.au)

**35 YEARS** **Byron Photo Magic**

**CELESTRON**

**The Worlds #1 Telescope Brand**

Celestron offers a broad range of high quality, yet affordable telescopes that will suit any dad.

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With options available to fit any budget, share the wonder of exploring the universe with a Celestron Telescope

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**Ph 02 66855877**



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HE CAN TAKE HER NAME BUT HE CAN'T TAKE HER LIFE.  
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with touch & feel  
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**MAX**  
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**GIANT ACTIVITY PAD**

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WAS \$29.99 NOW \$9.99

TOODLE THE CAVOODLE  
**Whoops-a-diddle**

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TOODLE THE CAVOODLE  
**Crunchy Munchy**

WAS \$14.95 NOW \$3.99

SHOP ONLINE @ **BWH**.COM

OR VISIT OUR STORES:

**GRAFTON**  
89 Prince Street  
6642 5187

**COFFS HARBOUR**  
26 Harbour Drive  
6651 9077

**BALLINA**  
85 River Street  
6686 2436

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

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www.stewartsmenswear.com.au  
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FATHER'S DAY

**DAY OF THE DEAD**

SUNDAY, 7 SEPTEMBER - 12PM - 5:30PM

LIVE DJ \* 12 FROZEN MARGS & 10 PROVENCE ROSÉ  
BEER ON TAP FOR DAD \* MEXICAN FEAST \* KIDS ACTIVITIES

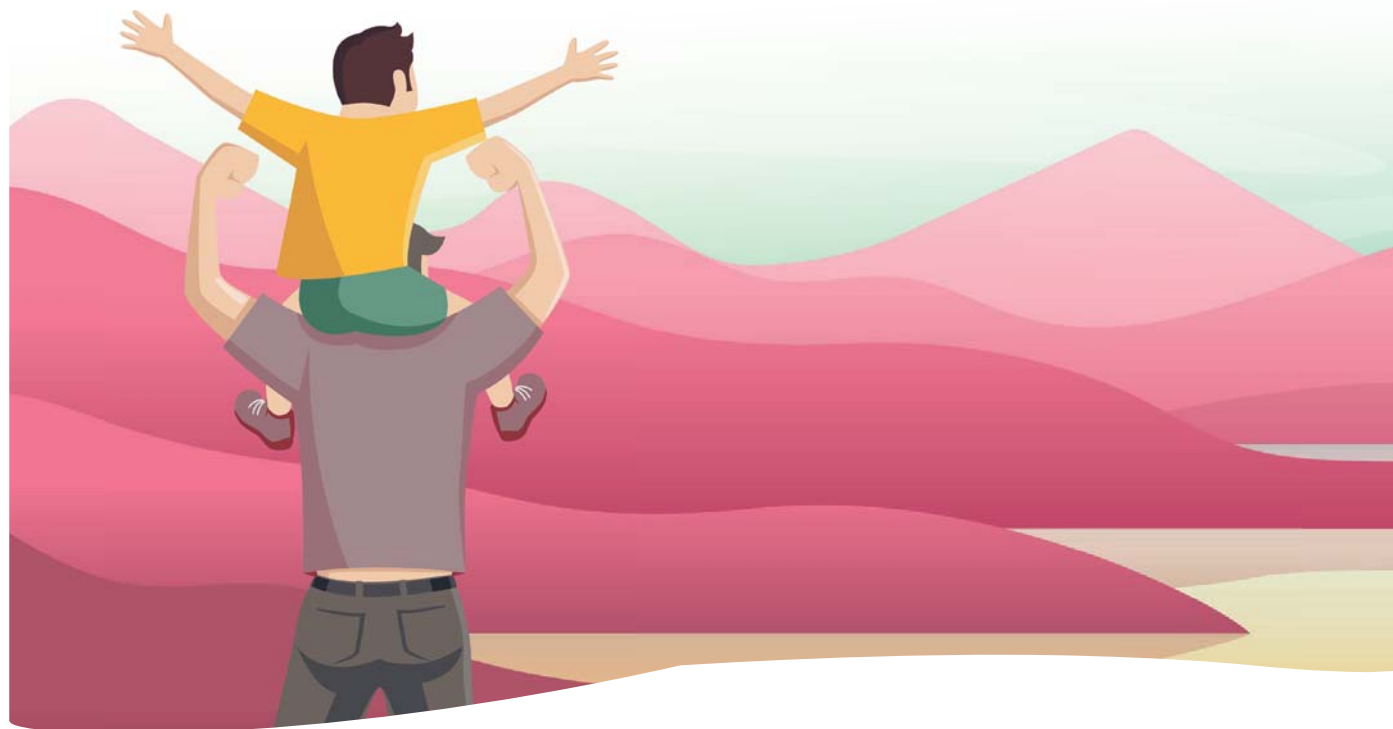
1 BARCLAY DRIVE, CASUARINA

**VIRTUAL GOLF CENTRE**

**VIRTUAL GOLF CENTRE BALLINA**  
The new way to enjoy golf

Dad has enough socks.  
Get him something he actually wants.  
Get Dad a \$150 Gift Voucher and receive a FREE Golf Polo (valued at \$66).  
Gift vouchers available online or in store.

[virtualgolfcentre.com.au](http://virtualgolfcentre.com.au)  
14 Ascot road Ballina



## FORGET THE SOCKS THIS YEAR

The team at Lola's Mexican Cantina are dialling it up for dad with a Mexican fiesta! They'll be putting on a \$59pp Mexican feast, cold Earth beers on the house for dad\*, live DJ (1pm-5pm), hosted kids' activities and good vibes all afternoon.

Add their cattleman's cut ribeye with rajás con crema + clay cantina salsa for the ultimate indulgence!

They'll also be pouring \$10 Provence rosé and \$12 frozen margs alongside the full list including natural wines, cocktails and refreshing nons.

Little ones? Sorted. \$29pp kids menu plus hosted craft, facepainting and activities in the courtyard.

Book your spot - it's a deadset celebration.

\*Served with each course, RSA will be observed.

GIFT VOUCHERS ALSO AVAILABLE

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

Facebook: [lolitascantina](https://www.facebook.com/lolitascantina)

@ [instagram.com/lolas\\_cantina](https://www.instagram.com/lolas_cantina)

## Stewart's Menswear

Father's Day is Sunday, September 7 so now's the time to start planning.

From practical essentials to thoughtful surprises, Stewart's Menswear offers a wide range of gift ideas to suit every kind of dad. Whether it's quality weekend wear, hardworking gear, or something a little special, shoppers will find plenty to choose from - including a selection of Australian-made favourites.

Free gift-wrapping is available in-store.

Proudly family-owned and serving the Mullumbimby community since 1929, Stewart's Menswear invites you to visit the store or shop online at [stewartsmenswear.com.au](http://stewartsmenswear.com.au).

02 6684 2148

52-54 Burringbar Street,  
Mullumbimby



## Give the Gift of Massage

Remedial massage has many benefits for the body, mind and emotional states, including: promoting wellbeing; relieving stress and tension; strengthening the immune system and circulation; relieving muscular pain; improving flexibility; assisting rehabilitation after injury; and much more!

The Bangalow and Ballina Remedial Massage therapists are committed to the highest standard of care in all of their treatments.

Gift vouchers available.

0499 490 088

@ [bbr\\_message](https://www.facebook.com/bbr_message)

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

Bangalow & Ballina Remedial Massage

**Kingscliff Beach BOWLS CLUB**

**FATHER'S DAY SPECIAL**

**SURF & TURF**  
+ FREE SCHOONER  
250g rib-eye fillet, prawns, salad and chips

**\$44**

**BBQ BEEF RIBS**  
+ FREE SCHOONER  
BBQ grilled beef ribs with calamari rings, salad & chips

**\$38**

131 marine parade, kingscliff | 02 6674 1404 | [kbbc.com.au](http://kbbc.com.au)

**LORRY MOTEL**

fathers day

With every booking  
Dad gets a free  
home made hot sauce

**BIG FAT OPEN SKIES BBQ**

SUNDAY  
SEPTEMBER 7TH  
12:00PM

Featuring  
Matt Armitage  
from 12:30-3:30pm

# SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 7

# FATHER'S DAY

## FEED THE MAN MEAT!

Make dad happy this Father's Day with premium-quality hormone-and-antibiotic-free meat, to cook up a feast. Byron Bay Pork has been in production for over 15 years, owned and operated by the pioneering Singh family, who have been farming the Northern Rivers since 1897. Their pigs are hand-raised in Eco Pens incorporating best work practices and animal health standards to guarantee hormone-and-antibiotic-free, premium quality and taste.

Shop the range of meats including gluten-free specialty sausages, smoked leg ham and a range of locally-produced small goods, sauces, spices and products.

**02 6684 2137**  
**70 Dalley Street, Mullumbimby**

## CELEBRATE DAD WITH A DELICIOUS FEAST AT KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS CLUB!

We're serving up two mouthwatering specials on Saturday, September 7 that he's guaranteed to love.

Choose our surf & turf – a tender 250g rib-eye fillet topped with prawns, served with fresh salad and crispy chips – or go for the hearty BBQ beef ribs, grilled to perfection and served with golden calamari rings, salad, and chips. Each meal comes with a FREE schooner of Hahn SuperDry, XXXX Gold, or Tooheys New – the perfect way to toast dad on his special day. Enjoy great food, cold drinks, and the stunning atmosphere of Kingscliff Beach. Bring the whole family and make it a day to remember!

Book early to avoid missing out – Father's Day specials are available during service on Saturday, September 7 only!

**02 6674 1404**  
**131 Marine Parade, Kingscliff**  
**Kingscliff Beach Bowls Club**

## VIRTUAL GOLF CENTRE

**Dad has enough socks – get him something he actually wants**

Take dad along to the state-of-the-art indoor, air-conditioned virtual golf facility, Virtual Golf Centre in Ballina. Fully licensed and ready for Father's Day. Pay for yourself and your dad plays for free and receives a free schooner of beer. Or get dad a \$150 gift voucher to use at a later date and receive a FREE Golf polo (valued at \$66).

Gift vouchers available online or in-store.

Play some of the best golf courses in the world like St Andrews and Augusta. Or partake in the virtual golf games for the non-golfers, like putt putt and target golf games. You are welcome to take your own clubs, if not they have clubs for you. Great for the seasoned golfer, the beginner, or those just wanting to have some fun.

**0423 259 551**  
**14 Ascot road Ballina**  
**www.virtualgolfcentre.com.au**

## NORTH BYRON HOTEL

Get ready for the ultimate Father's Day bash at the North Byron Hotel on September 7. Kicking off the day with the Open Skies Big Fat BBQ from 12pm, indulge in mouthwatering specials sizzling hot off the open fire pit. With 32 beers on tap and entertainment by Matt Armitage, the atmosphere will be buzzing.

As a special treat every booking comes with a free homemade hot sauce for dad.

Bring your appetite and your love for good times, it's going to be a Father's Day like no other.

Reserve your table at:  
**6685 6500**  
**61 Bayshore Drive, Byron Bay**  
**www.northbyronhotel.com.au**

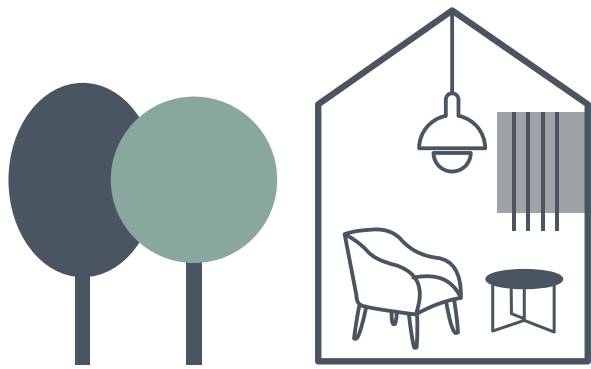
## BYRON BAY PORK & MEATS BUTCHERY



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



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



# Making SPACES



## Winter comfort solutions from Artisan Air

This local family-owned air-conditioning business has been serving the Northern Rivers for almost 30 years, understanding how the region's unpredictable weather affects residents. With cold, wet conditions lingering longer than usual this year, many homes are struggling with both chilly temperatures and excess humidity.

Modern air-conditioning systems offer more than summer cooling – they provide efficient heating and dehumidification functions, perfect for tackling damp, uncomfortable

conditions. Artisan Air's experienced team offers comprehensive maintenance services to ensure existing systems operate efficiently, plus professional installation of new energy-efficient units.

Don't let wet, cold weather compromise your comfort. Contact Artisan Air today for maintenance.

**(02) 6680 9394**  
**hello@artisanair.com.au**  
**www.artisanair.com.au**



## Unprecedented demand for battery installations

ProSolar is installing home battery systems across the Northern Rivers at a record pace as demand surges. Locals increasingly recognise the importance of storing solar energy for use at night, ensuring energy independence and lower electricity bills. With the NSW battery rebate making storage solutions more affordable than ever, households are seizing the opportunity to maximise their solar investment. ProSolar's expert team is leading the charge, equipping homes with cutting-edge battery technology that enhances energy resilience and sustainability. As power prices fluctuate and grid reliability concerns grow, more residents are turning to solar storage as a smart, long-term solution. The Northern Rivers community is embracing the future of renewable energy, and ProSolar is proud to be at the forefront of this transition.

**ProSolar Australia, 6/71 Molesworth St, Lismore**  
**(02) 7912 0760 • prosolaraustralia.com.au**



## Why choose Unblock Pipe Clearing?

Unlike Unblock Pipe Clearing, many plumbers don't have the latest technology, equipment or experience that comes with specialising in clearing blocked pipes and drains.

The equipment allows them to accurately locate, identify and fix the issue correctly the first time. They don't just fix the issue, they will give you a warranty on most jobs! Now doing septic system new installations, upgrades and servicing.

Being a local, family-run business, you can be assured that they will take care of your best interests.

**Phone 0429 888 683**

## Swap a Bottle

Swap a Bottle is a 100% locally-owned and family-run independent LP gas supply business, conveniently located in South Murwillumbah. Since their distributor Noel from Brunswick Valley Gas has sold to Elgas, they are thrilled to be providing a local gas supply option, and delivering personally in the area!

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

**10 Kite Crescent, South Murwillumbah**  
**Free Call: 1300 727 013**  
**www.swapabottlegas.com**



## Working Windows by Jake

Are your windows and doors working?  
 Are you prepared for the imminent arrival of winged friends carried by the breeze?  
 Well, fret no more! Don't replace... REPAIR and SAVE with Working Windows.

Jake and Toby are local experts specialising in the repair and, if necessary, replacement of windows, doors, fly screens and security screens. With 10+ years experience in timber, aluminium and uPVC products, they pride themselves on always delivering top-quality, eco-friendly results that best benefit you and your environment.

Contact them today via phone or email, or check out their website for more information.

**workingwindows.com.au**  
**Jake 0435 506 465**  
**Toby 0405 793 994**  
**workingwindows1@gmail.com**

## Cactus Hill Project is on the move!



69 Burringbar St, Mullumbimby  
home@cactushillproject.com.au

You might have heard the rumour that Cactus Hill Project is closing, or has been given notice, or that a new bottle shop is taking over the site! Correct on two occasions however...

After 10 years on the corner at the entrance to Mullum, Cactus Hill Project, your favourite beautiful and fabulous homewares store is moving across the road to the new white Bridgelands building. Taking over the camping disposal store, Cactus Hill is moving in.

Happy and very lucky that another shop became available, Cactus Hill are very glad to be staying in Mullumbimby. Proud that the town is holding on to its independent roots and small town flavour.

Expect the fantastic new store to be open in early October.



## Eden at Byron

Get your garden ready for spring planting. If you haven't yet tried our locally-produced organic Living Farm Compost, then now is the time. It's a game-changer! It enriches the soil, gently feeding and nourishing plants while encouraging earthworm activity and increasing moisture retention. Healthy soil means happy, healthy plants, and that means fewer pests and diseases for you to worry about.

Add compost to new or existing garden beds. You can plant directly into it, so it's great for no-dig gardens too.

Top up the mulch on garden beds to help conserve moisture and suppress weeds. BFA certified-organic sugar cane mulch is ideal for herb and vegetable gardens.

**Eden at Byron**  
140 Bangalow Road, Byron Bay  
(02) 6685 6874  
www.edenatbyron.com.au

## Permastructure Sustainable Building

The cost of building materials has risen sharply in recent years. But when it comes to building a home, cutting costs in the wrong places can mean sacrificing performance, durability, and even health.

From 2025, all new homes in Australia must comply with BASIX requirements and achieve a minimum 7-star energy rating. These updated codes aren't just red tape — they are about creating homes that perform better in every season, last longer, and provide healthier living environments through improved air quality, ventilation, and moisture (mould) control.

At Permastructure Pty Ltd, sustainability is the baseline. We design and build in ways that not only meet but exceed these standards, creating homes that respect the environment, protect your health, and truly stand the test of time.

**www.permastructure.com.au**  
8/19-21 Centennial Circuit, Byron Bay  
0428 471 061



www.echo.net.au

# Making SPACES

## Living Earth Gardens

Bringing exceptional garden and property maintenance to life throughout the beautiful Byron Shire. Living Earth Gardens specialise in everything from acreage mowing and residential lawn care to deep-weeding, mulching, pruning, heavy-duty brush cutting and landscaping. The team offers a complete, fully insured care plan, tailored to each outdoor space. Clients including real estate agencies, strata groups, commercial properties and private homeowners all benefit from their reliable and professional approach. Their team consistently delivers efficient, beautiful results with a flawless five-star rating reflecting their ability to deliver a quality service.

Living Earth Gardens is the trusted choice for transforming and maintaining verdant, vibrant gardens and now is the perfect time to clean out, in preparation for summer growth!

**livingearthgardens.com.au**  
0430 297 101



## Bisque Relocation Sale – stock moving fast

Bisque is relocating to a new prime showroom, and they're clearing all current floorstock before the move. Enjoy 50% off showroom stock, with special offers including 20% off leather dining chairs and rugs and 60% off marble basins.

Open daily from 10am to 4pm, and due to demand they'll also be opening an extra day next Saturday, 29 September.

Stock is moving quickly, and each piece is unique, so we recommend visiting soon to secure the designs you love.

Come explore the collection and take home timeless, coastal luxe pieces at exceptional value.

**2/4-60 Centennial Circuit, Byron Bay**



## Grow the future with vanilla

Are you a hobby farmer, landowner, agri-entrepreneur or investor looking for a low-maintenance, high-potential opportunity?

Discover the automated, climate-controlled Vanilla Dome – an innovative, self-regulating cultivation unit designed for maximum yield with minimal resource use. Developed in Australia, these domes use intelligent automation to manage temperature, humidity, and light cycles, allowing year-round vanilla flowering and production on demand.

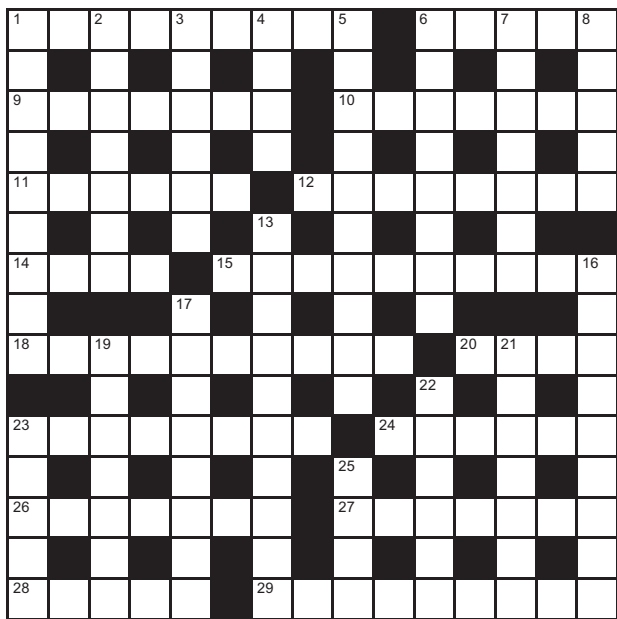
Whether you're a hobby farmer wanting a sustainable side income, a commercial grower looking to scale with precision, or an investor seeking an eco-smart agri-tech asset, Vanilla Domes offer real returns – with water-saving design, energy efficiency, and minimal labour input. Learn more or invest today!

Expressions of interest are now invited for dome purchase or co-investment opportunities.

Join the vanilla revolution – grow smart, grow sustainably.

**www.vanillaplantation.com.au**  
**Instagram: @australianvanillaplantations**  
**LinkedIn: Australian Vanilla Plantations**  
**Contact: David Soo 0404 116 988**  
**dsoo@vanillaplantation.com.au**





**Cryptic Clues**

**ACROSS**

1. Spooner's sensible tasks done with power tools (9)
6. Short part of play put back by malfunction (3,2)
9. Car on line via radio? That's prompt! (7)
10. Bishop flees large sauna, discomposed by lizards (7)
11. At end of term agent rifled drawer (6)
12. Trial biting at international match (4,4)
14. Badly made cheese (4)
15. Warden makes fearless goalie, perhaps (10)
18. Explorer in hut spilled beans (10)
20. Commercial one initially taped in passage (4)
23. Wise man everyone turns to now, originally an explorer (8)
24. Drunkard comes back to drink, and even bet (4-2)
26. Cunning Pole left rowers (7)
27. Explorer finds learners beset by hairy mongrel (7)
28. Forced into cricket, possibly caught out (5)
29. Very special commie landlord! (3-6)

**DOWN**

1. Conservative not dangerous, but lacking appeal (9)
2. Thursday in Guiana, exotic island in the Caribbean (7)
3. Purlain English pound, get small change (6)
4. One who comes out goes back, not up (4)
5. Drunken hedonist gulps whisky and Coke, causing alert (8,2)
6. Explorer gets bad name capturing UN police officer (8)
7. Get edgy present, perhaps tops of undies and pants (5,2)
8. Suggest something to be included in medical implant (5)
13. Guy works endlessly to become a criminal (10)
16. Judge to compensate *Echo* reader – finally, one who's contributed to Council costs! (9)
17. Kentucky viewed through narrow opening in roof (8)
19. Israel wrong to imprison head of government in North African city (7)
21. Musical notes limited to high part (7)
22. Miner has no right to dog (6)
23. African native raised in Asia's amphitheatres (5)
25. Second half of barred storage facility (4)

■ If you would like to provide any feedback to Stephen Clarke about his crosswords please email: [crosswordfeedback@echo.net.au](mailto:crosswordfeedback@echo.net.au)

**Quick Clues**

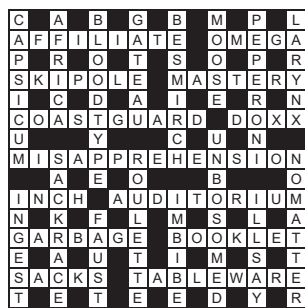
**ACROSS**

1. Tree-cutting power tools (9)
6. Misbehave or malfunction (3,2)
9. Teleprompter for presenters (7)
10. Tropical lizards with spiny crests (7)
11. Object that attracts iron filings (6)
12. Crucial trial that proves value (4,4)
14. Dutch cheese with red wax coating (4)
15. Estate employee who manages wildlife (10)
18. Antarctic explorer who led *Endurance* expedition (10)
20. Horizontal mine entrance (4)
23. Portuguese navigator who first circumnavigated globe (8)
24. Something with equal chances either way (4-2)
26. Dexterous deception, often in magic tricks (7)
27. First person to summit Mount Everest with Tenzing Norgay (7)
28. Small picture inserted within larger one (5)
29. Memorable or significant (3-6)

**DOWN**

1. Lacking appeal or attractiveness (9)
2. Caribbean island nation with Barbuda (7)
3. Five-cent coin in Australia (6)
4. Lying in (4)
5. Alert and mentally sharp (8,2)
6. First explorer to reach South Pole (8)
7. Become rigid with anxiety (5,2)
8. Put forward as fact or suggestion (5)
13. Criminal or wrongdoer (10)
16. Person who contributes to local council taxes (9)
17. Window built into roof (8)
19. Capital city of Algeria (7)
21. Higher vocal part sung above melody (7)
22. Herding dog breed with pointed snout (6)
23. People of the highlands of Tanzania and Kenya (5)
25. Small outdoor building for storage (4)

**Last week's solution #69**



# Anti-Anti-Immigration: The Gentle Art of Talking to Strangers

Every time we plug our ears with headphones and look at our screens we are missing out on genuine connection. It seems ironic to think that people are plugged into devices scrolling for love and likes from people they may never meet, often while standing in a room full of actual people. Look up. Ask a question. Listen. Learn. It's how we become better people. Not by talking about ourselves, but by listening to the stories of others.

A few months ago, when my taxi didn't arrive for an airport transfer I ordered an Uber. The closest was a Comfort Uber. Apparently, they're nicer, cleaner, more prestigious vehicles. When I pressed through I got this weird choice of basically being able to ask the driver not to talk to me. While the idea of a quiet ride is probably appealing to some, on what planet do you need to press a button to request no human interaction? Can't you use actual interaction to ask for that? I don't request it. I have a question to ask my Uber driver: 'How many people ask for no chat?' My driver is a softly-spoken man born in India. He tells me, most people. I was like, 'No way!' I say: 'Maybe they need to change the selection on the app to, 'I am too important to speak to you,' or, 'I'm an asshole don't bother'. The driver laughs and says, 'You obviously aren't from Sydney ma'am'. He's right. But I am on the way to the airport so he's got a 50/50 chance on predicting that one. Plus, I'm chatty. It's 5am. This guy has either been driving all night or he's just started. He has a life, and for this brief moment in time ours intersect. Why would you lose that chance to find out about someone's experience? I am like a life detective.

I always talk to my taxi or Uber drivers. Sometimes they are the most interesting people you meet all day. And usually the people I talk to are new Australians. The first question I ask is, 'What do you do when you aren't driving?' Usually your driver will be smarter, more educated, more worldly and more linguistically diverse than you. But things aren't easy for them. That's why they are driving. So listen up.

My driver on this particular trip was a civil engineer. He was driving to earn



Image created using AI

**When I left he thanked me for talking. He said it made his day. So simple. I put down my phone and asked him a question.**

extra money to afford the move to Rockhampton, where he was going to be moving with his wife and his new baby, for his first Australian position in his chosen profession. He was nervous about leaving Sydney and moving to a Queensland country town. He was worried there may not be an Indian community there to touch base with. I made some suggestions about where to find mothers' groups – through churches and libraries. When he pulled over he wrote it down and said, 'I will call my wife after this trip. Thank you.' I will never see Rajesh again, but we had a real conversation. It wasn't small

talk. We spoke of belonging, of what it is like to be on the outside. When I left he thanked me for talking. He said it made his day. So simple. I put down my phone and asked him a question.

Last week in Sydney my taxi driver was second-generation Chinese. His parents came here as migrants. He was passionate about politics. We talked about the need for radical change. My next taxi driver was from Pakistan. His degree was in media and communications, but to meet his visa requirements he was learning carpentry. He said it was challenging, but he liked it.

I am a white Australian. That makes me a descendant of migrants too. All non-Indigenous Australians are descendants of migrants. So stop using anti-immigration as a cover for racism, and ask people why they came here and what their experience is. It's humbling to meet such resilient people.

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

## STARS BY LILITH

Dadaaah! It's showtime on the celestial stage as Venus and Mercury in Leo bling this week with a dose of cosmic catnip...



VIRGO THE VIRGIN

**ARIES:** Aries' natural instinct is to say yes, but don't confuse generosity with obligation. You're not under any obligation to resurrect old storylines. If your energy starts flagging, it's time to call a wrap. And if your gut says go left this week when the group's leaning right, trust it.

**TAURUS:** With Venus romping into her most showy, extrovert mode, which is also your home zone, no way you won't be splurging on a few feel-good items of comfort luxe. This week's Sun and Mercury are both great for creative self-expression, though less so for objectivity. Most helpful advice? Lighten up.

**GEMINI:** Virgo season activates your inner systems analyst, but no need to overhaul your life in one go – though you will need to make space for activities that support your nervous system. Tiny refinements can make a big difference, so let this week's Venus bring a touch of grace to your daily routines.

**CANCER:** Venus leaving your touchy-feely sign to align with Mercury in your sensible sector of resources and income is your cosmic call to rethink earning, spending and saving. Whether by streamlining shared expenses or brokering better deals, this week's about financial decisions that don't delete joy and pleasure.

**LEO:** A premium week for Leos, with Venus in your sign to support Mercury in restoring your roar by supercharging your powers of attraction. While you're being applauded and appreciated, love yourself up this week by doing exercise that feels good and getting plenty of quality rest.

**VIRGO:** This week's Venus in your private, poetic twelfth house opens a portal to investigate your inner world at an unhurried pace. You may find creative ideas and solutions downloading more readily when you're alone, than birthday partying. And is it time to retire some of those old habits?

**LIBRA:** Venus in Libra's sector of community-activism turns your focus to people who share your core values. Since Venus rules the arts and culture, this week asks how can you use your time, energy and talents to contribute to making the world a more Venusian place.

**SCORPIO:** Your professional sector isn't about instant wins, it's about building a legacy, and with the creative synergy of Venus and Mercury drawing attention to your public image, this week offers the opportunity to make not only a first, but also a lasting impression, especially during the weekend Scorpio moon.

**SAGITTARIUS:** Venus in your venturesome ninth house ignites curiosity, an expanded sense of possibility and a healthy dose of playfulness – it isn't interested in the tried and true, or playing by rules. So best not make assumptions about anything this week – ask! Clarify and check changing roles, goals and timelines.

**CAPRICORN:** This week's star-map offers a rare portal to pause and review the bigger picture. Are your daily efforts supporting your long-term game? Have you outgrown any aspects of this plan? The current cosmic checkpoint favours practical assessment of things like budgets, timelines, job descriptions and resource allocation.

**AQUARIUS:** Venus taking her annual dive into your partnership zone is your cue to recalibrate daily relationship habits, like emotional availability and tenderness, that need regular maintenance. If this means addressing unresolved issues, then engage rather than confront. Ask the awkward questions, offer that overdue apology.

**PISCES:** This week is about boundaries. If you've been caretaking at the expense of your own vitality, notice when you're pulled to rescue or overextend, and pause before responding. Even well-intentioned efforts need to be weighed against your actual capacity. This isn't being selfish, it's wisdom in action.

## Eclectic Selection

### What's on this week



**Jesse Witney** serves up his brand-new single 'Lemonade' with a free show at the Beachy. Known for his soulful voice, feel-good rhythms, and infectious stage presence, Jesse promises a night brimming with good vibes, dancing, and singalong moments.

**Thursday from 6pm at the Beach Hotel, Byron Bay. Free show.**



Brisbane-born **Luke Pauley** quit his job and moved to The Gold Coast to pursue a love affair with music – he is a refreshing singer-songwriter, painting with a broad stroke of genres.

**Friday from 5pm at the Kingscliff Beach Bowls Club. Free show.**



**Harry Nichols** is an incredibly talented musician and singer who is a master at creating unique blends of blues, rock, pop, and funk, resulting in an addictive and unforgettable performance – Harry's bringing his band for five times the fun!

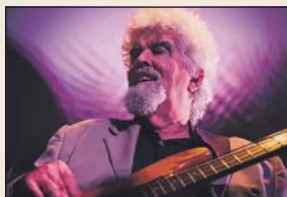
**Saturday at The Rails, Byron Bay. Free show.**



The screening sensation known as **The Big Bike Film Night** returns to the Northern Rivers for 2025 and is pedalling across the region with a program celebrating cycling in all its glorious shapes and forms.

**Thursday, 7pm at the Brunswick Picture House, Brunswick Heads. Tickets from \$21 via brunswickpicturehouse.com.**

**Saturday, 5.30pm at the Star Court Theatre, Lismore. Tickets from \$15 via starcourtheatre.com.au.**



Borne of a deep connection to roots and country-soul music, and a life experience steeped in myriad musical collaborations, **Greg Lyon** is one of Australia's most experienced and versatile musicians, and he leads a band of world-class players and singers.

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

**The Road to Patagonia** is a stunning, intimate and unflinching series of love letters within a documentary – firstly a love between two people, and secondly between humanity and the Earth.

**Wednesday at 7pm at the Brunswick Picture House, Brunswick Heads. Tickets from \$20 via brunswickpicturehouse.com.**



Coming out of Coffs' northern beaches is **Boss Stomp**, an unmistakable thumping rock-roots duo that's rewriting the rulebook on genre-bending. Check out their signature blend of slide-guitar blues and alt-rock energy.

**Sunday from 12.30pm at the M-Arts Precinct, Murwillumbah. Free show.**



## Deepdown at the Backroom

**Mariano Mellino**, born in Buenos Aires, began his career in electronic music at the young age of 19, looking up to artists like Hernan Cattaneo, Nick Warren, John Digweed, Sasha, Danny Howells and many other significant house DJs.

After many years exploring, training and experiencing the booth, he accomplished dynamic sets mixing progressive house and melodic techno, resulting in a unique experience.

He has performed around the world, touring countries such as Germany, Holland, Belgium, Israel, India, Mexico, Spain, USA, Japan, Greece, Hungary, Malta, Brazil, Uruguay, Bolivia, Peru and Paraguay – to name some of the main scenes.

During his 20-year experience as a progressive house DJ he has shared the booth with international artists such as Hernan Cattaneo, Sasha, Tale Of Us, Solomun, Eric Prydz, Artbat, Guy Gerber, James Zabiela, Acid Pauli, Nick Warren, Danny Howells, Lee Burridge, Patrice Baumel, Infected Mushroom, Stephan Bodzin, Guy Mantzur, 3D, Eelke Kleijn, and many others.

His productions have climbed the world's top-ten charts, with releases on the most important labels worldwide.

Joining him is **Jamie Stevens**, one of Australia's finest, founder of the legendary Infusion and a producer behind some of the most sophisticated and forward-thinking sounds in the scene. His career is marked by constant evolution and a refined musical vision.

Get ready for an immersive experience where sound friendship, and atmosphere come together to create something truly unforgettable.

**Friday from 9pm at The Northern, Byron Bay: tickets.oztix.com.au.**



**35-43 JONSON ST  
BYRON BAY  
6685 6454**

**THENORTHERN.COM.AU**

Facebook Instagram @thenorthernbyronbay

<b>WED 27 AUG</b>	Front Bar: Dan Hannaford 6pm-9pm Duelling Piano Bar 9pm
<b>THUR 28 AUG</b>	Thursday 21.08 - Front Bar: Ino Pio 5pm-8pm + Dj Quendo 8:30pm Duelling Piano Bar 9pm
<b>FRI 29 AUG</b>	Front Bar: Kane Muir Duo 7pm-10pm + Poly&Co 10:30pm Duelling Piano Bar 8pm <b>BACKROOM: DEEPDOWN W MARIANO MELLINO   DOORS 9PM</b>
<b>SAT 30 AUG</b>	Front Bar: Jordan Mac 7pm + The Wet Fish 10pm Duelling Piano Bar 8pm <b>BACKROOM: BANGERS &amp; MASH (free entry) ,DOORS 8PM</b>
<b>SUN 31 AUG</b>	Front Bar: Jason Delphin 6pm \$15 MARGIS ALL DAY , 2X TACOS \$16, COMBO MARGI + 2 TACOS \$27
<b>MON 1 SEP</b>	Front Bar: Alex Bowen 6pm Duelling Piano Bar 9pm
<b>TUES 2 SEP</b>	Front Bar: Marshall Okell 6pm Duelling Piano Bar 9pm



**BANGERS & MASH - SAT**



**SUNDAY  
MARGIS AND TACOS!**



# Seven

seven days of entertainment

## Festival's 10th year swansong

A much-admired event on the Australian regional music festival circuit, the lovingly-curated **Nimbin Roots Festival** celebrates its 10th birthday this October. The three-day vibrant celebration of original music and artistic expression will be headlined by festival favourites **Dog Trumpet** along with **Hussy Hicks, The Audreys, Paul Greene** and around 40 other national and local acts on **October 24 to 26**.

A self-funded celebration of regional and national roots music, the milestone anniversary also marks Nimbin Roots Festival's last hurrah, which Festival founder and director **Lou Bradley** announced this week.

'After 10 years and tens of thousands of attendees who have found their way to the beautiful, alluring, family-friendly and endlessly fascinating village of Nimbin for our festival, it's a bitter-sweet decision to end the annual event,' said Lou. 'We started Nimbin Roots Festival in 2016 when we were struggling to find a festival that wasn't too big and wasn't too small to play at, to perform my original music.'

An ARIA-nominated singer-songwriter and musician whose greatest joy is communing with like-minded musicians, Lou Bradley also founded and premiered the inaugural Mullum Roots Festival in July of this year. After the new festival's critical and ticket sales success, she decided to focus her festival programming efforts solely on Mullumbimby from 2026.

But for now, all energies are directed on bringing the 10th and final Nimbin Roots Festival to its loyal audiences in the NSW Northern Rivers and the many visitors who travel to the festival especially for the unique ambiance only Nimbin can offer. Patrons enjoy wandering around the village, truly experiencing Nimbin, its intimate venues and diverse people, instead of being in one big paddock.

Three-day festival passes, individual one-day passes and separate camping passes are available and include access to all venues and shows. The Festival includes a **Peace and Love Parade** that's as musical as it is colourful, and the town overflows with art, poetry, workshops, markets and food – as all great festivals must!

As well as Dog Trumpet, and the Audreys, there will be **Paul Greene, Kingfisha** and **Mungo Fungo** (a Regurgitator offshoot), the lineup this October includes **Hussy Hicks, Wild Marmalade, Emily Lubitz** (Tinpan Orange), **Allison Forbes, Joshua Lee Wright, Thirst Trap, The Golden Gaytimes** and many more. Lou Bradley will also take the stage at her final Nimbin Roots Festival, with mixed feelings but no regrets. 'I'm really proud of what we have steadfastly achieved over these ten years', she said.

**More info and tickets: [www.nimbinrootsfest.com](http://www.nimbinrootsfest.com).**

**JEREZAÑA**  
Special Performance by  
**PACO LARA**  
World Class Guitarist from Jerez, Spain

**SAT, 29 AUG, 7PM**  
**MARVELL HALL**  
**37 MARVELL STREET**  
PAELLA WILL BE SOLD AT THE VENUE  
BYO TO COMPLETE THE NIGHT!

**SEBASTIAN SANCHEZ**  
FLAMENCO DANCERS (AUS/ESP)

EVENT & TIX INFO  
\$45/\$40

BAYFM COMMUNITY RADIO PRESENTS

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Sept 6<sup>th</sup> - Sept 27<sup>th</sup>  
Course runs over 4 Saturdays  
9.30 - 1.30pm

LEARN WHAT IT TAKES TO BECOME A RADIO PRESENTER IN THIS FUN, HANDS-ON COURSE HELD IN THE BAYFM STUDIOS BYRON BAY

Bookings & Info  
E: [rasela@bayfm.org](mailto:rasela@bayfm.org)  
W: [bayfm.org](http://bayfm.org)  
P: 6680 7999

**THE FILTHY ANIMALS**  
CLASSIC ROCK RANGERS!

**GLEN MUIRHEAD** KEYS  
**DAVE LESLIE** GUITAR  
**BOBBY POULTON** BASS  
**MARK FURZE** VOCALS  
**DAN COX** GUITAR  
**KERRY JACOBSON** DRUMS

ENROGLITTERS BABY ANIMALS WOLF MOTHER THE VOICE THE POOR DRAGON

**SUN 31 AUG 4:30PM**  
**BEACH HOTEL, BAY ST. BYRON BAY**

**WILD MARMALADE**

**FREE SUNDAY SESH**  
**SUN 7<sup>th</sup> SEPT**  
**BEACH HOTEL BYRON BAY 4-7PM**

# Seven

seven days of entertainment

## An intimate flamenco duet

Experience the heartbeat of Jerez in an up-close, one-night performance as flamenco guitarist **Paco Lara** and dancer **Sebastián Sánchez** bring Jerezañía to Byron Bay.

This intimate concert distils the essence of Andalusian flamenco – raw emotion, virtuoso guitar, and expressive dance – celebrating lineage, artistry, and the deep cultural roots both artists share with Jerez de la Frontera.

Across the evening, the dialogue between guitar and dance becomes its own story: subtle compás building to powerful rhythms, crisp footwork answering melodic falsetas, and moments of stillness where silence is as eloquent as sound. Whether you're a long-time aficionado, or discovering flamenco for the first time, **Jerezañía** invites you into the living tradition of Jerez – immediate, personal, and thrillingly alive.

**Friday at 7pm (doors from 6.30pm) at Marvell Hall, 37 Marvell St, Byron Bay. Tickets \$45 general, \$40 concession. [events.humanitix.com/jerezañia-bryon-bay](http://events.humanitix.com/jerezañia-bryon-bay).**



## Get FRISK-y with DJs Pob and Mr Nice

Introducing **FRISK** – a new sound experience in Byron with vinyl OGs **Pob** and **Mr Nice** as they dig deep into their eclectic, worldly collections – spinning wax and weaving vibes from dancefloors around the globe.

DJ Pob is an old club-head who's been hanging out behind the decks for over two decades and he still totally loves it... he gets his kicks dancing while he plays, engaging and creating a dialogue with the dance floor.

Mr Nice is a DJ who knows how to bring the party to life. Playing a wide range of genres including deep house, deep

funk, funk, house, and disco, Mr Nice is not your average entertainer. He'll take you on a wild ride with his unique blend of beats and rhythms, leaving you craving for more. If you're looking for someone who can get the dance floor grooving and keep the energy high all night long, then Mr Nice is your guy.

**A free event for music lovers, dancers, and good crew. Come and enjoy these sweet tunes.**

**Register at [www.northbyronhotel.com.au/events/frisk/](http://www.northbyronhotel.com.au/events/frisk/) to let them know you are coming. Saturday from 5pm at North Byron Hotel's cosy Side Lounge.**

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

Northern Rivers Conservatorium presents

# Lyrical Masterpieces

Escape into a world of glowing sound & radiant melodies.

Showcasing violinist Doretta Balkizas and pianist Brieley Cutting in a stunning program of French and German classics.

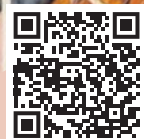
20 September

A passionate chamber musician, Doretta returns to Australia after years performing with Europe's top ensembles including the London Symphony Orchestra and Mahler Chamber Orchestra.

4pm  
NRC Concert Room  
152 Keen St, Lismore  
\$40 / \$28 / \$18 (under 18)

As a musician, Brieley has "at her disposal a myriad of different colours, who knows how to take the time to let the music speak".

*Debussy · Boulangier · Messiaen · Sutherland · Brahms*



BOOK NOW



# Seven

seven days of entertainment

# GIG GUIDE

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

## CINEMA



### Double your freak

Did we like it the first time? Do we want to see the same madness a second time?

Well, the choice has been made for us, so we may as well go along for the ride – two decades after their unforgettable body-swap debacle, *Freakier Friday* reunites **Lindsay Lohan** and **Jamie Lee Curtis** for a fresh, fast-paced, and heartwarming new chapter in the beloved comedy franchise. With signature Disney charm and a modern twist, this spirited sequel blends millennial nostalgia with new generational chaos, proving some lessons are worth repeating.

Now a grown woman juggling career, co-parenting and a second marriage, Anna (Lohan) finds herself back in the same house, and the same family dynamic that once turned her world upside down. Her mother Tess (Curtis), recently retired and, feeling increasingly out of step with her daughter's hectic life, is doing her best to hold it all together. But when an unexpected magical mishap triggers another body swap, this time involving multiple family members across three generations, the result is a riotous, multi-perspective adventure in walking a mile in someone else's shoes (or heels).

*Freakier Friday* is a joyous celebration of family and the beautiful mess of growing up at any age. A feel-good cinematic treat for audiences, young and old, returning fans and first-timers alike.

You can see this and other great movies at **Palace Cinemas, Byron Bay** – [palacecinemas.com.au](http://palacecinemas.com.au).

### WEDNESDAY 27

- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **LUKE PAULEY**
- BYRON THEATRE 7.30PM **BANGALOW THEATRE COMPANY – COME FROM AWAY**
- NORTH BYRON HOTEL 5PM **DJ NIC CAMPBELL**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 9PM **DUELLING PIANOS – BODHI ACTON & DIZZY J**
- BANGALOW BOWLO 7.30PM **BANGALOW BOWLO BANGALOW BRACKETS' OPEN MIC SESSION**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 7PM **THE ROAD TO PATAGONIA**
- THE PADDOCK PROJECT, MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM **OPEN MIC JAM**
- SALTBAR, KINGSCLIFF, 6PM **LACHIE DWYER**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 6.30PM **KINGY COMEDY – FEAT FIONA MCGARY**

### THURSDAY 28

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **MARSHALL OKELL DUO**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **JESS WITNEY + KANE MUIR TRIO, SAY YES TO THE SUN & ANISHA**
- BYRON THEATRE 7.30PM **BANGALOW THEATRE COMPANY – COME FROM AWAY**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 5PM **INO PIO + DJ QUENDO, 9PM DUELLING PIANOS – MICK BUCKLEY & DIZZY J**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 6PM **OLE FALCOR**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 7PM **THE BIG BIKE FILM NIGHT 2025**
- SAINT MARIES, BRUNSWICK HEADS, 6PM **MONDO HUM**
- LENNOX HOTEL 8PM **THURSDAY JAM NIGHT**
- KELP, BALLINA, 6PM **LUKE YEAMAN**
- ELTHAM HOTEL 6PM **BLUEGRASS JAM**
- LISMORE CITY BOWLO 7PM **THE SUPPER CLUB SOUL BAND**
- THE CITADEL, MURWILLUMBAH, 7PM **EMILY LUBITZ**

### FRIDAY 29

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **JB'S BLUES BREAKERS**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 5PM **KALAKARI**
- BYRON THEATRE 7.30PM **BANGALOW THEATRE COMPANY – COME FROM AWAY**
- NORTH BYRON HOTEL 4.30PM **DJ DAVI BANGMA**
- ELEMENTS OF BYRON 5PM **GUY AND NICCI**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 7PM **KANE MUIR DUO + POLY & CO, 8PM DUELLING PIANOS – MICK BUCKLEY & JOHN HILL + SHANE PARRY, 9PM MARIANO MELLINO & JAMIE STEVENS**
- MARVEL ST HALL, BYRON BAY, 7PM **JEREZANÍA**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 6PM **TODD KEMMLER & TOM HARRINGTON**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 7PM **EMILY LUBITZ**
- OCEAN SHORES TAVERN 5.30PM **OPEN MIC NIGHT**
- ST JOHN'S SCHOOL HALL, MULLUMBIMBY, 7.30PM **ECSTATIC DANCE MULLUM WITH DJ XUJA**
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY, 8PM **KRAPPYKEE WITH JESS**
- AUSTRALIAN HOTEL, BALLINA, 8PM **ANIMAL VENTURA**
- THE LEVEE, LISMORE, 8.30PM **SANI**
- MURWILLUMBAH SERVICES CLUB 6.30PM **TAYLAH LITTLE**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 5PM **LUKE PAULEY**
- CLUB TWEED 7.30PM **RIVERSHED**

- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE SHOWROOM 8PM **FULL VELOCITY**
- GRUBHOUSE, COOLANGATTA, 8PM **BOSS STOMP**

### SATURDAY 30

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **HARRY NICHOLS BAND**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 3PM **ISAAC FRANKHAM + CINNAMON SUN DUO + JAMIE LOWE**
- BYRON THEATRE 2PM **BANGALOW THEATRE COMPANY – COME FROM AWAY**
- NORTH BYRON HOTEL 5PM **DJ MR NICE + DJ POB**
- PLAYGROUND, BYRON BAY, 7PM **QUEER BALL SESSION 001**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 7PM **JORDAN MAC + THE WET FISH, 8PM BACKROOM: ABEL TORO, REIFLEX & JAI TAYLOR**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 4.30PM **CALIENTE**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 7PM **SCREENING – WILDING**
- MULLUMBIMBY EX-SERVICES CLUB 6PM **DAVE POWER, 7.30PM NORTHERN RIVERS COMEDY CLUB**
- BILLINUDGEL HOTEL 6PM **THE SWAMPS**
- AUSTRALIAN HOTEL, BALLINA, 9PM **DJ TODD JAMES**
- STAR COURT THEATRE, LISMORE, 5.30PM **THE BIG BIKE FILM NIGHT 2025**
- THE LEVEE, LISMORE, 8.30PM **HUGO JONES**
- ALSTONVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOL 7PM **DUCK CREEK FILM SOCIETY SCREENING 'TINA'**
- MURWILLUMBAH SERVICES CLUB 6PM **DROVER MAD**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 5PM **RICK BARRON**
- SALTBAR, KINGSCLIFF, 6PM **JASON DELPHIN**
- CLUB TWEED 7.30PM **SOUL'D**

- SEAGULLS, TWEED HEADS, 7.30PM **THE LUKE COMBS TRIBUTE SHOW**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE SHOWROOM 8PM **CRIOLO**

### SUNDAY 31

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **PHIL & TILLEY TRIO**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 4.30PM **THE FILTHY ANIMALS**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6PM **JASON DELPHIN**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 4PM **SALMONELLA DUB SOUND SYSTEM**
- BILLINUDGEL HOTEL 1PM **STOCKADE**
- TINTENBAR HALL 2PM **THE LOVEYS**
- AUSTRALIAN HOTEL, BALLINA, 2PM **PENNY'S GROOVE**
- BALLINA RSL BOARDWALK 2.30PM **BALLINA BLUES CLUB FEAT GREG LYON'S HIP OPERATION**
- SHAW'S BAY HOTEL, BALLINA, 3PM **POLY & CO**
- M-ARTS, MURWILLUMBAH, 12.30PM **BOSS STOMP**
- SALTBAR, KINGSCLIFF, 3PM **RAMJET**
- CLUB TWEED 1PM **LAURA DOOLAN + BRETT GANNON**
- CHINDERAH TAVERN 2PM **BEAR AND SHERIFFS**

### MONDAY 1

- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **TRILLA**

### TUESDAY 2

- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE SHOWROOM 11AM **STEVEN FISHER-KING**

### WEDNESDAY 3

- BANGALOW BOWLO 7.30PM **BANGALOW BOWLO BANGALOW BRACKETS' OPEN MIC SESSION**
- ELTHAM HOTEL 6.30PM **NOT QUITE FOLK JAM**

## PALACE CINEMAS

BYRON BAY • BALLINA FAIR

SESSION TIMES  
THURSDAY AUGUST 28  
TO WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 3

THE CONJURING  
COMING SOON

CAUGHT STEALING  
NOW SHOWING



SCAN TO BOOK ONLINE

### PALACE BYRON BAY

#### SPECIAL SCREENINGS

- MULHOLLAND DRIVE (MA15+) Sat: 4:00PM
- PARASITE (MA15+) Sun: 4:00PM
- SORRY, BABY (M) Tues: 6:15PM
- THE CONJURING: LAST RITES (TC) Wed: 8:30PM
- THE ROSES (MA15+) Fri: 7:00PM
- THE SACRIFICE (M) Mon: 6:00PM
- FAMILY FILMS
- HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON (PG) Daily: 11:10AM

#### ALL FILMS

- CAUGHT STEALING (MA15+) Daily except Wed: 11:00AM, 3:40PM, 6:00PM, 8:20PM. Wed: 11:00AM, 3:40PM, 6:00PM, 8:30PM
- EDDINGTON (MA15+) Thurs, Fri, Mon, Tues: 12:00PM, 3:50PM, 6:50PM. Sat, Sun: 1:00PM, 3:50PM, 6:50PM. Wed: 3:50PM, 6:50PM
- F1: THE MOVIE (M) Daily except Tues: 11:10AM, 2:20PM, 5:30PM. Tues: 10:50AM, 5:30PM
- FREAKIER FRIDAY (PG) Thurs, Fri, Tues: 11:10AM, 1:30PM, 4:00PM, 8:30PM. Sat, Sun: 11:10AM, 1:30PM, 4:00PM, 8:30PM. Mon: 11:10AM, 1:30PM, 4:00PM, 8:45PM. Wed: 11:10AM, 1:30PM, 4:00PM
- JAWS: 50TH ANNIVERSARY (M) Daily except Sat, Sun: 1:20PM, 8:30PM. Sat, Sun: 1:10PM, 8:30PM

- THE LIFE OF CHUCK (M) Daily except Tues: 11:00AM, 1:20PM. Tues: 1:20PM, 4:40PM
- THE NAKED GUN (M) Thurs, Fri, Mon, Wed: 11:20AM, 3:50PM, 6:20PM, 8:15PM. Sat, Sun: 11:10AM, 3:50PM, 7:00PM, 8:30PM. Tues: 11:20AM, 3:30PM, 6:20PM, 8:15PM
- THE STOLEN PAINTING (M) Thurs, Fri, Mon, Tues: 11:20AM. Sat, Sun: 11:00AM
- THE THREAD (M) Daily except Mon, Wed: 11:00AM, 1:20PM, 3:45PM, 6:10PM. Mon: 11:00AM, 1:20PM, 3:40PM, 6:45PM. Wed: 11:00AM, 1:20PM, 3:40PM, 6:45PM
- WEAPONS (MA15+) Daily except Tues: 1:15PM, 5:45PM, 8:20PM. Tues: 2:00PM, 7:00PM

### BALLINA FAIR CINEMAS

- ANDRÉ RIEU MAASTRICHT CONCERT: WALTZ THE NIGHT AWAY (TC) Sat, Sun: 1:00PM
- CAUGHT STEALING (TC) Daily: 12:30PM, 2:45PM, 7:20PM
- FREAKIER FRIDAY (PG) Daily: 10:10AM, 5:00PM
- LUST FOR LIFE (PG) Sat: 2:10PM
- RELAY (M) Daily except Sat, Sun: 11:50AM, 5:00PM. Sat, Sun: 4:20PM
- THE FANTASTIC FOUR: FIRST STEPS (PG) Daily except Sat, Sun: 10:00AM, 2:10PM. Sat: 10:30AM. Sun: 10:30AM, 2:15PM
- THE NAKED GUN (M) Daily except Sat, Sun: 10:00AM, 3:00PM, 7:20PM. Sat, Sun: 10:00AM, 7:20PM
- THE ROSES (MA15+) Sat, Sun: 12:00PM, 6:45PM
- WEAPONS (MA15+) Daily except Sat, Sun: 12:20PM, 4:30PM, 7:10PM. Sat, Sun: 4:40PM

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

# ECHO CLASSIFIEDS – 6684 1777

## CLASSIFIED AD BOOKINGS

### PHONE ADS

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

### AT THE ECHO HEAD OFFICE

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

**Village Way, Stuart St, Mullumbimby**

### EMAIL ADS

Display (box ads) and line classifieds, email:

**classifieds@echo.net.au**

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

## DEADLINE TUES 12PM

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

### RATES & PAYMENT

#### LINE ADS:

**\$17.00 for the first two lines**

**\$5.00 for each extra line**

\$17 for two lines is the minimum charge.

#### DISPLAY ADS (with a border):

**\$14 per column centimetre**

These prices include GST.

**Cash, cheque, Mastercard or Visa**

Prepayment is required for all ads.

## CLASSIFIEDS THAT WORK ALL WEEK!

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

## PAVLOVICH, NELLIE

May 18, 1931 – August 21, 2025

Nellie passed at Coolamon Villa, Mullumbimby.

Much loved wife of Chris (dec) loved mother & mother-in-law of Peter & Terri, Barry & Virginia, Julie & Tim & Carolyn. Loved grandmother & great grandmother of Sam, Dane, Jesse, Ria, Britt, Ben, Carly, Kaya, William, Jack, Ellie, Bonnie, Gabby & Jonti

Family and friends are warmly invited to celebrate Nellie's life on Thursday 4th September 2025 at 11.30am at Mullumbimby Lawn Cemetery.

Nell will be sadly missed by all who knew her aged 94 years.

### BRUNSWICK VALLEY

FUNERALS  
6684 6232

## HEALTH

**Wildflower Chinese Medicine Health Clinic Mullumbimby**  
Offering a wide range of treatment modalities. Contact ph: 02 5633 1309  
www.wildflowerchinesemedicine.com.au

## KINESIOLOGY

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

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

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Bring greater focus, clarity and calm into your workplace.

Certified Mindfulness Educator Paul Bibby  
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## Body Based Psychotherapy Somatic Practice

Julie Wells  
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Dip.Som.Psych, Clinical PACFA Reg. Individual and Couple Therapy Supervision and Coaching

(02) 6685 5185  
9 Fletcher St, Byron Bay

## Kate Messenger KINESIOLOGY

Tending to all aspects of your health and wellbeing with care and compassion.

Physical ~ Emotional ~ Mental ~ Spiritual

Contact Kate for a free discovery call.

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crystalsanddreaming.com.au

## TREE SERVICES

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

## HART TREE SERVICES

20 years local experience  
• 19 inch chipper • Stump grinding  
• Cherry picker • Crane truck • Bob Cat

Fully insured • Free quotes

**0427 347 380**

## SUMMERLAND TREE SERVICES

• Arborist • 15" Wood Chipper • Stump Grinder  
• Fully Insured

Byron Bay & Surrounding Areas

**6681 3140**  
Mobile 0417 698 227

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## PUBLIC NOTICES

### LOCAL HIGHLAND BAGPIPER

Byron Shire: Weddings, Functions, Funerals, Tutoring Ph 0473174033

### WHERE TO GET THE ECHO

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

## Calling all Bruns River Landholders! FREE Support to Help Restore your Patch of Paradise.

Positive Change for Marine Life is a local group working to reconnect the Bruns river from mountains to sea.

We are here to help you with:

- Riverbank restoration
- Weed and invasive vegetation control
- Wildlife habitat installation
- Resources for managing your land



Spots are limited! Email ljepson@pcfml.org.au or call Lucy on +61 476 403 629 today.

pcfml.org.au

## COMMUNITY HOT BRUNCH FREE

### FIRST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH

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

### EVERYONE WELCOME

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

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



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

### PROBLEMS WITH ALCOHOL...? ...THERE IS HELP

TUESDAY NIGHTS 6:00PM  
73 BYRON ST, BANGALOW  
CONTACT: 0401 945 671

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 need of dedicated volunteers to be part of a big loving family. All skill sets welcome.

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

## IN MEMORIAM



**BELLA MAE BOWDEN**  
5/8/2007-30/8/2013

Our darling Bella You were here for just a moment, time dawns another year Leaving a garden of memories sprinkled with a million tears  
If only your absence had been but a dream, longing for you through time unseen So long ago the days we shared, how could we know you would not be there Though not far away with the angels above, we'll soon join the stairway and embrace you with love. Forever missed our beautiful shooting star

Yaya and Poppy Graham, Aunty Chris & Uncle Kev XXXX  
Lovingly Remembering Ivy Dawn Bowden XXXX

## DEATH NOTICES

**GEOFFREY ALLAN TOWERS (Geoff)**  
82 yrs old. Passed away LBH 16/8/25. An original Main Arm boy. Brother to Ron & deceased siblings Margaret Johnson, Ray Towers & Marilyn Mills. Dearly loved husband of Margaret, father of 2 sons, grandfather of 5, and great-grandfather of 4. Keep on truckin'!

## FUNERAL NOTICES

### Celebrating the beautiful life of Simon Campbell-Thompson



With heavy hearts, we invite family and friends to gather in love and remembrance/celebration of our beloved Simon.  
Mullumbimby Showgrounds,  
Sunday 31st August 2025, 2.30pm under the fig trees. All who knew and loved Simon are warmly welcome. Dress as you are/as you feel, bring wet weather gear Enter via Coral Ave for parking.  
Please RSVP: [keneally.erin@gmail.com](mailto:keneally.erin@gmail.com)

## Notice of an application for determination of native title in New South Wales

Notification day: 10 September 2025

This is an application by a native title claim group which is asking the Federal Court of Australia (Federal Court) to determine that the group holds native title in the area described below.

If you want to become a party to this application, you must file a Form 5 (Notice of Intention to become a Party) with the Federal Court, **on or before 9 December 2025**. Further information regarding how to file a Form 5 is available from [www.fedcourt.gov.au](http://www.fedcourt.gov.au). **After 9 December 2025**, you will need to seek leave from the Federal Court to become a party.

Under the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) there can be only one determination of native title for a particular area. If a person with native title rights and interests does not become a party to this application, there may be no other opportunity for the Federal Court, in making its determination, to take into account those native title rights and interests in relation to the area concerned.



**Application name:** Brian Kelly on behalf of the Bundjalung of Byron Bay (Nguthungulli) #4

**Federal Court File No:** NSD803/2025

**Date filed:** 19 May 2025

**Registration test status:** The Native Title Registrar has **accepted** this application for registration

**Description of area:** The application covers the Julian Rocks (Nguthungulli) Nature Reserve and waters extending to a line 100m seaward in the vicinity of Byron Bay.

**Relevant LGA:** N/A

For assistance and any further information about this application, including the description of the area, call Huia McGrath on 07 3052 4040 or visit [www.nntt.gov.au](http://www.nntt.gov.au).

## On The Horizon



### DEADLINE NOON FRIDAY

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

#### Mullumbimby Drill Hall Film Society

The next screening is on Wednesday, August 20 at 7pm with the doors, kitchen and bar open from 6.30pm. The very funny film had to be rescheduled from last month so this is your opportunity - Dr Strangelove, or How I learned to stop worrying and love the bomb is a Stanley Kubrick classic, it stars Peter Sellers in a number of roles. For all enquiries and bookings please email drillhallfilmsociety@gmail.com. Membership is now due and guests are always welcome.

10-11.30am at South Golden Beach Hall to sing uplifting songs, be inspired by some short readings and a brief meditation. Cost is a small contribution toward the hall rent. A balm for the soul.

#### Family History Society

The next general meeting of the Richmond-Tweed Family History Society will be held on Saturday, September 6, at the Ballina Players Theatre, 24 Swift Street Ballina, from 2pm to 4pm. The topic of this month's meeting will be 'The Significance of Landholding to Early Colonial Woman 1788-1810', presented by Narissa Phelps. Any further enquiries please phone Vicki Evans on 0467 573 282, afternoon tea will be supplied for a small donation. The meeting on Saturday, October 4 will feature 'Breaking Down Brick Walls in Your Family History'. Admission free and tea/coffee is available. Any further enquiries please phone Vicki Evans on 0467 573 282.

#### Tech-savvy Seniors

Free, fun tech lessons are on at Byron Bay Library. Join our friendly training sessions where library staff help you to get online and build your digital skills. The 40-minute Friday sessions offer a broad range of topics to choose from that will help you gain confidence and stay connected. The first session kicks off on Friday, September 12 and these sessions continue on to the new year. Bookings essential www.rtrl.nsw.gov.au or phone the Byron Bay branch 6685 8540.

#### Bruns U3A

Lifelong learning for retired folk in their 3rd Age. September 9 'Creativity' topic for Tuesday Forum at The Hub, Rajah Road. 10am. Interest groups. Tuesday forum, garden group, foodies, movie and lunch, Men's Shed, French revisited, Scottish folk dance, Mahjong, Walkers and Talkers, Shabashi, table tennis, chess, debating group, Ukelele. Find out more: info@bru3a.org or Denise 0423 778 573.

#### BV Probus

The Brunswick Valley Probus Club Inc. Meeting is on Tuesday, September 2 at 10am at the Ocean Shores Country Club. The guest speaker is Sarah Childs, Byron Shire Council Waste Management. Visitors welcome. Inquires ring Margaret on 6680 3316.

## Regular As Clockwork

### DEADLINE NOON FRIDAY

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

#### Mullumbimby District Neighbourhood Centre

Mullumbimby & District Neighbourhood Centre is open Monday-Friday 9am-4pm (closed 12.30-1.30pm for lunch). We offer a variety of services. Everyone is welcome. Call reception on 6684 1286.

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

#### Byron Community

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

### TRADEWORK

#### Septic Waste Removal Summerland Environmental

The Liquid Waste Specialists!

- Septic tank cleaning
  - Grease trap servicing
  - Oily Liquids
  - Portable toilet hire
  - 24 hour service
- 6687 2880

### FOR SALE

#### ORCHID SALE

Variety of quality orchids for sale. Friday 5 & Saturday 6 Sept, 9am-5pm. 6 Pandanus Court, Brunswick Heads Phone 66851709

### WANTED

**TREE FERNS**  
Any shape, size. Royalties paid. Ongoing supply needed. 0414904396

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

### GARAGE SALES

'PEACE BY PIECE' WORKSHOP SHED TREASURE SALE. Antiques, furniture, reclaimed vintage building materials and more. 7 Bugam Place, Bangalow. Sat 8am

## Tip Runs & Rubbish Removal

0408 210 772

## Second Hand Saturday:

the biggest day of garage sales  
20 September 2025  
secondhandsaturday.com.au  
Register your garage sale for free!  
Brought to you by NE Waste and your local Council.

### CARAVANS

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

### 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

**OFFICE/WORKSPACE** 42sqm \$350pw Billinudgel. Ph Lifestyle Group 66851206

### POSITIONS VACANT

**PART-TIME CLEANER/CARETAKER** for commercial property on Stuart St, Mullumbimby. 2.5-4 hours a week, hourly rate negotiable. Experience preferred. Contact 0432 929108.

**LADIES WANTED (18+ only adult work) SYDNEY & MELBOURNE**  
\*5-star ultra-luxury venues.  
\*Earn \$3000-\$6000 per week  
\*No experience required - full training  
\*Free airfare & accommodation  
SMS ONLY 0452060989  
Email: info@adult-work.com.au

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

**TAXI DRIVERS WANTED**  
Flexible work hours - perfect 2nd income  
Email operations@byronbaytaxi.com

### VOLUNTEERS WANTED

**Byron Bay Hospital Auxiliary** is a volunteer community service that helps raise funds for our local hospital.

Volunteers welcomed!  
Help with cake and plant stalls, selling raffle tickets or at the farmers markets, there's always something you can do to assist the team in their good work.

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

Contact Maureen Weir  
0266 853 162 for more information.

### VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Help with Kinship Festival - Sat 20 Sept Knox Park Murwillumbah  
Set up, during & packdown.  
All skills & backgrounds welcome!

kinship@mccentre.org.au  
(02) 6672 3003

### WORK WANTED

**1 or 2 MEN + UTE**  
Furniture and rubbish removals  
Over 15 years exp. Jarrod 0415 139 308

**CLEANER, CARING & EXPERIENCED**  
0405799243. Text only.

**WORDPRESS WEBSITE CREATION**  
Fair rates info@wordpressit.com.au

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

### TUITION

**ENGLISH TUTOR** (Experienced HSC 'Exam' Marker). Ph Jay 0401561257

## Adobe Tutoring

Experienced Professional Trainer  
• Photoshop • Indesign  
• Illustrator

contact@thinkblinkdesign.com  
www.thinkblinkdesign.com

### ONLY ADULTS

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66856330

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ivso.me/venus-knox  
0480 779 325

### SOCIAL ESCORTS

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

### PETS

**TO GIVE AWAY:** free Golden Retriever puppies to forever homes due to relocating: 1 male, 1 female. Preferably email me first at stephaniechristensen59@gmail.com before texting 0448360475



**DAISY**  
Beautiful Daisy is hovering in the background, eagerly waiting for the patient heart who will give her a loving home and allow her the time she needs. Daisy is now comfortable with head rubs and even appears to love them!  
To meet Daisy & our other cats & kittens, please visit the Cat Adoption Centre at 124 Dalley Street, Mullumbimby.  
**OPEN: Tues 2.30-4.30pm**  
**Thurs 3-5pm | Sat 10am-12 noon**  
Call AWL on 0436 845 542  
Like us on Facebook!  
AWL NSW Rehoming Organisation  
Number: R25100222



**PONTO**  
Ponto is a 6 month old, Kelpie/Collie/Cattle x Red. He is a lively, intelligent young dog who thrives on activity and purpose. He's looking for an active family, ideally with a large property for him to run around.  
#991003002702930 - 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



**TILLY**  
Meet Tilly, a 4.5 year old tortoiseshell beauty, who is incredibly affectionate, loyal and ready to fill your life with unconditional love.  
With a sweet, gentle nature, she adores human company and will happily curl up beside you or gently nuzzle you for attention.  
Whether you're working from home, reading a book or just relaxing, Tilly will offer quiet companionship.  
Rehoming #R251 00 00 60  
NRAS Northern Rivers Animal Services  
T: 6681 1860 E: shelter@nras.org.au  
W: www.nras.org.au

## 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	Kyogle Bazaar	kyoglebazaar.com.au
Last SAT	Evans Head	0432 275 765
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

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.

### PET SITTER AVAILABLE

Kind, confident animal carer available for your four-legged fur baby.  
References available.  
Call Pawla on 0415340744



**CARLTON**  
Carlton is a 10 years old Russian Blue. He's in good health and is an affectionate indoor/outdoor guy who loves people. He can also use a human toilet! **Microchip 900032002142353**  
To make an appointment  
0403 533 589 • Billinudgel  
petsforlifeanimalshelter.net

### SUN, MOON & TIDES - TIMES FOR NEXT 3 WEEKS

DATE (Aug/Sep)	DAY, MOON PHASE	SUN RISE / SET	MOON RISE / SET	HIGH TIDES, height (m)	LOW TIDES, height (m)
27	W	6:05 17:29	8:02 21:07	1044 1.37; 2242 1.40	0423 0.29; 1632 0.45
28	TH	6:04 17:29	8:30 22:02	1121 1.37; 2312 1.27	0450 0.33; 1715 0.54
29	F	6:03 17:30	9:01 22:58	1202 1.35; 2346 1.15	0520 0.37; 1807 0.63
30	SA	6:02 17:30	9:35 23:54	1253 1.33	0554 0.43; 1915 0.70
31	SU	6:01 17:31	10:14 24:00	1303 1.03; 1400 1.31	0638 0.49; 2052 0.72
1	M	6:00 17:31	10:59 0:51	0141 0.93; 1519 1.33	0740 0.54; 2229 0.67
2	TU	5:59 17:32	11:51 1:47	0319 0.91; 1630 1.39	0859 0.55; 2330 0.58
3	W	5:58 17:32	12:48 2:39	0441 0.95; 1728 1.49	1013 0.50
4	TH	5:57 17:33	13:50 3:28	0538 1.03; 1815 1.59	0014 0.49; 1112 0.41
5	F	5:55 17:33	14:54 4:11	0624 1.13; 1858 1.68	0049 0.39; 1201 0.32
6	SA	5:54 17:34	15:58 4:50	0707 1.23; 1937 1.75	0123 0.30; 1246 0.23
7	SU	5:53 17:34	17:03 5:26	0749 1.33; 2015 1.78	0156 0.22; 1330 0.16
8	M	5:52 17:35	18:07 5:59	0831 1.43; 2053 1.76	0230 0.16; 1415 0.13
9	TU	5:51 17:35	19:12 6:31	0915 1.51; 2130 1.69	0303 0.11; 1500 0.15
10	W	5:50 17:36	20:19 7:04	0959 1.58; 2209 1.56	0338 0.11; 1549 0.21
11	TH	5:48 17:36	21:28 7:40	1045 1.61; 2249 1.40	0414 0.14; 1643 0.31
12	F	5:47 17:37	22:38 8:20	1135 1.60; 2335 1.22	0452 0.20; 1745 0.42
13	SA	5:46 17:37	23:48 9:06	1232 1.56	0534 0.28; 1804 0.52
14	SU	5:45 17:38	10:00	0031 1.05; 1343 1.52	0627 0.37; 2039 0.56
15	M	5:44 17:38	0:55 11:00	0155 0.94; 1506 1.52	0739 0.45; 2212 0.52
16	TU	5:42 17:39	1:55 12:04	0339 0.94; 1623 1.55	0907 0.46; 2321 0.44
17	W	5:41 17:39	2:46 13:10	0456 1.01; 1725 1.60	1026 0.42

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)



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

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### ACCOUNTANTS & BOOKKEEPERS

## Byron Bookkeeping

Are your books a mess? We can help  
 BAS - Payroll - Super - AR/AP ...  
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 Professional | Reliable | Local  
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ARTISAN AIR Airconditioning and refrigeration. .... 66809394

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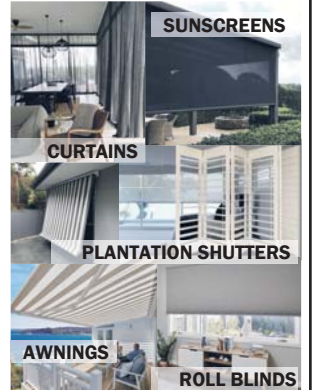
PENSIONERS THURSDAY \$25: 6 Brunswick Tce Mullum .....0421 679015

### BLINDS, AWNINGS, CURTAINS, SHUTTERS

BYRON BAY  
**BlindDESIGN**  
 BLINDS SHUTTERS AWNINGS CURTAINS

LOCAL SHOWCASE DEALER SHOWROOM  
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 ON OUR COMPLETE RANGE OF  
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### BRICKLAYING

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### BUILDING TRADES

• DEPT OF FAIR TRADING: A licence is required for all residential building work where the reasonable market cost of the work to be done (labour and materials) exceeds \$5000 (including GST).



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 66867911

110 Teven Road, Ballina  
 New logo - Same quality & service

**Structural - Landscaping**  
**Fencing - Composite Decking**  
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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)



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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

KEEG'S CARPENTER HANDYMAN local to Ballina - keen to build, fix and create! .....0431 216097

BYRON BAY CARPENTRY & CONSTR. Decks, kitchen, bath, laundry. Lic 337421c .....0432 549082

### CHIMNEY SWEEPING

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## CLEANING

**Services List**  
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Locally owned and Operated  
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Obligation free quote  
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Email: mickbhl@gmail.com



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- GUTTERS
- HOUSE WASH
- DRIVEWAYS & PATHS



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Andy **0406 641 919**  
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contact@thinkblinkdesign.com

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## CONCRETING & PAVING

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Lic.136717c

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## DECKS, PATIOS & EXTENSIONS

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# Brad Rogan from Sotheby's International Realty Byron Bay sets new benchmark in Lennox Head with cliffside sale

Brad Rogan of Sotheby's International Realty Byron Bay has just set a new benchmark in Lennox Head, selling a luxurious cliffside residence in just two days – achieving the third-highest house sale ever recorded in the suburb and the highest rate per sqm sale in Lennox history.

Positioned in one of Lennox Head's most exclusive enclaves, the home boasts uninterrupted ocean views stretching from Lennox Head to Byron Bay Lighthouse – an outlook that will never be built out. Architecturally-reimagined with natural materials and contemporary flair, the residence features expansive indoor-outdoor living, a resort-style magnesium pool, an elevator, solar system, and an oversized garage. Its prized north-to-rear aspect ensures all-day sun, while multiple alfresco spaces make it ideal for both private relaxation and large-scale entertaining.



This standout result reflects the strength of the Lennox Head market and signals the start of a busy spring selling season. Brad Rogan notes, 'It's exciting to see how active the Lennox Head market is right now. We're meeting new buyers every day who we are excited to introduce to the area.'

In this case, the buyer was brought in from Bangalow – an example of how strategic outreach

can expand interest beyond traditional boundaries. 'A great example,' says Rogan, 'of bringing a buyer from out of the area with an open mind and introducing them to a location they may not have originally considered.'

Increasingly, buyers coming through Byron Bay are recognising the exceptional position Lennox Head has to offer. With buyer confidence high and demand



for premium coastal properties continuing to surge, sellers are in a strong position to achieve standout results.

But success in this market isn't just about timing – it's about strategy and your agent. 'This result shows what's possible when your agent looks beyond simply launching a campaign. It comes down to having the reach, hustle, and skill to manoeuvre buyers with confidence

and care. It's about knowing the market intimately, working diligently behind the scenes, and being proactive every step of the way to connect the right buyer with the right property,' Rogan explains.

With spring just around the corner, now is the perfect time to prepare your property for market. 'After a very active winter, I'm excited about the momentum sellers can carry into the spring market, and the quality of new stock our team is ready to offer our buyers,' says Rogan.

Contact Brad's team at Sotheby's International Realty Byron Bay to discuss your spring campaign and take advantage of the current momentum in the Lennox and Byron markets.

■ Brad Rogan, Senior Sales Agent  
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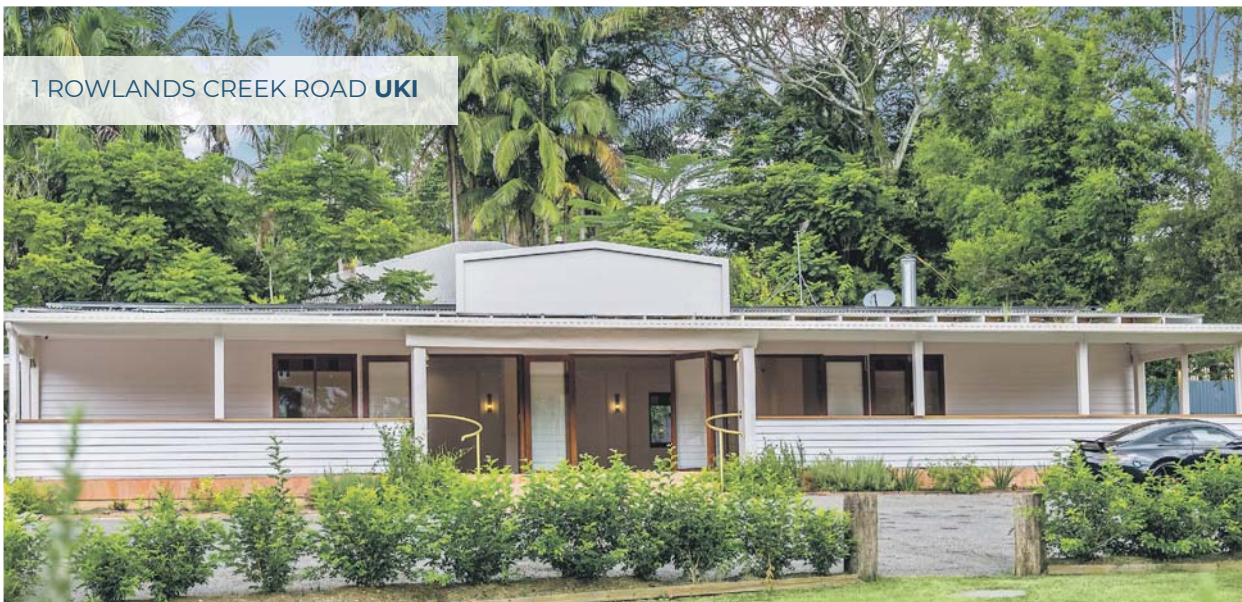
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### First National Byron

- 4/161 Tamar Street, Ballina. Wed 2-2:30pm
- 18 Corkwood Crescent, Suffolk Park, Thurs. 12-13:30pm
- 2/18 Helen Street, South Golden Beach. Thurs 12-12:30pm
- 36 Keys Road, Coorabell. Thurs 12-12:30pm
- 3/45 Belongil Crescent, Byron Bay. Thurs 1-1:30pm
- 14 Rish Court, Mullumbimby. Fri 10-10:30am
- 18 Corkwood Crescent, Suffolk Park. Sat 9-9:30am
- 103 Orana Road, Ocean Shores. Sat 9-9:30am
- 5 Karinya Place, Clunes. Sat 9.30-10am
- 2/122 Lighthouse Road, Byron Bay. Sat 10-10:30am
- 3/45 Belongil Crescent, Byron Bay. Sat 10-10:30am
- 25 Byrne Road, Rosebank. Sat 10-10:30am
- 2/18 Helen Street, South Golden Beach. Sat 10-10:30am
- 16/3 Pecan Court, Suffolk Park. Sat 10-10:30am
- 14 Rush Court, Mullumbimby. Sat 10-10:30am
- 30 Koranba Place, Coorabell. Sat 10:30-11am
- 30 Armstrong Street, Suffolk Park. Sat 11-11:30am
- 44 Argyle Street, Mullumbimby. Sat 11-11:30am
- 93 Station Street, Mullumbimby. Sat 11-11:30am
- 4/161 Tamar Street, Ballina. Sat 11-11:30am
- 234A Bangalow Road, Byron Bay. Sat 11-11:30am
- 2a Clifford Street, Suffolk Park. Sat 11-11:30am
- 325 Riverbank Road, Pimlico. Sat 11:30am-12pm
- 3 Palm Tree Crescent, Bangalow. Sat 12-12:30pm
- 20 Keats Street, Byron Bay. Sat 12-12:30pm
- 4/6 Keats Street, Byron Bay. Sat 12:30-1pm
- 2/1 Banksia Drive, Byron Bay. Sat 12:30-1pm
- 355 Corndale Road, Corndale. Sat 1-1:30pm
- 465 Uralba Road, Lynwood. Sat 1:30-2pm

### Mana Re

- 15 Muli Muli Avenue, Ocean Shores. Sat 9-9.30am
- 119 Commercial Road, Murwillumbah. Sat 9.30-10am
- 132 Middle Pocket Road, Middle Pocket. Sat 10-10.30am
- 16B Palmer Avenue, Ocean Shores. Sat 10-10.30am
- 75 New Brighton Road, New Brighton. Sat 11-11.30am
- 402 Racecourse Road, Tygalgah. Sat 11am-12pm
- 26 Redgate Road, South Golden Beach. Sat 12-12.30pm

### DJ Stringer Property Services

- 2/48 Coolangatta Rd, Coolangatta. Sat 9-9.30am
- 24/182-184 Kennedy Dr, Tweed Heads West. Sat 9-9.30am

- 9/277 Golden Four Dr, Bilinga. Sat 10-10.30am
- 1091/14-22 Stuart St, Tweed Heads. Sat 10-10.30am
- 2085/18-20 Stuart St, Tweed Heads. Sat 10.30-11am
- 501/85 Golden Four Dr, Bilinga. Sat 11-11.30am
- 2104/18-20 Stuart St, Tweed Heads. Sat 11-11.30am
- 2/15 Boyd St, Tweed Heads. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 803/106 Pacific Pde, Bilinga. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 5/14 Bolton St, Kirra. Sat 1-1.30pm
- 38 Amaroo Dr, Banora Point. Sat 1-1.30pm
- 10 Mourne Terrace, Banora Point. Sat 2-2.30pm

### Dodds Real Estate

- 170 Dixons Road, Burringbar: Sat 10-10.30am

### Harcourts Northern Rivers

- 3/20 The Terrace, East Ballina. Sat 09.30-10am
- 66 Riverside Drive, West Ballina. Sat 10.30-11am
- 722 Pimlico Road, Pimlico. Sat 10.30-11am
- 412 Bagotville Road, Meerschaum Vale. Sat 11.15-11.45am
- 2/10 Marge Porter Place, West Ballina. Sat 11.30am-12pm
- 2c Fletcher Street, Broadwater. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 20 Cedar Crescent, East Ballina. Sat 12.30-1pm
- 16/121 Kalinga Street, West Ballina. Sat 1-1.30pm
- 15/41-47 Skinner Street, Ballina. Sat 1.45-2.15pm

### Real Estate of Distinction

- 126 Harwood Road, Burringbar. Sat 11-11.30am
- 102 Harwood Road, Burringbar. Sat 11.45am-12.15pm
- 876 Tamarind Drive, Tintenbar. Sat 1.15-1.45pm

## NEW LISTINGS:

### First National Byron

- 460 Byrill Creek Road, Byrill Creek
- 470 Main Arm Road, Mullumbimby
- 10/47-49 Shirley Street, Byron Bay
- 30 Armstrong Street, Suffolk Park
- 3 Palm Tree Crescent, Bangalow

### Mana Re

- 402 Racecourse Road, Tygalgah
- 16B Palmer Avenue, Ocean Shores



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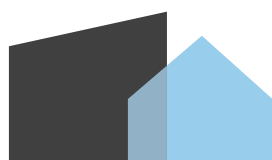
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The world's first commercial CO<sub>2</sub> storage started in the North Sea on Monday. The Northern Lights consortium, largely financed by the Norwegian state, has a 1.5 million tonne annual capacity which is planned to increase to five million tonnes by the end of the decade. Captured CO<sub>2</sub> is liquefied and shipped to a terminal near Bergen where it is injected via a 110km pipeline around 2.6km beneath the seabed into the Aurora reservoir according to <https://ground.news>.

Interested in politics? 16 and 17-year-olds can apply to join the National Youth Parliament 2026 in August. Youth members will travel to Canberra for a five-day (four-night) program held across Australia's Parliament House and the Museum of Australian Democracy, Old Parliament House. All costs associated with the program including travel and accommodation are covered by the program. Get involved at <https://nyp.houseofrepresentatives.gov.au>. Applications close 21 November, 2025.

Nine out of 10 Australian teachers are experiencing severe stress, and nearly 70 per cent say their workload is unmanageable, according to UNSW Sydney research. A multi-pronged approach to support teacher wellbeing could include: policy reforms to reduce non-essential workload and streamline administrative processes; school-level monitoring of teacher wellbeing and workload; investment in digital mental health programs; system-wide interventions

*Peddling the roadway to heaven*



Neil has flown away. Always up for a little whimsy Neil is pictured here on trombone with his daughter Aleka on drum while Valley and Paul are on the flycycle when we did a shoot to promote the Mullum Festival around 2013. Neil Johnson left his body on the eighth of the eighth. A celebration of Neil's life will be held this Friday, 29 August at 1pm, see page 5. Photo Jeff Dawson

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Conservation of North Ocean Shores (CONOS) are contesting a Byron Shire Council (BSC) assessment that assumes the vegetated allotment adjacent to the Shara Boulevard sportsfield at South Golden Beach will also become a sportsfield. 'The vegetated land is a low-lying semi-permanent wetland: contains an endangered ecological community (*swamp sclerophyll forest*); is likely to contain endangered invertebrate species (e.g. frogs and snails); and, abuts nature reserves on two sides.' They say BSC has incorrectly identified this land as 'a "local sports park" despite the land being zoned 5(b) High Hazard Flood Liable Zone; and 7(k) Habitat (LEP 1988)'.

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