

## Row erupts over van-park survey

Luis Felii

The university researcher behind a community-driven survey of Cabarita residents that revealed a strong opposition to a proposed massive caravan park in the village has challenged a Tweed Shire Council-sponsored consultancy, which criticised its methods, to put up or shut up.

The call follows the leaking of a letter from council general manager Mike Rayner and a ratepayer-funded report he commissioned which is highly critical of the community survey – described by the Cabarita Beach/Bogangar Residents Association as a ‘politically-motivated stunt’ – to discredit it.

The letter and report have been used by a Cabarita businessman to attack the community-based survey as biased and misleading, claims angrily rejected by the researcher and the residents.

Griffith University academic, Dr Kerrie Foxwell-Norton, was outraged at what she said was an attack on her professionalism and reputation by the eight-page ‘critique’ written by a council-paid firm, Woolcott Research, after the results of the community survey were publicly made known.

### ‘Distasteful and unprofessional’

‘I find it distasteful and unprofessional they considered my survey in isolation, as mine is a multi-method approach and they don’t understand it. If the council or the firm involved had bothered to ask me about my methods I could’ve saved them a lot of time and money,’ Dr Foxwell-Norton said.

‘It also upsets me that they didn’t

even give me a courtesy call to say they were reviewing it,’ the longtime researcher told *The Echo*, adding that the reasearch company should ‘go ahead and do a survey and see if it will confirm my findings’.

The proposal for the 230-berth caravan park on beachfront crown land south of Norries Headland and a 37-lot residential subdivision on Sandalwood Avenue across from the van park site has met a wall of local opposition since the council, in its role as the Tweed Coast Holiday Parks Reserves Trust, and the state’s Land and Property Management Authority (LPMA), first proposed it last year.

### Leak is disturbing

Spokesman for the residents association, Ashley Baldry, said it was ‘extremely disturbing’ that correspondence between the council general manager and the secretary of the association had been leaked.

‘This is morally corrupt behaviour and was obviously intended to undermine our community survey and silence the 750 local residents and businesses who want to have their say in the future of our village,’ Mr Baldry said.

‘This unprecedented attack by Tweed Shire Council on a community-based consultation process has backfired on the general manager because the Griffith University Ethics Committee overseeing the survey had already determined that both the survey content and process met national standards.’

He said council had ‘previous form in bullying’ the residents association after threatening legal action against its former president and secretary to hand over confidential plans for the

continued on page 2



## Preschoolers tune in to learn

Albert Elzinga

Mt Warning Community Preschool, with a little help from its friend and well-known local musician Lil’ Fi, have scored a hit with their new style of music tuition called Rhapsodaisy.

Teachers and parents say the new program has achieved some amazing results and is especially effective in helping children who are shy and withdrawn.

The music lessons are based on the Kodaly method and heavily influenced by the early childhood teachings of the late German composer and educator Carl Orff.

Orff (1895–1982) developed a unique approach to music education which encouraged children to experience music at their own level of understanding.

Brisbane music teacher Annie Peterson, who has taught music using Orff’s principles for the past two years, pioneered the Rhapsodaisy program.

Ms Peterson has been a musician

Lil’ Fi and Mt Warning Preschool students give the thumbs up to the music tuition program. Photo Albert Elzinga

for 20 years and made her mark as program director for the Woodford Folk Festival.

Lil’ Fi and Ms Peterson have been friends for over two decades and Ms Peterson introduced Lil’ Fi to Rhapsodaisy.

### Enthusiastic welcome

The musician approached the preschool with the idea to teach the preschoolers music using those principles and the suggestion was enthusiastically welcomed by preschool director Pauline Hurcombe.

Since March this year, Lil’ Fi has taught Mt Warning’s preschoolers and the students’ parents have said they noticed a real difference in their kids.

Lil’ Fi said the program was very repetitive, which was necessary for children at preschool age. She uses plenty of props and instruments and works with the kids ‘on their level’.

‘The children really respond to it and the program affects them deeply,’ Lil’ Fi said.

The feedback from parents was very positive and children with various levels of disability have achieved good results.

Kids’ speech, communication skills and confidence improved dramatically and the program created a basis for the kids’ later learning, she said.

Recent Tweed Shire Council funding made it possible for the preschool to offer the classes without fees and made the program accessible to all students.

Lil’ Fi said Tweed Shire Council should be commended for its recognition of children’s needs and she hoped the preschool would be able to continue to offer the class free of charge.

‘Tell me and I’ll forget, show me and I’ll remember, involve me and I’ll understand,’ Lil’ Fi said.

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# Uki joins ban on plastic shopping bags

Story & photo Albert Elzinga

One trillion plastic bags are used worldwide every year. They kill 100,000 sea mammals and a million seabirds every year.

These figures are from a study by international environmental group Planet Ark and although the numbers have been challenged by the plastics industry, the impact of plastic bags on the environment is substantial and mind boggling.

To do its bit in trying to stop this wholesale death and destruction, Tweed Shire Council, in collaboration with villages in the area, has started a 'plastic-bag-free towns' initiative and last weekend Uki became the seventh local town to join the growing list of those which have banned the plastic bag.

At the launch, council's sustainability officer Dan Walton congratulated retailers for their support for the initiative and asked shopkeepers to help change consumers' expectations.

Mr Walton said too many animals had fallen victim to the world's most dangerous 'convenience item' and people needed to change today's 'throwaway society'. People were too used to having access to plastic bags whenever the



Left: Millie the dog, a resident of the Uki Guesthouse, grabs her new environmentally-friendly plastic-free doggie bag during the launch at Uki of the plastic-bag-free village.

need arose and it was a convenience thing, Mr Walton said.

He said the community had to work together with retailers

in order to change people's attitudes.

Unless people broke the plastic bag habit, no real change to

the environment could be expected, Mr Walton added.

Uki Supermarket's Kyra Simmons said the convenience store handed out hundreds of plastic bags every week.

However, the store would no longer offer them and would ask customers to use the reusable bags provided by council.

Coles Bay in Tasmania was the first town to go plastic-bag-free in April, 2003, with Kangaroo Valley in NSW following suit in November of the same year. Since then many communities around the world have copied the model, with four states and territories in Australia so far declaring bans on plastic bags.

## Dam upgrade may mean water bans

Steve Spencer

Shire-wide water restrictions may be necessary during the \$5 million upgrade of the Clarrie Hall Dam spillway, which could last for six months.

Tweed residents have not had to endure water bans since March 2003, when level 3 restrictions were in force for just one month.

A Tweed Shire Council report has revealed that a recent tightening of spillway safety guidelines by the NSW government means the upgrade must be completed by 2018, but may start as early as 2013.

And that 'depending on the construction technique, the water level of the dam may

need to be reduced to allow work on the spillway'.

The report goes on to say: 'If this were to occur, water restrictions would need to be implemented across the shire while ever the water level remained lowered'.

The spillway upgrade, to make sure the dam can cope with large floods, is on display for the next month.

According to the report, the preferred option is to widen the existing spillway from 22 metres to 35 metres and raise the spillway walls and embankment by two metres.

This option was found to be the most cost effective while minimising the environmental impacts.

The preferred option requires no excavation into the adjoining rock face and so removes the need for blasting. It will also require less removal of vegetation.

However, there would be noise and dust during construction, vehicle movements, closure of the picnic area for six months and a possible reduction in water quality for some distance downstream with 'appropriate management measures implemented to minimise any such impacts'.

The report is on exhibition at council offices and libraries and online (www.tweed.nsw.gov.au) until September 28, and the public is encouraged to make submissions.

## Row over van-park survey (from page 1)

caravan park which were given to them anonymously.

The former president Cath Lynch, he said, was a senior pensioner with an invalid husband. She resigned due to the stress caused by the legal threat.

'That heavy-handed bullying tactic rightly caused uproar at the time, and it has now come to pass that the "confidential" caravan park plans at the centre of those threats have since been published in a public report by one of council's own environmental consultants. And these are plans that council still denies even existed in the first place,' Mr Baldry said.

He said council had 'been caught red-handed again' and 'we are now calling on our local member, Geoff Provest, to commission a full and independent inquiry to investigate the long history of 'deceitful behaviour' by the council and the LPMA (former Crown lands division) in their roles

as developers of the Cabarita South precinct'.

The person who received the leaked documents contacted *The Echo* this week and accused the residents association of 'prostituting the process by this survey'.

Cabarita Beach Elders Real Estate principal Mark Howlett said the association had 'a good work ethic' but it was 'a shame the survey had questions weighted and written in a leading manner'.

### Documents 'landed'

Mr Howlett, who lives at Casuarina, refused to say who gave him the documents which 'landed' on his desk and backed up his concerns.

Cabarita Beach locals were recently surprised to see staunch supporter of the development, mayor Kevin Skinner, conducting his own straw poll on the issue in the village.

Dr Foxwell-Norton, who lives at Cabarita, defended the

survey saying she encouraged people to scrutinise her methods.

'I went to council's community access and urged people get involved, but it seems the only time council bothered to get involved was to undermine the community effort,' she said.

'The proof is in the pudding: 700 to 750 people completed the survey, which indicates to me this was a particularly successful way of engaging with the community.'

'I used focus groups and the LPMA's own submission process as part of the multi-method approach, and it was anonymous in order to get as many people involved; I also used IP (internet protocol) tracking and coloured forms so people can't send multiple copies.'

'I was aware of the possibility of people filling in multiple copies; that was why this multi-method approach method was so important.'

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# Teenager has a swing par excellence

Story & photo Eve Jeffery

Sheridan Gorton (pictured) has a golf handicap that most grown men would be proud to boast about at the 19th hole, and at just 16 years old, she's already defending a championship title.

This week will see the junior golfer stand firm against the ladies of the Murwillumbah Golf Club in the competition that will be played in four rounds over two weeks.

Sheridan has had her eye on the flag for a long time and shows promise of being one of the future legends in the Australian golfing scene.

Members of the Murwillumbah club have been nodding and winking at each other for years as the young lass swinging her stick around has grown into not only a



wonderful young woman but a golfer to be reckoned with. They know a champion when they see one.

Sheridan has improved at a

steady pace since she started playing and recently won the ladies' Mount Warning Classic golf tournament.

Last year she was runner-up

in this event. She worked very hard over the past 12 months with coach Graeme Trew and on the first day of the tournament Sheridan shot five over 76, leading by two. The following day she shot three over 74, which extended her lead to 15 shots.

Last Sunday she was relaxing with the other juniors at her home club and having one last look around the course before the start of the comp on Tuesday this week.

In the first 18 of the Murwillumbah Ladies' Championship, Sheridan set the pace finishing the round with 82, a stroke in front of the pack, but ever down to earth, Sheridan packed her lunch and books and headed off to Wollumbin High School on Wednesday morning where she is in year 10.

# Councillors at odds over library takeover

Steve Spencer

Tweed Shire Council has moved one step closer to handing over control of its library services to Lismore Council, but some councillors fear the Tweed's \$5 million worth of library assets will be put at risk by the amalgamation.

Councillors at their last meeting narrowly voted down an amendment to seek independent legal advice about the Richmond-Tweed Regional Library service takeover and instead voted to pursue a draft agreement which would see Tweed, Byron, Ballina and Lismore libraries operated by the Lismore City Council.

Crs Barry Longland, Katie Milne and Joan van Lieshout pushed for council to seek independent legal advice, fearing Tweed could lose control of its three public libraries if it pursues the agreement.

NSW government red tape has been blamed for the plan to change the library system. When government bureaucrats tinkered with the Local Government Act several years ago

it became inconsistent with the NSW Library Act and Tweed libraries have since been technically operating without legal status.

But the state government amended the Library Act in May to allow councils to pool their resources and jointly manage the network.

Local government minister Don Page told media last week that the purpose of the amendment was specifically to allow libraries to run under a county council model in which they share provision of library services.

## 'Happy to review'

Mr Page told *The Echo* this week that he was happy to review the issue and suggested Tweed or any other council affected write to him about their concerns 'as soon as possible'.

Cr Milne, a Tweed representative of the Richmond-Tweed Regional Library Advisory Committee which will be disbanded under the new model, said both Byron and Ballina shires were getting cold feet over the proposed library

amalgamation and seeking independent legal advice.

Ballina council this week voted unanimously to reject the amalgamation and instructed staff to examine two alternative plans; a county council model similar to the current arrangements or a go-it-alone model where the council would manage its own libraries.

'I have been told Byron is considering pulling out,' said Cr Milne.

'They [Byron] are upset Lismore City Council has foisted on them an area manager at a cost of seventy or eighty thousand dollars. There is no control over how much an area manager is going to cost or who he or she is.'

Cr Milne said the Tweed had one of the most successful and well managed library services in country NSW.

'It is one of the most highly regarded libraries. Why would you want to go to a model that doesn't work as well?'

Cr Joan van Lieshout said she also wanted independent legal advice, saying the issue had now haunted the Tweed

council for three years.

'It first came up when I was mayor. I initially liked the idea, with councils sharing resources, but I would like to see some independent advice. We have been told it could take five years to get our assets back.'

Cr Dot Holdom, the other Tweed representative on the

continued overleaf

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## Kingscliff gets ready for fourth annual triathlon

Triathlete Ollie Whistler (front) from Robina, a recent winner of the Yeppoon Ironman title, is seen in a practice run at Cudgen Creek during the launch last week of the fourth annual Kingscliff Triathlon.

The September 10-11 event features a 62km social ride, a 5km fun run, kids' and beginners' triathlons as well as, for the first time, a 'mates' non-competitive division which allows people from all ages, gender and fitness levels to compete against each other.

Race director Mike Craw-

ley said people had nothing to fear from the recent beach erosion at Kingscliff as the swim leg would be held in Cudgen Creek at high tide and the bike and run legs on the roads between Salt and Chinderah.

Mayor Kevin Skinner said the event was 'just what Kingscliff needs to boost tourism and morale and show our visitors that this town still has plenty to offer'.

Online entries close Sunday, September 4, with entry forms at [www.qsmsports.com](http://www.qsmsports.com).

Photo Albert Elzinga



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## Road sealing sought

To seal or not to seal? That's the question for Letitia Road residents in Fingal Head after a request from the local Aboriginal land council chief to have the gravel road sealed because of the dust problem caused by four-wheel-drive vehicles.

Locals have been long been divided over the issue. Some say sealing it would reduce dust blowing onto nearby properties while others worry that adding bitumen to the road surface would only encourage more motorists.

A recent meeting of Tweed Shire Council's Aboriginal Advisory Committee resolved to try to organise a survey of residents along the road.

## Crs at odds over library takeover (from page 3)

Richmond-Tweed Regional Library Committee, sees nothing wrong with the draft agreement and said the change was necessary, otherwise the library service would be operating outside the Local Government Act.

'We are not going to lose our assets. This is not the demise of the library service.'

Mayor Kevin Skinner also said Tweed library users had nothing to worry about.

'They will get the same level of service for the same cost,' he said.

Cr Warren Polglase said he saw 'no problem at all' and that the only other option available was for Tweed Shire Council,

being the second-largest council involved, to take over the running of libraries in all four shires.

'It will be a far better service than we have had before. This is just a storm in a teacup,' Cr Polglase said.

Deputy mayor Barry Longland said he was not against the draft library agreement, but had moved his unsuccessful motion to seek independent legal advice to make sure Tweed library users were not disadvantaged by the changeover.

'I thought if we could use some independent legal advice to make sure our library assets are protected, that service

levels will be maintained and a role will continue for the Tweed's library committee,' said Cr Longland.

'Cost is another issue. We don't want to see residents paying more.'

Cr Longland said the only legal advice Tweed council had was from the same firm of solicitors who wrote the draft agreement.

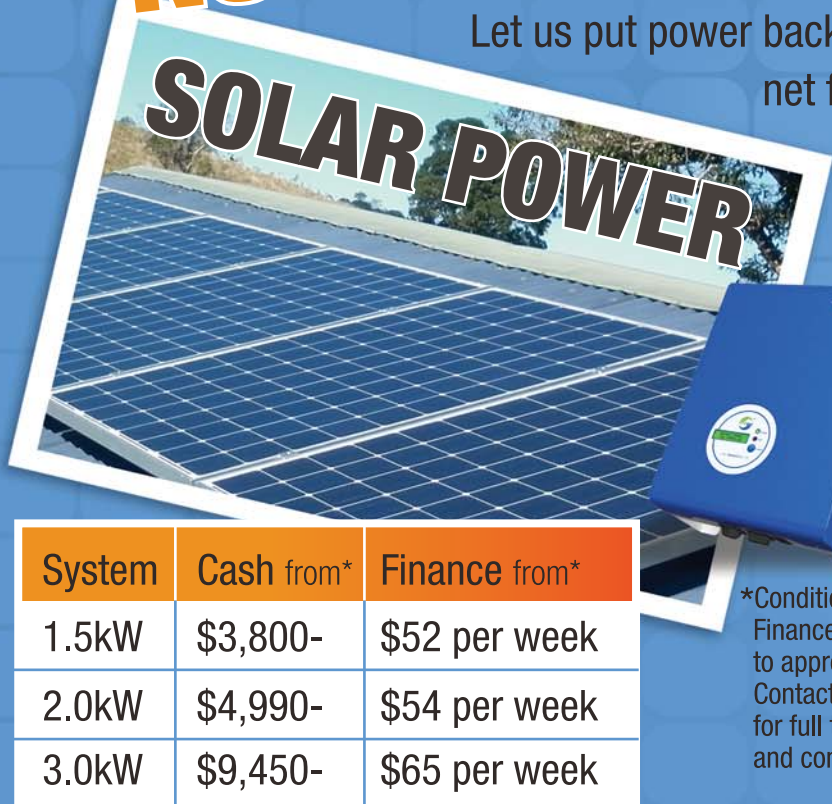
'I don't have a prejudice against the library model. I just think independent legal advice would be a further protection for ratepayers.'

All councillors, with the exception of Cr Milne, voted to pursue the amalgamation.



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# Takeover bid linked to marina project

Steve Spencer

Greens councillor Katie Milne has revealed that yet another NSW government Crown land takeover is linked to plans for a controversial \$30 million marina at Boyds Bay.

The outspoken councillor blew the whistle when the council received a formal request from the department of lands' Crown land division (CLD) to 'consent to the compulsory acquisition' of council-controlled Crown land next to Faux Park and to forgo the need to issue a proposed acquisition notice.

The state government has made several bids in the past few years to take over Crown land run by council, including a pony club lease on the foreshores of Cobaki broadwater and a marine facility at Fingal Head.

In his report to the council last month, council's engineering director Patrick Knight made no mention of the marina project or why the CLD wanted to rush the process, but added that a copy of the letter from CLD was attached as a 'confidential' attachment.

But Cr Milne exposed the hidden connection when she pointed out the request to hand back the land to the government for inclusion in a new Crown reserve was part of the department's long-running push to establish a marina at Boyds Bay.

Secrecy has always surrounded the project, with no public release of concept plans or designs, despite the project now being more than four years old.

Cr Milne, who successfully overturned council approval for a marina at Chinderah in a fight which propelled her into council, asked why the process was being hurried, considering the marina was 'such a huge issue'.

The council decided against removing the proposed acquisition notice but reduced the



period of notification from the usual 90 days to 30 days, so it expires this Wednesday (September 7).

The plan includes a 185-berth marina, a multi-storey 160-berth dry boat storage building and waterfront promenade with coffee shop and boat hire business. The public jetty may also be replaced and the adjoining Faux Park upgraded.

## Overdevelopment

The department's plans came under fire several years ago from the council's administrators when they warned incoming councillors that the government's marina plans were an overdevelopment of the site.

At their last meeting before handing over the reins in 2008 former mayor and council ad-

ministrator Max Boyd and local government director Garry Payne endorsed criticism by senior council planning staff about the lack of details surrounding several large Lands Department development proposals, including the Boyds Bay marina project.

Mr Boyd said he was particularly concerned about the department's lack of consultation with the council administrators during the department's preparation of the projects, which was followed by rushed community consultation processes limited to just a month.

He said no senior Tweed council staff were represented on the government committee overseeing the projects, and only after requests did administrators receive a hard copy of the report, just one week be-

fore it was released for public comment.

At the time Mr Boyd pointed to the 'great lack of detail' and suggested several project could be in conflict with the land department's own objectives and the council's local environment plan. Mr Boyd said the department had turned down a request for a three-month extension of the consultation process.

## Corruption inquiry

At the time the environmentalists dubbed the Crown land development push as a 'coastal plan of development' and with overtones of the Ocean Blue development debacle at Fingal in the 1980s, when the then NSW coalition government's attempt to lease Crown land sparked a corruption inquiry.

Environmentalists fear that space constraints on the site would lead to destruction of sea grasses and degrade nearby Ukerebagh Island nature reserve.

Former planning minister Tony Kelly left out details when he spruiked the multimillion-dollar redevelopment plans in public for the first time in 2009 but promises of more details and public consultation have failed to materialise.

## Eggman served notice

A poultry farmer accused of operating an unauthorised egg farm at Cudgen has been served with legal papers ordering him to close the operation down.

Solicitors acting for Tweed Shire Council this week caught up with owner of the egg operation, Dean Sikiric, and handed him the legal papers ordering the removal of his chooks within two weeks.

The legal papers also order the dismantling of two large sheds Mr Sikiric has erected on the property, which house

2,000 chickens.

Council received numerous complaints from neighbours about the noise and smell coming from the farm.

Two weeks ago councillors voted unanimously to begin legal proceedings against Mr Sikiric, who had been in the process of transferring a further 10,000 chickens to the Cudgen Road property from his free-range egg operation at Toowoomba.

Council officers say Mr Sikiric failed to lodge a DA for the farm.

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Volume 4 #1 September 1, 2011

## The arse market: backside futures

Bigger global warming, the really important question of the week is whether or not Tony Abbott told Tony Windsor he would do anything short of selling his arse to become PM, and might do that anyway if conditions required it.

Abbott vehemently denies he said such a thing, while one of his colleagues hardly helped by castigating Windsor for airing a private conversation. Which one of them is lying?

Given the standard of debate in federal parliament at the moment, the news media are right to concentrate upon arses instead. It's a far more instructive area of investigation. Besides, selling your arse is hardly as bad as selling out your principles, your country or common human decency.

What sort of price would we get for Tony's arse? His level of fitness indicates it would fetch much more than those of his fellow frontbenchers. He would fail in terms of kilogrammage compared to his mate Alan Jones but surely firmness is a more reliable sales indicator.

Could we establish a market for politicians' arses? Hell yeah, the commodities market is such a corrupt and fevered arena you could sell almost anything. And Tony Windsor's a rural man – he could also get the word around the cattle saleyards in no time.

Commodities traders are a feral bunch but would probably see more value in politicians' arses in a stable, western democracy.

In the volatile African market a politician's arse is likely to be grass at any moment, so Australian arsebearers like Abbott would be prime for trading. Through their agents, media barons or mining magnates could easily acquire Tony's – or Julia's, but probably not Bob's – arse and have it firmly mounted on a wall of the boardroom next to Phil Ruddock's testicles.

It would be a fine enterprise – until the bottom fell out of it.

– Michael McDonald

## Labor should hang on and hope for a miracle

Two weeks of parliamentary recess, and the general view is that the government must be pitifully grateful for the relief.

But this is not necessarily the case. Despite Tony Abbott's assurance that the row over Craig Thomson (for which the opposition is almost entirely responsible) has paralysed the government, in fact the legislation has been getting through: 22 bills in the last fortnight, bringing the total to an impressive 185 for the year.

Julia Gillard needs the parliament; in the current poisonous atmosphere, delivering the goods is her only hope of appearing positive.

It is also the only place she can show what the electorate increasingly sees as her best features, her courage and persistence.

Without it, there will be something of a vacuum; backbenchers will return to their electorates to be assailed with questions and complaints about Thomson and the media will become a breeding ground for yet more leadership speculation.

At the weekend the independent Andrew Wilkie gave it a kickstart by opining that we might see new leaders as soon as May next year; this should not be a real news story, he added hastily, and it isn't; but nor will the speculation go unnoticed.

While the Labor Party has not yet succumbed to the despair which the Murdoch press regards as its due, a faint murmuring can be heard among the understandably nervous nannies on the backbench that it might just be time to be starting to consider a plan B.

It has become something of a chicken and egg question: with the party vote and the

leader's standing equally on the nose, are they both irretrievable or is one dragging the other down? And if so, which? And in the circumstances would a change of leadership make any difference?

On the face of it, the move would be suicidal. There is still a substantial Rudd rump festering in the party room; to add a Gillard rump would risk open and bitter divisiveness.

and of course the shock jocks and Murdoch press is aimed directly at her: Juliar, Brown's bitch. A new leader would not be greeted by these groups with joy and delight, but at least he – it would inevitably be a he – would not be carrying quite as much baggage.

But even if this line of argument were to be accepted by the caucus – and there is no sign of that happening at pre-

political movement. This may be an unfair assessment of the individuals involved but nonetheless it is the public perception; they are part of the problem, not part of the solution.

And, given that the same stricture applies to more than half the caucus, it would seem that any real improvement in Labor's fortunes will have to involve change starting from the bottom, not the top.

Let's face it, there is no plan B. For better or worse, Labor is stuck with Gillard, so the nervous nannies had better just stick up for her.

But Wilkie was talking about leaders, plural; is there any real threat to the smashing, bashing, crashing Tony Abbott?

Well, obviously not immediately; with the polls the way they are he will cruise into government without having to consider what Tony Windsor claimed he threatened as the ultimate sacrifice: selling his arse.

But the same polls indicate that the voters will elect him with considerable reluctance: a clear majority neither like nor trust him. And it should not be forgotten that he gained the leadership by just one vote, and a lot of those who didn't want him back then have not changed their minds.

If he can get them back on the Treasury benches, that's terrific, but it doesn't end there; having done the job he was selected to do, he might find his use-by date approaching more quickly than he thought.

And the irony of all this, of course, is that if there were to be a popular vote for Prime Minister, Malcolm Turnbull would be a shoo-in. Abbott will always have lurking behind him the real Messiah, slouching towards Bethlehem, waiting to be born.

For better or worse, Labor is stuck with Gillard, so the nervous nannies had better just stick up for her.

by Mungo MacCallum



Moreover, it would confirm the already substantial impression of a party desperate for survival and without any sense of purpose and direction.

And most importantly, it could undo Gillard's pact with the independents, who have pointed out that their deal was to support a Gillard government, not just any old Labor government.

Better to hang on and hope for a miracle – after all, if there are no serious accidents (which in the wake of the Thomson affair may be an overly optimistic assumption) there is still two years to go.

But, say the doubters, that is precisely the point. Two years is a bloody long time – more than long enough for the voters to forget all the current kerfuffle and embrace yet another new Messiah.

Gillard is doomed; the people have stopped listening to her and if they do hear anything she says, they don't believe it.

The unrelenting hostility from the miners, the clubs and pubs, small business, the farmers

– the problem remains: finding the new Messiah. Kevin Rudd is the voters' choice, but absolutely unacceptable to the powerbrokers who killed him off once and would blow up the party rather than have him back. The deputy, Wayne Swan, is totally identified with the Gillard government and in any case is too boring.

Defence Minister Stephen Smith has been mentioned as a relatively unknown clean-skin, but is hardly the man to excite the imagination of millions. Climate Change Minister Greg Combet is competent and convincing but tied to the unpopular carbon tax.

Assistant Treasurer Bill Shorten is a down-to-earth figure who has had a moment in the sun with the disability proposals but is still remembered as one of the faceless men from 2010.

And this is the catch 22: all of the above were apparatchiks – party officials or union bosses, precisely the people most to blame for the Labor Party's decline as an inclusive, open

### Tweed Shire Echo

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

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**The right answer**

So Kevin 'Inspector Gadget' Skinner took it upon himself to do a bit of super-sleuthing in Bogangar on Monday, asking all and sundry if they were in favour of, or opposed to, the proposed tourist park at Southside Cabarita.

This straw poll could only be seen to be anecdotal at best. It's amazing the lengths this council will go to when they keep getting the answer they don't want. The Land and Property Management Authority called for public submissions; of the 377 received, 350 were opposed. Now I know Kevin never claimed to be dux of the council, and we all run out of fingers and toes all too soon; *but*, in this case, the figures speak for themselves.

Further to that, now that Griffith University has distributed a survey with questions which came from the community focus groups interviewed by Dr Kerrie Foxwell-Norton, the council's General Manager has arranged for an assessment from a higher authority (I am not a religious man, but surely the buck must stop somewhere... speaking of 'bucks', those are *our* rates he is spending to do this), all to discredit the survey.

Still trying to get the answer they want. This time by questioning the questions. How duplicitous... speaking of 'duplicity', note well: the council is both the developer AND the approval authority of this proposal. Our own little kangaroo court.

Still, I suppose a straw poll and a kangaroo court do kinda go together.

How many times do we have

# Technology is *nearly* the root of all evil...

Lau Guerreiro (letters, August 11) brings up many good points that require further discussion in regard to technology dependence and neolithic villages.

Lau takes a superficial walk through my brain when he says that I think 'technology is the root of all evil'.

I do not think that. I write these words with a pen (a friend more evolved than I in this respect uses a pencil). I am fully clothed, though my jumper has holes in it, and I sit on a chair though one chosen as furniture because it was made from renewables. This letter will be posted in a recycled envelope as is mostly my habit.

I acknowledge someone sitting naked on the floor, writing with a 'thumbnail dipped in tar' and delivering the letter by bike is more evolved in the doing of the task than myself. My admiration of such a hypothetical person is, I accept, the blueprint of my becoming. No need to hurry to this greater ideal and hurt myself in doing so.

to tell you, 'We don't want your tourist park?' I'm not sure in just what language you would like us to communicate that message to you, but my guess is it starts with 'Hey, stupid...'

**Tim Smerd**  
Bogangar

**The bi-carb, Jeeves**

Some months ago a Brisbane doctor was suspended for using bicarbonate of soda as an adjunct to cancer treatment on the grounds it was unproven – but it was not disproven either.

I direct readers to www.cancerfunaus.com and http://video.google.it/videoplay?docid=59880071325508140&hl=it and http://video.google.it/videoplay?docid=8718775950691314311.

I am obviously a technologically dependent person who is not overly enamoured of technology.

Although I do not regard technology as the root of evil, I do think that if our civilisation wishes to pass through the environment crisis rather than collapse from it as most civilisations have in the past, then it needs to drop off technology dependence as soon as possible.

That is, progress in the 21st century involves learning to be content with reducing technology dependence without involving oneself in sacrifice or denial. It is a finely tuned balancing act that is personal. It has nothing to do with personal *obligation*, and certainly one cannot oblige another in simplicity of living style.

I take Lau's point that termite mound building is use of technology. The overall effect of a termite colony, despite their movement of earth, is to increase soil fertility. That is not to say that the earth movement of the colony is not earth harmful in itself.

Talk to your doctor then form an opinion. Cancer is a replication cell, and like all replication cells it appears it cannot live in a neutral pH or alkaline environment. Farmers in many countries have used bi-carb soda as an antifungal spray on crops and fruit for over 60 years (half a cup to 20 litres of water).

We soaked fruit in it to remove fungus so they would keep longer. Rural doctors used a poultice of bi-carb soda and coconut oil for eight weeks as a treatment for sun cancer and warts, where they dried up and fell off. Grandparents used it in homes to kill mould, mildew, fungus; mixed it with olive oil as a poultice for sores and

But a human city, even apart from the earth harm done in the construction of the city, is at this latter stage of technology development only able to function by polluting the environment. In fact, the more it becomes technologically dependent, the more it pollutes.

Lau assumes I am one of a small group of people who complain about the poor state of housing services for indigenous people yet expect them to live in neolithic villages. Indigenous people require access to the same standard of housing as whites, if that is what indigenes want.

All housing, indigenous as well as white, in accord with moving away from technology dependence, is more progressive the smaller it is, and the less demand it makes on resources. It is possible that those indigenous people who wish to remain on their rangelands would have some sympathy with this latter point.

In regard to the neolithic village, despite what is widely

boils, to cure rashes and itches; it was a hair wash, and used in washing to keep clothes clean and fresh. Bathe your feet two hours a day and see what happens to nail fungus and tinea.

**G J May**  
Tyalgum

**Money swearing**

Again it sounds to me like money is talking.

What is this big push amongst certain Tweed councillors to quickly approve so many big developments, while ignoring community concerns?

The concerns about the possibility of landslip at Terranora and highway collapse

continued overleaf

believed humankind did not progress when it decided to civilise. It actually went into degradation and we are the witnesses of this civilisation's last stages should we decide to proceed into collapse.

The many games we play as though there is no environmental crisis is the decision to proceed to collapse. For approximately 12,000 years we have seen technology as a saviour, rather than notice it was the means by which we avoided the development of the higher side of humanity, which in part had to do with compassion, tolerance, mercy, 'do unto others...'; looking after each other, etc.

Our civilisation showed, and shows, signs of finding these abilities unimportant in the development of humanity. No progress here! These higher abilities are the prerogative only of humankind for they cannot be consciously understood by the other animals, including the animal vestige in each human.

The avoidance took place, I would suggest, because we

were over-attached to the material world and wished to remain with an animal consciousness or greed that did not want to leave competitiveness, and had consideration only for the survival of the individual self. World civilisations, for example, are always hierarchically based; there are always monkeys at the top of the tree demanding many bananas from the mass at the bottom.

The animal consciousness in humans was, and is generally, not able to see beyond survival of the individual self, and extend itself into its full humanness of habitually looking toward the wellbeing of the whole. Thus an environment crisis.

Simplicity of living style in the midst of an environmental crisis is consideration of the wellbeing of the whole. On a shopfront hoarding in Nimbin for decades has been written a simple truth for civilisations: 'Live simply that others may simply live.'

**Geoff Dawe**  
Uki

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# There's something wrong with everything

At my age I should know better but I am still stunned by the thickness of the hides of gas-mining industry spokesmen.

They even manage to sound hurt – outraged by the unthinking public who fear, or are at the very least apprehensive about, the potential environmental damage inherent in this grab for gas gold.

On radio they not only reassure us that 'world's best practice' will be employed but have the audacity to squeal in indignation that we, the community, question the technology – even the science!

Could they be genuinely blind to the track record?

Of course not – they say what their paymasters tell them to say.

The community has learned, from disaster after disaster, not to blindly worship at the altar of science and technology.

For non-technical people

it is very simple: is that or is that not methane leaking out next to the bore pipe? Did the Queensland government insist on the closure of a well site because of toxicity, or did it not? Have governments overseas banned these activities or not?

No amount of clever words can undo observable truths.

We must listen to and read very, very carefully the words chosen by the professional wordsmiths.

**David Lintern**  
Uki

Forty-five million cars is what the carbon improvements would amount to, according to Justine (*The Echo*, August 18). Isn't the public entitled to know why the combustion engine is still powering all sorts of transportation?

What percentage of these cars could be replaced by elec-

tric cars? Or is it actually the petroleum industry and/or fuel taxes that are behind this? That is, is the 'carbon' melodrama a screen, hiding a dragon just as insidious as any chimney stack?

**Peter W Hickey**  
Coolangatta

As I now live in the Northern Rivers because of a nasty two-year battle with two windfarm companies (which I won) it is about time that people who have not had my deep inside experience with the wind industry scam took note.

I believe anyone who backs the spread of windfarms must address the issue of how to care for or compensate those affected by turbine noise.

Mark Byrne, if I remember correctly, has been lamenting the lack of wind in the Northern Rivers. No, believe me, it is one thing to be grateful for

Many of you simply will not understand this.

Everyone up here (or almost everyone) is riled about coal-seam gas problems, and rightly so, but to expect that windfarms will solve this problem is ignorant in the extreme.

I personally wasted years of my life studying these contraptions. My personal experience shows that they kill great numbers of birds, and do not affect the output of coal-fired power stations one bit. However, there are still plenty of windfarm problem deniers out there.

I am yet to see one advocate of windfarms so much as write a quick note to the government about at least attending to those poor bastards (I know some of them) who have lost their homes as a result of this useless industry.

**Ammun Luca**  
Cawongla

continued from page 7

at Pottsville, for example, and other concerns like the high-rise in the Tweed CBD and about environmental integrity throughout the shire generally are very real. We, as ratepayers, will be financially liable in the future for ill-considered planning today.

Time needs to be taken to more diligently look closely and carefully at proposed developments. The question is not, development, yes or no? The question is about the quality and sustainability of new developments, about restricting developers from cutting corners to maximise profits.

Councillors need to take heed of the outcomes of the award-winning 'My Vision, Your Vision, Our Vision' public consultation. Hear that the community desires conservation and protection of the area's unique heritage of rainforests and biodiversity.

At this point in history the Tweed community is crying out for responsible, accountable leadership from our elected representatives.

But, like every good murder mystery, if you follow the mon-

ey trail, interesting facts are revealed. Who's paying whom? Money talks.

**Miranda Mills**  
Mount Burrell

## Jones the laxative

Regarding the letters from Bruce Keppie and Steve Tracey in last week's *Echo* complaining about the vitriolic outpourings on air from Sydney shock-jock Alan Jones: Jones's comments are invariably anti-government, racist and right wing, bordering on fascism.

I sympathise with Bruce and Steve on this one. I used to be a regular fan of the station involved (Radio 4CRB) but now I wonder if that local broadcaster has any integrity at all.

Complaints from me and others to the broadcaster just fall on deaf ears but the easy way out for listeners is to just switch to another station or treat the Alan Jones timeslot as toilet time and empty one's bowels!

**Neil Maxwell**  
Banora Point

## Gambling fever

Last week Mr Jake Barnard wrote he did not know where Andrew Wilkie got his gambling industry statistics from.

Jake, it comes from the year-long and second investigation by the Productivity Commission Inquiry Report into all Gambling: Volume 1 and 2 No 50 of February 26, 2010.

Had I been allowed in late July to distribute my four-page document at the club industry's misinformation 'closed to the facts' public forum at South Tweed Sports Club, Jake Barnard and his mates would know a little more than club propaganda.

The first Report on all Gambling from the Howard government-established independent Productivity Commission Inquiry was Report No 10 of November 26, 1999. John How-

ard's press release of December 16, 1999 was, in part:

'I am particularly disturbed by the findings of the report about the extent and severity of problem gambling. The report found that around 290,000 Australians are problem gamblers and account for over \$3 billion in losses annually. This is disastrous not only for these problem gamblers, but also for the estimated 1.5 million people they directly affect as a result of bankruptcy, divorce, suicide and lost time at work.'

The second Commission's 2010 Inquiry Report zeroed in on the greatest damage being done to the 600,000 weekly players of the highly addictive, high-intensity Electronic Gaming Machine now in pubs and clubs, which are alone creating and 'spitting out onto humanity's dump heap' between 60,000 to 90,000 problem gamblers a year. This number impacts on between 300,000 to 500,000 other Australians each year. As the club industry now has the Liberal party in their pocket with a large annual financial contribution to the coalition, they are no longer concerned for the problem gambler or their families who in NSW are now around one in eight of the population.

I am happy to direct Jake Barnard and his mates to where all these reports are on the net or even give them copies of my proposed forum handouts. Another good read is in the submissions to the 2011 Senate Joint Select Committee on Gambling Reform and its Recommendations of May 6, 2011.

**Laurie Ganter**  
Tweed Heads

## Inspection queries

I would like to voice my concerns regarding the Area E Terranora proposal and the alignment of the proposed Broadway Parkway and the

roundabout that intersects with Fraser and Amaroo Drives. I had asked for an onsite inspection so that councillors could see for themselves the unsuitability of this option. At the council meeting it was resolved to have a site inspection to be organised by the Tweed Shire Council general manager Mike Rayner.

I spoke to Mr Rayner and was told the inspection would be on August 9. He also informed me that the inspection would not include any private property and that the affected residents in this area would not be involved. When I asked what time the inspection would take place, the throwaway response was 'midnight'.

After meeting with council staff on various occasions, it has become clear that council staff wish to push this DCP through as quickly as possible under pressure from the New South Wales Planning Authority and Metrick. I believe that council staff are only going through the motions of public consultation with no regard for the residents so adversely affected by the road or the impact on the community as a whole.

The properties that are being so disadvantaged by the proposed Broadway Parkway location should have been involved in this site inspection. The steepness of this alignment cannot be properly viewed without entering my property and I invite councillors to come on to the property at 105 Fraser Drive so that they can have all the relevant facts available to enable them to make a fully informed decision.

To exclude the residents concerned and their properties from the site inspection is going to offer a very biased viewpoint.

**Robert Eyre**  
Terranora



## Letters from *Echonetdaily*

Our new online publication is getting a good response:

### Echo homework

We just used *The Echo* for homework! I thought it was time my kids learned how to read a newspaper – *The Echo* is a great one to start with!

Love the Mandy Nolan 'live' bit in the *Echonetdaily* – in fact, it's all good. *The Echo* is the voice of reason and I love the way you guys go after the council.

Lee Rowthorn  
Clothiers Creek

### Awesome format

*The Echo* is by far the best paper in the Northern Rivers, and the format of the new *Echonetdaily* is awesome. The web team have done a fabulous job, and the inclusion of videos is marvellous. Congratulations and a big thankyou for keeping us all so well informed.

Jules and Maggie  
Uki

### The evolving Echo

Congratulations on an excellent production. Layout is great; navigation simple and intuitive. Long live the evolving *Echo*!

Dr Ian B Kingston  
(former Byron Shire mayor)  
Darwin

### Phone app coming

Hi, nice to see you up and running! Unfortunately the viewer does not work properly

on my HTC Android mobile. It won't zoom in to make the text readable, works fine with normal webpages. Hope the iPad readers are enjoying it ;)

Bradley

Editor's note: Thanks, Bradley, for your comments. We are working on a mobile application that should be available shortly. Watch this space...

### Keeping up

Just letting you know, I'm having a great time in Beijing but it was terrific getting my second issue of *Echonetdaily*. Keep up the good work.

Norm Bradbrook  
Banora Point

### Expat's congratulations

As a Bangalow home owner presently living in distant Darwin I would like to send two rounds of congratulations, the first to Michael Malloy, for receiving the richly deserved NSW Premier's Community Service Award, and the second to the new *Echonetdaily*, a superbly designed online publication, and a great way for us North Coast 'expats' to keep in touch with the place we love.

All strength to you both!

Robin Osborne  
Darwin

Find out more at  
[echonetdaily.net.au](http://echonetdaily.net.au)

## Community groups welcome donations



Albert Elzinga

Representatives of community groups and event organisers are all smiles after receiving council funding last week. Photo Albert Elzinga

Tweed Shire Council last week loosened its purse strings and donated a total of \$70,500 to local community organisations and event organisers.

The donations formed part of the first round of council's festivals and donations policy for 2011-12 and were divided between 12 community groups and nine event organisers.

Largest single recipient was Wintersun replacement, rockabilly festival Cooly Rocks On, which received \$15,000, while

Kingscliff Triathlon organiser QSMSports received \$10,000.

Festival and event organisers received nearly 85 per cent of all funds distributed in this round.

Mayor Kevin Skinner said council recognised the importance of festivals and events to the quality of life in the Tweed and their significant economic benefits to tourism and other industries.

Cooly Rocks On operations

manager Bob Newman said the new event would be a lot more difficult without the support from Tweed and Gold Coast councils.

Council is reviewing the festivals policy and considering ways in which multi-year funding can be made available.

Community organisations such as Riding for the Disabled, Tweed Valley Woodcrafters and St Vinnies received a total of \$11,500.

Cr Skinner said the Tweed was fortunate to have a large number of dedicated volunteers who committed their time to community organisations, festivals and events.

Donations varied from \$100 to \$1,500, with Friends of the Koala receiving the largest single donation of \$1,500.

Mt Warning Preschool received \$1,000 to help finance a new musical tuition program (see separate story, page 1).

# HUMAN RACE GET OFF YOUR KNEES

# DAVID ICKE FULL DAY EVENT

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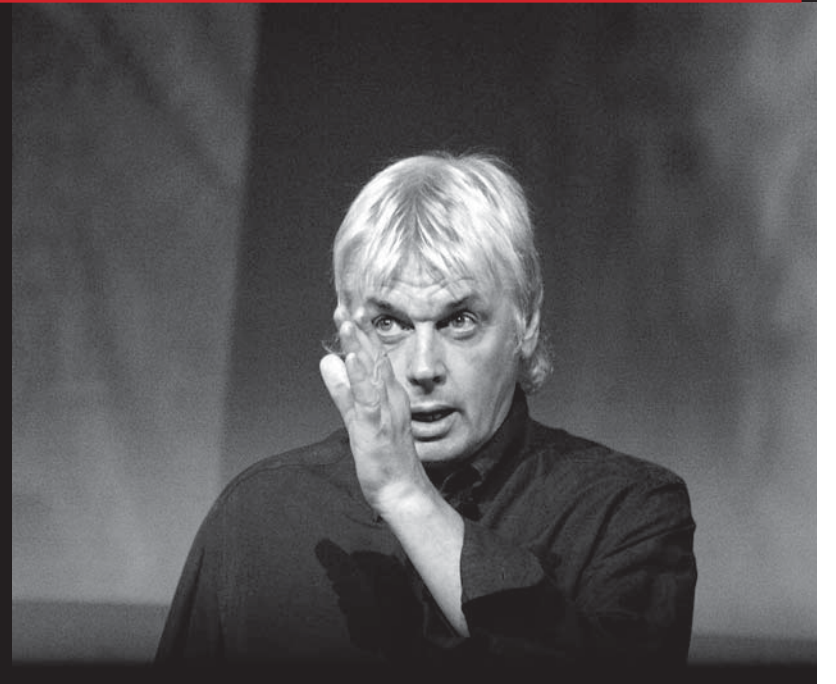
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## LIFEBALL

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**TWEED SUPER SPORTS**

14-18 Chinderah Bay Drive, Chinderah



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## LIFEBALL

is a game for over-55s, similar to netball. It incorporates walking, thinking and throwing a ball, encouraging movement and teamwork. The game involves walking for 5-10 minutes at a time. There is no running, jumping or over-extending. Participants have experienced improved balance, co-ordination, mobility, and increased energy levels. Come and enjoy the fun, fitness and friendship on Tuesday mornings at Tweed Super Sports, 14-18 Chinderah Bay Drive, Chinderah. Present the advertisement to receive your first week free. Enquiries phone: 07 5524 4558 / 02 66740636.

cooked style meals every week and are raving about the delicious taste and their friendly service.

TLC couriers not only deliver the meals to your home and pack them into the freezer but also contact you the day before to advise an estimated delivery time to within one hour so you are not forced to sit in all day waiting.

Most meals have the Heart Foundation's tick of approval and TLC is still the only home-delivered meal service in Australia approved by the Heart Foundation.

All orders placed by noon on Thursdays are delivered the following week. There

from Australian Hearing will discuss issues relevant to seniors and there will be a short game of trivia with fun questions and prizes for the winning team. Also Currumbin RSL's Women's Auxilliary will have a display table of gifts.

The event will also include dance performances by Currumbin Primary School students, who have performed at these events before to the delight of guests. Also the senior hospitality students from Currumbin Community Special School will assist with service and enjoy interacting with the seniors throughout the day.

The morning tea, held from 9.30am to 11.30am, costs only \$8 and includes tea/coffee and cake. Free transport is also available within certain areas. Call the club on 5534 7999 for more information and to book.

## FINE DINING FOR BEST CARE

Aged care facilities are not generally associated with dining excellence. But Raffles, a local Mckenzie aged-care facility, proves that they can be.

Raffles' head chef Jeanette Ryce explains, 'What really makes the Raffles dining experience so out-standing, besides my lovely food, is the detail and attention payed to the ambience.'

'Crystal glasses, table cloths and tasteful settings complement the wide ranging meals which we serve,' said Jeanette.

'My curried prawns are a particular favourite, and the roasts, lamb chops and steak-and-kidney pie are always quite popular.'

Jeanette says that the healthiness of the meals also remains a top priority. 'We cater for individuals' eating requirements offering gluten-free meals and diabetic options. I mainly use



Seniors Morning Tea at Currumbin RSL

are NO contracts and you get a money-back guarantee.

Simply call FREE on 1800 801 200 and speak to a real person or order online at [www.tlc.org.au](http://www.tlc.org.au) to experience TLC for yourself.

## SENIORS GET TOGETHER

Currumbin RSL organise quarterly morning tea for seniors with live entertainment, guest speakers, prizes, fun and laughs. The next morning tea to be held on Tuesday 6 September, runs in line with Hearing Awareness Week.

Roger Munsie be will MC and perform great classics like *King of the Road*, *Que Sera Sera* and *What a Wonderful World* to name a few. Guest speaker Rick Davies

## SCOOTERS

Don't lose your independence when you have your licence taken away. Come in and talk to Mark at Scooters & Mobility Tweed Heads South and he will have you scooting away in a mobility scooter to suit your needs. If you are still driving but find walking around your local shopping centre is getting harder, try an indoor portable scooter - quick and easy to assemble and disassemble, they make shopping an enjoyable outing for you and your family.

Call into our store and view the wide range of equipment that will assist you to be independent and comfortable in your own home. Choose from comy lift/recline lounge chairs, bathroom/toilet aids, wheely walkers and wheelchairs. If it's not in the shop we can get it in.

With ample off-street parking, Mark and Marion at Scooters & Mobility 3/25 Industry Drive, Tweed Heads South look forward to your visiting their showroom.

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## CONNECTIONS BY THE CREEK

Tuesday 6th September  
9.30am to 11.30am

## Seniors Morning Tea

\$8 PER PERSON includes coffee/tea and cake

Guest speaker, live entertainment, trivia, performances by the Currumbin Primary School, raffles, prizes and more!

Telephone  
5534 7999

Free transport options available



## SENIOR'S LUNCHMENU!

EVERY MONDAY TO THURSDAY

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Bookings Recommended 5534 7999

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Call 1800 801 200  
or order online at [www.tlc.org.au](http://www.tlc.org.au)

CERT TM used under licence



# Living

ingredients which are low GI, high in fibre and contain little sodium.

The meals are served in the three dining rooms or the private room, which is available for residents to use with their families.

Raffles is a purpose-built living centre in Tweed Heads South that captures the charm of the historic Raffles Hotel in Singapore. It has 98 beds in total, offering high- and low-care options and adjoining suites for couples.

Raffles is part of the Australian and family-owned McKenzie Aged Care Group, which has built a strong reputation based on the quality of residents' experiences and its consistent audit performance within the Commonwealth Quality compliance program.

'We provide a safe, comfortable and friendly environment with a focus on independent lifestyle through all our facilities,' said joint director Sally McKenzie.



The McKenzie Group operates seven facilities throughout Australia including Murwillumbah, Burleigh Waters and Varsity Lakes – each offering their own unique retirement setting.

To find out more about Heritage Lodge, or any other McKenzie Group facility, visit [www.mckenzieacg.com](http://www.mckenzieacg.com) or call 1300 899 222.

## DO YOU NEED HELP UNEXPECTEDLY?

Perhaps you find yourself in hospital with no-one to look after the house, garden or pets or you have been called away on an emergency and not had time to organise your home or business. You might need someone to stay at home and wait for tradesmen and deliveries.

SOS Support Services has been providing professional care and support on the Gold and Tweed coasts for over ten years.

If you need any kind of help or support give them a call. SOS Support Services 1300 993 091.

## RECYCLE AT THE REPSYCHLERS OP SHOP

At the Repsychlers Op Shop we give unwanted pre-loved goods of all sorts a



second chance, often saving them from landfill. Jewellery is repaired, a large array of clothing is sorted, cleaned, then classified for shop sales or shipping to third-world countries. Silverware is brought back to life with an effective cleaning process and old cabinets are remodeled into stunning modern lowline furniture.

The Op Shop is an Australian Disability Enterprise, and provides employment opportunities for people living with mental illness. All workers are paid employees; every dollar made from sales supports the viability of this important service.

Support the Op Shop to provide an increasingly sought-after service to the community. A free pickup service of donations can be arranged; a delivery service is available too at a small fee.

We are open 9.30am to 4pm Monday-Saturday at 56 Recreation Street, Tweed Heads. Phone 07 5536 2537.

Domestic support when you need it

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Spacious rooms with private ensuites and abundant natural light provide our residents with a secure, personal haven. Super Suites at The Terraces have a separate lounge and we also offer interconnected rooms for couples.

Each of our facilities has Low- and High-Care accommodation, extensive activities and therapy programs, plus 24-hour professional nursing care including an emergency call system for residents.

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## TREAT YOUR HEART LIKE YOUR BREASTS

THE NATIONAL HEART FOUNDATION OF AUSTRALIA has called on Australian women to treat their heart health as seriously as their breast health with the revelation that only six per cent of women in the target age group are getting the recommended heart checks.

Dr Lyn Roberts, National CEO of the Heart Foundation, said, 'it's now time for women to pay attention to their heart health.'

'The reality is that 90 per cent of women have one risk factor for heart disease and 50 per cent have two or three.'

'Simply not enough women are aware of their heart disease risk even

### VIVA ORGANIC REVOLUTION

Timbuktu to Kathmandu – and all places in between would just about cover the fabulous array of goodies – chemical free, ecofriendly and organic choices available at Organic Revolution, your one stop healthy lifestyle store at 47 Murwillumbah St (the Main St), Murwillumbah. Robert and Wendy Cameron, natural health practitioners since 1984, have created a tranquil, fascinating collection of lifestyle choices for you, your loved ones and your home, as well as offering a clinic dispensary and art gallery that won't cost the earth.

Phone 6672 7070

### PUREINFINITY

Are you concerned the wrinkles and lines on your face are making you look older than you feel? These days people stay younger for longer, and want to look younger for longer too. Wouldn't it be great if you could stop the clock?

Well now you can – without worrying about the 'frozen' look or the need to undergo surgery. The modern solution to treating wrinkles and fine lines is now available at Pureinfinity Tweed City and can be delivered in a clinic setting during a lunch hour. The results are so natural looking that even those closest to you won't be able to pinpoint why you look younger and more refreshed. Our experienced female doctor, who understands your concerns, administers all injectables.

Pureinfinity are also proud to announce Beaute Pacifique, Denmark's leading cosmeceutical brand, is now available exclusively in store. Beaute Pacifique uses a unique, patented nanotechnology system to deliver vitamins and active ingredients to the deeper layers of the skin, to create real results – rebirth the skin in five days.

Shop 128A Tweed City Shopping Centre, 54 Minjungbal Drive, Tweed Heads South.

Phone 07 5523 3344.

### TWEED DISTRICT DENTAL

DR CHRIS JACKSON WOULD LIKE TO INTRODUCE DRS INTA RUDAJS AND MICHELLE NG WHO HAVE JOINED OUR FRIENDLY TEAM.

The art of smile enhancement sets Tweed District Dental apart. Our objective is to return long term function and the natural appearance of health and beauty to your smile, 'beauty from the inside out'.

We then discuss your options to achieving your needs. A variety of techniques can be used and we will consider all this when planning your new smile. Your smile, your choice, our speciality.

We'll help you to choose the best result to fit into your lifestyle and budget. We will also guide you towards a smile that looks natural for you. We feel the most successful treatments are those that make you look great without being obvious.

Always lots to smile about (our motto).

Opposite Tweed City. Shop 3, 91 Minjungbal Drive, South Tweed Heads. Phone 07 5513 0900.

### HAVE YOU BEEN WAITING?

'JOHN OF GOD' CRYSTAL LIGHT BED FROM BRAZIL.

We are pleased to announce the opening of Empowerment Crystal Healing's new home in Murwillumbah.

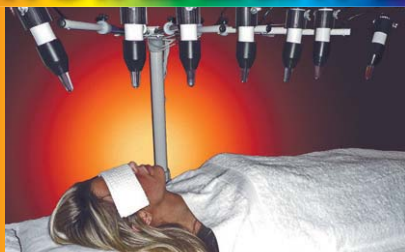
Come and enjoy the relaxing, healing, pure energy of a combination of crystals, lights, colour therapy, and a direct link to the healing energy of 'The Casa De Dom Inacio' in the hills of Brazil.

Re-balance your chakras and feel the very essence of pure love emanating from the crystals, and penetrating deep into your conscious and unconscious being.

All you do is lay on a bed in light-coloured clothes, listen to beautiful calming music and melt into a deep relaxation, emerging calm and centred.

## JOHN OF GOD CRYSTAL LIGHT BED

FROM BRAZIL



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*Formerly of Kingscliff*

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**Dr Inta Rudajs** B.D.Sc

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though it's the number one killer of Australian women - so we urge all women to discuss this issue with their GP next time they visit.'

High blood pressure and high cholesterol levels are often termed 'the silent killers' as they don't have any visible symptoms, so being tested is an important first step.

Other risk factors include diabetes, being post-menopausal and having a family history of heart disease.

The good news is that heart disease is largely preventable. Find out ways to make the appropriate changes at [www.heartfoundation.org.au/driving-change](http://www.heartfoundation.org.au/driving-change).



After your healing, you will be offered a cup of tea and a delicious homemade biscuit to ground you before driving.

Call Libby on 0438 145 972 or [libmac65@yahoo.com.au](mailto:libmac65@yahoo.com.au) to book an appointment.

## SPIRAL FOODS

Spiral Foods is Australia's leading supplier of quality Traditional Foods with an emphasis on organics. Our products are made by people with a passion for wholesome traditional foods of the highest standards and quality. Our products continue to provide nourishment and wellbeing across the generations of people who care about the food they eat and our earth.

Spiral's Agave Nectar is a natural sweetener with a low glycemic index,



obtained from the agave plant, a large, spikey plant that resembles a cactus or a yucca found in the volcanic soils of southern Mexico. This delicious golden-coloured syrup is composed of 90 per cent fructose sugars and 10 per cent glucose sugars. While agave is best recognised as the plant from which tequila is made, it has also been used for thousands of years as an ingredient in food and is fast becoming the preferred sweetener of health-conscious consumers and natural-food cooks alike.

We believe good safe wholesome food is a basic human right. This earth, this food..

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

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**Stephen Riches - Cabarita Beach**

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## Bowen Therapy

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DISCOUNT  
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Healing & Pain Relief

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# EDEN Organic Whole Grains



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# ECHO

SEPT 1 - SEPT 8, 2011

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GRAVEYARD TRAIN  
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THE HERD  
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 SEPTEMBER 2

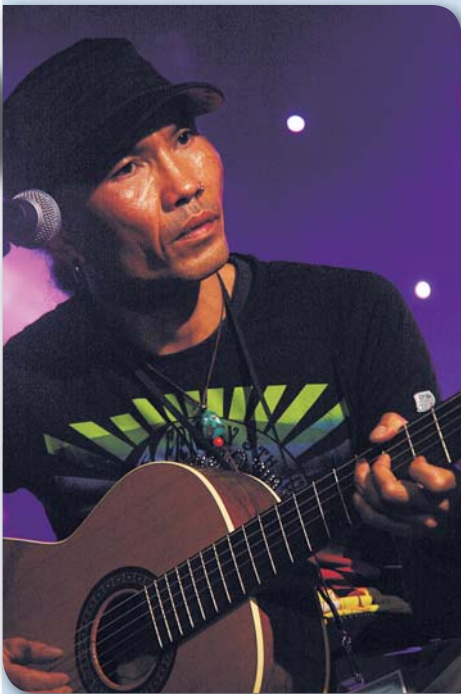
BIRDS OF TOKYO  
 COOLANGATTA HOTEL  
 SEPTEMBER 9

SPARKADIA  
 COOLANGATTA HOTEL  
 SEPTEMBER 18

REGGAEFEST ROOTS &  
 CULTURE MUSIC FESTIVAL  
 MISSINGHAM PARK,  
 EAST BALLINA,  
 SEPTEMBER 17 & 18

DUBMARINE  
 CURRUMBIN SOUNDLOUNGE  
 SEPTEMBER 23

## BLACKBIRDS SINGIN' AT REGGAEFEST



REGGAEFEST ROOTS AND CULTURE MUSIC FESTIVAL WILL BE HELD ON SEPTEMBER 17 AND 18 IN BALLINA. THE SPRING EVENT AT ITS NEW HOME AT MISSINGHAM PARK WILL BECOME A PARADISE FOR LOVERS OF MUSIC, FOOD AND GOOD VIBES. THE LINEUP INCLUDES AN ECLECTIC MIX OF ARTISTS.

As well as twenty-two hours of live music, ReggaeFest will be a platform for arts, culture and environmental/conservation issues. Workshops, cinema, kids' activities and a busy marketplace means there will be plenty to do within the festival site, or you can sit on the beach and watch the sunset metres from the main stages.

The festival, which was launched in Byron Bay last year by a team of local people, is taking a different approach from most. ReggaeFest Roots and Culture is a grassroots event, so expect to see involvement and representatives from important community, cultural and environmental groups such as Byron Saving Australia's Natural Environment (BSANE anti-CSG mining group), Sea Shepherd, KulchaJam and the Bunjum Aboriginal Co-Operative. Byron Movement, who are involved with many worthwhile causes, are also supporting the event and will be donating their Geodesic Dome for the weekend as well as bringing along fruit tree seedlings for people to take home and grow.

The festival organisers hope that this is just the start and have big plans for the years ahead. The music is of course a huge part of the ReggaeFest weekend, and being a multicultural roots festival means that a lot of

the performers are bringing a message with them – whether it be Jah Mason (Jamaica) who's known for his 'conscious' lyrics that carry a positive message or Australian Indigenous band Zennith who continue to break down cultural barriers that exist in our own country.

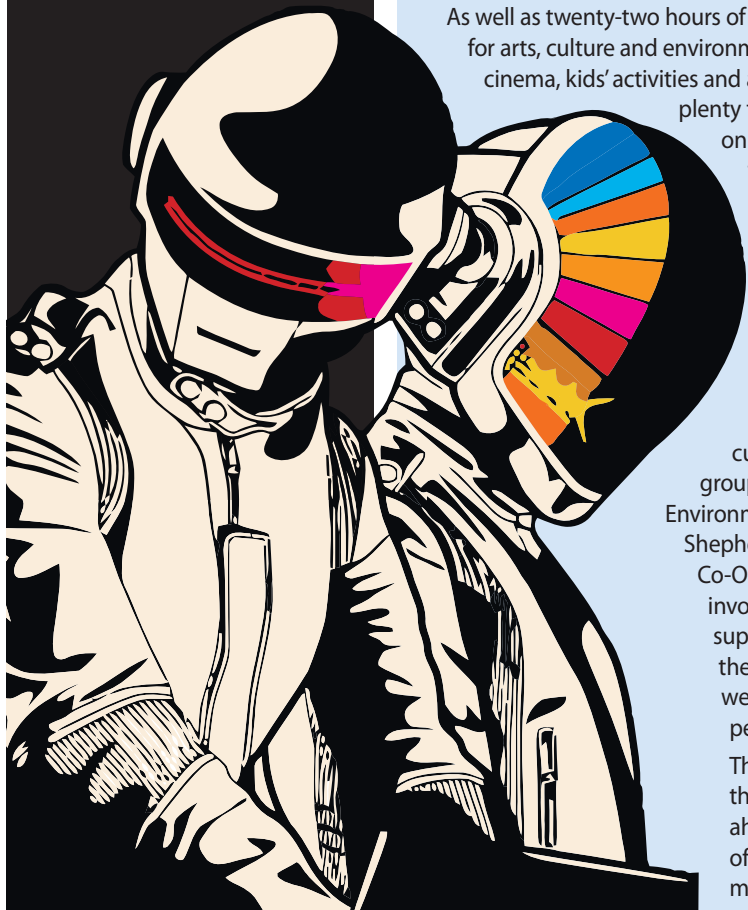
There will also be plenty of local acts playing at the festival and earlier this week *The Echo* caught up with Renee Simone from the Blackbirds.

**The last 12 months have been huge for the Blackbirds. What has been the highlight?** Thanks for thinking so! We have certainly had a blast. My highlight has been the album making. Our fans hassled us for months to produce an album in time for Christmas last year. We didn't have the funds to do it so all of our fans put their money where their mouth is and paid for the album before it was made and bought Blackbirds T-shirts, hoodies and badges. They raised a whopping \$10,000 to fund us to create and tour the album. The support and encouragement was overwhelming. I still well up when I think about it, particularly in this day and age, and as a bonus we now we have a beautiful locally made album with all of our premium fan names listed in the 12-page booklet.

**Speaking of the tour, how was the road?** We did 21 shows in six weeks, which is a comfortable amount of time to check out all of the beautiful places around Australia where we were so lucky to have been playing. We documented the whole thing on Facebook and the fans followed us on there; it was heaps of fun.

**What has been the reception from audiences?** We were very blessed to be touring with the delightful Mr Eric Bibb. It is because of him that we were introduced to a new type of venue and audience. We played in fantastic old theatres as well as more intimate plush dinner theatre venues. Generally it was an older, more appreciative crowd, who were there to hear the music, not to pick up or play pool. The energy was consistently focused, intimate and warm. The only time anyone looked away from the stage was to close their eyes to swim in the sound. It was such a treat to have people hear us fully, and to be so appreciated. In the break there was always a line of people wanting to express their appreciation and to buy CDs; we were totally spoiled.

**The Blackbirds fit very well into any festival vibe and are becoming a crowd favourite. What other festivals have you played in the last year?** I had a personal dream come true this year as we had our first slot at the legendary BluesFest. I pray that it shall be the first of many as I grow on my



# LIVE MUSIC



CHANDRA ELLIS  
COMMUNITY SPRING  
FAIR & MUSIC CARNIVALE  
AT THE TYALGUM  
FESTIVAL OF CLASSICAL  
MUSIC

## In the Washingmachine

After an extensive tour throughout Europe and UK playing all the major jazz festivals, **George Washingmachine and his band** are back home on his national tour called 'Feeling The Manouche' along with his Sydney-based band consisting of Arthur Washington on guitar, Clare O'Meara on accordion and vocals and Stan Valacos on double bass.

*Manouche* is a term devised from the Romany (gypsies) of Europe; we in Australia call it Gypsy Jazz. Feel the *Manouche* has a 'world music' feel through its use of double groove that can take on Gypsy waltzes, swing, choro and many other flavours of jazz.

Along with George and his band will be local artist Lil' Fi along with her band The Jelly Rollers, consisting of Peter 'Scrubby' Hurcombe, guitar and vocals, and Robbie Tosh, double bass and vocals.



musical journey. We played Splendour in the Grass last year which is Ben's favourite festival, so it's been a year of magic, that's for sure.

**Not strictly reggae; how do you see your music fitting into the Reggaeifest?** Blackbirds play island music. Ben and Adi are Indonesian and I'm Jamaican. Some of it is set in reggae rhythm but mostly it's our own unique sound. Reggaeifest is about a vibe, a culture, a lifestyle. It all goes hand in hand; it's not limited to skanking. Reggaeifest brings people together from around the globe who interpret this way of life through music. We are honoured to be a part of the mix.

**Are there any other performers at the festival that you are looking forward to seeing?** Stranger Cole is an absolute legend. He is 71 years old and he's flying all the way from Jamaica just for this one show. He had number-one hits in 1962 during the rocksteady and ska era before reggae even came about. I saw a clip of him on YouTube. He's a complete character, still donning all the gold medallions and telling it like it is. It will be amazing to see him perform.

**The Blackbirds will be playing at Reggaeifest on Sunday September 18. For more information about the festival visit: [www.reggaeifest.com.au](http://www.reggaeifest.com.au).**



CAMERATA OF ST  
JOHN'S TYALGUM  
FESTIVAL OF  
CLASSICAL MUSIC  
SUNDAY



MURRAY KYLE  
SPHINX ROCK CAFE  
SUNDAY

Many of you may know Lil' Fi for her strong classic blues vocals, but did you know Lil' Fi has a trad jazz mode? This will bring a harmonious journey into musical era of sassy lyrical satire. So we invite you to sit back and feel the *Manouche* on Thursday night 1 September 2011 at the Condong Bowls Club, McLeod St Condong. Doors open at 6.00pm; show starts at 7.00pm.

Feel the **Manouche** at the **Condong Bowls Club** on **Thursday**.

## Tyalgum Festival of Classical Music

Inspired by violinists John Willison and Carmel Kaine on their arrival in the Tweed, the **Tyalgum Festival of Classical Music** has grown from a congenial gathering of colleagues to a fully fledged festival that stands proud among Australia's finest. On this 20th anniversary year, the festival has expanded to embrace the many aspects of the local creative community, and the extraordinary talent of our youth.

From the opening concert of exquisite French classics to the youthful exuberance of the Young Virtuosi, the textural complexities of the wind ensemble, the rich emotional palette of the cello orchestra, the power of the Steinway concert grand piano, the theatrical flamboyance of flamenco and the spectacular finale by the Camerata of St John's... come prepared for an exhilarating ride through a sumptuous weekend of virtuosity, sublime melodies and great musical beauty. Added to this, the inaugural **Essential Energy Community Spring Fair and Music Carnivale**, a celebration of Tweed village communities, will be held at **Tyalgum School** on **Sunday 4 September**. The festival runs from **tomorrow to Sunday**. For details visit [www.tyalgumfestival.com.au](http://www.tyalgumfestival.com.au)

## Following The Herd

**The Herd** formed in 2001 after the core members of Elephant Traks record label decided to collaborate rather than submit individual tracks for a compilation. They retreated from the city for weekends and days off to record at a lakeside house on the Central Coast. What resulted was the self-titled album that featured the Triple J (national youth broadcast radio station) hit *Scallops*, a song that became an Aussie backyard anthem.

# Soap Box

Mandy Nolan

## SHAKE ON IT

In East Africa you pretend to spit on someone's feet, in Greece it's a slap on the back and in Tibet you stick your tongue out. All over the world the greeting code is almost as mixed up as we are. What I can't work out is how are we supposed to greet people in our culture? We live in a gender-equal multicultural society, so what is the correct greeting?

Thanks to feminism, every time I meet a gentleman I am no longer expected to curtsy in obliging submission (although if you throw me \$50 I'll give it a shot). Every time I meet someone new or run into someone in the street who I'm not that familiar with I'm stumped as to how I'm actually supposed to greet them. There's the handshake. A brief shake of the paw by two humans. Traditionally by blokes. This was an efficient way of passing on viruses and was particularly effective for efficient transmission of the bubonic plague. To make sure the girls didn't miss out, men would bow and gob on the lady's hand.

In business situations I've never been entirely sure on the protocol of the handshake. There's that split second moment while you wait to see if the other person is going to initiate a greeting, and if they fail to do so it's up to you. A part of mine wants to give a high five, or grab their genitals, and just before they press a sexual harassment charge I'll claim that it's a traditional greeting for me, as I'm descended from yobbos, and we yobs always grab each other by the nuts or twat as it's a primitive way of establishing breeding status.

As a woman I never know where I stand with the handshake. When I meet other women and I go to shake their hand I always feel a little bit Alice B Toklas. It feels all lesbian and sexy, like I'm saying 'Hey baby I'll be the bloke'. That's not usually the impression you want to give the admin officer at your local childcare centre.

Then if I'm in a situation where I meet a bloke professionally I don't know whether to handshake or not. A firm shake from a

woman is both emasculating and deflating. Basically it sends an underlying message 'there is no way I'd ever consider having sex with you. Nice to meet you.'

As if the shake protocol wasn't enough, then there's the kiss. In Russia grown adult heterosexual men greet each other with a big kiss on the lips. I have seen photos of Mikhael Gorbachev greeting John Howard with a giant wet open-mouthed pash. Well maybe it wasn't John Howard, but all bald men look the same from behind. I'm used to the Nanna kiss. That's a tight-mouthed dry brush of the lips against the cheek of your fellow human.

There is one basic rule. You don't kiss people you don't know. The cat's bum is for friends and family only. It is not for the workplace. It's the wrong code. Hands are for work. Mouths are for home. That's my basic rule and I'm sticking to it. That's why prostitutes don't kiss their clients, they just give them a good long firm handshake.

I feel all weird when I meet someone who I don't know very well and then they go in for the kiss. I see them coming and I think, shit, now I have to respond, so I'll angle my cheek to receive, and then retreat. Then just as I'm pulling out they go for the double banger. If you are European, fair enough, the French are known to get carried away and kiss each other as many as five times on alternating cheeks. (Only on the face, I'm told.) But having been to Bali for two weeks or watching SBS does not give you permission to pull off the cosmopolitan double peck. The second kiss is pretentious. For the simple yob like myself who recoils in shock at the lips coming for my cheek once more, it just makes me feel uncultured. I've been to New Zealand, for well over a week, and I didn't come home rubbing noses. Last time I had a double kiss I decided I'd perform an overshare and I kept kissing them from cheek to cheek until they couldn't take it anymore. Unfortunately it backfired and I ended up pregnant. Top that for a greeting.



### THURSDAY 1

- CLUB BANORA 6PM DAVID BARRY
- CONDONG BOWLS CLUB 7PM GEORGE WASHINGMACHINE
- CUDGEN LEAGUES 6PM RUSSELL HINTON
- CURRUMBIN RSL 6.30PM MICK MCHUGH
- KIRRA SPORTS CLUB 8PM PHIL EIZENBERG'S OPEN MIKE NITE
- TWEED HEADS BOWLS CLUB 6PM VEENIE'S - SWIZZLE

### FRIDAY 2

- CABARITA BEACH SPORTS CLUB 8PM THE BEAM
- CHINDERAH TAVERN DAVID TONKS
- CLUB BANORA 7PM MCGUINESS & CO
- COOLANGATTA HOTEL 8PM THE HERD
- CUDGEN LEAGUES 7PM FASHION NIGHT AND KARAOKE
- CURRUMBIN SOUNDLOUNGE 7.30PM GRAVEYARD TRAIN
- CURRUMBIN RSL 7PM KAFFENE
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS CLUB 7.30PM SEGUE

- MURWILLUMBAH SERVICES CLUB 6.30PM BO JENKINS
- PATCH LOUNGE COOLANGATTA 7PM STEREOTYPES
- SALTBAR KINGSCLIFF DARREN MARLOW
- STOKERS SIDING 6.45PM FIFTEEN MINUTES OF FAME
- TYALGUM FESTIVAL OF CLASSICAL MUSIC 2011
- TWEED HEADS BOWLS CLUB NOON 11AM ROBBIE ROSEN LUND 7.30PM SWITCH
- TWIN TOWNS 11.30AM DANIEL MALLARI 8.30PM GLENN SHORROCK & WENDY MATTHEWS

### SATURDAY 3

- CHINDERA TAVERN BO JENKINS
- CABARITA BEACH SPORTS CLUB 7.30PM EDDS GROOVE
- CLUB BANORA 7PM STEPHEN MICHAEL
- CURRUMBIN RSL 7PM TANGERINE JAM
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS CLUB 7.30PM STREET CAFE
- KIRRA BEACH HOTEL 6PM TUFF

### SUNDAY 4

- BABALOU 7PM MANJU MEHTA 3PM TAYLOR
- CHINDERA TAVERN DARREN MARLOW
- CLUB BANORA 11.30AM BERNADETTE FISHER 12.30PM GLENN BRACE
- COOLANGATTA TWEED HEADS GOLF CLUB 2PM TWEED LINKS MUSIC CLUB CONCERT FEATURING THE

- TWEED LINKS QUARTET AND ALLAN GRANT DANCERS WITH BOB GREEN, DEBBIE TANNA, CHRISTOPHER KING AND MARK NEEUWWSSEN
- CURRUMBIN RSL 1.30PM BO JENKINS
- KIRRA SPORTS CLUB 4PM HAVE-A-GO-KARAOKE
- NEVERLAND COOLANGATTA EASY SUNDAYS
- POTTSVILLE SPORTS CLUB 5PM BILL JACOBI
- RIVERVIEW HOTEL MURWILLUMBAH 1PM DAVE CAVANAGH
- SPHINX ROCK CAFE MT BURRELL 1PM MURRAY KYLE
- SURFERS BEER GARDEN SUNDAY SESSIONS
- TYALGUM FESTIVAL OF CLASSICAL MUSIC 2011
- TWEED HEADS BOWLS CLUB 5PM CRAIG SHAW

### MONDAY 5

- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS CLUB 12 NOON DAVID BARRY
- TWEED HEADS BOWLS CLUB 11AM MARCO 6.30PM DICK BARNES

### TUESDAY 6

- CUDGEN LEAGUES CLUB NOON MARKET DAY WITH JAYNE HENRY
- MARTY'S AT CABA CABARITA BEACH 7PM JAM NIGHT WITH ANNETTE
- TWEED HEADS BOWLS CLUB 6.30PM MICHAEL KING

### WEDNESDAY 7

- BABALOU 7PM SPANISH DANCE NIGHT
- CLUB BANORA 6PM MARTIN WAY
- TWEED HEADS BOWLS CLUB 11AM PAUL RENO 6.30PM DAVE CLAYTON
- TWIN TOWNS SHOWROOM 11AM THE DOLLY PARTON & REBA MCENTIRE SHOW

### THURSDAY 8

- CLUB BANORA 6PM WAYNE JOHNSTON
- CUDGEN LEAGUES 6PM LONEWOLF
- KIRRA SPORTS CLUB 8PM PHIL EIZENBERG'S OPEN MIKE NITE
- TWEED HEADS BOWLS CLUB 6PM VEENIE'S - SMOOTH & GROOVE

The Tweed Echo has the most comprehensive entertainment gig guide in the area. For your free listing, email [gigs@tweedecho.com.au](mailto:gigs@tweedecho.com.au) or phone us on (02) 6672 2280. Deadline is noon Tuesday prior to Thursday's publication.

Known for their boisterous live shows, The Herd flaunt their new songs on the Future Shade Tour this August, starting at Splendour In The Grass and ending mid-September in Canberra. They will be supported by the electrifying soul duo Sietta, who are creating quite a buzz ahead of the release of their debut album *The Seventh Passenger*. **Coolangatta Hotel Friday.**

### Rockin' till you're Tuff

Covering the best Australian rock from the 60s to the 90s, the local Aussie Rock band **Tuff** has, over the last six years, gained an army of supporters who just love the music the boys pump out.

Featuring 'Rock God', John Carr on lead, 'Strutt'in' John Sutton on bass, 'Throbb'in' Robin Walsh on drums and Nige 'The Misque' up front on lead vocals, the guys produce a great rock sound and vibe guaranteed to get you movin' and a-shakin'.

Stevie Wright, Cold Chisel, AC/DC, Choir Boys, Masters

THE HERD  
COOLANGATTA HOTEL  
FRIDAY



SODA POP SEAGULLS  
LAKEVIEW LOUNGE  
SATURDAY

and in *The Songs of Haight Ashbury* show that rocked Stokers Siding so soundly, Bill uses foot percussion, lap slide and open tuned guitars that snake and rattle around songs both evocative and passionate. The result is a repertoire of engaging and exciting material that runs the gamut from folk to funk, from hillbilly to swamp and beyond. See him this weekend at the **The Sheoak Shack, Saturday** and the **Pottsville Sports Club on Sunday.**

Apprentices, La De Das and a host more classic Aussie rock icons are represented in Tuff's repertoire. It'll be a Tuff night at the **Kirra Beach Hotel on Saturday.**

### Bill's double header

Just back from recent tours with his duo Method and a stint on the bass with old faves Floyd Vincent and the Childbrides, **Bill Jacobi** will be bringing some new songs as well as his laid-back lap slide and foot-stompin' grooves to The Shack's opening night of entertainment. Having also been spotted of late at Ukitopia's Cabaret 360

### Poppin' the Pop

This accomplished trio groove will hit tracks from the past 50 years. Combined with smooth vocals and funky guitar, **Soda Pop** deliver a refreshing twist to any occasion, bringing a mix of old-school soul and rock from The Shirelles, Fleetwood Mac, The Eagles and many others. Soda Pop also cover top-40 music of today including Katy Perry, Duffy, Pink, Train, Jason Mraz, Kings Of Leon and many more. See the Soda Pop, **Seagulls Lakeview Lounge Saturday**

## PROGRAM GUIDE

**WINTER MAY 1 - OCTOBER 31**

**MONDAY**

- 6am The Morning Mix Kabes
- 9am The Lighthouse Lounge Andy Travis
- 11am Belly BellySisters
- 12pm Pregnancy, Birth & Beyond Nicole Foder
- 1pm Theme Park Lyn McCarthy
- 2pm Q's Jazz 'n Blues Quentin Watts
- 4pm Cruzy Beatz DJ Cruzy
- 6pm Grailey Whole Celtic Show Margaret Wyatt
- 8pm Sounds of Africa DJ Massaganda
- 10pm Freedom Run Callum

**TUESDAY**

- 6am Clockwise Gary Street
- 9am Under Construction Sarah Ndiaye & Gina Baker
- 11am Byron Business Phil Daly
- 12pm Toasted Lady Marmalade
- 2pm The Music Garden Michael Brereton
- 4pm Below the Radar The Invisible Man
- 6pm Post Modern Backlash Hudson
- 8pm Radio Mundial Steve Snelgrove
- 10pm Shel's Place Shel Kronich

**WEDNESDAY**

- 6am Catch and Grab DJ Holly Holster
- 9am 2481 Undone Nicqui Yazdi
- 11am Go Earthcare Ros Elliott
- 12pm Suara Indonesia Francesca & Kirana
- 1pm Afternoon Tea Party Adelaide French
- 2pm The Junkyard Stuey
- 4pm Cowgirl in the Sand Mel
- 6pm Bongo Gum Brett Diemar
- 8pm B-boymixers Elixir
- 10pm All Funked Up Mr Mantiki

**THURSDAY**

- 6am Planet Luv Glitter
- 9am Arts Canvass Karena
- 11am Bohemian Beat Riddhi
- 12pm Juke Joint Tony Parker
- 2pm Audio Chocolate Rich
- 4pm Future Classics Matt Meir
- 6pm Crossroads Paul Martin
- 8pm Cruisin for a Bluesin The Honeydripper
- 10pm Booty Call Lainie

**FRIDAY**

- 6am That Friday Feeling Nicky
- 9am The Spin Cycle Karin Kolbe
- 11am Page Turners Pip Morrissey
- 12pm Whirled Music Phil Hurst
- 1pm Mystery Train Mary Cannon
- 2pm Grooveyard Teesha & Nilesh
- 4pm Strictly Vinyl (Happy Days) Inchie
- 6pm Chop-Suey Rachi
- 8pm Submerged/Down & Out Si Clone/Slinky
- 10pm Rotation POB/Elixza

**SATURDAY**

- 6am Bay Rock Tark
- 8am Musical Kaleidoscope Jill
- 10am Cowboy's Sweetheart Carrie D
- 12pm Blues from the Bay Anthony & Ken
- 2pm Paris Cat Alley Lou
- 4pm Intersecting Cultures Angela
- 5pm Justice & Ms Chi Justine & Ancika
- 6pm Random Rhythms Ashgirl
- 8pm Diggin in the Archives Undertaker & Joan of Arc
- 10pm In the vaults Matt Wardle

**SUNDAY**

- 7am Astro Alchemy Iris & Michael
- 8am Colours of Byron Des
- 10am Jazz Moods Jean Brown
- 12pm Omnibus RG Pedicini & Les Schmidt
- 2pm Radio Latina Y olanda & Salvador & David
- 4pm The Bay Lounge aqua
- 6pm Roots & Culture DJ Selector
- 8pm Ice Cream Truck Fulton Hobbs & Peggy Dickson
- 10pm The Space Between Max Zoesar

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Image: Ben Quilty Margaret Olley 2011 Archibald Prize winner  
Courtesy of Art Gallery of NSW

The tertium quid: case study - Brendan McCumstie

**12 August - 5 February**

Seven Little Australians: A Dromkeen Travelling Exhibition

**PUBLIC PROGRAMS**

**Sun 11 Sept 2pm** *The tertium quid*: Brendan McCumstie 'artist-in-residence' in Foyer

**Wed 7 Sept 11am** Exhibition talk: *Archibald Prize 2011* with Danielle Gullotta, Coordinator of Access programs at Art Gallery of NSW, all are welcome to attend!!

**Wednesdays and Sundays 11am and 2pm** *Archibald Prize 2011* Guided Tours

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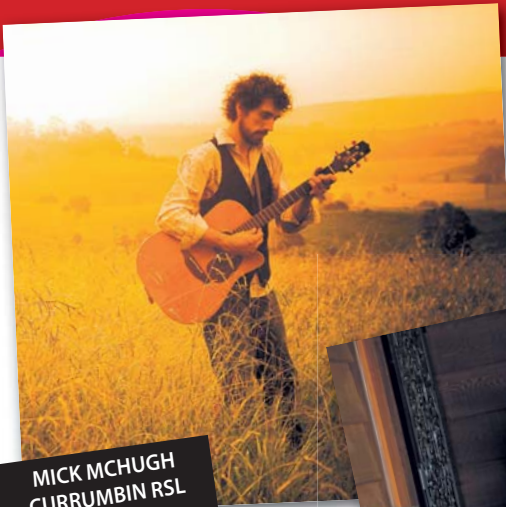
## SATURDAY 24 SEPTEMBER

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MICK MCHUGH  
CURRUMBIN RSL  
THURSDAY

BILL JACOBI THE  
SHEOAK SHACK  
SATURDAY –  
POTTSVILLE SPORTS  
CLUB SUNDAY



TUFF KIRRA BEACH  
HOTEL SATURDAY

### Passionate storyteller

Murray Kyle has emerged as a highly respected musician in the Australian roots music scene. His passionate storytelling honours his connection to humanity and speaks clearly of the hope he has for these changing times. As a young pianist he travelled the world and learned to expand his repertoire to include guitar, yidaki, woodwind and percussion.

Kyle is renowned for his soaring vocals. His sound has flowed through many of the Australian music festivals including Peats Ridge, Woodford Folk Festival, Island Vibe, Rainbow Serpent and Exodus. As a member of the electronic fusion group Mystic Beats, Kyle's evocative vocals have left an indelible impression on all who have heard him.

His touring as a solo artist and in collaboration with the likes of Saritah and Loren has taken him around Australia and across the seas to perform in California, Hawaii, the UK and Bali.

Kyle has released his third album *Keystone*. Written, recorded and produced in the lush setting of Uki, this album blends a mystical shamanic sound with global

soul, a dash of R&B and positive roots vibes. Mixed by Benjamin Last at Reel Spirit Studios and mastered by Michael Worthington, *Keystone* features some of the Byron Shire's finest musicians with Shai Shriki on oud and jumbush, Rebekah Ray on vocals, Bill Jacobi on bass, Hugh Jones on drums and Cye Wood and Laura Targett on violin.

*Keystone* is the coming of age of Murray Kyle and it is going to ignite his flame within the heart of the Australian music industry. The *Sphinx Rock Café* album launch is on **Sunday**.

### Here's your 15 minutes

The lineup for **Fifteen Minutes of Fame at Stokers** this month features locally and overseas renowned original **Fiona Ryan** – a witty, engaging, variegated and very entertaining singer, songwriter, pianist and flautist.

The Blackboard Acts are: **Geoff Morley**, comedy and song; **Lara Wilkinson**, young talented guitarist, singer and actor; **Barry Tiffen**, hilarious bush verse; **Maggie Cunningham-Webb**, comedy and song; **Rob, Kerry and Carl**, harmonious song. See all this and more at the **Stokers Siding Hall Friday**.

DAVID ICKE  
FULL DAY EVENT

THE LION  
SLEEPS NO  
MORE TOUR

SEE DETAILS IN  
AD ON PAGE 9



FIFTEEN MINUTES  
OF FAME

AT STOKERS  
FRIDAY 2ND SEPT. 7PM

Featuring **FIONA RYAN**  
original, lighthearted, engaging, witty  
singer-songwriter-pianist

PLUS variety Blackboard acts including the  
young and talented Lara Wilkinson

STOKERS SIDING HALL \$12

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& KAREN FORAN



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Bookings: Tweed Coast Vet (02) 6676 3199,  
Neptune (07) 5536 2446, or tickets at the gate



Kirtana  
in Concert

for the first time in Australia.

"Kirtana's music is a pure love transmission. Her lyrics, her voice, and her playing bring me to tears of joy."  
Gangaji

"It's nice sometimes to hear the same teaching in slightly different words expressed again... Listening to Kirtana is a beautiful meditation in itself."  
Eckhart Tolle

"Kirtana's music expresses the inexpressible in the most beautiful way!"  
Deva Premal

In Kirtana's own words the best description for both her music and her purpose in sharing it is to "celebrate divine love and the truth of who we are." Her dusky vocals are guaranteed to provide an evening that will nourish the soul.

Byron Bay  
Saturday 3rd September 2011  
Byron Bay Community Centre  
6.30pm for a 7pm start

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|-------------|--|--|--|---|-------------|
| BYRON BAY   |  <p><b>Santos Trading Warehouse</b><br/>Mon-Thurs 9 to 5<br/>Fridays 9 to 4<br/>OPEN TO THE PUBLIC<br/>3/7 Brigantine Street,<br/>Byron Arts &amp; Industry Park<br/>(02) 6685 5685</p>                                       | <p>Small enough for personal care, large enough to offer competitive prices. Santos has been supplying high quality biodynamic, organic, natural foods, and healthy products since 1975. We continue our commitment to sourcing as locally as possible. Santos is the home of Rainfed Rice—zero irrigation, certified biodynamic, as local as you can get, and the most delicious rice you're likely to find. Visit <a href="http://rainfedrice.com.au">rainfedrice.com.au</a> for more info, or visit our online store at <a href="http://santostrading.com.au">santostrading.com.au</a>. Eat well.</p> | <p><b>FINS</b><br/>Salt Village, Kingscliff<br/><b>6674 4833</b><br/><a href="mailto:dining@fins.com.au">dining@fins.com.au</a><br/>Dinner 7 days<br/>Lunch Fri, Sat &amp; Sun</p>  <p><b>GOOD FOOD GUIDE</b><br/>CHEFS HAT EVERY YEAR SINCE 1998</p>     | <p>Fresh from his travels in Europe, Steven Snow is excited to launch a <b>NEW MENU at Fins</b>.<br/>From Basque style BBQ seafood platters to spicy Mauritian King prawn curry.<br/>Book now to sample our new flavours.</p>    | KINGSCLIFF  |
| CHINDERAH   |  <p><b>Chinderah Tavern</b><br/>66 Chinderah Bay Drive,<br/>Chinderah<br/>Ph 02 6674 1137<br/><a href="http://www.taphouse.com.au">www.taphouse.com.au</a><br/>Open 7 days<br/>Lunch 12pm-2.30pm<br/>Dinner 5.30pm-8.30pm</p> | <p>The 'Chindy' is an ideal place to bring family and friends of all ages for a real country pub experience. Kick back and watch the kids play on our brand new playground while you enjoy an ice cold beer and a dozen of our famous \$12 oysters on the deck overlooking the Tweed river. Open 7 days for lunch and dinner, with afternoon entertainment on the weekends. Come and see why everyone is talking about the new Chinderah Tavern.</p>   | <p><b>SALTBAR</b><br/>Beachbar and Bistro</p>  <p>Bells Boulevard,<br/>Salt Village,<br/>South Kingscliff<br/>Open 7 days<br/>1300 725 822<br/><a href="http://www.saltbar.com.au">www.saltbar.com.au</a></p>   | <p>Saltbar has something for everyone, a large deck, newly refurbished Sports Bar, family friendly Bistro and Kids Korner. As well as ocean views, there's always a great atmosphere, daily food specials, a well-equipped children's area, live music and more. Kids eat free* Mon-Thurs 5.30-7pm + free kids' movie 7pm, T-Bone Tues &amp; free trivia, Half Price Wednesday + free Karaoke 7pm. Saltbar is on the absolute beachfront, Salt Village, 15 mins south of Coolangatta Airport. *conditions apply</p>  | KINGSCLIFF  |
| COORABELL   |  <p><b>Wilson's by The Creek</b><br/>Open Fri, Sat, Sun<br/>Lunch 12-3pm<br/>Dinner 5-10pm<br/>139 Newes Rd, Coorabell<br/><b>6684 7348</b><br/>Bookings essential</p>  | <p>Discover Wilson's By The Creek Restaurant tucked away in the Byron hinterland. Newly open to the public, the elegant restaurant offers a truly gourmet experience, accompanied by Peppers renowned personal service. Savour the incredible flavours of the hinterland for a romantic dinner or gathering with friends, as Head Chef Adam Hall inspires you with his seasonal menu brimming with local produce.</p>  | <p><b>THE BEACH SHACK</b><br/>Espresso. Juice. Ice cream.</p>  <p>Shop 5, 60 Marine Parade,<br/>Kingscliff (next to Subway)<br/>6674 5822<br/>Open 7 days 9am-5pm</p>  | <p><b>FRESHLY ROASTED</b><br/>Top quality Arabica coffee beans from new boutique roaster. The beans are roasted fresh weekly.<br/>30% Certified Organic.<br/>Rainforest Alliance.<br/><b>Taste the difference</b></p>    | KINGSCLIFF  |
| CURRUMBIN   |  <p><b>Alleys</b><br/>Currumbin RSL Club<br/>Currumbin Creek Road,<br/>Currumbin<br/>Open 7 days lunch and dinner<br/>07 5534 7999<br/><a href="http://www.currumbin.com.au">www.currumbin.com.au</a></p>                    | <p><b>ALLEYS GOURMET CATS</b><br/>Events for food and wine lovers! Inaugural Winemaker's dinner this October. Enjoy wines from Mandala Winery rated five stars by James Halliday and superbly complemented by an inspiring menu created by our talented chefs.</p>    | <p><b>Horizons</b><br/>Lunch from 11am<br/>Dinner from 5.30pm<br/>Brunch Sundays from 10am<br/>Phone: (07) 5536 2277<br/>or visit<br/><a href="http://www.twintowns.com.au">www.twintowns.com.au</a></p>   | <p>Overlooking the sparkling blue waters of the Jack Evans Boat Harbour at Twin Towns is Horizons restaurant. Enjoy a friendly atmosphere with casual indoor or al fresco dining where you can take in our spectacular views. Bring a friend to Horizons for High Tea available Monday to Saturday in the afternoon from 2.30pm to 4.30pm for an extra special afternoon delight!</p>   | TWEED HEADS |
| FINGAL HEAD |  <p><b>Sheoak Shack</b><br/>64 Fingal Rd, Fingal Head<br/>Ph 07 5523 1130<br/>Wed-Sat 11am-5pm,<br/>Sun 9.30am-5pm<br/><a href="http://www.sheoakshack.com">www.sheoakshack.com</a></p>                                     | <p>If you are looking for delicious food, coffee or a romantic sunset cocktail on the riverbank, the Sheoak Shack is the beach shack for you with a funky laid back vibe. This gallery/cafe showcases the work of high quality local artists and is available for private functions... more Byron than Byron, in sleepy Fingal Head.</p>   | <p><b>Mount Warning Hotel</b></p>  <p>Open 7 days 10am till late<br/>Bistro open daily<br/>1497 Kyogle Rd, Uki<br/>02 6679 5111</p>   | <p>One of the region's great old country pubs. Delicious food, bistro open for lunch everyday from 12-2pm, dinner Thursday to Sunday from 6-8pm. Children's playground, relaxing beer garden. Curry night on Thursday, raffles and member's draw on Friday, punter's draw on Saturday and on Sunday there is a delicious roast.</p>   | UKI         |



# ENTERTAINMENT

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Next week will see the **Tweed Coast's Under Southern Stars Arena Spectacular** held at the **Cabarita Pony Club Showground**.

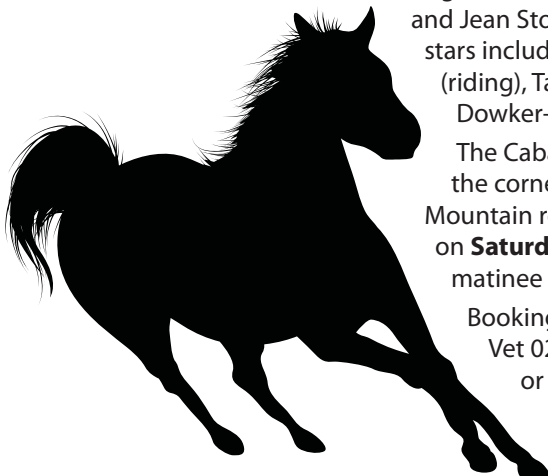


The Kamilaroi Equine Performance Team from Cabarita is excited to have received an invitation to perform in France at the The World Percheron Horse Congress 'Mondial', held once every ten years. As a Farewell Performance the Team will present their Tribute to the Aussie Light Horse Brigade of WW1.

The stars of Neptune Productions musicals will join forces with Kamilaroi and they have created a spectacular show. Local diva Liza Beamish, who is also an accomplished rider, will enter the arena singing while riding side-saddle on a magnificent Percheron mare. Live musicians Jed and Jean Stone will be joined by a host of 20 vocal stars including Casey Fegan, Lawrie Esmond (riding), Tammy Dundon, Andy Fahey, Caroline Dowker-Thomas and Ray Catt.

The Cabarita Pony Club Showground is on the corner of the Tweed Coast and Round Mountain roads at Cabarita. The spectacular is on **Saturday 10 September** with a 1.30pm matinee and a 6.30pm evening performance

Bookings can be made with the Tweed Coast Vet 02 6676 3199, Neptune 07 5536 2446, or at the gate. Grandstand seating or BYO seat or rug.









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| Bulldogs v Raiders   | ANZ Stadium     |
| Dragons v Panthers   | WIN Stadium     |
| Knights v Rabbitohs  | Ausgrid Stadium |
| Roosters v Storm     | SFS             |
| Sharks v Tigers      | Toyota Stadium  |
| Broncos v Sea Eagles | Suncorp Stadium |
| Warriors v Cowboys   | Mt Smart        |

2 points for a win, 1 point for a draw. Tipping a full card earns 3 bonus points – only for full rounds with no byes.

## POINTS TALLY

|                   |     |
|-------------------|-----|
| Winston Lamont    | 250 |
| Video Pete        | 250 |
| Rory Curtis       | 247 |
| Chris Graham      | 243 |
| Mark Harriott     | 243 |
| Alison Harman     | 241 |
| Eve Jeffery       | 233 |
| Tristan Wetherelt | 226 |
| Mr Rental         | 223 |
| Carole Goodway    | 222 |
| Peter Craddock    | 213 |
| Ziggi Browning    | 213 |
| Paul Taylor       | 211 |
| Greg Swift        | 207 |
| Phil Harris       | 189 |
| Chris Holt        | 189 |
| Phillip Kelly     | 175 |
| Barry Schadel     | 171 |
| Kel Tor           | 159 |

| Pos | Team       | P  | Pts | W  | D | L  | B | F   | A   | PD   |
|-----|------------|----|-----|----|---|----|---|-----|-----|------|
| 1   | Storm      | 23 | 42  | 19 | 0 | 4  | 2 | 513 | 268 | 245  |
| 2   | Sea Eagles | 23 | 40  | 18 | 0 | 5  | 2 | 529 | 313 | 216  |
| 3   | Broncos    | 23 | 38  | 17 | 0 | 6  | 2 | 493 | 362 | 131  |
| 4   | Wests      | 23 | 32  | 14 | 0 | 9  | 2 | 489 | 408 | 81   |
| 5   | Cowboys    | 23 | 32  | 14 | 0 | 9  | 2 | 526 | 462 | 64   |
| 6   | Dragons    | 23 | 31  | 13 | 1 | 9  | 2 | 451 | 329 | 122  |
| 7   | Warriors   | 23 | 30  | 13 | 0 | 10 | 2 | 486 | 387 | 99   |
| 8   | Knights    | 23 | 26  | 11 | 0 | 12 | 2 | 438 | 419 | 19   |
| 9   | Rabbitohs  | 23 | 26  | 11 | 0 | 12 | 2 | 507 | 522 | -15  |
| 10  | Bulldogs   | 23 | 26  | 11 | 0 | 12 | 2 | 413 | 467 | -54  |
| 11  | Panthers   | 23 | 22  | 9  | 0 | 14 | 2 | 418 | 485 | -67  |
| 12  | Roosters   | 23 | 22  | 9  | 0 | 14 | 2 | 377 | 492 | -115 |
| 13  | Sharks     | 23 | 18  | 7  | 0 | 16 | 2 | 406 | 527 | -121 |
| 14  | Raiders    | 23 | 16  | 6  | 0 | 17 | 2 | 401 | 587 | -186 |
| 15  | Titans     | 23 | 16  | 6  | 0 | 17 | 2 | 351 | 597 | -246 |
| 16  | Eels       | 23 | 15  | 5  | 1 | 17 | 2 | 353 | 526 | -173 |



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Warriors  
Tigers  
Titans  
Bulldogs  
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Fingal Head residents report that 'things are relatively quiet on the river at the moment with the wakeboarders interstate on tour', and to prove it sent us a photo of some dolphins frolicking at Fingal Head the other day. A wakeboarding school has recently applied to conduct lessons on the river between Fingal Head and Chinderah, after being found to have been operating without authorisation for up to five years (see last week's *Echo*). The high-speed motorised sport no doubt has an impact on the cetaceans who often come into the river to feed and play. Locals say they 'want the river to be a peaceful sanctuary for these wild animals and birds.'

Pro-development councillors Warren Polglase and Kevin Skinner were both keen this week to make it clear neither of them had been pushing for a police station to be built specifically on prime agricultural land at Cudgen owned by a company linked to former local National Party MP Don Beck. Both said they had been pushing for an 'integrated site' to house a new cop shop somewhere in the shire. Last week *The Echo* reminded readers that Tweed MP Geoff Provest had 'backed a recent deputation involving National Party heavyweight and Tweed councillor Warren Polglase and mayor Kevin Skinner to meet with the police minister to push for the Cudgen location'. This information was first published in early June by at least two Tweed newspapers, but according to Crs Polglase and Skinner, it was wrong for the media to suggest they would have promoted the Cudgen site over any other if NSW police minister Mike Gallacher had agreed to meet them. Cr Polglase described our story as a 'fabrication' while Cr Skinner said it was 'totally inaccurate'. Many locals fear that if the land is rezoned, it will open the floodgates to further rezoning of nearby farmland and see the



quiet Cudgen community gobbled up in ugly urban sprawl.

And on a Facebook site for community groups we spotted this comment about the Tweed coastal issues: 'The whole foreshore redevelopment at Kingscliff is just a ruse to get the ratepayers to fork out the \$6m to protect the caravan park so the Tweed Coast Holiday Parks Reserve Trust doesn't have to foot the bill. Clever Dicks!' Another comment said: 'These greedy developers admit that the proposed site at Caba will also be threatened by coastal erosion in the years to come and yet they have made no provision for this in their financial modelling. Who will pay in future when it happens at Caba? You guessed it, us again!'

Councillors this month will decide who takes the mayoral reins for the next year till the September 2012 elections. Goss to *Backburner* is that the vote at the September 20 meeting will favour veteran National Party councillor and former mayor Warren Polglase, with the Liberals' Joan van Lieshout, who was mayor in 2009, as his deputy, thereby maintaining the conservative parties' pro-development domination of council.

Southern Cross University (SCU) students Eric Chan, from France, who has Chinese and Cambodian heritage and is studying for a Master of Business Administration in Hotel and Tourism Management, and Gwen Lin, from Taiwan, who is studying for her Master of International Tourism and Hotel Management, sample some of the international food at the Fusion Festival held at SCU Beachside campus near Coolangatta airport last Thursday. Photo Sharlene King, SCU

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### ROBYN ELIZABETH WELCH D.M.I

AUTHOR: Conversations With The Body, and Exploring Dimensions With The Body.

\*Please note  
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