



Young stars come out to play

Conversation is the theme of next month's Bangalow Music Festival, with nine concerts at the A&I Hall

Emerging star **Jemima Drews** will play at pre-festival events.

Photo: Angel Eyes Professional Photography

"Music magically tells a story and begins a conversation between the performers and the listeners," says Tania Frazer, artistic director of the Southern Cross Soloists (SXS), who are presenting the festival to the region's music

lovers for the 18th year. The exchange takes place on stage too, between the musicians, partly because chamber music is a truly democratic, collaborative form. There's no conductor. "The joy in performing chamber

music is that it is a continuous conversation where each musician must listen, react, adjust and communicate on an almost constant basis. All performers are equal and share leading the ensemble," she says. (Cont. p. 3)

From the editor

Change is everywhere. It's unavoidable. Firstly, readers have a new editor in me, Jim Hearn, so, hello. I look forward to discussing local news and events with you all.

Winter has transformed the landscape blue-green and smoke billows from chimneys throughout our villages and town. School children jostle at bus stops wearing jumpers by choice and the sound of mowers has receded.

It's my favourite time of year.

Over the past month, I have received a warm welcome and considerable help from three previous editors – Jenny Bird, Vanessa Frey and Digby Hildreth. I am very grateful for that, and for the assistance of the many volunteers who make *The Bangalow Herald* possible.

The prospect of mulled wine and chamber music at the A&I Hall leads the news, as it should in July, and I trust I'll see you there for the Bangalow Music Festival in August. We report on local activism by members of the Bangalow CWA and discover what's been going on behind the scaffolding at St. Kevin's. Brian Sundstrom heads out to the farm to discover the mutual benefits of Wwoofers, and we inform readers of the audition dates for this year's Cabaret BanGala.

Author Di Morrissey provides a splash of summer as a guest of Friends of Libraries Byron Shire and the Byron Writers Festival.

We also introduce a new writer in Sabastian Fardell, who some of you will know from Solways Fuel Stop. Readers who are more into Balearic Pop than chamber music will appreciate his review of Texan three-piece, Khruangbin.

I encourage other writers who live in the 2479 postcode to contribute ideas for stories to *The Bangalow Herald* via editor@bangalowherald.com.au. We can't publish everything we receive, but welcome articles with a local flavour.

As Albert Camus discovered, in the depths of winter, there's an invincible summer within. I trust you'll continue to roll with the changes and stay warm as you're out and about in July.

Jim Hearn

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SPOTLIGHT



In need of repair: St Kevin's brickwork has a mortar makeover.
Photo: Murray Hand

St. Kevin's gets a facelift

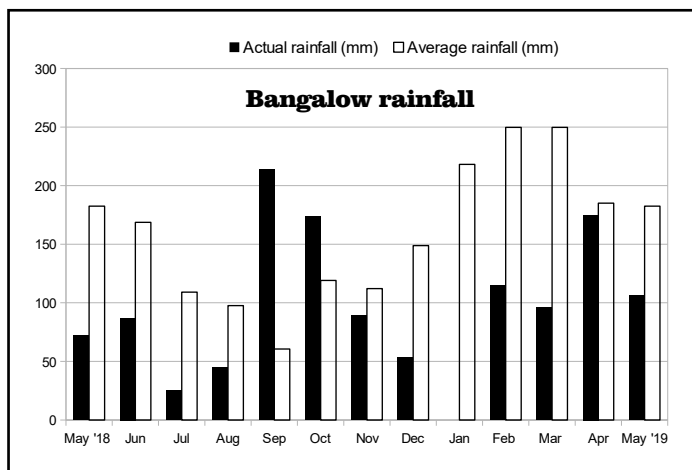
After more than 80 years, it's time for some reno work at Bangalow's grandest building.

If you've been wondering about the shroud of scaffolding around St. Kevin's Catholic Church, it's there to enable a major restoration of the landmark building's brickwork, which requires re-pointing. This is the first time the mortar has been replaced since the church was built in 1935.

The original work was done by William Burvill, father of local businessman Cliff Burvill. The mortar used back then was inferior to that used today, but contractor Brad McGettigan says the original construction was very good, as the building remains water-tight even after 84 years. Red oxide is being added to the new mortar to match the original. Brad reckons there are more than 600,000 bricks in the church.

The job was originally estimated to take about two weeks, however once work began it was found that the deterioration was much worse than thought and all of the external walls needed repairing. Not only do the bricks need attention but the steel trusses in the roof are rusting badly, complicating the renovation. Engineers have yet to report on the full extent of the work required, so no finish date has been set.

Murray Hand



Young stars come out to play

(Continued from p.1) "In a program beginning with Chopin's poetic 24 Preludes and ending with the exotic intrigues of the Arabian Nights, 30 gifted artists will use the intangible language of music to connect us to something larger than ourselves," Tania says.

Amid the constellation of internationally feted performers is emerging star Jemima Drews, 21, a Northern Rivers-raised flautist who was presented with the Australian Decorative and Fine Arts Society Byron Bay inaugural Bangalow Music Festival (BMF) Young Musician Award at the festival's launch in May.

Jemima grew up surrounded by music in her Goonellabah home, attended the Northern Rivers Conservatorium and is in the third year of her Bachelor of Music degree at the University of Queensland (UQ). The principal piccolo for Queensland Youth Symphony and principal flute for the UQ Symphony Orchestra, she will perform in two of the pre-festival events: Thursday evening's Prelude concert, celebrating the region's emerging stars, and Friday morning's much-loved Zentveld's Coffee Concert at Newrybar, which will be hosted by ABC FM presenter Eddie Ayres.

To be invited to perform by SXS is a "massive privilege", says Jemima, who adds that hearing the ensemble perform at the festival in 2016 was hugely inspirational. To be playing alongside them now is "really motivating", she says. "You have to put as much in as you possibly can to be at the same level."

Among the headline artists are Australian classical guitarist Karin Schaupp and resident conductor of the Colorado Symphony, Chris Dragon, who are both making their returns to the festival.

Violin supremo, New Zealand's Amalia Hall,



Talented bunch: Back row: Katya Willett, BMF artistic director Tania Frazer, Caleb Salizzo; Front row: Daniel Chiou, Jemima Drews, Rollin Zhao. Photo: Lyn McCarthy

is also coming back and she will be bringing with her the New Zealand Chamber Soloists. Amalia says she is "over the moon" to return. "Three days of the most fantastic variety of repertoire, played by outstanding, vibrant musicians, in the most beautiful surroundings – what more could one want!"

Joining the SXS in the line-up is the Orava String Quartet, mezzo soprano Xenia Puskarz-Thomas, UK violinist Victoria Sayles, violist James Wannan and bassoonist Adam Mikulicz.

The SXS, featuring new members Blair

Harris (cello) and Alex Miller (French horn) are the stars of Saturday night, performing the double concerto Sanctuary by Australian composer Joe Chindamo and finishing with Rachmaninov's Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini.

Throughout the festival there are works by many popular composers such as Strauss, Beethoven, Bach and Vivaldi as well as esoteric explorations of Eastern European folk music, Jewish mysticism and the history of the guitar. Sunday morning's highlight is the seductive Sinfonia Concertante for violin and viola, one of Mozart's greatest works.

To close, SXS' Blair Harris teams up with James Tennant in Vivaldi's stunning double cello concerto. The festival finishes on a high – Rimsky-Korsakov's Scheherazade.

On another note, this year sees the re-launch of the Bangalow Art Prize, in which the BMF joins with Ninbella art gallery owner Grant Rasheed and Bangalow's business community to offer \$1000 to the best portrayal of the "vibrant and/or diverse makeup of the Bangalow landscape and community". Artists need to have their works entered by 4pm on Monday, 29 July. *Digby Hildreth*

The festival runs from Friday, 9 August to Sunday, 11 August. Tickets for the nine main concerts and pre-festival 'local' events are available at www.southernxsoloists.com

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On the radar



The new extension to Heritage House. Photo: David Morgan

Bangalow Heritage House re-opens

Thanks to a government grant, Byron Shire Council support and voluntary labour, the new wing of the museum and other renovations are finally complete and the museum will open again on Wednesday, 3 July at 9am. Volunteers are busy re-assembling the existing collection and adding new memorabilia, documents and photographs to assist research into local history, people and places. Everyone is welcome to attend the opening, with Heritage House's famous scones, cream and jam, homemade biscuits, Zentvelds' coffee and local teas available. The café will re-open at the end of July but will be available throughout July for one-off events and thereafter at any time. Contact Trisha Bleakley on 0429 882 525 or Glynis Perakis bangalowhistorical@bigpond.com

Auskick

AFL has arrived in Bangalow with the start of Auskick sessions at Bangalow Public School on Friday afternoons after school. For boys and girls aged 5-12 years, Auskick is inclusive of all abilities whether children know the game or not. For more information visit play.afl/comeandtry.

Firewood for sale

The Bangalow Men's Shed has been busy cutting hardwood logs and splitting firewood to sell to the public. Wheel by and pick up a 20kg bag for \$15 or a 6'x4' box trailer-load for \$130. Keep warm this winter and support the Men's Shed at the same time.

Music Festival Prelude for locals

The Bangalow Music Festival has programmed a Festival Prelude titled *Celebrating Bangalow: Emerging Stars*



Heritage House volunteers Glynis Perakis and Trisha Bleakley. Photo: Terry Bleakley

of the Region for Thursday, 8 August at 7.30pm. Traditionally the Thursday evening session of the festival is 'local's night' and offers a taster for the full program that follows. This year the Festival Prelude is dedicated to young emerging artists from the Northern Rivers and Gold Coast regions, who will perform alongside the Festival's headlining artists. Tickets are \$35 and available from southernxsoloists.com.

Grant opportunity for youth-led projects

The NSW Government recently launched its \$1.5 million Youth Opportunities Fund. Non-government organisations are invited to apply for grants of between \$10,000 and \$50,000 for projects that are youth-driven and that promote community engagement and inclusion. Past projects have supported youth with disabilities, disadvantaged youth, Aboriginal youth

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Golden rain trees look pretty but have to go. Photo: Darkroom Daze



Newrybar Public School fireworks.

and youth from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. Young people have developed valuable skills in hospitality, event planning, management and creative industries. To apply or find further information visit youth.nsw.gov.au/youth-opportunities. Applications close on 16 July.

Vitality Vetcare re-opens its doors

After a one-year sabbatical, local vet Megan Kearney has re-opened her practice in Bangalow. Megan spent her year off volunteering for Vets Beyond Borders in Ladakh, India and at Currumbin Wildlife Hospital. She also graduated with a Master of Veterinary Studies in Conservation Medicine. The practice now offers holistic veterinary services such as acupuncture, Chinese and western herbal medicine, homeopathy and optimal nutrition for

domestic animals. Megan is also offering a free service for wildlife.

Help eradicate golden rain trees

Bangalow Land and Rivercare is encouraging the removal of golden rain trees and suggests replacing them with similar size species such as tulipwood, tuckeroo or cheese trees. Identified in Queensland as an environmental weed, the golden rain tree has spread into northeastern NSW, with Lismore a hotspot. It is on the alert list in the Northern Territory and Western Australia as well as the US, Japan and Hawaii. The tree poses a threat to agricultural lands and colonises roadsides very quickly. As with the camphor laurel, the seeds are prolific and germinate rapidly (within 6-8 days), and the tree is extremely hardy.

Newrybar fireworks

Newrybar Public School is set to light up the night sky from 4pm on Saturday 27 July, with its annual fireworks and bonfire spectacular. Put on by the school's P & C, this event, through the support of the community, has been raising much needed funds for the school for 35 years. Renowned for great local food, there will be everything from a kid's sausage sizzle to vegetarian curries, homemade cakes and desserts. Bun Coffee is also lending its support on the night. An ATM will be on site and parking will be available along the Hinterland Way. There will be plenty to entertain the kids, all topped off with the fabulous fireworks spectacular at around 7.30pm.

Trisha Bleakley, Jenny Bird, Liz Gander

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LOCAL NEWS

Council matters

Development spotlight

Development action in Bangalow has recently been escalated by a collection of development applications that individually and collectively have the potential to affect our entire village rather than just raising neighbourhood issues. You can use the new Development Tracker on Byron Shire Council's website to seek further information on each of them.

Childcare centre DA 2018.585

The redundant Bangalow Community Health Centre was sold some time ago to private interests and has been approved as a childcare centre (CCC). The CCC is located on busy Granuaille Road in the Bangalow Conservation Area and does not have an easy flat terrain. These challenges were addressed by the applicant, in addition to incorporating key values for public buildings based on safety and design excellence. This facility aims to provide an attractive environment for up to 59 children from babies through to five years.

Affordable housing DA 2019.161

The small housing trend has finally hit Bangalow, with an application to build 17 mini-units housed in three two-storey dwellings at 23 Lismore Road on the Telstra depot site within the Bangalow Conservation Area. The site is adjacent to a State-listed heritage item and is surrounded by other attractive heritage cottages. The development application was submitted by a private developer and makes use of NSW State planning policy designed to provide affordable housing for singles and families on low incomes. However, rents for this socio-economic group can only be satisfied by subsidised social housing and demand for developments such as this one typically comes from upwardly mobile singles and couples wanting convenient access to urban areas. Bangalow residents have raised concerns on heritage character impact and traffic issues. Some Byron councillors want a shire-wide audit of affordable housing developments under this legislation. Stay tuned.

RU2 Land DA 2019.285

The hilltop development application at 19 Pioneers Crescent, recently withdrawn by the applicant, has been replaced by a Public Amenity Proposal for a childcare centre (100 children capacity), hydrotherapy pool, outdoor lap pool, children's pool and gymnasium. The brewery, restaurant and garden centre remain, and a distillery has been added. A potential game-changing development for Bangalow, but how does it reconcile with planning rules governing the use of RU2 land? Feedback from the community will be important when this DA comes to public exhibition.

Parvovirus outbreak

Council has warned the community of an outbreak of Parvovirus in Byron Shire and recommends that all dog owners vaccinate their pets against this highly infectious disease. Transmission can occur via faeces, footwear, clothing, bedding, food and water bowls and toys. Contact your vet immediately if your dog exhibits any of the following symptoms: loss of appetite, lethargy, fever, diarrhoea and vomiting. Treatment can be very expensive so prevention is better than cure and the vaccine is very effective.

Ian Holmes

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Co-founders Felipe Favaro and Paul Benhaim. Photo: Judy Baker

Hemp food business booms

Industrial hemp foods have been legal to sell and consume in Australia since late 2017. The legislation that made this possible boosted a business in Bangalow's industrial estate, which has an ever-expanding range of products.

Hemp Foods Australia was founded in 1999 by Paul Benhaim and Felipe Favaro. Paul had a successful hemp enterprise in the UK before moving to Bangalow, where the business now has a major production facility employing 27 part- and full-time staff. They source top quality certified organic hemp seed, which is brought to Bangalow for grading, de-hulling and packing.

Some 300 to 500 tonnes of certified organic seed are now handled annually by the company, a big increase since the legalisation was passed in 2017. Australia and New Zealand were two of the last countries in the world to make hemp food products legal.

Much of the seed cleaned by the company is sent to Kingaroy where oil is extracted. The high protein meal is then returned to Bangalow for processing into hemp protein powder and hemp flour. Some of the dehulled seed is sent to a company in Murwillumbah, which makes the Essential Hemp range of snack bars. Hemp seed oil is also a key ingredient in the company's organic skincare range.

One of the reasons hemp foods are so popular is because the seed has an ideal ratio of Omega 3 to Omega 6 fatty acids, oils which cannot be made by the body and must be consumed via diet. Hemp is also high in protein, and the hemp protein powder is one of the company's most popular products.

Hemp Foods Australia is certified to one of the highest food safety standards in the world. Although they currently import most of their seed from certified organic farms around the world, including from North America, Europe and Asia, the company is actively looking for certified organic farmers in Northern NSW and SE QLD who are willing to start growing industrial hemp for grain. People interested in partnering with Hemp Foods Australia should contact them at Bangalow Industrial Estate on 02 66871260.

Brian Sundstrom

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CWA flexes its muscles

The sight of a hire campervan with an offensive slogan painted on it spurred Bangalow CWA members into action.



CWA President Di Campbell. Photo: Murray Hand

When Bangalow CWA President Di Campbell saw yet another hire van sporting a sexist message she was outraged and decided to do something about it. With the support of her fellow branch members she put forward a motion at the Association's recent annual State conference in Albury to take action against the vans. The successful motion called on the State Government to pass laws to ban hired campervans decorated with such offensive slogans from our roads.

These vehicles are familiar to people in Byron Shire, where backpackers, who are the main hirers, flock to enjoy this beautiful part of the world. But many locals feel the beauty is diminished by these vans, which often bear slogans that are misogynistic and racist. The odious slogans are a deliberate marketing strategy to gain attention through notoriety.

Di Campbell says that she and her CWA colleagues are strongly driven to have our politicians take notice of their campaign to have these vans taken off the road. "If we are serious about treating women, and indeed anyone, with respect, about creating a community free of violence, sexism and racism, we need to vigorously campaign to have the NSW Government pass laws which ban this offensive advertising on vehicles. We also need to support the recent statement of intent by the Federal Government to close loopholes and encourage all states to adopt legislation to ban these discriminatory slogans."

In 2017, laws were passed in Queensland and Tasmania allowing Ad Standards (previously the Advertising Standards Board) to refer complaints to their transport departments, which can deregister the subject vehicles if the offensive slogan is not removed in 14 days. However, if the van is registered in NSW or another state, Queensland has no authority to take action. (The Advertising Standards Bureau was established in 1998 to regulate complaints about advertising in Australia. Members of the public can make complaints in writing about any advertising to Ad Standards).

There has been piece-meal resistance to the vans, such as some music festivals (Splendour and Wollombi) discouraging or banning them, and by some local councils, such as Byron Shire Council, which refuses entry to its caravan parks if the manager deems the van's slogan to be offensive.

Bangalow CWA's initiative shows the willingness of the organisation to be involved in lobbying politicians to prevent women from being mocked and abused by a business using misogyny as a marketing tool. As Di told the *Herald*, "our cooking and knitting and other core functions are important to raise funds to support the community, but we also have an opportunity with our voice throughout NSW and Australia to have the power to address important issues that affect women".

Murray Hand



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Di Morrissey on stage in Bangalow

Australia's highest selling female author, Di Morrissey AM, will appear in conversation with Mick O'Regan at the Moller Pavilion as part of the Byron Writers Festival.



Best-selling novelist Di Morrissey. Photo courtesy Aaron Cuneo, Coastbeat

To her legions of fans, she is a master storyteller. To the uninitiated, she is a tour de force. Di Morrissey has published 26 novels and four children's books in 27 years. Her 27th novel, *The Last Paradise*, is due for release in October.

Friends of Libraries Byron Shire are excited to partner with the Byron Writers Festival in bringing Di Morrissey to Bangalow as one of the festival's satellite events. "It's a great opportunity for local residents to experience a taste of the Byron Writers Festival, with local libraries benefiting from monies raised," says Mary Nelson.

Among her many achievements, she was awarded a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in the 2019 Queen's Birthday Honours List for service to literature as a novelist, and to conservation and the environment. She has sold millions of books worldwide and in 2017 was inducted into the Australian Book Industry Awards Hall of Fame.

Her novels are inspired by place and a desire to tell Australian stories. Her 2008 novel, *The Bay*, was set locally, the blurb proclaiming: "The Bay is a place to change your life." Morrissey wrote her first novel, *Heart of the Dreaming*, in, as she describes it, "a shack in Byron Bay", during a transformative period in her life.

With a successful and extensive career in print journalism and television, including eight years presenting breakfast television on Good Morning Australia, she moved to Byron Bay to pursue a childhood ambition to write stories. *Heart of the Dreaming* was a best-seller.

Di's most recent novel, *Arcadia*, is described as 'a breathtaking Tasmanian tale of ancient forests; of art and science; of love and, above all, of friendship'. Morrissey believes the old growth forests central to *Arcadia*'s narrative are fundamentally important to a sustainable future. She consciously incorporates broader social concerns into her work.

Her prolific output is the result of a disciplined work ethic instilled in the deadline-driven world of journalism. Immaculately groomed and at her desk by 6am every morning, Morrissey finds time to write novels (including spending time immersing herself in each book's location), passionately advocate for various causes and print her own community newspaper, *The Manning Community News*.

She will be joined on-stage by much-loved local identity and journalist Mick O'Regan, and if her extraordinarily full and successful life is any indication, the conversation promises to entertain, inform and inspire in equal measure.

Rebecca Sargeant

Di Morrissey in conversation with Mick O'Regan on Thursday, 1 August 2019 at the Moller Pavilion, 1.30pm for a 2pm start. Afternoon tea provided by Bangalow CWA.

Tickets (\$25) are available at www.byronbayfol.com or at the Bangalow Newsagency. Bookings are essential.

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Organisers Anouska Gammon, Denise Woolsey and Claudine Claridge getting into the spirit. Photo Will Gammon

Gala brings back the glory days

The organisers of Cabaret BanGala are recalling the fun of Cabaret da Dosh to bring some sparkle back to where it all began.



Before the current crop of big name festivals, the hottest ticket in Bangalow was Cabaret da Dosh. Queues would form outside Barebones Gallery early, ticket restrictions were in place, and the show was an instant sell-out.

Donna Jenner recalls the buzz around town leading up to the event. "There were covert practice sessions happening in the halls, the CWA rooms, the show office ... all around town." The Friday night dress rehearsal was carefully managed to preserve secrecy.

For 14 years, the event, founded by Karen and Ruth Ryan in 2001, showcased an extraordinary array of local talent to the delight of a packed A&I Hall. In 2011, Karen and Ruth reported that entertainment

included "a Bulgarian synchronised swim master who had a liking for Spanish poetry, a film made especially for Da Dosh by our Firies and some Motown Magic from four blokes who discovered their new-found rhythm."

The event holds special memories for many locals, and in February Anouska Gammon contacted the Ryans to discuss a revival. "Karen and Ruth had previously approached the Bangalow Theatre Company to run the event. With the timing now right, I emailed them to discuss possibilities," says Anouska.

Unbeknown to her, Denise Woolsey and Claudine Claridge also emailed Karen and Ruth the same week. "It was such a great event for the town and I think there's quite a

few of us who really miss it!" says Denise.

Anouska, Denise and Claudine joined forces and are excited to announce the inaugural Cabaret BanGala.

"This is a new event, but the concept was born of the fun, laughter and community spirit that Da Dosh embodied", says Claudine.

The 'CWA Ladies' were regulars at Da Dosh, Denise naming their performance of Single Ladies as a particular highlight. "You never knew what would happen on the night," says CWA 'Lady', Donna, "but there were strict instructions that no-one was to drink until after their performance!"

The CWA held sewing days to prepare costumes, various community groups were



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The popular 'CWA Ladies' in action. Photo Judy Baker



Cabaret da Desh 2009



Cabaret da Desh 2010



Cabaret da Desh 2012

Photos: Judy Baker



whipped into shape by Karen, and serious talent, otherwise hidden in the everyday interactions of town life, was shared. "It was really about bringing the community together," says Donna.

Cabaret BanGala will be a fundraising event for not-for-profit organisations, the Bangalow Theatre Company and the Bangalow Lion Hearts. The talented and hilarious Sharon Fraser will MC, there will be a full licensed bar with Stone and Wood a major sponsor, and guests are invited to bring food.

Cabaret BanGala, Friday, 16 August 2019 at the A&I Hall. Over-18 event, full licensed bar (no BYO alcohol). Tickets (\$50) on sale 27 July from 9am on the A&I Hall steps. *Rebecca Sargeant*

Audition time!

Auditions will be held at
5pm on Thursday 11 July,
at the A&I Hall, Bangalow.
Registrations close
Thursday 4 July.

Organisers are encouraging "soloists, duos, trios, groups, businesses and community organisations" to get involved. "Grab your guitars, dust off your tap shoes, swing your cat. No prior experience necessary!" To register for an audition send an email to bangalowtheatrecompany@gmail.com



Join us at our next event:
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Sunday 28th July

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hello@theinclub.com.au
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BOOK REVIEW

The Death of Noah Glass by Gail Jones

Gail Jones is an Australian novelist and academic and *The Death of Noah Glass* is her 16th book.

The story begins in Sydney with Martin Glass and his sister Evie grieving the sudden death of their father. Noah Glass has been found dead in the swimming pool at the apartments

where he lives in the eastern suburbs. Despite the fact that Noah has never been in the swimming pool before, the coroner determines that there has been no foul play and his death is the result of heart failure.

Before the funeral, Martin and Evie are required to attend a police interview and it is there that they learn of an international police investigation into the theft of a sculpture from a museum in Sicily.

Noah, an art historian, has sole-parented Martin and Evie after the death of their mother, nurturing a close-knit family unit and educating his children within the cohort of the art world. Martin, now in his 40s, is a successful, wealthy artist separated from his wife and young deaf daughter. Living in Melbourne and working part-time in a book-shop, Evie seems to be drifting through life. Neither can believe that their father would be involved in art theft and both are bereft at his passing.

After the funeral, Martin travels to Palermo, Sicily to find out what his father was doing there three weeks earlier. It's at this point that Gail Jones moves the narrative to Noah Glass in the three months he spent in Sicily before his sudden death.

While the plot of this novel is simple and plausible, the joy of reading Gail Jones comes from the complexity of the characters she creates and her skill in capturing the minutiae of their lives.

A thoroughly enjoyable read.

Carolyn Adams, *Bookworms & Papermites*, Bangalow.

This review was written in partnership with the Byron Writers Festival (byronwritersfestival.com). See Gail Jones at the festival from 2 to 4 August.

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Wwoofers and backpackers

If you've overheard a farmer saying "I'm looking forward to our new woofer", would they be upgrading their stereo or getting a new guard dog? No, more likely a WWOOFer – a Willing Worker On Organic Farms.

Brian Sundstrom reports.

Scottish Wwoofers Adam Robinson and Lauri Benning loading pecans at the Trevor-Jones farm, Eltham. Photo: Julie Trevor-Jones



The WWOOFer concept started many years ago in the UK, as Working Weekends On Organic Farms. Proving popular, the program spread to the whole week, then went international and eventually became World Wide Opportunities On Organic Farms. It is now a loose network of national organisations facilitating volunteering homestays on farms. The concept is for the farm to provide full board, lodging and training in return for half-time work. There are now over 2,000 Australian farms listed on sites such as wwoof.com.au

Whilst many participating farms are

certified organic, the 'organic farm' descriptor is not rigidly adhered to and 'ecologically sound family farms' also participate in the program. A good local example is Hayters Hill Farm. The Trevor-Jones family runs cattle, pigs and laying hens on their property just east of Bangalow, and grow pecans at Eltham. Their need for extra labour at peak times has for many years been partly met by wwoofers. They are currently harvesting pecans, and have a Scottish couple with them for a month. Adam and Lauri are doing this as part of a

holiday. "It is a great way to really get to know Australians and a local community," says Lauri.

Extra labour at peak times more commonly comes from casual seasonal workers, often international backpackers. They not only seek fair wages, but sometimes a step to getting a second visa. Blueberry Fields, run by the Saeck family near Brooklet, uses backpackers. As a large blueberry farm it employs some 30 to 50 pickers in its peak season – July to December. Whilst about a quarter of them are locals, there are many internationals.

"We prefer, and continue to seek locals, but understand they have to find work elsewhere for the other six months, so casual seasonal workers are needed," says Otto Saeck. "With the Federal Government a few years ago legislating conditions for them, payments are fairer in many ways, but this unfortunately involves us in much administration. First, we have to check their eligibility with the Department of Immigration and Border Protection, then enrol them for superannuation and contribute 10 per cent for this. Workers compensation and payroll tax add another 10 per cent. Depending on the work, we either pay a standard hourly rate or per quantity picked."

And do the visitors get their super back when leaving Australia? "The Government and superannuation companies seem to get a big share," Otto says.

These are examples of farms that are sticking to the rules. Many other farms have dropped out of the program due to costs and administration load. Inevitably 'informal arrangements' are made by other farms.

Overall the local community is enriched by this international infusion of workers. Listen to all the accents at the farmers market, and share a recipe or two from around the world.



Photo: Kenrick Riley

Some years ago some French Wwoofers worked for three months at Jiggi, west of Lismore. They enjoyed the experience so much that as a farewell gesture they built a large stone pizza oven in traditional French style. The Jiggi community now has a weekly pizza and social gathering around the oven and chillies are dried the next morning. *Brian Sundstrom*

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MUSIC REVIEW



Khruangbin. Photo: Andrew Cotterill

Sounds to make you smile

Sabastian Fardell reviews the debut album *The Universe Smiles Upon You* by Texan three-piece Khruangbin.

From the swell of a lingering sustain to a robust locomotive rhythm, *The Universe Smiles Upon You* by Khruangbin offers a beguiling romance story about a world you know and places you've never been. Situated somewhere between an audiophile's record-stand and café ambience of your dreams, this debut record from the Texan three-piece challenges contemporary music makers via their exploration of genres and cultural fusion.

As you place the needle on the outer rim of the first track, you're suspended in an absence of ignition that prefaces Mr White, where the mercurial and reverb-laden guitar tones of Mark Speer create an enthralling synergy with bassist Laura Lee and drummer Donald 'DJ' Johnson.

Having birthed this rippling and ethereal sound from a barn in the Texas countryside,

the band borrow from tapes of '60s and '70s Thai funk while riding the liberating flavours of '70s Nigerian Afro-rock and soul. The album makes seamless use of atmospheric recordings of birdsong, cityscapes and coastlines to interweave aural textures of sensory exotica. This is most true in the transition between Two Fish and an Elephant and Dern Kala, where the jubilations of a jamboree crescendo to a drum fill, all within the opening riff, before giving way to an iridescence of teal and aqua sounds that saturate a glimmering summer afternoon dance track.

As the sun sets, the ineffable narrative of Zionsville creates a mood of longing and nostalgia that unfolds into a denouement that informs listeners they are in the presence of genius.

Congratulations Dr Tony Parkes, AO

Local conservationist and Big Scrub Landcare President Dr Tony Parkes has been appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia for his sustained service to the conservation and restoration of critically endangered lowland subtropical rainforest in northern NSW. Tony co-founded Big Scrub Landcare in 1992, and since then has raised millions of dollars in grants for rainforest restoration, rehabilitated over 90 rainforest remnants and revegetated hundreds of hectares of ex-rainforest land.



Photo: Big Scrub Landcare

Raspberry crumble tart bars

Also known as *Rubus Idaeus*, raspberry is a woody plant that belongs to the rose family. It is originally from Turkey and thrives in temperate climates with mild winters.

Like blueberries, raspberries are an excellent source of phyto nutrients, fibre and various vitamins such as C, E, folic acid and magnesium. Phyto nutrients can be effective in the treatment of high blood pressure and joint inflammation. In early Christian artwork, raspberries were used to symbolise kindness. The red juice represented the energy of the blood that runs from the heart and carries love, nutrition and kindness through the body. In the past they have been used to clean teeth and as a cure for sore eyes.

There are more than 200 varieties of raspberry and they come in all sorts of colours: red, gold, black and purple. The golden ones are the sweetest. You can find these luscious red berries at the farmer's market now. Frozen or fresh berries work well in this recipe.

So spread a little kindness today with these raspberry crumble bars.

Ingredients

65g whole toasted almonds
245g plain flour
¼ tsp salt
170g cold unsalted butter, cut into cubes
45ml cold water plus an additional tablespoon if needed
115g granulated sugar
510g fresh or frozen raspberries

Method

Roughly chop almonds and set aside. Place flour and salt in the bottom of a large bowl and stir to combine. Add butter cubes. Toss them around so that they are coated and use your fingers to work the butter into the flour until the largest butter bits are the size of small peas.

Divide butter-flour mixture into two bowls (each will have 1½ cups of crumbs).

Drizzle cold water over first bowl, then use your hands to quickly, gently knead it together into a ball. Wrap the dough in plastic wrap. Chill for one hour or until firm.

Add sugar and chopped almonds to second bowl of butter-flour mixture and use your fingertips to pinch them together, mashing up the buttery bits until a loosely clumped streusel is formed. Set aside.

Heat oven to 190C. Coat a 20 x 20cm cake pan with non-stick spray. Line the bottom and two sides with a fitted piece of parchment paper. On a well-floured counter, unwrap the packet of dough, sprinkle the top generously with flour and roll the dough into a 25 x 25 cm square. Gently fold it

into quarters and unfold it into the prepared pan, centring the dough. Press into the bottom of the pan and 2 ½ cm up the sides, folding the extra dough over the walls and pressing it against the sides to reinforce the edges.

Fill base with berries and sprinkle evenly with crumble topping. Bake for 40 to 50 minutes, covering with foil if it browns before it is done. Bars are done when they are an even golden

brown and you can see the rich berry juices bubbling through the crumbs.

Lyn Hand

Recipe adapted from smittenkitchen.com



Illustration: Lyn Hand

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WHAT'S THAT NUMBER?

Community

AA (5.30pm Tues)	Richard	0466 885 820
ADFAS	John	0438 778 055
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)	Di	6685 4694
Garden Club (1st Wed)	Annie	0417 636 011
George the snake man	George	0407 965 092
Historical Society/Museum/Cafe		6687 2183
Koala rescue line (24 hr)		6622 1233
Land & Rivercare (8.30am Sat)	Liz	6687 1309
Lions Club (7pm 2nd/4th Tues)	Chris	0416 005 700
Market (4th Sun)	Jeff	6687 1911
Men's Shed	Brian	0413 679 201
Op Shop (9.30am-2.30pm, Sat 9.30am-12.30pm)		6687 2228
Parklands	Lynn	0429 644 659
Park Trust Committee	Jan	6684 7214
Police	Dave	6687 1404
Pool Trust	Jo	6687 1297
Progress Association	Ian	0414 959 936
Poultry Club	Hector	6687 1322
Quilters (2nd/4th Thur)	Helen	6684 1161
Red Cross (1st Fri)	Liz	6687 1195
Scouts (6.15pm Tues)	Jim	0408 546 522
Show Society	Anne	6687 1033

Sport

Bowls men (1pm Wed & Sat)	Gerry	6687 1142
Bowls women (9.30am Wed)	Dot	6687 1246
Cricket	Anthony	0429 306 529
Netball (3.30pm Wed)	Ellie	0429 855 399
Rugby Union (Rebels)	Dave	0412 080 614
Soccer (Bluedogs)		0434 559 700
Tennis court hire	Denise	0409 579 231

Venues

A&I Hall	Brian	0427 157 565
All Souls' Anglican Hall	Matthew	0488 561 539
Bowling Club	Chris	6687 2741
Coorabell Hall	Ouida	6687 1307
Heritage House		6687 2183
Moller Pavilion	Karina	6687 1035
Newrybar Hall	Katrina	0410 975 572
RSL Hall	Charlotte	6687 2828
Scout Hall	Karen	0400 591 719
St Kevin's Catholic Hall	Russell	0423 089 684

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Wed Barre Fusion 9.15 - 10.15am & Yin Yoga 6 - 7.15pm
Thurs Yogalates 9.30 - 11am & Gentle Vinyasa 5.30 - 6.45pm
Fri Barre Fusion 6.30 - 7.30 am
Sat Yogalates 8 - 9.30am & Pilates Mat 10 - 11am

Updated class times & ByronTown/Suffolk timetable see yogalates.com.au



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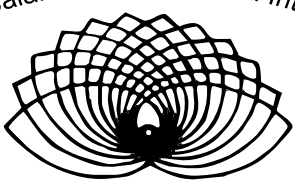
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There's plenty happening in 2479.

Bangalow Garden Club

When Wed 3 July, 1.30pm

Where Moller Pavilion, Bangalow

Contact Annie 0417 636 011 or anne.abbink@yahoo.com.au

Rebecca Barnes from Playing with Fire Native Foods will talk about growing native foods. Ian and Elspeth Lacey will open their garden at Cumbalum for members on Saturday, 13 July. Details will be provided at the meeting (bring a mug for afternoon tea),

Red Cross AGM

When Fri 5 July, 10am

Where RSL Hall, Bangalow

Contact Liz 0409 832 001

All welcome. A great chance to join an interesting and involved group of community workers.

The Wonder of Water

When Sun 7 July, 3pm

Where St Thomas' Anglican Church, Brunswick Heads

Contact 6684 3552

Celebrate the wonder of water with a one-hour reflection, words



Almost Gone by Marika Bryant

Art 4 Art's Sake

When Sat 20 and Sun 21 July, 10am-4pm; opening night Fri 19 July, 5-7pm

Where Federal School of Arts (Federal Hall)

Contact Marika Bryant marikabryant@hotmail.com

For the second year a diverse group of local printmakers, painters, glass artists and sculptors will exhibit their work in the Federal Hall. The opening night will feature music from local band The Groove.

and music followed by afternoon tea. Hosted by the Anglican Parishes of Mullumbimby and Bangalow.

Bangalow Quilters

When Thurs 11 and 25 July, 9.30am-12.30pm

Where All Souls' Anglican Church Hall, Bangalow

Contact Karen 0413 621 224

Help with patchwork, quilting and craft available. Morning tea is provided. Visitors are welcome.

Friends of Libraries Byron Shire Book Fair

When Sat 13 July, 9am-5pm; Sun 14 July, 10am-1pm

Where Byron Bay Surf Club

Contact Janene 0407 855 022

The annual Book Fair of the Friends of Libraries Byron Shire offers quality second-hand books across many genres: fiction, non-fiction, old and rare collections, health, art, children



Books for everyone at the Friends of Libraries Book Fair. Photo: Mary Nelson

and more. Including a monster raffle, the fair raises funds for books, library equipment and other resources for Byron, Mullumbimby and Brunswick Heads libraries. Good second-hand books are always needed.

Filipino Feast

When Fri 12 July, 5.30pm-10.30pm

Where Newrybar Community Hall

Information Stella 0432 423 148 or Laiza 0422 290 839

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ADFAS Byron Bay lecture

When Mon 15 July, 6.30pm
Where: A&I Hall, Bangalow
Information: adfas.org.au or Facebook @ADFASByronBay or 0417 636 011.

Vivienne Lawes will explore how the East India Company developed its methods of trade and facilitated the exchange of ideas between East and West. The lecture will focus on textile design, wallpaper, porcelain and furniture as well as spices and tea. Doors open at 6pm for a welcome drink, with a light supper afterwards. Non-members welcome. Tickets are \$25.

Men's Cooking Class

When Fri 26 July, 10am
Where Bangalow Uniting Church
Contact Brian 0466 339 702

Held every Friday, the men's cooking class requires no experience. It's for men of all ages who would like to learn basic cooking skills, share morning tea, lunch and a yarn. Cost \$5.

The INClub

When Sun 28 July
Where Tweed Coast Gallery, Murwillumbah
Information and tickets
www.theinclub.com.au

Join the INClub on a day trip to the Tweed Coast Gallery for a private guided tour of the Margaret Olley exhibition and lunch at the Gallery Café. New members welcome.

Drill Hall Film Society

When Sun 28 July, 1.30pm for a 2pm start
Where Drill Hall, Mullumbimby
Contact Sonia Borenstein 6688 2112

Film-lovers are invited to enjoy a classic film on the last Sunday of the month in the newly refurbished Drill Hall. The July film is the Australian comedy classic *The Castle*.

Kids Club

When Wednesday afternoons during school terms, 3.15pm-4.30pm
Where Bangalow Presbyterian Church
Information Jan 0414 588 822 or Dave 0403 308 507

Primary school age children are welcome for afternoon tea, Bible teaching, games, music and craft. Fun and free.

July diary

3 Heritage House re-opens; Garden Club

5 Red Cross AGM

7 Wonder of Water

11 CabaretBanGala auditions

11, 25 Bangalow Quilters

12 Filipino Dinner Newrybar

13 Garden Club Saturday Visit

13-14 Friends of the Library Book Fair

15 ADFAS Byron Bay Lecture

20-21 Art 4 Art's Sake

26 Men's Cooking Class

27 Newrybar Public School Fireworks

28 Bangalow Market; INClub; Drill Hall Films

August

1 Di Morrissey

2-4 Byron Writer's Festival

8-11 Bangalow Music Festival

Deadlines for August 2019 issue:

Advertising 11 July

What's On 13 July

Copy 15 July

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Chef Joe Griffin at Friday Hut Dining enjoying a moment's sunshine before service.
Photo: Jim Hearn

Every day is like Sunday at Friday Hut Dining

I'm standing in the kitchen at Friday Hut Dining talking with Chef Joe about the quality of the lardo on the field-grown Berkshire pigs from Esperanza Farm up the road. We agree that Jed and Sarna must have fed the piglets right. The fat off the backstrap is rich and creamy and melts in the heat of your mouth. Joe's serving the lardo with house-made lavosh as one of the courses on the tasting menu.

Restaurants don't like to call their set, tasting menu a degustation any more because it implies fussy food and grandstanding chefs. Nonetheless, Friday Hut Dining offers one service a week – Sunday lunch – and the menu is put together by Joe Griffin and Matthew Donohoe, who share the moniker of head chef. That's an unusual arrangement, but along with their partners, Lauriann and Laura respectively, they get the job done with style. That's probably got a lot to do with the fact they've got a week to get their menu and mise-en-place organised for their one sitting a

week, but from a guest's point of view, all that planning pays dividends.

Freckle, from Bay Seafood Market, had called to say that Gavin Dobson, who runs his own trawler out of Brunswick Heads, had line-caught four good sized pearl perch. The boys took them all and they're on the menu today as the main course served with Ballina clams, Lebanese couscous, Congo potatoes and saffron sauce made from the fish frames. Like the lardo dish, it's attractively plated and the flavours gel.

The two couples discovered the old, unused schoolhouse in 2018 and opened at Christmas. The property is owned by ex-pro surfer Matt Wilkinson and he saw the right kind of ambition and cooking pedigree in Joe and Matt and let the boys loose. They knocked out the gyprock walls and various ad-hoc additions inside the timber hall and stripped it back to bare bones. Now, it's all white-washed walls, oak floors, wishbone chairs, sun-drenched windows and

a vaulted ceiling.

Guests who enjoy a long Sunday lunch served as a tasting menu by staff who are passionate, confident and well-credentialed in the world of fine dining, keep booking the place out.

Sunday's six-course lunch will set you back \$90. With matching wines it's \$150. On the Sunday I visited the dining room is booked out twice over and the place hums with good cheer, professional service and bonhomie. The Federation architecture absorbs the noise like an old schoolhouse might, and as the afternoon winds down, Joe is determined to let me know they've achieved their aim of zero waste.

From a diner's point of view, that's nice to know, but what matters most is that the food, atmosphere and service come together in a way that works. On this balmy winter Sunday, it does.

I wouldn't mind a string quintet playing off to the side of things as the sun sinks low enough to stir thoughts of cognac, but it could be that it's just time to crawl back into the restaurant shuttle bus that picked me up from home.

Bookings are essential.

Score: well worth your hard-earned.



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