

Local Greens MP urges vaccination

Local MP Tamara Smith (Greens) is urging those unvaccinated to get their shots, warning that while the region has 'managed to dodge bullets, the most dangerous time will be leading up, to and after, all lockdowns end on October 11'.

Ms Smith estimates that if 20 per cent of the north coast does not get vaccinated, that equates to around 36,000 people who may become exposed to the virus. 'It could overwhelm health services', she says.

Ms Smith says the government is telling people to prepare for COVID-19 cases, and given that Sydney residents will be 85-90 per cent vaccinated by December 1, she suspects cases on the north coast will increase.

'We will be 80 per cent fully vaxxed by end of October (based on the Primary Health Network modelling), when the visitors start to arrive'.

Statistics from countries such as Israel, and in Europe, indicate that fully vaccinated people can still get COVID-19, pass it on to others, and can also die from the disease, albeit in lower numbers.

The NSW government says after a 70 per cent vaccination rate is reached, 'it's time for NSW to get back to business'.

Reopening for businesses that have fully vaccinated staff is expected to start Monday October 11. By December 1, the NSW government says there will be 'further easing of restrictions for everyone, whether vaccinated or not'.

Yet it is unknown how such measures will play out in the north coast, which has both high rates

of vaccine hesitancy/opposition and a large population of small business owners.

The government's 'compliance and business obligations' document (which is part of its 'Guidance for businesses' documents) says that 'Businesses are responsible for taking reasonable steps to prevent unvaccinated people entering your premises'.

The NSW government's compliance measures are also very vague, and say, 'Authorised officers will monitor businesses re-opening, particularly those that have vaccination requirements, for example hospitality, retail, gyms and personal services (e.g. hair, beauty)'.

The government's *proof of vaccination* sheet says, 'Anyone aged 16 or over will need to be fully vaccinated (or have an exemption) to enter most venues, including hospitality venues, non-critical retail stores, personal services, sporting, recreation and entertainment facilities and events. Critical retail such as supermarkets or pharmacies will still be accessible for people who are not fully vaccinated'.

Proof of vaccination will be via a 'COVID-19 digital certificate', available from the 'Express Plus Medicare mobile app or Medicare online account, through myGov'.

Those without a smartphone can obtain a 'A COVID-19 digital certificate or immunisation history statement... via myGov to download and print. Alternatively, call the Australian Immunisation Register to request a copy in the post'.

► Continued on page 2



Boardriders gear up for charity

Legendary surfers Danny Wills and Garret Parkes, with Mark Krackowizer. Photo Jeff 'Clubbed And Waxed' Dawson

Mark Krackowizer

As with so many other events since COVID-19 appeared, Byron Bay Boardriders (BBB) is making adjustments and taking a unique approach to sponsorship for the 10th annual Skullcandy Byron Bay Boardriders charity golf day on October 24.

Owing to current unknown economic conditions for so many of our local businesses, we are making sponsorship funding voluntary for all sponsors who have supported us over the last 10 years.

That is, any past sponsor can get signage on the course, program listing and other benefits this year, regardless of whether they've donated or not. This approach allows those who are doing all right financially to help as normal, and

also allows those who are doing it tough to get visibility and advertising for no cost, at a time when they could perhaps use a bit of help.

BBB has received so much support over the years from the community through this event, and other activities, we feel that in these unusual times, it is a good time to help those who have helped us.

The club will also take the same approach to the raffle at the event.

Over \$50k raised

We will be printing a special tenth anniversary program, thanking all sponsors and contributors to the raffle since the event began.

The event has raised over \$50,000 since its inception to help local families in need, and supports BBB Junior Programs.

The long running subset of the event, The Byron Bay Surf Industry Challenge, will also take place on the day.

We have had to reschedule owing to rain in the past, so we aren't going to change our plans owing to COVID-19, until we have to. The community and the golf club needs events like this to help get our spirit back.

We are looking forward to running a safe event, within the COVID Safe guidelines that are in place on that date, and having some fun, and helping out local families.

To play in the event, contact Byron Bay Golf Club. For new and past sponsorship or raffle donations, call 0431 570 574.

■ Mark Krackowizer is Byron Bay Boardriders event organiser.

Tweed protest hears unfounded views on laws, vax ► p4

Bioenergy DA 'deficient and misleading' say bird watchers ► p5

Who are the friendly tradies in your neighbourhood? ► p26

'The starry vault of heaven is in truth the open book of cosmic projection...' - Carl Jung ► Stars p31

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*Budgeram means story in Bundjalung language.
Thank you to Ninbella Gallery for supporting this monthly column.

Crochet project for the streets of Mullum

Zoe Duc

This week, the community decided to take over those ugly white plastic poles on Burringbar and Stuart Street by covering them with crocheted socks.

President of the Mullumbimby Chamber of Commerce, Jenelle Stanford, said the crocheted socks are 'to make Mullumbimby prettier'.

The white poles were installed by Council several months ago to slow down traffic. The project was funded by the NSW Government, and aims to share the main street between cars and pedestrians, at Council's request.

Ms Stanford, who runs the Mullumbimby Newsagent at the corner of Stuart and Burringbar streets, said that the poles have been effective at slowing down the traffic.

However, the community of Mullum did not appreciate these ugly scraps of plastic in the pretty little town.

As Ms Stanford put the socks on, pedestrians congratulated her and marvelled at the bright colours.

'Everyone was moaning



President of the Mullumbimby Chamber of Commerce, Jenelle Stanford. Photo Jeff Dawson

about it', said a passerby before adding, 'but now it looks better'.

Crochet Goddess

The Crochet Goddess, Yazmina-Michèle de Gaye, who made these eco-sensitive socks, says 'people are happy about it; how beautiful and colourful it is'.

Though the Crochet Goddess has been stuck in WA since the start of the pandemic, she told *The Echo* that she decided to take part in this local project because, 'it is a reward to give something to the community', and it means she still feels involved in the communal life of the town.

The Crochet Goddess made ten pole socks, but more are needed, with Ms Stanford encouraging 'everyone' to participate.

Paintings on the ground will soon accompany these crochet socks to make the town more colourful.

■ Zoe Duc is an *Echo* intern.

Mayor defends 38 per cent height exceedance for large DA

Paul Bibby

Byron's interim Mayor, Michael Lyon, has defended his decision to support an accommodation development that exceeds the height limit for the centre of Byron Bay.

Cr Lyon was responding to an article published in *The Echo* on September 22 in relation to a three-storey, 46-room motel development, which will be built at 33 Lawson Street.

In that article, *The Echo* reported that the developers had filed a modification application seeking approval to exceed the height limit by 38 per cent.

This application was approved by councillors by a margin of five votes to three.

The same group of councillors who voted in favour of the height variation also voted to extend hours of operation for the motel's rooftop pool beyond those recommended by Council staff and requested by nearby neighbours.

They further disregarded a staff recommendation to restrict the number of people who are allowed to use the pool at any one time to 30.

Following the publication of *The Echo's* article, Cr Lyon took to Facebook to defend his decision to vote in favour of the modification application.

Exceedance true, but...

He said that while it was true that the building height was 38 per cent higher than the nine-metre height limit for this part of central Byron, only a very small part of the structure exceeded that limit.

'This [exceedance] is true, but only



Interim Mayor, Michael Lyon. Photo by David Hancock

for about 1.5 per cent of the floorplan – for the lift overrun and pool changeroom...', Cr Lyon said.

'Another 1.5 per cent [of the floorplan] is perhaps 20 per cent over the height limit, and [these] are the stair overruns.'

Cr Lyon further argued that central Byron needed more hotel accommodation so that visitors had an alternative to using AirBnB.

This would be particularly pertinent if the Council was successful in its bid to impose a 90-day cap on this type of short-term holiday letting.

'This application provides that, with an extension of the original DA to include another eight rooms,' Cr Lyon said.

He also said that when the hotel was viewed from the street, it would look 'perfectly in line with neighbouring properties' and that 'most of the rest of the town' had an 11.5 metre height limit.

Finally, Cr Lyon said that he was 'certain' that if Council rejected the

application and the matter went to court, Council would lose.

This comment appears to be at odds with the fact that Cr Lyon indicated at the September 22 planning meeting that he had not sought, or been given, any legal advice in relation to the matter.

No legal advice, reform

There has also been little or no attempt by the current Council to amend its planning laws in order to make them less susceptible to legal challenge.

'I am committed to the current building height limits across our commercial precincts and don't think these should change,' he said.

'I love the look and feel of Byron and will resist any attempts to try to change the general height limits in place that could see us become more Gold Coast.'

'However, I am not worried about relatively minor alterations and exceedances when they don't result in an extra floor but just improvements to the design.'

However, many remain concerned that height exceedances, such as that at 33 Lawson Street, are part of a gradual, creeping increase in height limits across the Byron CBD, and in particular the central block bounded by Lawson Street, Jonson Street, Middleton Street and Bay Lane.

When the Council proposed to increase height limits on this block in 2018, there was such an outcry from the community that it was forced to shelve the plan indefinitely.

Resilient Byron workshop, Oct 9

A free workshop in resilience education for residents concerned about climate, fire and ecosystems and water crises will be held Saturday, October 9 from 1–4pm, via Zoom.

Organiser, Resilient Byron, says its ambition is to 'bring together residents via a web of neighbourhoods, organised as interconnected areas of local resilience, supported by residents organised in thematic groups (Indigenous resilience, food security, water security, housing security, energy security, health and well-being, safety and emergency)'.

To get involved visit www.events.humanitix.com/resilient-communities.

For more information, call or email Paul Cholakos on 0408 101 117 or paul.cholakos@gmail.com.



Resilient Byron organisers Bronwyn Morris and Paul Cholakos. Photo Jeff Dawson

Teacher vax rate 'broadly in line with community vax'

Given historically high rates of vaccination hesitancy/opposition in the Northern Rivers, and that there is also a teacher shortage, owing to years of poor government policy, *The Echo* asked the NSW Education Department if they had calculated how many teachers will be lost owing to mandatory vaccination, and how the department plans to offset that loss.

A spokesperson for NSW Education told *The Echo*, 'From November 8, all NSW school and preschool staff will be required to have received two doses of COVID-19 vaccine'.

'Staff have been given reasonable notice to secure

their vaccine in time for this cut-off date'.

'While NSW Health records vaccination data, not the Department of Education, initial surveys indicate our workforce is broadly in line with the community vaccination rates, which we are pleased to see are increasing rapidly towards the 70 and 80 per cent marks in the next few weeks.'

'Whenever there is a vacancy in a NSW public school, the Department works closely with the principal to ensure it is filled as quickly as possible.'

'Although the vacancy rate in NSW public schools remains less than two per

cent, the NSW Government is committed to ensuring there is a strong pipeline of teachers entering the profession now and into the future.'

'That's why \$125 million has been committed, over the next four years, to implement the soon-to-be-released Teacher Supply Strategy, which will include several strategies to attract more teachers into the profession'.

There was no reply to *The Echo* question whether there been 'any report/study that has looked at explaining why the numbers for education degrees have sharply fallen, and why half of trainees fail to finish their degrees?'

Gov't's vague rollout of mandatory vax policy

► Continued from page 1
And for those with a medical exemption for vaccination, the government says, 'speak to your medical practitioner about getting your medical contraindication added to your immunisation history'.

'Safety guidelines' for business have been issued by the NSW government, which include COVID Safe check-ins and proof of vaccination, which 'will be required for staff and customers'.

According to www.nsw.gov.au, those fully vaccinated in NSW was 64.9 per cent of the population aged 16 and over (as of September 30).

Those with a first dose are 87.5 per cent.

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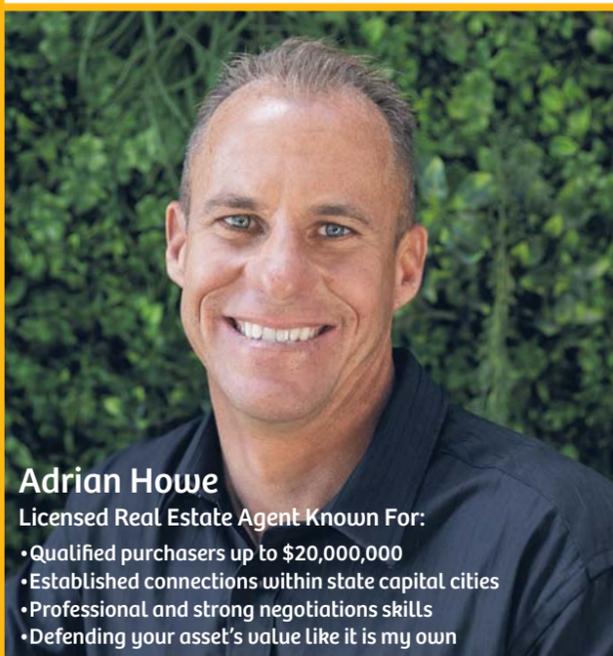
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Tweed protest hears unfounded views on laws, science

Hans Lovejoy

A peaceful protest against 'forced' vaccinations and vaccination passports was held Friday at noon at the NSW/Qld border, in front of Twin Towns.

It attracted around 1,000 people, and included speakers, as well as a strong Indigenous presence.

Activist Tom Barnett streamed it live from his social media account.

QANTAS pilot, Graham Hood, spoke to the large crowd before the march.

His recent viral video condemning government policy around vaccination is available on YouTube (for now) - 'Qantas Pilot Speaks

Out About Vaccine Mandate'.

As a pilot for 53 years, and 32 years with QANTAS, Mr Hood told the gathering: 'The spirit of Australia has been decimated by politics, bureaucrats and big business'.

He called for Indigenous sovereignty and said Australians have forgotten the sacrifices that previous generations made, particularly in wars.

Mr Hood asked, 'What will [the PM] do with the ten to 20 per cent of us who will not agree to being vaccinated?'

'Will we be under house arrest? Hundreds of police officers in all the states are saying "nup".'

'They thought they signed up to serve and protect',

he said to crowd cheers.

'There are 20,000 teachers saying "No" to forced vaccination'.

'Around 200 Victorian police contacted me saying they don't want to be part of this [pro vax agenda], he said.

'A new national police union is about to start. There's 9,000 doctors and nurses [who] have joined.' Mr Hood then mentioned the website www.policeforfreedom.org.

He also claimed that PCR tests don't work.

Numerous conspiracies persist around Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) testing for COVID-19, yet have been debunked by various scientific sources, including *Cosmos Magazine*.

After describing himself as a reformed pornography addict who had found Jesus, he led the crowd in a Christian prayer and song.

The protest started at noon, with a march up to the Tweed headland.

Many of the protesters were wearing white shirts, with a range of occupations inscribed on their backs, including the years they have worked. At the march, video footage is depicted of police being hugged by protesters. There was strong support for their presence at the rally.

Meryl Dorey speaks

After the march, Meryl Dorey was introduced to the crowd as being from the AVN (now known as the Australian Vaccination-risks Network Inc).

She said she started [what was then known as] the AVN with others in 1994, as her son 'was injured by his vaccines'.

She said, 'There was no info available at the time'.

'It wasn't right to make a decision without having



Police being hugged by protesters. Screen shot from Tom Barnett's live stream

information, especially when it can kill'.

She also made the controversial, and incorrect claim that the 'virus doesn't exist'.

'Media and politics is the virus', she continued.

Ms Dorey later told *The Echo* her full quote was: 'Over a virus that, as far as I've been able to see, does not exist'.

She supported her claim of a 'Lack of isolation or purification of the SARS-COV-2 virus' by supplying a website link: www.fluoridefreepeel.ca/fois-reveal-that-health-science-institutions-around-the-world-have-no-record-of-sars-cov-2-isolation-purification.

She told *The Echo*, 'The AVN has sent two requests in to our Commonwealth Health Department and received the same answer - no records can be found to prove that we have ever identified, isolated or purified this particular virus'.

Ms Dorey's claim appears to be a misunderstanding of how the virus and isolation process works.

University of Auckland associate professor and microbiologist, Siouxsie Wiles, told AAP FactCheck, 'Viruses are basically

inanimate objects which need a culture to activate in. But the way they are phrasing the requests is that the sample must be completely unadulterated and not be grown in any culture - and you can't do that'.

'You can't isolate a virus without using a cell culture, so by using their definition it hasn't been isolated. But it has been isolated and cultivated using a cell culture multiple times all around the world,' AAP FactCheck said.

Ms Dorey's claim of a non-existent virus is also at odds with the millions of reported cases worldwide.

She also encouraged the crowd not to vote for major parties, including the Greens.

FWC case

Ms Dorey also pointed to a recent Fair Work Commission judgement regarding an unfair dismissal case.

Jennifer Kimber's employer told her that she needed to take an influenza shot to continue working at an aged care facility. She refused and lodged an unfair dismissal claim, and lost.

However, at the rally, Ms Dorey claimed that pages 32-44 of the FWC judgment, which is by the dissenting

judgment of Dean, show it is illegal for an employer to require vaccination for employment in Australia.

Ms Dorey later told *The Echo*, 'I realise that the first half of the decision did not save Jennifer Kimber, but the second half - from page 32-44 as I stated - was a great victory. That dissenting opinion should open the door to an appeal against the requirement to receive a vaccination in order to work - a breach of international treaties, natural justice and, quite possibly, the Commonwealth Constitution'.

The view that 'international treaties, natural justice' or the Constitution can override Emergency Health Orders and protect the right to work unvaccinated during a pandemic have not been supported by the legal fraternity.

Law firm McCullough and Roberston published their view on the matter here: www.mccullough.com.au/2021/09/29/dont-believe-the-hype-dismissal-of-employee-who-refused-to-be-vaxxed-was-not-unfair.

No human rights

Meanwhile, legal expert and academic at UNSW, Professor George Williams, told The NSW Council for Civil Liberties in July, 'The Constitution protects only a few rights in Australia, and none of these rights have been affected by the lockdowns. (We are the only democracy without a national *Charter of Rights* or *Human Rights Act*, though some States do have their own human rights Acts)'.

'And our Governments are empowered to take these measures. Under the *Biosecurity Act 2015*, [wherein] orders can be issued to prevent the spread of disease'.

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Bioenergy DA 'deficient and misleading' say bird watchers

A local group of bird watchers have raised their concerns over a large Council-led bioenergy project, proposed at the Byron Bay Sewage Treatment Plant (STP).

The location, 45 Wallum Place, Byron Bay, is a renowned bird watching area.

Jan Olley from Byron Bird Buddies (BBB) provided *The Echo* with their objection, which accuses the DA of being 'deficient and misleading', and as a result, 'the NSW Northern Regional Planning Panel will lack reliable information by which to accurately assess the proposal and its impacts'.

The objection says Council and planners have erred by underestimating the potential impacts to threatened and protected avifauna species at the site.

Contempt for the community

The objection reads, 'The Biodiversity Report and the EIS ignore any findings BBB have reported (and lodged with Council) during their regular monitoring programs of Byron Wetlands since 2006. Council has demonstrated contempt for

the community by signally failing to involve BBB in the planning phase'.

Along with claiming the proposed access road is unsafe, the objection is calling for an 'adequate Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)' for the 'entire wetland site, not merely limited to the 0.8 hectares in which the current EIS was conducted'.

In reply, Council staff told *The Echo*, 'Council staff proactively held two meetings with the Byron Bird Buddies and other birding groups during the DA public exhibition stage'.

'As a normal part of the DA process, Council is now preparing further information and potential additional mitigation measures in response to the public exhibition submissions, including addressing the submissions, from the Byron Bird Buddies.

Staff went on to claim that process was followed around legislation requirements.

They say, 'Ecologists concluded that the proposed development – on cleared, mowed and mostly-fenced Operation Land – is considered to be of low biodiversity impact and that it will not impact any areas of land

that NSW EPA has declared as areas of high biodiversity value. Council has already received a supporting judgement for the proposed Bioenergy Facility project from the Commonwealth Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment under the *EP&BC Act 1999* which deals with threatened and endangered animals and migratory birds'.

Yet Byron Bird Buddies maintain the area is one of the 'foremost hotspots for avian biodiversity in the Northern Rivers, indeed in NSW'.

The say, 'The DA fails to either recognise, or to address this concept, and threatens to severely compromise the dual community benefit derived from what has become one of Byron Shire's most beloved social and environmental assets.

'Extensive studies of the past have not been discussed. The ecology of the Byron Wetlands is well documented in order to manage this Byron Bay Integrated Water Management Reserve. The DA reads as if corporate memory has been allowed to slip'.

Asbestos dumping reported, Council unable to accept

Recent illegal asbestos dumping in bushland has been reported to Byron Shire Council, who have described the act as 'disrespectful'.

Two locations were discovered, one on Durrumbul Road, Main Arm and another on Coolamon Scenic Drive, Billinudgel.

With heavy fines for asbestos dumping, and its environmental and dangerous health impacts, those with information on the incidents are encouraged to contact the Resource Recovery Hotline on 1300 652 625 or report online at www.ridonline.epa.nsw.gov.au.

Council say that the Byron Resource Recovery Centre, located in Myocum, 'cannot lawfully accept asbestos'.

The Echo asked Council staff, 'Given there have been two local incidents reported within the last fortnight – and cleaned up by Council – will Council be planning to accept asbestos soon?'

And also, 'What legal, lawful, impediments are there for Council accepting asbestos?'

Council staff replied, 'The Byron Resource Recovery

Centre is a transfer station and does not have an operational landfill. Asbestos must be taken directly to an active landfill, usually with a designated area with provision for it to be covered immediately.

Transfer station, not 'active landfill'

'As a transfer station, we cannot receive asbestos.

'Instead, we are assisting residents in the safe removal of asbestos through the provision of free testing kits (costs covered by Council) and subsidised removal kits for small amounts of asbestos (<10m²).

'Any amount of asbestos over 10m² must be removed, and appropriately disposed of by a contractor licenced to handle asbestos, to the closest licensed facility.

'There are multiple facilities that accept asbestos, with varying prices, which can be found on the NSW EPA website.

To locate a facility for asbestos disposal, visit NSW Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) website: www.epa.nsw.gov.au.



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Echo

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Lismore, Casino and Kyogle in lockdown

Stay-at-home orders are currently in place for Lismore, Kyogle and Casino local government areas.

Australia Seabird Rescue needs help

A massive influx of injured birds, turtles and sea snakes over recent weeks has pushed Ballina's Australian Seabird Rescue to the edge of capacity, and needing extra assistance from the community.

Bush Fire Danger Period in place for most of NSW

With recent bushfire seasons still front and centre in our memories, the New South Wales Rural Fire Service are reminding residents that all but nine local government areas of NSW in Bush Fire Danger Period from Friday 1 October 2021.

The Magpie, the Snake and the Nyangbal of Ballina

Local author Steven Trotter took a punt on so many levels with his book, *The Magpie and the Snake*, including giving up a secure job and mounting a Kickstarter campaign.

Fossil fuel industry's 'climate deception' tactics challenged

US Government House Committee on Oversight and Reform tries to call big oil and its disinformation acolytes to account.

It's tick time again on the Far North Coast

It's tick season and pet owners and farmers are being urged to take prophylactic measures to care for their animals and to be on the lookout for signs of illness.

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Keith Williams announces Ballina Labor team

David Lowe

Ballina Cr Keith Williams has announced his team for the much-delayed local government elections on December 4, in which he hopes to become mayor.

This time he's running on an ALP ticket, and not as an independent. The Labor for Ballina team includes Col Riches standing in Ward A, Keith Williams and Leonie Price standing in Ward B, and Therese Crollick in Ward C.

'Our candidates bring a wealth of experience from finance, health, law, community organisations, information technology, local government and environmental rehabilitation,' said Cr Williams.

Cr Williams has been a Ballina councillor for nine years and the Chair of Rous County Council for the past four years. The future of water across the region has



Ballina Labor ticket: (L-R) Col Riches, Leonie Price, Therese Crollick, Cr Keith Williams. Photo supplied

been central to much of his activity in these roles.

'Nine years ago, I first stood with the aim of doing something about the declining health of North Creek and the Richmond River. I'm proud that Ballina now has a fully funded Healthy Waterways Program,' said Cr Williams.

'As the Chair of Rous, I co-authored the Northern

Rivers Watershed Initiative, which has been adopted by all six Northern Rivers Councils as the agreed strategy to address river health, flooding and climate change by slowing and storing more water in the landscape,' he said.

'In the last four years Ballina has attracted more coastal and estuary grant funding than any other local council in Australia. We have

also secured substantial investment for the Richmond River from the NSW Marine Estate Strategy, and more than one third of the Fisheries Habitat Action Grants in NSW,' said Cr Williams.

'This has funded more on ground rehabilitation works in the last three years than the previous twenty. Much more work is needed, but this is a great start.'

Why Labor?

Previously elected as an independent, Cr Williams said, 'I have been a member of the Labor Party for most of my life.

'It reflects the personal values that I hold dear; putting people first by caring for the vulnerable and ensuring a fair go for all, supporting economic activity that provides secure local jobs, protecting our environment, acting on climate change and ensuring we leave the

place in a better state for future generations.'

The Echo asked why then did he run as an independent last time, and on a Labor ticket this time?

Keith Williams responded, 'I was given a political lesson from an unhappy voter late in the day at the last election that's stuck with me: "You all claim to be Independent, but that's bullshit. What do you really stand for?"

"I'm a member of Labor," I said, "but we're not running a ticket."

"Well you're as bad as the rest of them then!"

'With so many people new to Ballina, and many others unsure what the array of "Independents" actually stand for, it's good to know that Labor is on your side,' said Cr Williams.

► **Full story online at www.echo.net.au/keith-williams-announces-labor**

MDMA, psilocybin 'may show promise' in disorders

An independent report to the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) on the benefits/effects of MDMA and psilocybin has been released, which shows they 'may show promise in highly selected populations, but only where these medicines are administered in closely clinically supervised settings and with intensive professional support'.

The report's summary says, 'There has been increasing interest in the use of Methylene Dioxymeth Amphetamine (MDMA) and Psilocybin in the treatment of mental, behavioural or developmental disorders. Although there have been several recent systematic reviews,

studies and participants have been limited, and the field is rapidly evolving with the publication of more studies'.

Of the trials undertaken, the report's authors say 'MDMA [...] resulted in statistically significant improvements in social anxiety in adults with autism when compared to placebo. However, the results for anxiety in life threatening disease were non-significant, although participant numbers were low. Effect sizes were large in all comparisons, but with wide confidence intervals'.

As for Psilocybin, the authors say 'One study reported statistically significant differences between psilocybin and placebo

(niacin) in treatment-resistant depression while another reported statistically significant differences between high and low dose psilocybin for subjects with anxiety or depression in life threatening disease. Psilocybin was superior to remaining on a wait-list in a third study, and equally effective as a registered antidepressant (escitalopram) in a fourth study. In a fifth study, there were no statistically significant differences between psilocybin and controls at the two-week follow-up, although both groups showed longer-term improvements following cross-over'. The report is available at www.tga.gov.au/independent-expert-panel-mdma-and-psilocybin.

Local producer calls on ITV to cover business lockdown costs

In the first week of the school holidays, businesses were shut, birthday parties cancelled, and kids were stuck at home across the Tweed and Byron shires. Local producer and director Tessa Hall told *The Echo* that local businesses should tally their losses and send the invoice to ITV Studios Australia.

'At this point, even though I don't work in reality TV, I am ashamed to be a part of the production industry. What I do for a living making content and TV commercials

is not essential at this time, and I don't think Reality TV production is either. The risk to public health is too great,' she said.

'There have been too many instances of producers behaving badly in our region. In a self-regulated industry that has, for far too long, relied on "people doing the right thing" and "we take these matters seriously" press statements. That tens of thousands of people have been in lockdown as a result of alleged actions that have

resulted in swift laying of charges by NSW Police makes a mockery of Authorised Worker Permits and Public Health Orders and COVID Safe Plans as they relate to Film and TV Production.'

Unnecessary pain

'I wanted to give people a way to send Nicholas Melville, the Head of Legal and Business Affairs at ITV Studios Australia, a clear message about the unnecessary pain, stress, and loss of income this matter has caused,' she said.

Class actions in govt sights

New laws proposed by federal Attorney General, Michaelia Cash, will cripple the capacity of everyday Australians to take legal action against corporations and governments, says the peak body for class action law firms.

Class Actions Australia spokesperson and Maurice Blackburn's National Head of Class Actions, Andrew Watson, said Ms Cash's exposure draft bill 'would severely limit the ability to get worthwhile class actions off the ground, by applying a cap on class action funders and banning common fund orders (CFOs)'.

Mr Watson said it was 'preposterous for the government to claim the laws were being introduced to help everyday Australians participating in class actions'.

'This isn't reform, it's

sabotage', Mr Watson said.

'The Morrison Government wants class actions de-clawed and de-fanged so corporations can use their power and size to get away with hurting people.

'Surely if you're introducing a measure to benefit class action members you would have talked to them first? Michaelia Cash hasn't met with people ripped off by insurance companies selling worthless products to the vulnerable. Or the women hurt by big pharma due to faulty pelvic mesh implants. Because she's not looking after victims, she's siding with wrongdoers.

'The point of these law changes isn't to make class actions better, it's to throw so much sand in their gears they don't get off the ground'.

Charity regulation changes mooted

The peak body for the social services sector in NSW says a proposed federal law would see charities de-registered for engaging in advocacy work or supporting protest activity.

The NSW Council of Social Service (NCOSS) says Liberal federal Assistant Treasurer, Michael Sukkar, proposes to amend the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* (Cth).

'Charities are already heavily regulated. They need less red tape, not more.'

NCOSS added that Liberal Senator Concetta Fierravanti-Wells, chair of a parliamentary committee charged with monitoring how ministers use their powers to issue regulations, expressed her concerns over the impact on the implied freedom of political communication in Australia if the law was enacted.

For more information visit www.ncoos.org.au/changes-to-acnc-governance-standards-write-to-your-local-mp-or-liberal-senator-today.

Ocean Shores STP inches closer to closure

Paul Bibby

Byron Council appears to be inching closer to its plan to close the Ocean Shores Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) and transfer sewage from this part of the Shire to the Brunswick Valley facility.

Council has been talking about closing the ageing Ocean Shores plant for more than four years – a move which it says will bring both environmental and financial benefits.

Yet the closure of such a major piece of infrastructure – beleaguered though it is – is a delicate matter, especially in an election year.

Last week the members of Council's Water, Waste and Sewer Advisory Committee took part in a workshop on the proposal, which explored some of the nuts and bolts for the first time.

Medium to high risk, says EPA

This workshop followed correspondence from, and meetings with, the Environment Protection Authority regarding compliance with licence conditions at



Ocean Shores Sewage Treatment Plant (STP), one of four that Council manage. Photo Jeff Dawson

Ocean Shores STP.

'The EPA has completed an Environmental Risk Assessment and raised the risk rating of the Ocean Shores system, from medium to high, owing to concerns around treatment performance,' Council documents state.

'Council is now at a decision point relating to Ocean Shores STP.'

Ocean Shores STP

operates under a relatively old NSW EPA environmental licence.

The concentration limits of this licence are relatively lenient (e.g. in respect of ammonia) compared with more modern licences for similar sized plants in the region, such as Brunswick Valley STP.

Similarly, the mass load limits for nutrients, when converted to likely effective

average concentrations based on average flow estimates, are relatively lenient.

According to Council the capital cost of its preferred option for the transfer, is estimated to be \$10 million.

This is said to be a significant saving to the community in both initial capital and whole-of-life costs.

An upgrade of Ocean Shores STP alone has a capital cost of \$29 million.

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A primer on local power



Cr Basil Cameron Cr Cate Coorey Cr Alan Hunter



Cr Jeannette Martin Vacant Mayor spot Cr Sarah Ndiaye



Cr Jan Hackett Cr Michael Lyon Cr Paul Spooner

There are nine elected councillors (including the mayor), but since the departure of the mayor earlier in the year (just before COVID-19 lockdowns), Council have been operating with eight councillors. Hence, Cr Michael Lyon was appointed mayor by councillors, not the public.

The current councillors were elected in 2016, with four Greens, who, with the help of two Labor councillors and the lone conservative in the room, held the balance of power for five long years (Normally terms are four years, but you know, COVID...).

There are two independent councillors, Crs Cate Coorey and Basil Cameron, who have consistently questioned unfettered development and poor policy more than the others, and thus have voted against larger ticket items more often than not.

While four Greens were elected by the voters in 2016, there's now only one Green left in the chamber – Cr Sarah Ndiaye.

The others, Cr Michael Lyon and Cr Jeannette Martin, quit the Greens some time ago (owing to a lack of support within the party, presumably), and now plan to stand as Independents at the coming election.

Labor's two councillors are Crs Paul Spooner and Jan Hackett. While Cr Hackett has showed more restraint in voting for large and inappropriate development, Cr Spooner's views and voting pattern have become, over time, more aligned with the National Party. He no longer lives in the Shire (but attends meetings via Zoom) and is not contesting in December.

The lone traditional conservative voice in the chamber, Cr Alan Hunter, has proven more reliable and less unpredictable than the others when it comes to planning matters.

He's aligned to the National Party, and presumably believes the cost to the environment and public amenity is the price to pay for progress. It's actually been the direction the majority of councillors have taken us down for the entire time they have been in control.

Finally, the most powerful people in Council are actually the unelected executive staff. Serving bureaucracy, not the community, has been a hallmark of the councillor majority.

Hans Lovejoy, editor

Virus, governance propositions

Now for the seemingly impossible – a tight-rope Pollyanna-esque attempt at ten propositions on the virus, masks, vaccines, and lockdowns on which the whole entire North Coast will unanimously agree. Dare me?

One: That Qld Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk is just plain mean.

She's the nasty smug schoolyard bully who won't let kids with cancer get treatment over the border, who blocks children from visiting their dying parents, who has isolated pre-term newborns and who has made the border impassable for essential workers. It is state jingo tribalism gone mad – impassable, except if she needs to go to Japan unnecessarily for the Olympics of course. Or to let football teams in. Or celebrities.

Two: Gladys is like the prefect at school who savoured dobbing in the gentlefolk having a bong behind the metal-work shed.

The NSW team at Gladys's press conferences reek of racist, classist, anti-immigrant dog-whistling.

Roughly translated, the message is 'if you Westie others/new immigrant/sub sub sub subcontractor/non-Anglo/western NSW people would just behave yourselves – as we did in the Northern Beaches or Eastern Suburbs – we would have been out of this mess ages ago'.

Let's not dwell on the inevitable neo-liberal consequences of overcrowding, disengagement, or insecure employment. Or what we Marxists used to call 'alienation'. Nor should we dwell on her failure to lock things down early, or on the previously unavailable vaccines. We should just blame the victims.

The deputy health officer (since disappeared) nailed it when she went off-script and said that the vast majority of cases were not from people doing the wrong thing at all! It was because they were essential workers and lived in larger households.

Three: Scott Morrison is all smirk, no mirrors.

He reminds me of the kid in the playground who you just know is going to end up being a pastor in a one-tent uncharismatic church somewhere west of the great divide. When he says 'The national plan is crystal clear', I can't decide to laugh, cry or poke myself in the eye. I usually do all three.



'I was recently emailed a list of sixteen videos that I "must watch", totalling eighty hours of viewing pleasure.'

David Heilpern

Four: 'The rules' (all 57 pages) are so ridiculously complex and ambiguous that you need a whole team of lawyers to work out what you can and can't do.

And I know this because my legal eagle mates are failing and flailing.

Just for example, here is the key rule when in stay-at-home lockdown; you must stay at home unless you have a reasonable excuse to leave.

A reasonable excuse includes 'to obtain goods or services... for the personal needs of the person's household or for other household purposes, including for vulnerable persons or pets'.

So, what if you have a 'household purpose' (whatever that is) which is not a need, but just a want? Like, say, getting some new tiles for the bathroom? The sad truth is that the more ambiguous a law is, the more it hands powers to the enforcers – so don't worry too much because the police or soldiers will soon set you straight.

Five: Our Fortress Australia rules have led to grave injustice and hung citizens out to dry.

The way we still have Aussies overseas who are desperate to come home is just cruel and incompetent.

The caps are an indictment of our federal government, which promised to have them all home over a year ago.

Different rules, of course, for those who are on a business trip, and for politicians. To top it off, there was also the Kafkaesque rule on stopping people from leaving. WTF!?

Six: They need to stop showing the Full Monty of injections on the television.

I have to watch the news with my hand over my eyes, which is juvenile-precious but there you go.

At the start, syringes puncturing skin were blurred, or hidden, or just implied.

Now it is the whole vaccine porn over and over again. How can I eat my dinner on my lap with that nauseating squirm-inducing vision?

Seven: My trusted health advisors tell me there is no harm and lots of potential help, vaxed or not, in taking zinc and vitamin D.

The case for building immunity, decreasing obesity and wellbeing is overwhelming. It's called preventative health. So, where's the education campaign? Not a peep.

Eight: And this is good news, in the last few weeks, the federal government has introduced its vaccination compensation scheme for adverse effects.

This is Australia playing catch-up with the rest of the world.

Nine: There is a second pandemic – of videos.

There is a reason that education and research is based on written material with references, and not three-hour raves without any. The former allows for checking, mulling over, comparing and critiquing. The latter permits sleep, hoodwinking, and boredom. I was recently emailed a list of sixteen videos that I 'must watch' totalling eighty hours of viewing pleasure. Who has two weeks spare for that when Netflix's offerings are so much more fun?

Ten: Lockdown is really really hard on families with school-aged children.

For myself, I can readily confess that if this had all occurred when my children were young, my career would have been interrupted with a stint in detention for committing acts of cruelty or violence on them, or me, or both.

We must make safe return to school a priority. So, is there more that unites us than divides us? Probably not.

But it is worth remembering that we can at least choose things to whinge, worry, and rage about that are common to us all.

And as Dr Norman Swan recently quoth, 'for every complex problem there is a solution which is clear, simple, and wrong.' (H.L. Mencken)

May peace be with you.

Echo

The Byron Shire Echo

Volume 36 #17 October 6, 2021

Established 1986 • 24,500 copies every week

www.echo.net.au

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Editorial/news: editor@echo.net.au

Advertising: adcopy@echo.net.au

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Nicholas Shand
1948–1996
Founding Editor

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

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

'The job of a newspaper is to comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable.'

– Finley Peter Dunne 1867–1936

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Cats out of the bag

According to a recent study by the 'Threatened Species Research Hub' our moggies in urban areas are killing up to 30 times more wildlife than feral cats in the bush. Apparently owners only ever see 15 per cent of kills! A single domestic cat is thought to kill, on average, 75 small animals per year. That's 3.7 million Australian pet cats killing a staggering 53 million reptiles and 61 million birds each year; a key factor in species decline and even extinction.

So, who wouldn't want to do something about that? Most thinking cat owners, as well as a green council would of course want to address this (one would hope!).

Anyone interested in having a say (cat owner or not) can access and complete a survey on Byron Council's website.

It seems that some councils are successfully introducing 12 and 24-hour cat curfews to keep cats safe indoors, with public support alongside educational action. Keeping a cat inside the house isn't as cruel or wrong as it may first seem. The RSPCA even recommends this for a healthier cat - no injuries from fights, no road kills, fewer diseases etc! Fences, enclosures, training cats for 'walkies' and 'climbies' on a lead and bell collars can help.



Cartoon by Paul Pattie

There are many long-suffering neighbours who would also welcome restrictions, with gardens routinely dug up, defecated upon, night-time yowling and spraying.

Byron Shire is one of the 11 cat projects with the RSPCA to reduce cat impacts on native wildlife, to encourage cat owners to keep their cats safe at their homes, and do their bit to help to save what is left of our precious wildlife!

Further information can be found at Australian National University, ABC and Byron Council websites.

Don't forget to complete the survey!

Daniel Matthews
Ocean Shores

Water cops

In her role as a Ballina and Rous County Councillor, Sharon Cadwallader, has played the 'bad cop' to Keith Williams' 'good cop' in a way that has alerted the broader community to the importance of our future water supply.

Without this division and controversy within the Council, the broader community would never have stirred itself to become informed of the complexity of water-supply issues in the Northern Rivers.

Through the past 18 months of discussion and debate, residents in Byron, Ballina, Richmond River and Lismore Council areas have become acutely aware of the need for Rous County Council (RCC) to investigate a safe and secure water supply.

It is such a relief to realise, through this process, that RCC councillors have seriously engaged with the

issue and voted to provide water to the community from multiple, scalable sources instead of running with the simplistic, single source of a second dam on a small creek.

Thank you Sharon for 'stirring the pot'; and thank you RCC for alerting the community and bringing us with you on the current water supply options. Get on with it!

Hugh Nicholson
The Channon

Missing in...

Truly refreshing to see the multi-party support from five local members for the protection of the Northern Rivers from the predicted influx of city travellers during the pandemic (*Echo*, 29 September). But where was the member for Richmond? Tsk, tsk. Missing in non-action yet again.

Hugh Ermacora
Byron Bay

► More letters on next page

Letters to the Editor

Send to Letters Editor Aslan Shand, fax: 6684 1719
email: editor@echo.net.au Deadline: Noon, Friday.

Letters longer than 200 words may be cut. Letters already published in other papers will not be considered. Please include your full name, address and phone number for verification purposes.

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Talking community expectation, building heights and councillor decisions

■ Regarding 33 Lawson Street. Greedy, foolish Byron. Byron Shire Council should be ashamed. They have set an unfortunate precedent in consenting to a 38 per cent increase over the central Byron building height limit for the hotel development at 33 Lawson Street.

Future developments can ask for the same, and the courts will support them. Central Byron already looks like a mini Surfers Paradise.

Byron Shire residents should be ashamed. I remember the Club Med protests of the 1990s, when the community united to protect Byron from inappropriate development. Today, Byron residents are preoccupied with viruses, radio frequencies, carbon dioxide and koalas. You shouldn't throw stones if you live in a glass house.

Stephen Totterman
Ballina

■ Was the 33 Lawson St motel development, (given consent for a four storey, 12.5 metre high development in a nine metre, two storey zone) the actual reason for the prior, publicly rejected, staff supported Byron Bay Town Centre Planning Control that proposed height increases specifically for this same section of Lawson St? And when the public submissions rejected that, staff proposed Lawson St height increases (Plan A?), was the subsequent DA just 'Plan B' from the staff/councillors/developer?

A bit like the Northern Regional Planning Panel's rejection of the Jonson St mall's original developer/staff-supported DA (Plan A?) as it breached the nine metre height, but then they moved on to Plan B, where the same staff brought the reports, supported by the developer-friendly Councillors, to increase the development's

height to 12.5 metres.

Cr Ndiaye did vote against the Lawson St Motel DA, but it's worth a read of the Byron Bay Community Board, where, during a flurry of chest-beating by Lyon, she joined in by saying she only rejected the DA because of the developer contributions (and falsely states that this nine metre height zone wasn't a nine metre height zone).

Cr Ndiaye is playing to the voters and appears to actually be using the Greens just to get elected, despite actually still being a part of Lyon's group, where it appears her voting loyalty actually lies.

Anticipate further pushes for height increases from Lawson St to the beachfront. The developers are frothing at the mouth in anticipation of the Masterplan proposals to bulldoze the First Sun Caravan Park, the adjacent car park and the adjacent pool complex for the richest

development site out of Sydney. Didn't hear about that? No, nobody did, the pool licensee engaged with the Masterplan proposal and says there was never any discussion of demolishing the pool and the proposal only came out in the Final Report to Council (where the usual suspects voted for it).

Regulatory capture is an ICAC class of Council corruption, where Council staff and councillors pervert the planning rules for a developer that has formed a relationship with them.

John Lazarus
Byron Bay

■ Making decisions as a councillor is an important and serious job. The decisions that are made have a real impact on our community, our local environment and Council finances.

It is an essential part of the job of being a councillor that all decisions you make

are only after you have seen all the information, received advice from Council staff and experts – and questioned that advice, considered financial and legal implications, and heard from the people proposing change, and from those who have concerns with it.

It is part of the Byron Shire code of conduct that councillors must make decisions with 'all relevant facts' and with 'regard to the particular merits in each case'.

Anyone, including the editor of *The Echo*, who demands to know how I would vote on any particular decision is asking for something that is not possible for me to do without actually being on Council, particularly if I am to take the job seriously and adhere to the councillor code of conduct.

I would hope that current councillors also take into account the opinions of

fellow councillors, discuss options and, at times, compromise to bring together the various, sometimes conflicting, desires of our community.

All decisions I make will be consistent with my strong record of protecting and enhancing our environment, whether it be taking action on climate change, campaigning to stop inappropriate developments like West Byron, or maintaining the three-storey height limits in the Byron CBD.

Voters beware any candidate that says Council decisions are easy, or black and white, they are taking you for a ride. I can only hope that by being honest about how I see the role of councillor it can encourage some honest discussions about difficult decisions.

Asren Pugh
Candidate Byron Shire Mayor
Bangalow

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Say/do something Affirming/+ve 2/4 someone... THIS doesn't HAPPEN very often!

There I was, just pulled my 'Cruiser into the more spacious carpark north side of Tanunda Foodland. While getting my bags/coaxing my Android into check-in mode, I noticed a woman of similar generation 2 me, unloading into her car. Her trolley also caught my attention, the small size those of us who live on our own use!

'Excuse me Madam' I said, staying well away from her personal space, we may have been alone, 'Would you like me to take UR trolley back, I'll use it myself?' She DID look a little astonished, but quickly said 'Yes'.

'Have a nice day!' I said as I walked away. 'I am now' she replied, 'Someone's taking my trolley back!'

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Bruns splashing

As both the population of the Brunswick area and the number of visiting tourists steadily rise, one of the most popular spots for swimming during the high tide is between the Torakina car-bridge and the footbridge 200 metres further south. An assortment of swimmers, canoeists and others take advantage of this section of the river.

Of recent concern is the number of motorised boats that slalom between users in what is basically a large swimming pool. Some years back there was a sign warning that a '4mph

limit' should be abided by. That sign disappeared, but given the popularity of this swimming area, it may now be time for Council, or the relevant authority, to ban all motorised craft from this area before any accident?

Last week three dinghies were swerving through people. A pilot of one such boat was slipping from a stubby

Our Council has a challenging job attempting to get the right balance between all users of our waterways, and recent work on the steps and rock wall banks has been a much-appreciated improvement. But here we have an

accident waiting to happen. Many kilometres of the Brunswick River would still remain available to motorised boats. Banning them from our naturally forming high tide pool to ensure the safety of children and adults would seem a no-brainer.

Gerard Stewart
Ocean Shores

Leadership

Presuming the quotes attributed to Cr Michael Lyon in *The Echo* (27 September 2021) are accurate, he is correct on a number of points.

He shouldn't 'tell people what to do with their

personal medical choices', or 'shame them, or bully them or push them, or tell them that, you know they're letting us all down'. That would be entirely inappropriate as personal medical choices are for the individual.

What he could do however, as a publicly elected municipal leader during a global pandemic affecting the livelihoods of, and taking the lives of, many millions of people, is show leadership. This would involve recognising the problem and the most effective solution we have available to us,

► Continued on page 12



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www.bangalowheadacheclinic.com.au

CHESS by Ian Rogers

FIDE has announced a new sponsor for the Women's World Championship match and the Women's Candidates tournament – Motiva, a breast implant company.

Motiva emerged from Costa Rica, but there is, as with all FIDE's deals, a Russian connection. From 2017 until the pandemic struck, Motiva sponsored a fast chess tournament for women in Saint Petersburg each June. The 2019 event featured a powerful international field, and this was likely when FIDE officials first suggested that Motiva expand their sponsorship deal.

FIDE's press release announcing the sponsorship emphasised the use of breast implants for reconstructive surgery after cancer. (FIDE's announcement came in the same week that Breast Cancer Month began.)

However, is also clear from Motiva's social media presence and general advertising that cosmetic surgery is their growth market.

The reaction of many was that the deal was sexist and demeaning to the players, promoting the importance of appearance through a sport where intellect is supposed to be the key factor.

Others stressed that the company was legal and women's chess needed the money. After all, they pointed out, a company responsible for four per cent of the world's carbon emissions, Gazprom, is a major sponsor for FIDE's open World Championship.

The most nuanced reaction came from US Women's Grandmaster Jennifer Shahade, feminist author of *Chess Bitch* and *Play Like a Girl*.

'A lot depends on execution,' said Shahade. 'For example, how overt sponsorship ads are and whether players are made to feel comfortable if they have ethical objections.'

'It's completely absurd on one hand,' said Shahade, 'but could also be a positive force in breast cancer awareness – although implants may make it harder to detect cancer. I also like that this cracks open the discussion of over-emphasis on female looks in chess/male-dominated fields/life in general, in that order. It's sad that we live in a society that values looks so much, but that's a much wider discussion than breasts.'

Storylines – Recognising the importance of gentle men

Eli Cook

The world needs gentle men. A gentle man is someone who puts more into the world than he takes out. For me this is an adequate description of First Nations men. In fact, this is my experience with First Nations men. Men who forever put the needs of their family and others before their own. Men who work tirelessly to provide for an entire tribe, in partnership with our women, our queens. Men who protect and teach the young ones so that the tribe can continue to thrive for generations.

I grew up with gentle men. From my grandfather and uncles to my own father, these men encapsulated everything that is good and just about males in our society.

Unfortunately, not all Australians view First Nations men in this way. In fact, certain research has found that up to three-quarters of Australian society are biased, either consciously or subconsciously, against First Nations men. But why is this so? Why do other people's perceptions of First Nations men differ so sharply against my own?

Deep-rooted stigma

In Australia there has been a long and deep-rooted stigmatisation of black males. From the very start of colonisation, First Nations men were targeted in order to actively reduce their influence over the rest of their community. Under the theme of terra nullius, our people were stripped of any rights they held over their land. Through violent means our people were forced from their homelands with much bloodshed ensuing.

This left the men of our communities ravaged. The patriarchy of white male



Eli with his brothers Kris and Josh Cook along with his father Glen and grandfather Lewis. Photo supplied by Cook family
Top right: Glen and Eli Cook at home on Angel's Beach at Ballina. Photo Tree Faerie



society guaranteed that we were demonised: to shore up support for their blood thirsty, land grabbing causes. We lost a generation of warriors, teachers, and lore men who had maintained a balance in our society. Yin and yang, male and female, on equal terms, maintaining fairness and continuity. We were left with a generation of men without guidance, support, and leadership. This led to addiction and violence within our communities, an insidious but purposeful symptom of colonisation.

Often the most violent and reprehensible men in our communities would rise from this chaos and be given status by the colonisers. They were brandished with kingplates and told that they held dominion over all else. Such action provided these men with power and influence leading to further generations who viewed selfishness and ownership as important. We became what we had once resisted.

Our gentle men still existed though. Whilst stripped of influence and forced to the sidelines, these men remained and continued to care for their communities and land. They continued to teach, share knowledge and maintain strength. In fact, these men were still the majority, despite the best efforts of the colony to destroy them.

Demonised

Today, First Nations people make up 29 per cent of Australia's prison population, despite representing only three per cent of our total population. Those who are incarcerated are overwhelmingly male. First Nations male suicide rates are the highest in the world as we continue to be demonised and victimised in a country we are supposed to call home.

In 2019 I sat in dismay as Kerryanne Kennerly was shown on national television portraying First Nations men as violent rapists. I had heard

racist comments on television before, but these words struck a chord. How can the behaviour of the so very few serve as the accepted image of First Nations men in Australia? I watched as she was applauded, by some, for her comments. Condemned by others. But I was left heartbroken and lost as to how we got here.

There is a perception in this country that First Nations men hold some type of ingrained depravity that makes us unapproachable and dangerous. But this is not the case. Whilst there are elements within our communities who cause harm, they are in the minority, like in any other community.

Our men have been pushed to the sidelines for a long time. We have allowed others to speak for us and determine who we are. It is now time for gentle men to stand up. To set aside negative stereotypes and become agents of change within our society. The symptoms of colonisation remain and continue to cause sustained damage to our people. But there is no reason for us to accept this. It is time, once again, to strike balance within our communities and create a more positive outlook for our future. A future of gentle men.

■ Storylines articles are published in *The Echo* online www.echo.net.au/storylines and are made possible by the support of Ninbella Gallery in Banglow.

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Local anti-nuclear activists that chose to make a difference...

Ian Cohen

Following the Nuclear Disarmament Party's close loss with front man Peter Garrett in 1984, nuclear issues were at the forefront of people's minds. We extended our influence far beyond our Shire. The pending arrival of nuclear armed warships sent the local region into overdrive. Benny Zable from Nimbin rolled out his 'radioactive' barrels for street theatre. Dean Jefferys based in Brunswick Heads came with his ultralight, Hoss (Ian Hoskens) of Main Arm with his megaphone voice and me with my surfboard.

September 1986 heralded the arrival of the largest assembly of international ships in Sydney Harbour's history. Many were nuclear armed.

Our north coast contingent was vital to the success of the protest actions.

Driven by a reckless, but heartfelt, desire to impact on the nuclear arms race and send a direct message to US President Ronald Reagan and USSR's Yuri Andropov.

The mad concept of surfing the nose of a nuclear armed warship was mine, but Sydney Morning Herald photographer, Robert Pearce, from a media barge directly in front of myself and the warship, captured the image of a vulnerable surfer hanging onto the nose of a nuclear armed destroyer that went global.

Dean backed it up with a paint bomb delivered from his ultralight. It missed, (fortunately it was water based paint). He was more accurate several days later delivering a bouquet of flowers from the air into a missile silo as the HMS *Illustrious* departed. Dean landed himself in jail.

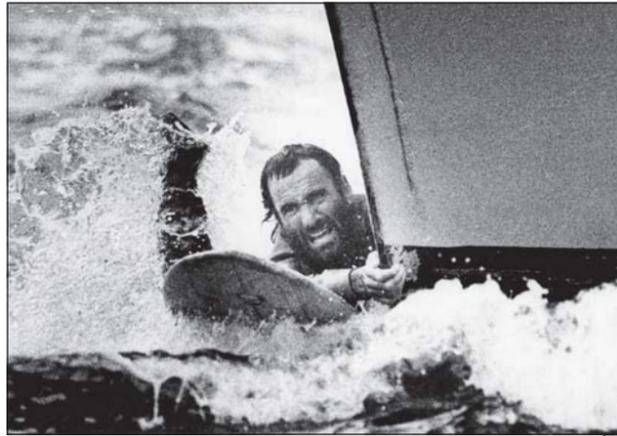
Channon local, Ian Gaillard, worked with the anti-nuclear vessel *Pacific*

Peacemaker and crewed it on the long haul through the Pacific to confront the launch of the world's largest nuclear submarine in Seattle. They travelled through the Pacific garnering local support along the way.

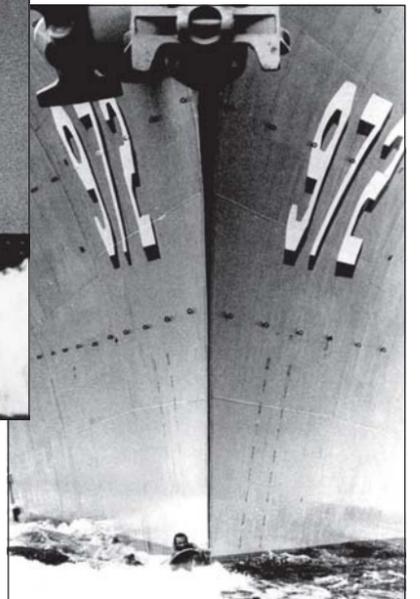
During the 1980s Jim Mitsos had moved to Byron and bought up most of what is now Suffolk Park. A Communist developer, creating real affordable housing he was also a tireless anti-nuclear campaigner promoting the concept of Nuclear Free Zone signs in Byron that spread to councils throughout NSW. He laid the groundwork of awareness for follow up actions. Perhaps we need those signs again?

In 1995 I was the first Green elected to NSW Parliament. With the efficient support of Byron's future mayor, Jan Barham, I spent the first break organising an international contingent of politicians to be part of a flotilla of ships to descend on Papeete (Tahiti) and support islanders in their opposition to upcoming nuclear tests at Moruroa. We learnt much about the global phenomenon 'Ships of Shame' where seafarers are abused and exploited, the impossibility of chartering a flotilla, and decided to fly 30 Australian politicians over to Papeete.

Meetings under the palms with President Oscar Temaru, inspired, along with marches and forums in Papeete, the contingent of politicians



Ian Cohen surfing the nose of a nuclear armed warship. Photos Robert Pearce



including Richard Jones MLC, another Byron Shire local, who met with the French Ambassador to deliver thousands of petitions.

Greenpeace had other ideas for a small crew. A private boat was organised to transport an international selection of politicians to Moruroa 1,150km away. In my last interview before our departure I was informed that the French had announced a \$150,000 fine and 12 months in jail for anyone entering the exclusion zone.

Halfway there an international news broadcast announced the French had detonated the first bomb in the series on Moruroa. The little boat continued on course, without deviation, as we sailed into the eye of the global nuclear storm. That was the last French nuclear test in the Pacific.

Times change, but some things regarding the nuclear industry and international political posturing remain the same.

Our PM, Scott Morrison, struts the world stage, vilifies China (some of it deserved), but in the process is locking in Australia's subservience to US foreign policy while

guaranteeing increased US troop access and US spy stations on Australian territory for the future. Add to this the crippling cost of procurement of nuclear powered subs and the possible return of Donald Trump to 'guide' our nation into the future.

This sabre rattling at an external enemy will allow Morrison some catch up in the polls while the ALP is wedged. The huge crime here is to make a decision without debate in the Federal Parliament. An external enemy worked for Thatcher (Falklands War). In Australia we had weapons of mass destruction touted in Iraq while George W Bush labeled Howard a 'Man of Steel' for sending our young soldiers to war.

Whilst recognising the repressive political leadership in Beijing, there is a better road to peace through diplomacy, and when necessary, trade sanctions.

In the depth of the Cold War nuclear capable warships, either conventional

or nuclear powered, did not cruise the world's oceans unarmed and race back to San Diego or Hawaii in an emergency to load. In the 1980s their mantra was; 'We neither confirm or deny these ships have nuclear weapons on board'. Today, nuclear weapons have been removed from surface ships. They are still on nuclear submarines. Just what arsenal will Australia obediently accept when it hires or purchases US submarines?

In 1975 there were 6,191 US nuclear weapons afloat. Arms control agreements have reduced the number of weapons deployed at sea to 1,000 in 2015.

Morrison's recent 'All the way with USA' is cementing increased US control over future Australian Foreign Policy. We do not benefit from this association. In fact, we as a nation are making ourselves a target.

As for their vulnerability in port, we need to look no further than 9/11 in New York, the US heartland.

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► **Continued from page 10** namely vaccination, and encouraging his constituents to consider the personal medical choice to have the vaccine.

There are many ways Michael could do that, as shown by the innumerable public officials who have done so, and continue to do so, across this country.

No 'telling, shaming, bullying, pushing or letting anyone down' required. Easy Michael.

Tim Peacock
 Bangalow

Thanks for your help

During our return walk from the Byron Lighthouse on Monday morning, my wife Inga had a bad fall owing to the partially maintained paved walkway. Around 20

fellow walkers stopped and offered help and assistance, which was very comforting.

Especially a guest lady from Port Macquarie was extremely helpful comforting my wife. So was the lifeguard who rushed up from Wategos to help. Both helped my wife walking down to The Pass where the ambulance arrived in time to transport her to Byron Hospital's emergency ward.

Here she received, from the extremely caring nursing staff, professional care and treatment to her badly injured face. Inga and I would like to thank all involved for comforting and helping us. What a great community we are living in.

Gerd Modlich
 Byron Bay

Holy pandemonium

Driving around Northern Rivers roads at all but 5kms - it's a bloody nightmare.

The other week I had to replace two tyres, I suspect from all the potholes/portals in the roads. I know two shires are fixing this problem, but in the meantime, before I or someone else does more tyres, could those other shires please fill the potholes/portals?

I commend the shires that are spending ratepayers' hard earned for doing the road works that are in progress.

I'm sure I'm not the only one who has had tyres blow out because of the potholes/portals, am I folks?

Paul Brecht
 Evans Head

Vaccines, health, community

■ The Nurses Union put out a statement last week: ‘Nurses, midwives and carers are exhausted and frustrated as they watch protesters fight for their right to overwhelm our health system’. It’s happening in hospitals in Sydney, Melbourne and now Wollongong. Watch it happen here.

Not sure about getting the vax? Going to wait and see? You can do that, and let others take that risk, and let them get us through this pandemic. All the benefits and no risk, right? Suckers.

Sheeple. I’m alright Jack. Community, mateship, sacrifice, Anzac spirit, doing the right thing, all so yesterday don’t you think?

Ron Stinson
Brunswick Heads

■ Okay, so this issue is dividing our community into: ‘vaxing is great for our community’ and ‘vaxing is bad’.

One side is ‘ill-informed and reckless’ and the other is ‘wise and caring’. But which of these sides is gravely and mistakenly wrong?

The answer? Sadly, it will soon be revealed as being the side suffering the more avoidable deaths and prolonged sickness.

But by then it will be too late to wise up.

John Millard
Mullumbimby

■ Statistics published recently revealed what many of us have feared. That is, our beloved Shire with its diverse population has probably the lowest rate of vaccination in NSW.

I am quite scared that

further restrictions and lockdowns may be applied to Byron Shire if the percentage of our population (you know who you are) continues to reject vaccination. We do need to protect ourselves and others, including health care workers, from the severe impact of this virus that is destroying lives around the world.

Please think of everyone in our midst because, apart from illness, we may find ourselves isolated when the rest of the State resumes ‘normal’ life and business, and many previous entitlements and freedoms become inaccessible to

the unvaccinated. And yes, I have read and heard all the arguments against vaccination.

Our community usually works together, but sadly the division is becoming deeper and affecting many.

Carole Gamble
Mullumbimby Creek

■ I am pleased that I don’t have to depend upon Dr Julia Lowe (29 September). Current figures of 24 September 2021, from the Government of Canada, having in excess of 26.5 million people FULLY vaccinated, reported the following vaccine effectiveness statistics, as of two

weeks after the second dose.

Moderna 94.1 per cent effective; Pfizer 95 per cent effective; AZ 62 per cent effective.

AZ is low grade ‘cattle fodder’, so far as the history is concerned, but is better than none at all.

Bill Ashford
East Ballina

■ Ed Note: one of the reasons for confusion about ‘effectiveness’ is that a vaccine can be very effective in reducing ‘serious injury’ or ‘hospitalisation’ even though it is less effective than another vaccine against ‘infection’.



Turning tradition on its head

Katerina Lazareva has a cult following thanks to the non-traditional fermented food range she produces under the Suria Foods label. And like her kimchi, sauerkraut and broths – which use local seasonal ingredients rather than simply cabbage – her path to artisan foodie has been anything but traditional.

Despite having a successful career in the media industry, which took her from her birthplace in Russia to the US and UK, Katerina felt unfulfilled.

‘One night I had a dream that I was cooking in a commercial kitchen in a white chef’s jacket with an Australian flag on it. Three months later I moved to Australia and enrolled in TAFE to do a commercial cookery course.’

Following an apprenticeship working in some of Sydney’s best restaurants – including Quay and Rockpool – Katerina felt burnt out. ‘I wanted to do something meaningful and I was attracted to Byron for its



Queen of fermented food: Katerina Lazareva.

beauty, the food is amazing, and the community nurturing,’ she says. ‘And then it all came together.’

Katerina felt the pull of her Russian ancestors – who had been exiled to a labour camp in Kazakhstan during the Stalin regime and forced to become self-sufficient, growing and preserving their own food. ‘Most of the waste – trimmings, offcuts, cores

– goes back into other products such as probiotic drinks,’ she says. ‘Then the fermented waste (what little there is) goes into the compost and feeds the soil in which I grow more produce.’

Suria Foods continues to evolve. Katerina is currently working on a unique miso range – again spinning a twist on traditional methods.

‘I’ve been experimenting with a Japanese fermentation technique called *koji* to make miso,’ she says. ‘Traditionally soybeans are used, but I don’t grow soybeans so I’ve been using smoked eggplant, roasted pumpkin, roasted sweet potato, mushroom, beetroot, pecans and banana. The results have been incredible. The first batch of miso should be ready by the end of October and will be available at Byron Farmers Market.’

Byron Farmers Market is held Thursdays 7–11am at the Cavanbah Centre, and Saturdays 7–11am behind the Bangalow pub.

Byron Gourmet Pasta

As much as we love Byron Gourmet Pasta year-round, their stall at Mullum Farmers Markets over the next few weeks will also stock their seasonal Napoli sauce. Made from fresh Coopers Shoot tomatoes, this delectable topping is available for only a few months of the year and it is well worth stocking up on!

You might also notice a new look at your favourite pasta stall, with a rebrand, new logo and new compostable packaging.

Byron Gourmet Pasta’s stall is run by chef Mitch Goldsworthy who, with young children, jumped at the chance to leave the family-unfriendly hours in a kitchen behind him, and to head up this pasta operation, which is run from Byron’s Arts & Industry Estate. The business has gained a faithful following amongst marketgoers, foodies and in-the-know restaurant owners.

Mitch, and his team of two, produce six varieties of fresh pasta, but it is often their eight incredible varieties of ravioli that keep people returning for more. They use no egg in any of their products, and all are handmade in small batches, with no preservatives, using organic stoneground flour, olive oil and apple cider



vinegar. His ravioli varieties are snap frozen and can be taken home, broken up, tossed into

boiling water and cooked very quickly. ‘Returning customers constantly comment on how incredibly soft and fresh they taste and that’s my tip, put it straight into boiling water, three minutes is all it takes,’ says Mitch.

Putting together Mitch’s ravioli is a team effort at the farmers’ market: he uses Cheeses Loves You haloumi (haloumi, mint and ricotta ravioli), Nimbin Valley Dairy blue cheese (blue cheese and caramelised onion ravioli), Coopers Shoot tomatoes and Hayters Hill beef (lasagne) and Grumpy Grandma’s olive oil in the dough. In short, it is made weekly for the market and is as fresh as pasta can be with miniscule food miles.

At home Mitch serves himself their vegan roasted vegetable ravioli, with sweet potato, pumpkin, cauliflower, capsicum and basil, which he serves with burnt butter and chopped herbs. ‘It is a fresh, delicious and really healthy dinner in ten minutes,’ he says. **Find Mitch at Mullumbimby Farmers Markets 7–11am Fridays.**

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Who loves chocolate and why we Love Byron Bay

There's much to love about Byron Bay – the beaches, the headland walk, the people – and one element visitors enjoy is discovering unique and eclectic businesses, almost a vanishing species in Byron. For seven years, Byron Bay has been home to a unique little business that has been serving French inspired crepes, desserts and offering artisanal collections of divine chocolate. As a result, chocoholics have bookmarked Love Byron Bay creperie and chocolate boutique as their favourite little sweet spot in Byron.

When it comes to exploring chocolate varieties suited to connoisseurs, this is the place to venture. Courverture chocolate is the real deal, containing both cacao solids as well as cacao butter. Compound chocolate, on the other hand, has no cacao butter and a small amount of cacao. This, amongst other elements, explains



appreciation of the chocolate you are tasting.

Complementing the chocolate boutique is Love Byron Bay's French inspired and vegan friendly creperie, which opens onto Lawson Street, enabling the passersby to experience a meditative and mesmerizing front row view of delicious crepes being freshly flipped and cooked in front of your eyes.

If this isn't enough window-shopping for you, then indulge in the pleasures of

standing in front of the traditional French cakes, ganache, tarts, éclairs and pastries prepared by L'Ultime, an institution in Byron. Unfortunately, they had to close their doors in Lawson St in 2020, but they are still baking, and you can see their pastries in the window of Love Byron Bay. Yum.

If you've ever visited a French patisserie, you would know the desire to do

what the French call '*lecher les vitrines*', literally meaning 'licking the windows', an activity somewhat frowned upon in these covid times, so please exercise some restraint!

Love Byron Bay love chocolate, and Byron Bay, as much as we do. Their creperie and chocolate boutique is located on Lawson St, (next to Spar Supermarket). Open 7 days & nights, www.love-byronbay.com 02 6685 7974. [inst.lovebyronbayccbc](https://www.instagram.com/lovebyronbayccbc)

Why Love Byron Bay?

Alison Campbell has been walking the Lighthouse track since well before she started her business, and was regularly asked to take photos of visitors. She used to herd the people together, then ask them: 'How do you feel about Byron?' So often people used to shout out 'We Love Byron Bay!' that she thought it was a good name for her chocolate shop.

the price and health variances between the two categories.

Courverture chocolate is made by artisan chocolatiers in small batches in an almost alchemical process. The journey begins with roasting and willowing cacao beans, conching and flavoring, then tempering to induce crystallization, and then the final bar emerges, glistening! Understanding this process leads to a true

More than perfect eclairs

S Haslam

Practice makes perfect in turning out perfect eclairs, and the team at Eclair at the Bay, as you'd expect from their name, have dedicated a lot of focused energy to producing the amazing products we love. 'Éclair means lightning in French', says Head Pastry Chef Pavel, who worked for several years in Michelin Star restaurants in London. There he learned that not only flashes of creativity, but also rigour and consistency are needed to bake desserts made from choux pastry. Pavel is Russian, and his partner Mary, is French; they've brought to our area European pastry of a quality that is difficult to find in Australia, outside of the big cities.

Their eclairs, but also tarts and cakes, are premium handmade and unique products, but they are also accessible – you can even talk to the bakers at the local markets (Byron, Bangalow, Pottsville) about their product... while you're trying them!

If you've only ever tried a classic chocolate éclair I'd recommend trying one of their creations, perhaps you'd like to try the one filled with hazelnut praline inspired by the traditional Paris-Brest recipe? Or the lemon one topped with an Italian meringue? If you can't choose, why not try



their special box of mini eclairs, designed just for the indecisive, with seven different flavours.

The ingredients in the choux pastry used to make an éclair are very simple, but it's extremely difficult to make this pastry well. The wonderful thing about eclairs is that, once you've mastered the pastry, there is scope to make all kinds of delicious fillings. And then comes the glaze – this is the elegant final touch, and when you open a tray of Eclair at the Bay eclairs, you can see the delicate and artistic touches.

This is a perfect show-stopper for an event like a birthday or a wedding (remember those?) – one of their great ideas is replacing the traditional wedding cake with a 'pastry table' of delicious bite-size jewels of pastry, like mini eclairs, profiteroles, individual tarts and loads of other mini delicious morsels.

Right now, you can find them at the markets, or you can pre-order from their website (to pick up, or they can deliver). Spoil yourself!

Order: eclairatthebay.com or info@eclairatthebay.com Insta: [eclair.at.the.bay](https://www.instagram.com/eclair.at.the.bay)

Winding Road

Tintenbar-based Winding Road Distilling Co. was born back in 2016 of a love for unique spirits, an inveterate curiosity, and a strong sense of adventure.

Camille and Mark Awad were two people from different countries who met by chance more than twenty years ago, and since then they say, 'our journey has very much been along a winding road! While serendipity brought us together, a shared sense of curiosity and adventure, along with a willingness to take chances, has resulted in a beautiful family life filled with love and happiness on the New South Wales Far North Coast. Along the way there have, of course, been challenges, but also opportunity. It is this intrepid, creative, and curious approach to life that we bring to craft distilling.'

'The path we now travel together through Winding Road Distilling Co. will at every turn reflect our adventurous souls, with a commitment to quality and originality that underpins



our desire to share this journey with others through our hand-crafted spirits.

'After a period of research and development, we began production in 2018 with our first batches of single malt whisky and Agricole-style rum. In the spring of 2019, the distillery launched its first products: our beautiful award-winning Citrus and Sea Gin and Agricole Blanc Virgin Cane Spirit. These were followed a few months later by our 50 Mile Coffee Liqueur.

'We have just released the first batch of our Coastal Cane Pure Single Rum, a gorgeous Agricole-style expression made from fresh-pressed Northern Rivers cane juice that lends itself perfectly to being



enjoyed neat or in a cocktail such as a Dark n' Stormy. Following this, in early 2022, will be the first release of our Single Malt Whisky!

'It's an exciting time at Winding Road Distilling Co., because we are also currently planning and building Ballina Shire's first distillery and tasting room. While we are hoping for a public opening around Easter 2022, timelines are very fluid these days with Covid-related lockdowns and delays.

'For now, you can find us at most of the region's finer restaurants and bottle shops, as well as through our online shop.'

windingroaddistilling.com.au

Distillers Circle

S Haslam

If you like to support unique local businesses, you can join the Winding Road Distillers Circle. I did, and not only got a cool cap, plus a few bottles from the distillery, but there's more! So far I've only cracked open the Citrus and Sea Gin, a beautiful gin which you could sip by itself although I personally thought it went well with Mediterranean Fever Tree tonic, and you could garnish it with lemon or pepper berries to highlight those flavours in the gin.

Helping bees to thrive through nature-aligned business

Gather By came together in 2014 as a food security initiative, and has evolved to become a stakeholder-centred business that supports the health of our environment, our bees, our beekeepers and our farmers who are sustainably producing medicinal and therapeutic Australian Manuka.

'When we started researching how we could improve food security and in turn help bees to thrive, we discovered that Australia has at least 15 native varieties of *Leptospermum* plants that produce the nectar that bees turn into Manuka Honey. Manuka Honey, as we knew it then, came from New Zealand, so



it was a surprise to find that Australia has many more native varieties of these plants than our neighbours,' said Matt Blomfield, CEO of Gather By.

'From this we had the idea to create a sustainable business exploring how

continued ►

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6680 7418
Book online: www.nobonesbyronbay.com.au

We have almost finished our renovations and will hopefully be open this weekend but make sure to check our social media for updates on the official re-opening date.

We can't wait to see you all again soon.
@nobonesbyronbay



THE ITALIAN
BYRON BAY

The Italian Byron Bay
21, 108 Jonson St, Byron Bay
Open 7 days from 5.30pm
5633 1216
www.theitalianbyronbay.com

The Italian, Byron Bay, provides a bustling, atmospheric restaurant, dishing up contemporary inspired Italian cuisine and some of Byron's finest cocktails and wines.

CLOSED FOR SEPTEMBER



Loft
BYRON BAY

Loft Byron Bay
4 Jonson Street, Byron Bay
6680 9183
Book online: www.loftbyronbay.com.au

Incredible cocktails, locals beers & all-day snacks and food to share, with ocean views.

Happy Hour | Every day 4-6pm
\$6 Loft lager or wine, \$10 Aperol Spritz, \$14 Margarita

Espresso Martini Nights | Every day 9-11pm
2 for \$25 Classic Espresso Martini

Open every day from 4pm till late.



CHUPACABRA

Chupacabra
Eat in or take out.
Shop 12A, 3 Clifford St, Suffolk Park
6685 3059
www.chupacabra.com.au
@chupabyron

Fresh authentic Mexican in a relaxed atmosphere. This is food made with love, all produce sourced locally. Margaritas and tacos all night long! Family friendly, totally GF menu.

Dinner 5pm-9pm
Wed-Sat
Book via Resy



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BYO
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Main Street
BURGER BAR

Main Street
Open for takeaway daily, 12 midday until dinner.
Menu, Phone and more details -
@mainstreet_burgerbar
18 Jonson Street
6680 8832

Open for takeaway daily, 12 midday until dinner.

Menu and more details
@mainstreet_burgerbar

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



option and heal the Earth at the same time. Over the years we've honed the propagation of these plants and now we enable farmers to reforest their land with our native Leptospermum and bee fodder plants that support healthy bee populations, and we buy the honey they produce, which provides our farmers with an income while they regenerate their land, and increases the availability of locally grown and produced medicinal honey.

'We are at a really exciting point where we've got plantings maturing across the Northern Rivers and broader NSW, and that have managed to withstand the recent years of droughts,

fires, floods and COVID-19. This year we're harvesting our first honey direct from one of our plantings a year earlier than anticipated, and together with our beekeeper community, we're now ready to share more of this native Australian Manuka Honey locally and with the world, which is really exciting.'

Gather By currently has a waitlist for growers in the Northern Rivers, but they would love to include you, if you might be interested, and have more than 5ha available for a planting. To add your name to this list, go to www.gatherby.org/ growers, and complete the Land Survey - then they will get in touch with you.

we could work with these plants, and with nature, to create sustainable places for bees to thrive. Farming has traditionally meant stripping the land of natives and monocropping, which has negative impacts on soil quality, bees and wildlife - as we all know too well - and we realised that we could try to give farmers another

BYRON BAY continued



SUCCESS THAI FOOD

Success Thai
Mon-Fri lunch & dinner
closed Sundays
Lunch 12 noon-3pm
Dinner from 5-8.30pm
3/31 Lawson St, Byron Bay
www.facebook.com/pages/Success-Thai-Food/237359826303469

All your favourites, every lunch and dinner. Experienced Thai chefs cooking fresh, delicious Thai food for you.
BYO only
Welcome for lunch, dinner and takeaway.
Menus available on Facebook.



DAUGHTER IN LAW

Daughter in Law
22 Fletcher Street, Byron Bay
@dil_byron
www.daughterinlaw.com.au
Reservations via website, and half of the restaurant is reserved for walk-in's

Not your typical Indian joint.
Jessi Singh's 'unauthentic coastal Indian' cuisine using local Northern Rivers ingredients.
Open Thursday to Saturday for takeaways only.
30% off pick up orders only.
Free meal to people who are affected by current lockdown.



BARRIO

Barrio
1 Porter St, North Byron
Take away breakfast & lunch
Monday-Sunday 7am-2pm
Take away dinners
Thursday+Friday pick up 5-7pm
Take away cocktail hour
Thursday+Friday 4-7pm

Barrio's canteen takes its inspiration from locally sourced produce and moorish cuisine.
Offering daily bakes, breakfast cakes, classic sandwiches, vibrant salads, smoked fish and wood fired meats.
Keep an eye on our socials for weekly changing dinner menus.
Pre order dinners on 0411 323 165



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COORABELL



GENTLEMEN NOODLE
BYRON BAY

Gentlemen Noodle
Japanese pop-up Noodle Shop
Coorabell Hall
565 Coolamon Scenic Dr, Coorabell
RAMEN PRE-ORDER TAKEAWAY!
During COVID lockdown, we are open for pre-order takeaway!
Please check our new takeaway menu on Instagram.
Order now and pick-up on Thursday!

We serve a Home Pack Ramen kit to cook your own Ramen at home.
Great Fun activity!
Also we have dumplings and some rice dishes.
@GENTLEMENNOODLE
Takeaway order: text 0434 570 933

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Mullumbimby
traditional yemenite food

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62 Stuart St, Mullumbimby
6684 3778
www.yamanmullumbimby.com.au

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Currently open for takeaway, feel free to call ahead with your order.



THE EMPIRE

The Empire
20 Burringbar St, Mullum
6684 2306
Tues-Sun 9am-3pm
FB/Insta: EmpireMullum
empiremullum.com.au
Orders: mryum.com/theempire

Something for all tastes from epic burgers to vegan delights. Enjoy delectable treats and good vibes at this Mullum icon.
Order and pay online!
Scan the QR code to view menu and order online through Mr Yum.
Phone orders welcome. Takeaway is available on the whole menu.





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Paséyo
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0498 010 881
Monday-Friday
6.30am-2.30pm
Saturday 7am-2pm

Healthy, fresh, balanced and nutrient dense meals that create a sensory delight for our customers.
Buddha bowls, smoothies, coffee, cold-pressed juices, and so much more.

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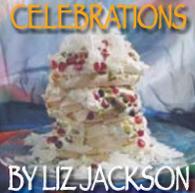


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www.echo.net.au/soap-box

MANDY NOLAN'S SOAPBOX



'QUEER' (noun) A WORD USED TO DESCRIBE FABULOUS PEOPLE WORLDWIDE

I am a queer girl, but I am not Queer. But there was a time when I wondered if I was. I was 16, I'd had a boyfriend, but I was curious about my sexuality. Ever since a basketball coach had shamed me for wanting to read a book instead of going to the cinema with the team to watch *Flashdance* and shouted 'Mandy Nolan you are a weird weird girl' I'd felt different. Like part of me was country that was unexplored, unmapped.

I didn't want to be colonised by expectation and assumption. The world seemed so vast. I didn't know any lesbians. The idea of 'being with a girl' had not occurred to me. Because I didn't see it – until I watched *The Hunger* with my best friend. There's this incredibly erotic scene with Catherine Deneuve and Susan Sarandon and we decided that it looked like fun; we should try it. And we did. It was sensual and explorative, and sweet. The next day at school my friend told another of our friends, thinking, I guess, that they would think it was cool, and she thought they would keep the secret. By the end of the day our liaison was hot gossip. We were declared 'lemons'. Even now when I recall that story I feel the echo of shame. It sits under my skin. I remember being 'othered'. It was a rookie mistake to not keep the secret. To think that a hetero-normative country town high school had the capacity to be non judgemental and accepting. We had broken an invisible rule. On reflection I realise it wasn't the sexual experimentation that was the problem – it was that we were open about it. If you were gay you were supposed to hide it. Being out and

proud undermined the status quo maintained by all the other curious heterosexuals secretly battling their own struggle with straightness.

This was the mid eighties. After a few short flirtations with girls I established that I was pretty much heterosexual, but with a window always open to the possible. I realise now that I view the world through a heterosexual lens. It's easy – because I am a heterosexual Cis Woman. The stories I read, the films I watch, the songs I listen to... well, they tend to reinforce my experiences as normative; as belonging to the dominant narrative.

But heteronormativity is a lie. It's only one of a myriad of ways of experiencing identity, relationships and the world. So what does it feel like to live in a hetero-normative world when that is not who you are? How do you feel valued? How do you feel included? How do you get equal access to the same things straight white girls, like me, take for granted?

It's naive to think being 'Other' doesn't have an impact. It's naive to think that people who don't identify as Cis gendered heterosexuals aren't hurt by normative expectations. Particularly when bigoted homophobes still exist.

Queer Family helps over 2000 Queer and Queer allied people in the Northern Rivers. This is a 100 per cent volunteer run organisation that provides support and engagement to their members. The community they work with here has a 91 per cent history of mental health concerns, many live in households with annual income under \$30k, many are not in full time work and have unstable housing.

As a Queer Community ally, I have signed up as a GiveOUT Champion (Give Out Day is Friday 15 October) and I've pledged to raise \$5k for them to help with the operating costs of their volunteer services and support.

Can you donate? Please join me.
www.giveout.org.au/mandy-nolan



Last year just flew by, didn't it?

Even with lockdown slowing things down, COVID seems to be warping time in strange ways. However, here we are and it's time once again – please! – to renew your subscription to BayFM.

Your support really is like putting gas in our tank. It's committed subscribers like you – along with our business sponsors – that keep the station ticking along.

This year we're not dangling prizes to encourage people to subscribe as we don't think it's fair to hit up local businesses who are going through tough times. We'd rather focus our energies on making the station as good as we can, so people want to subscribe for the right reasons.

To renew your subscription, visit bayfm.org and click the 'SUBSCRIBE'



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 Listen like a local.

WHAT'S ON

SOURDOUGH BUSINESS WOMEN
 October Hub
 Special guest The Hon. Bronnie Taylor MLC
 Wednesday 6 October, 5.30pm



THE ALPINIST
 No partner; No ropes; No margin for error
 Marc-André Leclerc climbs alone.
 Thursday 7 October, 7pm



INCEPTION
 A Three Lords Special Event.
 Featuring live AV show by Dashboard Animals.
 Saturday 9 October, 7.30pm



BUDJERAH
 Debut EP Australian Tour
 Support: Seph Cove
 Monday 11 October, 7.30pm



CÉZANNE: PORTRAITS OF A LIFE
 A unique cinematic exploration of the life and times of Paul Cézanne.
 Wednesday 13 October, 3pm



Arrive early and enjoy a drink at the Theatre Bar

Byron Theatre & Community Centre
 69 Jonson Street, Byron Bay
byrontheatre.com [byrontheatre](https://www.facebook.com/byrontheatre)

THE BYRON SHIRE THEATRE OCTOBER

GIG GUIDE

PLEASE CHECK WITH INDIVIDUAL VENUES RE COVID RESTRICTIONS.

WEDNESDAY 6

- FOXY LUU'S, BYRON BAY, 5.30PM **REGGAE AND RAINBOW FEAT. BOMBACLOCK**
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY, 6.30PM **MUSICAL BINGO**
- MARY G'S, LISMORE, 7.30PM **QUIZEME TRIVIA**
- CABARITA BEACH SPORTS CLUB 6.30PM **MUSICAL BINGO**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH BOWLS 12PM **DAVE BARRY**
- SALTBAR, KINGSCLIFF, 8PM **DANIEL CHAMPAGNE**

THURSDAY 7

- LENNOX HOTEL HOTEL STAGE 8.30PM **JAM NIGHT**

FRIDAY 8

- BYRON ENVIRONMENT CENTER 1PM **JOHNNY GUITAR SURF SHOW**
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 4.30PM **DJ THE TABS BROTHERS**
- TINTENBAR HALL 7.30PM **TINTENBAR UP FRONT**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH HOTEL 7PM **BENNY D WILLIAMS**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE STAGE 7.30PM **VENUS ENVY**

SATURDAY 9

- BYRON TWILIGHT MARKET 4PM **ANIMAL VENTURA**
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM **DJ ROBIN SYDNEY**
- KINGSCLIFF BEACH HOTEL 7PM **DUSTY AS**
- SHEOAK SHACK, FINGAL HEAD, 7PM **JESSE MORRIS BAND**
- TWIN TOWNS, TWEED HEADS, THE STAGE 7.30PM **NATALIE GAUCI + TO THE SKIES**
- WILLIAMS STREET KITCHEN & BAR, LENNOX HEAD, 6.30PM **STEVE TYSON**

SUNDAY 10

- BYRON THEATRE 5PM **EMILY WURRAMURA AND ÁINE TYRRELL + THE BOY OF MANY COLOURS**
- HOTEL BRUNSWICK 4PM **BOBBY ALU**
- WANDANA BREWING CO., MULLUMBIMBY, 4PM **LUKE YEAMAN**

MONDAY 11

- BYRON THEATRE 7.30PM **BUDJERAH**

TUESDAY 12

- MARY G'S, LISMORE, 7.30PM **MUSICAL BINGO**
- CABARITA BEACH SPORTS CLUB 6PM **TRIVIA**

WEDNESDAY 13

- FOXY LUU'S, BYRON BAY, 5.30PM **REGGAE AND RAINBOW FEAT. BOMBACLOCK**
- MIDDLE PUB, MULLUMBIMBY, 6.30PM **MUSICAL BINGO**
- MARY G'S, LISMORE, 7.30PM **QUIZEME TRIVIA**
- CABARITA BEACH SPORTS CLUB 6.30PM **MUSICAL BINGO**

PALACE CINEMAS

Session Times: Thu 7 Oct - Wed 13 Oct NFT = No Free Tickets

FAMILY FILMS AINBO: AMAZON PRINCESS (PG) Daily: 1:00, 5:00PM	FREE GUY (M) Daily: 1:30, 4:00, 7:00	RIDERS OF JUSTICE (MA15+) Daily: 4:15, 6:45PM
JUNGLE CRUISE (M) Daily: 1:30PM	JOE BELL (M) Daily: 4:15, 6:15PM	SHANG-CHI AND THE LEGEND OF THE TEN RINGS (M) Daily: 1:00, 3:45, 6:30PM
PAW PATROL: THE MOVIE (G) Daily: 2:00PM	NITRAM (MA15+) Daily: 4:20, 7:00PM	SUMMER OF SOUL (PG) Daily: 3:50, 6:15PM
ALL FILMS A FIRE INSIDE (M) NFT Daily: 1:30, 3:00, 6:45PM	PIG (MA15+) Daily: 1:30PM	THE KILLING OF TWO LOVERS (M) Daily: 2:00PM
	RESPECT (M) Daily: 1:20, 4:00, 6:30PM	
	RIDE THE EAGLE (M) Daily: 4:15, 6:15PM	

108 Jonson St, Byron Bay

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SeaVn

E N T E
R T A I N
M E N T



Let's Talk: Women in Politics has been postponed to a new date in early 2022 as most of the speakers are affected by the Lismore lockdown.

LET'S TALK: WOMEN IN POLITICS

Women in politics couldn't be more front and centre in the media these days if it tried and the recent ABC docuseries *Ms Represented*, which screened an account of Australian politics from the female perspective, has been another prong in the fork.

Tonight in Byron Bay, **Let's Talk: Women in Politics** will bring together local and national female politicians to share their stories, insights and perspectives on why women are still largely underrepresented in Australian politics.

The Community Hub, in collaboration with the Byron Community Centre and Sourdough Business Women, are holding the fundraising event this Wednesday, 6 October, to ignite debate and discussion about the journey of women in politics – past, present and future.

Let's Talk: Women in Politics will be hosted by **Mandy Nolan**, who will be in conversation with **Tamara Smith**, Member for Ballina, Hon. **Catherine Cusack MLC**, Chair of the NSW State Development Committee, and **Jenny Dowell OAM**, former mayor of Lismore. These four women will share their expertise and experience of their careers in Australian politics from various angles.

Jenny Dowell, says that in the lead up to local government elections in December, the time is right for more women to step forward and nominate. 'Being a councillor and mayor was the best job I've ever had, despite the challenges. I hope that speaking of my experiences might encourage other women to think 'I could do that'. Our councils are better when more women are elected.'

Let's Talk: Women in Politics will be held on Wednesday, 6 October from 7pm–9pm, preceded by the Sourdough Business Women's Hub from 5.30pm.

Audience members at Women in Politics will be invited to participate in the concluding Q&A session. Tickets available online at byrontheatre.com.au.

Please note: If the event is cancelled or postponed owing to COVID-19 lockdown, all ticket holders will be contacted and arrangements made to transfer tickets to the new date or to provide a refund.

EMILY WURRAMARA & ÁINE TYRRELL – OUR WAY

Our Way is an immersive musical performance night starring **Emily Wurramura** and **Áine Tyrrell**, alongside special guest **The Boy of Many Colours** at the **Byron Theatre**.

This year Bunyarra is celebrating NAIDOC through a night of music and culture with the wider community and mob. Music has played a huge role in learning language, song, dance and raising cultural voices and views.

This year's theme is Heal Country, and what an outstanding way of highlighting some of our amazing Indigenous talent alongside our strongest allies. HealingCountry relies on working together, and Emily and Áine's performance is a perfect and beautiful way to express that.

Please note this is a general admission event, no allocated seating.

Sunday 10 October, 2021, 5pm.

Admission Prices:		BALLINA FAIR CINEMAS							Tel: (02) 6686 9600
Adults: \$14	Wednesday All tickets \$10	Thursday Oct 7 th to Wednesday Oct 13 th							ballinafaircinemas.com.au
Stud/Conc: \$12		OCTOBER	THU 7 TH	FRI 8 TH	SAT 9 TH	SUN 10 TH	MON 11 TH	TUE 12 TH	WED 13 TH
Senior: \$11		FREE GUY M 115 MIN	12:40 PM 3:30 PM 7:20 PM						
Child: \$10		JOE BELL M 93 MIN	11:55 AM 2:50 PM 5:35 PM						
		JUNGLE CRUISE M 127 MIN	10:20 AM 4:35 PM						
		PAW PATROL: THE MOVIE G 86 MIN	10:15 AM						
		RESPECT M 145 MIN	10:30 AM 1:40 PM						
		SHANG-CHI AND THE LEGEND OF THE TEN RINGS M 132 MIN	1:05 PM 4:15 PM 6:55 PM	1:05 PM 4:15 PM	1:05 PM 4:15 PM	1:05 PM 4:15 PM 6:55 PM			
		THE SUICIDE SQUAD MA15+ 132 MIN	6:40 PM	6:40 PM	6:40 PM	6:40 PM			6:40 PM



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Price: \$1,900,000

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Jenny & Steve L, vendors



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Peaceful Retreat in the Heart of Village

- Open plan living flows seamlessly to wrap around verandah
- High ceilings, polished timber floors and loads of character
- Upstairs parents retreat opening to leafy balcony
- Easy care established grounds, paved intimate courtyard and double carport
- Move straight in and enjoy or value add with creative update

Auction
Sat 30 Oct 1pm
View
By Appointment

Greg Price
0412 871 500

raywhiteruralbangalow.com.au



"The Hidden Valley", **Repentance Creek**

3 2 2

Privacy, Birdsong and Atmosphere

- Over 48 acres bordering Nightcap National Park w/- panoramic valley views, approx. 8 acres of rolling pasture and a second dwelling site backing on to 40 acres of pristine rainforest.
- Set amongst a stunning leafy palette, the beautifully presented timber home is filled with birdsong from dawn to dusk.
- Walk your own bushland tracks and trails to Minyon Falls, establish your self sufficient dreams or just sit back and enjoy

Auction
Sat 30 Oct 11:30am
View
By Appointment
Greg Price
0412 871 500

raywhiteruralbangalow.com.au

"Forest Hill", **Rosebank**

5 2 2

"Forest Hill" - Productive and Profitable Macadamia Farm

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- Established orchard of approx 6,000 well managed trees planted on a gentle easterly slope
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Auction
Sat 30 Oct 10am
View
By Appointment
Greg Price
0412 871 500

raywhiteruralbangalow.com.au



RayWhite

304 Tyagarah Road, Myocum

6 4 12

Hinterland Beauty

- 13.5 acres with subdivision potential R5 zoning
- Large heated ozone spa perfect spot to watch the beautiful sunsets.
- High ceilings, timber floors.
- Slow combustion fireplace and A/C
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Land: 13.5 acres
Price: Contact Agent
Open: By Appointment



Michael Gudgeon
0419 495 494



Matthew McCormack
0400 468 587

rwbyronbay.com



RayWhite

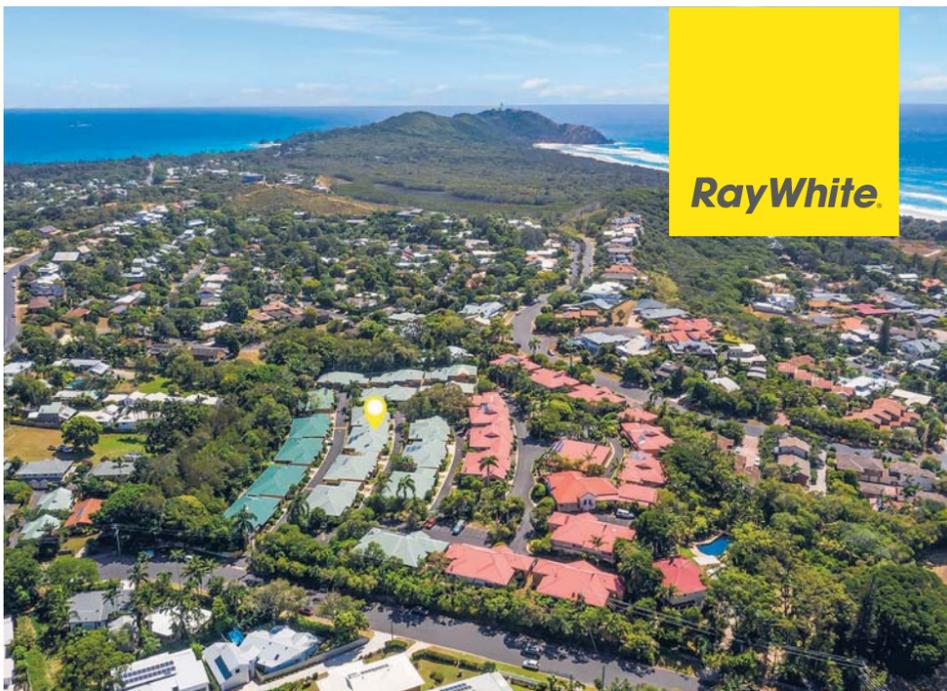
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3 2 1

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- Open plan kitchen
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- Large balcony
- Walk to Tallow Beach and town

Price: Contact Agent
Open: By Appointment



Damien Smith
0418 123 393



April Nicolson
0457 451 094

rwbyronbay.com



RayWhite

58 Sunrise Boulevard, Byron Bay

4 2 2

Don't miss out on this one!

- Light and bright recently renovated kitchen
- All bedrooms with built-ins, master with walk in robe
- Full bathroom plus ensuite off master bedroom
- Covered outdoor deck area perfect for entertaining
- Double lock up garage with internal access
- Solar power, A/C, wood heater

Land: 600m²
Price: Contact Agent
Open: By Appointment



Damien Smith
0418 123 393



April Nicolson
0457 451 094

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1/5 Jackwood Court, Suffolk Park

21/9-13 Shirley Street, Byron Bay

2 1 1

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- Several buyers still looking for property in the local area
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Fantastic Position to Town & Beach

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- Spacious living areas
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Michael Gudgeon
0419 495 494

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0400 468 587

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4 3 4

Amazing Views, Amazing Lifestyle

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- Solid Anstey home with vast high ceilings and natural light
- Neat 2-acre parcel with manicured gardens and veggie gardens
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- Outdoor entertaining over multiple decks, gardens and pizza oven

Area: 8,896m²
Price: Contact Agent
Open: By Appointment



Nick Russo
0405 977 049

Damien Smith
0418 123 393

rwbyronbay.com

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17 MAIN STREET, CLUNES

A village lifestyle in a central location



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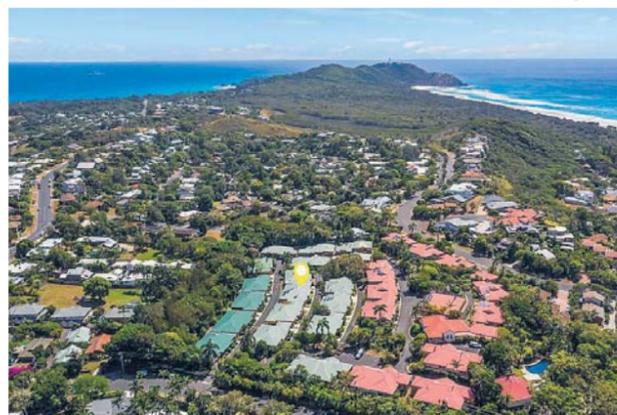


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50/ 11-19 Cooper Street, Byron Bay

3 beds 1 bath 1 car

Price: Contact Agent



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Open: By Appointment
Contact: Damien Smith - 0418 123 393
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"Forest Hill"

15 Armstrong Road, Rosebank

5 beds 2 baths 2 cars

Auction



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Price: On-site Auction Saturday 30 October 10am
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Contact: Greg Price - 0412 871 500
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- 30 Unara Parkway, Cumbalum. Sat 11–11.30am
- 4 Summerhill Crescent, Cumbalum. Sat 12–12.30pm
- 1/52 Hutley Drive, Lennox Head. Sat 1.30–2pm

Raine & Horne Ocean Shores/Brunswick Heads/ Murwillumbah

- 5/51 Rajah Road, Ocean Shores. Sat 12.30–1.30pm
- 7 Yalla Kool Drive, Ocean Shores. Sat 10–11am
- 2 Kanandah Court, Ocean Shores. Sat 11.30am–12 noon
- 57 Balemo Drive, Ocean Shores. Sat 1–1.30pm

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- 1 Rankin Drive, Bangalow. Sat 10–10.30am

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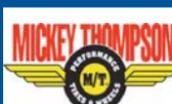
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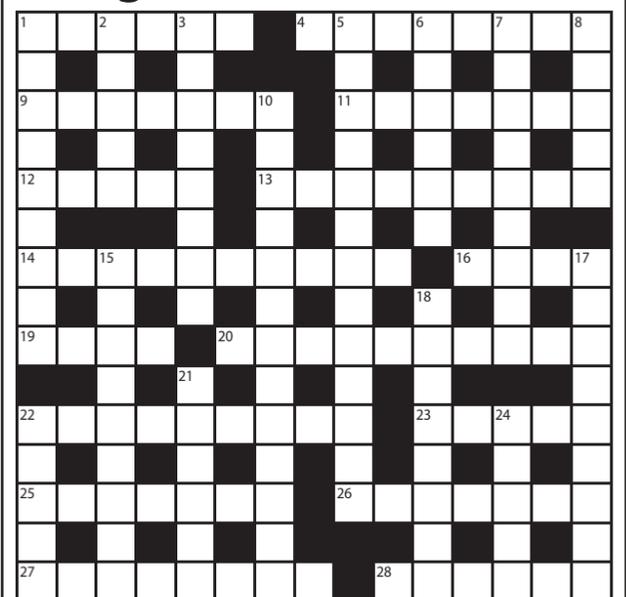
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Mungo's Crossword

N407



Cryptic Clues

ACROSS

- Hell, prime minister, it's grim (6)
- Orations involving soft cheeses (8)
- Basilisk, for one, found in demon's territory (7)
- Well-presented English support worker (7)
- Stadium in district around north (5)
- Angry crowd - the Italian side organised and prepared for war (9)
- Prime agent required to fertilise (10)
- Club with hot tub (4)
- Return small container of parasites (4)
- Produces cabarets, if available (10)
- Small dog with life force - hot turn Australia! Encore! (9)
- Open secret trope (5)
- Pant stertorously around a kilometre with large breathing aid (7)
- Confess - rent underwear (7)
- Firmly establish a small measure with fish - about right (8)
- A hundred relax before small summits (6)

DOWN

- Bar the country from hell (9)
- Feel and comprehend (5)
- Tent area devised for the echidna (8)
- Britney Spears involved with stern religious adherents (13)
- Fairly regularly (6)
- Principal's doxy gets an initial advantage (4,5)
- Unhappy about Lawrence - but surfeited (5)
- Religion normal - chaotic, absurd (5,8)
- Act tiptoe around ladies' undergarment (9)
- That man, one in the USA - but they say he's lost! (9)
- Glass oat (8)
- Deer and young bear return, but give way to pressure (6)
- Actors, English, a class by themselves (5)
- Havelock's island (5)

Quick Clues

ACROSS

- Gloomy (6)
- Lectures (8)
- Beast (7)
- Stylish (7)
- Amphitheatre (5)
- Deployed (9)
- Permeate (10)
- Wash (4)
- Louse eggs (4)
- Manufactures (10)
- Dog named after Mexican state (9)
- Obvious (5)
- It allows vehicles to drive through water (7)
- Undergarment (7)
- Ensnore (8)
- Peaks (6)

DOWN

- Perdition (9)
- Awareness (5)
- Aardvark, for one (8)
- Protestant Christians (13)
- Smoothly (6)
- A favourable beginning (4,5)
- Replete (5)
- Papist (5,8)
- Crinoline (9)
- Vacillates (9)
- Sailing ship with two or more masts (8)
- Belt fastener (6)
- Social stratum (5)
- US immigration island (5)

Last week's solution N406



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LOOKING FOR A MATURE person to co-purchase a debt-free acreage/farm within the Northern Rivers, very shortly. Looking for a 50/50 substantial contribution. Ph 0415121250

SHARE ACCOM.

PERSON TO SHARE large, beautiful, spacious 3bdr house in Mullum with 1 other. Own private bathroom & toilet, deck & secure undercover parking. Must be working, easygoing & relaxed. Alcohol free. Avail now, \$255pw plus bond & bills. Due to my health conditions you must be vaccinated. Ph Digs 0428736874.

TO LET

OCEAN SHORES 1br s-c studio. \$400pw incl elec & WiFi. Suit single working pers n/s, no pets Avail 23/10. Ph 0497766388

LOCAL REMOVAL

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

Summerland Storage Bangalow
From \$105 to \$290 per month
Call GNF Bangalow 6687283

TO LEASE

OFFICE, KINGSCLIFF Bright, spacious. 4x3m. Above shops, opp beach. Inc kitchen, waitroom, business grade Wi-Fi, elec. Share with psychologist. \$255 pw inc GST. Txt 0404273149.

WANTED TO LEASE

ACCESS TO ACREAGE, dwelling or not. Prefer 2x2 or 3x3 or similar. Substantial security deposit OK. Pls call 0423218417

POSITIONS VACANT

EROTIC MASSAGE STAFF reliable and friendly for Gentlemen's Relaxation Centre 18+. Tweed. Grace 0418185791

LADIES WANTED, MUST BE 18+ Casual or permanent work available in busy adult parlour. 66816038 for details.

PIANO PLAYER / SINGER WANTED
For piano bar. Ph Yvette 0439087538

EXP. TIMBER/HARDWARE salesperson to work on counter in local business. Reliable, friendly. Computer skills required E: accountspayable@brimsgroup.com.au

GARDENER / HANDYMAN Bangalow area. All outdoor work. Ph 0402061110

SANTOS ORGANICS
is looking for a Bulk Food Manager for our Mullum store and Bulk Assistant for our Byron store. 3–5 days per week. Please see santosorganics.com.au/pages/employment-2 for more info and to apply.

CRYSTAL CASTLE & shambhala gardens

CRYSTAL CASTLE IS HIRING NOW!

Grounds & Maintenance Team Leader Gardeners Cafe FOH & BOH Retail

Be a part of a positive team creating magic in the world.

Go to our website "Work With Us" section, for more info & how to apply. www.crystalcastle.com.au/workwithus

Fantasy Massage

Emporia is the first fully licensed, high end fantasy emporium specialising in providing erotic massage services for men, women and couples. We don't allow FS or BJ, fantasy only. You will find Emporia to be a professionally managed, Australian female owned and operated business, with a focus on working environment, safety and workplace satisfaction. We provide full training and have an array of exciting developments in the pipeline, which will enable staff to move between different, exciting roles within the business, keeping life interesting.

Are you: 18+, with a fun but professional personality, someone who is eager to learn new things and can work in Tweed.

Contact Sara on 0448 003 552 or email: Sara.burston@icloud.com

Mullumbimby Community Preschool

Experienced Nominated Supervisor required Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday Term 4, 2021 and 5 days per week available in 2022.

Above award wages paid. Applicants please email mullumpreschool@gmail.com

CANTEEN MANAGER POSITION MULLUMBIMBY PUBLIC SCHOOL

Casual position of two regular days a week during school term to commence 1 November 2021; currently 14hrs per week with occasional Special Events. Monday - 7:45am-1:45pm Friday - 6:45am-2:45pm

Duties include: stock management, food preparation, money handling, customer service and kitchen cleaning routine.

Applicants will be required to provide a current Working with Children Check. From 8 November all workers who attend a NSW public school will be required to be fully vaccinated. Not a necessity to have safe food handling certificate or prior food industry experience.

Email cover letter and resumé to: mullumbimbypublicschool@pandcaffiliate.org.au
Closing date: 11 October 2021

byron community college Create Your Future

- 18th Oct - Sustainable Fashion
- 21st Oct - Advanced Floristry
- 22nd Oct - Introduction to Floristry
- 1st Nov - Bamboo Basics Part 2
- 19th Nov - Floristry Intermediate

Limited places available, this training is subsidised by the NSW Government, call us to see if you're eligible

RTO: 90013 02 6684 3374 byroncollege.org.au

byron community college

Tue 12th Oct

- Golf
- German Level 2

Thu 14th Oct

- Last Aid - Caring For The Dying At Home

Sat 16th Oct

- Mosaic
- Native Bees
- Welding For Women
- Backyard Permaculture
- Crochet
- Shibori & Indigo Dyeing

Sun 17th Oct

- Welding

All classes will be rescheduled or a refund issued if we are in lockdown at the time of a class.

02 6684 3374 byroncollege.org.au

WORK WANTED

GRAPHIC DESIGN/PHOTOSHOP Sean 0478150513

TUITION

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www.thinkblinkdesign.com

BIRTHDAYS

Happy 50th Awesome Kim Love your Echo Family XX

PETS

LEWIS

Lewis is a striking tabby kitten, with intense black markings. He's exceptionally playful, curious & affectionate & loves his playmates. Lewis would make the ideal snuggle buddy for anyone who is a huge tabby fan.

To meet Nancy, please visit the Cat Adoption Centre at 124 Dalley Street, Mullumbimby.

OPEN: Tues 2.30-4.30pm
Thurs 3-5pm, Sat 10am-12 noon
Call AWL 0436 845 542.
Like us on Facebook!
AWL NSW Rehoming Organisation
Number: R25100222

Byron Dog Rescue (CAWI)

3-year-old desexed male Staffy x Collie x Mastiff, 'Zorro', is a real character. He's a bit of a boof-head, is very self-assured and proud, is good with other dogs and is sweet and affectionate.

He is responsive to commands and will make a great companion for someone who can handle a very physically strong dog. For adoption enquiries please contact Shell on 0458 461 935. MC: 982091065067389

Lexie is a 5 year old Staffy who was rescued, having been tied up in a back yard, and unwanted. She is a sweet, affectionate girl who just needs a home of her own and lots of love. She is quite nervous of strangers at first, but when comfortable is a typical staffy who loves life and people. If you can give Lexie a permanent, loving home please contact Pam from Friends of the Pound on 0421017461.

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

jumping for joy!

We have kittens.....

Kitten season is in full swing. We now have young kittens waiting to be old enough to be desexed. If you are ready for the fun and responsibility of having a gorgeous new friend, then pop in and have a cute session with them. Get in early and beat the rush. They are more popular than ice cream on a hot day!

All cats are desexed, vaccinated and microchipped.

Please make an appointment 0403 533 589 - Billinudgel petsforlifeanimalshelter.net

DEATH NOTICES

SLATER,
Peter John.
10.10.1950-19.09.2021
Passed away peacefully with family at his side. Loved father of Lesa and Cheyne, cherished Pop of Jamal and Madison, brother of Joy, Janine and Jeffrey.
At Peter's request a private cremation has taken place.

DICHERA, Carmela Assunta

In loving memory of Carmela Assunta Dichiera, born on 23 August, 1929 in Italy. Passed away peacefully with family by her side at Coolamon Villa, Mullumbimby on 3 October, 2021.

Much loved Mother of Silvana, Eleanor, Frank and Alex. Loved Nonna of Ashley, Melissa, Angela, Christopher, Adam, Lucas, Brandon, Nicholas and Jessica and Grande Nonna of Eli, Liam, Katie, David and Damien.

Carmela will be sadly missed by all family and friends.

MICHAEL CURRIE FUNERALS 6684 6232

MILLS, Francis Leo. 'Frank'

26-05-1928 - 03-10-2021

Passed away peacefully with family at his side. Much loved husband of Judy. Loved father of Bill, Therese, Lorraine, Anthony and Paul. Loved grandfather of Liam, Phoebe, Renee, Abby, Sophie, Shellie, Tim, Scarlett, Christian, Leon, Jayde, Gene and Jeremy. Loved great grandfather of Aoife, Reuben, Jeremy, Gabriella, Oscar, Penelope, Tully, Harrison and Finnegan.

A private funeral for immediate family will be held.

A memorial service to celebrate Frank's life will be held at Kohinur Hall at a later date.

MICHAEL CURRIE FUNERALS 6684 6232

IN MEMORIAM

MONICA AILEEN PARON
(nee BROWNING)
27/9/33-6/10/20

A shining light from our family is gone
A voice we loved is stilled
A place is vacant in our hearts
Which never can be filled
We deeply mourn the loss of Mum
We would have loved to keep
But God who surely loved her best
Now has our Angel at His feet
Forever in our hearts. Much loved.
Deeply missed.
Mark and Karen, John, Davina, Sonia and Families.

OUR DARLING AJ DICKINSON
24 Jan 1966 - 10 Oct 2020.

Dearly missed by his Mum and Dad, two brothers, family and friends.
A beautiful soul left too soon.
Forever in our hearts.

MUSICAL NOTES

GUITARS, RECORDS, HI-FI
WE BUY AND SELL 66851005

C#
"OM" - The Sound of Creation (C# - A=432) - 136.1 Hz

LOST & FOUND

FOUND: Black mobile phone, Samsung or similar, in Mullumbimby near swimming pool around Sunday lunchtime 2 October. Now at Echo office Mullumbimby.

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EXQUISITE
Be impressed with my hot body and warm hands. Tweed area. 0438573677

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SUN, MOON & TIDES TIMES FOR NEXT 2 WEEKS

DATE (Oct)	DAY, MOON PHASE	SUN RISE / SET	MOON RISE / SET	HIGH TIDES, height (m)	LOW TIDES, height (m)
6	W	6:19 / 18:49	6:14 / 18:33	09:03 1.49 / 21:18 1.67	02:48 0.12 / 14:52 0.15
7	TH	6:17 / 18:50	6:49 / 19:39	09:45 1.59 / 21:58 1.61	03:23 0.08 / 15:39 0.14
8	F	6:16 / 18:50	7:26 / 20:46	10:30 1.66 / 22:39 1.50	03:58 0.07 / 16:29 0.17
9	SA	6:15 / 18:50	8:06 / 21:56	11:15 1.69 / 23:22 1.36	04:35 0.10 / 17:23 0.24
10	SU	6:14 / 18:51	8:50 / 23:05	12:04 1.68	05:14 0.16 / 18:24 0.32
11	M	6:13 / 18:52	9:41 / 23:05	00:10 1.20 / 14:03 1.58	05:57 0.25 / 19:37 0.41
12	TU	6:12 / 18:52	10:38 / 23:05	01:07 1.06 / 14:03 1.58	06:48 0.36 / 20:59 0.45
13	W	6:11 / 18:53	11:40 / 23:05	02:25 0.96 / 15:19 1.53	07:58 0.45 / 22:21 0.44
14	TH	6:10 / 18:53	12:44 / 23:05	04:00 0.96 / 16:37 1.52	09:25 0.49 / 23:31 0.38
15	F	6:09 / 18:54	13:48 / 3:01	05:20 1.04 / 17:44 1.54	10:48 0.47
16	SA	6:08 / 18:55	14:50 / 3:43	06:19 1.15 / 18:38 1.56	00:25 0.32 / 11:57 0.41
17	SU	6:07 / 18:55	15:49 / 4:20	07:08 1.26 / 19:23 1.56	01:06 0.27 / 12:52 0.36
18	M	6:06 / 18:56	16:46 / 4:53	07:50 1.36 / 20:02 1.54	01:42 0.22 / 13:39 0.31
19	TU	6:05 / 18:56	17:42 / 5:23	08:29 1.44 / 20:38 1.50	02:13 0.19 / 14:20 0.29
20	W	6:04 / 18:57	18:36 / 5:53	09:04 1.50 / 21:10 1.44	02:41 0.18 / 15:00 0.29

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

SOCIAL ESCORTS

LOTS OF GORGEOUS LADIES available for your pleasure nearby. Spoil yourself. In & out. 7 days. Ladies always wanted. 0266816038. COVID SAFE

MONTHLY MARKETS

1st SAT	Brunswick Heads	0410 785 554
1st SAT	Alstonville	0429 019 407
1st SUN	Byron Bay	6685 6807
1st SUN	Lismore Car Boot	6628 7333
2nd SAT	Flea, Bangalow	0490 335 498
2nd SAT	Woodburn	0439 489 631
2nd SUN	The Channon	6688 6433
2nd SUN	Tabulam Hall	0490 329 159
2nd SUN	Coolangatta	
3rd SAT	Mullumbimby	6684 3370
3rd SAT	Murwillumbah	0413 804 024
3rd SUN	Federal	0433 002 757
3rd SUN	Uki	0487 329 150
3rd SUN	Lismore Car Boot	6628 7333
3rd SUN	Ballina	0422 094 338
4th SAT	Flea, Byron YAC	
4th SAT	Evans Head	0439 489 631
4th SAT	Wilson's Creek	6684 0299
4th SAT	Kyogle Bazaar	kyogletogogether.org.au
4th SUN	Bangalow	6687 1911
4th SUN	Nimbin	0475 135 764
4th SUN	Murwillumbah	0422 565 168
4th SUN	(in a 5 Sunday month)	Coolangatta
5th SUN	Nimbin	0458 506 000

FARMERS/WEEKLY MARKETS

Each TUE	New Brighton	6677 1345
Each TUE	Organic Lismore	6628 1084
Each WED	7-11am M'bah	6684 7834
Each WED	3-6pm Nimbin	0475 135 764
Each WED	4-7pm Newrybar Hall	
Each THU	8-11am Byron	6687 1137
Each THU	2.30-6.30pm Lismore	0450 688 900
Each FRI	7-11am Mullum	6677 1345
Each SAT	8-11am Bangalow	6687 1137
Each SAT	8am-1pm Uki	6679 5530
Each SAT	8.30-11am Lismore	0466 415 172
Each SAT	8.30-12am Blue Knob	
Each SUN	7-11am Ballina	0493 102 137

STARS BY LILITH

As Pluto cautiously plods forward in the sign of commerce, and Venus canters into the Sagittarius travel centre, there's movement at the station at last

LIBRA THE SCALE-BALANCER

♈ ARIES: This highly artistic transit plays to your creative strengths, as October inspires you to press start on that idea that's been bubbling away on the back burner. This is a good week to plan some original, innovative self-promo for releasing around passionate powerhouse Aries full moon on the 21st.

♉ TAURUS: With Venus your planetary muse in an extravagant mood, overindulgence is this month's pitfall, so balance your celestial imperative. Exercise the awesome technology of the Taurus mind by exploring the concept that less is actually preferable to more of those Venus sports you adore: shopping, lunching and, of course, l'amour.

♊ GEMINI: With your mentor planet Mercury retrograde in the sign of must-have and Venus itchy to flash the plastic, retail therapy could easily lead to that post-purchase dissonance known as buyer's remorse. So compare prices, do online research, and if possible postpone putting big dollars down before the last week of October.

♋ CANCER: If this week brings pressing issues to a head, it's a blessing. Really. Because any discontent with current circumstances is heaven-sent to fuel the change you know is necessary. Never underestimate your own extraordinary resources. Best date for your lunar-influenced sign? Celebratory Venusian new moon on 6 October.

♌ LEO: Leos are among the zodiac's greatest creatives and October's audience is likely to be appreciative and supportive, though it might take them till late month to get there. As encouragement, circle the weekend's flamboyant Leo moon and 6 October's new moon of togetherness for a friendly get-together or romantic rendezvous.

♍ VIRGO: Whether it's what you wear, the way you serve a meal, offer a service, elegantly arrange flowers, tell a well-timed joke that shatters anxiety, do an impromptu dance, or pay an unexpected compliment, this Venus-ruled week rewards Virgos who enrich existence with artistry, beauty, wit, joy and laughter.

♎ LIBRA: This week's celestial trinity of Sun, Mars and Mercury in your sign sings happy birthday to you gracious negotiators, peace-loving fashionistas. While you might not choose Mercury retrograde to celebrate your month in the sun, the cosmic compensation of 6 October's annual new moon in Libra more than makes up for it.

♏ SCORPIO: Venus in Scorpio synchronised your archetypes of lover and warrior into one dynamic superpower, now this week sees you standing up for who and what you love. As Pluto ends a five-month retrograde from late April, uncertainties finally recede and you can resume your mission with renewed focus.

♐ SAGITTARIUS: This week, Venus of the gracious, graceful ways sashays into Sagittarius for a month of repairing family feuds, mending bridges and restarting strained conversations. Be patient with Mercury retrograde's delays and miscommunications though, because till the end of October, they can actually work in your favour.

♑ CAPRICORN: Other star signs may fear Mercury retrogrades. You, Capricorn, know that these recurring seasons are all about the prefix re: reviewing, reworking, refining your methods, researching new avenues. Restoring frayed relationships, renegotiating what needs resolving, and refraining from retail excess.

♒ AQUARIUS: As October's feisty triangle of make-it-mine Mars, sky's-the-limit Jupiter, and your personal planet, spontaneous Uranus, all waltz in and out of alignment, this week's mad dance suggests a cutting-edge collaboration could pick up speed as don't-fence-me-in Venus unshackles you from a draining situation into more favourable circumstances.

♓ PISCES: October's emphasis centres on your communications, partnerships and the precious connections you value. With creativity and collaboration receiving a celestial stimulus, it's a star transit for starting a team project or re-routing one that's off course. Dress your best, tune into your muse and bring beauty to this week's world.

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A source who works within the Ambulance services has told *The Echo* there are now 'massive staff shortages in the area owing to a considerable number of paramedics being stood down for not complying with mandatory COVID-19 vax order, as well as many vaccinated staff refusing to put down for overtime in solidarity with their peers'. *The Echo* is following up, stay tuned...

Placeholder Mayor, Michael Lyon, attempts to defend approving what speculating developers wanted (while giving them more) around Byron CBD height limits (see page 2). But is what the community wants? Like the rest of the councillors in charge, he has done little to improve planning policies for residents.

BREAKING: US pharmaceutical company Merck announces an anti-COVID pill. Regulators just waiting to see if Liberal MPs Dave Sharma and Angus Taylor buy shares.

Psst: Last week the Pandora Papers were dumped. Much like the Panama Papers, they detail how the uber wealthy hide their money in offshore accounts and property. Whistleblower Edward Snowden says 'This is the biggest offshore-finance leak - and journalistic collaboration - ever'.

The 2021 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine has been awarded jointly to David Julius and Ardem Patapoutian 'for their discoveries of receptors for temperature and touch'.



Friday's storm seen from the Ocean Shores lookout. Photo Tree Faerie

Fundraising efforts by comedian Dan Ilic are going well to hire satirists, creatives and producers to make ads and content ridiculing fossil-supporting political parties. Three Glaswegian billboards have been purchased, which will 'set Australia's record straight during the Climate talks', and other billboards are being paid for in key swing electoral seats. Ilic says the campaign will also include 'using robust data science to [create] satirical comedy videos and pranks'.

Anti-corruption commissions are a pesky irritation to 'progress', aren't they? At least koalas and the state's rapidly diminishing ecosystems may get some reprieve after the NSW Deputy Premier, Bruz, resigned unexpectedly on Monday, shortly after Gladys. But hold your nose for the newly-minted NSW Premier - he is a hard right, climate denying, Trumpist Catholic. Dominic Perrottet opposed laws to force

priests to report confessions of sexual violence and abuse to authorities. He also set up iCare, and oversaw its near collapse, and the underpayment of workers' benefits of up to

\$80m, along with skyrocketing executive salaries. Fun Fact: No NSW premier has served a full parliamentary term since 2003.

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