

Echo

'THE ABSENCE OF ALTERNATIVES CLEARS THE MIND MARVELLOUSLY' HENRY KISSINGER

The Byron Shire Echo • Volume 40 #24 • November 19, 2025 • www.echo.net.au



Fun for every child and their dog at Bangalow Show

Mimi with her beast friend Tucker, straight from the pet show at the Bangalow Show on Saturday. Photo Jeff Dawson

► You can see a gallery of Bangalow Show photos at *The Echo* online: www.echo.net.au/bangalow-show-brought-to-you-by-jeff-dawson

Uncle Tom's pie drive

Aslan Shand

The closure of Mullumbimby Road to outbound traffic for several months has impacted many local businesses with a downturn in trade at a crucial time of year. It has also led to the closure of the famous Uncle Tom's Pies on the corner of Gulgan Road and Mullumbimby Road.

Mullumbimby Chamber of Commerce have put together a pie drive to help this business while it seeks ways to support itself and staff during this challenging time.

Order your favourite pie

Six types of family pies are available to order: Plain Steak (DF); country chicken; chunky steak, tomato and onion (DF); curry lentil (V, DF); or the family apple pie. You can order pies with regular pastry for \$22 or gluten free pastry for \$24 and the apple pie for \$20.

Pies can be ordered and paid for at the Mullumbimby newsagent, or by filling in the order form, available at the newsagency, including your contact details and Uncle Tom's will contact you on 25 November for eftpos payment. You can collect pies on 3 December at Uncle Tom's or the Mullumbimby Newsagency.

'We really appreciate the support of the community with this pie drive,' said co-owner Carol Brooker. 'It will offer our staff work and assist us to reopen and offer all of our yummy product to the community, when our premises are again accessible.'

NSW Labor govt strips councillors of DA approval powers

Hans Lovejoy

Recent amendments to the state's main planning law just adopted by NSW Labor will result in councillors losing their powers to approve development applications (DAs).

The Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment (Planning System Reforms) Bill 2025 became law, receiving almost universal

support from the members of the NSW Parliament last week. It comes with an array of new consent authorities to oversee housing delivery.

New local planning panels to be established

NSW Planning Minister Paul Scully (Labor) confirmed with *The Echo* that yet-to-be-established

local planning panels, along with local council staff, will decide local DAs instead of elected councillors.

Regional planning panels, which currently bypass the roles of local councils as consent authorities, and decide upon large and significant DAs, will be dissolved.

The creation of more panels with more layers of bureaucracy is part of a push to simplify planning,

says the government.

There is no time-frame provided for the rollout and implementation of these local planning panels.

Under the new Act (Division 2.5), 'A council may constitute a single local planning panel for the whole of the area of the council', meaning that there could potentially be 128 new local planning panels across the state.

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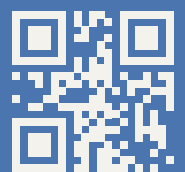
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MO to CT doubles development potential in Federal

Paul Bibby

A rural site in the rolling hills between Federal and Eureka will become home to up to 30 new houses, after Byron Shire Council approved another Community Title (CT) development last week.

In the latest example of a developer turning an existing Multiple Occupancy (MO) approval into a more lucrative CT development, the owners of 189 Federal Drive, Federal were given the green light to undertake just such a move at last week's Council planning meeting.

In addition to a 15-lot subdivision with the option for dual occupancies on every lot, the \$2.63 million development will involve internal road works, tree removal, landscaping, and environmental restoration works.

The subdivision is arranged into two clusters, with all proposed lots being serviced by a single internal access road that terminates near the western creek line.

Council had already approved a MO development on the 53.75-hectare site in 2024.

By gaining permission to move to a CT development, the owners, Wentworth Point Investments, have freed themselves from the restrictions imposed on an MO.

Individual owners will now be able to build dual occupancies on each of the 15 lots and also secondary dwellings, thus effectively doubling the capacity of the development.

Three other similar developments have already been approved in the vicinity of this proposal in recent years.

Councillors unanimously approved the DA at last week's meeting, following a recommendation from staff to undertake this course.



The site of the proposed CT development. Photo from Statement of Environmental Effects produced by Barker Ryan Stewart

However, several surrounding residents objected to the development, citing the impact on traffic and pedestrian safety, environmental impacts, amenity, visual impact, overdevelopment, and access rights.

Increases density of development

'The development is not a logical progression from the previous development approval, but is in reality a high-density subdivision that doubles the previous approval,' one of the objectors, Daniel Steiner told Council during the public access section of last week's meeting.

Mr Steiner also said that the development would have a significant and unreasonable adverse impact on traffic volume and safety on Federal Drive.

'From the entrance to the development there is no clear line of sight in either direction,' Mr Steiner said.

'That area of Federal Drive is notoriously dangerous. It's been the site of a fatal accident, as well as numerous non-fatal collisions.'

Mr Steiner further stated that the traffic report submitted by Wentworth Investments as part of their proposal was inadequate, inaccurate, and misleading.

Development inevitable?

However, Deputy Mayor Jack Dods did not agree.

In moving that the Council green-light the proposal, Cr Dods said that while he understood Mr Steiner's concerns he believed the planning controls that would be in place would ensure that any development on the site was reasonable.

'When you've lived in a rural environment for that long... it can be a bit of a shock when you've got development happening over your back fence,' Cr Dods said.

'But I'm reassured that the planning controls... and the application as it's been presented, satisfies the requirements to develop the land in a way that still respects that rural nature of the site.'

'Obviously things will change. You're talking about

building roads and building houses on what was a rural farm... But the way that these CT developments are designed and managed through neighbourhood management schemes... they help to alleviate some of the impacts.'

Cr Dods also expressed the opinion that the intersection works that had previously been approved for Federal Drive under the 2024 DA, were a 'very safe and thorough intersection from my read of the designs.'

The owner has committed to undertaking an environmental restoration program that involves assisted and natural rainforest regeneration in a riparian corridor running through the centre of the site.

They have also promised to establish a wet sclerophyll forest restoration zone in the western corner of the property.

In a bid to limit the impact of chemical sprays from the existing neighbouring macadamia orchard, the applicant has undertaken to establish a 30-metre-wide vegetation buffer along the northern boundary.

Making pads makes a difference for women in Kenya

Helping women and girls in Kenya to make menstrual pads is a key part of the Red Heart project and they are running a fundraiser in Mullumbimby on Saturday, 29 November.

For many African women, the traditional way of managing their menstrual bleeding is to use grasses to absorb the blood, but this can lead to infections and other issues. So local Joanne Morrish has set up the Red Heart project that has been developing grass roots sewing workshops at the



Students working on making menstrual pads at Magadi school in Kenya. Photo supplied

Magadi school in Kenya. '43 girls and over three days sewed more than 80

menstrual pads and learned hands-on skills,' Ms Morrish told *The Echo*.

'They are keen for more material to make more pads and we also donated a non-electrical sewing machine with a plan to bring more to the school so they can become self sufficient in the near future.'

The fundraiser will take place on Jubilee Ave, opposite Mullumbimby High School from 10am to 3pm and is \$20 to enter.

There will be clothes, gifts, entertainment, a barista and yummy treats to enjoy.

Find out more @Joanne Morrish on social media.

Plenty of LOVE for The Paddock Project

Aslan Shand

The Paddock Project is a place of LOVE, vision, and inclusion that prides itself on bringing together people, creativity, and ethics through proudly supporting employment for people of all abilities and growing and selling organic food.

After 17 years at Mullumbimby High School, working in and heading up the special education department, followed by some time working with the NDIS Karen Gross decided to take a leap and follow her dream of creating employment opportunities for people with disabilities.

Speaking with Chrystal Jameson on the Her Brave Story podcast Karen talked about the challenges for people with disabilities finding work once they left school. Seeing this gap and recognising the opportunities within the NDIS, Karen took over The Paddock in Mullumbimby and developed it into a thriving social enterprise providing supported employment and community connection.

'It is about providing an opportunity for local people with disabilities to find meaningful employment' Karen told *The Echo*.

Over the last five years Karen has taken the project from employing around two people to 45 along with carers and volunteers who make The Paddock Project into what it is today.



Zoe, Alanah and Karen making sure customers are happy at The Paddock Project in Mullumbimby. Photo Jeff Dawson

When Karen stepped into the business The Paddock already had an established organic syntropic garden that was designed by Rodrigo. Syntropic farming is a type of agroforestry and is about following the principles of the forest and creating biodiversity.

From the paddock to you

'We produce seasonal vegetables and there are zero food miles,' says Karen with her warm smile.

'We can harvest vegetables, fruit, and flowers for you. There is cassava, salad, silverbeet, and carrots – that is our current crop.'

The farm gives people a range of employment opportunities so that everyone can find something they enjoy

doing and getting paid for what they do which helps them remain in the area.

'Employment covers planting seeds, whole food production, preparing garden beds, planting, harvesting, cooking, management, sales etc,' Karen explains.

'Customers can buy organic seedlings, plants, (we have a focus on food plants and their companions), there is a beautiful organic garden, and a cafe that utilises food grown and produced on site.'

Fun to be had

The Paddock Project does breakfast and lunch with coffee from 7am to 3pm on weekdays and from 8am to 2pm on Saturdays. They also welcome volunteers on Monday, Tuesday, and

Wednesday; Mondays you can join the Rainbow Family Yoga 3.30-4.30pm; there is a weekly Little Paddock People for 3-5 year olds on Wednesday mornings; a curry and jam on Wednesday afternoons from 4pm to 6pm; Tara sells fresh fish from her van on Thursdays 10am to 1pm; and there is a bi-monthly garage sale -. You can also hire the space on evenings and weekends for things like yoga, capoeira, or art classes and it is a dog and family friendly space.

'This is a creative community and people get really excited about getting in touch with nature, knowing alternative gardening systems and we have a really friendly and welcoming vibe. It is a garden everyone can access and see their produce,' says Karen.

Car flips on Mullum's diversion road, Coolamon Scenic Drive

A long time local on Coolamon Scenic Drive, near Mullumbimby, is urging motorists to slow down after a driver flipped their car and landed down the bank next to his home.

As reported here, Council have promised to reopen Mullumbimby Road by November 24.

Tim Hend told *The Echo* there it was a nearly a fatality and warned, 'there is going to be a death' owing to Council diverting traffic along the dangerous and narrow road owing to their roadworks on Mullumbimby Road.

He said traffic is now very busy past his house and 'it's hard to see on the road'.

'There was no risk assessment on the roads Council diverted traffic to', he said. 'There have been no



Car flipped off the bank at Coolamon Scenic Drive. Photo Supplied

significant improvements to the road either, and it's full of potholes.'

'This road is not meant to carry this much traffic. Council needs to be put on notice', he added.

Council has been under fire from Mullum residents and the business community over plans to close outbound traffic along the busy Mullumbimby Road, which leads to the highway.

After talks with the business community, Council (Mayor Sarah Ndiaye and GM Mark Arnold) agreed to open The Saddle Road up as an eastbound road while

the works near Uncle Toms is completed. It was initially pegged at four months – over the busiest time of year – yet Council staff say they are ahead of schedule.

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INTRAPAC
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Councils lose their planning powers

► Continued from page 1

Division 2.5 also states a local planning panel will comprise four members, who are appointed by the relevant council. The panel will consist of: an 'approved independent person appointed as the chairperson of the panel with relevant expertise'; 'two other approved independent persons with relevant expertise; and 'a representative of the local community who is not a councillor or mayor'. Councillors, property developers and realtors are ineligible to be a panellist, but 'planning consultants' are eligible.

ICAC recommendations

Minister for Planning and Public Spaces Paul Scully said, 'The planning panel changes reflect corruption protection recommendations of the ICAC'.

The Echo has asked the ICAC to detail the corruption protection recommendations.

Scully continued, 'The elected members [councillors] will continue to set the strategic planning direction for a council including preparing or reviewing development control plans, local environmental plans, strategic plans, policy direction, submissions to the department on policies or reforms and making representations on behalf of community'.

'Importantly these set the boundaries that development proposals must adhere to in any given area.'

Once local planning panels with local representatives are in place, all local DAs will be determined by either the local planning panel or by council staff, as guided by strategic planning set by the relevant council.

'The vast majority of these processes and decisions are already made by council officers under delegation,' said Scully.

'The changes stemming from the removal of regional planning panels will be staged and subject to further consultation. Councils will be supported by the NSW government in the administration of these changes'.

The Minns Labor government said in a statement it has 'delivered the largest housing and planning reform agenda in the state's history'.

'For decades, the

planning system has grown overly complex and slow, holding back the delivery of new homes, job-creating investments, and adding unnecessary costs and delays to the construction pipeline.'

Calls for inclusion

The peak body representing the state's councils, Local Government NSW (LGNSW), say they have 'repeatedly sought to keep councils and communities at the table including calling for the inclusion of democratically elected representatives on the proposed local planning panels'.

LGNSW President, Phyllis Miller OAM, said, 'These local leaders know their communities, they know the challenges and the opportunities, and it is critical that they be included on local planning panels'.

'The government concedes that these are the most significant reforms to our planning system in 50 years and it is councils across the state that will be on the front line to see if the reforms are bringing about the benefits the government is hoping for. That is why I will continue to call on the NSW government to establish a formal implementation panel with transparent membership and local government representation to ensure the roll out takes place in a measured and informed way. These reforms will only work with broad, open and meaningful sector consultation.'

Calls for consultation

In a statement Byron Shire Greens councillors said, 'Council wrote to the premier, the leader of the opposition, the minister and shadow ministers for planning and public spaces, and the member for Ballina expressing strong opposition and requesting formal public consultation before the reforms progressed'.

They say the new laws 'fundamentally weaken environmental assessment requirements and remove the community's rights to protect local ecosystems'.

Councillor Elia Hauge added, 'The housing crisis is being used as cover to weaken environmental protections that were blocking profitable but destructive developments.'

What else do the reforms do?

- Establish the Development Coordination Authority (DCA) – a 'single front door' for advice and coordination of major projects across NSW government agencies.

- Expand the 'complying development' pathway for low-impact projects, 'enabling faster and more flexible approvals with some ability now to vary specific standards'.

- Introduce a new 'Targeted Assessment Pathway' for projects already subject to strategic planning and prior community consultation, aiming to avoid duplicated review. While assessment pathways were described as 'outdated', Complying Development pathways will be expanded, says the government, 'to enable faster approvals for low-impact development'.

- Replace 'more than 100 consultation plans' with a state-wide Community Participation Plan.

- Introduce a Transport Oriented Development Program; a Low and Mid-Rise Housing Policy; the Infill Affordable Housing Bonus; a new Renewable Energy Planning Framework; and the Investment Delivery Authority (IDA).

Environmental impact and consent changes

Consent authorities are now required to consider only 'significant' impacts of a proposed development, moving the focus away from minor or indirect impacts and adopting a more risk-based and proportionate assessment standard.

Modification powers are expanded: authorities may now modify consents for developments with minimal or no environmental impact, not just for errors or misdescriptions.

A new 14-day determination period for modification applications under section 4.55(1) has been introduced, with defaults if not decided within timeframes.

The Bill also limits use of modification and revocation powers for development consents older than 25 years, transferring some decision-making to the planning secretary.

Byron firies raising money for prostate cancer

On Saturday, 22 November, between 6am and 2pm, 14 members of the Fire and Rescue NSW, Byron Bay will be running a relay from the Byron Bay Surf Club, 2/10 Bay Street, Byron Bay to the lighthouse and back to raise money for prostate cancer as part of Movember.

The firies will be dressed in more than 18kg of firefighting protective gear including breathing apparatus.

'That's no mean feat on a hot day but this team is built to handle the heat!' said a spokesperson for the firies.

It's the second year raising money for prostate cancer during Movember which is a cause dear to the hearts of the team.



Byron firies ready to run from the surf lifesaving club to the lighthouse. Photo supplied

Demonstrations

Fire truck tours, a kitchen fire simulator, fire hose demos, a sausage sizzle, a special appearance from 'Bernie Cinders' the Fire and Rescue NSW mascot, and the amazing team of Byron

Bay firefighters will keep everyone entertained and educated as the crew run their laps around the Byron Bay Lighthouse in pairs over the eight hours.

Join them on the day or donate at: www.movember.com/m/15297997.

Flukes of Sendington headline free BaySounds Live



Flukes of Sendington are the band headlining BaySounds Live. Photo Bay FM

Paul Bibby

If you're interested in checking out the next generation of local musical talent, then mark this one in your calendar right now:

The free BaySounds Live event is taking place at the SAE Byron, 373-391 Ewingsdale Road 2pm to 6.30pm on 22 November.

Organised by community radio station Bay FM and SAE University, the event is a mini festival featuring some of the most talented emerging artists in the region.

Headlining the event are Flukes of Sendington, a trio of merry, melodic indie

rockers who have just landed after a quick splash across Europe.

Joining them will be Sunny Luwe, a SAE student and multi-award winner, who will perform with her band.

BaySounds Live will also feature the first and second place youth winners of the BaySounds song-writing competition, Seraph Hrubos and Stella Payne, alongside the rising youth rock band, Da Manager.

Live broadcast

BayFM will broadcast BaySounds Live from 3pm to 5pm, amplifying the

voices of our local music community and ensuring that those who can't attend in person can still be part of the show.

'This event is not just about celebrating music, it's about fostering our local talent and bringing the community together,' said Ange Kent from BayFM.

'We're excited to showcase these emerging artists and give them a platform to shine.'

Support local music and enjoy an afternoon of entertainment!

To register your interest, visit: events.humanitix.com/baysounds-live.

Mullum High trivia night supports wellbeing hub

Mullumbimby High School's Hall was buzzing on Friday night as around 90 community members gathered for a trivia night fundraiser hosted by the Mullumbimby High School P&C. The event drew an enthusiastic crowd eager to enjoy a fun night out to raise money for the school's

wellbeing hub, Garhim.

\$4,000 raised

Local businesses donated \$7,000 in prizes. Maths teacher by day and trivia MC extraordinaire by night Mr Will Brennan, kept the room entertained as the vivacious host.

P&C President Ms Amy

Colli said the event was 'a beautiful demonstration of community connection and generosity,' praising the strong support from families, teachers and local businesses. The event raised \$4,000 and Ms Colli says the P&C aims to turn the event into an annual gathering.

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RICHARDSON MURRAY

Heritage listing for Bangalow Bowlo?

Aslan Shand

As Norths Collective explores the sale of the Bangalow Bowlo after refusing to hand back the keys to the community the local Save Bangalow Bowlo group continue to look at a variety of ways to protect and regain control of the vital sporting and cultural hub.

At last week's Byron Shire Council meeting councillor Asren Pugh moved a motion to request a report on the 'Heritage listing options to ensure the Bangalow Bowlo continues as a sporting and cultural hub for the community' as well as the 'current land use zoning and what planning instruments allow on the site'.

Broken promises

Norths took over the Bangalow Bowlo three years ago after a contentious community debate over keeping the club in local hands or handing it to the collective. Norths made significant commitments to the community in relation to upgrading buildings, supporting local sporting clubs and maintaining the club for the community.

'Ultimately, the members [of Bangalow Bowlo] decided to go ahead with the amalgamation, because Norths made it sound good,' Cr Pugh told the BSC meeting.

'They promised a lot. They promised to spend \$3.5 million on the building over ten years, they promised to fix all non-compliant building issues within three months of the amalgamation going through. They promised



The doors to the Bangalow Bowlo were closed and locks changed without notice on 24 October. Photo Jeff Dawson

to sponsor all of the sports clubs in Bangalow, the rugby club, cricket club, the soccer club, the Blue Dogs, the netball club, even the anglers club; and they promised to maintain the bowling green for the bowlers.

'All of those promises have been broken.

'They promised that they would trade for at least three years [from the completion of the amalgamation] to give it a shot to see how they went, they did not and they closed seven months early.'

Established in 1910, Cr Pugh said that the club was a cultural hub where people gather informally, which gives it both cultural and social significance.

Other councillors expressed their disappointment at the behaviour of Norths in relation to the club and the fact that they closed with no notice.

'My school's had numerous formals at the bowlo, and it's a beautiful venue,' said Cr Michelle Lowe who is also a teacher at Byron High School.

'It caters to families, and it is really deeply disappointing

that it's closed without any consultation.'

Its closure has also left the town with no live music venue.

In his closing comments Cr Pugh pointed out that the sudden closure had a significant impact on the local community with Bangalow Public School's year six leaving party likely to be cancelled, the local disability youth theatre group Sprung not being informed about the closure, and the fact that so many local sporting clubs have now been left without funding.

'The whole community has just been treated like utter rubbish, from glossy pamphlets three years ago to the way they've behaved most recently,' he said.

'It's worth noting that the initial amalgamation was a very contentious and divisive process, but everybody in the community has put that fight behind us and are working together from all sides of the original amalgamation debate to come up with a solution.'

The motion passed unanimously.

The art of connection at Ocean Shores Preschool



Dave Shaw, one of the Grand Friends, had the winning bid on 'Our air conditioner robot' by the Ocean Shores Preschool Bowie group at the Ocean Shores Preschool annual art exhibition. Photo Jeff Dawson

Art and intergenerational connection were on show at the recent Ocean Shores Community Preschool annual Children's Art Exhibition.

Families and the local community came together to celebrate the kids' creativity and raise funds to support the preschool's activities.

The Grand Friends

program fosters connections between older adults and young children through regular visits, creative projects, and joyful learning experiences. This saw two collaborative artworks being auctioned with spirited bidding. One of the artworks was won by David, a local resident and enthusiastic participant in the preschool's

Grand Friends program while the other found its home with one of the preschool's families.

The Grand Friends program will run during terms two and three next year highlighting the importance of intergenerational connections, and lifelong learning.

57 Station Street waiting for RFIs

Byron Shire Council have said they are currently waiting on Landcom to respond to their Request for Further Information (RFI) on the contentious development application (DA) for the carpark

at 57 Station Street, Mullumbimby.

'Once a response has been received and staff confirm it's adequate, DA renotification will begin in line with Council's Community Participation

Plan,' a Byron Shire Council spokesperson told *The Echo*.

'The DA tracker will also be updated. No date for DA determination has been set by the Northern Regional Planning Panel (NRPP),' they said.



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Get Ready NSW



Bangalow Hotel renovation approved

Paul Bibby

The much-debated redevelopment of the Bangalow Hotel has been given the green light by Byron Council after the owners of the pub agreed to amend the size and location of their new pokie room.

Hackles were raised across Bangalow last month when the owners of the famous venue – the Mooney family – put forward plans for a \$13 million makeover of the iconic venue.

The plans included a significant demolition and rebuild of the internal ground floor area, including removal of the old timber bar, several walls, bathrooms and part of the floor section.

Pokies objections

An area in the western part of the venue which not so long ago hosted live music and other community-focused events, was to become a large, separated gaming room with 20 poker machines and direct access from Bangalow's main street.

With dozens of locals strongly objecting to the proposal, especially the

new pokie room, councillors asked the owners to submit an amended development application (DA).

They came back with a modified floor plan, and legal advice indicating that any attempt to impose further changes would be unlawful and treated as such.

Suffice to say the revised application was swiftly and unanimously approved.

The amended plans can best be described as a compromise.

The pokie room will remain on the first floor of the pub but has been reduced in size and it is no longer accessible from the street or directly visible to the public.

This has allowed for a separate 'multipurpose space' to be retained in the pub for live music and other community-focused uses.

The president of the Bangalow Community Association, Ian Holmes, said the new plans represented an 'equitable redesign that satisfies both the hotel owners and the community'.

'There remains a strong community preference for a

pokie-free hotel that focuses on great food and music, but this consideration is not within the scope of a planning decision,' Mr Holmes said in a written statement read at Public Access.

'It does mean, however, that community support is qualified.

'We thank the applicant and owners for responding to our concern regarding the proposed replacement of the existing music room with a gaming room.

Music and vibrancy

'Segmentation of the original music room with a separate gaming room at the rear of this space provides a location that satisfies regulations and is not directly visible to the public.'

Mr Holmes said that the availability of music at the hotel remained an important consideration because it supported the 'creative culture of Byron Shire and is considered as a key factor in defining hotels as natural gathering places'.

'The Bangalow community intends to facilitate ongoing conversation with

the owners [in relation to this],' Mr Holmes said.

'Renewed emphasis on music may well become the catalyst for returning the hotel to a vibrant community hub.'

Earlier in public access, the architect hired by the Mooneys to undertake the redesign, Damien Furey from Fabric Architecture Studio, said the amended plans were the outcome of an extended design and consultation process.

'The room where it [the gaming room] is now to be proposed... it's half the size of what it was... and it's in the best possible position that will tick all the boxes,' Mr Furey said.

'It was quite tricky in terms of the heritage nature of the building, keeping it structurally sound, prolonging its longevity, and just trying to bring it up to code.

'As it is now, the gaming room is only six, seven metres from where it is currently and has only increased in size by 15 square metres.'

With Council approval now granted, the owners of the pub are free to begin work.

Best Christmas cakes in town

Mandy Nolan

Christmas just isn't Christmas without a Christmas cake. Remember the one your grandma made? So full of fruit and brandy one slice could have you blowing over .05. Two slices and you might lose your licence!

Christmas cakes started as a medieval plum pudding, and by the 16th century they had evolved into the cake we know today.

The Bangalow CWA are busy making the world's best Christmas cakes for a variety of budgets. All cakes are baked from a variety of recipes old and new by members of the Bangalow CWA branch. There are even gluten-free cakes on sale.

Cakes go on sale on Saturday 29 November at



Cakes will be available until 20 December.
Photo supplied

the CWA Rooms, 31 Byron St, Bangalow from 8am to 1pm.

Proceeds from sales of Christmas cakes are donated to the many homelessness support services in the region, so every cake from the Bangalow CWA is not just full of goodness, there's community love in action. Cake it forward!

Locals shape disaster response

A community panel of 39 Northern Rivers residents has been appointed to shape the state's first multi-hazard Disaster Adaptation Plan.

The first Disaster Adaptation Plan for the region will outline a set of actions to reduce risks from natural

hazards by an engagement program.

Disaster Adaptation Plans were a key recommendation of the 2022 Independent Flood Inquiry.

For more info see: www.haveyoursay.nsw.gov.au/northern-rivers-dap.



WANTED: Passionate Young People for new Byron Youth Council

Are you aged 12-17 and care about issues affecting young people in the Byron Shire?

We are looking for 15 passionate young people to create a new **Byron Youth Council** from the ground up!

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- **Speak up** on issues that matter
- **Develop leadership skills**
- **Connect with Councillors**
- **Make a real impact**

Expressions of Interest are open now on Council's website. Eoi closes on 8 December.

Byron Youth Council meetings will kick off early Term 1, 2026.

More information

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Saltwood @ Kinvara

Come along and see what's new at Saltwood @ Kinvara



The Kinvara area has been earmarked for urban development since 2006 and will deliver much needed housing and community infrastructure for Lennox Head and surrounds.

A formal development application for Stage 1 has now been submitted to Ballina Shire Council, and we're excited to share the progress made over the past 12 months.



Join us at an event to see the latest updates and hear more about the proposal.

Wed 26th Nov
7pm – 8pm

PUBLIC WEBINAR
– register @ saltwoodkinvara.com.au

Tue 2nd Dec
10:30am – 12:30pm

DROP-IN SESSION at Lennox Head Cultural Centre, 1 Mackney Lane, Lennox Head

Tue 2nd Dec
5:30pm – 7:30pm

DROP-IN SESSION at Lennox Head Cultural Centre, 1 Mackney Lane, Lennox Head

Wed 3rd Dec
12.30pm – 2:30pm

DROP-IN SESSION at Lennox Head Cultural Centre, 1 Mackney Lane, Lennox Head

For further information scan the QR code or visit saltwoodkinvara.com.au

Should we stand as the mayor enters, and are we losing community voice?

Aslan Shand

Standing for the mayor as they enter the chamber is just one proposal from the NSW state government on how 'a dignified and orderly' council meeting that is 'befitting to a chamber of democracy' should be conducted. A little ironic considering the behaviour of elected politicians in the state and federal parliaments we are shown during question time.

Model Code of Meeting Practice on exhibition

While the idea of how a meeting is conducted may seem a little dry, it is key to who gets a voice and how that voice is heard. Currently, the state government's proposed model Code of Meeting Practice that would apply to all councils is on exhibition on Byron Shire Council's (BSC) website. It removes the opportunity for public access to pose questions or raise issues that aren't on the agenda, questions from the public, and councillors asking questions of speakers.

The BSC has had a policy

of allowing the community to ask general questions and submissions that are not on the agenda for decades and this is often a key way members of the public are able to raise questions directly with councillors. BSC may have the option to vary parts of the proposed model code, as other councils have done.

Former Byron Shire Mayor and MLC Jan Barham told *The Echo* that, 'putting a document like this online with no supporting documentation, FAQs as provided by the OLG, or media release so that people can make sense of the documents, is a lost opportunity for the community to understand and advocate for their rights to be heard.'

The document is also challenging to find on BSC's website as it is not under Have Your Say as appears to be standard practice for BSC exhibition items.

However, the policy is currently on public exhibition until 4 December, with the code coming to Council for adoption at the 11 December meeting.

Greens Cr Elia Hauge told *The Echo* that, 'Greens on Council are committed

to doing everything we can to preserve the way Byron Shire Council encourages the public to make their voice heard in Council meetings, and we're looking at multiple options for how we do that despite the state government's proposed restrictions.'

'These changes would silence community members who want to raise urgent local issues that aren't yet on Council's radar, and prevent the meaningful dialogue between councillors and community that has been a hallmark of Byron's democratic culture.'

'Vibrant public participation has always been a strength of the Byron Shire. That's why I encourage as many people as possible to make a submission on the draft code to help us shape how we implement these changes locally.'

Make a submission

You can access the Draft Code of Meeting Practice public exhibition here: www.byron.nsw.gov.au/Council/Report-Requests-Feedback/Public-Notices/Draft-Code-of-Meeting-Practice.

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Find out more about the Far North Coast Regional Water Supply Project

The NSW Government is holding information sessions in November to update local communities across the region on the Far North Coast Regional Water Supply Project.

The sessions are an opportunity to learn more about the project and options being considered to improve long-term water security in the region.

Information session details

There will be 1 online session and a range of drop-in sessions held on the following dates:

Online session:

Wednesday 19 November 2025, from 10.30 am – 12 pm via MS Teams.
To register, visit the website.

Drop-in sessions:

Sessions will be held in Tweed Heads, Byron Bay, Ballina, Mullumbimby, Casino, Lismore and Murwillumbah.

- Monday 24 November from 5 pm – 7 pm at Tweed Heads South Community Centre, 18 Heffron Street, Tweed Heads
- Tuesday 25 November from 10 am – 12 pm at Murwillumbah Community Centre, 113 Wollumbin Street, Murwillumbah
- Tuesday 25 November from 4 pm – 6 pm at Byron Community Centre, 69 Jonson St, Byron Bay
- Wednesday 26 November from 10 am – 12 pm at Mullumbimby CWA Hall, Cnr Gordon and Tincogan Streets, Mullumbimby
- Wednesday 26 November from 4 pm – 6 pm at Ballina Surf Club, 65 Lighthouse Parade, Ballina
- Thursday 27 November from 10:30 am – 12:30 pm at Lismore Library, 110 Magellan Street, Lismore
- Thursday 27 November from 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm at Casino Community and Cultural Centre, 35 Walker Street, Casino

Registration for drop-in sessions is not required.

To find out more, visit water.nsw.gov.au/far-north-coast-regional-water-supply-project



Help shape the future of play in the Shire

Have your say on our Playspace Action Plan.

The Plan proposes a range of changes to the future size, quality and diversity of play spaces across the Shire.

Tell us what you think. Take the survey or come along to one of our pop-up information sessions.

Information Sessions

Come see the project team and find out more.

Thursday 13 November
Byron Bay Farmers Market

Friday 14 November
Mullumbimby Farmers Market

Saturday 15 November
Bangalow Farmers Market

Find out more

yoursay.byron.nsw.gov.au/playspace-action-plan

Feedback closes 5 December



BYRON SHIRE COUNCIL

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Echo

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

Ballina Greens councillors defend proposed rate rise

Ballina Crs Kiri Dicker and Simon Chate have defended Ballina Council's proposed rate rises, which have been championed by Mayor Sharon Cadwallader and others, in the face of recent criticism from former B Ward Cr Jeff Johnson.

Lismore Council Meeting wrap for 11 November

Lismore City Council Mayor and Cr Jasmine Knight-Smith (Labor) shared their views of the outcomes from the November 11 meeting.

Record \$1 for flood buyback house

A \$1 successful bid has led to a buyer securing a flood-buyback home at the Murwillumbah Services Club last week, says the NSW government.

\$15.6 million partnership with PCYC to build stronger futures for regional youth

The NSW government and the Police Citizens Youth Club (PCYC) are investing \$15.6 million to deliver life-changing opportunities for young people living in regional and remote NSW. They say this funding commitment will provide young people experiencing the pressures of societal challenges and disadvantage access to PCYC's youth programs.

Mongo Valley Wildlife Sanctuary gets new owners

A wildlife sanctuary near Casino is transitioning to new management, 'paving the way for strengthened conservation efforts in the region'.

Return and Earn doubles capacity at Lismore Recycling Centre

Council say it will install a second processing machine, known as a singulator, at the Return and Earn bulk site at the Lismore Recycling and Recovery Centre. This will double the amount of recycling that can be processed and help to reduce wait times.

www.echo.net.au

\$200k raised to help women and children escape violence

The Northern Rivers community has raised a massive \$200,000 at this year's Women Up North (WUN) 2025 Bloom & Bling Spring Gala, with organisers saying it will go towards providing critical support for women, children and young people experiencing domestic, family and sexual violence.

In a media release, WUN say, 'Held on Saturday, 8 November at the Lismore Workers Club, the sold-out event welcomed more than 350 guests for an evening of fundraising, live music and celebration of the invaluable efforts of the WUN team'.

Hosted by WUN and proudly supported by investment management firm Challenger, organisers say the record annual fundraiser



Women Up North (WUN) 2025 Bloom & Bling Spring Gala. Photo supplied

total 'reflects the collective generosity of local residents, businesses and corporate partners committed to creating safer futures for women and children'.

WUN CEO Jillian Knight-Smith said the result shows

what's possible when compassion and community come together.

'We're so grateful to everyone who attended... Your generosity will help us provide safe housing, transport, food and school

essentials, giving families the chance to rebuild their lives with dignity and hope'.

'We're seeing more women, children and young people reaching out for help than ever before, and this incredible result means we

can keep saying yes when people need us most'.

Nick Hamilton, Chief Executive of Challenger, said the success of the event highlights the power of collaboration between community and business.

'This is our fourth year supporting Women Up North, and our annual Spring Gala is something I look forward to every year. You can't leave the Spring Gala without feeling moved by the generosity in the room and inspired by the impact Jillian and her team have on women and children across the region'.

For more information visit www.wunh.org.au.

■ Full story online at www.echo.net.au.

Alleged creek destruction near Bellingen under investigation

Hans Lovejoy

The alleged unlawful destruction of a waterway near Bellingen – a significant tributary of the Bellinger River – is under investigation by regulators, with claims by residents it has impacted the drinking water supply for all municipal water users from Bellingen to Urunga.

Breaches of environmental laws carry heavy penalties. Water pollution offences under the *Environment Operations Act 1997* (NSW) can attract on-the-spot fines up to \$30,000.

Ecologist, Mark Graham, told *The Echo* he lives on the Bishops Creek multiple occupancy (MO) in Upper Bellinger Valley, and says his MO neighbours have undertaken unauthorised works, which involved a 20 tonne excavator, bobcat and tractor over two and half months.

He says the creek has been scraped and diverted to form a dam and embankments constructed.



Alleged creek destruction in the Bellinger Valley. Photo supplied

'I used to drink from this important water catchment', he told *The Echo*. 'Now it's undrinkable'.

'They have cleared a Lowland Rainforest Endangered Ecological Community and Threatened Species habitats within C3 Environmental Zone'.

'There are a litany of alleged environmental offences', he said.

'Bishops Creek (Lot 50 DP 811685) is the largest private property at the top of the Bellinger Valley'.

'The property provides the only lowland vegetated linkages between the New England National Park Gondwana Rainforests of Australia World Heritage Area and Bellinger River National Park, a reserve identified as the top candidate for future inclusion within the Gondwana Rainforests of Australia World Heritage property.'

'All works in the riparian (creek) zone are controlled activities and require NSW government approvals. The

Natural Resource Access Regulator (NRAR) is the regulatory authority for unlawful riparian works'.

A NRAR spokesperson told *The Echo*, 'NRAR confirms that an investigation into alleged breaches of the *Water Management Act 2000* around Bishops Creek is ongoing'.

'We cannot comment further on an active investigation or give any timeframe for its conclusion'.

Weed management?

Graham also made the remarkable claim that the alleged works were proposed by fellow MO owner and ecologist, Peter Knock, who works for the Nature Conservation Council of NSW (NCC).

The Echo contacted the NCC to verify the claims, and a spokesperson replied that 'As this is an ongoing investigation by NRAR we can't provide comment on this specific matter'.

In a statement provided

by the landowners to *The Echo*, they said, 'The Bishops Creek Community has a long-standing relationship with managing weeds on the property for at least 15 years of direct programs and for 39 years as a major component of the deed of agreement for the MO approval to manage suppress and improve the property over time'.

'The community have worked with Bellinger Shire Council (BSC) closely in recent years targeting specific high profile environmental weeds. They listed specific examples.

'The work to remove small-leaved privet at one end of the valley was all outside the water-front land buffer guideline under the *Water Management Act 2000*'.

A Bellinger Shire Council spokesperson confirmed they attended the site, and, 'promptly notified the relevant state authorities'.

■ Full story online at www.echo.net.au.

Big week on the beat: police charged 29 people last week

Domestic violence charges, assault, and traffic offences were all reported as part of Tweed/Byron Police District's weekly wrap last week.

They say, 'Over the past week, 29 people were arrested and charged at Tweed Heads and Byron Bay Police Stations with a variety of offences. In total, 64 people had legal action taken against them'.

Of note were two people being charged with sexual

assault offences, including one against a child.

'Ten people were charged with domestic violence related offences. In total there were seven charges for contravening Apprehended Violences Orders (AVO), three charges for assault in a domestic violence context, three charges for stalking/intimidation and one charge for damaging property.

'Four people were charged with assault, including the

assault of a police officer and a retail worker.

'A 16-year-old youth was arrested and charged on 7 November with possessing digital blueprints for making prohibited weapons. They remain bail refused and will appear before the Children's Court on 19 November.

'A 46-year-old male from Byron Bay was arrested and charged on 7 November with sexual intercourse without consent. He will appear at

the Byron Bay Local Court on 24 November.

'A 76-year-old male from the local area was arrested and charged on 12 November 2025 by specialist child abuse investigators with four child sexual offences. He was bail refused and will appear at the Tweed Heads Local Court on 1 December.

'On the evening of Friday 7 November 2025, police responded to Brunswick Heads concerning youths

riding illegal electric motorbikes around the CBD and causing issues at a business.

'A 15-year-old youth was arrested for riding an unregistered and uninsured illegal e-bike. He was conveyed to Brunswick Heads Police Station and his parents were contacted. The illegal e-bike was seized and towed from the scene for destruction, and legal action has commenced against the youth under the *Young Offenders Act 1997*'.

Final service for Brunswick Heads Uniting Church



Pastor Tay Lee is inviting the community to join him for the final service at the Brunswick Heads Uniting Church on Friday. Photo Jeff Dawson

Aslan Shand

Friday, 21 November at 9.30am will be the final service held at the Brunswick Heads Uniting Church. Pastor Tay Lee said everyone is welcome to attend.

'This is the last gathering at the Brunswick Heads Uniting Church building in Brunswick Heads and all are welcome,' Pastor Lee told *The Echo*.

'Those who have memories of the church and building are welcome to join the service followed by story sharing, and morning tea.'

Services haven't been held at the Brunswick church for several years with the

amalgamation of the Mullumbimby and Brunswick Heads churches several years ago.

'We're not sure what will happen to the church building. Possibly selling it, housing, or other projects. The head of the church in Sydney is currently exploring possible options,' he said.

Open community

Pastor Lee currently administers both the Brunswick Valley Church that services Ocean Shores, Brunswick Heads, and Mullumbimby, and the Murwillumbah Uniting Church.

'The people are lovely here, they are open,

accepting, and easy to have a conversation with. My church in Mullumbimby has a playgroup on Wednesday morning and last week we had around 30 families. There is the Foodbox on Friday and the op shop on Saturday. My joy and happiness is from people using the church properties, a space for people to come together and comfort one another. Some people locally feel isolated and are struggling with life.'

'If you have suggestions regarding how the Brunswick Heads property can be used please feel free to reach out to our church with your suggestions,' said Pastor Lee.

Legal advocates call to ban strip-searching children

Redfern Legal Centre (RLC) say new data they obtained through freedom of information laws show that, in the two years between 1 July 2023 and 30 June 2025, NSW police strip-searched 167 children under the age of 18.

'This included two 12-year-olds and nine 13-year-olds,' said a spokesperson.

'68 strip-searches were conducted in the field and 31 in police custody.'

'These revelations follow a report published last year by RLC that showed over a thousand children

aged ten to 17 have been strip-searched by NSW Police during a seven-year period, from June 2016 to July 2023.

Class action

'The recent landmark class action judgment against NSW Police regarding strip-searches at music festivals found that the NSW Police Force failed to ensure police officers were properly trained, skilled, and knowledgeable about strip-search laws to prevent unlawful strip searches.'

'RLC is calling on the NSW

government to reform the law to ban the strip-searching of children unless a court order is obtained. This model is already operating in the Australian Capital Territory.'

Supervising solicitor at Redfern Legal Centre, Samantha Lee says, 'We must put an end to children being subjected to this horrendous practice.'

'The only way to ensure meaningful change that will protect children is to clearly state in the legislation that police cannot strip-search minors.'

New Byron venues unveiled: The Belongil

'The Belongil' by renowned Australian chef and restaurateur Shannon Bennett has been unveiled at 33-35 Childe Street, Byron Bay. It includes four unique venues - Feu, The Bistro, Blind Tiger, and the Kiosk.

Organisers say the venue will open before Christmas - early December - ready for a Byron summer.

'The Belongil celebrates inclusivity. From the local passerby stopping for takeaway coffee at the Kiosk, to those seeking a once-a-year fine dining experience at Feu, each concept reflects Bennett's belief that true hospitality should connect and inspire the entire community,' said the press release.

'The Belongil is about the intersection of food, design, and emotion. It is a place where every detail, from the cutlery to the wall art, tells part of the story,' says Bennett.

'We wanted to create something that feels intimate and inspired, but distinctly Australian.'

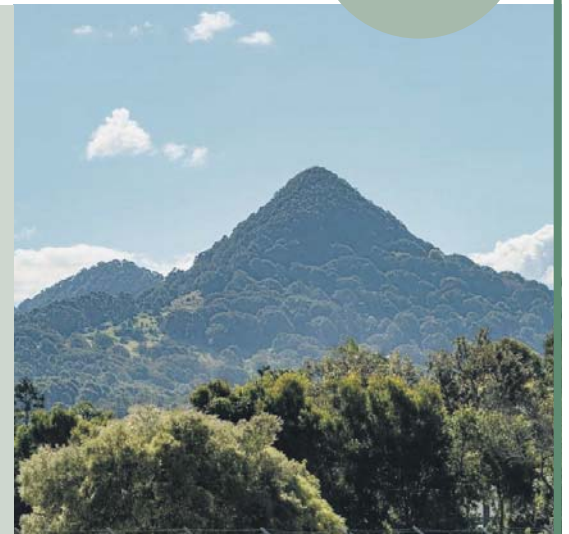


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The Byron Shire Echo
Volume 40 #24 • November 19, 2025

Drop bear etiquette made simple

I remember a teacher once describing how you eat peas with manners – I’m afraid to say it wasn’t a lesson I took too seriously and to this day I could not tell you the correct etiquette for eating a pea or two politely.

Nonetheless there are definitely a few koala etiquette suggestions (not the eating kind, or the how do you keep them on your fork, let alone plate, kind either), to avoid causing them stress around town or in nature.

With spring in the air and summer on its way there is definitely movement in the koala world. Young males move around to find mates and territories, koalas move between trees and dispersing young males, scared when disturbed by people or dogs, might end up in a small non-food tree.

The Northern Rivers is home to many wild koala populations. Koalas are listed as an endangered species and there are numerous colonies living in urban areas like Goonellabah, East Lismore, Byron Bay, Suffolk Park, Broadwater, and Rileys Hill. So it is not unusual to see a koala when you’re driving on a road, walking along a footpath, or going for a bit of a nature adventure.

Seeing a wild koala can be exciting and a wonderful experience; however, it can also cause unnecessary

stress to the koala. So Friends of the Koala (FOK) have provided a few suggestions on how to enjoy seeing a koala in the wild without stressing it out.

Here’s the drop bear etiquette:

- Move away from a koala on the ground, on a fence post or up a powerpole – observe from a distance of more than 30m, let the koala move on.
- Stay on the formed tracks and paths.
- Don’t walk around under a tree with a koala in it.
- Watch koalas in a tree from a distance – stay at least 5m, preferably 10m from a tree with a koala in it.
- Be quiet and move slowly.
- Do not try to touch a koala – they are wild and will bite and scratch.
- Resist getting a koala’s attention by making noises, throwing something, or tapping the tree.
- Avoid touching or climbing a tree with a koala in it.

If you see a koala please report a sighting on the FOK webpage (<https://friendsofthekoala.org>). If the koala is in an unusual place or on the ground at the base of a tree, or may have been hit by a car or in contact with a dog, please contact FOK Rescue Hotline on 6622 1233 for advice.

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

What does Victoria’s Treaty mean?

In a step of national and international importance, Treaty has now become law in the state of Victoria, an Australian first.

After ten years of work, and more than two centuries of murder, stolen children, and dysfunction, the new Treaty formally establishes the First Peoples’ representative body of Victoria, known as Gellung Warl, which means ‘pointed spear’ in Gunaikurnai.

The Yoorrook truth-telling process is set to continue via an Office of Truth-telling and Healing, Nyerna Yoorrook Telkuna (‘sit, listen, hear, remember’) and an associated Outcomes and Justice Commission, Nginma Ngainga Wara (‘you will do’), which will conduct independent monitoring and inquiries.

The Treaty recognises the First Peoples of Victoria as the original custodians of the land on which the colony was established, and acknowledges their unique and ongoing role.

‘The historic wrongs and ongoing injustice of colonisation have resulted in unacceptable levels of discrimination, disadvantage, and intergenerational trauma for First Peoples,’ states the accompanying bill. ‘These acts of injustice must not continue or be repeated.’

The public gallery burst into cheers and applause when the Treaty became law in Victoria’s upper house, supported by Labor, The Greens, Animal Justice Party and Legalise Cannabis MPs.

Co-chair of the First Peoples’ Assembly of Victoria, Ngarra Murray said, ‘This is a historic moment for our people. We will tell our children about today, and they will tell their children, passing down to future



‘The Treaty recognises the First Peoples of Victoria as the original custodians of the land.’

– David Lowe

generations the story of how decades of Aboriginal resilience and activism led to Australia’s first Treaty.’

She said it represented an opportunity ‘for all Victorians to acknowledge our shared history, heal and move forward together.’

The situation is a far cry from the rest of Australia, where treaty discussions have been abandoned in most cases, although preliminary discussions are underway in NSW and the ACT. New Zealand and Canada have both had treaties for many years.

Practical outcomes

Beyond symbolism, the new Victorian Treaty recognises that Aboriginal people are the experts on their own lives, and the best source of new ideas and practical solutions when it comes to issues such as health, education, housing, and justice.

Backed by state funding, and the result of many years of consultation and negotiation, the state-wide Treaty does not preclude further treaties between Traditional Owners and local government bodies, and is underpinned by principles of truth-telling, a vital precursor to healing, noting the fiction of *terra nullius* and the need for the state to carry the weight of its murderous history.

As the Treaty document states, ‘It is a rare thing for a government to admit it was wrong – rarer still to commit,

in plain words and enduring actions, to making it right...’

‘That is what this moment makes possible – a moment we claim together.’

Co-chair of the First Peoples’ Assembly of Victoria Rueben Berg said Treaty meant implementing the rights which generations of activists had fought for. He said it was about ‘getting better outcomes for First Peoples, which everyone should see as a positive thing.’

United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Türk described the new agreement as a very significant moment for all Australians, saying he hoped it would inspire other jurisdictions to adopt similar measures to recognise Indigenous people and promote participation and reconciliation.

‘It represents a major step towards justice and equality,’ he said. ‘It addresses the continued exclusion of and discrimination against the country’s First Peoples – the results of colonisation.’

What next?

Parallel to Treaty negotiations, the Wurundjeri Woio-wurru people of Victoria have been preparing a native title claim which was lodged last week with the Federal Court, with a particular focus on the lands and waterways around greater Melbourne.

In spite of the predictable, fact-free fear campaign launched by the ratbag right,

if successful this claim would have no effect on private property, businesses, or public infrastructure, but give Traditional Owners greater control over the protection of Crown land in the area, and formally acknowledge their connection to country.

Co-claimant Uncle Perry Wandin traces his lineage back to the legendary William Barak, who was associated with the Coranderrk mission and spent his life fighting for the rights of his people.

Victorian Premier Jacinta Allan has offered her support for the Wurundjeri claim.

In the same week however, her government sought to implement adult jail sentences for young offenders, up to and including life sentences, which the CEO of the Victorian Aboriginal Legal Service Nerita Waight said would disproportionately affect Indigenous children, while failing to reduce crime rates.

The First Peoples’ Assembly of Victoria is urging the government to focus on prevention, not prison, if it truly wants to make the community safer. The first test of Treaty may be to see whether the premier listens to their call.

Victoria’s Treaty will officially commence on Friday, 12 December, following a day of ceremony and celebration in Federation Square, Melbourne. Wherever you live, if you want to be an ally as the state embarks on its new era of Treaty, there are some ideas at <https://firstpeoples-vic.org/walk-with-us>.

■ David Lowe is an award-winning filmmaker, writer and photographer with particular interests in the environment and politics.



The Byron Shire Echo
Volume 40 #24 November 19, 2025
Established 1986 • 22,000 copies every week

www.echo.net.au

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1948–1996
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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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Council is frustrating

I'm writing to express frustration at Council's handling of the one-way detour for the Mullumbimby Road Upgrade.

While the newly announced completion date of 24 November is welcome news, it highlights significant flaws in how the project was planned, communicated, and managed from the beginning.

The community was initially told to expect a one-way detour for 'at least four months', a projection that has caused real economic harm. Many businesses have reduced trading hours, cut staff, or closed altogether. Learning now that the works can be completed in just five weeks offers relief, but also raises serious questions about why such an inflated timeline was ever presented.

Council's *Traffic Guidance Scheme*, dated 8 September, already indicated that one-way use of Saddle Road would form part of the detour.

A 14 July media release also outlined extended weekday and Saturday work hours.

These documents show the scope, and work program, were understood well in advance, meaning subsequent 'negotiations' with the Mullumbimby Chamber of Commerce – and the Mayoral Minute of 9 October – were token efforts rather than genuine consultation.

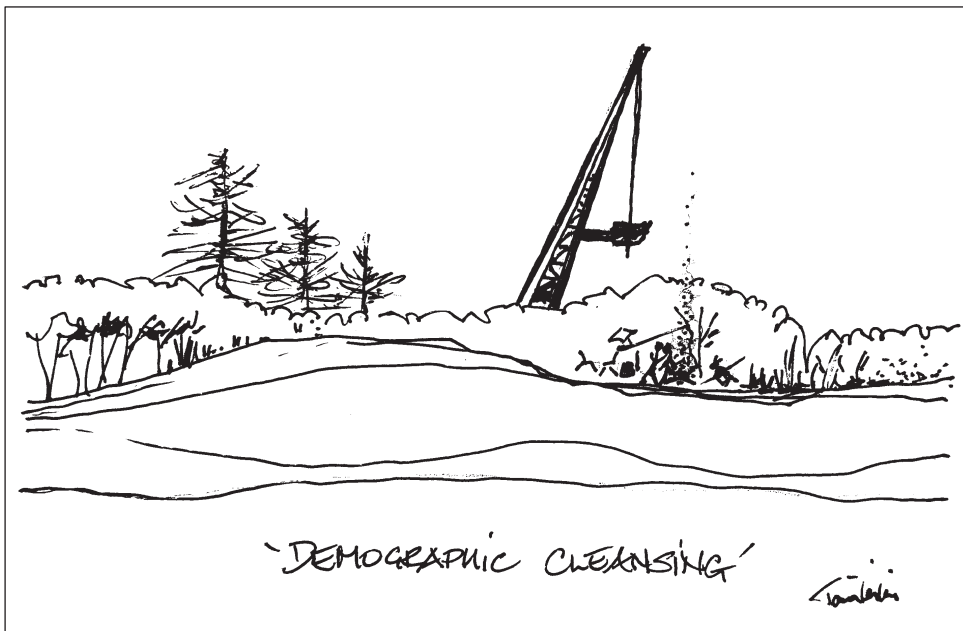
Commitments made to residents and businesses have not been upheld.

Despite notifying the community of extended and presumably budgeted work hours, Council now claims that 'the need to extend work hours to Saturdays has not been necessary.'

Affected residents and businesses would strongly disagree, particularly given the likelihood that the project could have been completed sooner had Council honoured the extended hours it announced.

Having then missed the opportunity to make use of October's dry weather, the recent ongoing rain has further deteriorated Saddle Road, requiring constant grading and maintenance. This adds to costs and underscores the need for better planning from the outset.

Council has also failed to follow its own Community Engagement Strategy, conflating 'informing' with



Cartoon by Tanialeilani Manea-Strebl

'consulting'. Announcements are not engagement, and key stakeholders were not meaningfully involved in decisions that directly affected them.

Despite repeated requests, Council has still not released essential documents, including the construction program, economic impact assessments, grant documentation, and financial feasibility reports. Without transparency, the justification for such a disruptive detour remains unclear.

Although the revised completion date brings much-needed optimism, it also confirms that the original four-month detour was unnecessary and poorly conceived. The community deserves clarity on how this occurred – and assurances that it will not happen again.

Council owes residents and businesses transparency, accountability, and meaningful support as they recover from the hardship caused.

Sharon McGrath
Myocum

On the boardwalk

Thank goodness Byron Shire Council has upheld the protection of the Marshalls Creek Nature Reserve – a place of rare beauty and ecological importance.

I engaged a number of scientific experts, who all strongly oppose the proposed Marshalls Creek boardwalk and support retaining the Place Plan as it stands.

Marshalls Creek is a gazetted nature reserve – the highest level of environmental protection under NSW law. Its mangroves, tidal flats, and coastal rainforests shelter endangered species such as the Beach Stone-curlew and Far Eastern

Curlew, as well as threatened plant communities. To carve a boardwalk through this sanctuary would invite disturbance, fragment vital habitats, and erode the very values the reserve was created to protect.

This fragile ecosystem already faces pressures from illegal fishing, dogs, and informal tracks. Byron Council's decision to protect rather than exploit this landscape reflects true environmental leadership – safeguarding biodiversity and honouring community stewardship of Country.

We urge continued collaboration with the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service and local conservation groups to restore and defend this precious place.

Associate Prof Hedley Grantham, Uni of NSW
New Brighton

Clown town

Are we living in clown town? The Council is now building a carpark a long walk from the Mullumbimby shops in the block behind Woolies.

This is an eminently suitable location for a high-rise housing development but Council are proposing instead to replace the existing well-situated carpark and public toilet block [at 57 Station St] with the high-rise housing development.

This proposal might well destroy two businesses, will have difficult vehicle access, includes two white elephant shop fronts with no passing foot traffic, will remove decorative trees and shrubs and will be an eyesore to all motorists entering town.

The only public toilet in town will be removed and not replaced, even though

it's said to be heritage-listed. Execution of this proposal will also incur far more expense than just building behind Woolies. On the face of it, this seems absurd.

People are wondering why Council was so secretive about it for so long.

Many residents have signed petitions against this but are being ignored. The existing carpark is a community asset which many people believe the Council has no right whatsoever to convert to housing or shop fronts. They are saying that Council should build their housing development at the back of Woolies and leave the existing carpark and public toilets as they are for the benefit of the community now and into the future.

Also many people are saying that losing the existing carpark will fill the Woolies carpark to saturation and make finding a park near the shops virtually impossible. Which means they will do their shopping elsewhere.

▶ Continued on page 15

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Letters to the Editor and cartoons

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

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THU 20 NOV	DAN HANNAFORD
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WED 26 NOV	JASON DELPHIN

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Dino's



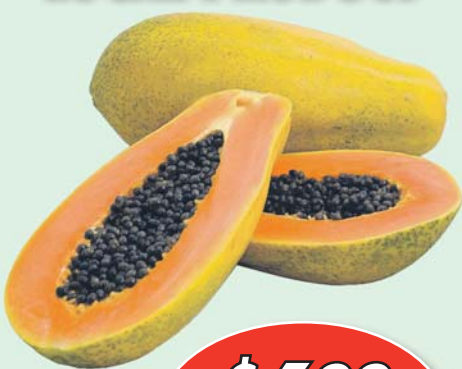
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► Continued from page 13

Then more shops will close. The question is why the Council is determined to do this in the face of universal criticism and a denial of basic common sense. Maybe they are choosing to live in clown world where everything is upside down and topsy-turvy?

James Morau
Brunswick Heads

Vale Alfred

Driving took on a different dimension for me when Alfred first started his meanderings around Mullumbimby.

Not sure which year that would have been, I remember pulling over asking him if he needed a lift, he hissed at me, however our relationship progressed to a slight smile and nod... one of those very slow burn connections.

Really, the RTA should raise a plaque in honour of him for the vigilance and fear he installed in our local community.

None of their 'nanny state' fear-mongering warnings had the slightest impact compared to the 'Alfred effect'.

It was particularly heightened around dusk and dawn, how many times over so many years did I come around a curve in the half light and there was Alfred's bent form in his garbage bag cape, defying death once more.

Just two steps too much on the road, and miraculously there wasn't a car coming towards me as I swerved.

It was a common topic at social gatherings: 'I nearly collected Alfred today, last night, this morning...'

Yep, he'd trained many of us to be uber cautious... None of us wanted to have the notoriety to be the bullet in his 'Russian roulette road antics'.

I really appreciated the signage that was placed around the roads of Mullum 'Look Out For Alfred' with a cute unmistakable graphic of him, so thoughtful and also kept us more diligent.

And the day trippers probably slightly worried with no context.

I was a bit concerned a while back when I hadn't seen him for some time and I certainly did not want to get complacent.

However, driving over to the Bay one day, to my surprise, there he was on Ewingsdale Road! I must say his attire had changed slightly to a rather fetching blue garbage bag cape, his hair had been styled and new sandals...mmm, a more up-market

vagabond look now he was treading the roads of the Byron Bay glitterati. But really who would have thought that his luck would run out in broad daylight on a straight stretch of road, I'm still shaking my head.

RIP Alfred, and my heart goes out to the woman who ran into him. It could have been any one of us.

Mishaela Simpkins
Mullumbimby Creek

Yellow signs

I have driven the Tweed Valley Way to Murwillumbah several times. The [yellow] speed signs had the usual 65, 75, 45 or whatever notification on each bend.

I drove the whole way at the speed limit and never once felt in danger. And I'm not a leadfoot. Coming back, there were many corners without speed signs to slow down which were actually necessary.

Is it possible the Council road workers had the map upside down?

Larry Hoofs
The Pocket

Dog wisdom

My dog has taught me that every encounter on the street can spark a small moment of kindness.

A wagging tail and a friendly sniff open conversations with strangers, turning a casual walk into a shared smile and a new connection. It's amazing how quickly a simple hello becomes a moment of community, with neighbours exchanging tips, dogs meeting friends, and hearts feeling a little lighter.

Cassandra Bond
Mullumbimby

No 'backroom deals'

In response to Cr Elia Hauge's letter (5 November 2025) regarding alleged 'backroom deals' among non-Greens councillors, I wish to clarify the situation and provide some context.

There were no secret deals or underhanded negotiations. The decision in question was made to protect Council from pursuing an impractical and costly proposal - the Greens' plan for a separate water supply for half of Mullumbimby.

This idea is both unnecessary and financially irresponsible, given that Rous Water now provides a permanent, safe supply to the entire Shire.

The Greens' proposal would have required over \$500,000 for yet another report and potentially millions more in loans for infrastructure that is simply not viable.

In my opinion, the focus of local councillors should be on delivering real outcomes for the local community: rebuilding trust with state government to unlock funding and support for vital projects like electric buses, affordable housing, and the long-delayed rail trail.

Local government has the ability to shape life in our community for the better. Council's job is to find consensus about the best ways to do that.

Cr Janet Swain
Ocean Shores

Modest housing fix

The average [median] price for a Byron Bay house currently is about \$2.5m.

If all house owners sold their houses to developers from Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne and possibly China, there would be collective funding to build thousands of dwellings to house all residents, visitors, workers, and wait staff from South America and Europe.

The buildings would have to be limited to say 200 metres high, as Byron wouldn't want to look like Surfers Paradise.

Fifty storeys should do. Council and the NSW Tourist Dept can get around a simple regulation like the current building height of 11.5m, especially as it is in the public interest.

The buildings would occupy the same space that the average house does now: 1000 sqm for each footprint.

The sale contract would specify that a seller would get the penthouse, luxury suite or ground floor villa as a reward for their enterprise. That's only fair. As there would be thousands of these magnificent buildings, there would be fine housing for all owners. The rest of the dwellings would be sold at a fixed price of \$500,000 or rented at \$500 per week with life tenancy. The maths works out. Trust me.

The buildings could start at Clifford St, Suffolk Park, travelling north along the coast (with a two-kilometre boundary) to the lighthouse, drop a leftie there and continue, to include the Belongil mansions and Elements horse ranch.

All the tax-dodgy clothing franchises would be removed. Shopping, supermarkets and food outlets would be in the buildings. Single-storey shopping centres would become parks.

The complex would have its own electric train service from Suffolk to Ewingsdale. Travel would be free, paid

► Continued on page 17

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Celebrate our local business community! Join us as we recognise all the finalists and announce the winners at the Uniquely Byron Business Awards & End of Year Party. Tickets: byronbaychamber.com
 Wed 26 Nov | 5:45pm | Tokyo Doll

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► Continued from page 15 by the Brisbane Tourist Tag entry fee collected by the huge sign over the road at The Farm toll scanners.

All politicians would preserve this project in legislation to allow for population expansion and inflation, and pertinent words ending in 'ion.'

The Writers Festival could organise a workshop to name the buildings.

I've come up with a few: The Secret Outhouse, King Kong by Faze, The Hippy on Jonson, UTopi.A, and The Cashew Castle.

If a Council tax was imposed on the residential cranes, a handsome cash flow would be forthcoming, for the cure of potholes.

Because we do need good roads for the new housing.

Raphael Cass
Byron Bay

Change Council

Hi to all the ratepayers of Byron Shire. How can we achieve change because it is obvious that change is needed in the management of Byron Council.

I believe the general manager's contract has been renewed, but does anyone know Council's business plan? Does anyone know if its business plan involves change?

Many ratepayers are concerned with the seeming lack of accountability of staff members managing various departments.

There is continued incompetence, inadequate duty of care, even the lack of a code of conduct needs to change. The waste of money is unbelievable.

Who is really in charge?

Why with so many staff members are we paying for consultants?

Why are we having our infrastructure ignored?

Why are we allowing building on floodplains?

Why are we constantly building without the infrastructure in place?

Storm water failure everywhere and (if Alan Dickens is right) we have a failed sewerage system and I don't doubt that. How are we standing by and continuing to allow these very questionable practices of incompetence and wasted funds?

What have we got to show for our rates? Byron residents I am calling on you to take action against incompetence, and against a lack of accountability, and against a lack of integrity that is leading to more problems than solving them.

Annie Radermacher
Brunswick Heads

'They must find it difficult, those who have taken authority as truth, rather than truth as authority'

– Gerald Massey, English Egyptologist, poet and writer (1828–1907)



Homeless suggestion

A suggestion to help homeless people for the NSW premier to consider.

Meriton apartments (Harry Triguboff) build more than they sell or rent, why does the government negotiate to purchase possibly 1,000 at a special price?

Surely this would be quicker, cheaper and politically very popular!

Alan Landis OAM
Rose Bay

Bah! Humbug!

Wow, everything is more expensive now.

How can the average person cope with rising prices? Especially rents are unaffordable now in Byron Shire, unless you're a well-heeled visitor or highly-paid worker.

So where does that leave our musos, artists, and poor who have mostly left the shire? Our shire rents are the highest in the country, comparable to Sydney! With the holiday season approaching, and relatives and friends coming here to visit, kids wishing for presents, everyone wanting a bit of holiday cheer, we need to have a bit of the Christmas spirit for those in need!

So I propose a 'Rent Free December' for all renters and businesses. You can write it off your taxes or just gift it. Go on do it! It will make you feel really good and the renters will love you for it. Remember what it did for Scrooge, little Timmy's family invited him for dinner. Happy holidays to all. Aloha.

Noah Yamore
Mullumbimby

Insidious creeper

There's a new kind of greenwashing taking hold, as insidious as Madeira vine. It's the creeping misuse of the words 'circular economy'.

The true circular economy is a rigorous model designed to keep materials and resources in use for as long as possible, through recovery, repair, remanufacture, and recycling, creating a closed-loop system that minimises the use of

precious raw materials and reduces ecological impact.

It doesn't matter how many hands a product passes through, or how 'local' it seems; if it ultimately ends up in a landfill, it's not part of a circular economy by any stretch of the imagination.

When the term 'circular economy' is misused, it ceases to describe sustainability and becomes a tool of deception – a marketing con dressed in green.

Dr Anne Stuart
Mullumbimby

SGB Helen Street footbridge

It's with great sadness that I have watched the Helen Street footbridge literally decay before my eyes in recent years.

It was a project inspired, and (partly) paid for, by the community that Byron Council seems to have all but turned its back on maintaining.

This vital piece of infrastructure has provided safe access between the South Golden Beach/Ocean Shores North communities, the (once) general store and the beach.

That humble little footbridge has literally changed the face of our area.

On any given day, I watch many cyclists, scooters, pedestrians, prams and dogs making their way across its now worn and rotten planks. My family and I would do in excess of 30 trips a week across it.

I honestly love seeing groups of kids enjoying the easy cycle to school or a quick/safe trip to a mate's place across the creek. In this day and age that's something to cherish.

For those who have lived in the area prior to the construction of the bridge, you will recall that the trek to the beach wasn't so easy.

You will also remember the perils of bikes, prams etc going around the Kolora Way bend with no footpaths and speeding cars – another fail by Council.

So, if you love your bridge and all that it affords, please

jump onto the Byron Shire Council website and click 'Report it'. Respectfully ask that the relevant assessment and maintenance be undertaken before it becomes completely unusable, like the Byron Creek Suffolk Park bridge that featured in *The Echo* a week ago.

Perhaps now that Council has put to bed ambitious projects like the fabled boardwalk, they might get on with the job of basic maintenance and repair!

Kate Tranberg
South Golden Beach

Respectful dialogue

Mayor Sarah Ndiaye is correct when she writes 'respectful dialogue allows us to listen, learn and find common ground even when we disagree'.

It's a vital skill needed by our political leaders when dealing with critical issues to our community. (*Echo* 5 November).

But the respectful dialogue must be two ways otherwise it's dictating.

Our community is full of people who have fought many battles over decades to preserve our precious environment, save the last remnants of old growth rainforest and stop destructive developments such as CSG mining.

They value the idyllic place we are fortunate to live in and don't want to see it destroyed.

Many of these people are reporting less than 'respectful dialogue' from some councillors, let alone a willingness to listen and learn from those in the community with many years of experience, research and information to contribute.

One of those major battles over two decades has been to have commuter rail services reinstated on our multi-billion-dollar rail line and the twenty-two kilometres of line built to connect to the Queensland rail system at Coolangatta.

Research shows that the majority of the two-million-plus tourist traffic entering Byron Shire comes over the border from Queensland and the airports.

Research also shows that rail is not only the most environmentally effective way of transporting people and goods, compared to the multi-millions/billions cost of upgrading roads and road maintenance, it's the safest and most cost effective.

It's hard to comprehend why councillors would not listen to the informed members of the community and ► Continued on page 18

HAVE YOUR SAY

Development Applications and opportunities for comment on policy

To make a submission see the Byron Shire Council website: www.yoursay.byron.nsw.gov.au



URGENT

Code of Meeting Practice – CLOSURES 23 NOVEMBER – losing public access at meetings, see article (search website – it's under Public Notices)

Draft DCP Chapter E11 Gulgan – CLOSURES 23 NOVEMBER

Exhibition of Draft Cyber Security Policy – CLOSURES 25 NOVEMBER (Public Notices)

Sandhills Proposed Wildlife Protection Area – CLOSURES 2 DECEMBER

Playspace Action Plan survey – CLOSURES 5 DECEMBER

Koala lights & signage survey – CLOSURES 13 DECEMBER

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS – See Byron Shire Council website DA Tracker for details: www.byron.nsw.gov.au/datracker



10.2025.448.1 – DA - 3 Clifford St, Suffolk Park – Change of use of take away food and drink premises to restaurant with alterations and additions. CLOSURES 20/11

10.2025.463.1- DA - 10 Balraith Ln, Ewingsdale / 3 St Helena Rd, Mcleods Shoot – rens Title Subdivision of 2 Lots into 7 Lots and a New Road and Tree Removal (45 Trees). CLOSURES 23/11

10.2025.481.1 – DA - 63 Kingsley St, Byron Bay – Demolition of existing swimming pool and store and construction of new swimming pool and pool cabana. CLOSURES 23/11

10.2025.484.1 – DA - 1 Harah Crt, Ocean Shores - Replacement and Extension of Roofed Front Deck. CLOSURES 23/11

10.2025.32.1- Amended DA 111 & 115 Jonson St, Byron Bay – Formalisation of works undertaken without consent, and alterations and additions to existing restaurant and commercial premises involving two (2) restaurants, removal of seven (7) planted trees being six (6) small to medium sized coast banksia, and one (1) bangalow palm. CLOSURES 23/11

10.2025.459.1 – DA - 4 Ocean Way, Brunswick Heads – Alterations & additions to existing dwelling including expanded dwelling, carport and removal of 4 palm trees. CLOSURES 25/11

10.2025.466.1 – DA - 4 Driftwood Ave, Byron Bay – Demolition of dwelling house, swimming pool and tree removal & construction of new dwelling house, swimming pool and ancillary works. CLOSURES 26/11

10.2025.449.1 – DA - 9 Mill Rd, Huonbrook - New shed & demolition of existing shed. CLOSURES 27/11

10.2025.467.1 – DA- 8 Grays Ln, Tyagarah – Dwelling house and swimming pool. CLOSURES 27/11

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► **Continued from page 17** demand the state government stop wasting taxpayers' money destroying the multi-billion-dollar rail line and get the commuter train service running as promised, but are enthusiastically supporting the destruction, which means the number of monster gas guzzlers filling our towns will increase, as will the multi-million-dollar bill for road upgrades and multi-storey car parks for ratepayers and taxpayers.

Why would our councillors allow the state government to cost shift this massive cost of transporting millions of tourists and their toxic emissions onto 16,000 Byron Shire ratepayers?

Just as it makes no sense for taxpayers to be paying billions subsidising solar panels and batteries for households while at the same time spending billions subsidising fossil fuel mining and monster utes, paying millions more for roads and traffic gridlock spewing toxic emissions is criminal when we have a valuable train line which could do the job cheaper, safer and reduce emissions at the same time.

When are our politicians/councillors actually going to do what we pay them for and 'respectfully listen, learn

and find common ground' and better outcomes for the whole community?

Louise Doran
Ocean Shores

Republic of Gough

Fifty years ago Australia's (Labor) prime minister, Gough Whitlam, was sacked by Australia's governor-general, John Kerr.

It still defies belief that Mr Whitlam's government (or any Australian government) elected by the Australian people could be dismissed by Royal Prerogative of the British Crown.

Anyway, after returning from receiving Kerr's dismissal, Gough showed it to his wife, Margaret Whitlam, who immediately told him to 'tear it up'.

Imagine what Australia would now have looked like if Gough had listened to Margaret's advice?

As great an Australian PM as Gough Whitlam was for change, he missed his greatest chance.

Terry Sharples
Tweed Heads

Labor's 'propaganda' vs 'facts'

When will people stop believing the BS propaganda of Labor? For those not paying attention, a few facts:



In another timeline, Gough Whitlam and his daughter Catherine enjoy reading *The Photoshopped Echo*, circa 1969.

Penny Wong in the Senate: 'the US relationship is more important that the environment'.

Former Labor premier Mike Wran has said that 'Australia is often seen internationally as walking both sides of the street on climate' and also that 'gas is a lifeline for the fossil fuel polluters akin to what vapes have become to the tobacco industry'.

It's been acknowledged that supplying gas to overseas countries is hindering their transition to renewables, never mind the fact that the process used to liquify the gas to get it on the

boat uses more gas than all households in Australia.

As far as Labor's much heralded environment policy goes, it conveniently and disgracefully omits a ban on native forest logging.

In 2018 Labor declared that they would sign the International Ban on Nuclear Weapons and since the last three elections still have not done so.

Continually obstructing FOI requests and fending off continuous complaints about transparency.

Ignoring 31 recommendations for gambling reform. Continuing to support Israeli weapons manufacturers and

rejecting calls for sanctions in defiance of the ICJ.

Greens Senator Shoebridge: 'When will the PM start telling the whole truth about AUKUS and how Australia will be paying to help build the next class of US ballistic missile submarines'.

Under AUKUS, Australia will be contributing to the indefinite maintenance of the US strategic nuclear force and where will the nuclear waste be stored?

We are tightly integrated into the US military and the now-expanding US military footprint on Australian soils which is destroying our security and sovereignty.

If the government really cared about housing and honesty, they would eliminate negative gearing and expensive tax breaks for investors and stop conning the public with policies, which without question has continued to push up house prices for first home buyers, not to mention the 10 per cent increase in homelessness.

Why hasn't Labor initiated a public housing commission policy similar to the successful post-war policy?

Labor's housing policy has been bad for renters, and first home buyers, but conveniently will provide

public housing for the US military.

In conclusion, people should stop believing Labor's propaganda machine while following the US into yet another war. Labor should concentrate on lifting the living standards of Australians and showing honesty in caring for the environment and sanction Israel.

Rod Murray
Ocean Shores

Counting pros and cons

I was confused by [Jamie Webb's] letter claiming a disproportionate number of pro-Israel and, in your odd summation, Islamophobic letters in *The Echo*.

A short check of the archives shows the opposite. Since last March alone, there have been 38 anti-Israel letters, 51 pro-Palestinian articles and photos and one neutral.

By comparison, there have been 14 letters in defence of Israel's war against Hamas terrorists who butchered, and raped 1,200 innocents. Lies cause division. Facts matter.

Marianne McCormack
Billinudgel

■ More letters online at www.echo.net.au.

MULLUM SHOP LOCAL This Christmas!

Starts next week

MULLUM IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS!

Northern Rivers Ultrasound & Imaging

No bookings needed
Walk-ins welcome

X-RAYS HERE NOW

Professional imaging, right here in Mullumbimby
Bulk-billing (where eligible)

Fast results for your doctor

56 STUART ST MULLUMBIMBY 02 6684 2354

SHOP MULLUMBIMBY'S CHRISTMAS TRAIL

SAT 29 NOV 8AM-LATE



The Christmas Sale Trail is a collaboration between Mullumbimby's Chamber of Commerce and Mullum Cares that is set to take the Chamber's annual Christmas Shop Local campaign to the next level!

TWILIGHT MARKET AT BYRON COMMUNITY COLLEGE (17)

Flea Market including late lunch and dinner fare. Held at Byron College, 6/8 Burringbar Street, Mullumbimby, 2pm-7pm.

Community Arts Hub (17): Honey - a taste of summer

As spring tips into summer, 'Honey' gathers works from five artists into one warm, golden evening. This pop-up exhibition aligns with the Twilight Flea Market at Byron Community College, opening Saturday 29 November, 4pm-7pm, with live music and a bar in the gallery. Featuring artists include Monique Correy, Leona DeBolt, Mia Forrest, Laith McGregor and Ming Nomchong.

PARTICIPATING BUSINESSES

The Paddock Project (1)

Organic produce, plants, food, coffee, clothes, craft stalls and more. 64 Argyle Street - 9am-2pm

Byron School of Art (2)

Artwork from Graduate Student Exhibition. 112 Dalley Street - 10am-3pm

Wards Landscape Supplies (3)

1176 Myocum Road - 7am-2pm

Mullumbimby Rural Cooperative (4)

1670 Coolamon Scenic Drive - 8am-12pm

Library of Stuff (5)

Preloved tools, electricals, games and more. 2 River Terrace - 9am-2pm

Mullum Clayworkers (6)

Ceramics, books, clothing and plants. Drill Hall Car Park - 10am-4pm

Mullumbimby Newsagency (7)

44 Burringbar Street - 6am-4pm

Jenn Johnston Ceramics (8)

5 Tyagarah Street, corner Riley Lane - 8am-4pm

Stewart's Menswear (9)

52-54 Burringbar Street - 9am-2pm

Mullumbimby Historical Society (9)

Commemorative embroidery activity. In front of Stewart's Menswear, 52 Burringbar Street - 9am-2pm

Cactus Hill (10)

69 Burringbar Street - 10am-5pm

PBB Media Inc & CWA Hall (11)

CWA: selling cakes, preserves, bric-a-brac and plants. PBB: outreach hub offering free baby clothes and toys. CWA Hall, corner Tincogan Street and Gordon Street - 9am-2pm

Reforest Now (12)

156 Stuart Street, rear entry of Community Garden site - 8am-1pm

Mullum Organic Food Coop (13)

156 Stuart Street, front entry Community Garden - 10am-2pm

Made In Mullum (14)

70 local makers. 22 Burringbar Street - 10am-5pm

Mullum Mac (15)

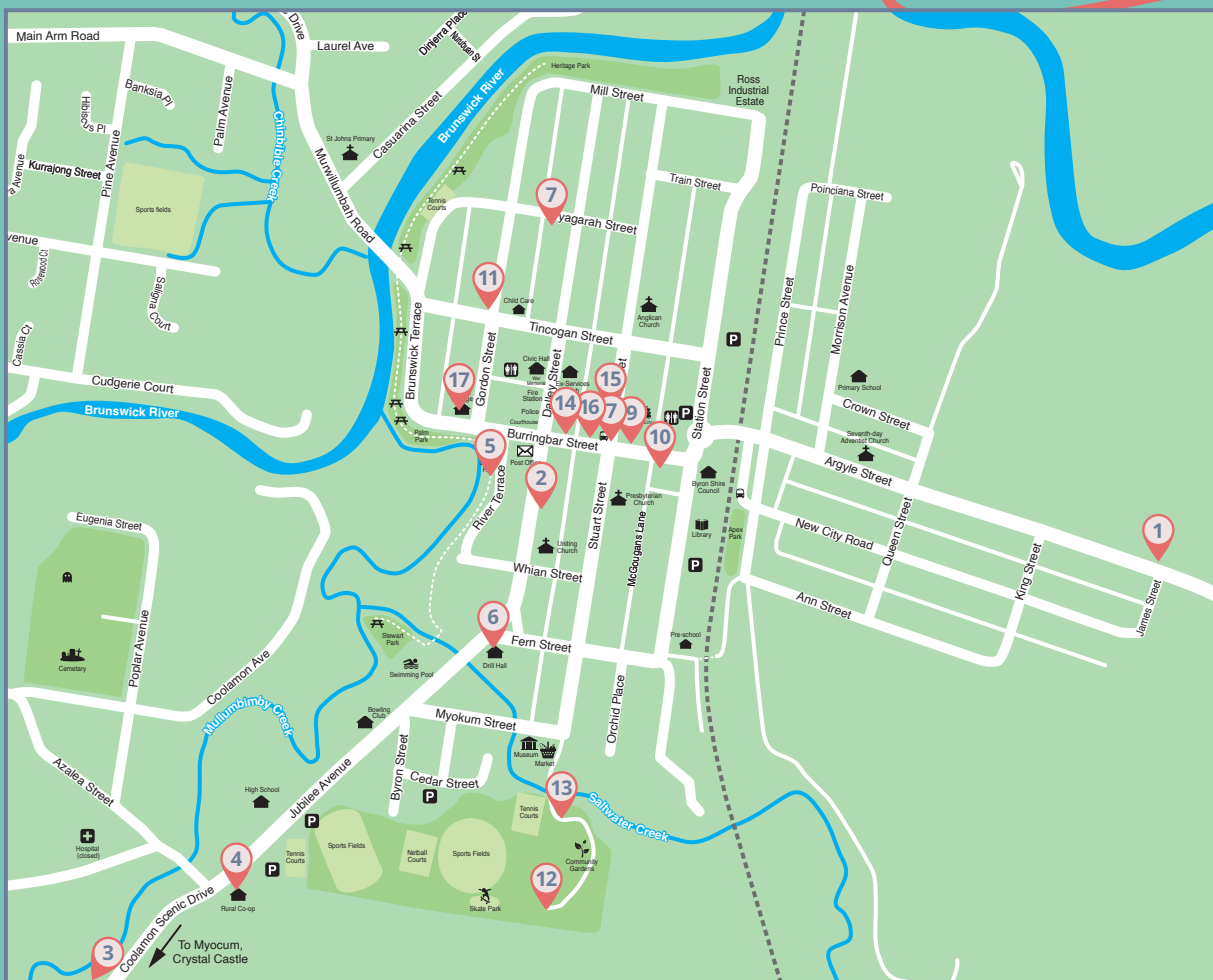
Apple store with Apple computer products. 61 Stuart Street - 9am-1pm

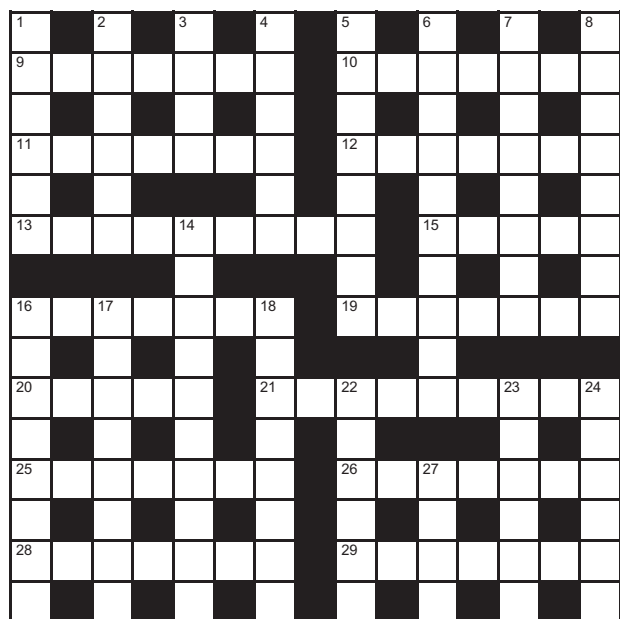
Hemp Culture (16)

High-quality, sustainable hemp products. 40 Burringbar Street - 9am-7pm

Byron Community College (17)

6-8 Burringbar Street - 2pm-7pm





Cryptic Clues

ACROSS

- 9. Game offering overall good time (7)
- 10. Strange objets d'art university stored (7)
- 11. Premier to star in overture to Giselle (7)
- 12. Problem with program support is an annoyance (7)
- 13. Region of Spain where tango replaces lambada, causing a mental condition (9)
- 15. Tender nerve opening sure to be operated on (5)
- 16. Material derived from male beasts (7)
- 19. Duke - Clarence for one - attends small clubs (7)
- 20. Poetic old sprite lost foot in eagle's nest (5)
- 21. Refuse to listen in on eco-vandal (9)
- 25. Places outside Hamas influence, initially for some Muslims (7)
- 26. Stop gloomy music pervading pub at midnight (7)
- 28. Seafood, a nonsense avoided by Yankee (7)
- 29. Mythical monster takes Ottoman leader by force (7)

DOWN

- 1. Wooden blocks holding as one unit (2,4)
- 2. Finally, a position for cobblers! (2,4)
- 3. Transporter has trouble at unit (4)
- 4. Hit with a new tagline (6)
- 5. Sword bearer deals crooked cards to capture a black bishop (8)
- 6. Ship taking giant away into the sea (10)
- 7. Manifest a heavenly body on Parisian street (4,4)
- 8. Moneylenders absorb pressure from power grabbers (8)
- 14. Jailor takes night off to jog to dance (6,4)
- 16. Officer gets money that troop leader left (5,3)
- 17. Red queen, perhaps, in a line (8)
- 18. Old ladies get stuck into heaps of sweet stuff (8)
- 22. Up-to-the-minute score, including goal (6)
- 23. Pub fight at ancient gravesite (6)
- 24. Golf shot in field (6)
- 27. Republican in gambling organisation set up by naughty child (4)

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

Quick Clues

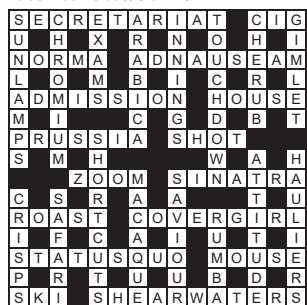
ACROSS

- 9. Sport played on a court by two teams of seven players each (7)
- 10. Eager to learn or know something (7)
- 11. Going in front or showing the way (7)
- 12. Persistent source of annoyance (7)
- 13. Mental condition involving immobility and stupor (9)
- 15. Healthcare professional who tends to patients (5)
- 16. Stiff cotton fabric used in bookbinding (7)
- 19. Motor vehicle operators (7)
- 20. The nest of a bird of prey (5)
- 21. Person who carelessly discards rubbish in public places (9)
- 25. Followers of the second largest branch of Islam (7)
- 26. Official ban on trade or commerce (7)
- 28. Large edible sea snail with iridescent shell (7)
- 29. Compel by force; mounted infantryman of former times (7)

DOWN

- 1. All together as a single unit (2,4)
- 2. Finally, after a long wait (2,4)
- 3. Vehicle for hire with driver (4)
- 4. Memorable phrase used in advertising (6)
- 5. Sheath for a sword or dagger (8)
- 6. Two-masted sailing vessel (10)
- 7. Actually happen as hoped for (4,4)
- 8. Those who take someone's position illegally (8)
- 14. Ballroom dance popular in 1900s (6,4)
- 16. High-ranking military officer (5,3)
- 17. High-ranking Catholic official (8)
- 18. Dark sugar syrup from refining (8)
- 22. Raised patterns on tyre surfaces (6)
- 23. Ancient burial mound (6)
- 24. Earth's surface or crushed particles (6)
- 27. Badly behaved child (4)

Last week's solution #81



Why We Need Men



MANDY NOLAN'S SOAPBOX

We can end violence against women and girls. I have always believed that. Some think I'm unrealistic, but I'm not ready to surrender hope.

I've marched the streets, I have written articles, I've lobbied politicians. I've had my own experiences and I've sat with women and listened to them recount stories of rape, violence, abuse and degradation. And I barely flinch. Because these stories of near-death, of torture and abuse, they're so normalised that none of us are shocked. What shocks us is meeting a woman who has never experienced harm. I don't know a single woman who hasn't experienced some sort of gendered violence.

I started marching for justice and safety when I was 17. I'm 57. That's 40 years of activism. Now I realise something important - we can't do this alone. Until men get engaged in leading a conversation with other men, in being role models of equality and non-violence to their boys and their mates - until then it doesn't matter how many times we take to the streets. It won't end. We need men. We need them in a way it is good to be needed. As not just the cause, but the solution.

We need men to step up. We need them to lead. Because this is not our issue. This is theirs.

We have raised the alarm. We have led the conversations. We have done the heavy lifting.

We have painted banners and given speeches. We have written PhDs and political doctrines. We have mobilised. Over and over and over again. We are tired.

So now, men, I call on you. Good men. The men who call themselves 'nice' guys. Our allies. You know who you are. Don't sit quietly. Lead.

There are boys who need to hear from you. Go fetch them from the digital manosphere where they are exposed to misogynistic groups, blogs and forums that promote masculinity as some sort of opposition to feminism. Show them what the men in their community, in their lives, can do. Let them hear from you. Not digital voices of extremism and hate. Real voices of love and connection.

Women have done so much work on who we are. On our fears. On our



So now, men, I call on you. Good men. The men who call themselves 'nice' guys. Our allies. You know who you are. Don't sit quietly. Lead.

oppression. On our need to rise. On our resilience. On our recovery and on our resistance. Now it's time for you to go deep. Because the solution to this puzzle, this final piece, is you. And this we finally realise - just as in a relationship we can't change you with begging or pleading or facts or law or shaming, because we can't change the behaviour at a structural level.

You have to dismantle the system that gives you privilege. That has made you powerful. That allows you to quietly be a nice bloke, because even if you're not a perpetrator, you are a beneficiary of a broken system. It still works for you. Don't be complicit.

This is your moment. To break through. Because as it turns out, men are in trouble. It's never too late to change. It's never too late to address your behaviour. To seek help for your anger. To deal with your trauma. Don't create another generation of kids who've seen their dad hurt their mum. You can't unsee that. It lives in your bones. It becomes part of your story.

So I call on those good men. They are many. Call out other men who make sexist and degrading jokes about women. Be a disruptor. Explain why those jokes underwrite violence. How those attitudes make the harm and the silence permissible. Time for talk is over. We need action. And the only action that I believe is going to deliver real change, is going to come from men. Be courageous. Take on tyranny. Show there is another way. Don't let our boys drift into a digital abyss of misogyny where hating women is normalised and celebrated.

Be a man who speaks up. We are ready and waiting.

16 days of activism against gender based violence happens from Nov 25 - Dec 10.

Time for action.

■ *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

When the Sun, Venus and Thursday's new moon are joined by Mercury retrograde in the sign of the stinging tail, good luck staying on the surface as this dramatic week takes a dive into deep waters...



SCORPIO THE SCORPION

ARIES: There's a lot to be gained from stepping away from the echo chamber of this week's simmering issues and opinions to investigate the real possibility that where others see roadblocks, you could recognise a detour sign that actually puts you on the more direct path you're looking for.

TAURUS: With so much heavenly energy in your sector of relationships, the subject of partnering heads this week's agenda. If trust issues get pressure tested by Mercury's retrograde and you've already had 'that talk' repeatedly without results, do yourself the favour of disengaging till new rules of engagement can be negotiated.

GEMINI: This week's astral energetics in Gemini's sector of health and environmental organisation suggest dedicating time to addressing accumulated clutter and disintegrating routines - though no need for utilitarian storage solutions when so many stylish options exist. Reshuffle your wellness priorities too, into whatever's more workable and enjoyable.

CANCER: With this week's energy in your zone of enjoyment and creativity, if you're not having fun, then take your aching heart and turn it into art. Feel like closing down? Neptune says open up and extend your parameters into exploring what brings joy and invites more playfulness into your world.

LEO: Sun, new moon, Mercury and Venus all combine to make this arguably the year's best week for letting go of what no longer serves you. Rather than grieving for what's being released, a more positive, alchemical attitude would be honouring it as fertile compost for growth and self-renewal.

VIRGO: Increased planetary focus in your sector of communication and networking could bring interesting opportunities to your doorstep this week. So check out your neighbourhood cafes and local venues for open mic nights, look for class schedules at your community hub, refresh your usual routine with some new connections.

LIBRA: Neptune and Saturn's combined retrogrades could deliver some unexpected clarity about lifestyle habits which direct Librans towards revamping their daily self-care practices. This week benefits from evaluating your health regimens and creating an engaging plan for the long haul rather than a well-intentioned but possibly unsustainable quick fix.

SCORPIO: The sun and new moon joining intriguing Venus in Scorpio on 20 November ensure there'll be no shortage of sizzling chemistry to celebrate your entry into your new astrological year. During which, be on the alert for unexpected opportunities to join forces and possibly finances in new, or renewed, partnerships.

SAGITTARIUS: With closed-mouth Mercury in the sign of that's-for-me-to-know-and-you-to-find-out, it's worth asking questions if things aren't clear. Which doesn't mean you'll get straight answers, but even so, what's being not said will speak loudly. Watch body language too for further clues.

CAPRICORN: This week's planetary quartet in your community sector and a Saturn/Neptune alignment in your communications zone couldn't be clearer about the need for networking and replenishing social connections. So make time to reach out to people you've lost touch with, schedule lunches and happy hours with friends and colleagues.

AQUARIUS: The closing chapter of Neptune's cycle in your financial sector continues maturing the Aquarian relationship to money, income and possessions. Saturn also backtracking through this sector says it's time to ask yourself what matters to you beyond money, and how can you make a living in a way that reflects these values?

PISCES: While the celestial support of Neptune's final retrograde in Pisces sets up ideal conditions to explore what you genuinely want to create with your unique gifts and talents, this week's planetary focus sounds the call for more experimentation and social diversity - perhaps a getaway or jetaway for inspiration?

Local wins world para championship



Joel celebrates his second gold medal win. Photo supplied

Ross Kendall

A Lennox Head local has claimed his second world gold medal after winning at this year's ISA World Para Surfing Championships held in California, USA, earlier this month.

Joel had to get past Australian teammate Kai Colless and the 2024 world champion to win the top honours in the Prone 1 division.

'It was an incredible final to be a part of, to come away

with the win and the gold medal is everything. Having a rival, and teammate, like Kai [Colless] makes me push myself and my surfing to the next level,' Joel said. 'We have completely different styles and approaches, but I feel we bring out the best in each other in competition. Our rivalry helps progress the sport to the next level, which is exactly what's needed as we push for the inclusion of para surfing in the Paralympics for Brisbane 2032.'

'I felt relieved when I won my first world title, I wanted it so bad and for so long it was like a weight was lifted off my shoulders. This one feels more of an accomplishment; I worked really hard all year, in the water and in the gym, to get the win. I thought the second would be different, but to claim the title – and the only individual gold medal for Australia – in solid waves, and in the way I did, makes it just as special as the first,' he said.

Twin tons for Byron butchers

Byron Bay third grade cricketers Shaun Greening and Adrian Simpkins each scored a century last Saturday playing against Lennox Head. Shaun's 135no and Adrian's 125no delivered a record partnership of 285. Both will be back to work at Locavore organic butchers in Byron this week. Photo supplied



Local cricket in full swing

Ross Kendall

Goonellabah Workers first grade cricketers had their first loss of the season last weekend but remain in first place in the LJ Hooker league after six rounds.

They fell to the Lennox Head Pirates who, conversely, were able to bank their first win for the season.

Playing at home at Megan Crescent Oval the Pirates won the toss and sent the favourites in to bat and had them all out for 166 within 37 overs.

The visitors lost the wicket of Jack Cooper in the first over and despite a few starts from the batters, the side couldn't put together any meaningful partnerships. Blake Perkins (40) and Damien Santin (29) were Goonellabah's top scorers.

The Lennox Head bowling honours went to Robert Dorey who collected 5/29 off 7.2 overs. Todd Fisher chimed in with 2/17 off eight overs.

In reply the home side was in trouble early losing both openers with just 11 runs on the board, but the next pair of Nick Asser (38) and Scott Coster (43) took the side to 100 with an 89-run partnership.

Captain Blake Kernaghan steered his side home with 18 not out. Lennox Head reached the target with 11 balls and three wickets in hand.

Best bowlers and tight table

Best of the Goonellabah bowlers was Alec Watson with 2/33 off eight overs.

In other games from the weekend Terranora Lakes lost to the Casino Cavaliers and Tweed Banora beat



The Lennox Head Pirates took the game to Goonellabah last weekend. Photo supplied

Tintenbar East Ballina, (both on DLS).

The other game of the round was a one-sided game that saw Pottsville bowled out for 56 (including five ducks) in the 18th over, and the Cudgen Hornets chase it down in just five. Hayden Wilson scorched 48 no off 19 balls.

The results produced a tight table with Goonellabah ahead with four wins from six games, but five others close behind, Cudgen, Marist Brothers, Tweed Banora, Alstonville and Tintenbar East Ballina, just one win behind.

Second grade

In the second grade (north) competition the Murwillumbah Panthers (38 points) lead the parade with Byron Bay (33) and Mullumbimby Brunswick (33) close behind, all with four wins from six games, with Bangalow rounding out the top four (27) on three wins.

Bagalow jumped out of the blocks with two big wins. In game one they bowled out Terranora Lakes for 70, with Connor Redden claiming

4/7 off four overs, while Ben Lawrence took 4/23 off 4.2. Bangalow chased down the runs in 11 overs.

In game two Bangalow bowled out Pottsville for 30 before chasing down the runs in just three overs.

Chief bowler on the day was Arlo Wooldridge who collected 6/20 off six overs.

After losing to Murwillumbah and a washout they went back to winning big in round five scoring 250 in the first innings before bowling out Tweed Banora for 35.

Again Arlo Wooldridge took the honours with 5/18, backed up by Hamish Redden's 2/2.

Last weekend Byron Bay got the better of them posting 208 at the Cavanbah Oval before bowling out Bangalow for 185.

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.

Small businesses...

the heartbeat of your neighbourhood, the spine of your local economy, and spirit of your town.

Let's keep the local economy strong by supporting our local business community and shopping local!

Echo



Head to the Echo's Service Directory for all your professional trade services

- Mowing/Landscaping
- Electricians
- Painting
- Building
- Air Conditioning
- Concreting
- Cleaning
- Fencing

& much much more!

Echo

In the paper each week and online at www.echo.net.au

Service Directory

Red Heart Fun(d)Raiser

Saturday
29th November
9am-4pm

.....
\$20 entry fee
At Jos - Jubilee ave opposite
Mullum High School



Clothes swap
Pre-loved clothes
Fabulous door prizes
Local Mullum vouchers, inc. facial and kinesiology and more!
Entertainment
In-house barista
Delicious cakes and goodies all included

The project directly supports girls and women in Kenya

Contact Jo Morrish 0439 492 804

Good Taste

Eateries Guide

BALLINA



Australian Hotel Ballina

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

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

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

australianhotelballina.com.au

MULLUMBIMBY



Bacco Wine Bar

Opening Hours: Wednesday - Sunday
Opening times: 3pm - late
Happy Hour: 3 - 5pm
Email: bacco.mullumbimby@gmail.com
Phone: 0434 450 415
Instagram: @bacco.mullumbimby

Your favourite new wine and charcuterie board bar in Mullumbimby. Italian aperitivo in true enoteca style. Buon cibo. Buon vino. Buon amici.

BILLINUDGEL



Rosefina's Mexican

Thursday/Friday open from 4pm to late
Happy Hour 4pm to 5.30pm
Saturday 12 to 2.30pm, 5pm to late
Sunday 12.30 to 8pm

8/10 Wilfred St, Billinudgel
www.rosefinas.place

Rosefina's is going street-style with BBQ tacos for Sunday lunch

MURWILLUMBAH



Olivewood Bistro

Located at Murwillumbah Golf Club
Open Lunch Monday - Sunday
Dinner Tuesday - Sunday
Call: (02) 6672 1799
www.murwillumbahgolfclub.com.au

We warmly welcome Olivewood Bistro to Murwillumbah Golf Club.

Locals know Le Ping and Simone from their time running 'White Olive' where they built a strong reputation for excellent food and warm hospitality.

BANGALOW



Bangalow Tuckshop

Open: Tue for dinner
Wed to Sat for lunch and dinner
43 Byron Street, Bangalow
bangalowntuckshop.com
hello@bangalowntuckshop.com.au
@Bangalowntuckshop

Where good food and good times bump into each other and decide to stay for a drink. They've taken modern Aussie cuisine, given it a cheeky spin, and packed it with the best locally sourced produce the Northern Rivers has to offer. Whether you're a local or just passing through, Tuckshop offers a dining experience that feels both special and familiar at the same time.

WILSONS CREEK



Threeways of the Valley

Wednesday - Sunday 8am - 3pm
(kitchen closes at 2pm, drinks & treats till 3pm) Saturday Evenings Pizza Nights 4:30pm - 7:30pm Friday Specials 4:30 - 9pm
See website for upcoming events.
10 Huonbrook Rd, Wilsons Creek
0421 054 484 | www.threeways.store
@threeways_of_the_valley

Nestled in the lush Wilsons Creek rainforest, Threeways is a vibrant, family-friendly cafe where nature, nourishment, and community meet. Enjoy seasonal, seed-oil free food, all-day breakfast, woodfired pizza nights, and upcoming Friday events. With Wi-Fi, gluten-free options, and space to relax or play, there's something for everyone.

BYRON BAY



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.

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 ají 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.



Roca Byron Bay

Open:
Everyday from 6:30am to late

14 Lawson St, Byron Bay
(02) 5642 0149
@rocabyronbay
www.rocabyronbay.com.au

Latin fusion all-day dining

Come and try our new spring menu. Savour our chargrilled anticuchos, indulge in fresh ceviche & oysters, or elevate your night with the Roca dining experience. Pair it all with a classic Pisco Sour or our best-selling Hot Like Papi cocktail.

HAPPY HOUR

2 for 1 cocktails & beers / 5 - 7pm / Sun to Thurs



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.

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

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

Australian Hotel Ballina

Schnitty Tuesdays

\$26 classic Schnitty combo or \$32 Parmigianina
Plus a house drink

103 River St, Ballina NSW 2478

The Good Life

Do-nut underestimate the taste of sourdough



Megan Hunter of Sweet n Sourdough at Byron Farmers Market.

There's good reason why the donuts from Sweet n Sourdough are so popular. For a start, unlike mass-produced varieties, they are individually handmade using sourdough and traditional baking methods. But owner Megan Hunter says there's a little more to it than that.

'We make small-batch, slow-fermented sourdough donuts, handcrafted with love,' she says. 'Every donut is made by hand in our commercial kitchen, from feeding the starter to mixing, rolling, proofing and frying each one fresh.'

'A great donut should be light, fluffy and full of flavour, not just sweet. Our sourdough donuts are naturally leavened over two days and fried fresh for the markets. We don't use preservatives, stabilisers or artificial flavours – just real ingredients, local produce and native botanicals. It's that care and time that make all the difference.'

Megan says she also uses as many locally sourced ingredients as possible, from farm-fresh eggs to sustainable flour and native flavours like lemon myrtle, ooray (Davidson plum) and pepperberry jam.

'We love collaborating with local growers and producers, which keeps our flavours seasonal, fresh and rooted in the region.'

After working in the hospitality industry for years, Megan wanted to branch out and start her own business. Taking inspiration from the traditional Italian 'bomboloni' with a modern twist, the idea for Sweet n Sourdough was born.

'It all began eight years ago with a love of sourdough and a curiosity to see how natural fermentation could transform something as classic as a donut,' Megan says. 'After plenty of experimenting (and taste-testing!), we discovered that sourdough adds incredible depth of flavour, a light texture and makes the donuts easier to digest. What started as a small passion project has grown into a family business that we absolutely love.'

Megan's father, partner and kids help out at the stall and in the kitchen, and the range of donuts on offer includes classics like cinnamon sugar and raspberry jam, plus filled favourites like lemon myrtle curd, brown sugar custard, chocolate ganache, and passionfruit and lime glaze.

Megan also creates limited-edition flavours inspired by native ingredients like ooray and pepperberry jam, but she says the most popular is the raspberry jam donut – simple, nostalgic and always a crowd-pleaser.

You can find Megan and her range of handmade sourdough donuts at Byron Farmers Market every Thursday morning.

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

Lennox Pizza Bar and Kitchen: Good times with ocean views

Whether you're there for the great cocktails, good tunes or great food with a beer and glass of wine, from the first floor of Lennox Pizza you also get a great view – you can look straight across the balcony to the ocean. It's the perfect spot to kick back and catch up, right in the heart of Lennox Head.

And, it's not 'just pizza'. Nicci and the crew have been running the place for more than 18 years now, and they've got the feel-good vibes and music thing going on – it's a funky place that's fun and full of energy, and everybody's welcome, from families and locals to weekend visitors chasing a great feed. Think tasty food, friendly faces and a free pool table to keep the good times rolling if you find you're suddenly in the mood to make a night of it.

The menu is stacked with all the favourites: hand stretched pizza, fresh pastas, ribs and wings, local seafood, loaded fries and mouth-watering desserts. And whatever kind of food you choose, the bar is fully licensed so you can pair it with creative cocktails, ice-cold brews or great wines and cheeky spirits.

- Happy Hour: Friday-Sunday 3-5pm
- Live Music: Sundays 5-8pm

Dine in and soak up the fun atmosphere, book a table with friends, or grab takeaway and delivery for an easy night in. However you do it, Lennox Pizza Bar and Kitchen is your go-to for flavour, fun, and unbeatable vibes. At Lennox Pizza, it's not just pizza – it's the whole experience.



Catch up and bring on the good times with a cocktail overlooking the ocean.



At Lennox Pizza it's not 'just pizza', the menu has local seafood, ribs and wings, pasta and mouth-watering desserts, with a fully-licensed bar.

A taste of Gaia for locals: day spa and award-winning cuisine

Set in the Byron hinterland, Gaia Retreat & Spa was named Australia's Leading Retreat 2025 at the World Travel Awards, and also received the title of Best Wellness Cuisine 2025 across the Asia Pacific region.

But you don't need to stay overnight to experience it. Book a day spa treatment and add a gourmet lunch to enjoy a taste of the award-winning retreat. Plus, if you book online or call the team directly, you can receive a 10% locals discount with the code LOCAL10.

Gaia Retreat & Spa, located just up the road in Brooklet, has long been recognised as one of the world's best since it was founded in the Byron hinterland by Olivia Newton-John. It is Australia's most-awarded retreat, attracting guests from across the globe and within Australia. Its continued success is driven by its ability to anticipate and adapt to shifts in the wellness tourism industry, which is projected to grow by 10-15% annually.

A defining element of the Gaia experience is its cuisine, which the team describes as 'at the heart of Gaia'. Crafted daily by talented chefs, each dish celebrates the connection between nourishment and wellbeing, with an ever-changing menu inspired by what is freshly harvested from their organic gardens.

'Vibrant produce, creative techniques and balanced flavours come together to create meals that are both wholesome and indulgent.'

It's this commitment to mindful dining that earned Gaia recognition for the Best Wellness Cuisine across the Asia Pacific region.

■ More info: Gaia Retreat & Spa, 933 Fernleigh Rd, Brooklet. Ph 6687 1216 • gaiaretreat.com.au



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health & healing

Dr Sam Gartland

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

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

Life Medical Mullumbimby
02 6680 2486
113 Stuart St, Mullumbimby
www.lifemedicalmullumbimby.com.au



in:HAUS Wellness



In:Haus is Byron Bay's inclusive movement and wellness hub, located in the vibrant Arts & Industrial Estate. Our studio offers small group mat Pilates, private 1:1 sessions, and boutique apparatus-based Pilates using the Reformer, Trapeze Table, and Wunda Chair. We also invite you to explore Barre, yoga, and gentle foundation classes guided by trauma-informed instructors who support every body. With offerings in prenatal and postnatal care, recovery, rehabilitation, and athletic conditioning, in:HAUS creates a holistic space for movement and wellbeing. Complete your experience in our private two-person infrared sauna or unwind with our compression boots for deep restoration. Whether you're a local or visiting Byron Bay, in:HAUS Wellness is your sanctuary for strength, balance, and connection.

Shop 2/18 Centennial Circuit, Byron Bay NSW
inhauswellness@gmail.com
0467 318 827
www.inhauswellness.com
[@inhauswellness](https://www.instagram.com/inhauswellness)



Byron Community College

Nurture your Health & Wellbeing this term, focus on your health, healing, and personal growth with Byron Community College. Our Term 4 courses are designed to help you reconnect with yourself and your community. Learn how to build confidence and independence with spreadsheets in Excel Next Steps; gain essential emergency response skills in HLTAID011 Provide First Aid; learn Screenprinting as a chance to try something new just for you, while creating your own printed artworks. Applications are now open for CHC33021 Certificate III in Individual Support and CHC43315 Certificate IV in Mental Health. Step into meaningful, community-focused work that supports others. To find out more and book go to the website.

www.byroncollege.org.au
(02) 6684 3374



Bangalow & Ballina Remedial Massage

Remedial massage is safe and effective for everybody and has many benefits for the body, mind and emotional states. It promotes health and physical wellbeing; relieves stress and tension; strengthens immune system and circulation; manages muscular pain; improves flexibility, range of movement and rehabilitation after injury; improves emotional states; relieves neck and back pain and other musculoskeletal dysfunctions; and much more!

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Guiding You Home

Lisa has devoted more than 30 years to self-inquiry and awakening. After meeting her teacher Gangaji in 1995, she was invited a decade later to begin teaching and sharing this wisdom. A certified Hypnotherapist (ACHE) and Leela Practitioner, Lisa offers a nurturing and trauma-informed space for deep transformation through her private practice. Her mentoring blends spiritual insight with therapeutic guidance, helping others release habitual suffering and rediscover inner stillness. Whether in one-on-one sessions or immersive retreats worldwide, Lisa's gentle guidance invites you to see through and let go of old patterns, and to rest in a deep sense of peace that doesn't depend on life circumstances - bringing deeper calm, clarity, and compassion into everyday life.

www.satsangwithlisa.org
info@satsangwithlisa.org



Upcoming byron healing client events

Excel Next Steps

Held by: Byron College
Date: 4 x Wed, 27 Nov -18 Dec
Time: 9.30 - 12.30pm
Address: Cnr Burringbar & Gordon St Mullumbimby
Booking contact: (02) 6684 3374, customercare@byroncollege.org.au, www.byroncollege.org.au

HLTAID011 Provide First Aid

Held by: Byron College
Date: Mon, 1 Dec
Time: 9.30 - 3.30pm
Address: 10 Shirley Street, Byron Bay, 2481
Booking contact: (02) 6684 3374, customercare@byroncollege.org.au, www.byroncollege.org.au

Screenprinting

Held by: Byron College
Date: 2 x Sat 22 - 29 Nov
Time: 10 - 4pm
Address: Cnr Burringbar & Gordon St Mullumbimby
Booking contact: (02) 6684 3374, customercare@byroncollege.org.au, www.byroncollege.org.au

CHC33021 Certificate III in Individual Support

Held by: Byron College
Date: Tue/ Wed Starting 27 January - 1 July 2026
Time: 9- 4pm
Address: Cnr Burringbar & Gordon St Mullumbimby
Booking contact: (02) 6684 3374, customercare@byroncollege.org.au, www.byroncollege.org.au

CHC43315 Certificate IV in Mental Health

Held by: Byron College
Date: Starting 2026 TBA
Time: TBA
Address: Cnr Burringbar & Gordon St Mullumbimby
Booking contact: (02) 6684 3374, customercare@byroncollege.org.au, www.byroncollege.org.au

Compassionate Communication Foundation Training

Held by: Empathy Catalyst
Date: 9, 10, 11 January 2026
Time: 09.00 - 16.30 AEDT
Address: Byron Community Cabin, Carlyle St, Byron Bay.
Booking: www.empathycatalyst.com/compassionate-communication-foundation-training, withsingingheart@hotmail.com, 0422 032 619

Celebrating our partnership with Synthesis Organics - In-store Sampling

Held by: Santos Organics
Date: Friday 21 November (Mullumbimby) and Thursday 27 November (Byron Bay)
Time: 10am - 1pm
Address: Santos Organics Mullumbimby, 51 Burringbar Street (21 Nov) and Santos Organics Byron Bay, 105 Jonson Street (27 Nov)
Booking contact: no booking required
Graduate Certificate in Lifestyle Medicine

Graduate Certificate in lifestyle Medicine

Held by: Southern Cross University
Start Date: March 2026
Location/s: Online
Booking contact: Future students - Domestic 1800 626 481 / International +61 2 6620 3876

Master of Lifestyle Medicine

Held by: Southern Cross University
Start Date: March 2026
Location/s: Online
Booking contact: Future students - Domestic 1800 626 481 / International +61 2 6620 3876

Free body alignment check

Held by: Body Well Massage
Date: Wednesday 10/12/2025
Time: 9-11am
Address: BodyWell Massage, Byron co-lab 10-12 Shirley Street, Byron Bay
Booking contact: Lucy 042 7186 167, bodywellmassage.com

Articles



It's been 50 years since the dismissal, where art thou republic?

John Jiggins

In 1999, Australia held a referendum to alter our Constitution to transform the Commonwealth of Australia from a constitutional monarchy into a republic by replacing the British monarchy and the governor-general as heads of state with a president elected by a two-thirds majority of the federal parliament.

The referendum failed with only 46 per cent of Australians voting for the change.

Much of the momentum to remove the monarchy from the Constitution flowed from the outrage over the misuse of the so-called reserve powers of the monarchy in the sacking of the Whitlam government by Governor-General John Kerr in 1975.

For decades, the narrative about 'The Dismissal' was that Governor-General Kerr acted alone.

While the Palace maintained the Queen was not involved, this deception was exposed by historian Professor Jenny Hocking when she

won a High Court Appeal in 2022 for the release of the Palace Letters.

Kerr's correspondence with Buckingham Palace revealed the involvement of Queen Elizabeth, our current King Charles, and the Palace in this tumultuous affair.

When the letters were released in July 2020, the then Opposition Leader, Anthony Albanese, called The Dismissal an event that defined his generation.

'The Whitlam government transformed Australia into the modern vibrant community that we see here today,' he proudly recalled. 'Those heady days when we withdrew troops from Vietnam, we recognised China, we implemented free tertiary education of which I was a beneficiary. We created Medibank. The Whitlam government was one in which we saw advancements for women, advancements for multiculturalism.'

It was a blight on our character as a nation that a democratically elected government was dismissed, he said.

'But I want to say this, that the actions of the governor-general on the 11th of November to dismiss a government to put himself above the Australian people is one that reinforces the need for us to have an Australian head of state.'

In 2023, Anthony Albanese became prime minister of Australia and Matt Thistlethwaite became minister for the republic.

Constitutional change off the table

When Queen Elizabeth died later that year, Albanese announced he would not pursue constitutional change in his first term.

In the second Albanese government, the position of Minister for the Republic was abolished.

Greg Barns was the national campaign director for the Yes campaign in the 1999 republic referendum.

I interviewed him for Bay FM about the prospect of an Australian republic, the Whitlam sacking, and the role of the Palace in The Dismissal.

'There's no doubt that Buckingham Palace knew,' Greg Barns said.

'The Queen's principal private secretary, Michael Charteris, was not only fully informed, but was encouraging Kerr to do what he did.'

'There was correspondence with Prince Charles, in which our current king congratulated Kerr on what he'd done.'

Barns criticised Kerr for his dishonesty, his deception and his secrecy. As governor-general, Kerr's duty was to consult with Prime Minister, Gough Whitlam, and he should have informed Whitlam about plans to dismiss the government.

Instead, Kerr pretended he was following Whitlam's plans to resolve the conflict over the blocking of supply by the Senate by holding a half-Senate election, while covertly negotiating with the opposition and the Palace to replace the Whitlam government.

'It was taking him (Whitlam) by surprise, which is the most egregious action on the part of Kerr,' Greg Barns said.

'In refusing to accept the prime minister's request for a half-Senate election, Kerr again showed that he was disrespecting and not taking the advice of his prime minister as is traditional.'

'It's intolerable that you have a situation where there's a need for the titular head of the constitutional structure in Australia to be informing a foreign monarch 20,000 kilometres away about what is happening in the Australian domestic political setting. It is a demonstrable argument in favour of a republic.'

So where does the campaign for a republic stand now?

Albanese has said that he's not going to have another referendum, Barns replied, but he did say the previous day that a republic was inevitable.

'But he needs to act on it... Most Liberal premiers and leaders support a republic,' Barns said.

'It's extraordinary that in the 21st century, we maintain this constitutional arrangement. There are an increasing number of

Commonwealth countries that have moved away. I think Jamaica is the latest. Barbados has done it.'

'We are now in the minority. We sit there with New Zealand and Canada. Canada keeps the Queen, I think, as a point of differentiation from the United States. New Zealand, while progressive in some ways, is more conservative than this country when it comes to the British monarchy.'

Albanese needs to work at it the way Keating worked at it and build community support, Barns said.

Albanese has only given lip service to the republic and Barns sees no change. 'In relation to the republic, I think, for example, if New Zealand went, Australia would go. It would be inevitable.'

'The Canadians have got this US issue, which I think differentiates them. But the more countries that leave the British monarchy, the more likely it is that the momentum will build, and Australians will say that this has just got to be done.'

Volume 40 #24
 19–25 November, 2025
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Eclectic Selection

What's on this week



New Zealand reggae icons **Katchafire** are touring Australia in November, as they prepare to release 'Revival 2.0' which sees songs from their platinum debut album being remixed, remastered, and rerecorded with revered reggae names from around the world.

Thursday from 8pm at the Beach Hotel, Byron Bay. Tickets: \$55.56 from moshtix.com.au



As the sun sinks behind the hills of Murwillumbah, a new rhythm begins to stir. Settle in for the slow grooves and golden light for the debut of **Sunset Assembly** – a fresh concept designed for dusk drifters and lovers of unhurried connection.

Friday from 4pm at The Citadel, Murwillumbah. Tickets: from \$22.20 +bf at eventbrite.com.au



Florist is the musical project of songwriter **Emily Sprague**, whose work drifts between the deeply personal and the cosmic, the everyday and the supernatural. Sprague has cultivated a body of songs that reflect on memory, change, and the unseen connections that bind people to each other and to the natural world.

Friday from 7pm at the Eltham Hotel. Tix from oztix.com.au. Cost: \$61.20



The Loveys will say farewell and present their final show at the place where it all began – their spiritual home at the Brunswick Picture House. Great musicians, songwriters and performers, The Loveys demand to be heard and seen as they create a music genre that is

both new and as old as time – heroic women, rocking out and telling it like it is.

Two shows on Saturday: 4pm & 7pm at the Brunswick Picture House. Tickets from \$32 +bf at brunswickpicturehouse.com



A prolific singer/songwriter, **Andy Jans-Brown** believes in following the path of heart – like Sisyphus condemned to push a rock up a mountain, so too is Andy absurd in his unrelenting creative process. His music covers a vast range of emotions.

8pm at The Levee, Lismore. Free show



Novocastrian four-piece **Camino Gold** is known by its diverse and growing global fanbase for their distinctly vibrant, genre-bending blend of indie pop and surf rock, paired with poignant lyrics that resonate profoundly among their peers.

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



Erin Shay is a pop tart – she has a frosty outer layer and a special filling inside. Beneath her sweet and sparkly exterior are purposeful lyrics, bursting with intentions of unity, empowerment, and connection. On the exterior, her songs are pure sugar-rush electro-anthem.

Sunday from 6pm at The Northern, Byron Bay. Free show



Dance, celebrate, connect

Get ready to sparkle, shine and celebrate at this year's **Dis-Co Ball** on **Saturday** at a vibrant, radically inclusive community event where everyone belongs on the dance floor.

Hosted by **Sprung Dance Theatre** in collaboration with **Tropical Fruits**, **Dis-Co Ball 2025** is a joyous celebration of disability pride and community connection, bringing together people from across the region for an afternoon of music, movement, and shared creativity. The event is proudly disability-led, designed to showcase the artistry and leadership of d/Deaf and disabled people while inviting the wider community to join in the fun.

This year's Ball will once again feature Sprung artists – performers who have been developing their creative work throughout the year in Sprung's inclusive dance and theatre programs. Expect pop-up performances, collaborative moments, and plenty of opportunities for everyone to hit the floor and move together.

But Dis-Co Ball is about more than dancing – it's a movement. The event provides a safe and accessible space where people with disability and/or who are d/Deaf can express themselves freely, celebrate identity, and take pride in their community. It also plays a powerful role in challenging stereotypes and shifting perceptions of disability, fostering greater understanding, respect, and connection across the Byron Shire and beyond.

So dust off your sequins, gather your friends, and get ready to dance for diversity. Whether you're performing, volunteering, or just coming along to celebrate, Dis-Co Ball 2025 promises to be an unforgettable evening of creativity, connection, and community pride.

Saturday November, from 4pm at the Mullumbimby Civic Hall. Tickets are \$25 from events.humanitix.com/sprung-dis-co-ball-2025

This event is supported by Byron Shire Council and Create NSW.

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FRI 21 NOV	Front Bar: JB Blues Breakers 7pm + DJ Yazmin 10pm Duelling Piano Bar 8pm BACKROOM: VERSACE PARTY - FREE ENTRY
SAT 22 NOV	Front Bar: Kane Muir Trio 7pm + DJ Jamie Lowe 10pm Duelling Piano Bar 8pm BACKROOM: SCHOOLIFEST - FREE ENTRY
SUN 23 NOV	Front Bar: Erin Shay 5pm + Vinyl Sundays with Oren Selectra 8pm \$15 MARGIS ALL DAY Duelling Piano Bar 9pm
MON 24 NOV	BACKPACKER MONDAYS Front Bar: Jerome Williams 6pm + DJ Renee Simone 9pm Duelling Piano Bar 9pm
TUES 25 NOV	Front Bar: Marshall O'Kell 6pm Duelling Piano Bar 9pm
WED 26 NOV	Front Bar: Kane Muir 6pm + DJ Solomon Dass 9pm Duelling Piano Bar 9pm BACKROOM: BACK IN TIME - FREE ENTRY

SUN: MARGIS ALL DAY

The Great Moscow Circus

Under the legendary banner of **The Great Moscow Circus** death-defying acts from around the globe are being presented throughout New South Wales in 2025. Covid grounded the circus in 2021 and due to the sensitive political world situation, these carefully chosen superstars have come together for the first time in a brand new show performing throughout Australia.

The Great Moscow Circus first visited Australia in 1965 under the auspices of the Edgley Organisation and has continued every three to five years in Australia and New Zealand ever since. When the Soviet Union collapsed in December 1991, the Edgley family purchased (trademarks) on the ownership of the name. These trademarks are currently owned by the Edgley family and the Weber Circus Family, both of Australia and have no association or affiliation whatsoever with the government of Russia. The Great Moscow Circus is an extremely strong brand name built up in Australia and New Zealand since the 1960s with over seven million attending their different seasons.



This season The Great Moscow Circus comprises superstar international acts from Armenia, Ukraine, Brazil, Columbia, Greece, New Zealand and Australia. Describing the new show, the circus crew say, 'our new EXTREME show features daredevil BMX and pro scooter riders, hair-raising multi-motorcycle cage riders and a world-record acclaimed pole act. Our Armenian clown has been revered as 'the funniest in the world' leaving audiences roaring in laughter. The Wheel of Death and electrifying high tricks on the trampoline heighten the 'extreme' theme, leaving audiences gasping in shock. Several extraordinary aerial acts and a mind-blowing trapeze act feature amazing technicolour lighting and superb costuming to thrill the crowd. Standing ovations have ricocheted throughout the Big Top of the all-new international extreme circus in Queensland, The Northern Territory, Western Australia, South Australia, Tasmania and Victoria.'

'The Great Moscow Circus is touring for the first time in six years throughout NSW. Do not be confused – other circuses come and go – but there is only one Great Moscow Circus that upholds the high-quality brand name. This year there is a chance to see a most extreme, wild, professional superstar act as The Great Moscow Circus continues its unique tradition in Australia, at Alstonville.'

Alstonville Showgrounds, from Friday November 21 until Sunday, November 30.
www.thegreatmoscowcircus.com.au

Summer Lovin' in Bangalow

Fusion Vocal Ensemble brings a joyful celebration of love, sunshine, and song. After a near sell-out performance in Brisbane last weekend, Fusion Vocal Ensemble, under the inspired direction of **Dr Debra Shearer-Dirié**, is heading south to share their **Summer Lovin'** program with Bangalow audiences.

This feel-good concert brings together everything we love about summer – warmth, fun, romance, and great music. The program features 'Summer Nights' from Grease, where Danny and Sandy share the cheeky details of their holiday romance, alongside a dazzling mix of favourites old and new.

The journey begins with some frivolous Renaissance madrigals, moves through the lush romantic sound-world of Frederick Delius, and lands in the swinging 1960s with 'Here Comes the Sun' (The Beatles), 'Summer Holiday' (Cliff Richard), and a vibrant vocal arrangement of Astor Piazzolla's 'Verano Porteño' (Summer in Buenos Aires).

No concert about summer and love would be complete without Queen's 'Somebody to Love', George Gershwin's

'Summertime', and a dash of Taylor Swift sparkle.

Renowned across South East Queensland for their rich harmonies and emotionally uplifting performances, Fusion brings together experienced singers – many of them professional musicians, educators, and conductors. For this show, they'll be joined by **Shane Calderbank** on keys and **Will Eager** on drums.

'We've had such a blast putting this program together,' says Dr Shearer-Dirié. 'It's full of warmth, humour, and heart – the perfect way to fall in love with summer all over again.'

So let your heart sing and your spirit dance – come and experience an unforgettable afternoon of music that spans centuries and styles, all infused with sunshine and joy.

Fusion Vocal Ensemble presents Summer Lovin'.
A&I Hall, Bangalow, Sat 22 Nov. \$25-40 at 4pm. Tickets: www.trybooking.com/eventlist/fusionvocalensemble



FUN FRIDAY
 COORABELL Hall - Nov. 28th

An evening with Dr BAZ
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Dr Baz will play a set of his original music 'live' and introduce the screening of his international award winning Music Videos 7.00 to 9.00pm

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Seven

A dash to the end

It feels like a mad dash to the end of the year but there are still plenty more superb shows on the radar at the Brunswick Picture House!

It's quickly become the most-anticipated season in the Picture House calendar, so **Cheeky Christmas** is back with 13 big shows. With an all-new, genre-bending cast, *Cheeky Christmas* is one of the wildest nights you'll have in the Shire.

Use their Group 6+ discount to bring as many as you'd like to close out the year with a festive bang – from **Wednesday, December 3 until Saturday, December 20**.

We can't let the adults have all the fun so mark your calendars as the last all-ages bonanza for the year, **Lil' Cheeky**, returns **Sunday, December 14**.

Last week, the fierce and fabulous **Wild Women: With Pleasure** hit the stage and they're back to finish us off this **Thursday and Friday** in this hugely popular burlesque spectacular.

The calibre of musos who graced the Picture House stage this year has been nothing short of amazing and November will conclude with three of the best out there: the venerated storyteller **Liz Stringer** brings her poignant show to Bruns, **Friday, November 28**; a true gem of the Northern Rivers, the delectable Loveys bid us farewell with their final two shows on Saturday; and there's just a handful of tickets left for **Alex Lloyd's** eagerly awaited show on **Thursday, November 27**.

The inaugural **Best Short Film Festival**, celebrating the best new short films that have not found success at other festivals, launches on **Saturday, November 29**.

Get your Christmas shopping out of the way – Brunswick Picture House Golden Ticket gift vouchers are available now!

Tickets for all shows at brunswickpicturehouse.com



LIZ STRINGER



Touchdown

Presented as part of Head On Photo Festival 2025, **Yani Clarke** comes home with **Lucky Rocket**. When the Northern Rivers flooded in 2022, photographer **Yani Clarke** was thousands of kilometres away – heartbroken, watching the deluge unfold from a distance. It was the moment she knew she had to come home. After a decade of making work elsewhere, she returned to the region that raised her – not just to bear witness, but to be part of the rebuild. *Lucky Rocket* is Clarke's first solo exhibition, held in the heart of Lismore on Bundjalung Country – the place that shaped her eye.

Lucky Rocket is a raw, poetic visual reflection captured over two days, ten years apart, at the same rocket festival in Southeast Asia. The first part of the reflection, on black-and-white film in Vang Vieng, Laos (2014), was a chance encounter. The second, in Yasothon, Thailand (2024), was intentional, vivid, and deeply personal.

The festival – Bun Bang Fai – is a pre-Buddhist ritual held to break drought and welcome the monsoon. Villages build rockets over nine metres long, launch them kilometres into the sky, and call the rain back down. It's part faith, part chaos.

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fusion SUMMER LOVIN'

Saturday 22 Nov 2025 3pm
A & I Society Hall, 3 Station Rd, Bangalow, NSW.

Musical Director: Debra Shearer-Dirie
Piano: Shane Calderbank
Percussion: Will Eager

@fusionvocalensemble
fusionvocalensemble
www.fusionvocalensemble.org



TICKETS

'In the era of the Billionaire Rocket Man, there's something beautifully rebellious about this – communities launching rockets not to escape the earth, but to call the rain back down,' says Clarke.

The exhibition features over 65 works, including life-size darkroom prints made with **Sandy Barnard** (Sandy Prints) and digital prints by **Steve Ong** (Base White). **Opens Friday, November 21, at 7pm until late, at Elevator ARI, Lismore. Free entry.**

There may be smoke. There will be sound.



Kwasi Bruni Big Band

Like your music high-energy Afro-Cuban style? This dance music is coming soon, when local music powerhouse **Kwasi Bruni Big Band** bring their high-energy groove music to **Brunswick Hotel**.

An 11-piece groove based ensemble, Kwasi Bruni celebrates the spirit of Afro-Cuban 'descargas' style (or jam session) with an added local antipodal, (or 'Austro-Cuban') twist, featuring a fantastic five-piece horn section and three brilliant percussionists.

Kwasi Bruni pay tribute to the legendary latin and salsa pioneers from the 1950s and 1960s, such as Cachao Lopez, Tito Puente, Mongo Santamaría, and the Palmieri brothers.

Kwasi Bruni is co-led by bassist **Barry Hill** (Amphibian, The Bird, Dha) and expat Colombian pianist **Camilo Losada**. True to the descargas tradition, Barry and Camilo met at a post-COVID jam session party. They had an instant music connection.

Barry grew up listening to his father's jazz big bands and his mother's collection of South American music. Camilo grew up in Bogota, Colombia and was influenced by his uncles, who played the trombone in local salsa bands, and his father, a radio presenter and avid music collector. Camilo first began performing on guitar and percussion at the Universidad Pedagógica Nacional Bogotá. He switched to piano and studied the montuno style of the Palmieri brothers, two of the pioneers of the Afro-Cuban jazz tradition.

Over the four years since meeting, Barry and Camilo have put together a killer big band including: **Ben Blay**, tenor sax; **Glenn Wright**, trombone; **Chelsea Skyeater**, alto vocals; **Jeremy Williamson**, trumpet; **Jessie Vintila**, flute vocals; **Jamie Pattugalan**, drums; **Christian Da Silva**, timbales and percussion; and **Joe McDermott**, congas and percussion.

Kwasi Bruni Big Band is free from 4.30pm Saturday at the Brunswick Heads Hotel @kwasibrunibigband.

GIG GUIDE

seven days of entertainment

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

WEDNESDAY 19

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **JOCK BARNES TRIO**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **DEVU**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6PM **INO PIO**, 9PM **DUELLING PIANOS - BODHI ACTON & MITCHELL DORMER**
- THE PADDOCK PROJECT, MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM **CURRY JAM**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 6PM **JORDAN MAC**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 7PM **WILD WOMEN: WITH PLEASURE**
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM **DJ AFRODESIA**
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY, 8PM **KRAPPYKEE WITH JESS**
- CLUB LENNOX 7PM **INO PIO**
- LENNOX HOTEL 9PM **PINK ZINC**

THURSDAY 20

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **DAN HANNAFORD**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 8PM **KATCHAFIRE**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 5PM **AMBER ROSE & JACK REEVES + DJ QUENDO**, 8PM **DUELLING PIANOS - BODHI ACTON, ADAM HOURIGAN & MICK BUCKLEY**
- NORTH BYRON HOTEL 5.30PM **OPEN MIC**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 6PM **NATHAN KAYE**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 7PM **WILD WOMEN: WITH PLEASURE**
- SAINT MARIES, BRUNSWICK HEADS, 6PM **MONDO HUM**
- LENNOX HOTEL 8PM **THURSDAY JAM NIGHT**
- KELP, BALLINA, 6PM **INO PIO**
- LISMORE CITY BOWLO 7PM **THE SUPPER CLUB SOUL BAND**
- THE CITADEL, MURWILLUMBAH, 7PM **TOM BUSBY**
- ELTHAM HOTEL 7PM **FLORIST**
- ELEVATOR ARI, LISMORE, 7PM **YANI CLARKE - LAUNCH LUCKY ROCKET**
- THE LEVEE, LISMORE, 8PM **DARCY**
- THE CITADEL, MURWILLUMBAH, 4PM **SUNSET ASSEMBLY - DJS XUJA, MONSIEUR DIOP, LORD SUT & LAUREN SLY**
- MURWILLUMBAH SERVICES CLUB 6.30PM **DROVER MAD**
- CABARITA BEACH SPORTS CLUB 7.45PM **ROUND MOUNTAIN GIRLS**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 5PM **JASON DELPHIN**
- SALTBAR, KINGSCLIFF, 6PM **NATHAN LINDSAY**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE SHOWROOM 7.30PM **THE 60 FOUR**
- CLUB TWEED 7.30PM **RAFF DE BAND**
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL 7.30PM **LAUREL HILL, PITY VINCENT, TEMPERAMENTAL MACHINE AND LORIEN LAYNE**

FRIDAY 21

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **SOUL'D**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 5PM **HARRY NICHOLS + SUNNY LUWE BAND**
- HAVEN, BYRON BAY, 4PM **KARA OKAY + ENTASIA + AIDAN KNOX + FAZZ + DJ SUGARUSH**
- NORTH BYRON HOTEL 4.30PM **DJ NAT WHITE**
- ELEMENTS OF BYRON 5PM **LUKE BENNETT**
- ARTS FACTORY BAR, BYRON BAY, 6PM **PSYTANCE & BASS + TWISTED SIBLING + YETI + MUSTARD TIGER + Z.I.V LEGACY**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 7PM **JB'S BLUES BREAKERS + DJ YAZMIN**, 8PM **DUELLING PIANOS - MICK BUCKLEY & SHANE PARRY + BODHI ACTON & DIZZY J**
- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **CAMINO GOLD**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 8.30PM **NINAJIRACHI**
- BYRON THEATRE 6.30PM **SCREENING: THE ROAD TO PATAGONIA**
- NORTH BYRON HOTEL 1.30PM **DJ AFRODESIA + DANI QUAYLE MUSIC**
- SAE, BYRON BAY, 2PM **FLUKES OF SENDINGTON, SUNNY LUWE, DA MANAGER, SERAPH HRUBUS, STELLA PAYNE, SAE BAND**
- HAVEN, BYRON BAY, 4PM **D.TIFFANY + SOFTI + ARI KIKO + CASTLA**

SATURDAY 22

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **CAMINO GOLD**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 8.30PM **NINAJIRACHI**
- BYRON THEATRE 6.30PM **SCREENING: THE ROAD TO PATAGONIA**
- NORTH BYRON HOTEL 1.30PM **DJ AFRODESIA + DANI QUAYLE MUSIC**
- SAE, BYRON BAY, 2PM **FLUKES OF SENDINGTON, SUNNY LUWE, DA MANAGER, SERAPH HRUBUS, STELLA PAYNE, SAE BAND**
- HAVEN, BYRON BAY, 4PM **D.TIFFANY + SOFTI + ARI KIKO + CASTLA**

SUNDAY 23

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **THE BREDDA BROTHERS**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 4.30PM **SOFT TREADLY**
- HAVEN, BYRON BAY, 3PM **WATA IGARASHI + VITAMIN + Q**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6PM **ERIN SHAY + DJ OREN SELECTA**, 9PM **DUELLING PIANOS - SHANE PARRY & DIZZY J**

- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 4PM **JB'S BLUES BREAKERS**
- BILLINUDGEL HOTEL 1PM **SEAN DEDRICK**
- SHAW'S BAY HOTEL, BALLINA, 2PM **MATTY ROGERS BAND**
- LENNOX HOTEL 4PM **SAM BUCKLEY BAND**
- BALLINA RSL BOARDWALK 2.30PM **BALLINA BLUES CLUB FEAT BIG BAD**
- KINGSCLIFF SURF CLUB 3.30PM **JON J BRADLEY DUO**
- CLUB TWEED 1PM **BRAD HOLMES + MONO**
- BROADWATER HOTEL 3PM **WRECKS**

MONDAY 24

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **KANE MUIR**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **GUY KACHEL**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6PM **JEROME + DJ RENEE SIMONE**, 9PM **DUELLING PIANOS - MICK BUCKLEY & MITCHELL DORMER**

TUESDAY 25

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **OOZ**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **SALI BRACEWELL**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6PM **MARSHALL OKELL**, 9PM **DUELLING PIANOS - MITCHELL DORMER & DIZZY J**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE SHOWROOM 11AM **JD SMITH**

WEDNESDAY 26

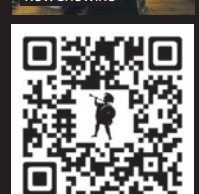
- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, **JASON DELPHIN**
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM **INO PIO**
- BYRON THEATRE 6.30PM **JAMES MORRISON + BIG BAND LIECHTENSTEIN**
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 5.30PM **SCREENING: OCEAN WITH DAVID ATTENBOROUGH**
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6PM **KANE MUIR + DJ SOLOMAN DASS**, 9PM **DUELLING PIANOS - BODHI ACTON & MITCHELL DORMER**
- THE PADDOCK PROJECT, MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM **CURRY JAM**

PALACE CINEMAS

SESSION TIMES
THURSDAY NOVEMBER 20
TO WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 26

COMING SOON

NOW SHOWING



PALACE BYRON BAY

SPECIAL SCREENINGS

- NT LIVE: INTER ALIA (IC) Thurs: 6:00PM
- NT LIVE: THE FIFTH STEP (IC) Sun: 2:00PM
- THE LOST BOYS (M) CUL VULT Mon: 6:00PM
- PARIS OPERA BALLET: GISELLE (IC) Sun: 1:00PM, Wed: 11:00AM
- WICKED + WICKED: FOR GOOD DOUBLE FEATURE (PG) Sat: 2:30PM

FAMILY FILMS

- KANGAROO (PG) Daily: 10:45AM, 1:30PM
- THE BAD GUYS 2 (PG) Sat, Sun: 11:00AM

ALL FILMS

- BUGONIA (MAIS+) Daily except Sat, Sun: 3:50PM, 8:30PM. Sat: 3:50PM, 8:50PM. Sun: 6:40PM
- DIE, MY LOVE (MAIS+) Daily: 6:00PM, 8:30PM
- GOOD FORTUNE (M) Daily: 3:40PM
- JAY KELLY (M) Daily except Sat, Sun: 10:30AM, 1:15PM, 6:00PM. Sat: 10:30AM, 1:15PM, 7:40PM. Sun: 10:30AM, 1:15PM
- JOURNEY HOME, DAVID GULPILIL (M) Daily: 1:40PM
- NOW YOU SEE ME: NOW YOU DON'T (M) Daily except Sat, Sun: 11:00AM, 1:20PM, 6:10PM, 8:30PM. Sat, Sun: 1:20PM, 6:10PM, 8:30PM
- ONE BATTLE AFTER ANOTHER (M) Thurs, Fri, Tues: 10:30AM, 1:40PM, 7:40PM. Sat: 10:30AM, 1:40PM. Sun: 10:30AM, 7:40PM. Mon: 10:30AM, 1:40PM, 8:00PM. Wed: 1:40PM, 7:40PM

PREDATOR: BADLANDS (M)

- Daily: 3:50PM, 8:40PM
- REGRETTING YOU (M) Daily except Sun: 1:00PM, 3:30PM
- SISU: ROAD TO REVENGE (MAIS+) Daily except Thurs: 4:00PM, 8:40PM. Thurs: 4:00PM, 8:50PM
- SPRINGSTEEN: DELIVER ME FROM NOWHERE (M) Daily except Thurs: 10:30AM, 5:50PM. Thurs: 10:30AM
- THE RUNNING MAN (MAIS+) Daily except Thurs, Mon: 10:50AM, 5:00PM, 8:20PM. Thurs: 10:50AM, 5:00PM, 8:30PM. Mon: 10:50AM, 8:20PM
- WICKED: FOR GOOD (PG) Daily except Sat, Sun: 10:45AM, 11:30AM, 1:00PM, 2:30PM, 4:00PM, 5:30PM, 7:00PM, 8:15PM. Sat: 10:45AM, 11:30AM, 1:00PM, 4:00PM, 6:00PM, 7:00PM, 8:15PM. Sun: 10:45AM, 11:30AM, 1:00PM, 2:30PM, 4:00PM, 5:30PM, 6:00PM, 7:00PM, 8:15PM

BALLINA FAIR CINEMAS

- A PAW PATROL CHRISTMAS (G) Daily: 10:15AM
- CHARADE (PG) MATINEE MEMORIES Wed: 10:00AM
- NOW YOU SEE ME: NOW YOU DON'T (M) Daily except Sat, Sun: 2:40PM, 7:45PM. Sat, Sun: 7:30PM
- PREDATOR: BADLANDS (M) Daily except Sat, Sun: 2:20PM, 7:30PM. Sat, Sun: 2:20PM
- REGRETTING YOU (M) Daily except Wed: 10:00AM
- SPRINGSTEEN: DELIVER ME FROM NOWHERE (M) Daily: 11:50AM
- THE RUNNING MAN (MAIS+) Daily: 4:45PM
- WICKED: FOR GOOD (PG) Daily except Sat, Sun: 10:00AM, 1:00PM, 4:00PM, 5:00PM, 7:00PM. Sat, Sun: 10:00AM, 1:00PM, 3:00PM, 4:00PM, 6:00PM, 7:00PM

BRITISH FILM FESTIVAL

- & SONS (M) Sat: 12:30PM
- DEAD OF WINTER (MAIS+) Fri, Wed: 12:30PM
- DRAGONFLY (IC) Mon: 12:30PM
- MOSS & FREUD (MAIS+) Tues: 12:30PM
- THE CHORAL (M) Sun: 12:30PM
- TWIGGY (M) Thurs: 12:30PM



Kwasi Bruni Afro Cuban Bigband

Sensational salsa band
High Energy Groove music
Brunswick Heads Hotel
Saturday 22nd November
Free Entry from 4.30pm

@KWASIBRUNIBIGBAND

ECHO CLASSIFIEDS – 6684 1777

CLASSIFIED AD BOOKINGS

PHONE ADS

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

AT THE ECHO HEAD OFFICE

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

Village Way, Stuart St, Mullumbimby

EMAIL ADS

Display (box ads) and line classifieds, email:

classifieds@echo.net.au

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

DEADLINE TUES 12PM

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

RATES & PAYMENT

LINE ADS:

\$17.00 for the first two lines

\$5.00 for each extra line

\$17 for two lines is the minimum charge.

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

These prices include GST.

Cash, cheque, Mastercard or Visa

Prepayment is required for all ads.

CLASSIFIEDS THAT WORK ALL WEEK!

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

Echo

Dr Susanne (Satyaa) Lohmann
1966-2025



'Totally wild and absolutely free'
Your passing has left a void. Ich liebe dich mein Schatz.

Your Paul

PUBLIC NOTICES

Public Notice of Praecepte, Tacit Acceptance and Reconveyance
Wilhelmina Elsa Ford© of Reedy Creek, Queensland state is not a voluntary transactor in commerce, and is the irrefutable Holder in Due Course of her property and all associated Copyright Protected Trade Names, including Dustin Hartley Smith RPP44 639000510020133 23600 Proclamation Date 30th December 2024 and Monique Zoe Smith RPP44 63900051002013203605 Proclamation Date 30th December 2024, since the rebutted lawful reconveyance to the Land and Soil jurisdiction of Terra Australis, commonly known as The Commonwealth of Australia. Wilhelmina Elsa Ford© Public Record Number RPP44 63900051002013202608, with Proclamation Date 25th November 2024 does sever Usufruct Subjugation ties with the Australian Corporation in entirety. The occupying corporate government of Australia and its affiliates are instructed to immediately cease and desist any further infringement upon these copyright protected Financial Instruments and cease and desist misaddressing Wilhelmina Elsa Ford© in fraudulent de-based dog-Latin; Glossa.



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LIFE CELEBRATIONS

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Compassionate & experienced

Let me help you craft a

meaningful, heartfelt farewell.

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IN MEMORIAM

DAVE HOWARD BUILDER

02.11.1964 – 14.11.2022



Forever loved X

FINAL CLOSURE SERVICE

Brunswick Heads Uniting Church
Friday 21 November at 9.30am

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 Shaws, Seagrass Lennox, Lennox pub drive-through, Station St Grocer Lennox

PAULINE ROSALIE BOLTE

20.10.1944 ~ 11.11.2025

Passed away peacefully, aged 81, surrounded by her family.

Beloved wife of Max. Loving mother of Lisa, Joanna, David and Katrina. Cherished sister of Annette. Adored Nanny of Olivia, Cameron, Loren, Taj, Flynn and Brock.

Pauline was the most beautiful wife, mother, nanny and friend — loved by all who knew her.

Forever in our hearts.

Funeral Service:

Parkview Funeral Home, 21 Kalinga St, Ballina

Tuesday, 2nd December, 2025 at 12.30pm NSW time.

Celebration of Pauline's Life from 3.00pm NSW time:

Club Lennox, 10 Stewart St, Lennox Head.



DORIS CRIMSON 1921-2025

You are invited to celebrate the life of Doris

Saturday 29th November 2025, 12-5pm

Byron Bay Golf Club

RSVP Monday 24 November

doriselizabethcrimson@gmail.com

Light refreshments provided.

HEALTH

MULLUMBIMBY KINESIOLOGY
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Clear subconscious sabotages. Reprogram patterns and beliefs.

Restore vibrancy and physical health. De-stress.

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9 Fletcher St, Byron Bay

DEATH NOTICES



Terry Willcocks

12/12/1948 to 03/11/2025

It is with deep sadness we share the loss of our beautiful Terry, who died peacefully at home with his family on 3rd November, 2025. Terry was a loving, kind, caring, thoughtful, creative person, with a quirky sense of humour.

He was well known in the community as a surfer, a photographer and the doughmaster of Earth'n'Sea.

In his own words, 'I've had a great life. I couldn't have wished for more.'

You will be deeply missed.
Your loving family

AGMs

ORGANIC LANDCARE INC.

Saturday Dec 12th 2025

AGM 4pm

All welcome.

17 Tristran Pde Mullumbimby

organiclandcareinc@gmail.com

Ph 0478272300

TRADEWORK

ACREAGE MOWING all property maintenance, good rates, friendly professional service. Mike 0413812582

WANTED

TREE FERNS

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

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

SEEKING HOME

Local woman of 30 yrs seeks small patch of land in the vicinity of the hinterland in or around the north of the Shire on an established property to erect a tiny home or cabin. Alternatively, if you have an existing cabin for rent, or a self-contained space/shed with natural light and utilities you'd be prepared to let, I'm open to conversation.

As a former paralegal and Parliamentary Hansard transcriber in Melbourne for over 20 years, I'm prepared to negotiate with the right owner to establish boundaries and time-lines and logistics etc. I am responsible, a non-smoker, occasional social drinker and respectful communicator. I value honesty, openness, community-mindedness and kindness.

A little about me. I have raised two adult children as a single parent, am a community Justice of the Peace, and ran a small business as a costumier for years. For over 30 years I have worked during Local, State and Federal election campaigns in various roles including IIC. As well as paid work, I've volunteered extensively for Amitayus Home Hospice Service as Secretary, committee member and carer, and for Byron Bay Writers Festival during their annual weekend event. As a co-founder of the former Cape Byron Playback Theatre, I have acted as a theatre practitioner, Public Officer and Treasurer. In volunteering I am provided with a sense of belonging, social connections, and community engagement. My interests include writing, long distance hiking, gardening and wildlife rescue.

My preferred communication is email, or text. A year ago, I was diagnosed with motor neurone disease after having lived with a speech disorder for three years. My speech has been affected by this, but I can still communicate and my mind and body are willing and able. **Please email me at catherineperversi@gmail.com, or text 0431 600 138 if you think this could be something you could offer.**

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.

TREE SERVICES

LEAF IT TO US - Tree Care Specialists
Local, qualified, insured, free quotes.
Big to small we enjoy it all -
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HART
TREE SERVICES
20 years local experience
• 19 inch chipper • Stump grinding
• Cherry picker • Crane truck • Bob Cat
Fully insured • Free quotes
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TREE SERVICES
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Byron Bay & Surrounding Areas
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Local, honest, reliable. Mat 0408546037



GARAGE SALES

SUNRISE 32 Julian Rocks Dr Sat 8-1.
Clothes, books, educational games etc

Tip Runs & Rubbish Removal

0408 210 772

MOTOR VEHICLES

WANTED: small car 1.2-1.6litre, max. price \$8000, registered, <120,000kms. Email Theo: 4engeltenaer@tpg.com.au

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SELF CONTAINED WORKERS CABIN.
Furnished. Suitable for single or couple.
No pets. References required. \$350 p/w.
Tyagarah. 0473105794

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BALLINA SELF-STORAGE UNITS
Secure. From \$22p/w. Ranging from
10-44 m3. Across 3 locations.
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CREATIVE SPACE, STUDIO / OFFICE /
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and sink. Text 0403663284.
NOT FOR RESIDENTIAL TENANCY.

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

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POSITIONS VACANT

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



Australian
Red Cross

Make a real difference in the
Northern Rivers.

If you'd like to become an
Emergency Services volunteer,
come to one of our 8 free
training days!

Contact Hannah to find out
more or RSVP.

0404 095 127 or email
hillywhite@redcross.org.au.



Volunteer at the many Bangalow
Lions Club community events!

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

All welcome!

Contact President John Singh 0418 662781
or punjab@byronbaypork.com.au



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

WORK WANTED

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

1 or 2 MEN + UTE

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

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Renovations, Decks,
Fencing, Landscaping, odd
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\$75 ph free quote.

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Adobe Tutoring

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www.thinkblinkdesign.com

PETS

PET SITTER AVAILABLE

Kind, confident animal carer available

for your four-legged fur baby.

References available.

Call Pawla on 0415340744

Byron Dog Rescue (CAWI)



Meet Archie - Your Energetic Best Mate!

Archie is a 2-year-old Heeler X Staffy X
Greyhound mix (desexed). This playful,
bouncy boy loves adventures, then curling
up to chill and have couch time. He has had
basic obedience training and will thrive
with a family. Archie adores people and
will be your loyal companion. Ideal home:
secure yard, older kids, no cats or livestock.

MC 991003002588255

Visit www.byrondogrescue.org
or call Julia on 0458 461 935



Cobra is a 5 year old, Smithfield/Staffy X. He
is a stunning and intelligent dog looking for
a strong, confident owner who can provide
the leadership and structure he thrives on.

M/C # 953010005610499

Location: Murwillumbah

For more information contact Yvette
on 0421 831 128. Please complete
our online adoption expression of
interest. [friendsofthepound.com/
adoption-expression-of-interest/](http://friendsofthepound.com/adoption-expression-of-interest/)

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



Hippo is a sweet Sharpei X female puppy who
would make a charming, loving addition to
any family. Moderately active, she enjoys a
balanced lifestyle - happy to join you on re-
laxed walks and just as content to cuddle up
in the evenings. Gentle and adaptable, Hippo
fits well in various homes, whether around
other dogs or enjoying quiet moments. She's
a resilient, affectionate companion ready to
bring warmth and loyalty to your life.

Rehoming Number R251000060



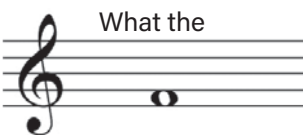
T: 6681 1860 E: shelter@nras.org.au
W: www.nras.org.au



'Mushy' aka Mushroom. Mushy by name,
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SUN, MOON & TIDES

- TIMES FOR NEXT 2 WEEKS

DATE (Nov/Dec)	DAY, MOON PHASE	SUN RISE / SET	MOON RISE / SET	HIGH TIDES, height (m)	LOW TIDES, height (m)
19	W	5:42 19:19	4:36 18:31	0841 1.60; 2032 1.20	0149 0.22; 1459 0.40
20	TH	5:42 19:20	5:10 19:27	0915 1.64; 2108 1.16	0217 0.22; 1539 0.38
21	F	5:41 19:21	5:49 20:23	0949 1.66; 2144 1.12	0246 0.23; 1617 0.38
22	SA	5:41 19:23	6:34 22:56	1025 1.66; 2220 1.08	0318 0.25; 1657 0.39
23	SU	5:41 19:23	7:24 22:09	1102 1.63; 2259 1.04	0351 0.29; 1738 0.41
24	M	5:41 19:23	8:18 22:56	1141 1.60; 2341 1.01	0427 0.33; 1821 0.43
25	TU	5:40 19:24	9:16 23:37	1223 1.56	0507 0.39; 1908 0.45
26	W	5:40 19:25	10:15 23:08	0030 0.99; 1308 1.52	0555 0.44; 1959 0.46
27	TH	5:40 19:26	11:15 0:14	0130 0.99; 1358 1.48	0652 0.50; 2053 0.44
28	F	5:40 19:27	12:14 0:48	0241 1.02; 1453 1.45	0801 0.54; 2146 0.39
29	SA	5:40 19:28	13:14 1:20	0353 1.11; 1552 1.43	0918 0.56; 2236 0.33
30	SU	5:40 19:28	14:15 1:50	0458 1.24; 1651 1.40	1034 0.53; 2323 0.25
1	M	5:40 19:30	15:19 2:22	0555 1.41; 1749 1.37	1145 0.48
2	TU	5:40 19:30	16:27 2:56	0649 1.57; 1846 1.33	0007 0.18; 1253 0.41
3	W	5:40 19:31	17:39 3:35	0741 1.72; 1943 1.29	0051 0.12; 1357 0.33

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



The Echo's Market Guide

Find it online: www.echo.net.au/market-guide

MONTHLY MARKETS:

- 1st SAT: Brunswick Heads Markets - 8am-2pm
1st SUN: Byron Community Market - 8am-3pm
Pottsville Beach Markets - 7am-1pm
2nd SUN: The Channon Craft Market - 9am-3pm
Chillingham Markets - 8am-1pm
Coolangatta Arts & Craft Markets - 8am-2pm
Tabulam Community Market - 9am-1pm
3rd SAT: Mullumbimby Community Market - 8am-2pm
Murwillumbah Makers & Finders Market - 9am-2pm
Salt Beach Markets, South Kingscliff/Casuarina - 8am-1pm
3rd SUN: Federal Village Market - 8am-2pm
Uki Buttery Bazaar Market - 8am-2pm
Pottsville Beach Markets - 7am-1pm
Lismore City Bowlo Markets - 9am-1pm
4th SAT: Kyogle Bazaar - 9am-2pm
Last SAT: Evans Head Rotary Market - 8am-1pm
4th SUN: Bangalow Market - 8am-2.30pm
Nimbin Markets - 9am-3pm
Murwillumbah Showground Market - 8am-1pm
4th SUN (in a 5-Sunday month): Coolangatta Arts & Crafts - 8am-2pm
5th SUN: Nimbin Markets - 8.30am-3pm



Quarterly: Byron Beachside Market - four Saturdays in Jan, Easter, July and Sept

FARMERS/WEEKLY MARKETS:

- Each TUE: New Brighton Farmers Market - 8am-11am
Lismore Organic Market - 7.30am-10.30am
Each WED: Murwillumbah Farmers Market - 7am-11am
Nimbin Farmers Market - 3pm-6pm
Newrybar Hall Twilight Market - 3pm-7.30pm
Each THU: Byron Bay Farmers Market - 7am-11am
Lismore Produce Market - 3pm-6pm
Each FRI: Mullumbimby Farmers Market - 7am-11am
Evans Head Farmers Market - 2.30pm-6.30pm
Each SAT: Bangalow Farmers Market - 7am-11am
Duranbah Road Farmers Market (Tropical Fruit World) 8am-11am
Uki Farmers Market - 8am-1pm
Lismore Farmers Market - 7.30am-11.30am
Byron Twilight Market (October to April) 4pm-9pm
Each SUN: Ballina Farmers & Producers Market - 7am-11am

The Echo updates this guide regularly, however sometimes
markets change their routine without letting us know.
Please get in touch if you want to advise us of a change.



Echo

VIGILANT SINCE 1986

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

- AMBULANCE, FIRE, POLICE000
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POLICE Brunswick Heads6629 7510
Mullumbimby6629 7570
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Bangalow6629 7500
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AL-ANON Help for family and friends of alcoholics1300 252 666
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS Meets daily6680 7280
NORTHERN RIVERS GAMBLING SERVICE.....6687 2520
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KOALA HOTLINE6622 1233
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Beautifully presented throughout, the apartment features a bright, airy interior with an emphasis on low-maintenance comfort. The open-plan living and dining area is bathed in natural light, enhanced by calming treetop outlooks and cooling sea breezes. Sliding doors open onto a private balcony, providing a relaxed space to unwind, entertain, or enjoy your morning coffee overlooking the lush tropical surrounds. The

modern kitchen is well equipped with quality appliances, ample storage, and generous bench space, making it perfectly suited to everyday living or hosting holiday guests.

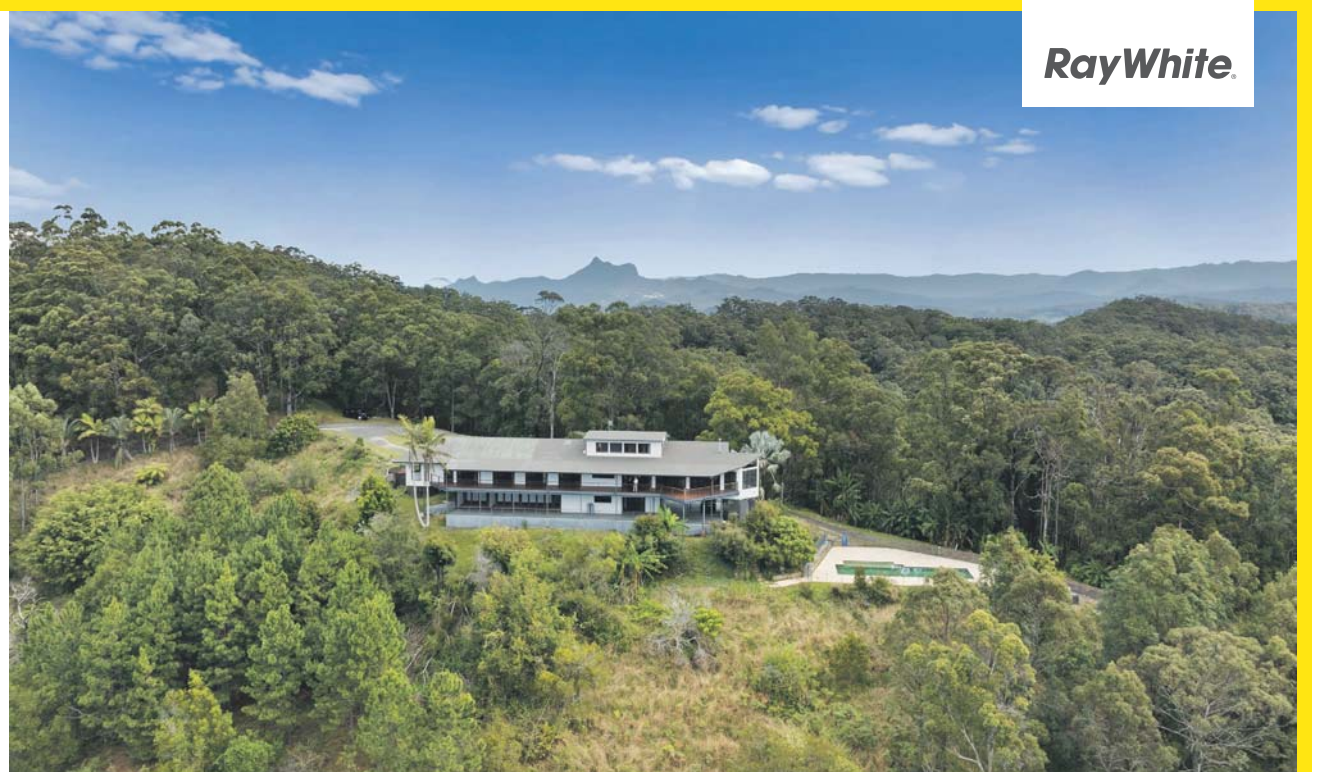
Accommodation includes two generous bedrooms, each with built-in robes and ceiling fans, ensuring year-round comfort. The main bedroom enjoys the added convenience of its own ensuite, while the second bedroom is serviced by a well-appointed central bathroom, creating excellent separation and privacy for families, couples, or visiting friends.

Beyond the apartment itself, residents are immersed in an exceptional resort environment set amid beautifully landscaped tropical gardens. A large lagoon-style swimming pool forms the heart of the complex, complemented by a heated spa, full-size tennis court, fully equipped gym, games room, and multiple communal spaces for relaxing or entertaining. The outdoor kitchen and BBQ area offer the perfect setting for long summer lunches or evenings spent unwinding under the stars.

Whether you're seeking a low-maintenance home, a lifestyle investment, or a serene holiday base, this easy-care, fully furnished apartment offers outstanding flexibility and undeniable appeal. Move straight in, rent it out, or lock up and leave, your Byron Bay beachside escape awaits.

■ 3/24 Scott Street, Byron Bay
Price: \$1M - \$1.1M
Agent: Sharon McInnes
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- Peaceful and totally private property spans 49.23 hectares* (121 acres*).
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Rural Paradise with Development Potential

'The Land Bank', Tweed Valley, NSW

- Private and peaceful 28.12ha* (69.48* acre) property, identified as a key site in Tweed Shire's current housing growth strategies, offering significant rewards
- Located directly adjacent to the village of Burringbar and the Northern Rivers Rail Trail
- Features extensive equine facilities and a spring-fed dam, shady walking and horse trails
- Conveniently located 35km* from Byron Bay and 44km* from Gold Coast International Airport

Expressions of Interest
Closing Friday 5 December 2025

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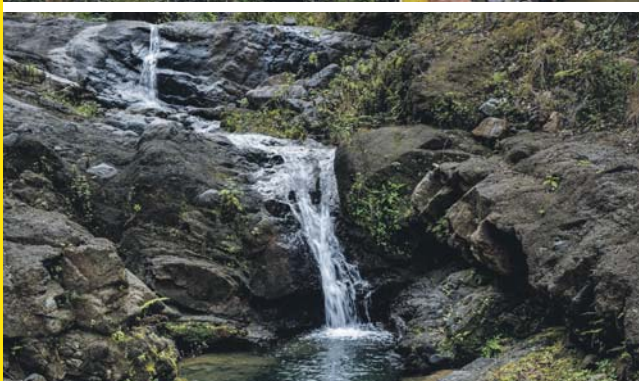
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'Tree Haven', Tweed Valley, NSW

- A rare 101.2ha* (250* acre) ecological sanctuary cradled by Wollumbin National Park (Mount Warning)
- 2 permanent and crystal-clear mountain creeks flowing directly from Wollumbin National Park
- Original 4 bedroom dwelling requiring renovation
- Only 8km* from the charming village of Uki, 46km* Kingscliff, 54km* Gold Coast Airport & 62km* Byron Bay
- A protected sanctuary to be truly at one with nature

Auction
Tuesday 25 November 6pm ADST
9/47-49 Murwillumbah St,
Murwillumbah

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*approx.

14 RUSH COURT, MULLUMBIMBY



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4 2 3 2
584M²

- Light-filled interiors with warm timber flooring and open-plan living
- Fully approved, self-contained one-bedroom granny flat ideal for rental income or guests
- Low maintenance garden with enough space for pets or kids to play
- Peaceful cul-de-sac location close to schools, farmers market, and Mullumbimby town centre

ON-SITE AUCTION | Fri 28th Nov 5:30pm
OPEN | Fri 21st Nov 5 - 5:30pm
Sat 22nd November 10 - 10:30am



Paul Prior
0418 324 297



Sharon McInnes
0408 659 649

92 ROBINSONS ROAD, WILSONS CREEK



Stunning Timber Home with Breathtaking Views

4 2 2 4
9087M²

- Private sanctuary with stunning tree-top, valley, and ocean glimpses
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- Expansive 360° verandahs, large covered deck, firepit, and lush established gardens
- Peaceful end-of-cul-de-sac location just minutes from Mullumbimby town centre

ON-SITE AUCTION | Wed 26th Nov 11am
OPEN | Sat 22nd November 9 - 9:30am



Tara Torkola
0423 519 698

4 RYCES DRIVE, CLUNES



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3 2 3 2
4729M²

- Immaculately presented double-brick home showcasing timeless craftsmanship
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PRICE | Contact Agent
OPEN | Sat 22nd Nov 1:30 - 2pm



Renee Schofield
0400 028 594



Su Reynolds
0428 888 660

16 IVORY CURL PLACE, BANGALOW



Character Home in a Quiet, Blue-Chip Bangalow Pocket

4 1 2 1
633M²

- Beautifully restored character home blending period charm with modern comfort
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- Sparkling magnesium pool surrounded by lush established gardens
- Peaceful family-friendly Bangalow pocket, minutes from the village centre

AUCTION GUIDE | \$1.6M - \$1.7M
ON-SITE AUCTION | Sat 22nd Nov 1pm
OPEN | Sat 22nd Nov 12 - 12:30pm

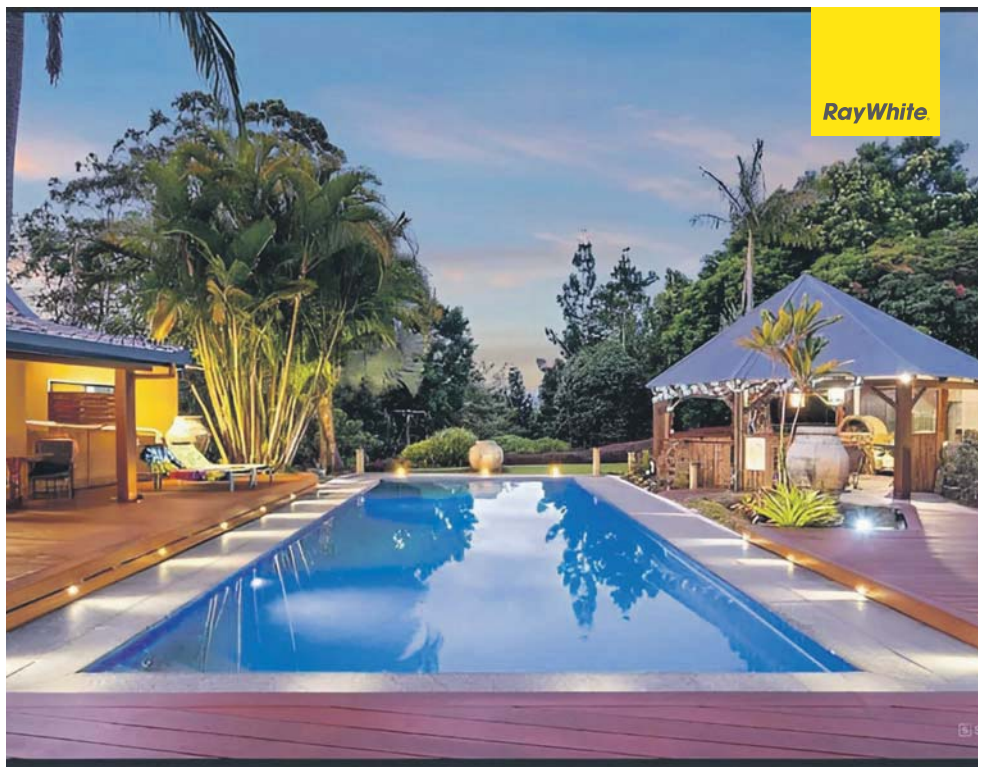


Oliver Aldridge
0421 171 499

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AUCTION

Private Leafy Oasis

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- Over 1 acre offering rural appeal and self sufficiency plus
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Auction
6 December

View
Sat 10-10.30am
6 Karinya Place, Clunes

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

raywhiteruralbangalow.com.au

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AUCTION

Coolamon Scenic Drive, Coorabell

- Boasting 2 approved independent residences filled with character
- Resort lifestyle on 5 magnificent acres - an entertainer's heaven
- Elevated, easy care lot - just a short, scenic drive to Byron's beaches and all the charming hinterland villages

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Auction
6 December

View
By Appointment

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AUCTION

"Coolamon Ridge"

- Prime 100 ACRES of elevated, east aspect hinterland country
- Pockets of dense rainforest surround Possum Creek frontage
- Your choice of several elevated homesites offering panoramic scenery
- Sooo handy to Byron's beaches

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Auction
13 December

View
Sat 12-12.30pm
369 Coolamon Scenic Drive,
Coorabell

Greg Price
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AUCTION

"Gracevilla"

- Substantial residence on 5 hobby farm acres of manicured grounds & gardens
- Rich level paddocks with abundant water for orchards or stock
- Meticulously maintained family home, in an ideal location with short scenic drive to all our beautiful villages

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Auction
6 December

View
Saturday 11-11.30am
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By appointment at your convenience

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- 5/5-10 Quayside Ct, Tweed Heads. Sat 10-10.30am
- 32/85-93 Leisure Dr, Banora Point. Sat 10-10.30am
- 102 Terranora Rd, Terranora. Sat 11-11.30am
- 1/39 Wyuna Rd, Tweed Heads West. Sat 11-11.30am
- 1091/14-22 Stuart St, Tweed Heads. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 625 Terranora Rd, Terranora. Sat 12-12.30pm
- 10 Lawlor Pl, Terranora 12.45-1.15pm
- 1444/6-8 Stuart St, Tweed Heads. Sat 12.45-1.15pm
- 4/27-29 Dutton St, Coolangatta. Sat 12.45-1.15pm

Harcourts Northern Rivers

- 16 Sand Street, Skenners Head. Sat 10-10.30am
- 19 Leeson Avenue, Ballina. Sat 10-10.30am
- 101 Riverside Drive, West Ballina. Sat 10-10.30am
- 16 Dolphin Drive, West Ballina. Sat 9.30-10am
- 8/334 River Street, Ballina. Sat 10.45-11.15am
- 2/11 Westland Place, West Ballina. Sat 10.15-10.45am
- 66 Riverside Drive, West Ballina. Sat 10.45-11.15am
- 41 Martin Street, Coraki. Sat 11.30am-12pm
- 936 Pimlico Road, Pimlico. Sat 11.45-12.15pm
- 47 Bath Street, Wardell. Sat 11-11.30am

Lifestyle Group Brunswick Heads

- 361 Huonbrook Road, Huonbrook. Tues 10-11am
- 2/11 Booyun Street, Brunswick Heads. Wed 4-4.20pm
- 5/11 Booyun Street, Brunswick Heads. Wed 4-4.20pm
- 5/7 Fingal Street Brunswick Heads. Wed 4.30-5pm
- 361 Huonbrook Road, Huonbrook. Fri 10-11am
- 7/1 Langi Place, Ocean Shores. Sat 9-9.30am

- 2/3 Tathra Glen Ocean Shores. Sat 9.45-10.15am
- 47 Elizabeth Avenue, South Golden Beach. Sat 10.30-11am
- 2/11 Booyun Street, Brunswick Heads. Sat 11.30-12pm
- 5/11 Booyun Street, Brunswick Heads. Sat 11.30-12pm
- 5 Bower Street, Brunswick Heads. Sat 11.30-12pm
- 5/7 Fingal Street, Brunswick Heads. Sat 12.15-12.45pm
- 35 Pimble Valley Road, Crabbes Creek. Sat 1.10-1.40pm

Mana Re

- 1/44 Helen Street, South Golden Beach. Sat 9-9.30am
- 21A Balemo Drive, Ocean Shores. Sat 9-9.30am
- 15 Muli Muli Avenue, Ocean Shores. Sat 10-10.30am
- 15 Nargoan Court, Ocean Shores. Sat 10-10.30am
- 32 Gloria Street, South Golden Beach. Sat 11-11.30am
- 4 Gara Court, Ocean Shores. Sat 11-11.30am
- 6 Orion Street, Lismore. Sat 11-11.30am
- 86 Tyalgum Ridge Road, Tyalgum. Sat 1-1.30pm

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- 6 Karinya Place, Clunes. Sat 10-10.30am
- 100 Federal Drive, Eureka. Sat 11-11.30am
- 369 Coolamon Scenic Drive, Coorabell. Sat 12-12.30pm

Real Estate of Distinction

- 11 Bian Court, Ocean Shores. Sat 10-10.30am
- 98 Greenvale Court, Burringbar. Sat 11-11.45am
- 876 Tamarind Drive, Tintenbar. Sat 1-1.30pm
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If only Byron Shire Council hadn't painted over the Brett Whiteley mural on the toilet block at Wategos they could be joining in the Smith & Singer auction on 25 November of two of his other original works *Midday at Wategos Beach, Byron Bay* 1989-1990 and *Bather 2* (1975, cast later). Imagine the dosh we could have been rolling in?

Drop crocs – they were a real thing – tens of millions of years ago. According to recent research on crocodile egg shells of ancient mekosuchine crocodile, kambara species, by Mike Archer, a paleontologist at the University of New South Wales Sydney (UNSW) these ancient reptiles spent time in the trees, probably jumping out on their prey. The shells were discovered in southeast Queensland, roughly 250 kilometres from Brisbane. The kambara species could grow to over six feet long and likely ate fish and softshell turtles.

'For the Epsteinth time, an "underaged woman" is a child.'

Tasmania's Lake St Clair was carved from the surrounding bedrock by ancient glaciers and is internationally known for its wild beauty. World-first mapping by CSIRO now reveals the true depth of Australia's deepest lake plunges to 163 metres. This is far deeper than any other lake in Australia and deeper even than Bass Strait, which has a maximum depth of approximately 85 metres.

According to the Australia Institute nurses pay more



Lemon Chicken Luke and his way better half Jacqui pay homage to Sunnybrand Chickens, that used to be next door to Global Ripple's new mega op-shop on Ewingsdale Rd. Op-shopping has always held that element of surprise at what treasure you might find. Global Ripple has ratcheted the treasure hunt experience up a level with banging tunes and staff that love what they do and show it. Saturday's opening was more like the launch of a new nightclub with shoppers dancing and singing between the racks. Photo Jeff 'Chicken Magnet' Dawson

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tax than the gas industry. Multinational corporations get Australian gas for free – over half (56 per cent) of gas exports pay zero royalties and zero Petroleum Resources and Rent Tax (PRRT). The federal government collects more money from students paying HECS/HELP than from oil and gas companies paying the PRRT. In just four years, multinational companies made \$170 billion exporting Australian gas royalty-free.

Free ice cream will be handed out this Friday, 21 November to celebrate that Norco has been back on its iconic Lismore ice cream factory site for two years. Head down to the front steps of the factory at 120 Union Street, Lismore from 10.30am to 2.30pm to enjoy the free Cape Byron ice creams.

Miss Tree

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The Buttery acknowledges and pays respect to past and present Traditional Custodians and Elders of this Nation and the continuation of cultural, spiritual and educational practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

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