

HERALD

The Bangalow

FREE May 2021

Not happy, Jan.



Jan Hulbert and her beloved EH Holden

Photo: Eloise Farrow-Smith

A very hard act to follow

A fifth-generation Bangalow resident, Jan Hulbert, was a permanent fixture in our local community life, as certain as our fertile red soil and as reliable as the October-November winds.

Jan Hulbert 15 Feb 1939 – 5 March 2021

Childhood

Born in the Bangalow Hospital on 15 February 1938, Jan was the oldest child of Raymond and Dorothy Jarrett. She was descended from Walter and Eliza Jarrett, who bought farmland

at Talofa in 1907, still in the family today. The family lived on their Possum Creek dairy farm, where, during milking, Jan - and later her younger brothers - would be popped into a box for safety while their parents milked the cows. At the age of six, Jan learned to milk a cow. She was still doing it at 82.

In her early years, life on the farm was primitive by today's standards. There was no power, no phone and no running water. With no fridge, they had an ice chest and used a wood stove and kerosene lamps. For many years, the family ran a horse and sulky.

(continued p.4)



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Where: Boggy Creek Road, Bungawalbin

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HERALD

The Bangalow

From the editor

For readers with ideas or opinions about big events in Bangalow, I encourage you to read Murray Hand's story about Eat Street and other events that impact locals. It's a contentious issue, and one The Herald is asking readers to give feedback on via our Facebook page. All the details are in Murray's story.

Jan Hulbert's status as a legend of Bangalow lives on. Christobel Munson's obituary, written with help from Jan's family and friends, is a must read for people with an interest in the history of the region, as well as for those who knew her. What a rich, full life. Vale Jan, and may your legend live on for many years to come.

May is one of my favourite months of the year. The autumn climate seems to suit our postcode particularly well. It's also a time when tourism backs off a little and locals have more room to move after summer and the Easter school holidays. I rate it highly and look forward to sparking up my first fire of the season.

For those who didn't know, we received 600mm of rain during March. April was wet too, and I look forward to reading what the figures were in our next issue. Tony Hart does the rain chart for us each month with help from locals who send him regular and reliable rainfall data. I would like to thank Tony and his team for their ongoing contribution.

Thanks also to readers who continue to provide feedback to The Herald about what we get right and wrong each month. Don't hesitate to contact me should you have a story to tell or feedback to give.

May the force be with you this month and always.

Jim Hearn

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Printed by Lismore City Printery

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Council Matters

Rifle Range Road

Back in March, residents submitted a petition to reduce the speed limit to 50kmh at the Lismore Road/ Rifle Range Road intersection with the aim of reducing the dangers to school children getting on and off school buses. A Speed Review was subsequently commissioned by Transport for NSW and Council is awaiting the results. In the meantime, Council is considering a temporary rerouting of school buses heading west. The new route would see school buses travelling up Raftons Road and down Rifle Range Road and then turning right on Lismore Road. If Council decides to do this, affected residents will be contacted. Concerns include the lack of footpaths on the route and the narrow bottleneck along Rifle Range Road. Benefits include easier and safer access to the buses.

Snow's Bridge path upgrade

After years of lobbying, Councillors voted unanimously at the March Council meeting to instruct staff to complete the design of an upgrade of the footpath on the northern side of Byron Street between Station Lane and the eastern side of Snow's Bridge. The path will become a 2.5m shared path for most of the way and will meet accessibility requirements. Note that this is just Step 1 in a longer process. Once the design is completed it will wait to be matched with a suitable grant, submitted and hopefully approved. The construction of the path is still some way off, but at least the project will be 'grant-ready' this year. A big shout out to Richie Allen who took the initiative last year to invite Mayor Simon Richardson to walk the path, showing him just how far from accessibility standards it is. And another big shout out to Mayor Richardson, who 'got it' and moved a last minute motion last year to include the project in the 2020/2021 budget. Considering the volume of use over the bridge, the fact that it provides the only access across Byron Creek, and that it is inaccessible for people using wheelchairs and mobility devices, it has been a long and frustrating process to get this project onto Council's agenda. Let's hope that a suitable grant pops up ASAP to fund it.

Feedback on bus stops

The NSW Government has given Councils across NSW until the end of the year to audit and upgrade all bus stops to meet disability standards for public transport (DSAPT) legislation. Council are interested to hear from bus users about bus stops and bus shelters. Council is collecting information about which bus stops people use, how often they are used, what bus stops are unused, and what condition bus shelters are in. People can provide feedback on bus shelters at Your Say Byron Shire until 7 May 2021. Staff will then assess the information and develop a bus stop upgrade program and timetable.

Feedback on Emergency Dashboard

Back in December 2020, Byron Shire Council launched the Byron Emergency Dashboard, a 'one-stop shop' website that provides the public with information from the SES, Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) and RMS. It provides information on road closures, river height and power interruption and connects straight to social media feeds for Police, Council and SES. The past summer proved a good testing ground for the site as the region suffered heavy rainfall and flooding. Council is now interested to find out how well it worked, how and whether people used it, and what changes might improve it. To provide feedback go to the Byron Shire Emergency Dashboard at Your Say Byron Shire. The closing date for submissions is 7 May 2021.

Jenny Bird



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A very hard act to follow



Hulbert family Christmas 2019.

(from page 1) At four and a half, Jan started at Possum Creek School, riding a horse to get there. She attended high school in Mullumbimby, which she left at age 15 to help out on the farm. Jan used to tell wonderful stories of the adventures of the kids on the 90-minute bus trip each way to school. Few kids today would be able to tell of the time they had to push a broken-down school bus up McLeods Shoot.

The family

Roy, who was to become her husband, was a young cowboy who lived on the same street when they met when she was 15. During their four-year courtship, one of their first dates was to a Slim Dusty concert. Roy was droving cattle in the Northern Territory for two of those years, so Jan amassed a big collection of his letters which she kept all her life.

Jan and Roy married at the Bangalow Church of England on 14 September 1957 and lived at Possum Creek for 18 years. (Other family members have kept that day to be married as a family tradition, including

Wendy and Mick in 1985, Noel and Bronwyn in 1996 and Jan's grandson Jack, who married Hannah in 2018.) She had 12 grandchildren and a great grandson, Charlie Roy, is the sixth generation Jarrett living locally.

Working life

Though she had wanted to become a nurse, it was not to be. However, her kind and caring instincts were felt by friends and neighbours all her life. Before having children Alan, Wendy, Noel and Owen, Jan's working life included time at the Bangalow Hotel, Bangalow Hospital and later housekeeping.

For 16 years, she worked at the Wright's stone fruit nursery, and for a further 10 years, collected and potted up peach seedlings from around the district for Lyle Wright. At one point, her front lawn was covered with 32,000 peach trees, earning her the income to pay off their home.

When the Pacific Highway was to be widened at the Possum Creek corner where their house was located, the family accepted a payout from the RTA and built a new home on

St Helena, moving in on Mother's Day, 1975. Their new home overlooked a spectacular sweeping view from Byron Bay to the Nightcap Ranges.

Community work

Many a Bangalow committee or cause benefited from Jan's verve and undaunted energy. She proudly organised at least 10 reunions over the years, from the football reunion when the Royals re-started, to the Cemetery Reunion in 2001. Then there were Jarrett family reunions (including more than 300 people), the School Centenary and the Possum Creek Public School Reunion in 1990, when 250 former pupils came from as far away as Mt Isa and Perth to celebrate the school which had closed 42 years before.

Through her many years of personal service and contribution to associations like the Bangalow Show Society, she earned the right to be known as a Life Member, in her words: "awarded for work put in behind the scenes; you can't buy it". Jan attended the show since childhood and contributed to its



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Roy and Jan Hulbert



Jan dressed for the Bangalow bicentennial



The Cemetery Reunion



Jan's ANZAC medal.

behind-the-scenes organisation since before her marriage. "I just take pride in my town and the wonderful people to work with," she said in a 2005 interview for *Bangalow's Heartbeat*.

Jan described a childhood where families spent more time in each others' company, which was enjoyed by all. "When we were kids, going to the Bangalow Show was really

Known around town as a 'walking history book', lesser-known talents included her cake decorating skill, as well as baking 'the best caramel tarts ever, which never lasted long.

Proud to be of service

In her experience, the Bangalow Show Society and the Parks Trust, both of which she was involved with for decades, were "beautiful organisations, mainly staffed by the older generation, where people get in and work and feel proud to do what they do for the community". Jan was involved with the Parks Trust from 1984 (which maintains the showgrounds) for more than two decades and was president of it for about 18 years.

Jan was a Life Member of both the Bangalow School P&C Association and the Sports Association, which she joined in 1979. For

10 years during the 1980s, she ran the Deb balls, raising money to build the sports fields of Bangalow. She joined the Bangalow Show Society in 1983, which became her passion.

Quoting Bronwyn Hulbert's eulogy: "For anyone that knew her, she would be at the Bangalow Show in the Moller Pavilion every year making sure that all the show visitors were well fed. If you were one of her favourites, you might have scored an extra serve of plum pudding or fruit salad - or both. On market day, she would be supplying jam, cream and scones, tea and coffee to anybody that was up for a chat. You knew she was there because she had her own personal parking space for her beloved EH Holden."

Always at the heart of any organising committee, in recognition of her contribution, Jan won several awards including the Byron Shire Citizen of the Year, and in the year 2000, an Australian ANZAC award for her "compassionate service to the community".

Christobel Munson, Teena Hulbert and Bronwyn Hulbert



Jan's Love Family form the front of her house.

special. We'd all have new clothes for the day. You'd pack your car with rugs and a picnic lunch and meet up with all the family. It was like a big re-union" (and apparently where her love of big get-togethers all began).



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ShelterBox making a big impact internationally from the Northern Rivers

With so many worthwhile causes to put your energy into, our region offers the community-minded resident a plethora of choices. ShelterBox is a disaster relief organisation that offers something a little different.

International disaster relief organisation ShelterBox provides emergency shelter aid and other essential items to help families that have lost their home due to hurricanes, earthquakes, conflicts, droughts, cyclones and more. Despite the difficulties with COVID-19, ShelterBox has continued to provide emergency shelter, soap and hand basins, water filtration kits and cooking sets to people in need around the world.

Along with many other charities, ShelterBox had to respond to events over the last 18 months and change how they involved the community. With a small team located across the Northern Rivers, the ShelterBox team recognised the time was right to offer their supporters and volunteers new ways to engage with their organisation.

"After a pretty tough year, we had to look at the way people can engage with ShelterBox especially with pressing local needs like bushfires, floods, drought and COVID-19" says Mike Greenslade, CEO of ShelterBox Australia. "As primarily a fundraising organisation, solely reliant on donations, we



Community training on ShelterBox aid items in Fiji

needed to create safe, easy and fun ways for the community to continue to support us."

With a global network of 15 ShelterBox affiliates, ShelterBox has supported over 1.5 million people in 97 different countries since its inception in 2000. The Australian office has



ShelterKit delivered after Vanuatu's Cyclone

its team located across the Northern Rivers region. CEO of ShelterBox Australia, Mike Greenslade, lives in the hills of Alstonville at Rous Mill, Communications Manager Eleanor Knight calls Tweed Heads home and their Volunteer Program Manager, Kiern Deutrom is located here in Bangalow.

The ShelterBox Australia team meets up regularly in Bangalow or Mullumbimby to plan opportunities for the community to get involved in its mission. Whether you're into long lunches or dinner parties, trekking the great outdoors, reading a good book or something else entirely, it seems ShelterBox can turn what you love doing into emergency shelter for families in need.

ShelterBox Volunteer Program Manager, Kiern Deutrom, is excited about the upcoming year for the organisation. "After a difficult year

Bangalow, my 2021 Pensioners and Seniors Kit is being delivered now.

Please get in touch if you'd like any extra copies for you, your family or your friends.

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Harold

for volunteers, we're looking forward to re-engaging our team and supporters in a variety of fun ways from solo pursuits, group activities and family affairs."

In 2019, ShelterBox and a team of volunteers hosted a sell-out show of the Women's' Adventure Film Tour at the Palace Cinemas in Byron Bay, raising over \$3000 for families needing shelter. This event galvanised the idea that was brewing at ShelterBox for a while – that the community was eager to come together for a fun event, as well as helping shelter families after disaster.

In May this year, the ShelterBox team is hosting a Partners for Impact lunchtime session, via Zoom, where businesses keen to expand their social responsibility program can learn more about ShelterBox. On June 20, school students and families are invited to



Trucks delivering ShelterBox aid in Somaliland

take part in Off the Grid, a challenge where simply having fun, camping overnight in your backyard and turning off devices can transform into a tent that can safely house a family who have lost their home. Last year Kiernyn and her daughters joined the challenge, camping out during COVID and raising over \$1100. "Off the Grid was a chance to do something fun in our backyard and push ourselves to raise as much money as we could. It was a great opportunity to teach the girls about how lucky we are here in Bangalow and that doing simple things can make a big impact to another family," said Kiernyn.

For the more adventurous, ShelterBox hosts adventure treks three times a year. A recent group just returned from the stunning Cradle Mountain in Tasmania where they raised over \$30,000 for ShelterBox, while trekking up to

nine hours a day. The next ShelterBox trek in July is a five-day trek on the Larapinta Trail in Alice Springs followed by the Cape-to-Cape trek in Western Australia in October.

For the avid reader, ShelterBox hosts an online book club where members get to discover themes, cultures and stories inspired by the people and places where ShelterBox has travelled. The Book Room at Byron Bay has partnered with ShelterBox, offering book club members 15 per cent off their chosen book.

ShelterBox offers a host of ways to align with your interests or engage your community, while helping shelter families in need. To find out more contact Kiernyn via phone 0400 273 624, email kiernyn.deutrom@shelterbox.org.au or visit their website www.shelterboxaustralia.org.au

Jim Hearn and Kiernyn Deutrom

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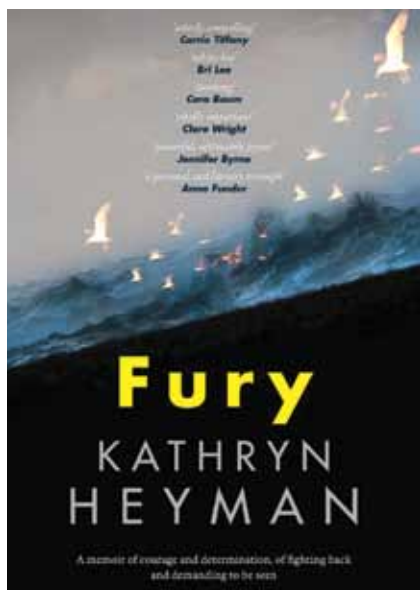


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Fury by Kathryn Heyman

Friends of Libraries host **Fury by Kathryn Heyman**

Friends of Libraries, in conjunction with the Bangalow CWA and Byron Writers Festival, are holding their annual afternoon tea book event on Thursday 5 August at the Moller Pavilion in Bangalow. Locally born author Kathryn Heyman will be discussing her incredible memoir of courage, determination, fighting back and finding joy. Coming from a family plagued by poverty and violence, she had no real role models – no example of how to live or create a life with realistic expectations. She loved books and reading. At the age of twenty, after experiencing trauma, Kathryn ran away and became a deckhand on a fishing trawler in the Timor Sea. Kathryn's memoir is also a reflection on wider stories of class and becoming heroic in a culture that doesn't see heroism in the shape of a girl. Above all, this memoir is a roadmap of recovery and transformation. Tickets go on sale from July via www.byronbayfol.com. **Fury** will be released in May 2021.



Nick Sergi - Byron Music Festival Director

Byron Music Festival

The famous Byron Bay music scene is set to make a comeback this June thanks to an exciting new event, the Byron Music Festival (BMF). From the 18-20 June, the Byron Bay CBD will come alive with multiple live music performances, a youth music showcase, local business activations, markets, and a music industry conference and speaking program. The goal for organisers is to spark the resurgence in the local live entertainment scene, showcasing a 100 per cent local line up of iconic and emerging artists, as well as hosting a robust music industry conference program that ignites a public conversation about the importance of music for all. Festival Director and proprietor of Byron Music, Nick Sergi, says the mission of BMF is two-fold, "We want to bring the idea of a Byron music festival back into Byron itself. We've purposely chosen to hold the event in winter to inject activity into the CBD during a historically insecure time for local business. This event will not only support local creatives, but local businesses as well". Operations manager Monique Hartman says the team have been working closely with senior staff



Al Percival of Food 4 Tomorrow
Photo: Tanya Ogilvie-White

in Service NSW to ensure a solid COVID safe plan along with contingencies to give the event its best chance of success. "This is a crucial time for music and the live events industries ... it's been the toughest year in the industry's history," Monique says. BMF will be held at various locations in the Byron CBD. Each event ranges from free entry to modest ticket prices. For more info and to see the line-up visit www.byronmusicfestival.com.au

Our Food – Our Future?

"You are what you eat" is an old adage, but the implications of our shopping and eating choices goes way beyond our dinner plate. With agriculture contributing over a third of climate warming gases and being the biggest user of land by far, it is sobering to realise that by 2050 - if everyone were to consume the same diet as the typical Australian, we would need at least five planets the size of Earth to sustain and feed ourselves. To help us think about how we might meet this massive challenge, a small group of concerned local citizens has formed a new group called Food 4 Tomorrow. We plan to arrange a series of talks, seminars, articles, and blogs



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Baby Lace Monitor at Macadamia Castle

to help shape the debate about how we might move our food system to a long-term sustainable path. It's a huge challenge – and we're looking for additional people to contribute some time and expertise to help organise events and develop our online presence. For more information visit food4tomorrowinstitute.org or email us at food4tomorrowinstitute@gmail.com

Dirawong and Birrung join the Macadamia Castle family

The Macadamia Castle has recently added two new members to its family. These baby Lace Monitors, also known as a Tree Goanna, are the second- largest lizard in Australia, and when fully grown, can reach 2m in length and weigh up to 14kg.

Local, Carolyn Piercy, won a recent competition to name these incredible creatures. In acknowledgement of the Bundjalung nation, the baby Lace Monitors are named 'Dirawong' which means 'Goanna spirit of the Bundjalung nation' and 'Birrung' who is one of the brothers from the Bundjalung nation dreamtime legend of the three brothers. Fun Fact:

Lace Monitors are the closest living relative to the Komodo Dragon but the two species diverged about 12 million years ago. You can meet these ancient baby reptiles at the Macadamia Castles Daily Reptile Show daily at 10.30am and 3.30pm. For more information about tickets and bookings, head to www.macadamiacastle.com.au

Feeding the Soul

The Northern Rivers Food Harvest Trail to be held on the weekend of 1-2 May is guaranteed to be an enriching experience that highlights and celebrates the distinctive provenance of our region's food. The trail will offer an abundance of culinary treats and will be jam-packed with the regions most acclaimed restaurants, producers, farmers and growers. For a full program and ticketing visit: northernriversfood.org. One highlight will be Arakwal Bundjalung woman, Delta Kay, and her special Bush Tucker Tour in Bangalow. Guests will explore the stunning parklands and Byron Creek that have hundreds of native plant species. Delta will showcase a variety of edible bush tucker plants, as well as plants used for natural medicine, jewellery, fibre, tools



Bush Tucker with Delta Kay

and weapons. She will speak about local Indigenous history and share traditional stories passed down from her ancestors. Playing with Fire native foods will also have a pop-up shop where you can purchase their award-winning, delicious and nutritious native food products. The pop-up store is open Saturday and Sunday from 10am – 4pm at Bangalow Parklands, Deacon St, Bangalow. explorebyronbay.com

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Joie de vivre

The 19th Bangalow Music Festival program has been unveiled, with a stunning image on its cover that radiates everything the event represents: the power and the joy of music.

The photograph of soprano Isabella Moore (left), a guest artist at the Festival, communicates the excitement and freedom of live musical performance. It also embodies in one shot what the Festival's artistic director Tania Frazer describes as Ms Moore's "unbelievably gorgeous, floating, voice. It is creamy, sumptuous, with gigantic power – though she doesn't need to use it."

Those heights – a reaching for the stars – are to be found throughout the program, which has risen from the ashes of 2020's COVID disappointment.

The pandemic-induced pause in the lives of people the world over provided the opportunity to reassess, to simplify and slow down, says Ms Frazer, who leads the Southern Cross Soloists (SXS), the Festival's mainstay ensemble. The response to being deprived of live performance "really revealed what we think of as valuable", she says.

The value of music – its unique capacity to transport listeners to another place, to transform in a flash how we feel – is the underlying theme this year, and especially its power to inspire *joie de vivre* – the joy in living that took a bit of a hit during the dark days of the virus.

Joy is certainly on the menu at the event in August – four days of uninhibited, universal, primal, polyphonic pleasure in musical mastery.

Looking to the culture which practically invented *joie*, the opening concert is an all-French program from the SXS, full of Gallic lightness and flair, with sparkling works such as Ravel's *Le Tombeau de Couperin*, Saint Saens' virtuosic *Morceau de Concert* featuring guest French Horn player Nick Mooney, and finishing with Debussy's atmospheric soundscape of the sea, *La Mer*.

Guest artists include London-based Australian pianist Jayson Gillham, who was the Star of Tomorrow at the first Festival as an 18-year-old. He has since graced the stages

Soprano Isabella Moore is a guest artist at the Festival

Photo: Sylwia Szyplik



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The Southern Cross Soloists perform at the 2021 Bangalow Music Festival launch.

Photo: Maxine Williamson

of concert halls around the world and is now considered one of the finest pianists of his generation.

In the Friday night 'Festival Welcome', Jayson will perform Scriabin's mystical *Piano Sonata No. 4*. During the festival he will collaborate with the SXS musicians and the Orava String Quartet, the Festival's newly appointed Quartet in Residence, in a number of works. Among them, Brahms' adventurous *Piano Quintet in F minor*, an unsettling but beautiful masterpiece of chamber music.

Ms Moore, a New Zealander of Samoan heritage, will sing melodies from Puccini and Verdi, including the tragic Desdemona arias from *Otello*, and songs by Rachmaninov. She will join the SXS players, Orava Quartet and

pianist Gladys Chua to close the Festival on Sunday evening

She will also feature in the much-loved Zentveld's Coffee Concert on the Friday afternoon – one of many performances away from the principal venue, the A&I Hall.

Other architecturally and acoustically impressive spaces in Bangalow township to host bite-sized concerts this year include the Uniting Church, for Beautiful Beethoven (his Serenade for Flute, Violin and Viola, in which the great master reveals a sense of humour); Bangalow Antiques, for The Art of the Viola d'Amore, and a masterclass by the supremely talented clarinetist Ashley Smith; and Ninbella Gallery, for The Art of the Didgeridoo with Wakka Wakka man and SXS artist-in-residence, Chris Williams.

Stars of the twinkly variety will feature in a revised project, Maps and Journeys: The World's First Astronomers. It will feature world premieres by Ngiyampaa, Yuin, Bandjalang and Gumbangirr violinist, dancer and composer Eric Avery, Yuin composer Brenda Gifford and Sean O'Boyle in a concert of Australian music inspired by the night sky and the Seven Sisters Constellation. Ngugi actor, playwright and storyteller Paula Nazarski, cellist Richard Narroway, Mr Williams and Nick Mooney will be part of the performance, which will also be included in the schools program.

Digby Hildreth

The Bangalow Music Festival runs from August 12-15, 2021. Tickets are available at www.southernxsoloists.com/bangalow-tickets



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**THE
GREENS**



Renew Fest is for everyone big and small.
Photo: Ingrid Pullen

Renew Festival returns to Mullumbimby

Renew Fest, the festival for full system regenerative change, is returning this year and once again is set within the gorgeous fig tree grove of Mullumbimby Showground on May 7-9.

The festival is held on Mother's Day weekend, in honour of the life force of all mothers including Mother Earth. A special opening night on Friday, 7 May, is followed by two full days and evenings of talks, panels, workshops, music, eco arts, waste-free food, children's program, info stalls, tiny home village, Indigenous Elders space, on Saturday and Sunday, 8-9 May.

"If the recent fires, floods, pandemic and housing crisis of Northern Rivers has taught us anything, it is that deep community connection

and change are needed more than ever," says festival director Ella Rose Goninan.

"We love showcasing inspired solutions that honour the planet and our place in the web of life, empower grass-roots activism, and put an emphasis on real human connection. This is what we'll be offering again at Renew Fest."

"If you care about how we treat the earth and each other, if you love feeling the power and buzz of a community that really cares and want to make a difference, if you want to see positive

change happening across food, energy, housing, biodiversity, social and economic systems... then this is the event for you!"

This year's festival headliners are an impressive list of legendary Australians who are passionate living examples of transformative change in their fields. Headlining guests include: David Holmgren, the co-founder of permaculture and bushfire regen expert; Mehreen Faruqi, Australia's first Muslim senator, environmental engineer and activist; Rachael Cavanagh, Indigenous cultural burning practitioner with Firesticks; and Emeritus Professor Judy Atkinson, an Indigenous Elder, founder of "We Al-li" and collective trauma expert.

Senior Australian of the Year, Miriam Rose Ungunmerr-Baumann, famous for being a teacher of "dadirri" (deep listening) will appear via Zoom on the opening night in conversation with Judy Atkinson.

David Holmgren writes of our deep responsibility for the planet and sums up so much of the core drive of the festival: "The Earth is a living, breathing entity. Without ongoing care and nurturing, there will be consequences too big to ignore."

The event is deliberately family-friendly. Children 16 years and under are free, and there is a little children's natural crafts program and a youth zine making and drop in zone.

Renew Fest is proudly zero-waste and was one of the first festivals in Australia to go totally waste-free when it began back in 2016. Festival patrons join in the mass action of bringing their own plates, cups and cutlery, and a council-approved wash station is provided. The festival is powered by solar power and portable batteries supplied by Australian Radio Towers and Southern Cross University. *Luke Jaaniste*

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Are locals over Bangalow's big events?

In February this year, Eat Street held a food van event in the Bangalow Showground. The event was originally planned to be held in the school grounds, but was moved to the showground at the last minute when the organisers realised the school wouldn't cope with the expected crowd.

It was a huge success for the organisers and food vendors with between 4,000 and 5,000 patrons attending on the Friday evening. However, there were many people critical of the event, venting their spleens on social media and in the local press. The criticism was mostly about the crowds of people who were clearly not abiding by the COVID protocols and the impact of the large numbers on the town that evening. Local food outlets were swamped by those unwilling to queue at the event and even the supermarket ran out of supplies for those who couldn't get a feed anywhere. Many questioned the need for such a busy event in Bangalow and whether the risk of contagion and disruption was worth it. There were also many people in Bangalow who loved the Eat Street evening and would like to see it on again.

The organisers of Eat Street want to hold two such events each year. They have



Eat Street at the Showground

Photo: Jeff Dawson, courtesy of Byron Shire Echo

now approached Byron Shire Council and have cleared the way for permission to hold the event again, albeit with better safety protocols. The Bangalow Park Trust administers the showground on behalf of the Council but cannot unreasonably reject an event if Council gives it the go-ahead.

We have many large events in town each year, most being staged at the showground, such as the Bangalow Show, the Sample Food Festival and the monthly markets. There is also the monthly Flea Market in the school grounds, the Billy Cart Derby and the Christmas Eve Carnival, both of which close the main street. There have also been popular events that are no longer happening such as the BBQ & Bluegrass Festival.

These are mostly local events for the participants, vendors and the community. Some are organised by local organisations such as the Show Society, Bangalow Lions and the Chamber of Commerce.

These large happenings cause disruption

in the main part of the village. Cars pack residential streets, causing inconvenience to locals. However, noise is seldom an issue and there is a flow-on benefit to the shops.

The Bangalow Park Trust is very mindful of the impact that large events have on the town. For instance, recently a request for a rock concert at the showground was politely declined. However, given that the Trust's hands may be tied if Council gives an event the go-ahead and the organiser is prepared to pay the prescribed fee, it is a concern that we who live in Bangalow may not have much say about the appropriateness of some events.

The Bangalow Herald would like to get feedback from the community about this issue. Would you like to see more events such as Eat Street, or do you think we have enough big events already, or even too many?

We encourage people to go to our Facebook page to leave feedback about this.

Murray Hand

Help native birds & bees

As natural habitat diminishes and drought impacts native vegetation and food supply for our native birds and bees, the handymen at Bangalow Men's Shed have been busy constructing native bee boxes and bird feeders to care for our winged friends.

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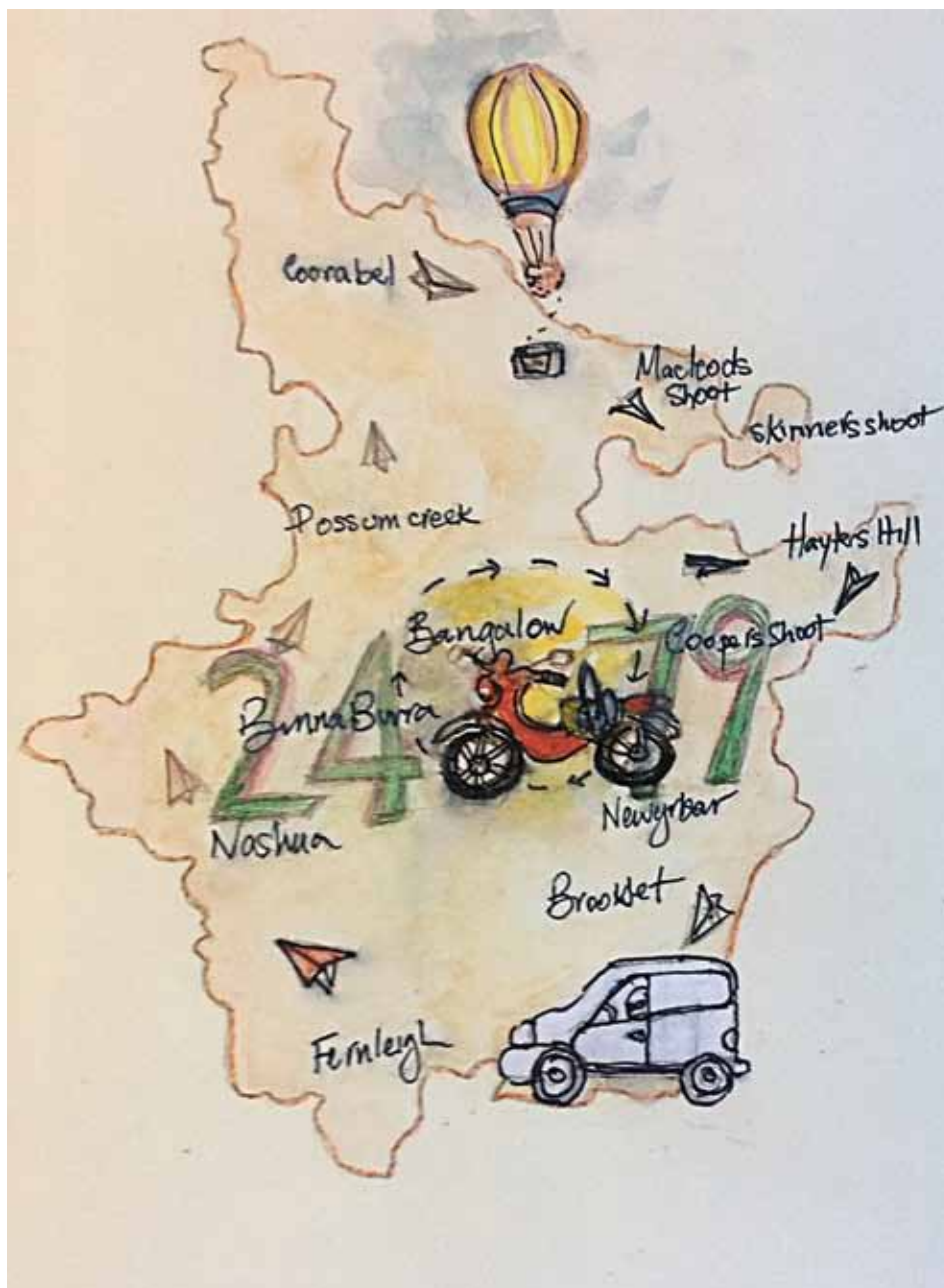


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Bangalow Post Office delivers far and wide.

Illustration: Lyn Hand

Post Office busier than ever

Bangalow postal workers are among the busiest people in our community. **Mery Stevens** talks with staff to learn more about their roles

Bangalow's Post Office building was constructed of red bricks from the Bexhill brickworks in 1935 after the original wooden structure burned down. The privately owned building houses several businesses, one of which is the Bangalow Licensed Post Office (LPO). Tucked around the back, it is positioned away from traffic, but has convenient vehicle access from Deacon St. There is room to queue safely outside, and the interior is designed for maximum queueing with social distancing.

Post Offices have become intriguing spaces with a significant retail element over recent years, and not just sticky tape and staples. Bangalow LPO has an array of local handmade products from fridge magnets to marshmallows, all packaged to pique the interest of eco-aware customers.

The current business owners are Karen and Dave Egan. Karen manages the Post Office and Dave does the deliveries to Coorabell. They have owned the business since 2016, Dave having moved back to the village after spending time here with his father, Dr Ian Elder, in the 70s. Karen tells me, "The post office functions are many and varied these days. It's not just about stamps. We offer services such as bill payments, banking, document certification, Western Union money transfers and police checks, plus identity services such as passport applications, tax file number applications,



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Karen and Dave

bank identity checks and land title identity checks. We can organise international currency (for when we can all travel again) as well as travel and home insurance. We can also help local small businesses by providing some guidance regarding postage options as we have access to discounted rates to help them flourish. Hot tip - did you know that if you have an Australian Government issued concession card, you are eligible for discounted stamps?"

The delivery of items around the 2479 area is managed by contractors who are engaged directly by Australia Post, with the Post Office handling parcels that can't be delivered by the contractors. Bangalow parcel deliveries are managed by Michael Johnson, the friendly guy in the white van. Michael also delivers to Nashua and



Naomie Jenkins

Fernleigh and employs Roy Powell who delivers to Knockrow and Coopers Shoot. Last year, 44,791 parcels were delivered to Bangalow township with 12,364 going to Nashua and 21,063 to Newrybar, Knockrow and Coopers Shoot. Dave's Coorabell run delivered approximately 23,000 parcels.

The intrepid post-woman on the motorbike is Naomie Jenkins, who is also employed by Michael. In all weather, up slippery verges and down bushy driveways, Naomie delivers letters and parcels with genial enthusiasm. Her bonhomie extends to pets of all kinds and she has returned many to their homes - even a rabbit and a koala.

Naomie's run takes her onto Lismore Rd and out to the Arts Yard. I ask her about the risks of such an undertaking on the bike. She says: "As Bangalow grows, many people are becoming impatient and I'm getting closer to becoming a hood ornament." Naomie has an early start each day and displays an admirable level of commitment: "My objective each day is to complete my work to the best of my ability and make it home safely to my children. I really do enjoy my job, unless we have had 600ml of rain in a month! Michael's a great boss who does an amazing job each week. He's a legend."

As the population of our postcode grows and online shopping becomes the norm, it's important to keep an eye out for our postal workers as they go about their business of delivering the post, adapting to change,



Michael in the sorting room

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Building community resilience

For the past seven months a group of committed 2479 residents have been meeting once a month to explore what it will take to make their homes, and their communities, more resilient. The pilot workshop series, designed by Bellingen-based not-for-profit organisation OzGreen, and facilitated by Claire McLisky and Melanie Bloor from Resilient Byron, has focused on seven key areas: climate; water; food; energy resilience; infrastructure and economy; fire and ecosystem; and health.

Some fantastic ideas have come out of the workshops. One of these is the public 'Food for Bangalow' Facebook group, started by workshop participant and local vet Megan Kearney and open to all 2479 residents. Here the 42 members share recipes, tips for growing food, and produce in times of overabundance.

Other ideas are still in their infancy. These include working with appropriate authorities to improve on the process of the 2019-2020 bushfires to get quicker care to critically injured wildlife; and facilitating communication between local residents and property developers to ensure that new housing estates in the 2479 postcode incorporate local knowledge about natural disasters in their design.

At the individual level, workshop participants have taken action in their own households to reduce water and energy use, prepare for natural disasters, and create more connections in their local neighbourhoods.

The module on Food Resilience was particularly productive, stimulating a flurry



The Bangalow Resilient Communities group on a field trip to Chris Sanderson and Christobel Munson's property at Jindibah on Fowler's Lane

of research on preserving and dehydrating food and inspiring some group members to start buying local vegetable boxes instead of shopping at the markets. These experiences led workshop participant Sarah Anderson to source all the ingredients for her four family Christmas dinners from the local farmers markets.

Similarly, the Fire and Water Resilience modules led several participants to start WhatsApp groups for emergency communication in their neighbourhoods. Two others have signed up with the Red Cross to become leaders for their local Community Emergency Response Teams.

While the full list of ideas discussed and acted upon during the series is much longer than those mentioned here, facilitator Melanie

Bloor believes the real value of the workshops runs deeper still: "The workshop series allowed us to drill down on collective solutions, to identify what we don't know, to link in with the many service providers already working in this area, and to generate a bank of Bangalow-specific ideas for the future", she says. "We might not have the manpower to make them all happen at this time, but they're written and collated so that subsequent groups don't have to reinvent the wheel."

At the end of the workshop series participants report feeling better prepared for potential future emergencies like floods, fires and storms, more aware of the wealth of knowledge and resources available in our area, and better connected with their communities.

Claire McLisky

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Business News

Vitality in Dudgeons Lane

A new physiotherapy business opened in the industrial estate in March. Vitality Physiotherapy and Aspire Health & Rehabilitation are jointly owned by Gemma Harvey and Kim Clark. They commenced business in Lismore in 2014 and have extended the business to Bangalow.

They offer service in all types of physiotherapy, but particularly sports (e.g. the Byron Bay Rugby Club), pelvic floor, headaches and post-operative treatment. They are located in Dudgeons Lane up from the vets. Ph 6600 4057.

Newrybar General Store Still Serving the Community

In the last issue of Business News, we reported that the Newrybar General Store was gone. That, fortunately, proved premature. New owner, Kristine Duran, has taken the lease



and has opened with a fresh lick of paint and plenty of pizzazz. Kristine was a food stylist in Sydney but decided to chuck that in and buy the lease for the store. The store has also been re-branded as The Little General. She is determined to keep the same good vibe for the store with cheap fuel, a good range of wines and sourcing local product where possible. There will soon be quality take-away food and great coffee. Kristine says it will be more like a proper grocery

store than a convenience store. She liked the business model of the previous owners, Jeff and Tracey Barnes, which was to give good value and sell good products to the locals.

Give Your Face a Lift

Do you want a natural way to get a face lift? Hinterland Osteo have just commenced cosmetic facial rejuvenation with their acupuncturist, Jamie Bellamy. Appointments are on Wednesdays. Ph 6687 2640.

Murray Hand

BOOK REVIEW

The French Gift by Kirsty Manning

I read a book with a terrible cover! I routinely refuse to buy books that have women on the front cover who are wearing red dresses, but I made an exception for this one on the recommendation of my book club.

The French Gift is historical fiction, set in German-occupied Paris during WWII. The author, who grew up in Northern NSW, states in her end notes that the inspiration came from a non-fiction book she read, *The Riviera Set*, where the author "described a decadent party arranged by a famous hostess, where one of the guests is (faux) murdered and the local police are roped in as part of the game".



In *The French Gift*, the outcome of this outrageous game, played at a luxury villa on the French Riviera, results in a young maid, Margot Bisset, being falsely imprisoned for murder. Her cellmate is the acclaimed journalist Josephine Murant, who is imprisoned for her involvement with the French Resistance. Later, they are transferred to the Anrath Prison in Germany where they are forced into labour at the Phrix Rayon Factory. By this time, they are firm friends and planning a life together in Paris if they are ever released from the horror factory.

Skipping forward to present-day Paris, Evie Murant has been tasked with winding up the estate of Josephine Murant, her Aunt-in-law. Since being released from prison, Josephine has become a famous author and is revered as French aristocracy despite her reputation as a recluse. Evie decides to spend one last summer with her 17-year-old son in the French Riviera villa (now owned by Josephine), which was the scene of the murder that led to the imprisonment of Margot.

While sorting through paperwork in her library, they discover a dusty, soiled copy of *Le Fantome de l'Opera*, and it is soon apparent from the scribbles in that the book was Josephine's prison diary.

The story of Margot and Josephine is told gradually through the present-day research of Evie as she enlists the help of friends to catalogue Josephine's life and unravel the mystery of the unsolved murder.

The French Gift is a really engaging read that left me pining for the French Riviera.

Carolyn Adams, Bookworms & Papermites

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Bronze vase circa 1900. Estimate \$140-\$280. Hammer price \$1900

Online antique auctions

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 1980s there was no such thing as online auctions, but with the development of computers and the internet they abound. There are a number of pitfalls associated with buying antique goods online however, which are not obvious to many people.

Firstly, it's important to note that there are no requirements to obtain a licence to operate as a Goods or General Auctioneer in NSW. The licencing requirements were abolished in 1992 by the NSW Government. Nowadays, anyone over 18 and of good character with an inclination to trade, can operate an online goods auction. As such, it's vital to check the auctioneer's credentials before bidding.

In addition to the hammer price – or the highest price an article achieves at auction – extra charges will be added to the final invoice by the auctioneer. These charges include a buyer's premium, which is typically 22 to 35 per

cent; an internet bid fee, which is typically 3 per cent, and various processing fees. GST is also added to these charges, which are listed by the auctioneer on their website, often in small print.

Most of the established online antique auctioneers are based in capital cities. As a reader of this column, you are probably based in the country, and it's unwise to buy any substantial or expensive piece of antique furniture without physically inspecting it first given 'caveat emptor' (let the buyer beware) applies to all goods sold at auctions.

While some auctioneers disclose obvious faults with offerings, many do not, and all goods are sold as they stand with existing faults and blemishes.

If you live remotely from the auction room, you will need to allow for collection and cartage of the purchased item. These days, you will have great difficulty finding any removalist to travel

to an auction room and uplift your purchase and deliver it to you for under \$330 – even for a single chair. Courier or post may be used for very small items, but not for furniture.

If you live too far away from interstate trunk routes, you may not find anyone to quote on your job, which can be particularly frustrating since most auction rooms require that purchases be uplifted within 24 to 48 hours of conclusion of the sale.

Auctioneers' estimates could once be relied on, but today, they cannot. Buoyed by the recent surge in prices occasioned by people sitting at home because of COVID19 restrictions, 90 per cent of most antique furniture is currently bringing well above auctioneer's maximum estimates. Likewise, auctioneers buoyed by the huge public response to their auctions are now passing their offerings in if they can't get one of their numerous bidders to open the bidding at their lower price estimate.

With up to 600 bidders viewing each listing as the sale progresses, there are no bargains anymore, so it's important to ensure you set an upper limit and don't get emotionally carried away and pay too much for your chosen piece.

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Bangalow Community Children's Centre

We are very grateful to the community for their valuable input into our curriculum.

Recently, Bangalow Fire & Rescue visited and educated us about fire safety.

The detail in this drawing illustrates how inspiring this visit was.



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Airdre Grant's guide to what's worth streaming in May.



Cooked with cannabis

Bonding (Netflix) has a second season. This series is about Tiff, a psychology student in New York who works as a dominatrix (Mistress May) to support herself. She enlists the support of her best friend Pete, a would-be stand-up comedian (Master Carter). The show looks to be about sex and friendship and boundaries but its more than that. It makes some clear statements about sexual politics, power and identity. I learned quite a lot about the dominatrix profession and why I should respect the people who work there. Extraordinary clothing including a sensational pair of boots. It's funny and engaging with refreshing, valuable insights.

The Serpent (Netflix) is a series based on the real-life exploits of convicted murderer Charles Sobraj (Tahar Rahim). He is the sociopath who laid a trail of murders and robberies amongst the hopeful, trusting, back packing, hippy travelers in Asia in the 1970s. Herman Knippenberg (Billy Howie) is the Dutch diplomat who became determined to find him after receiving a letter from anxious parents. Their bodies were found burned to death in Thailand. Jenna Coleman (Victoria,



Close to the Enemy

The Cry) plays Sobraj's accomplice and partner. It portrays very well a moment in time when the Vietnam war had ended, and young people took off to Asia for a great adventure the only contact was through Poste Restante and blue aerogrammes. Some may watch and think it could have been them. Its chilling and compelling viewing.

Close to the Enemy (Stan). It would seem the British never tire of making shows about the war, like Australians and the outback. The mystery and self-absorption never get

old. Production houses must have tons of costumes, sets ready to go and an unlimited supply of brilliantine. This is a frightfully English show about intrigue between wars (set in 1940s) and everyone looks enigmatic and everything is just so, old chum. The set-up is lengthy and involves a child, her German scientist father and an English chap (Jim Sturgess) whose job it is to convince the scientist to work for the good old Brits. It's set in a London hotel of faded glory. But wait! There's a gorgeous female POC musician setting up in the basement ballroom for a splendid reopening night! What could possibly happen next! Cue more gorgeous costumes and meaningful/dark looks across the faded ballroom. Jim Sturgess played a rather unlikeable costar in the film One Day alongside Anne Hathaway. I'm not sure he's any more likeable here. Which shouldn't get in the way, after all Charles Sobraj is detestable and still utterly compelling in The Serpent. It's just that Sturgess has a lofty, sardonic style which, for me, becomes a tad tiring. His brother Victor (Freddie Highmore) is very interesting to watch. If you like a solidly constructed English drama about espionage and conflicting loyalties, this might hit the spot. Persevere with the slow unfolding.

Keen watchers of the Bridgerton (Netflix) series will be pleased to know a second season is planned BUT Simon Basset, Duke of Hastings – the extremely handsome Rege - Jean Page- will NOT be in the second season. Sacre Bleu! Better be good, I say. The Duke, with his tight white pants and sleek black boots was quite the drawcard.

Cooked with cannabis (Netflix). Bored with cooking shows which require an ability to cook with nitrogen, a hibachi and a tragic back story? Legalized cannabis means a new style of cooking. In this refreshing, good-humoured series three expert chefs compete to make the best meal using cannabis plant as a main ingredient. They compete for a \$10,000 prize and are judged on creativity, taste and quality of the high. A variety of intriguing guest judges add to the engaging flavour of this show. Watch and learn about new culinary expertise. As Kath and Kim would say: it's nice, it's different, it's unusual.



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Cleome or Grandfathers' whiskers

I was fascinated to learn that Cleome is in the Order Brassica and closely related to mustards and cabbages. Years ago, a friend gave me a few seedlings that have produced hundreds of plants now scattered throughout my garden and shared with others.

Originating in the south of South America, Cleome has been introduced to cottage gardens the world over.

Its unusual purple, pink or white flowers appear on single, somewhat spikey stems, up to a metre tall. It has bright green palmate leaves arranged in a circular fashion up the stem and is sometimes mistaken for marijuana. The foliage is pleasingly aromatic, and the flowers have delicately perfumed, slightly lemony characteristics, which are not at all like cannabis.

It is pest and disease free and should be planted towards the back of borders so that the lovely loose balls of flowers complement smaller plants.

It's great as a cut flower, and after the central stem is cut, side branches with yet more flower heads produce blooms for most of the year.

They thrive in full sun or light shade in any soil, including heavy clay. They are also drought and flood resistant.

With our recent inundation, some plants have literally drowned. The rootlets require oxygen that isn't present in waterlogged conditions and lately, many gardeners have lost established plants. I have lifted several precious favourites and they are having a holiday in pots until the soil dries out a little.

Cleomes freely seed when the long narrow seed capsules split, so once you have Cleome, you will always have Cleome.

Collect seed capsules when they dry on the stem and store in a paper bag until late winter when they will easily germinate after 24 hours soaking. The seedlings don't like root disturbance so transplant with soil intact if possible.

Cleome is a wonderful exotic that will thrive in our sometimes, very demanding conditions. It is a cheerful addition to any garden as it is so easy to grow.

Carole Gamble



South American origin, Cleome

Photo: Carole Gamble



A more whisky version.

Photo: Carole Gamble

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Illustration: Lyn Hand

Jan Hulbert's caramel tart

Recently Bangalow lost a much-loved community member in Jan Hulbert. Many of her favourite recipes were passed down through generations of women in her family. Jan had the foresight to write down all of her mother's recipes and file them. I know I still reach for the treasured recipe for banana cake, handwritten by my grandmother. Jan loved home cooking and its connection to family and communities. My own grown-up children still ask for Grandma's recipe for such and such. I'm sure Jan's family recipe book will continue to delight the generations to come.

This is Jan's recipe for caramel tart from the *Bangalow Banquet Cookbook* published in 2013.

Pastry

½ cup icing sugar
1 ½ cups self-raising flour
125g butter
1 egg
Pinch of salt

Caramel

2 tbsp butter
1 tbsp plain flour
1 cup brown sugar
2 egg yolks (set aside the whites)
1 cup milk
Dash of vanilla
Meringue
reserved egg whites
½ cup caster sugar
Pinch salt

Method

Pre-heat oven to 180°C (350°F). Grease a 26cm pie dish. Combine ingredients for pastry with hands and roll out to cover the pie dish or use small pie cases.

Blind bake for 5 minutes or until lightly golden. Take out of oven and increase temperature to 220°C (440°F).

For caramel, melt butter and smooth flour to make a paste. Add sugar then beaten egg yolks, milk, vanilla essence and salt. Stir over heat until thick. Put mixture in tart dish with pastry or small cases.

For meringue topping, beat egg whites, sugar and salt until stiff and arrange as desired over the caramel. Brown the top lightly in a hot oven. Sure to be a Bangalow Show Winner!

Lyn Hand

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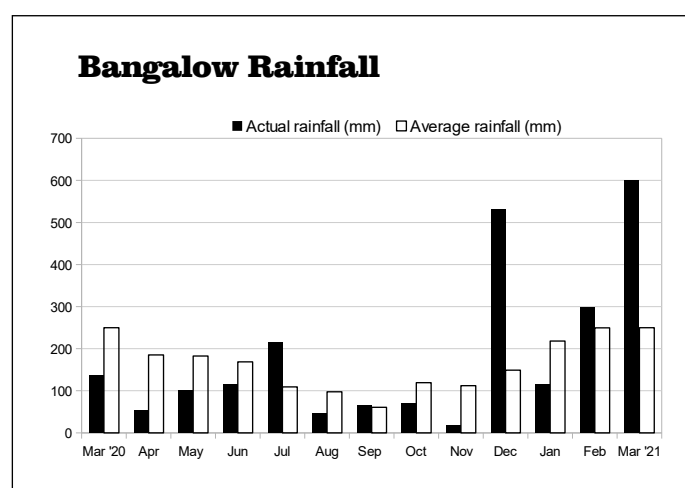
Community		
AA (5.30pm Tues)	Richard	0423 567 669
ADFAS	Dianne	0412 370 372
Al-Anon (2pm Fri)		1300 252 666
Bangalow Koalas	Linda	0411 491 991
Bridge	Dennis	6687 1574
Chamber of Commerce		admin@bangalow.biz
Community Children's Centre	Kerry	6687 1552
Co-dependents Anonymous	Gye	0421 583 321
CWA (Wed)	Rebecca	0438 871 908
Garden Club (1st Wed)	Annie	0417 636 011
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	Brian	0403 899 225
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	6687 1195
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 (Bluedogs)		0434 559 700
Tennis court hire	Bernie	0433 970 800
Venues		
A&I Hall	Brian	0427 157 565
All Souls' Anglican Hall		0488 561 539
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



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		8					6
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Kindred Women Together:
(left to right) Angela O'Connor, Shelley Talbot, Diana Brewer, Catherine White, Jackie Mossman
Photo: Karla Conroy

From Loneliness to Togetherness

Janice Maple, Founder of Kindred Women Together, speaks with Sandy Loyall, a qualified Transformational Counsellor based in Bangalow. They delve deeper into the feelings of loneliness and the benefits of connecting with other women to gain happiness.

According to Sandy, "Feelings of loneliness are extremely common (you are not alone!), especially in situations of quantum change, for example the ending of a relationship, retirement, moving to a new town or becoming empty nesters.

But let's consider this... how do we explain the fact that we can be lonely in a crowded room, in a marriage, or even hanging out with friends? How is it that people who are deeply loved can feel lonesome and withdrawn? And, how can we sometimes be alone, and not feel lonely? In these examples, we're getting a glimpse of the fact that feelings of loneliness aren't solely based on the physical 'reality' of being alone."

Sandy also says, "The good news is, feelings of loneliness are coming from a temporary 'state of mind' that comes and goes and happen independently of our external circumstances. They're not telling us about 'who we are' or 'what's wrong with us'. The feelings we're experiencing in any particular moment are simply a reflection of what our mind is 'thinking' about being alone. Knowing that all feelings are normal and healthy, that

there's nothing wrong with us, helps us to be comfortable with our experience of loneliness, which ultimately reduces our suffering and stimulates our innate resilience."

Prior to founding Kindred Women Together, I went through my own experience of 'loneliness' after the breakdown of my marriage, which left me feeling confused and disconnected. It was a pretty confronting time. I found myself in a new 'single person' demographic, where I was left to go out and find new friends like me. Not an easy thing to do when you are 44.

Also, as a local real estate agent, I noticed there were many women moving to the area. Some were retired, some had partners or were separated, and most had children who were grown up, however, they all had one thing in common, they were all navigating more 'free time' than they had ever known before. While the additional time was welcome, it also provided a new challenge to overcome. It was after this observation that I realised how important friendships between women truly are. When you are feeling lonely or alone, or don't know what to do with yourself, reaching

out to a friend and doing something together is the perfect way to overcome any unwanted negative feelings.

For local Bangalow resident Diana Brewer, connecting with other women was a godsend. Diana, with her husband, had recently moved to Bangalow, where her grown up daughters and their families lived and her life was filled with lots of family activities. But something was missing. One day, Diana found a flyer in her letterbox promoting a new Tai Chi class available for women. Diana enquired and soon became a regular participant. As well as the health benefits of participating in Tai Chi, Diana now has her own set of friends whom she meets up with every week for 'meditation in motion', and afterwards, to share a coffee and to solve the problems of the world. Diana now has her own sense of belonging within the community and is very happy.

Kindred Women Together is a program of fun activities available for women to participate in to form new friendships with other like-minded women. All women welcome. www.kindredwomentogether.com

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There's plenty happening to keep us entertained and connected

Flood Stories

When 28 April – 6 May, various operating times - check

Where Lismore Quad, 110 Magellan St, Lismore

Information lismorequad.org.au

Originally scheduled for 2020 but delayed by COVID-19 restrictions, *Flood Stories* features 10 audio stories about the 2017 Lismore flood, told from the perspectives of people who were flooded and people who helped in the recovery. The project highlights the importance of sharing stories in recovery and explores community resilience and preparedness in the face of climate events. *Flood Stories* was created by audio documentary-maker, Southern Cross University lecturer and City of Lismore resident Jeanti St Clair.

Bangalow Garden Club

When Wed 5 May, 1.30pm

Where Moller Pavilion, Bangalow Showgrounds

Contact Annie 0417 636 011 or abbinkanne48@gmail.com

A special afternoon tea will be held to celebrate Daisy Dare's 100th birthday. Daisy has been a member of the club for 43 years and rarely missed a meeting. Congratulations to Daisy! Due to COVID-19 restrictions numbers are limited and the meeting is strictly for members only. Please bring along a teaspoon and mug for afternoon tea. Details of the garden visit on Saturday 8 May will be provided at the meeting.



Giwiwan - Bow River Country by Shirley Purdie.

Photo David Morgan

ADFAS Byron

When Mon 17 May, 6.30pm

Where A&I Hall, Bangalow

Contact adfas.org.au or adfasbyron@gmail.com or [facebook@ADFASByronBay](https://www.facebook.com/ADFASByronBay)

Tickets \$25

Sally Butler will present a lecture titled *Aboriginal Art from Rock Art to Today*. She will explain how the modern Aboriginal art movement developed since the 1970s and how it maintains its connection to visual traditions going back to rock art created many thousands of years ago. The lecture focuses on how cultural traditions are reinvented and reinvigorated through the innovative art of today. Examples include Indigenous art from the Central Desert, North Queensland, the Kimberley and Arnhem Land.

Cabaret BanGala Auditions

When Thurs 6 May, from 5pm

Where A&I Hall, Bangalow

Contact To register for auditions email: bangalowtheatrecompany@gmail.com

Tickets On sale at A&I Hall, Sat 8 May, 9am-12pm, \$50 per person.

Cabaret BanGala 2021 is on this

year on 4-5 June. Organisers are looking for local acts in every shape and size with just one proviso - this is an over-18 event. Grab your work mates, soccer mates, gang, clan, fam, and shazam, this is your time to shine! BanGala is a community fundraiser event to raise funds for two local community not-for-profit incorporations.

Renew Fest

OPENING NIGHT

When Fri 7 May, 6-9pm

Where Mullumbimby Civic Hall

FESTIVAL WEEKEND
When Sat 8 May, 9am-9pm, Sun 9 May, 9am-6pm

Where Mullumbimby Showground

Tickets and program
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Renew Fest is a festival for full system regenerative change. It celebrates all the people, organisations and projects of the Northern Rivers who are busy working towards a regenerative future. Talks, workshops, music, eco arts, tiny home village, children's nature crafts program, youth zone, vegan and vegetarian food, and more. Spanning all the sectors needed for positive ecological, social and economic change, including regenerative food, housing, energy, economics, biodiversity and our inner humanity. Zero-waste, powered by renewables, no alcohol, family-friendly. Children 16 years and under free. Be part of the change you want to see in the world, and in your own backyard.

In the first week of the July school holidays young musicians from across the region will gather at the Northern Rivers Conservatorium in Lismore to become the Northern Rivers Youth Orchestra 2021. They will attend a three day orchestral workshop culminating in a finale concert. Resident Creative Artist, Sean O'Boyle AM, will be conducting both the senior and junior orchestras. "Buddies" from the Sydney and Queensland Conservatoriums of Music will be on hand to mentor and guide the young musicians, alongside tutors from the Lismore Con. Strict COVID-safe protocols will be in place to ensure everyone's safety and enjoyment. Creative Kids vouchers can be used.



Photo courtesy Northern Rivers Youth Orchestra

Northern Rivers Youth Orchestra

When Early Bird Discount enrolments close 31 May

When Workshop and concert Tues 6–Thurs 8 July

Where Lismore City Hall

Information northernriversreview.com.au/story/7188632/con-calls-on-young-musicians-to-join-youth-orchestra/

Enrolment form

enrol.nrcac.edu.au/nryo/

Quilters Biggest Morning Tea

When 27 May, 10am–12noon

Where All Souls Anglican Church Hall, Bangalow

Contact Karen 0413 621 224

Bangalow Quilters will again host a World's Biggest Morning Tea, with all funds raised going to support the Cancer Council. Tickets are \$5.00 and available at the door. A trading table and

May diary

28 April–6 May Flood Stories

1–2 Harvest Food Trail

5 Bangalow Garden Club

6 BanGala auditions

7–9 Renew Fest

17 ADFAS

23 Bangalow Markets

27 Bangalow Quilters Biggest Morning Tea

31 Early bird enrolments close for NRYC

Deadlines for June 2021 issue:

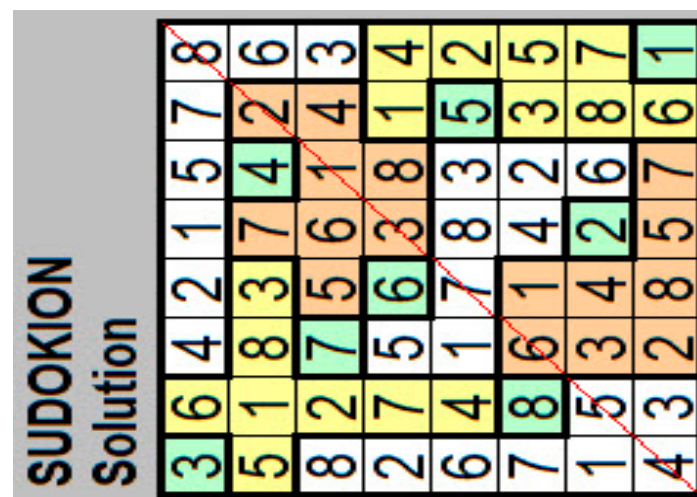
What's On 13 May

Advertising 14 May

Copy 14 May

raffle will also be run. A display of quilts made by members will be on show. Each year our group gives away many quilts to community groups such as Feros Aged Care, Quilts4Kids

at Lismore Hospital, the Byron Central Hospital and disaster relief, including the community at Tabulum. This event will be run following COVID-19 guidelines.
Jenny Bird



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Power to influence

As #fakelife threatens to overwhelm Byron, it matters how we choose to focus our lens.

My next-door-neighbour got into photography as a teen. He set up a dark room in his bathroom with some supplies he *acquired* from his school; supplies which constituted, to his mind, some sort of compensation for his over-priced and under-whelming private school education.

He was a risk-taker. While I was watching TV, Ashley was negotiating the under-ground network of Melbourne's storm-water drains with a group of like-minded urban explorers.

His photos captured a cultural moment: the emergence of a movement known as the Cave Clan amidst a backdrop of 90s grunge and teenage exploration.

For a *Bangalow Herald* story titled Generation Now, I was thinking that the pedestrian bridge that sits below the Bangalow exit ramp off Hinterland Way would make a good backdrop for a photoshoot. That is, until I realised all the graffiti has been painted over white.

There's a bit of graffiti at the skate park, which was built following a long and sustained campaign by local youth. It now sits proudly as a concrete oasis of urban lyfe in a heritage village nestled in rolling green hills.

The long-running campaign for a pool has not borne fruit and, while the Pool Trust is at a crossroads, the rope swing is still popular down at the creek.

After heavy rain, water pools beside the tennis courts, like a phantom from the now expired DA. One day, the sun came out and the kids played in the water after their tennis lesson. There were kids swimming in the skate bowl, too.

In response to the announcement by Netflix of its planned "docu-soap" *Byron Baes*, the ABC reran a 2017 article, *Curious North Coast: How did Byron become so popular?* by Samantha Turnbull. She cites local historian,



A member of the Cave Clan exploring a storm water drain in the outer suburbs of Melbourne Photo: Ashley Gilbertson (Trove)



Real life adventures in Bangalow: field swimming; the skate park.

Donald Maughan, in identifying the Aquarius Festival, Strop and surfing as the reasons for Byron's popularity.

Things of cultural substance have lasting influence, particularly the counter-cultural movements of youth.

While *Byron Baes* sounds like a scratch 'n sniff turd emoji, locals are worried the stench will stick. Meanwhile, Bangalow's social media profile is as diverse as the main street's linen palette. My daughter's 14-year-old friend, on visiting for the first time, described it as "a town full of old people shops".

It's a fine line between enabling and interfering with youth culture, but the current climate doesn't feel ripe for fermentation.



In the aftermath of the storming of the Capitol in the US, a photo was trending on twitter. Officer Eugene Goodman - who was being hailed a hero for stopping the mob from entering the Senate - is pictured in a corridor, hand outstretched, holding back a surge of white supremacy.

I know he's now a celebrated war photographer, but I was still surprised to see my old next-door-neighbour's name on the photo credit: Ashley Gilbertson.

Ashley was on assignment for *The New York Times*; he's very influential. Eugene Goodman was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal by the Senate. The Pulitzer prizes will be announced in June.

You can follow Ashley on Instagram (@ashgilbertson). *Rebecca Sargeant*



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