

HERALD

The Bangalow

FREE | May 2022

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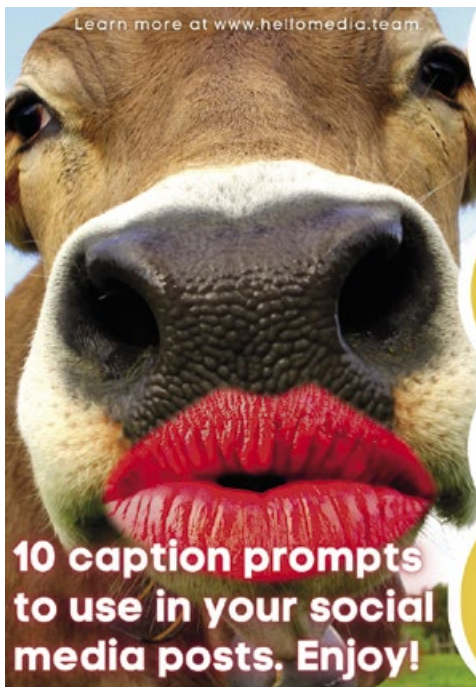
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GOOD SPORTS



A sporting chance for the Bowlo

The town is atwitter about a proposal that would see our beloved community owned Bangalow Bowlo being amalgamated with Norths Collective. There are many things to consider including the current financial situation of the club (acknowledging all businesses have taken a hit during the pandemic), along with the burden of community ownership, board membership and leadership (which typically falls on the same civic minded, community active individuals to get involved). We also have the inevitable increase in 'gaming' and gambling (and what this means for our town in terms of financial and social impacts), alongside a promise of great training and hospitality infrastructure which can only benefit the club. Added to this is the loss of an interesting, socially significant mid-century building through extensive plans to modernise the premises (although a new roof would be ace). Documents relating to the future plans for the club are on the Bowlo website bangalowbowlo.com.au/future and it is up to us (and that means you) as a member of the club to have your say. The amalgamation will only go ahead if the members vote for it. Membership is only \$10 and takes five minutes to complete, paying your fee over the bar at the club. And just like that 'other' thing we're voting on this month, you can't complain about the outcome if you don't make your vote count.

Isaac Brandon

Keeping healthy in May

Bangalow Medical Centre at Lot 1 Ballina Road, Bangalow has some important health initiatives happening in the month of May. During Heart Week 2-6 May, the Centre will be offering free heart health checks for those over 45 years of age. The clinic will run on a designated day with a nurse and doctor conducting assessments that will be billed directly to Medicare with no out of pocket expenses. Health assessments at this stage of life can allow patients to make lifestyle changes that could prevent or lessen the impact of chronic diseases in later life.

A free Hearing Bus offering hearing screening for those over 18 years of age will be on-site on 20 May call 6687 1079 to book. The 'Bone Bus' will be on-site at the centre from 9-13 May offering free bone density scans for the over 70s. Referral for this service is required and can be done via an appointment with your GP at the Centre. Call 66871079 to book an appointment for a referral. Bone density testing is quick and painless, and can detect osteoporosis and increased risks of bone fractures.

Flu season also is upon us so don't forget to get your vaccination which is now available at the Centre. COVID vaccinations and boosters for eligible patients are also available.

Bangalow Medical Centre

From the editor



In this month's edition we highlight visibility, pride and acceptance of disability as we meet the winner of the Raw Comedy Festival (and former 2479 resident) Alexandra Hudson. Alexandra challenges hurtful ignorance and stereotypes through

comedy that flips the narrative and has audiences laughing at themselves.

We also reflect on the integral part that small halls continue to play in sustaining community life in our region. From dance halls to trivia nights to celebrations of life to makeshift disaster recovery hubs, they thrum with the quiet energy of being and belonging. (Where else could one of our most well-loved musical acts simply pop up to entertain local volunteers? This is the world where we live.)

Have you ever wondered how the residential division of Bangalow land came to be? Perhaps you've pondered who the streets of our town are named after? This month, we begin telling the backstory of European selection and settlement on the unceded lands of our region, getting to know a little about the original Mrs (and Mr) Robinson and life in 19th century 2479.

You may have heard that the Bangalow Bowlo faces a number of changes and challenges, but in the spirit of democracy, members get to vote on the final outcome of the club. Likewise, you will be called to vote later this month to influence the direction of our political leadership, on which hinges the future of a great many of the things that fill the pages of this publication: housing, healthcare, regional life, the arts, and care for our ailing planet.

Sally Schofield

We acknowledge the original storytellers of the land on which we live and work, the Arakwal people of the Bundjalung Nation.

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Printed by Lismore City Printery

DISCLAIMER: This news magazine is published by The Bangalow Herald Inc. (registration no. INC 1601577). Membership applications are open to all adult residents of the 2479 postal district and surrounds. The opinions expressed by individual contributors are not necessarily shared by the editor, nor members of the association's editorial or management committees.



**RATE MY AGENT SUBURB WINNER
AGENT + AGENCY OF THE YEAR**

BANGALOW MARKET REPORT

An update from Elders Bangalow and Lennox Head.

It has been a wild start to the year and despite challenges with Covid and more recently, the floods, we have a vast number of active buyers in the market. Both locals and out of towners are now taking a more considered approach to buying and the interest in Bangalow is growing, given it was less affected than neighbouring towns.

The devastating floods highlighted the strength of the Bangalow community with many familiar faces out on the streets during the clean-up - it's the kind of community people want to be a part of.

Moving forward throughout 2022, potential interest rate rises and the forthcoming election may cause the market to slow, although such market shifts may only be intermittent. We believe strategic marketing and established, forward-thinking representation is the key to capitalising on successful sales campaigns.

If you're looking to list or would like a confidential chat, I would love to help you make your next move.

Michael Dodds, 0491 332 430
michael.dodds@eldersbangalow.com.au



**Bangalow &
Lennox Head**

Sensitively updating history

Restoring and renovating historic homes in 2479 requires passion and patience but consulting a former resident yields real treasure, writes Christobel Munson.

When renovating their classic Bangalow heritage house *Lowanna*, Josh and Casey Cordoba “wanted to pay tribute to the character of the home.” They set about finding out more about it chatting with former resident, Lynn Smith. Lynn lived at *Lowanna* until she was 19 years old. Life in Bangalow in the 1950s and 1960s for her, focused outdoors, on the creek and the pool. “The creek was a playground for us: fishing, making canoes and travelling up the creek, having mud fights, sliding down the embankment into the ‘duck pond’, and just having fun,” Lynn recalls. The pool itself “played a large part in my life. I spent many hours there, having fun, competing in swimming carnivals, getting my bronze medallion and intermediate star for swimming, and helping the swimming pool committee on working bee days.”

In those more relaxed times, kids had “the freedom to go on adventures, like walking along the railway lines, building cubby houses

**“ Josh and Casey Cordoba
“wanted to pay tribute to
the character of the home.”**



Photos: Josh Cordoba

in the big camphors near the house, playing ‘red rover’ until dark in front of the houses along Byron Street, only returning home when the streetlights came on.

Lynn spent time showing the couple family photos of the house, also describing the colour palette on the interior and exterior of the home from the years she lived there. The leadlight windows reflected the original pastel pink and soft pistachio green of the rooms, which the Cordobas have matched, keen to keep to the original colours. The Cordobas careful, considered update took nearly nine months to complete, and is a good example of how a classic home can be preserved and treasured when restorations are done from the heart.



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Photo Isaac Brandon

Have your say in the NSW Flood Inquiry

NSW Premier, Dominic Perrottet, has announced the opening of the submission period for the 2022 NSW Flood Inquiry during his recent visit to the Northern Rivers. Professor Mary O’Kane AC and Michael Fuller APM will lead the six-month Independent Inquiry, which will review the preparation for, causes of, response to, and recovery from the 2022 catastrophic flood event across the state of NSW.

Mr Perrottet said the Inquiry would play a critical role in providing a forum for community voices to be heard and ensuring all the necessary steps are taken to prepare NSW for future disaster events. “This is your opportunity to tell your story, whether by making a submission online or attending a local session in person. Every submission will make a meaningful contribution to this important work to understand how we can better prepare for flooding, recover from this disaster and plan for the future,” Mr Perrottet said.

Public submissions can be made via email, post, in-person at Service NSW Centres, or face-to-face via community sessions to be announced.

The Inquiry is required to report to the Premier by 30 September 2022. For more information, please visit nsw.gov.au/floodinquiry



Photo David Marcu

Helpline for those coping with grief

NSW residents struggling to cope with the loss of a loved one can access six free counselling sessions from Griefline, thanks to a \$1 million investment from the NSW Government.

Minister for Mental Health Bronnie Taylor said the telephone-based counselling will be invaluable for those people struggling to cope with everyday life and social activities as a result of grief and bereavement. “There’s no doubt that the death of someone close to us can be deeply upsetting and painful. It can be quite difficult to try to make sense of the world without our loved one in it,” Mrs Taylor said.

With the NSW Government’s support, individuals over 18 years of age living in NSW and experiencing profound levels of grief can request six free counselling sessions via Griefline’s online referral process.

“Our team is committed to helping people resolve the complications in their grief process and learn how to integrate the loss into their life,” said Griefline Chief Operating Officer, Kate Cahill.

Find out more about Griefline’s Integrating Grief Program at griefline.org.au/get-help/integrating-grief-program

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Photo Sam Charlton Photography



Photo Earl Wilcox

New home for 2022 Writers Festival

The Byron Writers Festival makes a very welcome reprise to our region's arts calendar in 2022 having been cancelled due to COVID in both 2020 and 2021. A new date and new venue herald the beloved festival's return; from August 26-28, more than 100 writers and thinkers will come to the North Byron Parklands to share stories, ideas and the power of words with festival audiences.

The Festival's new Artistic Director, Zoe Pollock says "I can't wait to create a special event for those who love literature and stories to meet their favourite authors, discover brilliant new books and soak up the atmosphere of being in a place where ideas are cherished." North Byron Parklands is also home to Splendour in the Grass and Falls Festival, and caters to other community events throughout the year. Its green open spaces and beautiful natural surroundings will welcome lovers of books, words and ideas.

Located only 20 minutes north of Byron Bay, on-site car parking will be available and shuttle buses will run between Byron Bay and the Festival.

Early Bird 3-Day Passes will be on sale for one week only from June 15. A limited release of Sunday Locals' Passes will go on sale June 30. byronwritersfestival.com/festival

A whole lot to offer at Coorabell Hall

For anyone who has attended an event at Coorabell Hall, you'll understand why the hall is so well loved. After a flurry of activity, which has seen interior repainting and other works, the doors are being flung open with a fantastic calendar of events from acoustic music nights, pop-up Japanese noodle night, cocoa and sound healing, pizza nights, yoga, and lots more.

Enjoy a pit stop through the hills with a trailer offering drive through style coffee and snacks, plus outdoor seating open from 7am-2pm weekdays.

Local dahlia growers are in discussion to bring back the flower show which was held at the hall for 50 years. In the late 1950s, as the hall was on the brink of going broke, the introduction of the Annual Coorabell Flower Show held in 1959 raised enough funds to revive the hall and became the biggest single event of the year.

As with all community venues, the Coorabell Hall is maintained and restored by funds raised from events and fundraisers.

If anyone is keen to support the hall with donations of products or services visit coorabellhall.net

Kieryn Deutrom

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Business news

Newsagency news



The Bangalow Newsagency has new owners, the first since 2004 when Carolyn and Richard Rombouts bought the business. The purchasers are husband and wife team, Nick Berry and Sasha Falloon who moved to Bangalow late last year. Nick is also the owner of investment advice company, Pure Asset Management, located in the Readings building.

Carolyn says she never imagined that they would keep the business for so long but having done so, they have had to make many changes since 2004. Newspapers are no longer a newsagency staple so, moving with the times, the shop became a bookstore, Bookmarks & Papermites, and art supplier.

Life in a newsagency isn't always easy but it got particularly difficult early one morning some time ago when a machete-wielding robber threatened the early morning delivery man in a very violent incident. The machete marks are still evident in the office. One day, Carolyn also chased someone up the street who had filled his pockets with biros, yelling as she went, startling pedestrians.

Now for a quieter life, Carolyn and Richard have retired to their new home in Clunes but travel plans are always on the agenda. Carolyn is passionate about cycling and Richard plans to take his bowls game to the next level even though it is already at a highly competitive one. Carolyn will still be involved with Bookmarks & Papermites, ordering stock and doing reviews for the *Bangalow Herald*.

New owners, Nick and Sasha, have plans for some initiatives in the near future. They plan to refresh the look and feel of the shop, significantly expanding the stationary range and moving the store online, which will simplify ordering for business customers. Bookmarks & Papermites is to be expanded with an extended children's book and toy range and launching an independent online children's store, Little Palms.

Nick and Sasha welcome any feedback from 2479 residents on what they would like to see in the store. The other good news is that the delightful Aisha is to remain in charge as the store manager.



Arrivederci

The Italian Diner has been sold. It served its last meals at the end of April. There is a rumour around about its replacement (another Italian restaurant) but it is yet to be confirmed. Pete and Camille will be missed and we wish them all the best for the future.

Murray Hand

4th Sunday of each month

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With just a 5% increase in the vote, we can win this seat, kick Scott Morrison out and push the next government to go further and faster on the climate crisis.

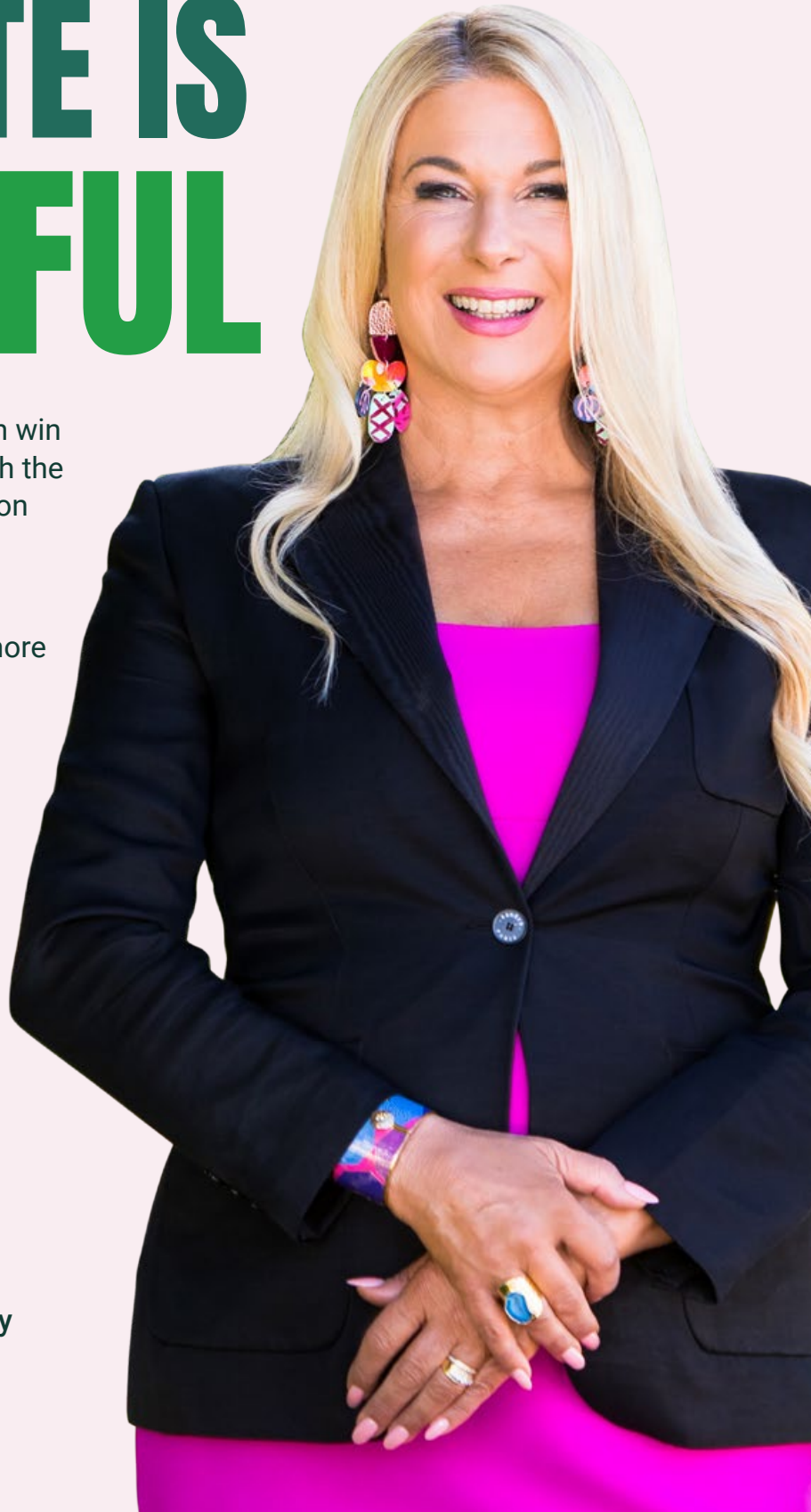
Coal and gas are the leading causes of climate change. Liberal and Labor want more new coal and gas fuelling weather events such as our recent catastrophic floods.

But in the balance of power, the Greens will push the next government to phase out coal and gas and create hundreds of thousands of jobs rolling out renewables.

I have a strong, independent voice and will fight hard for:

- Real action on climate
- Social and affordable housing
- Putting dental and mental health in Medicare
- Making billionaires and corporations pay their fair share of tax

Let's make it happen!



MANDY NOLAN

FOR RICHMOND

THE
GREENS

Funny, you don't look disabled

Alexandra Hudson has a penchant for pastel hues. Her hair is sometimes fairy-floss pink, sometimes mauve. When she took to the stage at the RAW Comedy Competition, part of the world-famous Melbourne Comedy Festival in April, she donned a softly structured pale rose suit. And won.

Alexandra has lived with cerebral palsy her whole life, a condition that can affect everything from posture, movement, and coordination to speech and even sleep. But in the spectrum of things, her disability is often not visible. "I feel like I'm constantly having to explain my disability, because I don't use mobility aids, and just sitting there looking 'normal'. Whatever that means."

But to estimate Alexandra all sugar and spice would be a mistake. She's got some devilish insights and dark takes that have a non-disabled audience laughing at themselves.

In 2015, Alexandra lived in a heritage cottage in Station Street, Bangalow. "Every house I've ever lived in has some kind of accessibility issue," she says. What she remembers most about the town is its uneven pathways, high gutters, footpaths that abruptly end, and inaccessible parking. "It was not an inclusive environment, physically."

A graduate of Mandy Nolan's stand-up comedy course, Alexandra has tapped the vein of her own unique lived experience but her observations also ring true for many others with differences or disabilities, hidden or otherwise. "I'm very deliberate with how I present myself because I'm only speaking from my experiences. For me, having a disability isn't the joke. I never want to make fun of that. I want people to understand that I'm very proud to be a disabled woman," she says.

"Mandy was the first person to say to me 'You can win RAW'. I ran into her at the Brunswick pub, and she just said 'Are you doing RAW? You know, you can win'. That conversation was a real catalyst for me; it really motivated me."



Mandy Nolan with winners of RAW Comedy, Alexandra Hudson and Bron Lewis

This year, more than 1000 emerging comedians registered to compete in RAW Comedy, hitting the stage with their best five-minute stand-up set running over dozens of heats and on to the finals. For the first time in 27 years, there was a joint first place awarded with Alexandra Hudson and Bron Lewis announced as winners.

"You put in the hours, and you get there. I've done a lot of the hard work, but not without a lot of people along the way supporting me," Alexandra says. Mandy even flew to Melbourne to attend the finals, having more than an inkling about the potential of her former mentee. "When I saw her, it was really emotional," says Alexandra.

Alexandra draws on autobiographical insights to highlight the commonalities faced by disabled people in our communities, to show how inaccurate non-disabled people's perceptions can be. The watercolour hues of her physical persona stand in stark contrast to the truth bombs she lobs into the audience. "I'm told that I've got quite a quiet, gentle presence on stage, but some of the jokes I make are a little bit darker. The audience are not expecting it. It makes my comedy much more effective."

Comedy is a form of storytelling that for the audience can provoke powerful self-reflection. As a platform for advocacy and awareness around diversity and inclusion, comedy is gold. In taking out the RAW competition, Alexandra joins such stellar alumni as Hannah Gadsby, who has done important work increasing visibility for the LGBT+ and neurodiverse communities through her humour.

But sometimes you can't teach an old dog new jokes. "I've heard

"I've heard a few ableist jokes in comedy, and a lot of them are just appealing to the lowest common denominator, playing on these outdated, horrible stereotypes."

a few ableist jokes in comedy, and a lot of them are just appealing to the lowest common denominator, playing on these outdated, horrible stereotypes." Chris Rock's ableist clanger about Jada





Pinkett Smith's alopecia at the 2022 Academy Awards is a classic, cringeworthy example. "That joke was inappropriate and hurtful. And in such a public space!

"In comedy you should never punch down, you should always punch up, so making fun of anyone's disability is really bad. I'm not at all condoning Will Smith's response. I'm disappointed by his reaction, and it also shifted the focus from what Chris Rock said as well."

There's still much work to be done in 'normalising' disability and changing preconceptions that disabled people can't be funny, strong, confident, successful. "The perception of disabilities kind of like 'Oh, you're so cute,' mean they're often linked with like being childlike or infantile," says Alexandra. She also calls out the privilege that those who live so comfortably with social acceptance and accessibility are often oblivious to.

"I talk about disability almost exclusively," says Alexandra. But far from being self-deprecating, she uses her space in the spotlight to turn the focus back on non-disabled folk and their perceptions and misconceptions. She hopes non-disabled people will reflect on the challenges they often don't see – pathways, public toilets, policies, and all.

"There's so much negativity and stigma around disability. So, when you're proudly disabled and have your non-disabled audience laugh at themselves, even just in that moment, it makes you think anything is possible."

The 2022 RAW Comedy National Grand Final will be broadcast on SBS Viceland later this year, but in the meantime, check out alexandrahudsoncomedy.com for tour dates and get ready to have a good hard laugh at yourself.

Sally Schofield



RAW Comedy photos by Jim Lee courtesy of the Melbourne International Comedy Festival

INSET: co-winners Alexandra Hudson and Bron Lewis

LEFT: Alexandra Hudson Photo supplied



Council Matters

New industrial land proposed

A planning proposal to rezone part of 150 Lismore Road, Bangalow has been submitted to Council. The site is currently zoned RU1 Primary Production. It is proposed to zone part of the site IN1 General Industrial and part C3 Environmental Management. The remainder of the lot is to remain as RU1 Primary Production. The site has already been identified as an investigation area for additional industrial use within Byron Shire Council's Byron Business and Industrial Lands Strategy. A minimum lot size of 1000m² and a floor space ratio of 0.75:1 is proposed – the same ratio as the existing industrial estate. The proposal is on public exhibition and open for comment. Information of the proposed rezoning is available on Council's website at

byron.nsw.gov.au/Services/Building-development/Planning-in-progress/LEP-amendments-planning-proposals-in-progress/Rezone-land-for-industrial-use-at-Bangalow

If you would like to make a submission, complete the online form by COB 11 May 2022.



Proposal for rezoned industrial land. Courtesy Byron Shire Council.

Complying with heritage

A Balinese makeover of a house in Byron Street in the Bangalow Heritage Conservation Area (HCA) has finally been removed after a long battle with Council and opposition from Council's Heritage Committee and the Bangalow Progress Association. The house has been restored to its original North Coast Federation character. Owners of properties in the Bangalow HCA need to be aware that if modifications to a heritage building are refused by Council but go ahead anyway, heavy fines for non-compliance apply. In addition, owners will incur the costs of removing the modifications and replacing them. For guidelines about heritage refer to Chapter C1 Non-Indigenous Heritage and Chapter E2 Bangalow of Byron Shire Development Control Plan.

Jenny Bird

ACUPUNCTURE & CHINESE MEDICINE

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Olivia absolutely loves practicing Chinese medicine and is continually inspired by the positive impact Chinese medicine has on the human body, mind, spirit and lives of the people she treats. Olivia is an Apha registered acupuncturist and herbal medicine practitioner.

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Just the ticket

In the aftermath of the floods that wreaked destruction throughout the Northern River 2479 resident Katya had a lightbulb moment.



Photo Inez Brookes

As the owner of Byron Bay children's store, Small Wonder, whose ethos is 'buy better, buy less', she is stylish, savvy and also super-well connected in the fashion and retail worlds. Her husband also happens to play guitar in one of Australia's most iconic rock bands, Grinspoon, so it seemed only natural for Katya to tap into those resources and turn her hand to fundraising.

"As soon as the floods happened and I could get out to Lismore to help, I did. However, as the weeks went by, I was struggling to juggle the business, two small kids and my husband finally being away for work after a two-year break, thanks to the pandemic. I sat up one night brainstorming and thought I could do a raffle and contact all of my friends in fashion and retail and get some voucher donations."

Several phone calls, emails and a whole lot of social media posting later, Katya and her pals pooled resources to create an incredible mega raffle with over \$14,000 worth of prizes with key support coming from local businesses including St Agni, Fluidform Pilates, Maggie Marilyn, Sarah & Sebastian, and Auguste the Label just to name a few.

The raffle generated \$42,000 in ticket sales in just 10 days. "That money was generously matched by some other organisations through the Northern Rivers Flood Relief (NRFR) with the final amount coming in at just over \$125,000," she says. An incredible act of creative coordination to tap into community philanthropy, and just one of many examples of wonderful human ingenuity, resourcefulness, and compassion to provide service and support to others. "I was overwhelmed by the selflessness of people. Raising that money would not have been possible without the incredible donations from the brands and the general public getting behind an amazing opportunity to help our neighbours in the Northern Rivers.



Photo of Small Wonder supplied

Money raised will be managed through NRFR which is a local non-for-profit organisation that is distributing donated funds to all LGA's affected in the Northern Rivers region. Donations support emergency relief hubs, housing and homeless shelters, domestic violence and mental health support groups, food pantries, environment, and wildlife conservation organisations.

Ironically, two weeks after the raffle wrapped up Katya's store in Byron Bay was flooded. "We lost stock and my fitout needs to be replaced but it's not a home. A home is your safe place and your sanctuary and for all the people that lost theirs I am truly heartbroken," she says. "The recent unprecedented weather events have only highlighted our government's inadequate response to climate change," says Katya. "Let's do the right thing at the election."

Sally Schofield

HERALD

The Bangalow



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THE SHIRE CHOIR

Treading the boards barefoot

Bangalow's Simon Field reflects on regional arts and theatre as Northern Rivers creatives pivot, adapt and test their resilience once more in face of natural disaster and brutal budget cuts.

It is day six after the devastating flood, the audition space for Byron Casting's latest production is urgently moved to make way for the amazing crew organising emergency food supplies at the Moller Pavilion. The rain continues its droll rhythm, the lingering storm threatens, the casting panel awaits. Having washed off their volunteer's mud, Anouska Gammon and Bobbie Field from Byron Casting wistfully glance at the open door wondering 'why are we here, will anyone come?'

Months earlier, Anouska and Bobbie yet again rolled their creative dice with a dream to bring a powerful Australian drama to our region and create opportunity for local youth to tread the boards at the wonderful Rochdale Theatre in Lismore.

Facing the daunting unknowns of curating live performance is familiar territory for this determined duo. Byron Castings original short film "Selected" written and acted by 18 local teens just premiered at the Bangalow Film Festival. They were also integral in Bangalow Theatre Company's lauded production of *RENT* which precariously navigated COVID lockdowns to deliver a blockbuster of a show to a packed Bangalow A&I Hall.

Those nights of intense music and dazzling performance felt a world away as the flood levy burst and the cruel dark waters consumed the land. Anouska and Bobbie, like many in



Main cast of A Property of the Clan Photo supplied

our wonderful community, joined the army of volunteers. As the days blurred and the magnitude of the devastation unfolded it became clear their dreams for a show were also being washed away.

Fate though had other plans. With no stable phone or internet, there was no sure way to cancel auditions and so the pair patiently waited to audition any actor who braved the elements.

Gentle footsteps brought a fresh melody to the Scout Hall, a young barefoot actor gracefully enters the audition dressed in his Sunday best, he smiles a warm greeting then humbly apologises for his lack of shoes. He shares his dramatic story of waking at 2am and having a few desperate minutes to escape the rising water by climbing into the roof cavity. He had lost his home and his possessions, yet in the days that followed this opportunity

to perform became a beacon of hope. He borrowed clothes from his grandfather, washed the mud from his skin, and rehearsed his lines. (Yes, he got the part).

Slowly, more and more actors from across our region arrived to audition, sharing stories of loss, survival, kindness and courage. As Anouska and Bobbie embraced these events it reignited their dream and affirmed their commitment to give these brave and talented actors a stage in which to share their craft. Having helped to clean and restore the physical effects of the floods, the pair seized the opportunity to support the emotional wellbeing of our community.

Live performance is an intrinsic part of our humanity and provides freedom to explore complex issues and create meaningful conversations. *A Property of the Clan* was written by Nick Enright in the early '90s and has

vitality vetcare



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Photo shoot for *A Property of the Clan* Photo Bobbie Field

become an important and powerful piece of Australian theatre exploring deep cultural issues of Australian masculinity and misogyny.

"I have always wanted to direct this play. I am a huge fan of Australian theatre, especially pieces that hold a mirror up to society and make us question our ways. This piece is confronting and raw, and its main themes are very relevant today," says Anouska.

According to an analysis by Ernst & Young, COVID lockdowns caused a 72% decline in revenue for theatres across Australia, and just

last month the Federal government significantly reduced its financial support of creatives, with regional arts funding set to fall from \$18 million in 2021-22 to \$7.5 million in 2022-23.

There has never been a more important time than now to support our wonderful local performers, artists, and musicians. As our youth bravely navigate these turbulent years, performing arts offers them an amazing avenue to find safe passage, to grow as a person, and to share incredible stories with our community.

Fortunately for Anouska, Bobbie and

"He had lost his home and his possessions, yet in the days that followed this opportunity to perform became a beacon of hope. He borrowed clothes from his grandfather, washed the mud from his skin, and rehearsed his lines."

their team of 20 actors, four incredible local businesses First National Real Estate (Byron Bay), Harvest Café (Newrybar), Trip a Deal (Byron Bay) and Cumulus VFX (Byron Bay) have generously come in as sponsors to ensure the show will still go on.

"We were planning for a cast of 10. However, we were so impressed by the talent of these young actors, and how brave and prepared they were we now have a cast of 20, with 17 of those being teenagers. It's pretty powerful stuff seeing them so engaged, finding meaning in the words and bringing the script to life," says Anouska.

The hard work of pre-production and rehearsal is underway, the excitement of possibility is building and these local businesses have ensured the theatre doors will be open. But there is no show without you.

"The last couple of years have been incredibly tough for our youth. Witnessing them turn up to rehearsals, connecting with their peers and doing what they love is just what they need. I feel honoured to be facilitating this opportunity with such great actors," says producer Bobbie Field.

A Property of the Clan is produced by Byron Casting and will be performed at the Rochdale Theatre, Lismore 20-28 May.

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Here's to you Mrs (and Mr) Robinson

100 years on from the death of Bangalow town founding father, Thomas Robinson, Jenny Bird takes a look at the early sub-division of the former Big Scrub, and checks in with the new owners of the original Robinson homestead.

When Aaron and Louise Grofski bought an old timber house in Charlotte Street Bangalow in 2005 they did not know that they had bought a significant piece of Bangalow history.

"When we discovered that the house had been the retirement home of Tom and Charlotte Robinson we realised that we had a responsibility to restore it properly" says Aaron. "We read the Robinson family history and gathered photographs and information from the Bangalow Historical Society. We're using photos of the old house as reference points to guide our restoration work. There's lots of transported Queenslanders in Bangalow now, but there aren't that many original Bangalow houses left."

The 100th anniversary of the death of Tom Robinson is 6 May 2022.

Tom was the first white settler to buy land at what was then called Byron Creek, later to become Bangalow. He arrived in Ballina in 1881 by boat from Sydney. With his brother John and friend William Barby, Tom cut a road from Charlie Jarrett's farm at Newrybar to Byron Creek.

Tom lodged a claim for 488 acres of uncleared Big Scrub at the Lismore Lands Office. Under what is known as the Robertson Land Acts of 1861 unsurveyed Crown land across NSW became available to selectors under the 'Free Selection before Survey' scheme. Selectors could choose small parcels of Crown land anywhere in NSW at £1 per acre. They were required to pay a deposit, live on the land for three years, make improvements, and pay it off over time. Tom paid off his debt and was granted title in 1904.

In passing these Acts the NSW Government, without treaty, extinguished the rights to land (under the British legal system) of indigenous people across NSW.



Left: Original Robinson selection. Photo overlay: David Morgan

Below: Robinson's 1st subdivision auction 1903

Opposite page: 'Byron' – a work in progress. Photo: Louise Grofski

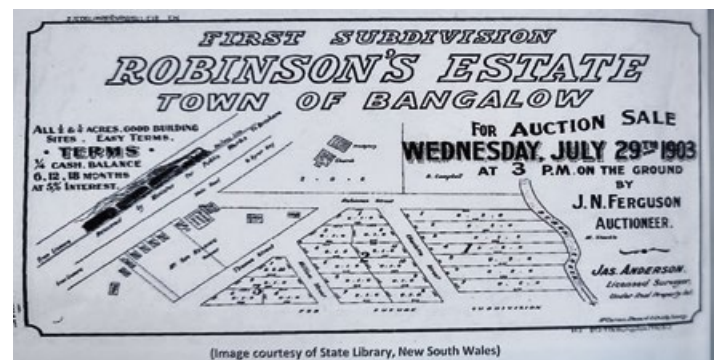
75,000 hectares of Big Scrub – subtropical rainforest so dense that you could not see the sun – was cleared between the 1880s and 1900. An estimated 100 million trees were felled, leaving only one percent of remnant forest.

Living in a tent, the three men took six months to clear 20 acres of rainforest. They then built a slab hut from felled sassafras trees. There was no grass, and they had no horses, so they walked to the nearest store at Tintenbar to get provisions from Sydney – beef in brine, butter, tea, flour and sugar. Once the hut was finished Tom went to Dungog and reunited with his wife and the first four of their children. They travelled to Sydney, then by steamer to Ballina, then by rowing boat up Teven Creek to Tintenbar. Jarrett met the family with his horses, and they rode to Byron Creek to their new home, the hut made of sassafras. They planted corn and bought the first cow in Bangalow. Tom had a bullock team and hauled logs, ploughed a section of the new railway line, bought a small herd of dairy cattle and made butter, eventually building a butter factory on his farm.

Charlotte, the first white woman to live at Byron Creek, became the midwife of the area. Untrained, she travelled all over the district delivering babies – attending more than 60 births over 19 years. She never lost a baby or a mother and never charged for her services. Her fifth child Mabel was the first white child to be born here, in 1883.

In 1886 the Robinsons built a larger five bedroom farmhouse near the Lismore Road and called it 'Sunnyside'. By now they had seven children, with two more yet to come. A baby had died earlier at Glenthorne near

“ 75,000 hectares of Big Scrub – subtropical rainforest so dense that you could not see the sun – was cleared between the 1880s and 1900.”



(Image courtesy of State Library, New South Wales)

Taree. 'Sunnyside' still sits proudly on a knoll just out of Bangalow on the way to Lismore.

If you live anywhere in what used to be known as 'West Bangalow' – west of Granuville Road or up behind the Catholic Church or in the new Meadows Estate then you live on the original Robinson selection. Over time Tom and Charlotte subdivided off parcels of the land – to George Reading where Readings now stands and into three smaller farms on the northern side of the railway line. On 29 July 1903 Robinson's first residential subdivision in the village of Bangalow went to auction. Tom and Charlotte built their retirement home 'Byron' in Charlotte Street, which is the house that Aaron and Louise Grofski bought and are restoring.

Robinson family member Mike Fahey says of the Grofski's "my cousin has told me about the wonderful work you have done in the restoration of Grandpa Thomas' homestead. I think Thomas would be so happy to see your awesome work. Thank you."

Jenny Bird

Folded with love

Marin Simpson unpacks the work of the community laundry based out of Eureka Hall during the flood recovery efforts.

It was heart-breaking for all of us to watch the coverage of the floods play out on screens from the dry comfort of our homes while so many of our friends, family and colleagues in Lismore, Mullum and surrounds had lost everything.

As the reality of the devastation set in, I wondered on a personal level how I could best help out and also how we could use one of our best community assets, the local Hall, to facilitate an opportunity for everyone and anyone to opt into helping as well.

The community was amazing with donations – the Hall filled to capacity, but it was also the



hub for our community-run washing service. We put the word out on the 'Resilient Lismore' Facebook page to let people know that we would be in town collecting washing and for anyone who wanted washing done to contact us. That turned into a monumental and amazing few weeks.

We had crews heading into Lismore each day and then a team on the ground at the hall labelling and organising, and then a huge gang of washers who just turned up, took the

washing and returned it to the hall beautifully clean and dry. It was an incredible thing to watch unfold.

The people that we collected the washing from were broken. Their homes were broken. Their lives were broken. The simple act of washing and returning clothes was just one small act of service that helped these flood affected people feel supported.

The same thing happened in small halls all around the Shire and that is why I LOVE them as much as I do. In such tiny hamlets like Eureka they create a sense of community that would otherwise not exist. The hall is a unifier. The fact that the hall sits on the corner of a busy stretch of road that links a lot of the local hinterland communities as a thoroughfare made us the perfect stop off point for helpers travelling through to Lismore and surrounds. Friends, neighbours and strangers popped in every day to ask if there was anything that needed doing, sometimes going home with a bag of washing to do or a car load of items to deliver to the community hubs in Lismore or Mullum.

The loss of the Corndale Hall is an unbearable thought for that community and our collective heart broke the day that we heard and saw on the news that it had been taken by the floodwaters. We are incredibly lucky to have held onto our small hall. As a community space to help us celebrate, grieve, meet, mobilise, dance, learn, engage and everything else in between it really is irreplaceable. And what a beauty she is!



Muddy truck loads of washing arriving from Lismore Photo Marin Simpson

Marin Simpson

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Hoya carnosa

Before I was a gardener but just a newly married young woman in Melbourne, I spotted my first hoyo. It was entwined around a lovely metal frame outside my mother-in-law's bedroom door on her terrace. I was surprised to see it and foolishly said so.

She was a woman of impeccable taste from her clothing to her furnishings and her wonderful garden had been landscaped by the famous Ellis Stones who was a protégé of Edna Walling. I thought that the flowers were PLASTIC! Oh no!

I never did live that faux pas down but probably wasn't the only one fooled by these exquisite waxy flowers and perhaps my astonishment nurtured my interest in plants then and as it wasn't long after this that I started attending classes at Burnley Horticultural College.

Anyway, since then I have always had a hoyo or two, and find they do best in hanging baskets under trees where I give them absolutely no attention and am rewarded in all climatic conditions by a profusion of flowers from spring to late autumn. They have been used as decorative plants, inside and out for many hundreds of years, originating mostly in Asia although there are seven species found in Australia (which I didn't know!) and over five hundred in other places including remote rain forests and mountains.

Hoya australis is creamy with scarlet tips behind the creamy 'petals' and is sometimes available online from the Brisbane based nursery, The Hoya Store, that specialises in hoyas and their website offers an astonishing forty eight varieties.

Hoya, part of the Apocynacea family, were so named by the botanist, Robert Brown, in



Hoya carnosa Photo Carole Gamble

honour of his friend, Thomas Hoy in the late 1770s.

Common names include wax flower and porcelain flower.

They come in a huge range of colours including yellow, purple, pinks, whites and creams and like so many of my favourites are relatively easy (if slow) to propagate from mature wood cuttings that are just a little bit flexible but not the young tendrils.

Please share if you grow them and don't be shy about asking friends for a piece if they have one you admire.

The flowers occur on knobbly spurs each

year and these should not be trimmed or you will miss flowering for a few years.

If you wish to molly coddle a hoyo, remember that they are semi epiphytic and pot them in small pots in something like a cymbidium mix. Do not disturb or pot up as they prefer to be tight in their pots which should be free draining of course. Organic soil improvers like Seasol can be used and as their leaves are succulent-like, they store water so if you must water, don't soak!

A wonderful conversation piece or one to trick people with and definitely a great plant for any 'Brown Thumbs' out there too.

Carole Gamble

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Fame, fraud and fast cars

With the weather taking a cooler turn, there's no better time to get comfy and enjoy some fascinating, fast paced viewing.

Formula One Drive to Survive (Netflix) is a testosterone fuelled series which charts the events of the Formula One World Championships. There have been four seasons thus far. It gives the viewing audience extraordinary access into the business of high-level professional motor racing, including the cockpits, the drivers, coaches, management teams and the owners. Each episode in the series follows different teams and their drivers. I'm not a rev head but it's emotional and exciting, and I really enjoyed it. I had no idea what a big deal Formula One is or how much money is involved (gazillions). I became familiar with the rivalries between Lewis Hamilton (seven-time champion Mercedes) and Max Verstappen (Red Bull). I watched Australian Daniel Ricciardo (McLaren) try to find his mojo against young gun team mate Lando Norris.

I watched the races (helpfully condensed from 78 laps to an episode). I travelled with Netflix to all the Grand Prix, from Austria, to Bahrain. I learned that Formula One (open wheel single seater racing started in 1950) is the fastest road course race in the world and that the annual cost of running a team is \$247 million. And that's not all. Lewis Hamilton received \$55 million in 2021 as his salary. This is an extremely expensive sport. But it's not complete hedonism – boys playing with expensive toys – for example, did you know that Formula One committed to a net zero carbon footprint by 2030?

I found the series completely enthralling. The characters, the rivalries, the thrilling races, the spectacular crashes and the ultra-speedy pit stops! A great diversion in these troubling times. Highly recommended.

Do you like to think that you would never be conned by anyone? That you can spot a fraudster a mile off? If so, consider why this is the stuff of so many stories of love, greed, confusion and betrayal. **Inventing Anna** (Netflix) is an intriguing series based on the true story of Russian born German con artist Anna Sorokin, also known as Anna Delvey. She



“If you want something bad enough, you'll do whatever it takes.”

– Christian Horner, *Drive to Survive*

invented herself as a rich heiress and managed to trick members of the wealthy New York elite to finance her expensive lifestyle. She successfully deceived banks, hotels, and well-known financial institutions, for a great deal of money. It makes fascinating viewing as the viewer follows the journalist determined to get to the bottom of her invented narrative, at the same time becoming intrigued by her.

Bad Vegan: Fame. Fraud. Fugitives (Netflix) is another true, strange story of a glamorous vegan chef in Manhattan who lost her business, money and status through a relationship with a man who, along with draining her restaurant of all its money, convinced her he could make her beloved dog immortal. It's easy to scoff at credulity and think you would never fall for such crap but think about it. How vulnerable are we as humans in our need for love, money, celebrity, recognition, a sense of belonging? Are we all susceptible to being tricked? Would you be able to detect coercive control? Do you have friends or family who have entered into relationships with a person or group gives you pause? It's not always simple and what is obvious to others, can start small. Remember, the process of self-erasure happens in small accretions.

There are more of these stories which detail the confusion of belief and hope with manipulation and deceit; **Tinder Swindler**, **The Dropout**, **The Vow** to name a few. They make for titillating, absorbing and eventually unsettling viewing.

Dr Airdre Grant

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Stuffed Conchiglioni pasta shells

This month we have the recipe for a tasty dish from the new head chef at the Bangalow Bowlo, **Danny Trimarchi**. Danny credits his love of food to a childhood spent hanging around his grandma and aunties watching and learning since he was 12, writes **Justin Coombs**.

Growing up on a South Australian market garden farm buzzing with roosters and pigs has left Danny with a deep love for fresh food picked on the day, along with a true talent for making his own sauces. Danny's journey as a professional foodie started in an Italian restaurant at the age of 15, and if you've eaten in any number of places around Byron Shire over recent years there's a strong chance you've already tasted one of his delicious creations.

Danny says, "The reason I chose this beautiful dish from Campania, South of Italy, is to introduce people to a pasta style not often seen in Australia. The dish is inspired by my dear friend and celebrated chef, Luca Ciano. The savoury sweetness is a very special experience, and the amaretti biscuit crumb brings it all together with a really tasty bang."

Prep time 25 mins

Total cooking time 1 hour

Serves 4

Amaretti biscuit

200g of almond meal
200g sugar
1/8 tsp baking soda
1 tsp amaretto
1/4 tsp vanilla essence
3 medium egg whites

Method

Mix the egg whites and sugar together, then throw in all the other ingredients and mix like you mean it for 10 minutes. Roll out the mixture into small balls onto baking paper, push down lightly on top to flatten slightly, then bake for 20 minutes at 160. Remove and cool, then when it's cool, comes the fun bit – crushing into crumbs.

Ricotta stuffing

300g ricotta
2 tbs chopped parsley
1 garlic clove crushed fine
2 eggs
1/2 tsp nutmeg
black pepper to taste (no salt needed)

Method

Chuck it all in and mix until you like the look of it.

Velouté pumpkin

300g pumpkin diced up
1 onion, diced
1 garlic clove
Black pepper to taste
Salt
1 cup of veg stock or water

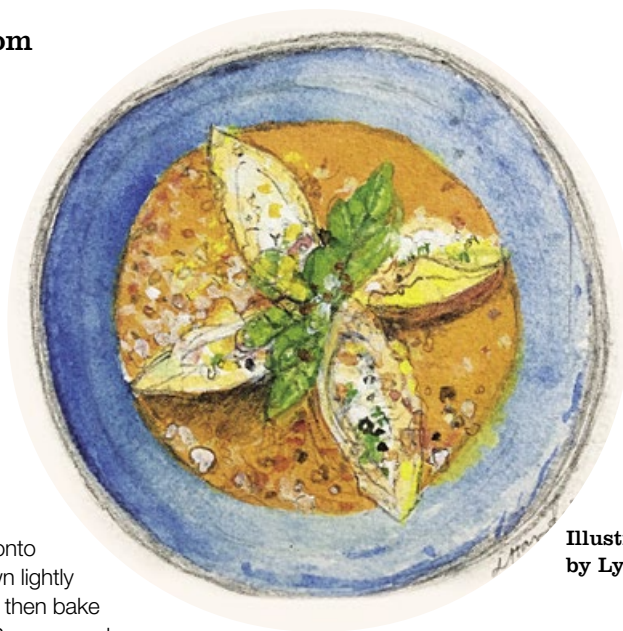


Illustration
by Lyn Hand

Method

Chuck all the ingredients into the cup of veg stock or water, simmer 'til all the veg is tender, then blend with a stick blender or food processor until super smooth and fine – you should be able to pass the mixture through a fine sieve.

Pasta

250g store bought large conchiglioni pasta shells

Method

Boil the pasta shells to al dente (firm to the bite) or to your preferred bite, or simply follow the packet instructions. Cool and drain the pasta.

Assembly

Fill the pasta shells with the ricotta mix, place on a tray and heat in the oven at 160C for 6 to 8 minutes or until hot. Heat the pumpkin velouté up gently, pour in a bowl and place the hot stuffed pasta shells on top, then sprinkle the amaretti biscuit with some parmesan and get ready for a taste sensation.

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A Terrible Kindness

by Jo Browning Wroe



The first time I heard about the Aberfan tragedy was from an episode of the Netflix series *The Crown*. The Aberfan disaster was the catastrophic collapse of a mountain of tailings from the local coal mine. After a prolonged period of rain in October 1966 the pile of tailings without warning collapsed and turned into a slurry which raced down the hill and buried the Aberfan primary school killing 118 children and 28 adults.

This story is not so much about that tragedy but about the psychological impact attending the tragedy has on the main protagonist, William.

When the novel opens William has just graduated from the Thames College of Embalming with outstanding and unprecedented results. Its presentation night with a glamorous dinner dance to celebrate although William is mostly terrified after learning that the President intends to make a fuss about William's outstanding results. However, before that eventuates, a telegram arrives from the Welsh Embalming Society requesting volunteers for the dreadful task of attending to the victims of the Aberfan disaster. The proceedings wind up immediately and shortly after William is on his way to Aberfan. His time there is a very sad and moving re-telling of the horror of the tragedy and the aftermath.

This story is about a young man's life. Whilst it opens with the Aberfan tragedy it segues between William's childhood and adulthood. We learn that his father died when he was young and that he has always had a very close relationship with his uncle Robert (the identical twin brother of his father) who is also in the family funeral home business. But this relationship is deeply resented by William's mother who has always been obsessively jealous of the close relationship between the husband/brother/son. When we meet William, he is estranged from his mother (and also from Martin, his very best friend from boarding school). The reasons for this are revealed as William learns that the events of the past sometimes need to be dealt with in order to embrace the future. This is a moving novel by Jo Browning Wroe who, having grown up in a Birmingham crematorium, brings some knowledge of the industry to the story telling.

Good Reads rating 4.5 stars. Published by Faber

Carolyn Adams – Bookworms & Papermites

Hope & choices



**2021 Amo Vino
Barbera**

The choices we make on a day-to-day basis are many, rationalisations even greater. We make relatively simple, mundane decisions about something like lunch that flow through to significant life changing calls on health, wealth, happiness and life ever after daily! Information, education, situation, gratification and our ever fluid emotions play a large part in the endgame plays we make.

And then there is wine! Holy cow, what wine am I going to drink with the chicken tonight? Well, I think someone like Tim Stock worries less about that decision than most mere mortals. Sommelier, educator, importer and now producer of quality Australian wine, he has been a strong advocate for the philosophies behind natural winemaking and is the man behind a number of labels that support this. He has adopted a 'horses for courses' approach to fruit selection and in line with this has teamed up with Ash Ratcliff from Ricca Terra to produce the Amo Vino range of wines. Italian in orientation but all Riverland fruit, the range reinforces the decision made by winemakers like Ash to invest in these European varieties in this region. The Amo Vino 2021 Barbera is one of the results of this collaboration and is a

celebration of its' success. Aged in some old French oak it is crimson in the glass and smells of plum with a little herby spice in behind. I find ripe, dark fruit on the palate, black cherry and plum with soft tannins presenting early, cushioned by some chocolate and a slightly bitter finish that balances the ripe fruit and gives the wine some length. Not my first bottle I must admit, this wine is very gluggable, generous in flavour and nature. Not sure about the chicken but the wine highly recommended. Indulge, enjoy!

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Original Art Deco
Chevrolet car mascot,
Viking, designed
by William Schnell,
Circa 1930

Original car mascots and caveat emptors

Bill Tracey, former host of Antiques and Collectables on 2UE Sydney, provides a monthly roundup of what's happening in the local and national antiques market.

In the early days of automobiles, manufacturers would often proudly mount mascots on the radiator caps to better identify the make of the vehicle. Many of these became elaborate works of art and a collectable prize for those who could afford them.

They only really went out of favour in the 1970s when authorities realised the extra damage they could cause pedestrians in the event one was hit by the vehicle.

The most popular method of finding these original pieces today is via Australian and International public auctions. However, a note of caution here because very cheap reproductions are 'everywhere' and are sometimes difficult to tell apart from originals which are hugely more valuable.

Suffice to say that you would be quite unwise to bid on a mascot of this type without the benefit of an actual physical inspection in the auctioneer's rooms to fully satisfy yourself of its authenticity. Auction processes are

often un-regulated or otherwise governed by the varying State or Federal authorities in different counties, countries or jurisdictions where the auction actually occurs.

For example, in NSW a hands-off policy operates and there are no Government regulations at all. Anyone of good character over the age of 18 years with access to a computer can operate as a Goods & Chattels Auctioneer.

The pictured mascot was described as an Original Art Deco Chevrolet car mascot, Viking, designed by William Schnell, with chrome plated head with lion cresting and feathered wings, on wooden base, circa 1930. It recently sold at an online auction in New York for \$2200 despite the Auctioneer's opinion of value of \$600 to \$800. The piece was bought by a Melbourne car dealer who later discovered that the base was not original and sought remediation from the Auctioneer. The Auctioneer denied the claim

relying on the standard provision that governs all auctions – Description and values are only guides not guarantees – and the legal principle of *caveat emptor* (let the buyer beware) normally applies unless deliberate fraud was the intention.

billtracey81@gmail.com

“ Suffice to say that you would be quite unwise to bid on a mascot of this type without the benefit of an actual physical inspection in the auctioneer's rooms to fully satisfy yourself of its authenticity”



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ANZAC Day 2022

All images by Lyn McCarthy Niche Pictures



Above:
Matty Croese and Joe Byrnes

Left:
Students from Coorabell School
at the ANZAC service

Below:
An incredible turn out of young
and old paying their respects on
ANZAC Day



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Top:
Members of the Red Cross
proudly marching in the
ANZAC parade

Above:
Brian Griffin

Left:
Veterans Motorcycle Club



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Life after trauma

Life after a significant trauma takes time to navigate, as Gabrielle Vogel recounts in her book *Life After Gunpoint*. Here she shares her story and some words of wisdom for those recovering after a life-changing event.

Arriving in the Northern Rivers from Melbourne 18 months ago, Gabrielle Vogel made a spontaneous decision to stay in 2479 as Melbourne went into its second lockdown. Knowing no one here it was an unnerving prospect. "Who knew I'd be locked out of my state for six months? But in retrospect, it was a fantastic decision," she says, the timeout giving her the creative space required to finish a book she'd been working on about working through the trauma of an armed home invasion in her former home in Melbourne.

"After being held up at gunpoint in my home, I suffered crippling fear that culminated in moments where being in my house was a fearful hell that I couldn't escape. I had many instances of panic from triggers related to the holdup. Random and unexpected things triggered these episodes. Sporadic, crazy, and spontaneous moments occurred when I just wanted to grab my three kids and run. To anywhere! Anywhere safe to get back that feeling of normality that eluded me," says Gabrielle.

"I felt an inescapable blackness. A disconnectedness to people. A fear of driving down the street. A fear of entering my house. I was trapped in my own small bubble of terrifying fear. It took six months before I felt normal again. Years later I came to realise I had been suffering from PTSD, without even knowing it. Life had become unbearable, and something had to change.

"That's when I decided to start rebuilding. Even though the effort felt insurmountable, I worked to gather every bit of strength that I could muster. I committed to getting better."

The thoughts, affirmations, and insights in her book have emanated from self, family, strangers, and friends and include simple but grounding

'Snapshots. It's in those tiny moments everyday where happiness lies. Remember to stop and fully embrace the precious moments.'



advice: "Snapshots. It's in those tiny moments everyday where happiness lies. Remember to stop and fully embrace the precious moments."

During the process of writing the book, Gabrielle had an epiphany.

"I was living a perfunctory life that functioned well. My rebuild brought about change. Change that was so necessary for self-love, respect, abundance, positivity, gratitude, and joy. I discarded my negativity. I chose to respect myself and live a life that made me happier. I pursued things that made me feel complete. I journeyed to places that made my mind glow. I pursued simple things that I'd forgotten gave me so much joy and happiness. I tried to see the good in everything and everyone. I learnt to trust," she says.

Gabrielle's book is available online lifeaftergunpoint.com

Help us reach our goal – proceeds of sales go to Bangalow Koalas



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Designed by local artist Morgan Goodluck specifically for Bangalow Koalas.

Our goal

With the organisation's main goal being the establishment of the Koala Wildlife Corridor, it's on track to plant 500,000 trees by the end of 2025. At the same time, Bangalow Koalas also exists to educate, involve and inspire the community through tree plantings, educational workshops, advocacy and mentorship.

Please contact Linda for more info at president@bangalowkoalas.com.au



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Community		
AA (5.30pm Tues)	Karen Mc	0403 735 678
ADFAS	Dianne	0412 370 372
Al-Anon (2pm Fri)		1300 252 666
Bangalow Koalas	Linda	0411 491 991
Bridge	Dennis	6687 1574
Chamber of Commerce	admin@bangalow.biz	
Community Children's Centre	Kerry	6687 1552
Co-dependents Anonymous	Gye	0421 583 321
CWA (Wed)	Rebecca	0438 871 908
Garden Club (1st Wed)	Diana	0418 288 428
George the snake man	George	0407 965 092
Historical Society/Museum/Cafe	6687 2183	
Kindred Women Together	Janice	0401 026 359
Koala rescue line (24 hr)		6622 1233
Land & Rivercare (8.30am Sat)	Noelene	0431 200 638
Lions Club (7pm 2nd/4th Tues)	Chris	0416 005 700
Market (4th Sun)	Jeff	6687 1911
Men's Shed	John	0427 130 177
Op Shop (9.30am-2.30pm, Sat 9.30am-12.30pm)		6687 2228
Parklands	Lynn	0429 644 659
Park Trust Committee	Shane	0475 732 551
Police – DCI Matt Kehoe	Fax: 6629 7501	6629 7500
Pool Trust	Jo	6687 1297
Progress Association	Ian	0414 959 936
Poultry Club	Hector	6687 1322
Quilters (2nd/4th Thur)	Karen	0413 621 224
Red Cross (1st Fri)	Liz	0409 832 001
Show Society	Anne	6687 1033
Sport		
Bowls men (1pm Wed & Sat)	Gerry	6687 1142
Bowls women (9.30am Wed)	Frances	6687 1339
Cricket	Anthony	0429 306 529
Karate self-defence	Jean	0458 245 123
Netball (3.30pm Wed)	Ellie	0429 855 399
Rugby Union (Rebels)	Dave	0412 080 614
Soccer (Blue dogs)		0434 559 700
Tennis court hire	Bernie	0433 970 800
Venues		
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All Souls' Anglican Hall		6684 3552
Bowling Club	Chris	6687 2741
Coorabell Hall	Ouida	6687 1307
Heritage House		6687 2183
Moller Pavilion		6687 1035
Newrybar Hall	Blair	0404 880 382
RSL Hall	Charlotte	0418 107 448
Scout Hall	Shane	0475 732 551
St Kevin's Catholic Hall	Russell	0423 089 684



Mobile library pop-up service

The Richmond Tweed Mobile Library is one of many services disrupted by last month's rain events. The library truck, which usually parks at Bangalow's Heritage House on Saturday mornings, was damaged in Lismore floods (see pic). It is currently in Brisbane, hopefully to be repaired under insurance. In the interim, mobile library staff have stepped up and are offering a basic service via a small station wagon and marquee, staffed by Ian Morey and Catie Corcoran. Bangalow locals who regularly use 'the book bus' to avoid Byron traffic are very thankful for the service.

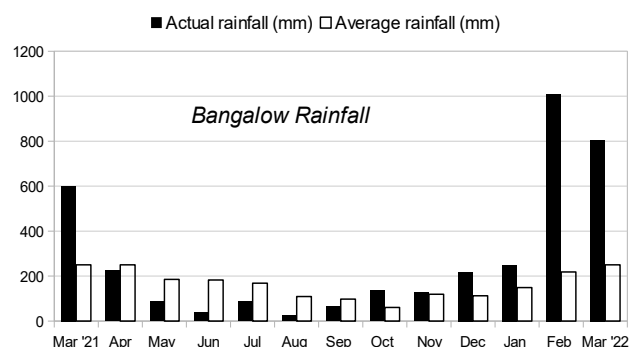
Brian Sundstrom

Garden Club honours Judy Baker as lifetime member

It's no secret that *Herald* stalwart Judy Baker loves gardening. She's been a member of the Bangalow Garden Club since 2005 and was recently inducted as a lifetime member to the group. "Over the years she has been an active member of our club always quietly waiting in the background for us to call 'Judy, can you photograph this or that for us please?' And she will always turn up armed with her camera and takes great shots every time," says club co-president Margaret Bruce. Judy is also a canny archivist and record keeper, so it was only natural that she took on the role as club librarian lugging tubs of reference books to and from meetings to enable plant identification in the days before internet search engines. "The books back then were very popular, remember the days when we browsed through the indexes to try and find that particular plant or flower and bingo, there it was on page 234!" says Margaret. Congrats to Judy on her dedication and passion to plants and photography.

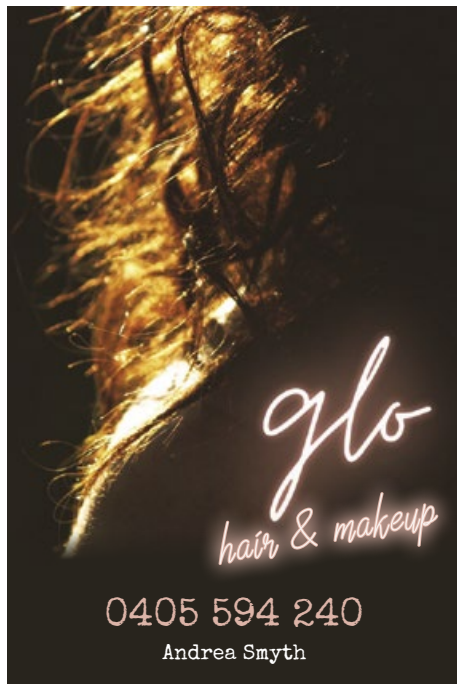
Bangalow Garden Club

Bangalow Rainfall



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WHAT'S ON

Enjoy the variety our region has to offer with our picks of What's On near and a little bit further.

Newrybar Eats & Produce Market

When Wednesdays 3-7pm

Where Newrybar Hall

Contact Chloe 0487 289 914

Enjoy a great family atmosphere and some of the freshest farm produce in the district. There's a range of hot food options which make for an easy and tasty dinner, as well as home baked goodies, eggs, honey and more!

Bangalow Garden Club

When Wed 4 May, 1.30pm

Where Moller Pavilion, Bangalow Showground

Contact Diana Harden 0418 288 428 or dianaharden@bigpond.com

Long time member and Bangalow resident, Shirley Boyle will be giving a talk on the history of Bangalow. Please bring along a mug for afternoon tea. Information about the May Saturday garden visit will be provided at the meeting. New members are welcome. You can sign up on the day. Yearly membership \$15.

Shire Choir Bangalow

When Thurs 5 May 7pm

Where Bangalow Bowlo

Information [facebook.com/theshirechoir](https://www.facebook.com/theshirechoir)

Tickets \$20/\$12 via [eventbrite.shirechoir.com](https://www.eventbrite.com.au/shirechoir)

Now more than ever, we need the collective power of singing together with our community



Rhydian and Paula Lewis swing it up.
Photo supplied

to uplift us. Join dynamic choir mistress Melia Naughton for a spine-tingling rendition of a pop song in three-part harmony. Last month's song was a Queen classic. This month, who knows? No experience required. All voices welcome. Yes, even yours.

Swing and Jazz Social

When Fri 13 May, 7-11pm

Where Coorabell Hall, Coolamon Scenic Drive

Information rhydianlewis@aol.com

Tickets \$20 at the door

Rhydian Lewis (of the Best of Bublé fame) will be performing live for local and trans state swingers and Lindy Hop dancers. A musical mix of Sinatra, Dean Martin, Bobby Darin, Sammy Davis, Louis Prima and many more. It's like a Rat Pack meets Bublé meets Jive social event with dance opportunities or seated live music entertainment.

Vegan and vegetarian cuisine available from Lulus of Mullumbimby. Come on your own or with friends. Wear appropriate footwear to dance in.

Ballina Arts and Craft Autumn Exhibition

When Fri 20 May 6-7.30pm, Sat 21/Sun 22 May 9am - 3pm

Where Masonic Centre, 56 Cherry Street Ballina

Information bacci.com.au

Tickets Free entry

Ballina Arts and Craft Centre (BACCI) are proud to present their first exhibition for 2022 'Art to Lift Our Hearts' in support of the Westpac Rescue Helicopter. On display will be paintings, prints, photography, woven art, woodwork, sculpture, ceramics, jewellery, resin art, beautiful cards and other unique craft items. All items are for sale. Members include internationally famous artists to local hobbyists. All their work is of an exceptional standard. Enjoy a refreshing beverage and buy a raffle ticket for a great prize, kindly donated by local businesses.

A Property of the Clan

When 20-28 May

Where Rochdale Theatre, Lismore

Information byroncasting.com.au

Presented by Byron Casting and directed by Bangalow's Anouska Gammon, *A Property of the Clan* is a powerful observation on youth culture, toxic masculinity and peer pressure



Newrybar Produce Markets

written by the incredible Nick Enright. Featuring a cast of local talented teens, this production is not to be missed.

ADFAS

When Mon 23 May 6pm drinks, 6.30pm start

Where A&I Hall, Bangalow

Information adfasbyronbay@gmail.com

Tickets www.trybooking.com/BYGOM or \$25 at the door for non-members

Gavin Fry presents 'War and Peace – Ben Quilty and George Gittoes'. Australians have served in many parts of the world as peacekeepers. Their experiences at the front can be as dramatic and dangerous as in any world war. Ben Quilty and George Gittoes have both worked as war artists with peacekeeping forces, using high emotion and drama in their art to reveal human stories.

Festival of Small Halls Resilience Tour

When Weds 25 May, 6.30pm

Where Eureka Hall

Contact festivalofsmallhalls.com

Tickets \$25 adult, \$25 concession, \$10 child

Information Festival of Small Halls takes the best folk and contemporary acoustic artists

performing at two of our country's largest festivals, and sends them to tiny halls in communities all over Australia. See songwriters Ash & Sarah alongside deadset legend and prolific musician Melanie Horsnell for a night of music, dancing and community. Bar and food with EFTPOS facilities available.

CWA Cake Stall

When Sat 28 May 8 – 12 noon

Where CWA Rooms, Byron St Bangalow

Contact Rebecca 0438 871 908

The Loop Short Fiction Prize – deadline extended

When Midnight 11 July 2022

Information Due to flooding and loss of internet, The Loop Prize has graciously extended the deadline on this year's short story competition to allow writers affiliated with 2479 to get their entry in! Your mission is to write an original story of no more than 300 words that includes the word or theme RAT. Email loopstorycomp@gmail.com for an entry form.

Diary

May 2022

4 Bangalow Garden Club

5 Shire Choir at the Bowlo

13 Coorabell Swing & Jazz Social

20-22 Ballina Arts and Craft

22 Bangalow Markets

23 ADFAS

28 CWA Cake Stall

June 2022 Deadlines

What's On 12 May

Copy 12 May

Advertising 13 May

Do you have an event you'd like listed on these pages? Visit bangalowherald.com.au/index.php/contact-us to submit your event



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GROWN IN THE BYRON
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Newrybar Hall
photo Amy Vomiero

World where you live

Newrybar Hall has seen weddings, parties, table tennis tournaments, yoga, dance classes and school functions since it was established in 1899 but never has it hosted one of the world's premier music acts in a casual on-deck impromptu community show.

Crowded House were installed in the hall rehearsing in preparation for their upcoming Blues Fest appearance and international tour when they treated locals with an informal set of their classic songs. The Hall was a flood recovery hub and locals had gathered to connect and share a barbecue as a thank you for volunteers' time, energy and assistance during the challenging weeks post flood. *Crowded House* took to the deck and played a timeless selection of their best songs, the ever-humble Neil Finn thanking the community for their role in assisting flood recovery. It was a generous gift from a band whose lyrics are like poetry ingrained in our psyches. The small hamlet of Newrybar was alive with generosity, gratitude, high spirits and smiles on everyone's faces.

Local companies including Brookies, Stone & Wood, Yulli's as well as private donations helped the Newrybar Hall Committee to put on the Volunteers BBQ which was cooked on the Bangalow Lion's Club's BBQ.

Melia Naughton



Bluesfest photos
Lyn McCarthy
Niche Pictures