

# Echo

WAITING FOR THE AI BUBBLE TO POP

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## Morrison Avenue a 'disgrace'

Aslan Shand

Local Mullumbimby residents are saying Byron Shire Council (BSC) needs to step up and fix Morrison Avenue properly.

Residents on Morrison Avenue, Poinciana Street, and Prince Street have expressed their frustration at the appalling condition of their streets, in particular Morrison Avenue, since the pod village was installed.

'Since 2022, all the truck movements to install the fill and pods on Prince Street mean our roads have been in a serious state of disrepair,' Morrison Street resident, Helen Thurgood, told *The Echo*.

'Trucks drove down Morrison Avenue and Poinciana Streets to enter the pod village site and then exited at the Argyle Street end of Prince Street and those are the areas that continue to be seriously impacted with potholes and road surface collapse.'

While BSC did do a big repair job on Morrison Avenue in 2023 following the pod village development, residents told *The Echo* that the work was falling to pieces before it was even finished.

'It was hot, and the road surface they were putting in place was just melting so you had immediate damage as cars drove over it,' one resident said. 'They didn't put in a good road base, and I guess they just used inferior materials to build the road.'

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## A bit of fun to raise some funds

Bobby Conn and Molly O'Neil, from Drover (either end) Paul Tansley from Stone & Wood (back) with Damian Farrell from Fletcher St Cottage pulling out his best Ray Charles moves. Join them and plenty of other performers at the 12th Festival of The Stone on Saturday, 20 June. Pick up a ticket at <https://events.humanitix.com/festival-of-the-stone-2026>. The event supports Byron's Fletcher Street Cottage. See more on page 25.

Photo Jeff 'Not So Grand' Dawson

## Are retirement villages what Byron Bay needs?

Aslan Shand

Developer DD Resort Living is seeking community feedback until June 18 on its proposed retirement living development in Byron Bay. The proposal includes the former Glen Villa Resort site at 80 Butler Street and a second site at 12 Bay Lane, planned as an affiliated clubhouse.

The project has prompted questions from some locals about

the affordability of this ultra-luxe style of retirement living for seniors. Promotional material for Oasis Byron Bay highlights extensive onsite amenities, including pools, fitness facilities, a hair salon, library, parks and cafes, raising questions about how the development will contribute to the broader town.

Brooke Crowle, convenor of People of Byron, a local group representing small businesses and residents in the 2481 postcode,

observes that Byron Bay has a large and active population of older residents, particularly in the 55-70 age bracket.

'Many locals are deeply engaged in the community, support local businesses and volunteer organisations, and have strong social connections within the region. In that sense, the proposition that a permanent residential community will provide year-round economic and social benefits to Byron is not

especially novel. Our existing older population already contributes significantly to community life.'

Another key issue is will locals be able to afford to move there if it does go ahead?

'A seniors' living proposal does not need to be ultra-luxury to be successful. It needs to provide housing that allows people to remain connected to their community as they age,' said Ms Crowle.

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# In loving memory of Dr Tony Parkes AO PhD (1929 – 2026)

**D**r Tony Parkes AO PhD, one of Australia's most visionary conservation leaders and a pioneering force in ecological restoration, passed away last Thursday at the age of 96. He spent his final months at Honey Bee Homes in Ewingsdale.

Born in Hobart, Tasmania with a lineage that extended back to the second fleet, Tony always possessed a deep curiosity and a profound love for the natural world, and a desire for understanding and applying science to practical outcomes. After earning a PhD in organic chemistry in Tasmania, he moved to the United Kingdom to undertake post graduate study at London School of Economics.

## Move to Binna Burra

He briefly worked in Canada, before returning to Australia, working for 25 years in the corporate sector as an investment banker. However, a self-described 'biophile', in 1990, he and his late wife, Rowena, purchased a degraded dairy property in Binna Burra, and permanently moved to Byron Shire.



Dr Tony Parkes AO PhD lived a high-energy life of curiosity, warmth, and energy. Photo supplied

Tony, having discovered a small rainforest remnant on his property, set about learning as much as he could about the Big Scrub, its amazing biodiversity, and how to restore the Big Scrub to ensure that it is sustainable into the future.

## Big scrub rainforest

Tony was surprised to discover that there was little in the way of evidence based restoration guidance, so he co-founded Big Scrub Landcare, later the Big Scrub Rainforest Conservancy, serving as its tireless president for 30 years. Under his extraordinary guidance, the organisation published the definitive reference

manuals for restoration and essentially doubled the remaining rainforest area, facilitating the planting of over 2.5 million trees.

Tony believed in the synergy of passion, curiosity, and rigorous science. In 2015, he established the Big Scrub Rainforest Foundation to ensure that the environmental achievements he helped create continued in perpetuity. As part of his future-proofing vision he devised and championed the 'Science Saving Rainforests' program, utilising world-first DNA genome sequencing to restore genetic diversity to endangered plant species and ensure that

the remnants and regeneration plantings had sufficient genetic diversity to survive future threats.

His immense contributions to environmental leadership were recognised nationally with numerous Landcare honours, the Banksia Award, and appointment as an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) in 2019.

## Zest for life

Tony was a man of great warmth, curiosity, an unbridled energy, and work ethic, and he possessed an enduring zest for life that continued until

his final day.

He was still actively working as a director of the Big Scrub Foundation until his death. He leaves behind an incredible legacy that will continue to inspire the community and shape Australian conservation for generations. He is survived by his brother Anton; his children Trina, Richard and his wife Yiska, and Abby; and his three grandchildren, and great-grandchild.

His spirit will forever inhabit the grand rainforest he helped rebuild.

Vale, Dr Tony Parkes AO.

■ Words provided by Dr Tony Parkes' family.

# Byron Council budget up for discussion as rates rise looms

Aslan Shand

There is a potential 30 per cent or more rate rise in the wind for Byron Shire ratepayers by 2030.

What's needed is clear and concise budget documentation, accessible to your average ratepayer. It would seem the least Byron Shire Council (BSC) could provide in accordance with commitments to inform the community.

However, locals have contacted *The Echo* saying the documentation available is difficult to access, interpret, and cross reference with seemingly significant discrepancies in figures.

The budget needs to be adopted by the end of June with an emergency Council meeting likely to be called on 25 June to adopt the budget.

There were also concerns over the restricted developer contribution funds, with a \$2.4m discrepancy with the General Purpose Financial Statement 2025.

## Difficult to analyse

Questions were also raised over the claim that only \$1 in every \$100 goes to 'administration and governance' when staff costs alone are approximately \$29 million against an operating revenue of approximately \$132.7 million.

'The budget documents presented for exhibition lack the explanatory framework that would allow an ordinary resident to cross-check figures or understand what

categories actually include,' said Dale Emerson, convenor of the Mullumbimby Residents Association (MRA).

## Cost of tourists to ratepayers

Concerns about Council's lack of analysis on the non-ratepayer costs (tourists and visitors) was also raised.

'Staff should consider what the expenditures are within each unit of operations above and beyond expenditure for residents. For example, waste, parks, compliance issues (dogs on beaches) etc,' former Byron Shire Mayor, Jan Barham, told *The Echo*.

'They identified this expenditure in a published tourism discussion paper in 2019 as \$23 million per year, which equals 80 per cent of the funds Byron Shire Council collects from rates or approximately 20 per cent of overall revenue. If Council identified these costs, then they could go to state and federal governments, who do get a return on tourism, and seek compensation. The state collects approximately \$20 million a year from Byron Shire for land tax, and the federal government collects business taxes. Byron Council isn't adequately compensated for these non-resident costs. Therefore, we are subsidising an industry that is a burden on our ratepayers.

'We have previously used these figures to gain an increase in our financial  
▶ Continued on page 5

## Life Changing Financial Advice

**Alana Pincombe**  
Senior Financial Planner

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**Welcome Natalie Stokes**

Natalie graduated with honours from The University of Melbourne in 1999 and has been providing dental care in the Northern Rivers region for more than two decades. Many patients will know her from her 19 years at Mullumbimby Dental Centre (now Maven), where she built trusted relationships with local families while caring for all aspects of their dental health.

Natalie offers high-quality general dentistry for patients of all ages, with a particular interest in preventive and minimal intervention dentistry.

She is passionate about helping patients understand their treatment options and empowering them to make informed decisions through open communication and education.

Known for her gentle, caring and patient manner, Natalie is especially skilled at helping nervous patients feel comfortable and reducing anxiety around dental visits.

She also holds a Diploma in Functional Nutritional Therapy, giving her a unique understanding of the connection between nutrition, oral health and overall wellbeing.

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# Who is coming to the 2026 Byron Writers Festival?

It is the 30th anniversary of the Byron Writers Festival (BWF) and it is being led by the incredible line-up of Richard Flanagan, Antoinette Lattouf, and Kerry O'Brien.

For the first time, the festival will be held throughout the town of Byron Bay, incorporating some of the most iconic venues, from the Byron Surf Club and Beach Hotel, to the Byron Community Centre and the Book Room, weaving an extraordinary, diverse gathering of over 150 authors, intellectuals, and poets throughout the town.

## Free events

From Friday, 14 to Sunday, 16 August the town will turn into a literary festival as visitors and authors come to Bundjalung Country for three days of deep discussion and storytelling. There will be more free programming than ever before with activations including ocean bathing and beach yoga.

From international to local, authors include Geetanjali Shree, Roman Krznaric, Thammika Songkaeo, Bob Carr, Delta Kay, Trent Dalton, Amy Remeikis, Richard Dennis, Evelyn



Jessica Alice, Byron Writers Festival Artistic Director, and Kerry O'Brien launch the full program of over 150 writers, thinkers, poets, and storytellers for the dynamic 2026 festival. Photo Jeff 'Writing Rongs' Dawson

Araluen, just to name a few. 'Presented at a moment of great global change, the festival embraces its theme of 'sanctuary', creating a place of solace and connection amongst some of the finest minds,' say the BWF.

The inaugural Rhoda Roberts Oration will be presented by playwright, theatre director, and Chair of Creative Australia, Wesley

Enoch, while veteran broadcaster Kerry O'Brien leads the prestigious Thea Astley Address exploring lessons from history.

## A place for art

Byron Writers Festival Artistic Director and CEO Jessica Alice said the 2026 program marks a significant moment for the festival.

'This year's landmark

30th anniversary festival celebrates renewal, ritual, and transformation at the country's most easterly mainland point. We gather as global voices united in the specificity of this place, together creating a sanctuary for the art and role of the writer.'

For a full list of authors and to purchase tickets, go to <https://www.byronwritersfestival.com>.

# Byron High brings you SAAM – full of humour and chaos

In the vein of a speculative sci-fi, this comedy misadventure is simultaneously relatable, playful, hilarious, and unnerving. SAAM will be performed for three nights by Byron Bay High's Year 11 Drama troupe on 23, 25 and 26 June from 6.30pm.

The exciting and thought-provoking play, by Australian

playwright Madelaine Nunn, addresses what happens when technology is invited to step in and sort out our social lives.

'The production immerses audiences in the worlds of gaming, social media and school-life from the perspective of socially-awkward protagonist Claire, who seems to

be having trouble connecting IRL,' said a spokesperson for the troupe.

'That is, until SAAM, a Social Ally Android Machine is configured, based on Claire's digital behaviour and profiles, enters her life and presents as her "shortcut to friendship"'

Likened to a

teen-appropriate *Black Mirror*-style storyline, SAAM is a colourful and high-energy production that explores connection, friendship, authenticity and identity through a storyline full of humour and futuristic chaos.

Tickets can be purchased from <https://tinyurl.com/y7zeca8>.

## Julie-Ann Manahan

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## The NT intervention laws that shape lives

This Sunday marks 19 years since the then Howard government announced the Northern Territory (NT) Intervention laws.

The laws compulsorily seized control of all Indigenous communities in the NT, while suspending the *Racial Discrimination Act (1975)*.

To mark this day, local filmmaker Sinem Saban will be presenting back-to-back screenings in Murwillumbah of her two award-winning films that not only expose the draconian intervention policies, but also present the catastrophic fallout from these laws that have been unravelling in Aboriginal communities to this day.

'The NT Intervention policies of 2007 are working to undermine the last bastion of Indigenous people practising their unbroken traditional law in this country, while also attacking their cultural identity and leadership,' says Ms Saban.

'Amongst a long list of affronts, communities have had their local assets frozen, leaders have been stripped of their authority, schools have been forced to stop teaching bilingual education to their children, funding for their precious homelands has been



For young people on Elcho Island the balance between their traditional ways and the modern world is becoming increasingly difficult when their leadership and law is being undermined. Photo Sinem Saban

cut, and people have had portions of their welfare payments quarantined – all under the now discredited accusation that, "every single community has paedophiles operating in them," (Mal Brough).'

Ms Saban who has spent the last 25 years working with the Yolngu Nation of NE Arnhem Land says it was a trojan horse.

'Nineteen years on, there has been no evidence of paedophile rings in these communities. But once that gross stereotype hit the mainstream news, the damage was done. It has justified almost two decades of destructive and racist policies – while destroying people's pride and dignity.'

The first film for the screening will be *Our Generation* (2010), which was filmed while Sinem was teaching on Elcho Island and witnessed first-hand how the NT Intervention laws were impacting the community.

The second film, *Luku Ngärra: The Law of the Land* (2024) traces the life and legacy of the late Elcho Island elder and lawman Rev Dr Gondarra OAM who spent over 40 years fighting for the spiritual and political freedom of his people. Tickets are \$30 and are on sale through The Regent website. [www.theregentcinema.com.au](http://www.theregentcinema.com.au).

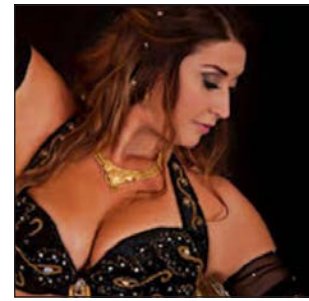
■ Read full story in *The Echo* online: [www.echo.net.au](http://www.echo.net.au).

## Dancing and fundraising for our children's future

The recent premeditated killings of several children in Australia by their fathers has raised the issue of filicide (the deliberate act of a parent killing their own child) alongside the issue of domestic violence (DV) and femicide (the intentional murder of women or girls) as key areas that need research to help understand why these things happen.

This Friday, 19 June the Shimmy Mob DV Fundraiser is taking place at Coorabell Hall raising money for Monash Filicide Research, Australian Femicide Watch, and QSAN (Queensland Sexual Assault Network).

'This DV Fundraiser is



dedicated to supporting a deeper understanding of the drivers and challenges in the domestic violence space and promoting a message of empowerment and community,' said organisers.

There are two parts to the fundraiser a Bellydance Choreography Workshop runs from 2 to 4pm followed by a show from 7.30pm

with The Shiva Shimmer Squad, Emyprean Bellydance Troupe, Hadiya Bellydance, Bellyluscious Belly Dance, and special guest, Mana Aloha Troupe performing. You can do both or just dress up and come and enjoy the evening show.

'Guests are invited to dress up and win prizes for the most sparkly! We are hosting a night filled with a gathering of rare performers coming from Brisbane, Tweed, Gold Coast and Byron, as well as personal stories, DV awareness and fun prizes,' say organisers.

You can book one or both events at: <https://tinyurl.com/we7h2dxh>.

## More comes out on Byron and Mullum pools saga

Staff writer

The problem with Byron Shire councillors making decisions in confidential sessions 'behind closed doors' is that no-one knows what really happened apart from those in the room.

In the case of the Mullumbimby and Byron Bay pool tenders (*Echo*, 27 May) even *The Echo* had no idea that all four Greens councillors were, according to independent

Cr Michael Lyon, in favour of awarding the Mullum Pool tender to Belgravia, the interstate tenderer, instead of the local tenderer.

Again, according to Cr Lyon, they only wanted to keep the local tenderer for the Byron pool. Cr Lyon said they were in the 'confidential' session, and the Greens only voted 'against the motion' – as reported in the paper – because it was a 'package deal' involving

two pool leases. This led to the unexplained reference in the complaint by Crs Lyon and Dods (Letters, 3 June) that The Greens had let other councillors take the heat for something for which there was at least a partial 'consensus'.

Of course, this is just a rumour based on what Cr Lyon wrote to *The Echo* – how much better it would be if *The Echo's* electronic bugs didn't malfunction?

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## Caring for community



Mullumbimby Rotary presents President of the Brunswick Surf Life Saving Club, Craig Reid with \$10,000. Photo supplied

The Rotary Club of Mullumbimby presented a cheque for \$10,000 to the Brunswick Surf Life Saving Club (BSLSC) in support of its ongoing operations.

'Following the completion of its new clubhouse, the BSLSC faced the challenge of ensuring sufficient funding to continue its vital services throughout the coming season.

'Rotary was proud to assist an organisation that plays such an important role in the safety and wellbeing of our community,' Mullumbimby Rotary secretary, Helen Carpenter, told *The Echo*.

### Year round work

Throughout the summer months the BSLSC's dedicated volunteers give countless hours patrolling beaches, responding to emergencies, and helping keep residents and visitors safe. During the off-season, members remain hard at work undertaking training, maintaining qualifications, and preparing for the next patrol season.

'We thank all members of the SLSC for their commitment, professionalism, and service. Their dedication helps make our beaches safer for everyone,' said Helen.

## Council budget questions

► Continued from page 2 assistance grant which comes from the federal government.'

A business rate review has also been suggested along with the fact that there have been no cost savings or efficiency measures proposed.

'Resolution 25-300 (30 June 2025) directed Council to hold a workshop on spending reductions and revenue-raising options and to report back,' said Mr Emerson.

'The MRA noted at the 30 April meeting that there is no reference to Resolution 25-300 in the current budget report - neither its findings

nor any amended action arising from it. State and federal governments this year required five per cent 'low-priority' cuts focused on consultants and contractors. Byron Shire Council has made no equivalent commitment.'

Other considerations put forward were Council look at new business models for both the Sandhills and Cavanbah Centre operations, which are both operating with over a \$500,000 deficit. A review of contract work, reviewing non-resident cost for operations to ensure they can successfully seek state and federal assistance for these costs.

## Who gets to retire in Byron?

► Continued from page 1

### Not aged care

A spokesperson for the developer has clarified that while there is capacity for 'ageing in place' with carers and support 'the development is not a residential aged care facility. A resident requiring full-time, high-acuity clinical care not deliverable through their Support at Home package may ultimately need to

transition to a residential aged care home.'

### Height limits

The developer has said that they will not be going over the 9.5m height limit but that they might seek an increase if 'flood experts require a 0.3m lift in site level'.

For further information and feedback [www.plannersnorth.com.au/portfolio/butlerst\\_consultation](http://www.plannersnorth.com.au/portfolio/butlerst_consultation).

## Call for residents to lobby feds for better roads and services

Byron Shire Council is calling on the community to help lobby the Australian government to restore proper funding through their Federal Assistance Grants program from the current 0.5 per cent of tax revenue to one per cent.

'I think our community would be shocked to know that Financial Assistance Grants to councils have fallen from around one per cent of Commonwealth tax revenue in the mid-1990s to about 0.5

per cent today. At the same time, councils are being expected to deliver more and more essential services,' Byron Shire Mayor Sarah Ndiaye said.

### Get your voice heard

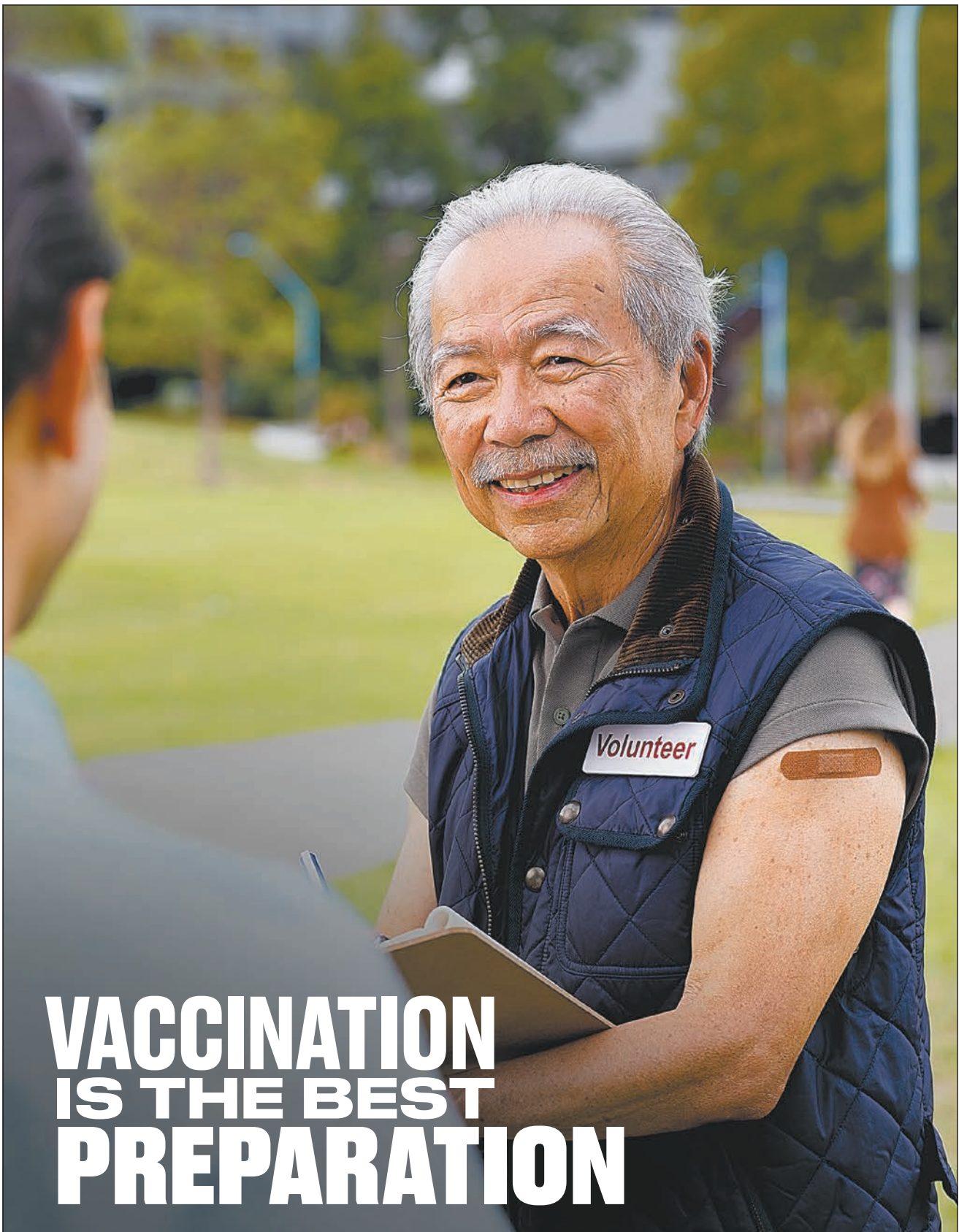
'This is especially cruel for Byron Shire where essential services need to be delivered across a dispersed geographical area with a ratepayer base of only 15,500 properties, substantial visitor numbers, and the federal

government has cut us off at the knees through their Federal Assistance Grants program.'

'Restoring the Federal Assistance Grants to one per cent would make a massive difference to us and mean we could get on with the job of delivering the services and infrastructure our community deserves and relies on, including filling the potholes, building better and safer roads, maintaining our parks and hundreds of community

services and facilities,' the mayor said.

'It's why I'm asking my fellow community members to add your voice to the 'Invest in Us' online campaign at [yoursay.byron.nsw.gov.au/invest](http://yoursay.byron.nsw.gov.au/invest) or drop into Council's Mullumbimby Offices and fill in our survey so we can send a clear message to Canberra: stop robbing us of the money local government deserves to deliver the essential services our communities rely on.'



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## 550 homes for Byron Shire's newest suburb

Hans Lovejoy

Community feedback is now sought on three planning documents that will shape the future of Gulgan Village, a new residential suburb proposed on the elevated slopes of The Saddle Road.

The proposal is by Gulgan Road Property – the director of the company is Brandon Saul, the developer behind the Habitat precinct in the Byron Arts and Industry Estate.

Council say, 'The proposal for Gulgan Village includes a diverse mix of housing types like terraces, low-rise apartments and small lots alongside standard housing lots, some services, like shops and cafes, and affordable housing to be managed by a Community Housing Provider (CHP).'

'The three documents currently on public exhibition until 12 July are the Gulgan Village Planning Proposal, the Draft Development Control Plan (DCP) and a third document called a Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA), which outlines how the developer and Council agree to work together to deliver essential infrastructure and maximise community and

environmental outcomes.

Community members can review and comment on what is proposed.

### LEP amendment

The Planning Proposal seeks to amend the Local Environmental Plan (LEP) to enable a new residential village of between 400 and 550 homes. It also sets out proposed maximum building heights and minimum lot size.

### Draft DCP

The draft Development Control Plan (DCP) outlines the desired future character of Gulgan Village, including housing mix and layout, landscaping, open space, view corridors, and how the development will incorporate connecting with Country principles.

Council say, 'The draft DCP also addresses infrastructure and servicing requirements, including staging of development, road networks, and traffic management.'

### VPA

The third document on public exhibition is a proposed Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA) which includes several

commitments negotiated to date between Council and the developer, including: five per cent of the area of developed residential lots to be dedicated to Council for affordable housing; construction of a dual-lane roundabout on Gulgan Road at one entry to the village about 500m from the Pacific Motorway; a new intersection at Bashforths Lane; provision of sewerage infrastructure; land to accommodate a future water reservoir.

The developer has a separate agreement with the Bundjalung of Byron Bay (Arakwal) Aboriginal Corporation to provide an additional five per cent of the area of developed residential lots (or equivalent in constructed housing) to them for affordable housing.

### 12 July deadline

Have your say at yoursay.byron.nsw.gov.au/gulgan-village until 12 July. Further background information is available on the NSW Planning Portal. Documents available for viewing at the Byron Shire Council office.

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

## Fix Mullum's Morrison Avenue say residents

► Continued from page 1

Helen outlined that the failure to put a camber on the road or install proper drainage further exacerbated the quick deterioration of the road.

Currently the northern end of Morrison Avenue is severely pitted with extensive damage to the road surface and massive potholes. This is of serious concern as there are children, people with disabilities, the elderly, and parents with prams having to traverse this section of road, that has no footpaths, along with cars and school buses.

### Triggers asthma

'The road is so degraded that it covers my house in dust when cars drive past and my daughter can no longer visit me because it exacerbates her asthma so much when she's here,' said Helen. 'A bloke this morning said "I can't believe how dangerous this road is". It is a disgrace, I drive on the wrong side of the road because that's the only place you can drive.'

'This is supposed to be a sealed road. Instead, it is a crater filled strip of track that produces a massive amount of dust and debris and is dangerous to cars and pedestrians alike.'

Locals say they have repeatedly been in touch with Council staff and councillors as well as reporting the condition of the road regularly over the last four years to BSC seeking to have the road repaired properly.

'They just don't respond,' said one resident and ratepayer. 'Then we get the machine spitting sloppy bitumen at the holes now and then. It must be costing a fortune to do such a poor job of patching the road. I would prefer them to just spend the money to fix it properly. Even worse is that these shitty road repairs then just end up blocking the drains which leads to worse flooding.'

'Our cars are getting smashed to bits because the road is in such bad condition,' said Helen.

'It is just a matter of time before one of the primary school kids gets an injury on the bus as they bounce along the road to Mullum Primary.'

Residents repeatedly said that they wanted BSC to focus on their basic responsibilities like roads and drains and start getting that right.

'My concern as a resident and ratepayer is that they keep doing such a shit job and they are not fulfilling

their obligations to us,' another resident said.

'Instead, they're heating the pool and are looking at increasing our rates by 30 per cent? That's just not good enough, they need to get these roads and other basic infrastructure working and properly fixed.'

### Council respond

BSC have told *The Echo* that they are aware of the community concerns.

'Operationally we will continue to address the potholes with reactive works but we are constrained as we need a spell of dry weather before we can start,' said a BSC spokesperson.

'We understand that the underlying issue is far greater and are currently preparing a grant funding submission that will seek budget to undertake the required major upgrade.'

'We are hoping for federal funding to enable detailed pavement investigations and design, installation of drainage infrastructure, pavement, a bus bay, and sealed verges to allow for parent parking.'

'We are dependent upon this external funding to complete the works to the required standard.'



## Have your say on plans for Gulgan Village

**YOUR SAY BYRON SHIRE**

**Gulgan Village is a proposed new residential community located on elevated land around The Saddle Road, Brunswick Heads.**

It is expected to be home to between 400-550 dwellings with a diverse mix of housing types including affordable rental housing.

We'd like your feedback on three planning documents currently on public exhibition until 12 July.

- Gulgan Village Planning Proposal;
- Site-specific Development Control Plan (DCP); and
- Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA).

**Provide your feedback by:**

- Making an online submission. [yoursay.byron.nsw.gov.au/gulgan-village](http://yoursay.byron.nsw.gov.au/gulgan-village)
- In-person at one of two drop-in sessions in the Council Chambers Mullumbimby:
  - Wednesday 24 June – 3pm to 5pm
  - Wednesday 1 July – 5pm to 7pm.
- By email, phone or post to the project team.




02 6626 7000 • [www.byron.nsw.gov.au](http://www.byron.nsw.gov.au)

## Northern Rivers Disaster Adaptation Plan




## Join the conversation

The NSW Reconstruction Authority is developing the Northern Rivers Disaster Adaptation Plan (DAP) – an action plan to reduce our risk from natural hazards, such as floods, storms and bush fires.

Community drop-in sessions

<b>Mon 15 June</b>	Murwillumbah
<b>Wed 17 June</b>	Ballina
<b>Thu 18 June</b>	Maclean
<b>Fri 19 June</b>	Casino
<b>Tue 23 June</b>	Kyogle
<b>Wed 24 June</b>	Lismore
<b>Fri 26 June</b>	Mullumbimby

3pm to 6pm. Free, all welcome.

Share your ideas at a community drop-in session or online.

Online engagement from 5 to 30 June 2026, or register for a drop-in session <https://www.haveyoursay.nsw.gov.au/northern-rivers-dap>



## Will council support community participation in MHS development?

Aslan Shand

This Thursday, Byron Shire Council (BSC) will be discussing the establishment of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) between Byron Shire Council and Homes NSW (HNSW) as well as the potential for a Community Assessment Panel for the old Mullumbimby Hospital site.

The MoU aims to establish a 'a non-binding framework' with no 'legal or financial obligations' between BSC and HNSW to collaborate on social and affordable housing outcomes across the Byron Shire.

The MoU identifies the two priority focus areas as the former Mullumbimby Hospital site (MHS) and the renewal of existing HNSW sites in Byron Shire.

With apparent support from councillors and staff this is likely to be approved uncontested.

However, Cr Elia Hauge's notice of motion (NoM) to establish a Community Assessment Panel for the old MHS does not have such

clear staff support.

Staff had previously said that the community involvement in assessing any proposal from HNSW 'would be subject to standard planning and assessment processes, and that the planning framework does not generally establish ongoing community governance or participatory assessment mechanism.'

However, Cr Hauge has argued that the old MHS holds a unique place in the community and a 'Community Assessment Panel would ensure the community has a genuine seat at the table when Council evaluates what HNSW, or any other organisation, puts forward for the site.' Cr Hauge has asked for 'a report to the August 2026 Ordinary Meeting on the establishment of a Community Assessment Panel'.

In her notes to the meeting she states that, 'the financial implications of this notice of motion (NoM) are minimal at this stage'.

This is disputed by staff who say that the 'The NOM requires significant

work which is not already resourced under Council's operational plan. Council staff can prepare a report to respond to the matters identified, however this will impact existing projects and priorities.'

While staff appear reluctant to go beyond what is required statutorily in relation to community feedback and engagement on the development of the MHS, Cr Hauge points out that, 'This motion is consistent with the Community Strategic Plan 2035 commitment to genuine community participation in decisions that shape the Shire's future, and with the principle, embedded in the NSW Local Government Act 1993, that councils should facilitate ongoing community involvement in their activities.'

Other topics up for discussion next Thursday include: Mullumbimby hybrid water scheme, potential Council spend of \$185k on Easter 2027 after Bluesfest collapse, expansion of the Sunseeker Motel, and a seven-lot subdivision in Bayshore.

## Douglas Dickie retires after 51 years as firefighter



Douglas and Karen Dickie on the right of bagpipe player Forest Pearson. Photo Jeff 'Fire Brigadedoon' Dawson

Aslan Shand

As the bagpipes let out their mournful melody approaching Wandana Brewing, Douglas Dickie was celebrated for his 51 years of service in fire brigades from Scotland to Australia.

Douglas and Karen Dickie immigrated to Australia in 2003 with their family. Douglas brought his talents and experience in Scottish Fire and Rescue as a station officer to NSW Fire and Rescue, Mullumbimby Station 388.

'Douglas joined Station 388 where his talents and experience were quickly recognised,' Josh Rushton,

388 Mullumbimby Station Captain, told *The Echo*.

'He competed for the rank of deputy captain which he held until his retirement after 23 years. During this time he attended many incidents, not only in Mullumbimby but across Byron Shire and beyond and was deployed in a range of circumstances from fires to floods.

'He was instrumental in building the 388 station into the station it is today. His key strengths are his ability to train firefighters, manage incidents, and develop station capability.

'He is extremely well respected for the work he has done over the last 23 years.'

The retirement gathering included ex-members from 388, firefighters from neighbouring stations, and the zone management team who came to celebrate and acknowledge his service.

'It has been a wonderful time here in Australia,' Douglas told *The Echo*. 'We have great friends and Station 388 became a second family.'

Captain Rushton said that, while he may have served only 23 with us, all up he served 51 years serving communities around the world. He will remain close to the station, he has been a mentor to us all. And we all wish him the best on his retirement.'

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**The Byron Shire Echo**  
Volume 41 #01 • June 17, 2026

## Shark culls not the answer

It has been a confronting and devastating year with a 12-year-old killed by a shark in Sydney and another shark attack in Coogee over the weekend. The NSW government has said there is nothing off the table in response to the latest shark incident. But it is vital that we don't just start going out there and randomly culling sharks.

Some sharks are more dangerous to humans, in particular bull sharks, great whites, and tiger sharks. But the reality is that most sharks are smaller, eat fish and molluscs and are key to keeping our marine environments healthy and not a danger to humans.

It is horrible and confronting when someone is attacked by a shark, let alone the devastating impact of losing someone you love to a shark attack. But the reality is that it is rare to be bitten by a shark.

'Worldwide there are about 70-100 attacks per year, with only 7-10 being fatal,' according to Shark Allies.

The reality is that the ocean is dangerous, it has predators like sharks, but it also has jellyfish, rips, drownings and other dangerous animals. In fact Shark Allies points out that 'Jellyfish are responsible for 15-30 times more deaths each year than all unprovoked shark attacks worldwide.'

However, shark attacks have been on the rise and this 'coincides with an increasing human population, more people visiting beaches, a rise in the popularity of water-based fitness and recreational activities and people accessing previously isolated coastal areas,' according to the research paper 'Changing patterns of shark attacks in Australian waters' by John West and research by CSIRO.

Also overfishing in waters further out is pushing sharks 'inshore towards more populated or traversed waters in search of food' according to RSPCA, South Australia.

The reality is that in Australia we already have extensive nets and

drumlines along coastal waters which represent a serious threat to a wide range of marine animals. This includes endangered sea turtles, whales, dolphins, rays and other animals.

In reality the biggest killer of sharks is fishing, with an estimated 73 million to 100 million sharks killed globally every year according to the Shark Research Institute, with bull sharks one of the species targeted for their fins.

While the great white shark is not generally fished, it is nonetheless listed as vulnerable.

According to research, shark culling does not reduce the number of unprovoked shark interactions.

In a 2019 court case against lethal culling in the Great Barrier Reef (*HSI v QDAF and GBRMPA*) by Humane World for Animals 'one of the arguments upon which the case was won, was that shark culling has no impact on swimmer safety. In fact, there was even arguments to be made that culling can increase the risk for swimmers.'

Great white sharks don't just hang around one area, they are highly migratory and swim vast distances, bull sharks frequent rivers and estuaries in NSW and Qld, while tiger sharks prefer warmer northern waters ([www.firstaidpro.com.au](http://www.firstaidpro.com.au)).

There are a range of more humane ways to manage shark/human interactions, from increasing shark spotting and drone capacities, shark awareness programs, sonar systems, eco-barriers, tagging, tracking and alert systems, active and passive electrical repellents. But at the end of the day unless you eliminate sharks, or ban people from going in the water, there will always be the risk of a shark-human encounter. When you go into the water you are going into their natural habitat. The reality is that you are more likely to drown, get caught in a rip or die from a jellyfish sting than you are from a shark interaction.

**Aslan Shand, editor**

## AI: Artificial Intelligence, or Artificial Inflation?

It feels as if AI is everywhere – whether it's those intrusive bots on every website or every headline about how it's either going to be a boon for humanity, or end us.

But is AI everything its evangelists and doomsayers say it is? Perhaps not.

Despite the hysteria, in 2024, the respected computer scientist and commentator John Naughton predicted that AI was a bubble waiting to burst. I'd agree.

There's every indication it's much like the dot com bubble, with significant economic, environmental, political, and geographic risks that may burst the whole mirage before we even get to liberation or annihilation.

The incredible sums being thrown around – like OpenAI seeking \$7 trillion dollars in investment (around a fifth of US GDP, and three times Australia's) and both OpenAI and Anthropic being valued ahead of their Initial Public Offerings (IPO) at nearly a trillion dollars each – are vastly disproportionate to their ROI (return on investment): both companies are running colossal losses, with little indication when or how they'll start turning profits.

Serious governance issues aside – especially in regard to Elon Musk's much-hyped USD 1.78 trillion IPO, which has raised questions from many investors – these hyperinflated valuations have distorted the US stock market, with just ten AI stocks constituting up to 45 per cent of the S&P 500, with many pension and index-linked funds exposed.

While markets are at historical highs, anaemic underlying global economic growth and rising unemployment suggests a likely global recession. If any of those stocks fall or those very interconnected corporations fail, forget America sneezing and the world catching a cold: it will be global economic Ebola.

While record numbers of white-collar workers have been laid off because of AI's supposed greater productivity, a recent US survey found that many workers are finding that the AI's often error-riddled, hallucinatory 'workshop' requires much more work to correct, resulting in significant productivity losses.

And tech layoffs of programmers aren't entirely due to AI, but because tech companies over-hired during the pandemic when more of us had to be online – they started in 2022, before



*'Already, markets have started cooling on tech stocks over concerns about how they'll keep their big promises and fund their exorbitantly expensive expansion plans.'*

– Sunil Badami

ChatGPT was released. Zoom's share price has fallen 80 per cent since its lockdown peak.

But even if AI did result in widespread white-collar and creative sector job losses, there are many jobs it can't replace, especially in human-centred roles, with many young workers, increasingly suspicious of and resistant to AI, now taking up trades or working in healthcare.

And while a landmark 2015 Deloitte study of 140 years from the first Industrial Revolution found that technology created more jobs than it destroyed, replacing legacy occupations with newer, better paid ones (such as tenant farmers becoming loom machinists, or actuaries becoming data scientists), if AI did cause the predicted 40 per cent unemployment, what government would tolerate – much less survive – the subsequent social unrest and economic devastation?

Many communities are pushing back against AI's environmental damage, with data centres guzzling massive amounts of electricity and water, overloading local infrastructure and potentially surging power and water rates – especially galling when most big tech companies don't pay tax in most jurisdictions.

But that's not the most critical geographical issue. Over 90 per cent of the world's most advanced semi-conductors required for AI are made by one company, the Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company.

And China, with claims on the island, holds half the world's rare earth reserves required for modern chip manufacture, mining about 70 per cent of the global supply, and accounting for 90 per cent of all processing and refining.

Donald Trump's clumsy tariff war against China – and misjudged war-not-war against Iran – have badly exposed the US economically and militarily.

Just as the Islamic Republic has

used the Strait of Hormuz as leverage, so the People's Republic has used its rare earth near-monopoly to extract tariff and other concessions.

With Trump wasting nearly half of America's missile stockpile on his Iran 'excursion', predictions it will take a decade or more to replenish them, and with most of the US Navy blockading the Persian Gulf, Taiwan is ripe for the taking.

Although having seen the disastrous invasions of Ukraine and Iran, the challenges of an island invasion, and the People's Liberation Army not seeing combat since the brief 1979 Sino-Vietnamese war, it's unlikely Xi Jinping will risk it.

But still, it's as significant a potential threat to world security as the Hormuz blockade has become for energy security.

Already, markets have started cooling on tech stocks over concerns about how they'll keep their big promises and fund their exorbitantly expensive expansion plans.

So there are signs that long before we get to a *Terminator*-style Skynet extinction, the AI bubble will pop – although not before its snake oil salesmen like Open AI's Sam Altman and his frenemy Elon Musk have taken their very juicy cuts.

But now's the time to put in place the regulatory and legal safeguards we neglected to enact before the toxic bin fire of social media, to ensure neither worst case scenario happens.

And with the Albanese government prodded into action this week, by independent Senator David Pocock, to regulate data centre energy usage and tax them the way gas and tech companies haven't been so far, hopefully that will happen sooner rather than later.

■ Sunil Badami is a writer, academic and broadcaster. He's appeared in nearly every major Australian media outlet, and is a regular on ABC Radio and TV.



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*Nicholas Shand*  
1948–1996  
Founding Editor



*David Lovejoy*  
1944–2024  
Co-founder

The Echo acknowledges the people of the Bundjalung nation as the traditional custodians of this land and extends respect to elders past, present and future.

**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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# byron healing

Volume 9 2026-27 OUT SOON

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**Humanity together**

Dale Emerson's letter last week expanding on Chris Hanley's attitude to *The Echo*, and to our world, was impressive. A call for humanity to come together. A toast to both of you.

Margrette Young  
Skennars Head

**Local media needed**

Congratulations to *The Echo* for 40 years of providing our community with independent review and scrutiny and information that enhances community engagement and resilience. *The Echo* has played a vital role in shaping the identity of Byron Shire.

The Grattan Institute report, *For the People - Future-proofing Australia's democracy* notes, 'we must protect our public sphere - where Australians inform themselves and engage in the contest of ideas - by ensuring the sustainability of our news media and investing in institutions that produce trusted information'.

While many engage with the online world and gain advice, opinion and motivation, let's not forget that there are no accountable mechanisms governing it, unlike news media. Be alert to how the algorithmic magic can present views that are skewed to your personal balance and analysis.

For our local independent media to stay strong and continue to focus on our community, it needs community support.

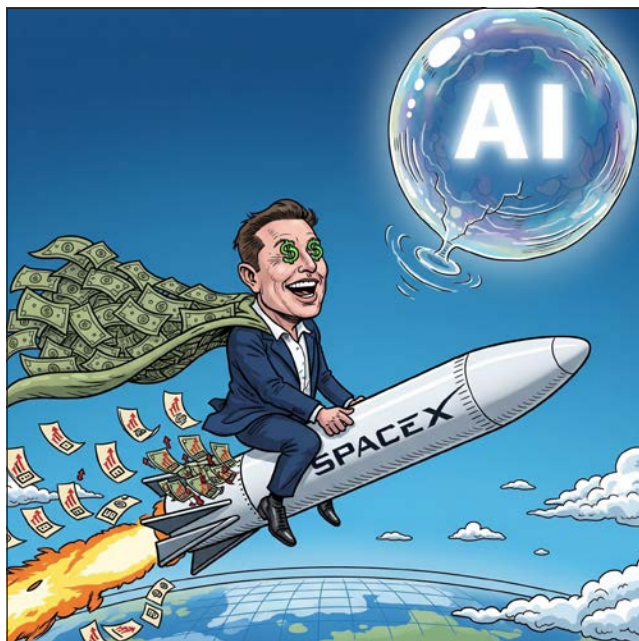
I do a voluntary subscription to support a free paper that focuses on local issues, delivering the views, insights and accountability and importantly, the musings of my community. Often what's revealed can be annoying or perceived as being misinformed, but we learn from it.

Please consider signing up to support *The Echo*, our democracy would suffer if it didn't exist.

(Former mayor and NSW MLC) Jan Barham  
Broken Head

**Mullum Hospital site**

I would like to acknowledge the letter printed in *The Echo* dated 3 June from Gary Opit and Carmel Daoud, and thank them for their excellent suggestion of returning the Mullum Hospital site to the Bundjalung people. As noted by Keith Richards way



The world's first trillionaire (on paper) has floated his Initial Public Offering (IPO) for Space X on the US stock exchange. It is the biggest ever IPO, despite Space X operating at a significant loss and carrying a host of other associated risks.

back when, talk is cheap - it's actions that speak louder than words and it would be a wonderful show of respect and gratitude for all we enjoy here post colonisation. May it be so.

Bronwyn Sindel  
Mullumbimby

**Long serving drudges**

One category overlooked for an award at *The Echo's* 40th birthday party was for the long-serving drudges.

Jenny Dalimore, Steve Berriman, Vicky and Tas have been part of *The Echo's* distribution team for decades, turning up week after week, year in, year out to ensure *The Echo* gets delivered to homes around the Shire.

Reliable, dependable staff who go the extra mile when needed doing an essential but less glamorous job rarely rate a mention.

I think the distribution team wins the award for most overlooked and under-appreciated workers no one thinks about until they don't turn up.

Michele Grant  
Ocean Shores

**Pool tenders**

A final word on the Mullum and Byron pool tenders.

The five councillors who voted for Belgravia obviously care deeply about our pools. I've loved the Byron pool since I did SwimSafe there when I was a kid in primary school. While pools are invaluable to the community, they have a quantifiable value to Byron Council. And it was value that drove the five councillors' decision to award the tenders to Belgravia.

The cost difference (which legally must remain confidential) was significant - seriously significant. So much so that I submit no responsible person with any business experience could have made a different decision.

We obviously deeply care about local jobs. For the Letters Editor to suggest otherwise is absurd and offensive. While management will change, the vast majority of jobs will remain local. We must govern on facts not feelings. To have done otherwise would have been gravely irresponsible.

Cr Jack Dods  
Myocum

The Letters Editor didn't suggest councillors don't 'deeply care'. He said that Council's resolution cost local jobs because the local managers for both pools lost out to large corporate Belgravia. But since you brought it up, councillors 'deeply caring' about local jobs is debatable given the Mullum carpark and roadworks fiasco, as an example.

**Councillors silent**

I spent some time preparing a submission regarding the draft DCP for the redevelopment of the Mullumbimby Hospital site.

I submitted this to the reviewing panel at Council and I copied it to the mayor and all the councillors.

I did not receive any response from the review panel, but I thought I might have done from at least the mayor and/or one of the councillors.

The silence was

deafening. In my naivety, I thought that the councillors were supposed to be the point of contact between the ratepayers and Council to ensure that Council staff enacted the suggestions of the former, or advised the community when this was not possible and gave good reasons.

An acknowledgement by councillors that they had received and read correspondence from ratepayers would show good manners. It seems that Council staff thinks it knows best regarding many issues and often does not listen to the residents.

This makes it especially important that councillors are involved enough in all matters to ensure that Council staff respond to the wishes of ratepayers.

This includes at least acknowledging receipt of correspondence from ratepayers and taking action where appropriate. I urge councillors to listen more to the community, to pass on these, rather than their own, personal wishes to Council and make sure that Council staff carry them out rather than their own agenda.

In stark contrast to the poor communication between ratepayers,

► Continued on page 12

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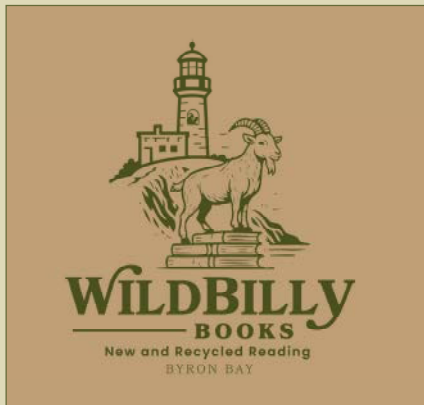
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► Continued from page 11  
councillors and Council staff, I thank the staff at *The Echo* for publishing so many important articles and letters including my submission regarding the draft DCP for the Mullum Hospital site. In this way healthy communication is maintained which is essential for a healthy democracy.

Thank you for supporting democracy in the Shire.

**Chris Abraham**  
Mullumbimby

### Trumpism

Is it naïve to think of a promise in the political context as no more than intention to do something based on current conditions.

Am I a bit thick to think that such a promise is essentially a judgement of what a group of people who share an ideological view of the world think is in the best economic, social or political interests of a constituency based on prevailing economic, social and political conditions.

Am I being unreasonable to think that as the future unfolds and global policies like Trumpism turn the world order and economic conditions on their head and impact on us, a campaign promise may not be judged to be in our best interests and change may be necessary.

Ms Hanson and Mr Joyce, judging from their reaction to the recent government budget (in One Nation's 'Fire the Liar' campaign) would undoubtedly agree that I am naïve. Forget policy, it is obvious that they see that the Chicken Little view of the world and 'broken promises' is the best way to the minds of the electorate and their political ambitions.

Remember? Henny Penny hit on the head by an acorn thinks the world is ending, the sky is falling in. With a group of gullible farmyard friends, Cocky-Locky, Ducky-Daddles and Turkey-Lurky, who blindly agree with her, she sets off to warn the king. On the way they run into cunning Foxy-Loxy who offers to show them a short-cut. The short-cut leads the panicking animals into Foxy-Loxy's den where they are eaten by Foxy-Loxy and his family.

Fair go, who would be a politician trying to alleviate pressures and satisfy an electorate locally? Most of the pressures emanate from local exploiters and global mayhem. A promise sacrificed today might be necessary if we are to have bread on the table in the future.

**Terry Hand**  
Mullumbimby



Will this be another TACO (Trump Always Chickens Out) moment? The US/Israel invaders need the Iranian war to be over, so that Chinese renewables don't take hold.

### Speaking and listening

All of a sudden Council's supposed experts condemn the Wilsons Creek weir water quality during rain events, which would put people's health at risk in Mullumbimby and the whole hybrid system.

How did the Lavertys Gap water filtration plant supply a very high quality of water for all those years during the dry and during the rain?

It operated with a sand filter, chlorine being injected plus soda ash and gradual ferric being introduced via a hopper, plus an operator attending for an hour a day doing testing and operational duties.

The staff now claim the pursuit of the hybrid system was adopted without a full options assessment, how?

At the time, did Council staff offer their input, as they are employed to advise on these issues at the time they are being discussed.

This is the same as the proposal to close Ocean Shores STP put forward by staff and the Director of Infrastructure. When the time came for the Director of Infrastructure and his staff to actually supply factual information and a report to the elected Council at a Council meeting, all a staffer summoned by the Director of Infrastructure to supply this information could do was continually say we need to close it.

No report, no real reason, just we need to close it.

Council employs a lot of presumably highly-qualified people in various areas which fall under Council's responsibility and control, it makes absolutely no sense when some of them now say the hybrid system proposed is basically floored and could supply a health risk to the Mullumbimby community. When the system proposed was being discussed, did they flag any of these concerns at the time or just remain silent until now?

**Alan Dickens**  
Byron Bay

### Labor and housing

I met Treasurer Jim Chalmers on the beach here a little while back. I asked him, 'Are we in a housing crisis or a cost-of-living crisis?'

He wasn't much interested in discussing economics while watching his kids frolic in the waves. I was serious though, because I suspect the two crises are related – related way back, in fact, to many of the policies and actions of our governments, not least the Labor party.

Economic rationalism – deregulation, privatisation and free trade agreements – became the mantra of Hawke and Keating from the early 1980s and was continued by Howard.

As our manufacturing sector struggled to compete in an increasingly liberalised global market, businesses and public assets were sold off, factories packed into boxes and shipped overseas. Then where does the surplus cash go? The smart money moved into real estate.

Governments made the move more attractive by winding back public housing provision in favour of private sector development, while Commonwealth Rent Assistance subsidised the private rental market.

Howard went a step further with his 50 per cent capital gains tax discount for real estate investors.

Surplus funds will be invested and, as the diversity of opportunities to invest decreases, competition for the main game increases.

Australia's economy has become less diversified and more concentrated, focusing and incentivising money into the real estate market. Ironically, this market is now failing to deliver.

As housing prices inflated, driven also by the related finance, marketing and insurance sectors, builders and building material suppliers naturally capitalised, further pushing prices through higher labour and material

costs. The housing boom revealed extraordinary surplus capital, which soon found its way into broader price rises as markets adjusted and capitalised.

Landlords, not to be outdone, lifted rents to levels few would have imagined a generation ago.

The housing crisis sits at the heart of the cost-of-living crisis, which itself sits at the foot of decades of economic liberalisation funnelling ever-greater amounts of wealth into a concentrated sector with nowhere else to go.

The market has done what markets do: it has extracted the maximum return available – free-market ideology has produced a housing system increasingly incapable of housing people at prices they can afford.

Jim has to have that conversation.

**Paul Anthony**  
Byron Bay

### Difficult times

We live in difficult times: so it's good to know some things are certain; the sun will rise in the east, human stupidity endures, and our Labor federal member Justine Elliot will have a full-page colour ad in our region's print media.

One ponders who is paying for this? If from her own pocket then good luck to her.

If, however, by taxpayer-funded allowance then I suggest there are far better and more deserving ways to allocate those dollars.

The Australian Government Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority reports that Justine's spend; solely on printing and communication – for the year April 2024 to March 2025 was \$327,162.73 or \$6,291.59 per week, for the year April 2025 to March 2026 was \$297,448.04 or \$5,720.15 per week.

One wonders how (or if) Mrs Elliot evaluates the success/merit of this substantial expenditure, and whether she, or someone on her staff, actively looks for better spend options?

**Richard Adams,**  
Kingscliff

■ Some people and businesses support thoughtful public interest journalism and independent media publications like *The Echo*, and lesser publications, by advertising even if they cop flak. We think it's a vital element of democracy, but of course, we would say that! – **Letters Ed**

# Social homes completed in Casino – what else is in the pipeline?

Hans Lovejoy

**W**ith 17 new ‘social housing’ dwellings being announced for Casino, what other similar projects are underway in the Northern Rivers?



**Social housing in Casino.** Photo NSW Department of Communities and Justice

NSW government agency, Homes NSW, announced on 5 June the Casino homes ‘are now welcoming up to 41 residents in a modern two-storey development featuring open-plan living, natural tones, and a shared courtyard designed to bring people together’.

‘Delivered as part of the \$150 million Northern Rivers Flood Recovery program, this project is helping rebuild stronger communities for the long term. Learn more: [dcjns.w.gov.au/HomesNSW](http://dcjns.w.gov.au/HomesNSW)’.

## Social versus affordable housing

Social housing is distinct from ‘affordable housing’.

Affordable housing in NSW does not provide the long-term security that social housing does.

Under NSW planning incentives (The Housing SEPP), developers are only required to keep dwellings as affordable for a minimum period (typically ten years), after which they can revert to market rent.

Affordable housing projects also commonly include a mix of affordable and market-rate dwellings, meaning only part of the development

remains discounted.

Social housing is managed by Homes NSW, which is part of NSW Department of Communities and Justice, and are generally managed by Community Housing Providers.

So what new social housing projects are pegged for the Northern Rivers?

According to [www.nsw.gov.au/departments-and-agencies/homes-nsw](http://www.nsw.gov.au/departments-and-agencies/homes-nsw), there are two: Tweed Heads and Coffs Harbour. Both of which are ‘in progress’.

## Tweed Heads

The Tweed Heads social housing project is located at 25-27 Boyd St, Tweed Heads.

Homes NSW say the new social housing proposal is ‘part of the Northern Rivers Flood Recovery Program.’

‘The proposed multi-storey development aims to deliver 46 one-bedroom units; 34 two-bedroom units a community room, basement car parking, accessibility features to accommodate senior residents with various

levels of mobility’.

‘The proposed development is currently being assessed under a formal planning approval process.’

They say if approved, construction is expected to be completed by December 2027.

## Coffs Harbour

In Coffs Harbour, ‘60 new high-quality social homes’ are slated for Harbour Drive, providing well-designed housing close to transport and services’.

‘The State Significant Development Application (SSDA) was lodged with the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) in October 2025 and was on public exhibition from 2 October to 15 October 2025.’

Construction is due to be completed in 2028.

‘Community Housing Provider Mission Australia Housing has been appointed as the delivery partner and property manager for this development’, says Homes NSW.

digital devices and computer games. In a sense, my life WAS the computer game, and I was the avatar having all the adventures.

From when I was five I used to walk two miles home from school. There were no pedophiles and no ‘stranger danger’. There was no crime of any kind that I can remember. No fear. No-one going mad.

There was no autism, no ADHD, no allergies, practically no asthma.

Workers were paid in cash and bills were paid with bank cheques. There were no frantic homicidal computer games, no online scams, no pedophile networks, no trolls, no bullying, no grooming, no youth suicides, no explicit porn, no fake news, no encrypted murder contracts, no disengaged screen addicts, no mental health pandemics.

Today we are bombarded by endless choice and a

constant feeling of disempowerment, unable to keep up with ever-changing technologies.

We’ve paid a very high price for the digital revolution, without nearly enough ‘due process’ to monitor the consequences of rolling it out in such an unregulated way, driven only by corporate profit. The AI roll-out is out of control. Data centres are being built with seemingly unlimited budgets, consuming vast amounts of water and electricity. Climate Change has been marginalised and put on the back-burner at a time when it should be front of mind. It is imperative to put AI back in its box and make sure it has the safeguards and algorithms to work for the good of humanity. Before it is too late!

**Mike Balson**  
Upper Wilsons Creek

► More letters online:  
[www.echo.net.au/letters](http://www.echo.net.au/letters).

## AI roll-out

My dad bought a quarter-acre block overlooking Sydney’s Northern Beaches for 400 pounds.

That was about eight week’s salary. Mum had her hands full looking after three kids. But it was made easier because groceries, fruit, bread, milk and the newspaper were all delivered to the door. My family got TV back in 1956.

There were just three TV channels to choose from. My first memorable program was the 1956 Melbourne Olympic Games. Mum and dad had a record player for their vinyl LP collection and we listened to ABC Radio plays like *Blue Hills*, by Gwen Meredith.

I had an adventurous childhood, cycling and cliff-climbing, hiking down our nearby waterfall, bush-walking, fishing in the lake, body surfing and board riding and sailing every weekend. Nobody even dreamed of

Boardwalk

PRE SHOW DINING HERE

BALLINA RSL

baltinarsl

BOOK BEST SEATS HERE

## Citizen scientists needed for creek checks

Kristin den Exter,  
Richmond Riverkeepers

The Richmond River upper catchment is currently sitting on a C-minus on the Richmond River Ecological Health Report Card.

That grade has held across multiple rounds of monitoring in the upper catchment. It's not a surprise; the catchment has been through floods, landslides, and years of sediment loading.

Yet it's not a number we can accept without doing something about it.

One of the ways we track river health is through water bugs aka macroinvertebrates.

Macroinvertebrates, the insects, worms, crustaceans, and larvae living in creek beds, are sensitive indicators of water quality.

Some species only survive in clean water. Others can handle poor conditions.

The mix of species at a site tells us a lot about what's going on in that creek.

### Citizen scientists

Since 2023, Richmond Riverkeepers have been running the Richmond River Ecological Health Program



Citizen scientists examining water bugs in the upper catchment. Photo supplied

with freshwater ecologist Dr Brendan Cox and River Ecology Australia. The program trains and coordinates citizen scientists across the mid to upper catchment to collect macroinvertebrate samples and contribute data to the report card.

The data is real, it goes into a published assessment that we use for advocacy and to track whether conditions are changing over time.

This month and next, we're running a series of Bugs and BRUVs workshops at creeks across the catchment. No experience is needed. On the day, participants collect and identify water bugs at the creek, then lower a BRUV – a baited remote underwater video

camera – into the water to see what fish are present.

Dr Cox leads each session, and walks participants through the identification and what it means for creek health.

Three workshops are coming up: Upper Eden Creek, via Kyogle (27 June); Tucki Creek, Goonellabah – (11 July) and Mulgum Creek, Nimbin (25 July). They can be found via events.humanitix.com. All workshops run from 10am to 2pm. Refreshments are provided. Flexible pricing applies, with student, concession, and mob tickets available, plus a members discount. To see the report card and learn more about the program, visit richmondriver.org.au/report-card.

## Tropical soda apple eradication project spans 130km of the Richmond River

A major regional effort to manage a highly invasive weed has been completed across the Far North Coast, says Rous County Council (Rous), 'marking an important step forward in protecting local agriculture and the environment'.

Rous say the 'project focused on limiting the spread of tropical soda apple (TSA) through coordinated action in high-risk areas'.

They say, 'Work was concentrated along the Richmond River and its tributaries, where waterways play a key role in transporting TSA seeds'.

'Tropical soda apple poses a significant challenge owing to its ability to establish rapidly and impact both farming operations and natural ecosystems. Its movement through river systems makes early intervention and coordinated management essential'.

Weed Biosecurity Manager, Philip Courtney, said the scale of the project was significant.

'The project followed more than 130 kilometres of the Richmond River corridor and included over 80 river-front properties infested with TSA, covering an area of more



Tropical soda apple remains an ongoing threat, say Rous. 'Continued monitoring of regrowth by landholders and Rous Weed Biosecurity staff will be essential to maintaining progress', they say. Photo supplied

than 600 hectares,' he said.

'Our Weed Biosecurity Officers also partnered with local contractors in a joint effort to contain existing infestations and reduce further growth.'

### Priority locations

Rous say, 'Priority locations included Wiangaree, Kyogle, Casino, Coraki, Woodburn and Broadwater, with additional work undertaken along Tunglebung Creek to minimise the risk of the weed spreading into the Clarence River catchment'.

'Owing to the challenges of accessing some riparian areas, a range of surveillance strategies were employed.

'To ensure full coverage of riverbank areas, the team spent weeks kayaking and boating along the Richmond River.

'This was supported by aerial surveillance flights to identify any infestations that may have been missed during ground and water searches,' Philip Courtney said.

'Tropical soda apple is one of the invasive weeds Rous is targeting for eradication in the Northern Rivers'.

Rous say they delivered the project, with funding from the NSW Government's Good Neighbours Program.

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

## Community Consultation 21 Ballina Road, Bangalow

The landowners will soon submit a Development Application to Byron Shire Council.

The DA proposal, located at 21 Ballina Road, Bangalow, NSW 2479, is for a townhouse development consisting of 23 townhouses with associated internal landscaping, guest parking and an internal access road.

Community members wanting to view plans can do so from today.

Thursday 18th June, up to Wednesday 8th July, at [bangalowpalms.com.au](http://bangalowpalms.com.au)

### Information session available:

**When:** 2nd July, from 11am – 4:30pm

**Where:** The Old Scouts Hall

9 Station St, Bangalow NSW 2479

For additional questions or comment please visit [bangalowpalms.com.au](http://bangalowpalms.com.au) or email [info@humanhabitats.com.au](mailto:info@humanhabitats.com.au).

\*This DA has not yet been lodged.

\*\*All feedback should be provided by **Wednesday 8th July 2026**.



SCAN ME

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

## Lismore rallies to save heritage homes from demolition

Around 100 residents met at the Lismore Quad on Saturday to demand that the demolitions of heritage homes cease, that the flood recovery promised is delivered by the Reconstruction Authority (RA), and that every person be housed.

Housing advocate group, House You said, 'The wastage of these homes is destroying the community; relocation and reuse for public housing and community use must occur, no family should sleep rough'.

'The event was organised within a short week turnaround in urgent response to the NSW Auditor General's report, which confirmed that the NSW RA failed to effectively plan and administer Australia's most expensive flood recovery program.

'Of the 31,000 households impacted in Lismore alone, by the 2022 disaster, just 1,000 homes have been supported across the Northern Rivers region, in more than four years'.

Antoinette O'Brien, Lismore artist and event co-organiser, said, 'What was missing from that report, was the human cost'.

'Not only did the NSW RA fail to make our homes resilient, but our community continues to pay a price, with their health and wellbeing as a consequence of these failures. Witnessing the destruction of houses when people are homeless makes no sense. Not to mention the materials and waste, it is horrific to live in the vicinity of these contradictions and failures.

'You don't get back heritage homes once they are gone. It is blatantly the wrong course of action, that is partly why it is being done in such a hurry'.

### MPs invited

Co-organiser of the event and House You founder, Chels Hood Withey, added, 'Lismore MP, Minister for the North Coast & Recovery, Janelle Saffin, was invited

to attend; Page MP, Kevin Hogan was invited to speak, as was the NSW Reconstruction Authority. Despite the invitations, Janelle, nor Kevin, nor the RA, showed up, who was there?'

'Again, it is the community, those who are already stretched thin; facing housing stress, battling through their flood recovery.

'Those who showed up today are those who have the compassion, and the integrity to know what is right and gather in support of what this region needs and deserves'.

Chels added, 'We all have a story of housing stress, the disaster, the second disaster of the failed recovery, the struggles in a system that denies us our basic human rights. Mothers unhoused and unable to see their children'.

'The next community meeting will be held at The Winsome & Lismore Soup Kitchen (11 Bridge Street) on Tuesday, 16 June at 5pm', said Chels.

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## Mullum takes A grade, Byron takes B, Suffolk takes a sausage

Damian Kassabgi

The Northern Rivers NET League Finals went down on Saturday, and it delivered some genuinely good tennis, nervous moments, an old school BBQ, and a lot of people who really care about their community sport.

The marquee clash was A grade – Byron Bay versus Mullumbimby, as nature intended.

It went the distance, with Mullum ultimately getting the job done in the final singles match. Onyx Cheong was the hero, pipping Che Ward in the deciding set to hand Mullumbimby the A grade title.

Byron had their revenge in B grade, taking out that division and ensuring the rivalry remains very much

alive and unresolved.

Though Mullum's Simon Haslam made sure nobody left thinking Byron had it easy – his singles match was the tightest of the day, grinding all the way to a super tiebreak before Haslam closed it out 11 to 9 against David Gargiulo. At that point, a cold drink was well deserved.

The C grade competition rounded out the day, and a warm nod to Ballina for making the trip and finishing as runners-up to Mullum. Coming from out of town to play in someone else's backyard and losing graciously is an underrated skill – and so is asking us to check the net height (haha!).

The NET League is the Northern Rivers' first adult



The Northern Rivers NET League Finals was a ball chaser. Photo supplied

regional competition designed around the radical idea that adults (and some emerging young superstars) should also be allowed to have fun playing tennis in a club and community run format. No prize money, just clubs from across the region showing up, competing, and arguing over a line call.

Good tennis. Good day. A big thank you to Jesse Taylor for organising it all.

## Seas the Day in Kingscliff this weekend

This weekend the fourth NRMA Insurance Seas The Day women's surf festival is back at Kingscliff Beach with Surfing Australia.

The world's largest female participation surf event is set to take over Kingscliff Beach 20 and 21 June celebrating women's surfing, sport, community and connection.

Headlining the festival is one of surfing's most recognisable and influential figures, Alana Blanchard. Also joining the event is Australia's most decorated Olympian of all time, Emma McKeon, who will also be part of the festival, participating in the Ford Australia Celebrity Surf Challenge and helping encourage attendees to try new sports alongside the Australian Olympic Committee and its Have A Go campaign.

In 2025, the event attracted a record crowd of more than 15,000 people, with free activities, inspirational talks



2025 Open Women's Shortboard Champions: Eliza Richardson, Gidget Kowalski, Rosie Richardson. Photo Andy Morris, Surfing Australia

and workshops led by some of the most respected women in surfing.

Nearly 300 women and girls also took to the waves for the inclusive tag-team surf competition, with divisions spanning para surfing, shortboarding, longboarding and an under-14 mini-shredders division.

'What I love is seeing women from all walks of life

getting into surfing, from age five to well into their 60s – it's such a great community.

Events like this are so important because they celebrate every kind of female surfer – whether they're competing, running a small surf brand, or just out there having a go. I'm stoked it's all happening right here in Kingscliff,' said eight-time World Champion Stephanie Gilmore.

## Byron Shire Rebels gutsy efforts

Hywel David

A day of contrasting rugby fortunes for the Rebels at Ballina, with the Men's XV putting in a gutsy defensive effort to go down narrowly 19-8, while the Women's side struggled against a strong Ballina outfit; and the Colts played out a hard-fought draw, away against the Mullumbimby Moonshiners.

### Colts 10s

The Colts travelled to face the Moonshiners and came away with a 7-7 draw, Carver McKinley crossing for the try and Aiden Broadhurst adding the conversion. Oscar Sainsbury took out Player of the Match honours.

### Women's 10s

The Women's side faced a tough afternoon against Ballina, going down 38-12. Evie Eastwell and Kari Massey crossed for the Rebels, with Massey adding a conversion, and Claudia Gasquez was named Player of the Match for her efforts throughout.

### Men's XV

The Men's XV gave Ballina plenty to think about across 80 minutes in what was a tight, physically demanding contest. Ballina received to start and the Rebels immediately set the tone, Jamie Bell forcing a dropped ball in the Byron 22 to earn a scrum and repel the early attack. The Rebels defended without much possession in the opening exchanges but held firm, and their scrummaging was a consistent bright spot – winning two from two and giving them a reliable platform.

Lineout troubles proved costly however, with Ballina intercepting multiple throws and using the turnovers to sustain attacking pressure. Ballina eventually converted their pressure into points, splitting through two defenders to lead 7-0. The Rebels responded well with Sam Valpy chipping over the defensive line from a ruck and Finn Reynolds on hand in the corner to ground it,

cutting the deficit to 7-5. Valpy then slotted a penalty to edge the Rebels in front 7-8 at the break.

In the second half Ballina came out with more intent after the break, using the width of the field to stretch the Rebels defence.

Despite holding off two early attacks, the Rebels conceded from a third, and a missed conversion kept it at 12-8.

A run of penalties gave Ballina the possession and momentum they needed to extend their lead to 19-8. The Rebels pushed hard late, threatening the Ballina try-line on two occasions, but couldn't find the breakthrough – made harder when Tomas Melville departed with a leg injury leaving them with 14 men for the closing stages.

Full time 19-8. A performance built largely on defence and set piece, with Luc Lévéque named Player of the Match for his tireless effort.

## Local boxing legend visits Byron Boxing

Kyogle heavyweight, Athol McQueen, who represented Australia at the 1964 Tokyo Olympics, and famously floored a then-unknown Joe Frazier, visited Byron Boxing at the end of May.

McQueen is one of the Northern Rivers' most significant sporting figures. A dairy farmer by trade, he won four Australian amateur boxing titles before representing his country at the 1964 Tokyo Games at just 23 years of age.

At those Games, McQueen first defeated Japan's home-crowd favourite Tadayuki Maruyama, then stepped into the ring against a relatively unknown American reserve named Joe Frazier – a late inclusion in the US team after the original selection was injured. McQueen knocked Frazier to the canvas in the first round, becoming the first boxer ever to do so. Frazier



Athol McQueen (centre) with owners Sam and Jade Jackson at Byron Boxing. Photo Jade Jackson

recovered, won the bout, and went on to take Olympic gold before becoming undisputed world heavyweight champion and one of the greatest fighters of all time.

Frazier later cited McQueen as the hardest he had ever been hit. McQueen has always taken that with his characteristic good humour.

During his visit McQueen watched sparring, spoke with members, and offered advice on what he'd observed.

'To have someone of Athol's history turn up, sit ringside, and be that generous with his knowledge – that's exactly the spirit we're trying to build here,' said Sam Jackson, Head Coach and co-owner of Byron Boxing.

# CALLING ALL SPORTS

The Echo wants to support you.

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



# Plastic Is Forever

Mandy Nolan



**Plastic is poison. When it enters our bodies, it doesn't just pass through, or sit there, it breaks down into microplastics, releasing toxic chemicals that become endocrine disruptors that go directly into our bloodstream.**

Our family has been trying to give up plastic. And I'm not just talking single-use straws or takeaway cups or bottled water. Like most people we did that years ago. I'm talking about all the other plastic that we ingest either directly or through chemical leaching. In the period of time since I was a child, to a child born now, the fossil fuel industry has become implicated in nearly every part of our daily routine.

Plastic is poison. When it enters our bodies, it doesn't just pass through, or sit there, it breaks down into microplastics, releasing toxic chemicals that become endocrine disruptors that go directly into our bloodstream. An article in *The Guardian* last year reported that every day people breathe in as much as 68,000 tiny plastic particles daily. The main exposure route is through food and water. The substance can cross brain and placental barriers. We ingest six times more microplastics than in the 1990s. While plastic waste can take 20 to 1,000 years to completely decompose, microplastics exist in the atmosphere indefinitely. Yuck. What the fuck have we done?

So our family decided to de-plastic. It's so much harder than I realised, and instead of going cold turkey, (which if we purchased would be wrapped in plastic) we're just removing plastic from daily life. Like a gladwrap striptease.

Let's start with brushing your teeth. Toothpaste manufacturers used to use microbeads as a cleansing agent. Because of the environmental damage they cause in our waterways, they're now banned. But most conventional toothpaste still contains gel-like plastics used as binders or texture enhancer. And then there's the tube itself. Generally they are plastic too.

Then there's the toothbrush. We found the plastic-free toothbrush, got it home, and found the handle was wooden, but the bristles were still a plastic based silicone. It shouldn't be this hard. I shouldn't have to brush my teeth with my finger dipped in bi-carb paste, but that's currently the most organic option. On the upside, I never forget my toothbrush.

Deodorant was easy. No Pong comes in a tin, and you apply it with your finger. Just make sure it's not your toothbrush finger.

Next we threw away all the silicon or plastic cooking implements. The egg flip, the stirring spoon, the chopping board,

the mixing bowl. We stuck with glass and metal. I was amazed how much plastic had snuck in.

Supermarket shopping is hard. Anything that's been transported has generally been wrapped in plastic. Even most canned food now has a weird plastic lining. Obviously farmers' markets are the best option for fruit and veg but there's many other items that you have to get in a store, and they are the ones colluding with fossil fuels. Like milk.

When I was a kid, milk came in a glass bottle with a metal top. Now it's almost impossible to find any sort of milk not in plastic; either a bottle, or a non-dairy milk in a Tetra Pak – which can be up to 25% plastic.

The old way encouraged a more careful mindset around consumption. You put out empty bottles to tell the milkman how many bottles you required. It was a simple analogue system. We were re-using without even being environmentalists. That was because we had a mindset of not wasting. We had one small metal garbage bin – now we have three large plastic bins. We put our plastic in plastic in plastic. As humans we are triple-bagged. We throw out more than what most people in the Third World own.

I have replaced my washing powders for clothes and dishwashing products with an eco-friendly non-polluting sheet that comes in a box. But I'm using soap in a bottle with a hand pump. In plastic bottles. When did we decide soap had to be packaged in plastic? I went back to old-fashioned soap. A crude rectangle of sticky soap with a pube stuck on it. Old school.

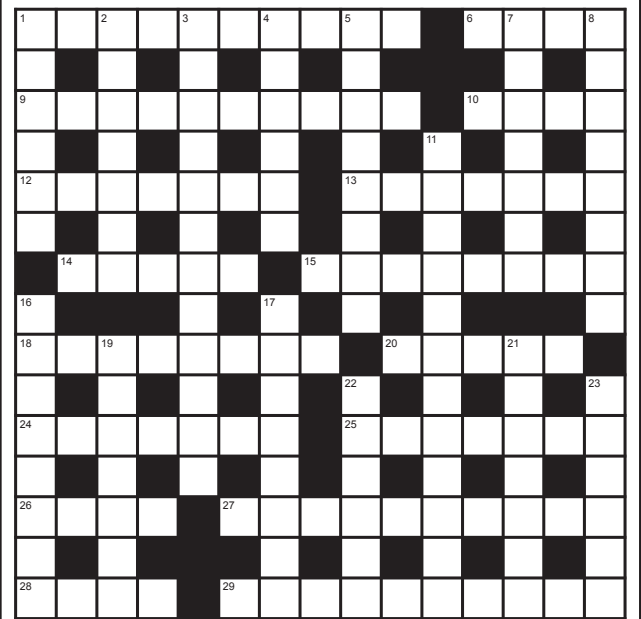
It's overwhelming. But every week we try to change one behaviour, one convenience. No plastic lunchbox. No plastic wrappers. No food wrapped in plastic. Plastic is the toxic footprint of our capitalist nightmare. Ninety-nine per cent of plastic is derived from fossil fuels. And plastic is fricking everywhere. As we push towards a renewable energy future, instead of filling up our cars, the fossil fuel industry has filled us up instead. It's giving us cancer, and it's choking our environment. It's a very convenient death.

So as we transition to EV's, let's not forget to move away from plastic. Not just renewables. But re-doables.

■ Mandy Nolan's column has appeared in *The Echo* for almost 25 years. She is a writer, comedian and artist, and was the Greens candidate at the past two federal elections.

## Crossword by Emma Briggs

#6



### Cryptic Clues

#### ACROSS

- Order a cabbalist leave time (10)
- Stallions lost their enclosure for charged bits (4)
- On at one before first foreigner caused indifference (10)
- Fill in the ears to become screen doctor (4)
- Stormy sea enveloping reveal for woman of literature (7)
- Eighties sitcom repeats with a kind of sprout (7)
- Continues peek around south (5)
- Allow circle dance after quiet excess (8)
- Breakfast cereal drops right kilo to gain time and merge (8)
- Lift with effort in the avenue (5)
- Run aquatic mammals in heels (7)
- Silent U manipulated to become something useful (7)
- French territory is known to be real (4)
- Country dogs made to go off-road (4,5)
- Noble boy unknown (4)
- Awarded sin reformed pre-war Brits (10)

#### DOWN

- Secured and ran after large amount (6)
- Highly strung Scot or English person gets time with the French (7)
- Golf legend about land or tree queen (6,6)
- Jobs to do around metal beam (2-4)
- Love Spanish supporter without principles (8)
- Health professional briefly greeting Shakespearean protagonist (7)
- Tuna lass cooked for sovereign's wives (8)
- Confidentially taken from official report (3,3,6)
- First summer maize nearly full, expressing contempt (8)
- They say I reformed sadist around island (2,2,4)
- Detected like hot tea (7)
- Caver is shattered to find internal organs (7)
- The awakened one had a little laugh following mate to find end (6)
- Little fluid demands containers (6)

### Quick Clues

#### ACROSS

- Pertaining to the day of worship (10)
- Positive or negative particles (4)
- Estrangement (10)
- Musician Collins (4)
- Dickens character (7)
- Fodder crop (7)
- For ... (5)
- Large quantity (8)
- Blend (two things) (8)
- Hurl (5)
- Cads (7)
- Instrument (7)
- Truth (4)
- Certain four-wheel drive vehicles (4,5)
- Refined woman (4)
- They succeeded the Victorians (10)

#### DOWN

- Closed tightly (6)
- Easily snapped (7)
- Drink with iced tea (6,6)
- Work desk item (2-4)
- In a way outside of ethics (8)
- Desdemona's husband (7)
- Dried fruit (8)
- Not for publication (3,3,6)
- Derisive (8)
- 'Rumour has it' (2,2,4)
- Spotted (7)
- Entrails (7)
- Siddhartha (6)
- Liquid vessels (6)

### Last week's solution #5



## STARS BY LILITH

Venus struts down the astral catwalk into Leo this week, raising drama and entertainment levels from mild to wild...



LEO

**ARIES:** With approaching winter solstice banking the Aries fire, you might find yourself a bit more moody than usual. If you're feeling exhausted from doing what's arguably more than your fair share, it's time to step aside for a well-earned break and open up space for others to make their contributions.

**TAURUS:** With Mars in Taurus and this week's Venus a diva, too much might seem like just enough. But even minor course adjustments can make a significant difference as Pluto's five-month retrograde in your professional sector offers a window of opportunity to reflect on and rework whatever's in need of an upgrade.

**GEMINI:** Change agent Uranus hasn't visited Gemini since the 1940s, so be open to its invitation to strengthen your friendship circle, welcome new allies into your networks and take an active role in local community groups. And if you've been overcomplicating something, might it perhaps have a simpler solution?

**CANCER:** Celestial energetics in the sign of communication has activated some valuable new connections and collaborations. Now as Cancer's season in the sun approaches, it's advisable to get birthday plans sorted and in order before Mercury retrogrades in your sign on the last day of this month.

**LEO:** With vivacious Venus sashaying into your sign, if you're looking for any kind of creative collaborator, everyone's talents will be on display this week, yours included. So don't, as of course you won't, miss this opportunity for strategic self-promotion, especially during late week's resplendent moon in Leo.

**VIRGO:** This week's Venus is enhancing your community sector, Mars is inviting you to adventure, and the upcoming weekend moon in Virgo suggests this is an auspicious time to round up your besties for a chatfest, invite a few newbies along as well and break out the picnics, barbecues and bonding.

**LIBRA:** Elegant Librans always want to look good and dress their best, and if Venus, Libra's prima love planet, parading into the theatrical sign of the zodiac's flamboyant Lion stimulates a style update, then that's best locked in before Mercury turns retrograde on the last day of June.

**SCORPIO:** Pluto's annual backspin in a fixed sign like your own favours research, sourcing and planning rather than breaking new ground. Currently triggering changes in your home zone, family, inner circle and domestic activities, Pluto's reversal can also spark interesting reconnections, with blasts from the past resurfacing unexpectedly.

**SAGITTARIUS:** Your words carry more weight than you realise, and this week they could come across as a bit preachy, pushy or blunt when you're only trying to be helpful. So before offering unsolicited feedback, ask whether it would be welcome, because that will make all the difference to how it's received.

**CAPRICORN:** The various Mars, Venus, Saturn and Chiron placements all support this week's call for your annual mid-year check-in to measure what's on track and what needs a reset, with particular attention to shared resources. What projects still light a fire, and which might need rebooting – or even deleting.

**AQUARIUS:** Mars is presently energising your domestic sector, while Venus settles into resting and nesting mode, making nurturing activities to refill your tank this week's most soul-soothing options, and no place like home your best address. Think comfort foods, cosying on the couch and focus on self-care.

**PISCES:** Pluto retrograde in your sector of endings sees the next few months winding up overdue cycles, and offers an irresistible invitation to go deep. You can still enjoy people and activities while honouring the pull toward stillness, because this is prime time for healing and/or creative work.

# Good Taste

## Dining Guide

Check the vital details of some of the region's finest foodies.

### BILLINUDGEL

#### ROSEFINA'S MEXICAN

Funkin' space. Real Mexican.

**Open:** Thurs and Fri 4pm to late  
Sat 12 noon to 2.30pm, 5pm to late  
Sun 12.30pm to 8pm

**Address:** 8/10 Wilfred Street, Billinudgel  
[www.rosefinas.place](http://www.rosefinas.place)

### BYRON BAY

#### MAIN STREET BURGER BAR

Best burgers in Byron Bay.  
Proudly local and independent.

**Open:** for takeaway daily, 12 midday until dinner

**Address:** 18 Jonson Street, Byron Bay  
[@mainstreetburgerbar](https://www.instagram.com/mainstreetburgerbar)

#### THREE BLUE DUCKS

At The Farm enjoy a wander in the fields, meet the animals, and picnic in the sun... there really is something for everyone.

**Open:** Monday – Friday 8am – 4pm  
Saturday 8am – 6:30pm  
Sunday 8am – 8pm

**Address:** The Farm, 11 Ewingsdale Rd, Ewingsdale  
[www.threeblueducks.com/byron](http://www.threeblueducks.com/byron)

#### NO BONES BYRON BAY

Vegan kitchen and bar – where good vibes, bold flavours and unforgettable nights come together in the heart of Byron.

**Open:** Sun – Thurs 5pm – 9pm; Fri & Sat 5pm – 10pm

**Address:** 11 Fletcher Street, Byron Bay  
[nobones.co](http://nobones.co)

### ROCA BYRON BAY

Latin fusion restaurant blending deeply rooted Latin American traditions, with innovative techniques and a flair for presentation.

**Open:** every day except Wednesday 6.30am to late

**Address:** 14 Lawson Street, Byron Bay  
[www.rocabyronbay.com.au](http://www.rocabyronbay.com.au)

### FOREST BYRON BAY

Rainforest views, farm-to-table dining, and a menu showcasing the best of Northern Rivers produce.

**Open:** 7 days: Breakfast 7.30 – 10.30am  
Lunch on verandah from 12 – 3pm  
Dinner 5.30 – 9pm

**Address:** 77-97 Broken Head Road, Byron Bay  
[crystalbrookcollection.com/byron/forest](http://crystalbrookcollection.com/byron/forest)

### BOMBAY TO BYRON AUTHENTIC INDIAN FOOD

Serving Indian food to Byron Bay for last 12 years.

**Open:** Monday 4:30pm – 9:30pm  
Tuesday to Sunday 12 noon – 3pm  
and 4:30pm – 9:30pm

**Address:** 3/93 Jonson Street Byron Bay  
**Contact:** 02 6680 7437  
[bombaytobyron@gmail.com](mailto:bombaytobyron@gmail.com)



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

# The Good Life



## A rainforest table

If you've driven the stretch out to Suffolk Park, you may have passed it without quite knowing it was there. Forest sits inside luxury resort Crystalbrook Byron, set against 45 acres of subtropical rainforest, and for a long time that setting was its best-kept secret. Locals sometimes assumed it was for resort guests only. It never was. The table has

always been open to anyone who books it.

This winter, Forest comes back from a full refurbishment. Sunlight finds more corners now. Marble-topped tables, timber chairs and woven rattan sit beneath a cluster of pale sculptural pendants, and the paperbark trunks still rise straight through the verandah floor, the way they

always have. 'The beauty was always there,' says general manager Scott Ratcliffe. 'We just opened the windows a little wider.'

The menu leans harder than ever into what grows nearby. The herb garden is a short stroll from the pass. Four beehives sit on the grounds. Seven Subpods turn kitchen scraps back into soil. When the chefs talk about

Northern Rivers provenance, they mean it literally. The paddock down the road. The grower they know by name.

Slipper lobster arrives torched and brightened with preserved lemon and salted caper macadamia crumb. A twice-baked Nimbin Monte Nardi cheese soufflé sits somewhere between comfort and craft. For dessert, textures of lemon: pistachio

crumb, lemon balm and lemon sorbet, a celebration of Northern Rivers citrus at its peak.

The drinks list keeps the same local thread. The Smoked Gum Gimlet leans on Brookie's Byron gin, quandong and finger lime. The Saltbush Sour is a native take on the Piña Colada. Nothing travels far to reach the glass.

Bifold doors open onto the shaded verandah. Cicadas through the afternoon, frogs at dusk, and a green wall of rainforest close enough to hear.

Forest was always here. Now there's every reason to stop.

■ Visit [crystalbrookcollection.com/byron/forest](http://crystalbrookcollection.com/byron/forest).

## Burn After Dark: Three Blue Ducks

Following a sold-out debut in 2025, Burn After Dark returns to Three Blue Ducks on Thursday, 3 July from 4pm to 10pm, offering an immersive winter night festival filled with fire, food, music and performances.

Created in collaboration with some of Byron Bay's most creative local talent, Burn After Dark will transform The Farm into a family-friendly winter playground. Guests can wander between fire pits, live performances, music and food stalls and enjoy some of the region's best musicians, and food and drink producers. The evening will feature live music from Felipe Baldomir, followed by a sunset DJ set from Dingo Balearico, while Circus Arts Byron Bay will bring extra flair with stilt walkers and fire performances.

Families can enjoy giant bubbles and the kids' rave cave hosted by Shorty

Brown, ensuring entertainment for both children and adults throughout the night. Food by The Ducks will include a dedicated fire-cooked skewer and snack bar, alongside hearty winter favourites and a special ducklings menu for younger guests.

Drinks will be flowing from Azteca Margarita's pink caravan, alongside beers from Common People Brewing, and The Ducks' own wine and soft drink bars.

A celebration of community, creativity and winter hospitality, Burn After Dark offers a uniquely Byron Bay experience, bringing together local food, music and performance in one unforgettable night.

■ TICKETS: Book here [www.threeblueducks.com/whats-on/burn-after-dark--winter-edition](http://www.threeblueducks.com/whats-on/burn-after-dark--winter-edition)



For details see [threeblueducks.com](http://threeblueducks.com) (What's On - Byron) Three Blue Ducks, 11 Ewingsdale Road, Ewingsdale



### Bombay to Byron: Authentic Indian

We have to make an apology regarding our story last week on Rahul and Radhika Thacker. An earlier incorrect version of this story made it into the paper last week with the wrong spelling of Radhika's name. Nevertheless, they continue pour their heart into Bombay to Byron and the community, remaining committed to its journey and the people who've supported it. Sorry, Radhika.

**CELEBRATIONS**  
Cakes by Liz Jackson

[lizzijackson@gmail.com](mailto:lizzijackson@gmail.com) 0414 895 441  
Gluten-free and special dietary needs catered for.

**Bimbi**  
COFFEE SHOP

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

**BYRON BAY PORK & MEATS BUTCHERY**

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

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

# health & healing



## Deep Listening Counselling

Underneath the surface of most arguments in relationship is usually a question: Do you really care about me? Do you value me? Do you see me? Do you appreciate me?

Sometimes these questions arise from previous hurts. Often they arise simply because we are human... and we long for real connection, for tenderness, for understanding.

Counselling offers a space to explore the questions; to clear resentments and to reflect on ways we tend to get defensive when we feel hurt.

Sessions offer an opportunity to address patterns that might be blocking intimacy. Counselling is not just for crisis intervention, it is a proactive and empowering tool for growth.

Barbra at Deep Listening Counselling offers clear, attuned and professional support during sessions in Bangalow, Byron Arts & Industry Estate and online.

Bookings: [www.samadeelistening.com](http://www.samadeelistening.com)  
0489186443  
@deeplistening\_counselling



## Byron Community College

Term 3 is shaping up to be one of Byron Community College's most exciting seasons of learning, with courses designed to support wellbeing, creativity and personal growth.

Explore Mental Health First Aid and gain practical skills to support others, discover Art Therapy as a Self Help Tool and learn creative approaches to self-reflection and wellbeing, or learn to grow fresh food at home in Backyard Food Production. Aspiring writers can find their voice in Creative Writing: A Beginning, while Guitar Level 1 offers a fun and rewarding way to unwind and connect through music. These courses provide an opportunity to learn something new while connecting with like-minded people.

With Term 3 fast approaching, interest is already growing. Visit the Byron Community College website, find a course of interest and add your name to the waitlist. Those on a waitlist and subscribed to the newsletter will be among the first to hear when bookings open.

02 6684 3374  
[www.byroncollege.org.au](http://www.byroncollege.org.au)  
Cnr Gordon & Burringbar Streets, Mullumbimby



## Oasis Dental Studio Pottsville

### New to Oasis Dental Studio Pottsville?

Led by Principal Dentist Dr David Ashford, the Oasis Dental team welcomes patients across the Northern Rivers and Tweed Shire with a \$259 New Patient Special. Whether you are due for a routine check-up, interested in cosmetic dental options, or would like to discuss replacing missing teeth with dental implants, your visit begins with a clinical assessment. From there, our registered dental practitioners will discuss suitable treatment options based on your individual needs and oral health, helping you make informed decisions about your dental care

02 5644 0004  
12 Coronation Avenue, Pottsville  
[pottsville@oasisdentalstudio.com.au](mailto:pottsville@oasisdentalstudio.com.au)



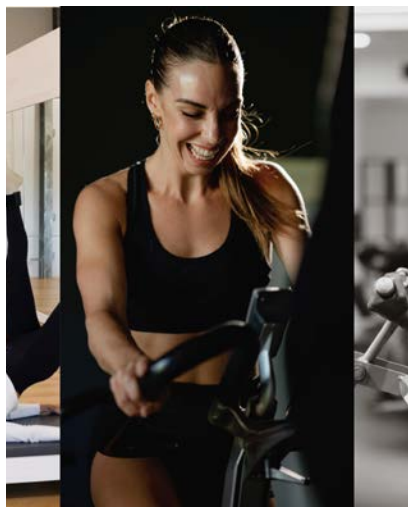
## Releaf Integrative Clinic & Dispensary

Releaf Integrative Clinic & Dispensary brings a fresh, modern approach to traditional healthcare in Byron Bay. Located at 91 Jonson Street, Releaf specialises in alternative medicine, offering natural, evidence-informed therapies for those seeking a more holistic path to wellbeing. Our clinicians blend integrative care with a personalised approach, supporting patients who want options beyond conventional treatments. With Medicare-rebated consultations and an onsite dispensary, Releaf makes accessing alternative care simple, streamlined, and supportive. Whether you're exploring natural therapies for chronic health concerns or looking for a new way to approach your wellness, Releaf provides compassionate guidance and modern solutions.

Want to learn more? Book in for a free discovery call today. Visit [releaf.com.au](http://releaf.com.au) and discover a more natural way forward.

91 Jonson Street, Byron Bay  
[releaf.com.au](http://releaf.com.au)





### Bodyworkz Byron Bay

More than just a gym - it is a complete health and wellness destination designed to support every aspect of wellbeing. Located in the heart of Byron Bay, Bodyworkz offers a welcoming and inclusive environment where people of all ages and fitness levels can improve their health, strength, and vitality. Alongside a fully-equipped gym and expert coaching, members have access to Reformer Pilates, yoga classes, traditional and infrared saunas, steam room facilities, and ice baths for recovery and relaxation. Whether the goal is building strength, improving mobility, enhancing recovery, reducing stress, or achieving long-term wellness, the experienced team provides personalised support every step of the way. Bodyworkz combines fitness, recovery, and community to help members feel their best, both physically and mentally.

46-48 Centennial Circuit, Byron Bay  
02 6685 6620  
admin@byronbodyworkz.com.au  
<https://bodyworkz.com.au/>  
@bodyworkzbyron/  
F: BodyworkzByronBay



# byron healing

## 2026-2027 MAGAZINE OUT SOON!

Head to the website  
[www.byronhealing.com.au](http://www.byronhealing.com.au)  
to find out about a host of  
practitioners, healing and health  
services in the region.



New listings are  
now live!



## byron healing [byronhealing.com.au](http://byronhealing.com.au)

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



### Upcoming Byron Healing client events

#### Backyard Food Production

**Held by:** Byron Community College  
**Date:** 4 x Mon, 3 - 24 August  
**Time:** 9am-3pm  
**Address:** Cnr Burringbar St and; Gordon St, Mullumbimby  
**Cost:** \$0 (ACE)  
**Contact:** 02 6684 3374

#### Mental Health First Aid

**Held by:** Byron Community College  
**Date:** Wed-Thu, 29 - 30 July  
**Time:** 9am-5pm  
**Address:** Mullumbimby  
**Cost:** \$0 (ACE)  
**Contact:** 02 6684 3374

#### Art Therapy as a Self Help Tool

**Held by:** Byron Community College  
**Date:** 8 x Thu, 30 Jul - 17 September  
**Time:** 10am-12.30pm  
**Address:** Mullumbimby  
**Cost:** \$0 (ACE)  
**Contact:** 02 6684 3374

#### Creative Writing: A Beginning

**Held by:** Byron Community College  
**Date:** Mon, 27 July  
**Time:** 9.30am-12.30pm  
**Address:** Mullumbimby  
**Cost:** \$99  
**Contact:** 02 6684 3374

#### Guitar Level 1

**Held by:** Byron Community College  
**Date:** 6 x Tue, 21 July - 25 August  
**Time:** 6.30-8.30pm  
**Address:** Mullumbimby  
**Cost:** \$250  
**Contact:** 02 6684 3374

#### Byron Wellness Festival

**Held by:** Urban Creative Events Pty Ltd  
**Date:** 27 - 29 November  
**Time:** 27 Fri, 5-10pm, 28 Sat, 8am-10pm, 29 Sun, 8am-9pm  
**Address:** Red Devils Park, Byron Bay  
**Contact:** [www.byronwellnessfestival.com](http://www.byronwellnessfestival.com), info@byronwellnessfestival.com

#### Embodied Restoration - Nervous System Reset

**Held by:** Fiona MacLeod  
**Date:** 19 July  
**Time:** 10am - 12pm  
**Address:** The Engine Room, Ignite Studios, 60 Crane Street, Ballina  
**Contact:** Call Fiona: 0478 690 003, fiona@somatic-movement-therapy.com

#### EOFY sale - 5 days only

**Held by:** Hemp Culture  
**Date:** 26-30 June  
**Time:** 9am-5pm in shop and all day online  
**Address:** 40 Burringbar St, Mullumbimby  
**Contact:** [www.hempculture.com.au](http://www.hempculture.com.au), 02 6684-1937, hello@hempculture.com.au

#### Yoga Flow with Flo Community Yoga Class

**Held by:** Flo Fenton's Intouch Yoga  
**Date:** Saturdays  
**Time:** 10am-12pm  
**Address:** Suffolk Park Community Hall, 145 Alcorn St, Suffolk Park  
**Contact:** flo@intouchyogabyronbay.com, 0418 441 437

#### Byron Mini Retreat

**Held by:** Flo Fenton's Intouch Yoga  
**Date:** 15 - 16 August  
**Time:** 2-4.30pm Sat and 9.30am-4pm Sun  
**Address:** Suffolk Park Community Hall, 145 Alcorn St Suffolk Park  
**Contact:** flo@intouchyogabyronbay.com, 0418 441 437

#### Bali Yoga and Culture Retreat

**Held by:** Flo Fenton's Intouch Yoga  
**Date:** 15 - 21 November  
**Time:** 5.30pm Sun 15 Nov to 10am Sat 21 Nov  
**Address:** The Shala Bali, Ubud  
**Contact:** flo@intouchyogabyronbay.com, 0418 441 437

#### Horse - Wisdom - Equine-Assisted Healing Experience

**Held by:** Lionsgate Events  
**Date:** 28 June  
**Time:** 11am to 2pm  
**Address:** Heartwood Farm, 498 Binna Burra Road, Federal  
**Booking contact:** [www.lionsgate.events/equine-assisted-healing-28-june-2026](http://www.lionsgate.events/equine-assisted-healing-28-june-2026)

#### Harmony Within - Yoga Nidra & Sound Bath Immersion

**Held by:** Lionsgate Events  
**Date:** 28 June  
**Time:** 2.30-4.30 pm  
**Address:** Heartwood Farm, 498 Binna Burra Road, Federal  
**Contact:** [www.lionsgate.events/equine-assisted-healing-28-june-2026](http://www.lionsgate.events/equine-assisted-healing-28-june-2026)

#### Heart of the Drum - Shamanic Drum Making Weekend

**Held by:** Lionsgate Events  
**Date:** 3 - 5 July  
**Time:** Friday 4pm to Sunday 6pm  
**Address:** Heartwood Farm, 498 Binna Burra Road, Federal  
**Contact:** [www.lionsgate.events/drum-making-weekend-3-5-july-2026](http://www.lionsgate.events/drum-making-weekend-3-5-july-2026)

#### Earth to Ether - Breathwork, Blue Lotus & The Cancer New Moon

**Held by:** Lionsgate Events  
**Date:** 19 July  
**Time:** 2.30-5.30 pm  
**Address:** Heartwood Farm, 498 Binna Burra Road, Federal  
**Contact:** [www.lionsgate.events/breathwork-blue-lotus-and-cancer-new-moon-19-july-2026](http://www.lionsgate.events/breathwork-blue-lotus-and-cancer-new-moon-19-july-2026)

#### The Healing Power of Your Own Voice

**Held by:** Elizabeth Huxtable  
**Date:** 27 June  
**Time:** 9.30am-4.30pm  
**Address:** The Sanctuary, 494 Left Bank Rd, Mullumbimby Creek  
**Contact:** 0477 526 955, thesanctuary@elizabethhuxtable.com

# SEVEN

Seven days of entertainment

Volume 4101  
 17-24 June, 2026  
 Editor: Eve Jeffery  
 Editorial/gigs: gigs@echo.net.au  
 Copy deadline: 5pm each Thursday  
 Gig Guide deadline: 5pm each Friday  
 Advertising: adcopy@echo.net.au  
 P: 02 6684 1777  
 W: echo.net.au/entertainment



## A Church for All People

Celebrating its tenth year, **the Brunswick Picture House** personifies 'A Church for All People', in its packed, eclectic and biggest ever program. The next few weeks and months bring a throng of music superstars, a gang of Australia's hottest comedians, and plenty of jaw-dropping burlesque beauties to blow your minds.

Leading the pack is the perfect tonic to cast away your winter blues: the smash hit **Brunswick Does Winter Burlesque** is back for a three-week season featuring a massive new line-up and hosted by the Prince of Polyester himself, **Bob Downe!**

It's all tease and no sleaze, from **Thursday, 2 July** to **Sunday, 19 July**.

Best known for the rollicking *Rockwiz* on telly, **Brian Nankervis** presents the big-hearted, nostalgic, theatrical one-man show, **The Beach House Years** on **Saturday** and **Sunday, 27** and **28 June**.

If you're looking for something to distract the kids these upcoming school holidays, look no further than the funtastic circus extravaganza **Lil' Cheeky** on **Sunday, 18 July**; and a brand new magic and juggling show from the Shire's own **Yoav** and **Tal Shemesh**, **Two Truths and a Lie** on **Saturday, 12 July**.

It's one superstar after another in the Picture House's dazzling live music program: nostalgia, storytelling and soul from **Dylan Wright** this **Friday**; guitar prodigy **Alexandr Misko** on **Sunday** (sold-out); **Rieble, Tedesco, McGill**, the new collaboration between flamenco guitarist **Richard Tedesco** and **The Cat Empire's Felix Riebl** and **Ollie McGill** on **Saturday, 25 July**; the much-loved chart-topper **Lior** on **Saturday, 29 August**; a 25-year celebration of **Watching Angels Mend** from **Alex Lloyd** on **Saturday, 17 October**; and an unmissable unplugged celebration **The Grunge Show presents MTV Unplugged Live** on **Friday, 21 August**.

Ever wonder why the Brunswick Picture House hosts so many stars of stand-up? The reputation of the Bruns audiences has spread like wildfire amongst the comedy world and they're all clamouring to perform here at the Picture House, the home of comedy in the Shire – brace yourself for the smorgasbord of jokesters coming through: **Taskmaster Australia** star **Tom Cashman** on **Saturday, 20 June**; the reigning champion of cheerful comedy, **Kirsty Webeck** on **Wednesday, 8 July**; the incomparable **Bron Lewis** on **Saturday, 1 August** (sold-out); the equally hilarious and distasteful **Nick Cody** on **Thursday, 13 August**; the ridiculously funny **Ray O'Leary** on **Saturday, 12 September**; multi-award-winning **Dan Rath** on **Friday, 30 October**; and the unflinchingly honest **Daniel Muggleton** on **Saturday, 7 November**.

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

## THE GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL

EST. 1892  
A GREAT STORY STARTS HERE

35-43 JONSON ST  
 BYRON BAY  
 6685 6454

[THENORTHERN.COM.AU](http://THENORTHERN.COM.AU)

[f](https://www.facebook.com/thenorthernbyronbay) [i](https://www.instagram.com/thenorthernbyronbay) @thenorthernbyronbay

**THUR 18 JUNE**

Amber Rose & Jack Reeves 6pm, DJ Quendo 9.15pm  
 Duelling Piano Bar 9pm

**FRI 19 JUNE**

Ally Palmer & the Blossoms 7pm, DJ Davi Bangma 10.15pm  
 Duelling Piano Bar 8pm

**SAT 20 JUNE**

Kane Muir Band 7pm, Versace Boys 10.15pm  
 Duelling Piano Bar 8pm

**SUN 21 JUNE**

J.R. Higgins 5pm, Vinyl Sundays ft Andrea Jones 8.15pm  
 Duelling Piano Bar 9pm

**MON 22 JUNE**

Jerome Williams 6pm, DJ Renee Simone 9.15pm  
 Duelling Piano Bar 9pm

**TUES 23 JUNE**

Marshal Okell 6pm | Duelling Piano Bar 9pm

**WED 24 JUNE**

Izzy Day 6pm | Duelling Piano Bar 9pm



# Eclectic Selection

## What's on this week



California-born, Australian-based roots artist **Steve Manoa** crafts a dynamic fusion of folk melodies and reggae grooves, offering an uplifting and heart-opening musical experience.

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



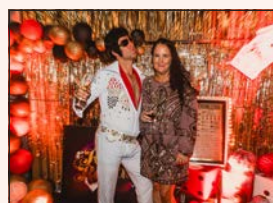
Think The White Stripes meets The Cruel Sea with a dash of Regurgitator weirdness. **Boss Stomp's** swampy blues, garage-rock riffs and foot-stomping grooves have made them one of regional Australia's fastest-rising live acts.

**Saturday from 5.30pm at the Broadwater Hotel. Sunday from 1pm at the Billinudgel Hotel. Free shows.**

The 12th instalment of **Festival of the Stone** will see Byron locals and visitors gather to take in a major lineup of music featuring **Pacific Avenue, Ruby Fields, Dear Seattle, Eliza & The Delusionals, and Liquid Zoo** – as well as the unveiling of the 2026 batch

of Stone Beer, while also raising much-needed funds for local homelessness hub, Fletcher Street Cottage.

**Saturday from 3pm at the Stone & Wood Brewery, Byron Bay. Tickets \$65 +bf via stoneandwood.com.au.**



**Rafiki Mwema** is a charity founded in Lennox Head – it runs therapeutic programs, safe housing, and community reintegration for children who have often been failed by every other system available. Rafiki Royale is a Las Vegas-style playground to raise funds that will travel all the way to Kenya.

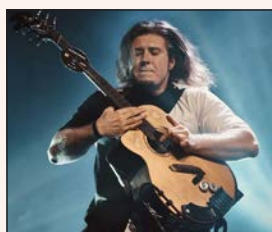
**Saturday from 6pm at the Lennox Head Cultural Centre. Tickets from \$129 at rafikimwema.com.**

**Mazarine** is a nine-piece ensemble performing original compositions influenced by Middle Eastern and Mediterranean traditions. With a repertoire ranging from orchestral soundscapes to upbeat folk style tunes, Mazarine effortlessly combine rhythmic complexity with layered textures and timbres.

**Saturday 7pm at Mullumbimby Civic Hall. Tickets from \$38 via mazarine-music.au.**

A double screening of filmmaker **Sinem Saban's** award-winning films *Our Generation* and *Luku Ngärra: The Law of the Land* cut to the core of what has been unfolding in remote Indigenous communities in the Northern Territory over the last 20 years.

**Sunday 4pm at the Regent Cinema, Murwillumbah. Tickets \$30+ bf via theregentcinema.com.au.**



International guitar sensation **Alexandr Misko** brings his groundbreaking stage show to Australian shores for the very first time – hailed as 'the future of guitar', Misko is a globally-renowned virtuoso known for his jaw-dropping technique, emotional depth, and genre-defying style, fusing classical precision with elements of jazz, rock, and modern finger style.

**Sunday at 6pm at the Brunswick Picture House. Tickets from \$32 via brunswickpicturehouse.com.**



## The Roast returns!

A sold-out show. A two-minute standing ovation. **Melia Naughton** returns for an encore performance of **Amalfi Roast**.

Naughton presents her one-woman show – a fast-paced music comedy packed with rapid-fire, monumental misadventures set to song, serving up the juicy (and often messy) moments of a well-squeezed life. There are also some very special guest appearances and dancing numbers – but you'll have to come along to find out more.

The award-winning songwriter and multi-instrumentalist sings her way through disaster dates, a rendezvous with Chris Hemsworth, puppy school pandemonium, peri-menopausal pubic hair overshares, and self-checkout supermarket humiliation. It's human, heartfelt, honest and hilarious.

After premiering at the Drill Hall Theatre, Amalfi Roast was shortlisted for Best in Cabaret and Musical Theatre at Sydney Fringe Festival and nominated for Best in Music at Melbourne Fringe Festival. When the show returned to Byron Theatre in October, it played to a sold-out house and earned a two-minute standing ovation.

Melia is delighted to return to Byron Theatre, and its divine Steinway piano, accompanied by some extra special surprises.

'The show has grown, and evolved, and I'm spilling the beans, but there are some new songs and some rather hilarious surprises,' says Naughton.

'If Tim Minchin was a girl, but funnier and better looking.' – Claire Atkins.

**Amalfi Roast plays Byron Theatre on Friday and Saturday, 26 and 27 June at 7.30pm. Tickets available at byrontheatre.com**

**FLOODLAND**

"Masterful"  
- The Australian  
"A moving portrait of Lismore"  
- The Guardian

Satellite Q&A Documentary Screening  
Director Jordan Giusti & Darius Devas

7pm Thurs 25 June  
The Drill Hall, Mullumbimby  
Tickets at [humantix.com/floodland](http://humantix.com/floodland)

## BILLINUDGEL HOTEL

# 120TH BIRTHDAY

12TH SEPT

LIVE MUSIC  
FOOD TRUCKS  
GOOD DRINKS



TICKETS ON SALE VIA OZTIX

**EARTH**  
Beer Company

**TOOHEYS**

**AZTECA**  
MARGARITA

## Seven days of entertainment



## WAVE – I Have Friends Everywhere

The closing date for entries is in October, so this is a callout for all design artists, fashion innovators, culture initiators and wearable inventors.

Shearwater is thrilled to announce the launch of **WAVE 2026: I Have Friends Everywhere** – the 26th year of the Mullumbimby Steiner School's Wearable Arts performance event.

Year after year, the event features sold-out performances, entertaining more than 1,000 members of the community to breathless reviews.

Shearwater invites you to join them.

Whether you are an emerging artist, a student, an industry professional or a wearable arts savant, it's time to unleash your creative design skills and begin to imagine your costume entry for **WAVE 2026**. With five exciting design sections to be inspired by, garments can be sewn, riveted, welded, glued, painted, collaged, knitted, woven, built and assembled from metal, leather, rubber, natural fibres, industrial waste and recycled objects.

Entries will be assessed by a panel of independent judges and vie for a pool of cash prizes.

**WAVE** Director Joshua Rushton, says the arrival of the competition garments in October provides the final inspiration for the show's narrative. 'As the designers fire up their imaginations and begin to develop their unique creations, students, teachers and community artists are engaged in developing the music, costume, choreography, set design, film and special effects.'

'In this sense, Shearwater's Wearable Arts event has built, over more than two decades, an incredible production dynamic – a true artistic interface between the high school and the world. A competition that goes out to the community, a high school production that builds an incredible show around an inspiring theme and finally the integration of competition entries that brings the show to life.'

**You will find everything you need to enter a garment, on the Shearwater website ([shearwater.nsw.edu.au/wave](http://shearwater.nsw.edu.au/wave)) – entry form, terms and conditions and inspiration.**

**Unleash your imagination and be a part of this year's event!**

## This EDFY help us to power-proof BayFM

We urgently need to raise \$40,000 to upgrade the failing equipment at our transmission tower above the St Helena Tunnel. This is vital so we can continue to broadcast through frequent power disruptions and wild weather threats, keeping everyone informed and safe. Any amount you can spare will help and donations (over \$2) are tax deductible. Thanks and good vibes!

Go to [bayfm.org/donate](http://bayfm.org/donate)



SCAN ME



# INTERVIEW

## DOING THE DIY AT STONE & WOOD

### I'm a Melbourne girl, what's that connection for you?

Roy (Parsons) lives in Melbourne – I grew up in Melbourne. Roy and I have known each other forever. I played music with him down there. I wanted to start a band up here. Molly and I started playing a few tunes, and then we had a rider drummer and then I needed a bass player, so I just got Roy from Melbourne to come up – over time, Roy and I have, kind of written most of the songs. We all share the lead singing – then Molly has a song, it kind of spices it up a bit.

### Has the reality of Drover matched the vision?

Yeah! I never really envisioned to be, like a rock star or anything. I just wanted, to like go to the pub and play a gig and have a few beers with friends.

### Do you have a current earworm?

This morning, when I woke up, I was thinking about my friend Archie, I made this song called Lara, I was just, kind of like, humming that.

### What's in your life right now that's really inspiring you with your music?

I'm kind of inspired by DIY collaborations. Collaborations and just little interesting musical talents. I don't know if that makes sense. Does that make sense? Collaborations with interesting people – at the moment, musically, I guess. I'm into like DIY unpolished music that is made with soul. That's kind of where I'm at. I'm not huge on the polished stuff.

### What's going to be exciting about the Stone & Wood gig?

I'm excited that I'm getting free tickets – haha! I'm excited because every time I play a gig, my best friend comes up and I get to hang out with him. We all kind of come together and rehearse at my farm, and, you know, most of the time it's a little bit of a shit fest, because we don't have that much time to rehearse – we play a lot of our gigs and rehearse just the day before.

I'm excited, you know, to have my little moment of fame...

It's mostly about friendship for me. It's all tied together with friendship and love. And DIY. Rough around the edges.

### And the future?

We're keen to build the local community music scene – see the scene as a whole, have more music. Maybe inspiring people to play music. I'm keen to, like see other people play music, because then I can go watch their shows.



**Bobby Conn, Roy Parsons, Rhys Mcilwaine and Molly O'Neil are the key members of Drover, a folk-rock band based between Byron Bay and Melbourne. The group regularly collaborate with other close friends while performing live. *Notion* was released in 2025, and the group is well on the way to a new album release later this year.**

**Seven spoke to Bobby Conn ahead of the band's appearance at the Festival of the Stone on Saturday, 20 June.**

You can see Drover and other great bands at the Festival of The Stone on Saturday, 20 June from 3pm. Information and tickets can be found at: [stoneandwood.com.au](http://stoneandwood.com.au).

**2026 LisAmore!**  
LOVING LISMORE... ITALIAN STYLE  
**SUNDAY 5 JULY**  
LISMORE SHOWGROUND  
10am - 3pm

Italian food, music, cars and bikes, tug-o-war, spaghetti eating competition, soccer, chess, craft activities, dancing.  
Fun for everyone!

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

**BRUNSWICK PICTURE HOUSE**  
BURL ESQUE  
BRUNS DOES WINTER  
All new show with MC Bob Downe!  
**BURL ESQUE**  
THU 2 - SUN 19 JUL  
[brunswickpicturehouse.com](http://brunswickpicturehouse.com)

# GIG GUIDE

IT'S FREE TO LIST YOUR GIGS IN THE GIG GUIDE  
 e: [gigs@echo.net.au](mailto:gigs@echo.net.au)  
 w: [echo.net.au/gig-guide](http://echo.net.au/gig-guide)  
 DEADLINE 5PM ON FRIDAYS

## CINEMA



### Tuner - everybody has one hidden talent

From Academy Award-winner, director Daniel Roher (*Navalny*), comes his first narrative feature, *Tuner* a gripping crime-drama that follows a piano tuner's unexpected aptitude for cracking safes.

Niki (Leo Woodall) a gifted young piano tuner who possesses a heightened sense of hearing, draws the attention of criminals who see his talents as useful for opening safes as well as for tuning Steinways.

With his once-promising musical career over, he works across New York with his mentor Harry Horowitz (Academy Award-winner Dustin Hoffman), encountering composition student Ruthie (Havana Rose Liu), with whom he forges an unexpected connection.

When Niki's safecracking begins to pull him into increasingly dangerous territory, his budding romance with Ruthie starts to become threatened and he must soon decide whether to dive deeper into the criminal world or forge his own path.

Featuring a standout ensemble cast, including Tony nominee Tovah Feldshuh and Jean Reno, *Tuner* expertly weaves a melodic jazz score, exceptional lead performances and a unique twist into a composition that makes the film pitch-perfect.

*Tuner* screens at Palace Cinemas this week – [palacecinemas.com.au](http://palacecinemas.com.au).

### WEDNESDAY 17

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, ISAAC FRANKHAM
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM JOCK BARNES
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6PM INO PIO + DUELING PIANO BAR
- OTTILIES, MULLUMBIMBY, MONDO JAZZ CATS
- THE PADDOCK PROJECT, MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM CURRY JAM
- DRILL HALL THEATRE, MULLUMBIMBY, 7PM NIGHTS OF CABIRIA
- ELTHAM HOTEL 7PM PHOEBE GO

### THURSDAY 18

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, MICKA SCENE
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM ROGUE ELEMENTS
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6PM AMBER ROSE + JACK REEVES + DJ QUENDO + DUELING PIANO BAR
- GARDEN BAR, BYRON BAY, 7.30PM TEMPLE OF FIRE
- NORTH BYRON HOTEL 5.30PM OPEN MIC
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 6PM BEN WHITING
- SAINT MARIES, BRUNSWICK HEADS, 6PM MONDO JAZZ CATS
- THE TOP PUB, MULLUMBIMBY, 6PM TOP JAM NIGHT WITH THE MAX PAZ
- LISMORE CITY BOWLO 7PM THE SUPPER CLUB SOUL BAND
- YELLOW FLOWER CAFE, SUFFOLK PARK, 6PM ROD MURRAY
- FOXY LUU'S @ COORABELL HALL 5.30PM DJ XUJA
- BROADWATER HOTEL 5PM MICHELLE BELLE
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH HOTEL 5PM JON STEVENS

### FRIDAY 19

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, BULLETPROOF
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 9PM SOFT TREADLY
- BYRON THEATRE 7.30PM SCREENING: ECHOES – THE GEORGE GREENOUGH EXPERIENCE
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 7PM ALLY PALMER & THE BLOSSOMS + DJ DAVI BANGMA + DUELING PIANO BAR
- NORTH BYRON HOTEL 5PM DANI QUAYLE MUSIC

- CLUB LENNOX 7PM INO PIO
- LENNOX HOTEL 9PM Z-STAR TRINITY
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 6PM ROLLING BLACKOUTS C.F.
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 7PM DYLAN WRIGHT
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM LAINIE GOLLIVA
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY, 5.30PM BALCONY BEATS FT. LEON + KRAPPYKEE WITH JESS
- ST JOHN'S SCHOOL HALL, MULLUMBIMBY, 7.30PM ECSTATIC DANCE MULLUM WITH DJ KINBANA
- BLAH BAR, LISMORE, 2PM TSHITAKI, THE ON AND ONS, DEDWAY, I HATE PEOPLE, ZIPPER CLONE, THIS KISS KILLS, AND THE WARTS
- HOTEL LISMORE 5.30PM DJ YOLAN & DJ KAZ
- COORABELL HALL 7.30PM 2026 SHIMMY MOB FUNDRAISER
- NATURAL WINE SHOP & BAR, BURRINGBAR, 7PM CAR KILLS KIWI
- DURRUMBUL HALL 5PM MANOA
- M-ARTS, MURWILLUMBAH, 4PM FRIDAY SOCIALS FT. TITI + SMALL WORLDS ART EXHIBITION
- REGENT CINEMA, MURWILLUMBAH, 4PM REGENT REMIX FT. SAN SNOVA
- MURWILLUMBAH SERVICES CLUB 6PM PHIL & TILLEY
- SALTBAR, KINGSCLIFF, 5.30PM SI HOPMAN
- CLUB TWEED 7.30PM THE HITMEN

### SATURDAY 20

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, JB'S BLUES BREAKERS
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM ERIN SHAY DUO
- BYRON THEATRE 6.30PM THE ROAD TO PATAGONIA
- STONE & WOOD, BYRON BAY, 3PM FESTIVAL OF THE STONE FT. PACIFIC AVENUE, RUBY FIELDS, DEAR SEATTLE, ELIZA & THE DELUSIONALS AND LIQUID ZOO
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 7PM KANE MUIR BAND + VERSACE BOYS + DUELING PIANO BAR
- NORTH BYRON HOTEL 1.30PM DJ DAVE QUENDO + DJ DEEP PEPA
- LENNOX HEAD COMMUNITY CENTRE 6PM RAFIKI ROYALE

- WILLIAMS STREET KITCHEN & BAR, LENNOX HEAD, 5.30PM PELICAN HIGHWAY
- CLUB LENNOX 7PM THE FUNNY GOATS BAND
- BALLINA RSL 6AM ADAM GARDINER
- CHERRY STREET SPORTS CLUB, BALLINA, 8PM CATH SIMES BAND
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 4.30PM MARSHALL AND THE FRO
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 7PM TOM CASHMAN
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM DJ DARLAN
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY, 6PM PIANO BAR W/ JOHN
- MULLUMBIMBY CIVIC HALL 6.30PM MAZARINE ENSEMBLE
- LISMORE WORKERS CLUB 7PM FATTY & STERLO
- HOTEL LISMORE 9.30PM ROCHELLE LEES BAND
- MURWILLUMBAH SERVICES CLUB 6PM CHRIS SINGING
- THE BURROW, CABARITA, 5.30PM THE NEIGHBOURS FROM HELL
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 1PM STEPHEN LOVELIGHT
- SALTBAR, KINGSCLIFF, 5.30PM HAYLEY GRACE
- SALT & STONE, FINGAL HEAD, 6PM PAUL A. GEORGE & ANDY V
- CLUB TWEED 7.30PM COUNTRY ROCKS LEGENDS
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, 8PM JAMES REYNE
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL 7PM MINI SKIRT + ANTENNA, SPLIT SYSTEM, C-SECTIONS & PURPLE ZAIN
- SOUNDLOUNGE, CURRUMBIN, 7PM ALEXANDR MISKO
- RIPPLES CAFE, HASTINGS POINT, 2PM BURNING HANDS
- BROADWATER HOTEL 5.30PM BOSS STOMP

### SUNDAY 21

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, TRILLA DUO
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 4.30PM GOODRICH
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 5PM J.R. HIGGINS + VINYL SUNDAYS FT ANDREA JONES + DUELING PIANO BAR
- NORTH BYRON HOTEL 3PM DJ SCOTT WOLFE
- BANGALOW HOTEL 6PM INO PIO + DJ OREN SELECTA
- LENNOX HOTEL 4PM MILO GREEN
- CLUB LENNOX 4PM JOE CONROY

- BALLINA RSL BOARDWALK 2.30PM BALLINA BLUES CLUB FEAT MATT DAY TRIO
- SHAW'S BAY HOTEL, BALLINA, 3PM BULLETPROOF
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 4PM SOUL'D
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 6PM ALEXANDR MISKO
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY, 3PM OPEN MIC WITH THE SWAMP CATS
- BILLINUDGEL HOTEL 1PM BOSS STOMP
- DURRUMBUL HALL 6.30PM PRAYERS FOR PEACE
- THE BURROW, CABARITA, 4PM STEPHEN LOVELIGHT
- REGENT CINEMA, MURWILLUMBAH, 4PM SCREENINGS: 'OUR GENERATION' + 'LUKU NGARRA: THE LAW OF THE LAND'
- CLUB TWEED 1PM TERRINA + CORY HARGREAVES

### MONDAY 22

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, JOE CONROY
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM IZZY DAY
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6PM JEROME WILLIAMS + DJ RENE SIMONE + DUELING PIANO BAR

### TUESDAY 23

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, STEPHEN LOVELIGHT
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM JORDY QUINN
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6PM MARSHAL OKELL + DUELING PIANO BAR
- FOXY LUU'S @ COORABELL HALL 5.30PM MICKA SCENE

### WEDNESDAY 24

- RAILWAY HOTEL, BYRON BAY, OLE FALCOR
- BEACH HOTEL, BYRON BAY, 6PM HAYLEY GRACE
- THE NORTHERN, BYRON BAY, 6PM IZZY DAY + DUELING PIANO BAR
- BRUNSWICK HEADS PICTURE HOUSE 8PM CHEEKY CABARET
- OTTILIES, MULLUMBIMBY, MONDO JAZZ CATS
- THE PADDOCK PROJECT, MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM CURRY JAM
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 6.30PM KINGY COMEDY

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



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

### PALACE CINEMAS

BYRON BAY, BALLINA FAIR

SESSION TIMES  
 THURSDAY JUNE 18  
 TO WEDNESDAY JUNE 24

**SUPER GIRL**  
 COMING SOON

**TOY STORY 5**  
 NOW SHOWING

### PALACE BYRON BAY

#### SPECIAL SCREENINGS

CARRIE (R18+)  
 Mon: 6:30PM – Cult Vault

OPERA DI ROMA: TOSCA (IC13)  
 Sun: 1:00PM, Wed: 11:00AM

#### FAMILY FILMS

THE SHEEP DETECTIVES (PG)  
 Daily: 10:45AM

TOY STORY 5 (G) NFI  
 Daily: 10:30AM, 11:30AM, 12:45PM, 1:45PM, 3:00PM, 4:00PM, 5:15PM, 6:15PM, 7:30PM, 8:30PM

#### ALL FILMS

BACKROOMS (M)  
 Daily except Wed: 1:20PM, 8:15PM.  
 Wed: 1:00PM, 8:30PM

DISCLOSURE DAY (M)  
 Daily: 10:30AM, 1:30PM, 3:15PM, 4:30PM, 7:30PM

LEVITICUS (MA15+) NFI  
 Daily except Wed: 3:45PM, 6:15PM, 8:10PM, Wed: 2:00PM, 6:15PM, 8:10PM

MICHAEL (PG)  
 Daily except Sun, Wed: 12:40PM, 5:45PM, Sun: 5:45PM, Wed: 3:20PM, 5:45PM

OBSESSION (MA15+)  
 Daily except Mon, Wed: 1:00PM, 6:15PM, 8:15PM, Mon: 1:00PM, 8:15PM, Wed: 1:00PM, 6:30PM, 8:15PM

SCARY MOVIE (MA15+)  
 Daily: 8:20PM

STAR WARS: THE MANDALORIAN AND GROGU (M)  
 Daily: 10:50AM

THE CHRISTOPHERS (MA15+)  
 Daily except Sun, Wed: 11:00AM, Sun: 10:50AM

THE DEATH OF ROBIN HOOD (MA15+) NFI  
 Daily except Sun, Wed: 1:15PM, 3:45PM, 5:45PM, Sun: 12:40PM, 3:15PM, 5:45PM, Wed: 12:40PM, 4:00PM, 6:00PM

THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA 2 (M)  
 Daily except Wed: 10:45AM, Wed: 10:30AM

THE MUSICIANS (PG) NFI  
 Daily: 1:30PM, 3:45PM, 6:00PM

TRIFOLE (M)  
 Daily except Sun: 10:30AM

TUNER (MA15+)  
 Daily except Sun, Wed: 3:20PM, 8:30PM, Sun: 4:00PM, 8:30PM, Wed: 3:20PM, 8:40PM

### BALLINA FAIR CINEMAS

BACKROOMS (M)  
 Daily: 7:20PM

DISCLOSURE DAY (M)  
 Daily except Thurs: 10:30AM, 1:30PM, 7:00PM, Thurs: 2:20PM, 4:10PM, 7:00PM

MICHAEL (PG)  
 Daily except Thurs: 2:40PM

OBSESSION (MA15+)  
 Daily except Thurs: 4:30PM

SCARY MOVIE (MA15+)  
 Daily: 5:15PM

THE SHEEP DETECTIVES (PG)  
 Daily except Sat, Sun: 10:00AM, Sat, Sun: 9:45AM

TOY STORY 5 (G) NFI  
 Daily: 10:00AM, 12:15PM, 2:30PM, 5:00PM, 7:15PM

# 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!

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**www.echo.net.au/classified-ads**

## FOR SALE

### VAMOS FAT BIKE

HALF PRICE!

\$2000 (purchased 7/8/25 \$4000)  
1600km No mobile coverage at my location. Email Theo on 4engeltenaer@tpg.com.au

## WANTED

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

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

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All must go after 25 years

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SUFFOLK PARK 117 Alcorn St Sat 8am till 2pm. Quality clothing, books, household goods.

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## TO LEASE

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www.thinkblinkdesign.com

## POSITIONS VACANT

### HC TRUCK DRIVERS WANTED!

The cane season starts in June in the NSW Northern Rivers area: Condong, Broadwater and Harwood sugar mill sites. Send a brief driving history or resume to Wendy.Keel@sctlogistics.com.au

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## PUBLIC NOTICES

### ALSTONVILLE - LENNOX HEAD

Branch of the Australian Labor Party (NSW Branch) Reconstitution Meeting.

Will be held at 10.30am, 28 June 2026 at Wollongbar Tavern, 53 Simpson Ave Wollongbar NSW 2477. Prospective members welcome

Contact Patrick on 0435 385 442 for info.

## FESTIVAL OF THE STONE 2026 NOTICE TO THE RESIDENTS OF BYRON SHIRE

After working closely with Byron Shire Council, consultants have formulated a traffic management plan to manage and minimise the potential traffic impact in proximity to our festival site at our Byron Brewery, 100 Centennial Circuit, Byron Bay. We wish to inform you that the following changes will take place from 9am Saturday, 20th June to 12am, 21st June.

### FESTIVAL TIMES:

**SATURDAY, 20TH JUNE – GATES OPEN AT 3PM AND CLOSE AT 10PM**

### TRAFFIC:

- Centennial Circuit will be closed from 9am Saturday, 20th June until 12am Sunday, 21st June.
- Detours will be in place on Brigantine Street, Bayshore Drive and part of Centennial Circuit.
- There will be no parking on Centennial Circuit for the event.

### SHUTTLE BUSES:

- All shuttle bus information can be found on the Stone & Wood website.

Event organiser – Stone & Wood (Jodie Haylock) – **0438 687 116**

## IN MEMORIAM



RONALD SWINBOURNE  
10/10/1927-21/6/2012

'When I dream, My Love, I dream of you'

Sadly missed by Jacqueline

## FUNERAL NOTICES

### John Patrick Weir

8.3.1930 ~ 8.6.2026



Loving husband to Betty for 67 years, much-loved father, father in law, grandfather and great-grandfather.

Lived all his life in Byron Bay.

"Sadly missed and always remembered"

A requiem mass will be held at St Finbar's Catholic Church, Byron Bay on Monday 22 June, 2026 at 10.30am.

Guardian Funerals  
Ballina 02 6686 7036

## HEALTH

'CRUNCHY' SPIRULINA available again in Aust, as well as powder and capsules. www.spirulinaplanet.com 0498327481

### HAWAIIAN MASSAGE

Ocean Shores, Michaela, 0416332886

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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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## SUMMERLAND TREE SERVICES

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Mobile 0417 698 227

## WHERE TO GET THE ECHO

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

## MULLUMBIMBY COMMUNITY MARKET & MUSEUM OPEN

THIS SATURDAY  
8am - 2pm

Atma Spherics Playing Live  
www.mullumbimbycommunitymarket.com.au  
Cnr Stuart and Myokum St Mullum  
No dogs please

## DEATH NOTICES

### STEVEN JOHN 'RAKI' HANNAH

Son of Lionel Hannah and Pamela van Dort  
22/08/1959 - 09/06/2026

Passed away peacefully with support from family members

May you join Buddha in the next realm

Love always, from Koren, Sondi, Colleen, Robert and Cain

## Public Notice

Proposed termination of Strata Scheme No. 15008 being property situated at Units 1 & 2, 8 Tresise Place, Lennox Head NSW 2478.

Notice is given of an intention to apply to the Registrar General for an order terminating the above Strata Scheme and the consequent winding up of the Owners Corporation, pursuant to section 142 of the *Strata Schemes Development Act 2015 (NSW)*.

Any person having any claim against the Owners Corporation of the above Strata Scheme or any estate or interest in or claim against any of the lots compromised in the Strata Scheme is required, on or before 3 July 2026, to send particulars of the estate, interest or claim to SP Garrett Lawyers, Suite 4, 130 Jonson Street, Byron Bay NSW 2481 or PO Box 580, Ballina NSW 2478.

## COMMUNITY HOT BRUNCH



### 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.



## 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



Shearwater, the Mullumbimby Steiner School has the following exciting opportunity available:

### Class 1 Teacher for 2027

Applications close: **Sunday 19 July 2026.**

For the Position Description and details on how to apply, please refer to our website

[www.shearwater.nsw.edu.au/work-at-shearwater/](http://www.shearwater.nsw.edu.au/work-at-shearwater/)

## VOLUNTEERS WANTED



**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



**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for Bush regen work**  
0431 636 608  
regen@reforestnow.org.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.

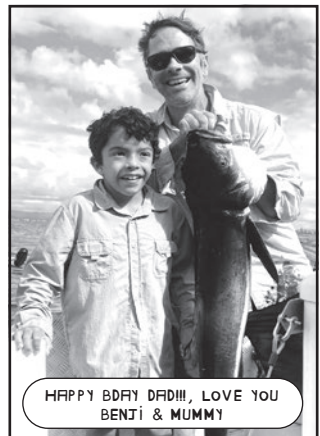
Contact Sylvia - Volunteer Coordinator  
Mon-Fri  
6684 1286

## WORK WANTED

**REPUTABLE CLEANER AVAILABLE**  
If you're time-poor or just tired and need a hand around your home, call me for: a one-off clean; weekly; fortnightly; or just when you need it. I will make your home sparkle while you relax. I have been servicing the Byron Shire and surrounding areas since 2023. I bring all of my own products and gear and I'm fully insured. References available. My hourly rate is \$60. Too good to be true? Give me a call or txt Tina on 0400015939

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

## BIRTHDAYS



Happy Birthday, Love You Benti & Mummy

## MUSICAL NOTES

**LOCAL BAGPIPER**  
Byron Shire: Weddings, Functions, Funerals, Tutoring Ph 0473174033

## PETS

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



**MEG**  
Meg is a beautiful young lady, with a fluffy black coat that she'd appreciate you keeping beautifully groomed. Meg has a very sweet nature and is always seeking out snuggles and attention. Her bags are packed and she's ready for her new home!  
To meet Meg & our other cats & kittens, please visit the Cat Adoption Centre at 124 Dalley St, Mullumbimby.

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

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



**DAISY**  
Daisy is a 6 month old Cattle/Wolffhound X. Meet Daisy, a sweet and playful pup. She has a gentle and good-natured personality, making her a perfect fit for a loving family.  
M/C # 978142000355124  
Location: Murwillumbah  
For more information contact Yvette on 0421 831 128.  
Please complete our online adoption expression of interest.  
<https://friendsofthepound.com/adoption-expression-of-interest/>

Visit [friendsofthepound.com](http://friendsofthepound.com) to view other dogs and cats looking for a home.  
ABN 83 126 970 338

<https://www.echo.net.au/classified-ads/>



**BETH**  
Meet young Beth, the sweetest, and most precious, petite little lady. She has a beautiful, soft grey coat (probably Russian blue in breeding) She's a sensitive, friendly, and affectionate soul, who loves her pats, but also enjoys her quiet time. We feel she will like a quiet and calm household, preferably with no other animals so she can feel safe. She is gorgeous!  
Around 12 months old. Desexed and vaccinated, ready for a gentle and loving 'forever' home. Microchip 900164002387290  
See our Facebook for more!

**To make an appointment  
0403 533 589 • Billinudgel  
petsforlifeshelter.net**



### Who gives a Cluck?

**Adopt a Rooster.**  
This is Wally. He was dumped at an elderly woman's home west of Murwillumbah earlier this year. He's a medium sized rooboy, a bit bigger than an ISA Brown hen. He's at our Foster Carers and she says he's quiet, friendly and very keen to care for some girls instead of just looking at them in the distance!

Here's the link to adopt him (he's #64) or ask us questions.  
[whogivesacluck.org/shop/roosters-to-adopt/](http://whogivesacluck.org/shop/roosters-to-adopt/)  
whogivesacluck.org  
@whogivesacluck



## ONLY ADULTS

**Need proper erotic relaxation?  
TANTRIC MASSAGE**  
Men, Women, Couples. Ph 0480779325

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

**KRYSTAL ADULT SHOP**  
Large variety of toys and lingerie  
6/6 Tasman Way, A&I Est, Byron Bay  
0416 899 048

## Couples 3 Way Play

**MMF + MFF  
0480 779 325**

## SOCIAL ESCORTS

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

## SUN, MOON & TIDES - TIMES FOR NEXT 2 WEEKS

DATE June/July	DAY, MOON PHASE	SUN RISE / SET	MOON RISE / SET	HIGH TIDES, height (m)	LOW TIDES, height (m)
17	W	6:37 / 16:56	8:40 / 19:11	09:55 1.24 / 23:20 2.00	04:17 0.30 / 15:26 0.26
18	TH	6:37 / 16:56	9:28 / 20:22	10:49 1.23 / 23:20 1.92	05:09 0.32 / 16:19 0.33
19	F	6:37 / 16:56	10:08 / 21:28	11:45 1.23	06:00 0.36 / 17:15 0.42
20	SA	6:38 / 16:57	10:43 / 22:30	00:08 1.79 / 12:45 1.24	06:48 0.40 / 18:15 0.53
21	SU	6:38 / 16:57	11:14 / 23:29	00:55 1.65 / 13:48 1.27	07:35 0.43 / 19:21 0.63
22	M	6:38 / 16:57	11:42 / 24:25	01:43 1.50 / 14:54 1.33	08:20 0.46 / 20:35 0.71
23	TU	6:38 / 16:57	12:11 / 25:19	02:33 1.37 / 15:59 1.40	09:05 0.46 / 21:53 0.74
24	W	6:38 / 16:58	12:41 / 26:11	03:28 1.26 / 16:55 1.48	09:48 0.46 / 23:06 0.72
25	TH	6:38 / 16:58	13:14 / 27:01	04:26 1.19 / 17:44 1.56	10:32 0.45
26	F	6:39 / 16:58	13:50 / 27:50	05:21 1.15 / 18:26 1.63	00:07 0.66 / 11:15 0.44
27	SA	6:39 / 16:58	14:30 / 28:38	06:12 1.14 / 19:06 1.68	00:57 0.60 / 11:55 0.42
28	SU	6:39 / 16:59	15:16 / 29:25	06:57 1.14 / 19:44 1.72	01:40 0.54 / 12:33 0.40
29	M	6:39 / 16:59	16:07 / 30:11	07:39 1.15 / 20:21 1.75	02:19 0.49 / 13:12 0.39
30	TU	6:39 / 16:59	17:01 / 30:56	08:17 1.17 / 20:58 1.76	02:55 0.47 / 13:48 0.38
1	W	6:39 / 17:00	17:58 / 31:40	08:56 1.18 / 21:33 1.76	03:30 0.45 / 14:26 0.37

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](http://www.echo.net.au/market-guide)

### MONTHLY MARKETS:

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

### SEASONAL MARKETS:

- Quarterly:**  
Byron Beachside Market - Jan, Easter, July and Sept
- FARMERS/WEEKLY MARKETS:**  
Each TUESDAY:  
New Brighton Farmers Market - 7am-11am  
Lismore Organic Market - 7.30am-10.30am  
Each WEDNESDAY:  
Murwillumbah Farmers Market - 7am-11am  
Nimbin Farmers Market - 3pm-6pm  
Newrybar Hall Twilight Market - 3pm-7.30pm  
Each THURSDAY:  
Byron Bay Farmers Market - 7am-11am  
Lismore Produce Market - 3pm-6pm  
Each FRIDAY:  
Mullumbimby Farmers Market - 7am-11am  
Evans Head Farmers Market - 2.30pm-6.30pm  
Each SATURDAY:  
Bangalow Farmers Market - 7am-11am  
Durabah Rd Farmers Mkt (Tropical Fruit World) 8am-11am  
Uki Farmers Market - 8am-1pm  
Lismore Farmers Market - 7.30am-11.30am  
Byron Twilight Market (Oct to Apr) 4pm-9pm  
Each SUNDAY:  
Ballina Farmers & Producers Mkt - 7am-11am

Markets may change their routine without letting us know. Please get in touch to advise us of any changes.



## On The Horizon

### DEADLINE NOON FRIDAY

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

### Drill Hall Film Society

Owing to a technical hitch, we will now be screening the Italian classic (with sub titles) from 1948: *Bicycle Thieves*. Set in Rome post WW II, it is an important film, portraying as it does, strong family ties, poverty and desperation and pioneering Neorealism filmmaking - which simply means that it was filmed entirely on location and used mostly non-professional actors depicting genuine situations and feelings. It won an Honorary Academy Award and also a BAFTA for best foreign film and best 'new wave' film - recognition followed. To put up advertising posters, Antonio needs a bicycle so his wife pawns her wedding linen to buy it. The bicycle is stolen on his first day of work and he and his little son, Bruno, trawl likely places in the city to find it but with no luck. In desperation Antonio steals a bicycle; he is caught but released by a compassionate policeman and the cycle of poverty continues, but with love and understanding of this family's dire situation, typical of thousands worldwide. There is lots of symbolism and difficulty but a gentle, poignant film not to be missed. Please RSVP as numbers help us with catering. More information available on [www.drillhalltheatre.org.au](http://www.drillhalltheatre.org.au) or facebook.com.

### Together She Thrives

Together She Thrives is inviting women to join a free bushwalk to Whian Whian Falls on Saturday 27 June, from 9am to 1pm. This beautiful guided walk follows Rocky Creek through stunning rainforest scenery, waterfalls and natural boulder formations. It's a wonderful opportunity to connect with nature, enjoy some gentle exercise, and meet other women in a relaxed and supportive environment. Participants can carpool or meet at the falls. A reasonable level of fitness is required. Bookings are essential and can be made via [togethershethrives.org.au](http://togethershethrives.org.au). Together She Thrives also invites women to a free board games afternoon on Monday 29 June, from 1pm to 3pm at the Mullumbimby Ex-Services Club. Come along for a fun and relaxed afternoon of board games, laughter, friendly competition, and connection. This is a free event, however bookings are essential. To register, visit [togethershethrives.org.au](http://togethershethrives.org.au).

### The George Greenough Experience Show

A fundraiser for Liberation Larder will be held at Byron Theatre on Friday 19 June. The George Greenough Experience Show is an exclusive eight-pack of short films that have been brought together in one place by their creator. Sit back, relax and take a step back in time as you experience pioneering early Point Of View footage of riding waves, surfing deep within the tube and heading below the surface with the dolphins, along the dreamy coastlines of California & NSW! Much of the footage was filmed more than 50 years ago, but is absolutely timeless and more relevant than ever. It will be a night of positive feelings, guaranteed to put a big smile on your face. Bar opens 6.30pm, film screening 7.30pm, close 9.30pm.

### Dunecare Day 21 June

The Green and Clean Awareness Team's monthly Dunecare Day is on Sunday 21 June from 9am to 12 noon, meeting in front of the Beach Cafe at Clarkes Beach. We plant in the sand dunes from Clarkes Beach to Main Beach. From 12 noon to 1pm, enjoy a delicious free barbecue and be in the draw to win one of four excellent prizes. It's good fun. Inquiries to Veda 6685 7991 or Peter 0488 715 565.

### Organic Landcare

Organic Landcare's next volunteer day will be Saturday, 20 June, from 8.30am until 1pm, at Brunswick Heads chemical-free site. Meet at the end of South Beach Road, fire trial gate, Brunswick Heads, behind the surf club. Tasks will be to follow up glory lily pods, bitou bush saplings, ground asparagus, coral berry, etc. Saltwater Creek World Environment tree planting day, on Saturday, 6 June, OLI's volunteer placed 350 trees into SWC riparian zone, south bank, with the help of 26 volunteers. While 19 people planted 350 trees in 3.5 hours, 6 volunteers from MCG cooked a delicious feast. This site is adjacent to Mullumbimby Community Garden. Anyone can join, help and learn at MCG. Please wear during the working bee: a long-sleeved shirt and pants for sun protection and to avoid scratches. A hat, gloves and bring water and some morning tea, for a 10.30am break. I will provide a first aid kit and some weeding tools. Please bring your own gloves.

### Byron Bay Seniors

A midwinter celebration will be held Thursday, 25 June from 1pm to 3pm at the Byron Community Cabin, Carlyle Street, Byron Bay. Tickets: \$10 online Via Humanatix. All proceeds support the Byron Seniors Club. Classes in digital skills will be held: Mondays and Fridays until 26 June at the Byron Community Centre, 69 Jonson Street, from 2.30pm to 4.30pm. Cost: free, all welcome. Bookings essential. Classes are for 50+ only

## EMERGENCY NUMBERS

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

## ECHO SERVICE DIRECTORY RATES, PAYMENT & DEADLINE

**Deadline:** For additions and changes is **12pm Friday**  
**Line ads:** \$99 for 3 months or \$340 for 1 year prepaid  
**Display ads:** \$70 per week for colour display ad.  
 Minimum 8 week booking 4 weeks prepaid.  
 Please supply display ads 85mm wide, 38mm high.  
 New ads will be placed at end of section.  
**Contact:** 6684 1777 or [adcopy@echo.net.au](mailto:adcopy@echo.net.au)



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## ACCOUNTANTS & BOOKKEEPERS

**BYRON BOOKKEEPING** BAS, Payroll, AR/AP, Xero, QB, MYOB..... 0415 639548  
**BOOKKEEPER** Reg BAS provider, payroll, A/P, A/R, Xero & MYOB. Local, reliable. .... 0410 206627  
**BLOOMING BOOKKEEPING** and BAS Agent..... Ph Leah 0434 121077

## ACUPUNCTURE

**ACUPUNCTURE CHINESE HERBAL MEDICINE** M Collis..... 0490 022183

## AIR CONDITIONING & REFRIGERATION

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- Sales - Installation - Repairs
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- Residential & Commercial Airconditioning
- Coolroom Design & Construction
- Freezer Rooms

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 Lic: 299433C ARC: AU40492 **6684 2783**

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**ARTISAN AIR** Airconditioning and refrigeration. .... 66809394  
**SKIP AIR:** Airconditioning installation, servicing, repairs. Free quotes. 5-star rated..... 0406 485187

## ARCHITECTS

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

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**WE PAY FOR UNWANTED CARS**  
**\$50-\$1500**  
 Free metal drop off  
 Locally owned **6684 5296**

## ABSOLUTELY FREE CAR BODY REMOVAL

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 WE BUY UNWANTED CARS, UTES & VANS  
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## BARBER SHOPS

PENSIONERS/KIDS FROM \$25 - ADULTS FROM \$30: 6 Brunswick Tce Mullum..... 0421 679015

## BLINDS, AWNINGS, CURTAINS, SHUTTERS

BYRON BAY

# BlindDESIGN

BLINDS SHUTTERS AWNINGS CURTAINS

LOCAL SHOWCASE DEALER SHOWROOM

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**FREE MEASURE QUOTE**  
 ON OUR COMPLETE RANGE OF INTERIOR & EXTERIOR WINDOW TREATMENTS

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 SPECIALISTS IN HOME AUTOMATION  
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SUNSCREENS

CURTAINS

PLANTATION SHUTTERS

AWNINGS

ROLL BLINDS

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- 20 years' experience in lintel replacement
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 Servicing the Northern Rivers  
 Lic no. 292267C Master Builder No. 3029326

**BRICK/BLOCK LAYING** Contractors. Lic 291958C. Phone Mark ..... 0409 444268

## BUILDING TRADES

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

## B&B Timbers

66867911  
 110 Teven Road, Ballina  
 New logo - Same quality & service

**Structural - Landscaping**  
**Fencing - Composite Decking**  
**Hardwood - Pine - Hardware**

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**CARPENTER / JOINER** 30 years experience. Prompt efficient service. Fully insured. Other licensed trades avail, incl plastering/painting etc. 24/7 Emergency 4WD call-out avail. Lic 43794C ..... 0423 500693  
**BUILDER** Extensions, maintenance, new homes, insurance, landscaping Lic19953Q..... 0403 458177  
**SEA LION BUILDERS:** All Building Works / Maintenance Lic #243734C ..... Ph 0407 351720  
**VIDLER BUILT** decks, extensions, bathrooms, kitchens, timber fencing Lic 304237C..... 0413 502281

## BUSH REGENERATION & WEED CONTROL

**Bush Regeneration**

- Qualified service
- Weed treatment
- Native forest recovery
- Camphor culling

0431 636 608 [regen@reforestnow.org.au](mailto:regen@reforestnow.org.au)

**THE GREEN WAVE:** native reforestation and weed management..... (John) 0491 117656

## CARPENTRY & JOINERY

**LOCAL CARPENTER** small, medium or large jobs. Lic 207899c..... Ph 0431 048856  
**ALL CARPENTRY** Doors & stairs, all repairs. Reliable. 20 years exp. .... 0437 202050  
**BYRON BAY CARPENTRY & CONSTR.** Decks, kitchen, bath, laundry. Lic 337421c..... 0432 549082  
**PARRY'S CARPENTRY** - Decks, Pergolas, Repairs, Renovations. Licence 491263C. .Ph 0478 429767

## CLEANING

**Services List**  
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 Houses, Gutters, Roofs, Awnings,  
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 Driveways, Paths, Pavers,  
 Fences, Decks, Patios,  
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**AQUA PRESSURE CLEANING**

Locally owned and Operated  
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 No job too big or small  
 Obligation free quote  
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**0426 119 550** [info@nraquapressurecleaning.com.au](mailto:info@nraquapressurecleaning.com.au) ABN: 47576013867

## Byron Bay 5 Stars CLEANING SERVICE

CLEANS: Holiday, Residential, Bond, Commercial, Spring.  
**Phone Mick 0409 009 024**  
 Email: [mickbhl@gmail.com](mailto:mickbhl@gmail.com)

**HOT WATER PRESSURE CLEANING**

**ROOF CLEANING & PAINTING • DECK RESTORATION**

Free quote  
 CALL OR SCAN TODAY **0455 573 554**  
[FCRTEAM.AU](http://FCRTEAM.AU)

**BETTY'S CLEANING & HOUSEKEEPING SERVICES**..... Text 0476 984649  
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# 'Hercules' – Byron Bay's ultimate coastal trophy estate

Welcome to 'Hercules'. High above Byron Bay, where the hinterland meets the Pacific Ocean and the horizon stretches endlessly beyond the lighthouse, sits a property so rare, so commanding and so breathtaking that it stands in a category of its own.

A landmark coastal estate of extraordinary scale, privacy and prestige – unquestionably one of Australia's finest homes.

Perched approximately 110m above sea level on approximately 13.88 acres of tightly held east-facing escarpment land, 'Hercules' captures what are arguably the most spectacular views in Byron Bay. From this unrivalled vantage point, the coastline unfolds in cinematic fashion – endless blue ocean, rolling green hinterland, the dramatic cliffs of Broken Head and the world-famous Cape Byron Lighthouse standing proudly against the horizon.

Every sunrise here is unforgettable. As the first light of the day rises from the Pacific, the estate is bathed in golden tones while whales breach offshore, seabirds drift across the ocean breeze and Byron Bay slowly awakens below. It is a setting that feels entirely removed from the world – peaceful, grounding and impossibly beautiful.

Yet within minutes, you can be barefoot at Wategos Beach, surfing The Pass at sunrise, enjoying long lunches at Byron's celebrated cafes and restaurants, playing a round at the nearby golf course or wandering the vibrant boutiques and coastal streets of Byron Bay village.



This is the ultimate Byron lifestyle – elevated to a level very few will ever experience.

Hidden behind private gates and immersed in lush landscaped grounds, rainforest pockets and rolling lawns, 'Hercules' has been masterfully designed as an exclusive luxury retreat where architecture, wellness, nature and lifestyle coexist in complete harmony.

At the heart of the estate sits the remarkable main residence – a grand concrete masterpiece positioned in the most coveted location on the property. Designed to embrace the surrounding landscape and maximise the breathtaking outlooks from every room, the home is both commanding and deeply calming.

Travertine finishes, locally-sourced timbers, soaring ceilings and expansive

walls of glass create a timeless coastal sophistication rarely achieved. Every space has been thoughtfully curated to frame the ever-changing beauty of the ocean beyond.

The residence offers five luxurious bedrooms including two stunning master suites, multiple living and entertaining zones, formal and informal dining spaces and a world-class chef's kitchen designed for effortless entertaining on any scale.

Whether hosting lavish celebrations, intimate family gatherings or quiet weekends away from the world, the home delivers an atmosphere of absolute refinement and relaxation.

The outdoor experience is simply extraordinary.

An infinity-edge pool appears to disappear directly into the Pacific Ocean,



Privately nestled amongst tropical gardens sits the secondary dwelling and Health Studio – a sanctuary dedicated entirely to wellness, restoration and lifestyle.

Beautifully appointed across two expansive levels with European oak and travertine finishes, the retreat features multiple living areas, a chef's kitchen, office spaces, gymnasium, steam room and a stunning heated pool approximately 15m in length. From virtually every room, sweeping views across the coastline and hinterland create a profound sense of calm and escapism.

Scattered throughout the grounds are enchanting rainforest islands connected by walking trails and grassy amphitheatres that invite exploration, meditation and quiet reflection. Two secluded cliff-face observation decks provide front-row seats to Byron Bay's iconic sunrises – with the Cape Byron Lighthouse perfectly framed in the distance as waves roll endlessly toward the shoreline below.

There is a feeling at 'Hercules' that is difficult to describe until experienced in person.

It is the feeling of complete privacy without isolation. Luxury without compromise. Space without limits. A home that inspires, restores, and impresses all at once.

■ For more information on this extraordinary estate, contact Colleen Brunt on 0437 533 943.

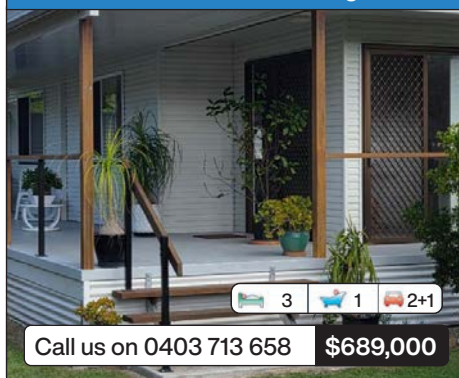


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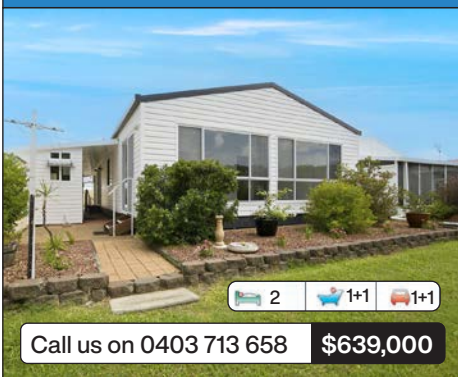
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### Resort Style Living in a Rainforest Setting

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712M<sup>2</sup>

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506M<sup>2</sup>

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- 2/38 Garrick St, Coolangatta. Sat & Sun 9.30–10.30am
- 33/5 Island Dr, Tweed Heads. Sat 10–10.30am
- 6/2 Surf St, Bilinga. Sat 11–11.30am
- 7/20 Dutton St, Coolangatta. Sat & Sun 11–11.30am
- 29 Townsend Cres, Terranora. Sat 12.15–1pm

### First National Byron

- 6A Kumbellin Glen, Ocean Shores. Wed 12–12.30pm
- 39 Dalley Street, Mullumbimby. Wed 1–1.30pm
- 160 Reardons Lane, Swan Bay. Thurs 11–11.30am
- 8 Pastures Street, Cumbalum. Thurs 1–1.30pm
- 103 Paterson Street, Byron Bay. Fri 11–11.30am
- 23 Ann Street, Mullumbimby. Fri 12–12.30pm
- 39 Dalley Street, Mullumbimby. Fri 1–1.30pm
- 134 Dalley Street, Mullumbimby. Fri 2–2.30pm
- 3 Cudgerie Court, Mullumbimby. Sat 9–9.30am
- 18 Heritage Court, Suffolk Park. Sat 9–9.30am
- 50 Sunrise Boulevard, Byron Bay. Sat 9–9.30am
- 12/12 Browning Street, Byron Bay. Sat 10–10.30am
- 3 Blue Water Place, Byron Bay. Sat 10–10.30am
- 9/27 Kalemajere Drive, Suffolk Park. Sat 10–10.30am
- 32 Julian Rocks Drive, Byron Bay. Sat 10–10.30am
- 1/2 Hazelwood Close, Suffolk Park. Sat 10–10.30am
- 134 Dalley Street, Mullumbimby. Sat 10–10.30am
- 44/11–19 Cooper Street, Byron Bay. Sat 10.30–11am
- 6A Kumbellin Glen, Ocean Shores. Sat 11–11.30am
- 3 Hayter Street, Suffolk Park. Sat 11–11.30am
- 4/182 Broken Head Road, Suffolk Park. Sat 11–11.30am
- 1/1–2 Cape Court, Byron Bay. Sat 11–11.30am
- 2/16 Palmer Avenue, Ocean Shores. Sat 11–11.30am
- 20 Beachside Drive, Suffolk Park. Sat 11–11.30am
- 23 Ann Street, Mullumbimby. Sat 11–11.30am

- 8 Pastures Street, Cumbalum. Sat 11.30am–12pm
- 6/1–5 Keats Street, Byron Bay. Sat 11.30am–12pm
- 39 Dalley Street, Mullumbimby. Sat 11.45am–12.15pm
- 10 Glasgow Street, Suffolk Park. Sat 12–12.30pm
- 58 Butler Street, Byron Bay. Sat 12–12.30pm
- 3 Palm Place, Byron Bay. Sat 12.30–1pm
- 61 Bentwing Place, Tintenbar. Sat 12.30–1pm
- 10 Mayfield Street, Eltham. Sat 1–1.30pm
- 195 North Teven Road, Teven. Sat 1–1.30pm
- 1410 Main Arm Road, Upper Main Arm. Sat 1–1.30pm
- 20 Oakland Court, Byron Bay. Sat 1–1.30pm
- 5/26 Beech Drive, Suffolk Park. Sat 1–1.30pm
- 2/11 Alcorn Street, Suffolk Park. Sat 1–1.30pm
- 31 Arkinstall Road, Tunttable Creek. Sat 1.15–1.45pm
- 73 Alcorn Street, Suffolk Park. Sat 2–2.30pm
- 119 Hunters Hill Road, Corndale. Sat 2–2.30pm
- 26 Tennyson Street, Byron Bay. Sat 2–2.30pm

### Harcourts

- 213 Skyline Road South, Wyrallah. Sat 9.30–10am
- 19 Dalmacia Drive, Wollongbar. Sat 10–10.30am
- 14 Forestoak Way, Goonellabah. Sat 10.15–10.45am
- 74 Dolphin Drive, West Ballina. Sat 11.15–11.45am
- 98 Diadem Street, Lismore. Sat 11.30–12pm
- 23 Fern Street, Lennox Head. Sat 12.15–12.45pm

### Raine & Horne

- 3 Panorama View, Kunghur. Sat 9–12.30pm
- 20 Panorama View, Kunghur. Sat 9–12.30pm
- 2981 Kyogle Road, Kunghur. Sat 9–12.30pm
- 837 Nobbys Creek Road, Nobbys Creek. Sat 10.30–11am
- 1243 Kyogle Road, Uki. Sat 11.30am–12pm
- 2 Tree Street, Murwillumbah. Sat 1–1.30pm
- 63 Tyalgum Road, Byangum. Sat 1–1.30pm

### Mana Re

- 10 Gin Gin Crescent, Ocean Shores. Sat 9–9.30am
- 7 Bulgoon Crescent, Ocean Shores. Sat 9.30–10am
- 33 Robin Street, South Golden Beach. Sat 10–10.30am
- 146 Shara Boulevard, Ocean Shores. Sat 10.30–11.30am
- 16 Gloria Street, South Golden Beach. Sat 11–11.30am
- 59 Crabbes Creek Road, Crabbes Creek. Sat 12–1pm

### Real Estate of Distinction

- 81 Harwood Road, Burringbar. Sat. 10–10.30am
- 6439 Tweed Valley Way, Burringbar. Sat. 11–11.30am
- 11 Bian Court, Ocean Shores. Sat. 12–12.30pm
- 3/23 Poinciana Street, Mullumbimby. Sat. 1–1.30pm

### Tim Miller Real Estate

- 31 Charlotte Street, Bangalow. Thurs 12.30–1pm
- 42 Johnston Road, Eltham. Thurs 1.30–2pm
- 5 Short Street, New Brighton. Sat 9.30–10am
- 40 Booyun Street, Brunswick Heads. Sat 10.30–11am
- 272 Sneaths Road, Wollongbar. Sat 11.45am–12.15pm
- 45 Walmsley Road, Bexhill. Sat 12.45–1.15pm

## New Listings

### First National Byron

- 1/2 Hazelwood Close, Suffolk Park
- 1/1-2 Cape Court, Byron Bay
- 39 Dalley Street, Mullumbimby
- 303 St Helena Road, McLeods Shoot
- 20 Beachside Drive, Suffolk Park
- 6/1-5 Keats Street, Byron Bay

### Mana Re

- 25 Barlee Drive, Fernvale
- 81 Kielys Road, Mooball

## AGENTS



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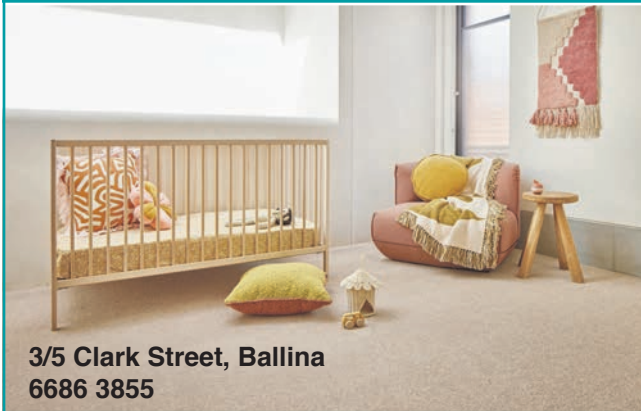


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Trump has taken the removal of his name from the John F Kennedy Centre for Performing Arts in his usual style claiming that Judge Christopher Cooper's decision was 'reckless'. Though one could say removing the bipartisan board of the centre within weeks of his inauguration, demanding his name be added to the building, all leading to acts declining to perform at the venue were the truly reckless decisions.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■  
The Greyhounds As Pets NSW Northern Rivers team will be bringing some adorable greyhounds to Byron Bay on Saturday, 20 June from 9.30am to 1pm at Petcare Byron Bay.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■  
Everyone loves *The Echo* – including apparently some scam artist calling himself Steven Soderbergh (aka Shaji Kesavan). The putative director of *Sex, Lies and Videotape* claimed to now be a director of *The Echo* in a scam email received by one of our advertisers. In your dreams, mate! *The Echo* 'contains local news, updates, events, and stories relevant to the Byron community,' enthused 'Soderbergh', and this explosive content could be viewed on the attached pdf, if you'd just click on it ...

■ ■ ■ ■ ■  
Peter Noble has been accused of allegedly withdrawing hundreds of thousands from his companies shortly before declaring insolvency just before BluesFest. The info comes from the liquidator's report, obtained by *The Australian*, and also reported by *Rolling Stone*.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■  
'Remember, Mr Musk said he would nearly triple Twitter's



Nicholas Hope (left) who was Bubby in Rolf de Heer's (right) groundbreaking movie of 30 years ago, *Bad Boy Bubby*, a film featuring clingfilm, which screened last Saturday at the Bangalow Film Festival. The fabulous festival continues until Sunday evening. Photo Jeff 'There's More Than One Way To Skin A Cat' Dawson

advertising revenue in five years. (It's down approximately a third.) He claimed the Boring Company, then a SpaceX subsidiary, had received "verbal" government approval for a super-speed hyperloop that would take you from New York to Washington in 29 minutes. (The plan went nowhere.) He said Tesla's Cybertruck could operate "briefly" like a boat. (A driver had to abandon his vehicle in a lake.) – *NYT* Aaron Zamost

■ ■ ■ ■ ■  
UFC fighter Josh Hokit thoughtfully reflected 250 years of American leadership in his post-match interview with Joe Rogan on the White House lawns, shouting 'Michelle Obama is a man. Am I right America?' \$60m well spent, Mr Trump, you've made America grate on pretty much everyone.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■  
In *Crikey* Rachel Withers notes that 'recent auction

observers have noted "unfamiliar scenes where most of the buyers actually want

to live in the home they are bidding on" – what a world!



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