

HERALD

The Bangalow

FREE November 2017

A blue singlet publication



Now that's just Showing off

Fast and furious action in the Ironman team event.

Photo: Jennifer Boyle

In late September, early October, people start poking their head around the doors at Barebones Artspace in Bangalow's main street looking for Karen Ryan.

They're not there to discuss artistic endeavours, but rather are getting very

excited about the upcoming Bangalow Show on **17 and 18 November**.

Show secretary Karen says that the momentum builds as folk of all ages, sizes and sexes try to find out what special events are planned and what the theme is.

(continued page 6)

**A new form
of farming is
springing up on
the edge of town
report page 5**

Your guide to events and entertainments around town

Bangalow Garden Club

The club's AGM is on **Wednesday, 1 November** and all positions on the executive and committee for 2018 will be voted on. Many thanks to all who served in positions of responsibility in 2017. The spirit of co-operation and friendship makes it a very active and happy club, full of interest for home gardeners. Bookings for the Christmas lunch at Lennox Head Hotel can be made at the meeting or online.

Bangalow Progress Association

The next general meeting is at 7pm on **Wednesday, 1 November** at Heritage House. Guest speaker is Linda Sparrow from Bangalow Koalas, who will give a 'plain English' presentation on the legislation that protects koalas and what to look for in a DA if you think koalas or their habitat could be impacted.

Bangalow Koalas works closely with Byron Shire Council, Friends of the Koalas

and Bangalow Land and Rivercare. Note: BPA meetings have changed to Wednesday (previously Thursday) Phone 0411 549 216.

AGM for The Bangalow Herald

Current members of *The Bangalow Herald* Inc are invited to the annual general meeting of the association on **Wednesday, 8 November** at **Heritage House Bangalow at 7pm**.

At this meeting all office-bearer positions will become vacant and new office bearers who have been nominated will be elected by a vote of the members. This is an exciting time for *The Bangalow Herald* as it passes its first birthday and grows from strength to strength (See page 4).

Historical Society

The Bangalow Historical Society will hold its AGM and election of office bearers for 2018 on **Monday, 13 November** at 5.30pm at Heritage House. Everyone is invited. Refreshments will be provided, so come along, join up if you are not already a member, or renew your membership for 2018. All positions have been declared vacant and if you would like to nominate for a

position please email Wendy at bangalowhistorical@bigpond.com for a nomination form; get it endorsed by a fellow member and email it in.

And don't forget our Melbourne Cup luncheon is on **Tuesday, 7 November**. Phone Wendy or Glynis on 6687 2183 for last-minute tickets.

At the Bowlo

The Swing Thing, **Friday, 17 November**.

The Blues Club, **Friday, 24 November**.

Open for lunch every Friday – Sunday from 12.

Plus Christmas toy raffles **Sunday, 3 December**.



Red Cross raffle prize donated by Janja Mlikota

Red Cross

The Bangalow branch will be holding its Christmas street stall on **Friday, 24 November**. Drop by to pick up your morning tea, a Christmas gift and a ticket in our great raffle.

First prize is a beautifully embroidered and framed picture donated by Janja Mlikota, who is celebrating 10 years' effective and faithful service to Red Cross; second prize is Nutrimetics products donated by Deb Parks, and third prize is beauty products donated by Belinda Sochacki. \$2 a ticket or three tickets for \$5. Hope to see you at the stall.

Plans for the new year include The Pillowcase Project – an age appropriate and engaging way to educate year 3 and 4 students to be better prepared for emergencies. Also SAM – Save a Mate – an education, service and support program on key health issues, particularly relating to alcohol and other drug use and mental health. SAM was started by Australian Red Cross in 1997 and is now available across Australia.

Boomerang Bags sewing bee

Saturday, 25 November from 3-5pm at the Bangalow Public School hall. Sewing bees are to be held on the fourth Saturday of every month.

Bring along scissors, pins, sewing chalk and a sewing machine if you have one. No sewing experience necessary, just enthusiasm to join a great community project.

If you can't make it on the day, donations of old fabric, tablecloths, pillow cases, doona covers can be dropped into the school.

Call Andi on 0438 924 609 or check out Boomerang Bags Bangalow on Facebook.

B&B Christmas luncheon

Town Cafe, 33 Byron Street, Bangalow. **Thursday, 30 November** from 12:30-3:00pm. Byron & Beyond members \$60, visitors \$65. Bookings: rosemarie@byronandbeyondnetworking.com.au.

CWA

As the year winds towards Christmas, the Bangalow CWA

Watch how the story unfolds

Now in its fourth year, Screenworks' *Inside the Writers Room Program* will provide the chance for four regional NSW, early-career screenwriters to observe the process of writing a television drama in some of Australia's most significant drama production companies. The initiative has



"This script looks a cut above the rest Dot."

been made possible with support from Create NSW.

This year's participating production companies for *Inside the Writers Room* include Matchbox Pictures (*Family Law*, *Glitch*), Every Cloud Productions (*Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries*, *Newton's Law*), Goalpost Pictures (*Cleverman*, *Holding the Man*) and Playmaker Media (*Love Child*, *The Code*)

Inside the Writers Room is most relevant to emerging or early-career writers of television content, and more specifically TV drama or comedy series, or authors of fiction transitioning to screenwriting. For the first time, this opportunity has been extended to residents across regional NSW.

Apply online via Screenworks' website. Applicants are required to provide a sample of their work as well as a support letter with their submission. Deadline for application is **5pm, Wednesday, 8 November**.

branch will be filled with gifts for everyone. Favourites such as Christmas pudding and easy ready-made biscuit mix will join the huge selection of hand-knitted clothing and toys that is available.

All funds raised support community organisations such as Liberation Larder throughout the year, so by supporting the CWA you support those in need.

Our Christmas window display will soon be installed, so come and visit us and see what's in store, or follow us on Instagram and Facebook.

Scouting news

The 1st Bangalow Cubs and Scouts are gearing up for Jota/Joti (jamboree of the air and internet) camp at Crystal Creek near Murwillumbah in preparation for an adventure-packed Jamboree 2019 in Adelaide.

If your child enjoys making new friends, and trying new activities and challenges, then come and join the adventure. Call Jim on 0408 546 522.

Scouts aged from 10½ to 14½ meet at 6.30pm on Tuesdays and Cubs aged 7½ to 10½ meet at 6pm on Fridays in school term at the Scout Hall. To inquire about hall hire, call Jacinta 0417 547 242.

Spotlight: Bangalow Garden Club

"A beautiful garden is a work of heart"
– Unknown

The Bangalow Garden Club recently celebrated its 40th, or ruby, anniversary with a grand high tea held at the Moller Pavilion.

Acknowledging the importance of the milestone, red was the theme of the day, with 90 members and guests dressed in their best ruby red finery to celebrate the event. Steven Wedd, one of our members and well known for his award-winning dahlias, bred the Bangalow ruby dahlia specially for the occasion, and we are expecting the blooms to be available in the new year.

Prior to the champagne, we heard many amusing – and touching – stories of the club's history. Our first meeting was on 4 November, 1977, in the RSL Hall. There were 11 members including longtime Bangalow residents Jan Hulbert, Dot Gill and Daisy Dare, and the first president was Percy Hart. There have been many changes over the years, of course, and some of the time the club seemed to be on the edge of disintegration. But, always, someone stepped up to save the day. Much laughter greeted some of the memories and it was an opportunity to reminisce on some of the past triumphs, tips and joys that members have experienced and treasure.

Among those mentioned were names that make up the texture and backbone of this region. Acknowledgment was given to, among others, Beth Nobel, Mrs Avery (an early secretary), Frank Scarabelotti, Howard Sheather, Percy Sheather, Shirley Boyle, Lyall Wright and Hazel Sowerby. Special mention went to Helen Johnston whose tenure as president saw the club grow from about 15 members to the behemoth it is now – more than 150 members. The biggest club, with the best reputation for spreading happiness, in town.

Many local businesses supported this event and the Garden Club is most grateful for their generosity. The Ruby Committee worked hard to make it a wonderful day.

Robyn Armstrong



The Garden Club celebrate its ruby anniversary

Correction

The lookout at McLeods Shoot was built in the early 1960s by

the Mullumbimby Rotary Club not Bangalow Lions as reported in the February 2017 issue

of *The Bangalow Herald*. Our apologies to the Mullumbimby Rotary Club for this error.

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A special reason to be cheerful

There's an air of excitement in *The Herald* offices (our kitchen tables) this month, partly fuelled by the buzz around town anticipating performances of *Chicago* at the A&I Hall – which I can thoroughly recommend – and the Bangalow Show, a hugely significant event in any rural community, and great fun.

Our glee also stems from the fact that this is our First Anniversary edition – and is marked by a kind of spring flowering.

Fittingly, and apt for the season, this edition is full of greenery: a humid season, a bit of good rain, and the region thrives. The earth breathes again, pastures gleam, and the heroic and painstaking work of reforesting the Big Scrub remnants on our doorstep is made easier. Thank you to both our green guardians and the farmers in the area who enrich our lives with their fresh produce.

Starry-eyed friends tell me that 2017 was a turbulent year, astrologically. And it does seem as if the time is out of joint: separations, deaths, schism everywhere – although we all know that the real trouble began in November 2016 (but enough of the Blond Barbarian).

That fateful month saw *The Herald* launched from the ashes of *Heartbeat* and, to conflate metaphors, it underwent a baptism of fire. But it has risen, and the evidence is here before you.

The Herald reaches this point as a thriving enterprise. Page numbers have increased, and we are grateful to our supporters and our loyal and new advertisers who have made that possible – the angels of 2479.

The untiring efforts of *The Herald's* volunteers kept the magazine alive during its infancy, throwing themselves into the task, working selflessly to retain a voice for Bangalow – and I thank them for their willingness and dedication.

We also welcome some new people on board: Murray Hand, Bec Sargeant and Mery Stevens. But it's the community's magazine – anyone with a story to tell is welcome to share it with us. We invite writers young and old to get in touch with their ideas.

The Herald sails hopefully into its second year, evolving, like our beautiful town, to best reflect the community's hopes and aspirations. Please climb aboard!

Digby Hildreth

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IN TOWN

Councillors on the bus go round and round

A busload of Byron Shire councillors and staff in Bangalow recently caused some raised eyebrows, but Basil Cameron has solved the mystery.

Cr Cameron spoke about the bus tour at the last council meeting in a discussion about residential growth in Bangalow and the capacity of the town's sewerage treatment plant (STP) to manage future demands.

Of particular interest to the tour party was Ballina Rd, where various 'sites of interest' have been identified in the Preliminary Draft Residential Strategy. One area, 'Site 33', is 32.3 hectares of farmland on the western side of Ballina Rd with about eight developable hectares. The strategy describes its potential as of "interest for aged care or school with some residential – potentially 200 lots", and its estimated dwelling yield as being "potentially 60 dwellings".

Residents in Ballina Rd received a letter of invitation to have their properties included in the bus tour when it paid a visit to the farm site.

Cr Cameron moved that council consider commissioning an independent assessment of the capacity of the Bangalow STP to manage a projected load that might be placed upon it if the Rural Industries Food Precinct development at 201 Lismore Rd sought to use it, alongside the anticipated demands from residential growth.

Two Bangalow residents spoke in favour of assessing the plant, and the motion was passed with one major change – that council staff, rather than an independent consultant, prepare the report for the December council meeting.

Councillors also considered the latest developments in the long-running saga of No. 9 Station Street, including a revised development application which planning and heritage staff have recommended for approval.

A Bangalow Public School P&C representative expressed their concern about safety issues for children in Station Lane from traffic associated with the development.

Local heritage architect Don Osborne argued that the development was not sympathetic to Station St or the A&I Hall and threatened an application to have the hall State heritage listed.

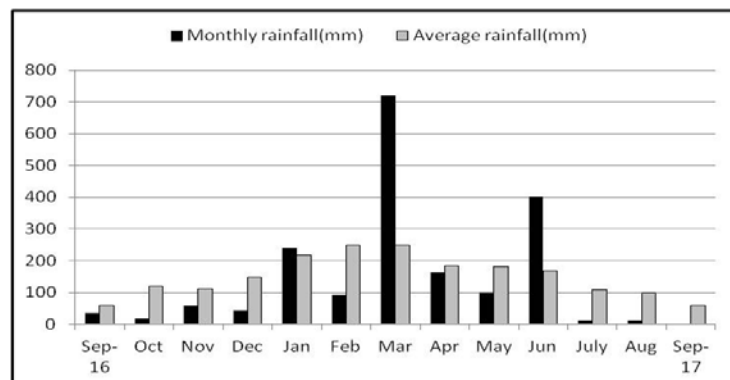
He argued that the revised building did not properly address the issues raised by the Commissioner in the Land and Environment Court.

A member of the Guidance Group requested that the proposal be rejected or at least deferred until the new Masterplan and DCP are approved.

A representative for the developer described the measures taken to reduce the size of the building and address other matters raised in the Land and Environment Court in relation to the last DA.

Councillors voted unanimously to defer to the application, request the applicant to lodge amended plans and seek an independent heritage assessment of aspects of the proposal.

Jenny Bird



Farming on a human scale near town

Where does the future lie for small-scale farming in Byron Shire?

We are seeing some innovative responses to this question across the shire. Hayters Hill Farm and Helena Brahmans are engaged in small-scale sustainable livestock. The Farm at Ewingsdale is exploring ways to support micro-farming businesses and paddock to plate food systems.

One brand new project sits right on Bangalow's doorstep. Called 96Bangalow, and sitting just before Granuaille Rd joins the Hinterland Way, the farm aims over time to offer microbusiness support for market gardeners, bush foods and medicines, native flowers, a syntropic forest and permaculture. Its creators hope to run, subject to approvals, workshops, retreats and community events, and to showcase new eco-technologies, bush food production and its gourmet applications, and support rural employment.

Simon Kalinowski, the owner of the 36 hectare property, is one of a new breed of triple bottom line farmers/social entrepreneurs. He is a home-grown Northern Rivers local who studied at Southern Cross University, moved to Brisbane and made good in waste management and IT. Simon



96Bangalow is aiming to showcase new eco-technologies.

Photo: Jenny Bird

is returning to the Northern Rivers to realise his dreams for a different way of farming.

Blair Beattie is the curator/manager of the fledgling project. "We're trying to push the potential of this area by creating a set of precedents about how we could be living, how we could be producing our food, treating the earth, considering the climate and the food we eat, how we can eat locally and support and feed the shire," Blair says.

Blair describes how a philosophy of regeneration extends sustainability: "Sustainable is exactly that, we sustain the current environment, we do not negatively impact but there is a limited positive. It's good but couldn't we do more? We could be regenerative: where we leave a positive impact, we create more resilience, biodiversity, and the land becomes healthier than when we arrived, be it a vegetable plot or a commercial farm.

traditional models. Regenerative food, sustainable structures and healthy lifestyles are our social mandate."

Right now Blair is busy doing some hard yakka – clearing rocks from paddocks, planting trees, regenerating the riparian zone at Paddy's Creek, establishing garden beds and worm farms, and constructing greenhouses and waste management areas. He's also establishing collaborative relationships with local education providers such as Byron Community College, community groups like Landcare and Bangalow Koalas, the Arakwal community, bush food experts and local restaurants. The list goes on.

Byron Shire has always been green, literally. We support and celebrate innovation. 96Bangalow is an exciting innovation – an 21st century approach to small-scale farming.

Jenny Bird

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A photographic parade of past Show glories. At right is Tom Jarrett, head steward for working dogs, with some of his fans. Tom is part of a young team the committee is nurturing as future leaders – ensuring the Show continues for at least another 120 years. And then there are tarts with their prize-winning contributions, horse events, some serious judging in the Pavilion by life member Reg Wadsworth and Murray Deane, a bevy of Bangalow beauties lined up for the Showgirl crowning, glorious jams and preserves, a man and his bird in the Fowler Pavilion and, of course, the centrepiece for this year – dairy cows.



Now that's just Showing off

(from page 1) Celebrating 120 years of Bangalow shows, this year the theme is the humble cow – a big nod to the area's European founders. The dairy industry was the driving force behind the growth of the region and, as Karen points out, "Bangalow's show was the largest dairy cattle competition in the commonwealth".

While dairy cows are rapidly being replaced by crops and other industries, the milking cow was central to our early prosperity. And even though milking farms are now a little thin on the ground, there will be at least 12 of those very productive 'girls' strutting around the ring.

Also paying respect to that time, there will be the Firebrand event – or as Karen now calls it: The 'It's in the Shed Somewhere' event – as ex-dairy farmers scurry around looking for their old Firebrands. Suggested by Show stalwart, Hector McKenzie, their use reflects a fascinating part of Australian – and Bangalow – history.

During WWII, fearing the Japanese enemy would soon be marauding down from the north with nefarious intentions for our cattle, the State government decreed that the animals must be sent inland for safety. They devised a system of identification for later retrieval. A series of brands was designed and each farm chose one and branded their cattle accordingly.

Now, under Megan Savin's stewardship, many of these original irons have been retrieved from back sheds and will be used once more – though applied to a timber



plank not cow flank – and the branded boards permanently displayed in the Showgrounds.

Other dairy cow homages include paintings and sculptures plus crafty knitted, crochet or felted clothing and cushions and lampshades. Kids can enter the Holy Cow Batman dress-up contest, there's the Rockabilly Cowgirl boot scooting and outfits, and schools and the public are

invited – and encouraged – to be involved with the written word with poems, limericks, a short story and this year's innovation: the Super Cow comic strip.

Jam and chutneys, fresh produce, flowers, craft work, quilting and cakes remain firm favourites and are very competitive. Tart of the Show, this year a cheesecake with fruit, is the most talked about baking prize and for many locals there will be a moment to reflect



on the talents of multi-award winner Bruce McDonough who died on September 17. He was a mighty tart maker. A big satin rainbow rosette will be awarded in his memory. (See Bruce's Obituary on page 15).

Out in the ring there are the usual must-see excitements. It is the 30th year of the Stockman Ironman competition, with \$1000 for the winning team. Designed to reflect the multi-tasking of a stockman's life, it was once a solo event, but acknowledging the changing times it is now a team event for both men and women.

There's also the highly competitive Big Bang Bite, where a tag team eats burgers. It's been noted that current champ Dave Wiseman is under the pump but has been in serious training. Same goes for the shock and awe of the Lawn Mower competition where Stuart Middleton is desperate to regain his title – a highly coveted category.

Saturday is Big Show night. Aside from fireworks there will be Rooftop Express – a first class arena spectacular including horses, dogs and a Brahman bull.

And scattered through the day and night

there will be Miss Showgirl, trotting, ducks on show in the poultry pavilion and dogs working, jumping and generally showing off and so much more that you'd better just get along to experience for yourself. And don't worry about finding great food. Aside from the much loved meals at the Moller Pavilion and in the Lions Tent, there are food vans, with a huge variety of cuisines, on the 'Village Green'.

It is a Great Country Show, no question. A real, live, once-in-a-year show-stopper.

Stephanie King

PHOTO | KATE HOLMES

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Fitness with Fi takes a low key approach for the over 60s.

Photos: Judy Baker

Time to put a spring in your step

Spring has sprung, but how about you? Is there a spring in your step? If you've been thinking 'I really must start doing more exercise and getting out and meeting people' then one of the two new classes in town might just be right for you.

Sometimes the hardest step is making that move to give it a go.

At the Bangalow Men's Shed, Paula Todd has started an exercise class for men at 9.30am on Tuesdays. Paula is a registered fitness trainer and an expert in exercise for the over-50s.

One of the aims of the Men's Shed is to encourage men to socialise to improve mental health, and there is also a huge body of scientific evidence showing a positive correlation between physical exercise and mental health.

Paula's class caters to all capacities and ages. Currently the men participating range from under 50 to more than 80 years old, with varying physical restrictions and fitness levels, so there's no need to feel you mightn't be up to it.

The classes focus on developing strength, balance and flexibility. One participant, Tony Heeson, said: "I'm 79 years old and have had significant improvements in my strength and balance as a result of attending the class."

What does Paula consider to be the best exercise for the over-50s? "The exercise you love," she replied. "If you enjoy your

exercise, you're more likely to do it regularly and to keep doing it."

The classes are \$10 for an hour's session and there are no contracts or commitments, just cash on the day. For inquiries, ring Paula on 0407 258 963.

At The Dance Lab in Deacon Street, opposite Heritage House, Fitness with Fi has started on Fridays at 8.45am. If you're over 50 and looking for a safe and low-key exercise class, with variety that you can take at your own pace, then this is the solution for you.

One woman in the class said: "It's great – it's just what I needed and I love the atmosphere of a group class."

Fi (Fiona Boyle) is a registered nurse and understands the impacts that age can have on the body, and so can cater for different needs. So far it's all women but it's not exclusive – men are also welcome.

Fi's motto for her class is: "Exercise for people who refuse to let age be a barrier to being fitter, stronger and healthier."

You just need to bring along a water bottle and a towel. The classes cost \$12 for an hour's session. For inquiries, ring Fi on 0404 917 882.

Judy Baker



The Men's Shed exercise class run by Paula Todd.



Pay Parking in Bangalow starts 1 January 2018

	Bus Stop
	Bus Zone 7.30am-8.30am & 3.30pm-4.30pm School Days
	No Stopping
	No Stopping 8am-9.30am & 3.30pm-4.30pm School Days
	1 Hour Parking
	2 Hour Parking
	All Day Parking



Pay parking will commence in Bangalow on 1 January 2018. Parking will cost \$4 per hour unless you have an E-permit. Local residents and ratepayers will be able to buy an annual E-permit for \$55, which allows people to park anywhere in the Byron Shire. Anyone who already has an E-permit to park in Byron Bay can use this to park in Bangalow and anywhere in the Byron Shire. Local parking time restrictions will still apply even if you have an E-permit.



Avoid the Christmas rush. Buy or renew your E-permit now quickly and easily online – www.byron.nsw.gov.au

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Pay parking will be introduced in Bangalow on 1 January 2018
- Parking will cost \$4 per hour unless you have an E-permit
- When parking, E-permit holders simply park their vehicle and walk away (Parking time limits still apply)

Residents

Residents and ratepayers can purchase an E-permit for \$55 per year which allows parking anywhere in Byron Shire. (Parking time limits still apply).

Exemption Permits

People with a Centrelink card (blue) or a Mobility Parking permit can apply for an exemption which will allow them to park for free in Bangalow or anywhere in the Byron Shire. (Parking time limits still apply).

Businesses and Volunteer Organisations

Business owners, workers or volunteers who do not live in the Byron Shire can purchase an annual E-permit for \$110 per year. (Conditions apply).

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GREEN AND GROWING



Richmond birdwing butterfly (female)

Photos: Judy Baker

It's a jungle out there

As you drive from Bangalow to Byron Bay via Hayters Hill, have you ever wondered what the Nature Conservation Area sign on the top of the escarpment is about?

It identifies a remnant of the Big Scrub, which at one time consisted of around 75,000 hectares of subtropical rainforest, primarily on the fertile basalt and floodplain-derived soils between Byron Bay and Lismore.

Bushwalkers get to enjoy this slice of the Big Scrub once a year, and scientists from Sydney's Royal Botanic Gardens are involved collecting samples.

The Bundjalung people had used the resources in the Big Scrub for millennia, including plant foods such as macadamia nuts, black beans and finger limes. The timber getters were the first of the new settlers to exploit this forest, particularly for the valuable red cedar. In 1861, the premier of NSW, John Robertson, forced an act through parliament opening up free selection of Crown land in 40 320-acre lots to potential farmers, on the basis that they 'improved' (cleared) the rainforest.

Some dairy farmers from the south coast took up allotments, among them Eli Hayter who took up one square mile on the escarpment overlooking Byron Bay in 1881. Some of this land was quite steep and rocky so remained uncleared.

Less than 1% of the original Big Scrub now remains, in scattered remnants – fewer than 700 hectares. The Hayters Hill site is one of very few remaining in the hands of descendants of the original selectors, on freehold land. The landholders have



Measuring the girth of a red cedar in a remnant

generously shown a local bushwalking group through their patch annually over the last 10 years, and explained the progress of restoration and replanting work. With financial support from the NSW government Environmental Trust and the hard work of many hands, the original 3ha patch on the southern side of the Bangalow/Byron road is now about 4.5ha after more than 25 years' work. We can see the natural colonisation of

the epiphytes and ground covering ferns moving in to the newly planted area.

The Royal Botanic Gardens' Robert Kooyman has been overseeing the collection of leaf samples of particular target species as part of a project, termed Restore and Renew, to survey the genetics of East Coast rainforests. The team has started collecting thousands of plant specimens from hundreds of species across NSW for genetic analysis.

"This information will be used to create a publicly available online resource where plants to be used in restoration plantings can be selected to suit specific sites," Dr Kooyman said. "Recommendations about species selection will include genetic information to protect and enhance local genetic diversity and be appropriate to the user's location and conditions. Climate modelling will also be provided to allow practitioners to plant according to future forecasts."

Judy Baker



The pets of Jeanie Daly and Chris Kincaid are certainly blessed.

All creatures ... though mainly small

There is an artist in every one of God's works, according to St Francis of Assisi, and some divine little creatures were blessed last month in a ceremony honouring the animal-loving saint.

St Francis lived from 1182-1226 and on a Sunday morning 800 years later, in the grounds of All Souls' Anglican Church, one cat (and photographs of

three others), five dogs, and one guinea pig were blessed in his name.

The Canticum of the Sun, written by St Francis, with the opening line "All creatures of our God and King lift up your voice and sing", was sung to start the service in praise of God.

Whatever St Francis found in things made, he referred to their Maker. St Francis rejoiced in all works of God's hands, and with joyful vision saw into the reason and cause that gave them life. In beautiful things St Francis came to know beauty itself. He preached to the birds and his famous quip is, "preach the Gospel, and if necessary, use words".
Fr Matthew Smedley

Give a tree a good name

It has been a long time coming but finally tree identification labelling has become a reality along the Bangalow Land and Rivercare planting sites.

The labels have been financed through our Patrons of the Environment program, where we ask the community to support our work via donations. Apart from using the funds to improve and beautify our environment, this is another way we thought to give back to our community.

Labelling is now along the Bangalow Riverwalk from the Bangalow Parklands to the end of the sporting fields. We hope this addition to the plantings will inspire a new appreciation of the rainforests we are so lucky to have.

Contact bangalowlandcare@gmail.com



Val Rainthorpe, Noelene Plummer, Robert Lotty and Don Salter installing tree identification labels. Photo: Judy Baker

com for further information or how you can donate to our work. *Liz Gander*

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Community members enjoy lunch in the Jindibah hall.

Country living close to town

Ads have recently been appearing in local media for a Community Title (CT) property called Sunsets in Fowlers Lane. It’s the fifth property in the 2.6km-long lane approved as a CT, likely to be the only place in Australia with such a high density of community titles. What’s the attraction?

Community Title is a means to subdivide acreage. On a rural CT, lot owners have individual title to a single residential lot, giving access to mortgage finance. Lots can be about one to two hectares, while the property’s remaining land, up to 35 hectares, is held in common ownership and managed by an elected neighbourhood association committee.

Fowlers Lane is a rural area, close to Bangalow and the Hinterland Way. As small acreages in the Byron Shire are rarer than hen’s teeth, the opportunity to buy a small rural holding conveniently close to ‘civilisation’ is very appealing. There are dozens of CT lot owners in the lane, some signing up this year for lots selling from \$775,000 to \$950,000.

Town planner Rob Doolan has decades of experience helping owners develop Community Title properties in Byron Shire. He says of Fowlers Lane: “CT rural settlement is providing new rural housing with little or no civic costs. For example, new internal roads are private, and not future maintenance burdens for ratepayers. The new CTs are upgrading their share of the much-needed improvements to Fowlers Lane, and significant habitat creation is under way.”

Over the past two decades, CT residents in the lane have loved the fact that their

children can freely and safely roam over a large property, riding horses, swimming and fishing in the creek. Parents have their private lot to maintain, while sharing the cost and responsibility of maintaining the rest. Other residents enjoy the fact that although living outside town, there are neighbours at hand. A community hall is the location for street parties, meetings or birthday celebrations. The opportunity to have hands-on involvement in regenerating degraded farmland also appeals.

Zenya Horthy, the owner of Sunsets, bought the land in 2001, and is in the process of developing the necessary infrastructure to support 11 lots, each of one to two hectares; the first stage will be auctioned on 5 November. “My vision for the land is to create a beautiful place for families to live sustainably, in harmony with each other and the magical surrounding nature and wildlife,” Zenya says. Lots are large enough for market gardens, chickens and livestock and there will be more than 20 hectares of communal land.

The advantages of life on a CT far outweigh the perceived negatives, says Mick O’Regan, who has been living at the Twin Creeks community for 12 years. He comments: “CT works best when people have a commitment to respecting each

other, understanding that people have different reasons for living in CT. Some have the ideal of a collective experience, while others just want to live on acreage. To make the ‘community’ element work you have to be prepared to include respect and *realpolitik*. It only works when there’s mutual understanding and hard work, with a safety net of goodwill.”

At 23-year-old Jindibah intentional community, co-founder Christopher Sanderson sums it up like this: “Life becomes fun once you can accept that living in an intentional community means being involved with other people, as well as embracing the principle of working through problems with goodwill, integrity, and as much self-awareness as you can muster.”

Christobel Munson

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A Date at twilight

According to legend the Date brothers were kidnapped by pirates at a young age. Their parents, international secret agent types, took them sailing through the Straits of Hormuz where they were held captive for several years and, upon their release, astonished the world with their guitar-playing skills.

There is, however, an alternative version, in which the boys grew up in the Northern Rivers. Their mother was a classically trained musician who taught at Mullumbimby in the 60s, and their introduction to the guitar may have gone like this... as told by Ian.

"When I was seven my mother took me into a shop and bought me a ukulele. She said 'This will calm you down'. I played it for a year and then I asked her for a banjo. She said: 'A banjo is \$70, a guitar is \$30...you can have a guitar'.

"I got right into it and started earning money with the guitar when I was 14. Nigel is seven years younger than me and I had left home by the time he started. He was around 13 or 14."



Ian and Nigel Date

Ian became part of the Sydney jazz scene from the 1970s, playing in numerous ensembles including The Conway Brothers' Hiccups Orchestra and a long collaboration with violinist and vocalist George Washingmachine in his band

Sweet Atmosphere.

Regarded as one of Australia's finest guitar players, Ian has written music for TV and film, appeared on television, radio and theatre and played on more than 70 albums. His performances are clever, beautiful and frequently hilarious.

Nigel is a composer and teacher, and also an outstanding guitarist who brings his own masterful contribution to the mix. Of the collaboration with Ian, he

says: "We both like to play all kinds of music but when we get together we mostly play gypsy jazz."

The Date Brothers will perform in a Twilight Concert in Bangalow on **Saturday, 2 December** at 7pm.

For details contact Mery on 0422 415 067 or merystevens@hotmail.com *Mery Stevens*

WHAT'S THAT NUMBER?

AA	Tues 5.30	Richard	0466 885 820	Pool Trust	3rd Wed	Dominic	6687 1425
ADFAS		Anni	6684 3249	Poultry Club		Hec	6687 1322
Aussie Rules		Bill	6687 1485	Progress Association		Ian	0414 959 936
Aussie Rules Junior		Greg	6687 1231	Quilters	2nd,4th Thurs	Helen	6684 1161
Bangalow Parklands Team		Terry	6685 4107	Rainbow Region Dragon Boat Clubs		Monica	0408 776 171
Bangalow Markets	monthly 4th Sun	Jeff	6687 1911	Red Cross	monthly - 1st Fri	Dell	6684 7405
Bangalow Bowlo		Shane	6687 2741	Rugby Union		Richard	0415 773 064
Bridge	Fri 12pm	Eda	6685 1984	S355 C'mtee Heritage House		Don	6687 1897
Cancer support	1st Wed 1-4pm	Chris	6687 0004	Scouts	Tues 6.30pm/Fri 5.45pm	Jim	0408 546 522
Chamber of Commerce	2nd Tues	admin@bangalow.biz		Show Society		Karen	6687 1033
Childcare Centre	7.45am-6pm	Kerry	6687 1552	Soccer Club	2nd Mon 6pm	Nick	6687 1607
Cricket Club		Anthony	0429 306 529	Social Golf	every 2nd Sun	Brian	6684 7444
Co-dependents Anonymous	Thurs 7pm/Sat 4pm	Guy	0421 583 321	Sporting Field	bookings	Nick	6687 1607
CWA	2nd Wed	Di	6685 4694	Tennis Court Hire			6687 1803
Garden Club	1st Wed	Margaret	0403 583 766	Writers Group	1st Thurs	June	6687 1004
George the Snake Man		George	0407 965 092	WIRES			6628 1898
Historical Society/Museum/Cafe		Wendy	6687 2183	VENUES			
Land/RiverCare	1st Sat working bee	Liz	6687 1309	A&I Hall	Station St	Brian	0427 157 565
Lawn Bowls, Men	Wed & Sat 1pm	Gerry	6687 1142	Anglican Hall	Ashton St	Matthew	0488 561 539
Lawn Bowls, Women	Wed 9.30am	Dot	6687 1246	Bangalow Showgrd	Moller Pavilion	Karina	6687 1035
Lions Club	2nd/4th Tues 7pm	Brian	0408 899 555	Sports/Bowling Club	Byron St	Shane	6687 2741
Men's Shed		Brian	0413 679 201	Catholic Hall	Deacon St	Russell	0423 089 684
Netball Club	train 4.15 Thurs	Rachel	6687 0402	Coorabell Hall	Coolamon Scenic	Ouida	6687 1307
Op Shop	10-3pm, Sat 9.30-12.30		6687 2228	Newrybar Hall	Newrybar Village	Tom	0407 189 308
Parks Committee	3rd Tues 7.30pm	Jan	6684 7214	RSL Hall	Station St	Charlotte	6687 2828
Playgroup	Tues 10am	Sue	0421 030 438	Scout Hall	Showgrounds	Jacinta	0417 547 242
Police		Peta	6687 1404	Heritage House	Deacon St	Wendy	6687 2183
Pony Club		Kim	6687 8007				



Bruce and Kevin at their wedding in New Zealand.

Bruce McDonough

4 October 1947 – 17 September 2017

Bruce and his partner Kevin Palmer moved from Sydney to Bangalow in February 2006, and bless the day they made that decision. They were married in New Zealand on 12 December 2013.

Bruce is survived by his sister, Helen McDonough, who lives on the Gold Coast.

Bruce was born in Adelaide and Helen was born three years later. Their proud parents were Alan and Bett McDonough.

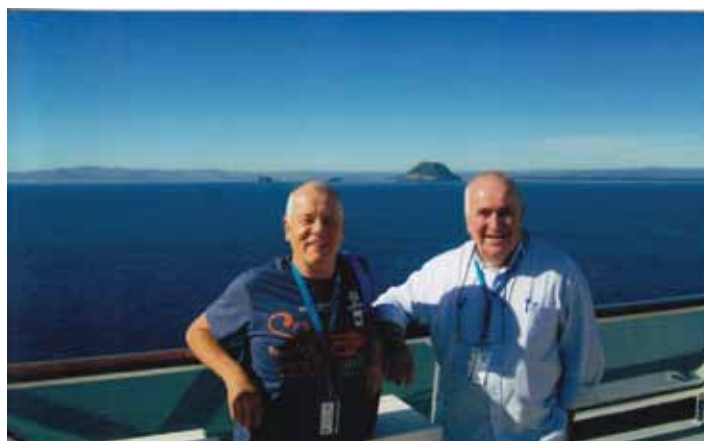
From the age of 16, Bruce was a professional architectural draughtsman for the Adelaide firm of Hassell Architects, both in Adelaide and Sydney. He travelled overseas from 1971-73, resuming his former employment when he returned to Adelaide.

We met in February 1974 while working on the construction of The Playhouse in the Adelaide Festival complex in South Australia during the Don Dunstan era.

We then moved to Surry Hills in Sydney and lived there for almost 30 years before the move to Bangalow.

Bruce soon became well-known locally for his enthusiasm and good-humoured participation within the community, especially at the local cabaret, and as the frequent winner of cooking competitions at the annual Bangalow Agricultural Show.

Farewell Bruce, from your soulmate, your loving sister Helen, and the many friends with fond memories of you, who gathered in Bangalow on Sunday, 29 October to celebrate your life and the contribution you made to the Bangalow community. *Kevin Palmer*



Bruce and Kevin on their honeymoon.



Bruce with Anne-Marie Nicholson with the Tarts of the Show in 2009.



The Four Skins: Luke Kennedy, Justin Telfer, Bruce McDonough and Tony Hutchinson had the crowd on their feet at the 2012 Da Dosh concert.

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Coming home and putting back

Over many years of living locally, you get to see a lot of shops come and go. Likewise with people, especially those old enough to leave home. Many adult children leave the area – and their families – behind to set off into the world and experience life outside the Northern Rivers.

Two locals who did just that are Paul and Amanda Coughran, the owners of the newest café in town, Butcher Baker. They both grew up in the area and both attended Mullumbimby High School, although four grades apart. They later met and fell in love in London, of all places, after being introduced through mutual friends.

Paul and Amanda ended up moving back to Australia, where they spent the past 10 years running bakery cafes in Melbourne. The inspiration for the name Butcher Baker comes from Paul's three loves: baking, butchery and beer.

Paul grew up in Brunswick Heads and his father owned KC's takeaway shop that used to be packed with people when the Pacific Highway passed by its front door. Paul's dad is a butcher by trade



Amanda and Paul Coughran of Butcher Baker

Photo: Amandine Lichtfus

and Paul was brought up in and around butcher shops from a young age. The use of the word butcher in the name Butcher Baker is a reference to his father and to his love of

meat, which features extensively on the menu.

Paul is also a baker and makes all the artisan breads, pastries and sweet treats that are sold in the café.

Amanda's connection to the local area goes back to her grandmother, Elaine Murphy, who grew up in Eureka. The Murphy family live there to this day. Elaine Murphy married Stan Robinson from Mullumbimby who, as many old locals will remember, was synonymous with his removalist business, now called Mullumbimby Removals.

For Paul and Amanda, the reason to return home was simple – to be closer to family and to escape the Melbourne weather.

Sunshine, kith and kin, honest food and good times: what more could you ask for?

Joanna Wilkinson

Comment Parking planners could go west

Opinions differ as to whether there is a need for more parking spaces in Bangalow. Consultant Steve Burgess, who conducted the recent Bangalow Movement Strategy, recommended a Park and Walk policy. His report concluded that generally there is "not a parking supply issue".

Looking towards the future, a carpark running alongside Lismore Rd is worth consideration. It would serve those coming from the west, especially residents who live beyond Rifle Range Rd. They comprise a sizeable 27% of the overall population.

The upper 100m of this long stretch of

land could accommodate an internal road with two rows of cars parked on each side. This could fit double the number of cars presently held in the main street.

Serving as a peripheral carpark, this is close to the top end of the main street. From Robinson St, it's less than a 100m walk to Foodworks. It's not attractive at the moment but landscaping, a pedestrian crossing and traffic calming would all help.

Another more pleasant option is for people to walk along the railway track to town. The beauty of this proposal is that drivers can park on their way in. They don't

even have to enter the main street. There's no need to go any extra distance travelling down side streets to get to a parking place.

They avoid central congestion and the need to turn around and get back out again. Compared to other suggested sites for additional parking, it cuts down on extra car movements in town, rather than increasing them.

It would require approval from the RMS and Transport for NSW (in charge of our rail-line), so it's not guaranteed. However, if needed, I think this site makes a lot of sense.

Nadine Hood

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Born to paddle

Young kayaker Dan Peacock has just returned home to Bangalow from the Czech Republic after three weeks competing for Australia in the 2017 Olympic Hopes Kayaking Regatta.

Dan took part in the K1, K2 and K4 under 17s against kayakers from about 40 countries. He made the semi finals in the K2 and K4 and achieved a personal best in the 1000m K1 event of 3mins 56.

A keen paddler since his Nippers days at Byron Bay Surf Club, Dan qualified to represent Australia at the national titles at Penrith in March.

He started on surf skis when he was 13 and at 15 was encouraged to take up kayaking by club legend Max Tutt. "Dad was a keen ski-paddler and I grew up around it," Dan says.

Dan went to Bangalow Primary School and is now a student at Byron Bay High School where he is about to start year 12. He also likes to surf, skate and take photos.

He learnt a lot on the trip to Eastern Europe, he says. "They're quite poor over there, and for some of the kids kayaking is



Dan Peacock on the water

Photo: Lisa Peacock

their whole life."

Next year, because he will be doing his HSC, balancing studies with his sporting ambition will be a challenge.

A kayaker needs to combine speed, endurance and strength. To achieve those skills he is, at present, training 10 times a week in the gym, running and paddling,

in preparation for the trials next year with the aim of competing at the World Junior Championships in Bulgaria.

And his attitude of gratitude is impressive: "I'd like to thank my mum and dad," he says. "I wouldn't be able to do any of this without them. And all the coaches along the way, especially Max." *Murray Hand*



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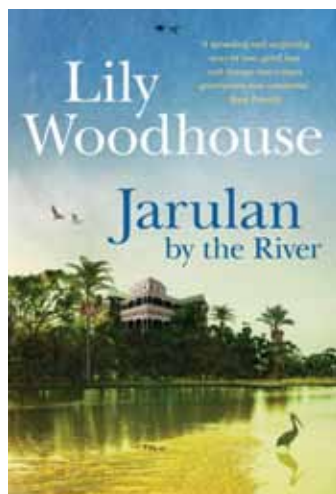
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Jarulan by the River

by Lily Woodside



For those of us who live locally, literary depictions of NSW's Far North Coast are always subject to close scrutiny. How well does the author capture the shifting matrix of nature, history and locality? How accurate is the sense of the intense heat and humidity, the presence of the big rivers and the pockets of Big Scrub? How truly represented are the tangled strands of place and personality?

Interestingly it is a Kiwi author, Lily Woodhouse, in the family saga *Jarulan by the River*, who

sets her fictional sights on well-known localities around the time of WWI. The multi-generational epic explores universal themes of love, grief and loss as it reveals the fractured world and changing fortunes of patriarch Matthew Fenchurch.

Marooned in his decaying mansion on the Richmond River, Fenchurch's tightly controlled world is crumbling. His wife is dead, as is his favourite son, the latter dying amid the mud and blood in the battlefields of France. His other boy, less favoured, has gone as well, crossing the Tasman to work as a remittance man in a Maori marae.

Woodhouse draws together the disparate elements of family life to evoke a time when class, religion and nationality determined individual fates as if they were chiselled in stone. As the impact of the Great War and its unexpected consequences cuts across relationships and accepted norms, consequences abound for masters and servants alike. The inter-war years unfold, tattooed by personal tragedy and high drama.

In the verdant, water-logged world of the Far North Coast, barges still bring people from Lismore to the once grand old home. But

even here, a world away from the conflict and trauma of Europe, animosities are ignited and played out in an utterly different setting. Illicit love and unrestrained desire interrupt family life as successive generations come to terms with a new, volatile century.

Woodhouse's novel is a big story, replete with juicy episodes and high drama in a place where nature and history bring unexpected outcomes in what, for many, will be familiar places. *Mick O'Regan*

Sixty Seconds

by Jesse Blackadder



The morning that Toby Brennan drowned in the backyard swimming pool is etched on the brain of each surviving Brennan family member and yet, puzzlingly for the survivors, the shock has deleted a lot of the detail; where were they, what were they doing?

This is a story of surviving the aftermath of trauma; the guilt, the questions, what is important in our lives, which secrets should we keep, how do we survive this?

The Brennan family has only recently moved to warm, tropical Murwillumbah; escaping from

chilly Hobart and an event which nobody wants to think about, let alone discuss. Bridget has scored a great career job and Finn is staying home to parent Toby, occasionally finding time to create sculptures in the backyard studio. The oldest son, Jarrah, 15, is being bullied at school and is struggling to fit in. They all adore two-year-old Toby, a late addition to the family.

Local author, Jesse Blackadder, states at the start that this novel originates from her personal experience at age 12 of losing a sister to drowning so there is no need for a spoiler alert. Despite this, as the tragedy looms, I could not help holding my breath as I compulsively turned the pages. Jesse sensitively takes us through the aftermath; the police, the school, the volunteer support person from the hospital, breaking the news to family and she does this alternately through the three surviving family members. The tragedy is intensified when Finn is charged with manslaughter by criminal negligence; a consequence arising from the hunt for a test case to enforce backyard swimming pool safety standards.

It's a grim topic but this was a good read, with many layers and story lines and a tense exploration of family relationships told through the intense thoughts and feelings of the three surviving Brennans.

Carolyn Adams – Bookworms & Papermites

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www.sudokion.com

A kind of Spring Racing Carnival

It's all happening down at the Bangalow Sports Fields on Thursday nights, after the Bangalow Summer6's soccer competition kicked off in October.

With 12 kids', 40 women's and 32 men's teams registered, it is one of Australia's most successful 6-a-side competitions, and Tim Cahill's recent appearance at the Bowlo suggests the world is taking notice! And with the Bowlo buzzing and the Stockpot Kitchen extending its love to canteen service, why wouldn't they?

The adults' competition was started by Billy Boyle and Mark Freeman in 1999, and, after a hiatus in 2016, the junior competition is also back, meaning the event is very much a family affair.

"The kids love it – they can play a game and then cheer on mum and dad from the sidelines," said Kylie Redden. Local teachers Mrs V on the field and Mr H with



Finley Connors, Maggie Powditch and Ruby See battle it out.

Photo: Maralyn Hanigan

the whistle, are also drawcards for the younger spectators.

Stakes were high in the Spiteri household leading into the season opener, Louis's team The Hairy Arsenal drawing dad Michael's team The Zeps in the first game. The 1-1 result was a relief for mum Helen (herself a long-time member of The Iron Maidens, 2013 D grade champions) who described the pre-game sledging as "unpleasant".

Louis claimed his team's only goal, with Michael keen to note that he was subbed

off at the time: "He would never have scored if I was on the field."

A huge thanks to organisers for all their hard work in making this competition the annual success that it is. To an ex-Melburnian now firmly entrenched in the Bangalow lifestyle, Summer6's has a kind of Spring Racing Carnival buzz: concerns around pre-season fitness and form, jostling to secure a starting line-up, outfit planning, injuries inevitable and drinks all round (except for the parent who has to take the kids home.)

Bec Sargeant

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Guys and dolls and a great time

A surge of Moulin Rouge glamour and gusto will shimmy through audiences at the A&I Hall this month, when the sexy, sassy musical **Chicago** hits the stage.

Julia Keast, in the lead role of Velma, was principal dancer at Moulin Rouge in Paris, and a star in Italian television and musical theatre, and her experience, commanding stage presence and long-limbed athleticism add a dimension of professionalism to the production from the Bangalow Theatre Company.

During rehearsals, Keast could be found in corners of the hall mentoring young dancers, according to director Jo Franklin – an example of the “all-hands on deck” approach and community-centric ethos of the company.

Velma’s rival as celebrity murderess in the irresistibly entertaining production is Roxie, played by Tammy Duncan, all curly blonde hair and batting of lashes above her big baby blues. The fallen starlets are opposites in every respect, and trade barbs and sneers in their campaign for publicity, fame, and freedom from the jail house, where Roxie is facing the electric chair.

Musicals succeed not so much on their storyline, even less on any social message they may contain. We go to them for the songs and dynamic choreography.

BTC’s Chicago has all of that in spades, but Franklin hopes the satirical jabs will be heard beneath the dance razzmatazz and all that jazz. These themes are even more relevant now than they were when the script was written in 1926, she says.

Based on a real-life crime reporter’s experience, the show points a finger at a corrupt justice system, media circuses chasing the latest scandal, celebrity lawyers and the hunger for showbiz fame, no matter how undeserved. If not fame, infamy will do.

The phenomenal script and big cast make Chicago “the biggest challenge, as far as musicals go”, Franklin says.

And one of the most rewarding, with acerbic humour popping up throughout, a feelgood story and characters to boo or root for – deadbeat guys and daffy gals, plugging ratbag husbands with bullets. Crimes of passion, lashings

November diary

- 1** Garden Club AGM; BPA
- 3** Chicago opens till 5th
- 7** Melbourne Cup lunch at Heritage House
- 8** Herald AGM; Screenworks applications close
- 9** Chicago opens till 11th
- 13** Historical Society AGM
- 17** Bangalow Show; The Swing Thing
- 18** Bangalow Show
- 24** Red Cross street stall; Blues Club
- 25** Boomerang Bags sewing
- 26** Sunday Market
- 30** Byron & Beyond Lunch
- Dec 2 Date bros concert
- Bangalow Herald deadlines:**
- Ads Wednesday 15/11**
- Copy Monday 20/11**

of cheek and scandal – with infectious tunes and jaw-dropping dance moves.

Paris has nothing on these guys.

Friday–Sunday, 3-5 November; and **Thursday–Saturday, 9-11 November.** Show starts at 7.30pm.

Digby Hildreth



Julie Keast and Tammy Duncan in rehearsal.



It starts on the family farm...™



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