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The Bangalow

FREE | September 2022

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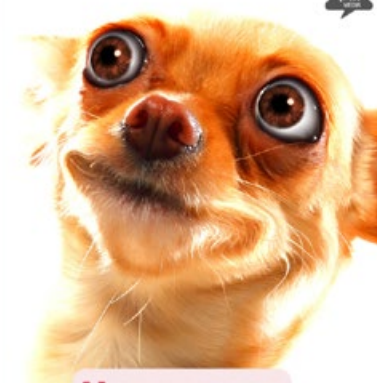
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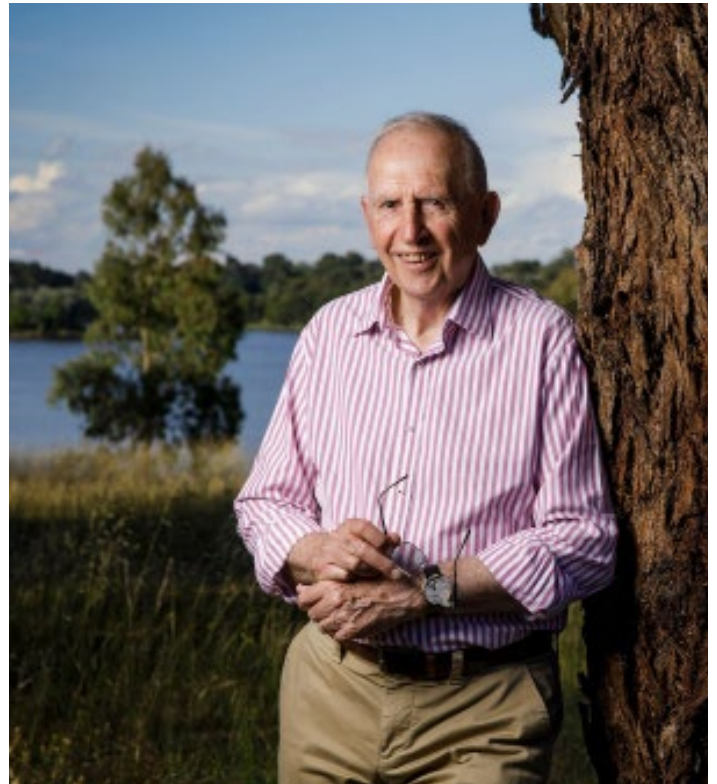
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LOCAL EVENTS



The Kindness Revolution comes to Bangalow

In 2020 – after having survived a dreadful summer of bushfires, and the pandemic that put our lives on hold – Hugh Mackay was reflecting on all the social and psychological challenges that we Australians were faced with.

He wondered if people had paused, and taken the time to ask themselves what matters to me, what is life all about and how can I help our society to face the future?

Hugh's 22nd book is called *The Kindness Revolution* and we are privileged to have Hugh come to Bangalow to tell us about the book, his philosophy and optimistic hopes for the future. This book was written in 2020 way before the floods hit our area; no doubt Hugh will be keen to add his thoughts on the floods and perhaps offer some advice for preparedness for the oncoming summer where extensive rainfall has been forecast.

Hugh is very recognisable and in his 60-year career in social research and writing he has been awarded honorary doctorates by several of our major universities. He is currently an honorary professor at the Australian National University in Canberra where he resides.

Friends of the Library are hosting the event on Thursday 15 September, 5.30pm for 6pm start at the Bangalow A&I Hall. \$25 entrance fee includes drink and nibbles on arrival and your chance at a lucky door prize. Bookings byronbayfol.com.

Mary Nelson

From the Editor

Hello spring! Something in the air at this time of year makes me feel hopeful, like I can sense the possibilities that are waiting to emerge as the seasons change. This edition covers a great many important events and issues relevant to our 2479 community.

The future of our beloved Bowlo is still undecided. A crackerjack conversation is in play between the club and community stakeholders but is it (to borrow from lawn bowls lingo) all 'dead ends' and 'draw shots'? Only time will tell.

Reading through the stories and insights shared in these pages, I considered the concept of caring in its many forms. Self-care, Landcare, caring for kids, caring for community, for our health, for our wildlife, and for the environment. The act of caring is an investment in the future. It could be a personal investment, like giving up booze for a month or for good, or devoting time to regenerating the ailing earth, or putting your passion into a worthy cause. It is also being mindful of the space we occupy and the influence and impact we have on the world around us, including people, plants and animals.

This edition marks my 1st anniversary as editor of *The Bangalow Herald*. I am so grateful for the wonderful team of contributors that make this publication a diverse, engaging read each month. Together we've worked through fires, floods, illness, trauma, and grief and drawn on our experiences to present moments into hope and comfort, humour, positivity so that we feel connected. Because we care.

Enjoy the sunshine

Sally Schofield

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

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Bangalow &
Lennox Head

For the love of theatre

We love that local theatre is bouncing back from the heartbreak of COVID, and a new site-specific work from NORPA captures the fluttering and flame outs of falling in love just perfectly.

The work of a team of local creative collaborators who (like you and I) have all loved and lost, and loved again, *Love for One Night* offers hot takes on modern lurve with juicy, 'slice of life' vignettes set in the alluring and intoxicating surrounds of a moonlit country pub.

The Eltham Hotel is the venue, and the work has been created with this historic pub functioning as backdrop, balcony, bar and more.

Love for One Night is an exploration of the messy, hectic, wonderful, terrible moments when two humans spark and fizzle or flare. The piece was created collaboratively with a team of artists including Lloyd Allison-Young, Claire Atkins, Phil Blackman, Zoe Gameau and Katia Molino, and directed by NORPA's Julian Louis.

One of those crafty collaborators is Northern Rivers-based Zoe Gameau, a NIDA graduate with 20 years performing arts experience both in front and behind the scenes. Zoe has also fashioned a cosy niche for herself as a facilitator and wellbeing coach at the intersection of creativity and community, giving others the tools to voice their own stories. Of course, love in all its shapes and shards is one of those stories we often tell. "I've had my heart broken. Absolutely. Had, have, it's all relative. Does a broken heart ever mend? Or do we just keep on living and loving through it all?" says Zoe. It's an age-old quandary, this business of living and loving. A merry dance (frequently with music, often at the pub) that we've all joined in, with mixed results. "The worst date I've had ended for me before it began when a fellow told me his favourite film was... *American Psycho*," says Zoe. Happily, her best date involved a windy pier, moonlight swimming, and her now husband, Damon, ooh la la!

Zoe's fellow stage collaborator Claire Atkins has a cracking tale to tell about a soldier, a pirate shirt, the Pope and a very disappointing first date. "He took me to 'Denny's All You Can Eat Restaurant' in Parramatta. Being an art student, I was happy for anyone to buy me dinner - but what really turned me on were cheap, hole in the wall restaurants, where they served house wine in tumblers, and the Greek kitchenhand sat



The stage is set for site-specific theatre at the Eltham Hotel
Photo Tajette O'Halloran

on a milk-crate smoking and singing songs from the old country while he peeled the potatoes. These places made me feel like my life was a foreign film with subtitles, where my true love might be sitting at the very next table." Sigh. With such a penchant for romance, I wondered if Claire has had her heart broken? "I have, and too many times to count! If we dare to truly love anyone or anything, inevitably our heart will get broken. There's no way out of it!"

The outdoor show also features the work of award-winning local video designer Poppy Walker, and a live band led by Jamie Birrell, and runs from Thursday 8 – Saturday 24 September at the Eltham Hotel.

Sally Schofield

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Sand and steel Photo Thomask

Great news for local rail trails

The NSW Government's historic Rail Trails Bill has passed through Parliament, having a significant impact for regional communities.

The legislation will allow communities to convert disused rail corridors into walking and riding tracks, creating activated public spaces.

Minister for Cities and Active Transport, Rob Stokes, said the Bill unlocks opportunities for communities and fixes outdated and onerous legislation that required a change to the Act for each rail trail.

"This bill will allow regional councils to transform these spaces into treasured public places. Projects that are consistent with the Rail Trail Framework and have broad community support will now be able to proceed," Mr Stokes said.

The Northern Rivers Rail Trail will see \$7.8 million invested, which is expected to create an extra 200 jobs and attract 82,000 visitors each year in and around the Tweed communities of Murwillumbah to Crabbes Creek.

All rail trails will be created under a lease agreement of up to 30 years with local councils. Keep an eye on the Northern Rivers Rail Trail website for local news and developments. northernriversrailtrail.org.au



Elvis the Kookaburra checks out one of the hunks Photo supplied

The Hunks of Mullum have arrived!

The Hunks of Mullum are 12 'hunks' of native Tallowwood that have been lovingly reshaped into tree hollows to provide shelter for a huge range of native animals.

"The idea for this project came about earlier this year when eight large Tallowwood trees were legally removed at Mullumbimby Public School due to safety concerns. Council's arborist team saw an opportunity to take the felled trees and turn them into hunks of tree-hollow habitat that could be used to benefit Mullumbimby's wildlife," said Council's Biodiversity Team Leader, Liz Caddick.

This upcycling project is a Wildlife Safe Havens Project created in a partnership between Byron Shire Council, Brunswick Valley Landcare and Wildbnb Wildlife Habitat. When you're next in Mullumbimby, take a walk through Brunswick Valley Heritage Park and the Mullumbimby Sculpture Walk, and see if you can spot any of the 'hunks.'

For more information on the Hunks of Mullum install, contact Harry Hackett, Wildbnb on 0406 012 338.

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Hiromi Tango at TEDxByron 2021 Photo Lyn McCarthy



The Famous Spiegeltent Photo David Bates

TEDxByronBayWOMEN tickets on sale

After a sell-out success in June last year offering its audience an array of speakers exploring cutting edge ideas, TEDxByronBay is bringing a new annual event to the shire – TEDxByronBayWOMEN.

To be held on October 23 at the Byron Theatre, TEDxByronBayWOMEN is about the power of women and girls to be creators and change-makers.

Director, Kate Walsh, has curated a diverse range of local speakers that will be sure to inspire, ignite discussion and stimulate conversation.

Audiences will hear from Dr Marine Gouezo about how IVF is being used to create coral babies and rebuild the Great Barrier Reef, Jessica Maguire will show how to rewire your nervous system by being playful, the Queen of Burlesque Imogen Kelly will share her journey of surviving breast cancer. Mindy Woods will tackle the thorny issues around First Nations Food, and Nikki Parkinson will ask the question why we marry as a community but divorce alone.

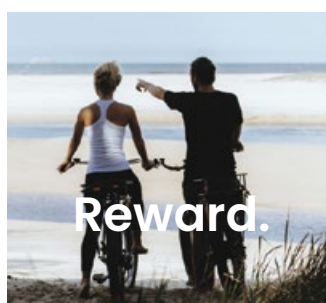
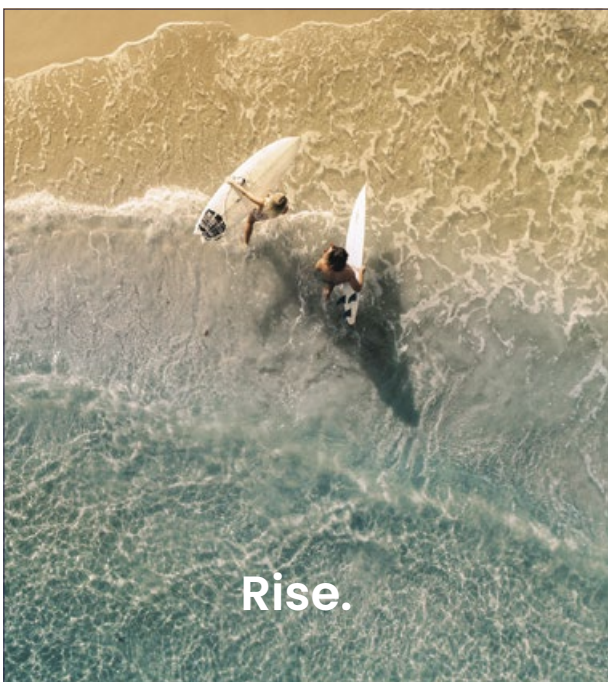
Tickets are on sale via the Byron Theatre website byroncentre.com.au/whats-on

National Circus Festival is coming to town!

Held at the Mullumbimby Showground the National Circus Festival program hosts more than 220 performers in five venues, two Big Tops and The Famous Spiegeltent set to take the stages over the three-day event from 30 September - 2 October.

One of the many highlights includes The Famous Spiegeltent. The most beautiful and original of the last remaining Belgian Spiegeltents, is a unique travelling venue that has made regular appearances at the Edinburgh and Adelaide Fringe Festivals. It has hosted some of the world's greatest performing artists, including German singer Marlene Dietrich, who famously performed *Falling in Love Again* during the 1930s.

As part of the National Circus Festival, The Famous Spiegeltent will bring excitement and colour to a region that has been through COVID shutdowns and once in a lifetime floods over recent months. A venue for book readings, cabaret, new works, musicians and kids' shows, the Spiegeltent will be a place to bring the community together to celebrate and connect. nationalcircusfestival.com



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The state of play at the Bangalow Bowlo

The first meeting of the Bangalow Bowling Club took place on February 21, 1910. A lot has happened in the community, the club and the world since that time. But one thing has remained constant: the Bowlo is a much-loved community hub frequented by young and old, that is an essential service in the truest sense.

Like most businesses, operating during a pandemic has presented various challenges for the venue, and today the club finds itself at a crossroads.

Shortly, members of the club will be asked to indicate their preference for one of two options as a way forward.

One of those options is that the Bangalow Sports and Community Club is amalgamated with an established Sydney-based sports club

conglomerate, Norths Collective, bringing with it commercial operating expertise and relief for existing volunteer board members.

The other option is that the club is entrusted to a team of local residents who are experienced business owners and professionals that have devised an alternate path to profitability and who are determined to Keep the Bowlo Local and thriving for decades to come.

Updates from both ends are presented below. Ensure that you are a paid-up current member so that you can cast your vote.

From the Bangalow Bowlo Board

We're in what should be the final stages of negotiation of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Norths. All our member and community concerns have fed directly into these negotiations – hot topics like limiting gaming, preservation of heritage and community, financial support of sports clubs, dollar figure investment commitments, all

these things have been addressed in the MOU through various revisions and amendments to the draft.

Next steps re: MOU are:

1. Norths board votes on whether they accept the negotiated MOU (hopefully in the next week or two)
2. If the Norths vote is affirmative, our independent lawyer will review the MOU and report to us regarding its legal standing
3. Following legal review, we'll distribute the MOU with a 'cheat sheet' user friendly summary to our membership, advertising the date of the meeting to vote
4. At that meeting, our board and independent lawyer will be present to engage in discussion before the vote

We were originally hoping for the membership vote to be late September but that's clearly not going to happen given the protracted negotiations.

While MOU negotiations were ongoing, during July another bundle of member and community consultation meetings were held.

4th Sunday of each month

4th Sunday of each month

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From the archives
Photos supplied

In the meantime, we are continuing to engage with the community, including direct and transparent communication with groups and individuals who oppose the proposal with Norths, answering their queries and listening to their ideas. Additionally, members of the Board are in discussions with Keep the Bowlo Local, a community group which is looking at options for a non-amalgamation business model to present to the membership. The Board is sharing information with the group and has agreed to consider the proposal when ready.

Our dedicated webpage gives more info bangalowbowlo.com.au/future

Any questions or comments can be directed to future@bangalowbowlo.com.au

Justin Coombs
for the Bangalow Bowlo Board

Keep the Bowlo Local

The Bowlo sits at the centre of the social and sporting fabric of our town. It has done so for over 100 years, and we need it to keep playing this vital role for another 100 years to come.

The Bowlo trades positively in non Covid times, but the shutdowns during COVID wiped out all its savings. It still carries debt from

when it got into trouble 10 years ago, and the building needs some upgrades and repairs to maintain safety and compliance. Many people, including many on the current board, have worked their guts out to keep the Bowlo going over many years and surviving COVID.

In April the first meetings were held proposing amalgamating with the 'Norths Collective' (originally the Norths Sydney Leagues Club) and people from right across the community have come out to offer help and support to the club. We all want to keep a competition bowling green, create good jobs and get back to being able to support our sporting clubs financially. We need to ensure it is the local community that makes these decisions about our club.

There are serious concerns across the community about Norths plans to increase revenue from poker machines to 15 per cent (it is currently just over 2 per cent) knowing the damage that these machines cause. We know that over 40 per cent of revenue from poker machines comes from problem gamblers. After 10 years, Norths will be able to do whatever they want (subject to council approval and membership vote) with the Bowlo and the land it sits on, we would lose community control over our club (and its land) to a board and

membership focused on Sydney.

This discussion has caused many people to realise what the Bowlo means to them – a place for families to gather where the kids can run and play safely, a place for a beer with mates, a place for gigs and fundraisers and raffles. A place where you are guaranteed to bump into someone you know and there you can watch the cricket, soccer and rugby from the verandah. A place that is at the centre of our community.

To keep it this way Keep the Bowlo Local are asking you to come forward with your time, your skills, your money and your creativity.

The Bowlo executive has agreed to allow more time for Keep the Bowlo Local to present an alternative proposal. Do you have experience in fundraising, events, business planning, hospo? Are you a tradie or musician with some time to give? Or just have a few hours to spare for a working bee? Can you contribute some cash or have some fundraising ideas?

There is a big group of people from across our community stepping up to keep the Bowlo local – what can you do?
keepthebowlolocal@gmail.com

Asren Pugh
for Keep the Bowlo Local

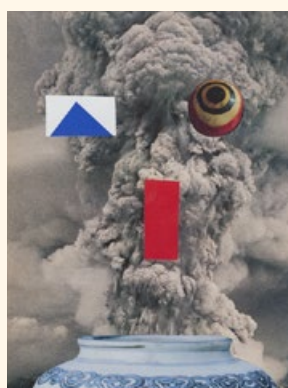
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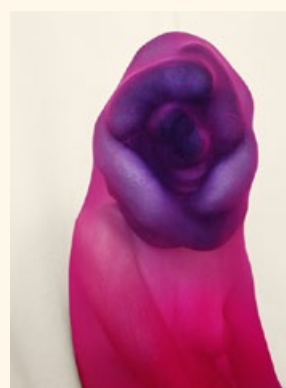
a contemporary art gathering: sept 30-oct 3 '22

The annual Art Byron gathering in Byron Bay, on the Bundjalung Nation, will bring together outstanding talent, creating an open forum for like-minded people to share, discuss and explore contemporary culture.

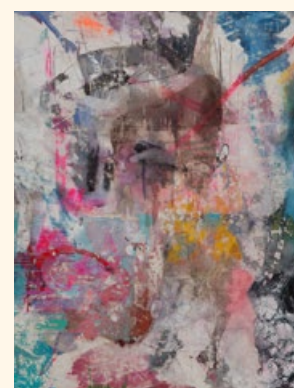
Full program: art-byron.com.au



Laith McGregor



Polly Borland



Michael Donnelly

Slow down for koalas

It was early on a cold winter morning when Linda Sparrow heard someone yelling at the front gate of her Bangalow home.



William the koala
Photo James Bennett-Levy

At first, she thought it was a delivery driver, but the reality was far worse – a man carrying a dead koala and her joey, which had been hit by a car on the Hinterland Way in the town's south. Just days earlier, fellow Bangalow Koalas member, Dale Viola, had erected a sign asking drivers to slow down at that very spot,

between Lawlers Lane and Wiley Road, after being notified of their presence. For someone who has dedicated years of her life to creating a wildlife corridor for koalas across the Northern Rivers region, the sight was nothing short of devastating. "That was the worst day of my life," Linda says. "The day before I'd heard

about another koala and joey that were killed on Broken Head Road at Broken Head."

Linda, who is president of Bangalow Koalas, is urging drivers to slow down and keep their dogs inside, or at least contained, between dusk and dawn during koala breeding season, which began in July and continues through



WHATS ON AT WOODS BANGALOW

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Bookings via bookings@woodsbangalow.com.au or 0481 824 798



THE
CLAY BARN
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2479

The Cacthaus, a new collaboration between local botanical stylist, Andrew, and ceramicist, potty Zani, from The Clay Barn is now open a few doors down from Woods Cafe.

This lush botanical space will have green thumb customers swooning with a selection of carefully curated plants, pots and locally made ceramics.

The space is also available for private events and dining, providing a unique dining experience in a greenhouse setting, melded with the kitchen finesse from the team from Woods Cafe.



to March. "That's why the mothers and joeys are killed – they're desperately trying to get away from males," she says. "This is the time of year when there's more car strikes and dog attacks. The younger ones are trying to find their own territory and if there's not enough trees, they're on the ground more. The more trees we cut down, the more time they spend on the ground."

Linda says Lismore Road near Dudgeons Lane, which leads to Bangalow Industrial Estate, and Granuaille Road leading onto Hinterland Way are known koala kill hotspots. In August, a koala crept onto the verandah of a house in Palm-Lily Crescent in the early hours of the morning. Koalas have also been spotted in Raftons Road, Rifle Range Road, Lismore Road, Dudgeons Lane, Palm Tree Crescent, Deacon Street and Clover Hill Circuit.

Now a registered environmental organisation, Bangalow Koalas Inc. formed from a Facebook page called Friends of Bangalow Koalas in 2016 when members of the local community began realising the importance of the population on the western side of Bangalow. It initially began by protecting a 400-metre stretch of trees at the end of Rifle Range Road, then started working with Byron Shire Council to encourage people to record koala sightings. "When we started asking people, we realised how many koalas were in the area," Linda says. "There's a lot more than people thought."

The exact number, however, is unknown as there haven't been systematic surveys conducted across the area. "Precise koala population

numbers are very hard to estimate, owing to their cryptic nature," Byron Shire Council's biodiversity team leader Liz Caddick says. "We've recently completed koala activity surveys in the coastal area, which suggests a slight increase in the number of active sites, but a decrease in activity levels. We are also partnering with neighbouring local government areas to do some broad scale koala activity monitoring throughout the Northern Rivers region. We do know that the entire hinterland is within an Area of Regional Koala Significance, with frequent koala sightings made by residents. The Northern Rivers region is likely to become increasingly important as habitat for koalas as the climate changes, so it is a real priority area for habitat conservation and restoration."

Lismore-based Friends of the Koala figures show 51 koalas from the Byron Shire were admitted to its hospital in the 2021/22 financial year. More than half of those admitted had chlamydia or other diseases, while 11 had been hit by cars. "We are incredibly lucky to live in an area with a significant koala population, but it is up to all of us to play a part in their protection," says Alison Kelly, who is president of Friends of the Koala, which also operates a 24-hour rescue hotline, an education centre and a koala care facility with a dedicated kindy for orphaned koalas.

In February 2022 the status of the koala changed from vulnerable to endangered in New South Wales, Queensland, and the Australian Capital Territory. Bangalow Koalas' long-term goal is to form a linkage of habitat from Byron Bay west towards Tenterfield



Linda Sparrow from Bangalow Koalas

and south towards Grafton. It aims to plant 500,000 trees by the end of 2025 – 80,000 of them this year. "At the moment we have about 72,000 funded," Linda says. The organisation has about six community plantings each year, with up to 170 people showing up to help pre-COVID. The devastating floods that hit the region in February have also thrown a spanner in the works. "There's some properties that we need to plant but we still can't get access to them for preparation for planting because they were flooded," Linda says. Despite this, the organisation is still on track to reach its goal for 2022.

If you come across a sick or injured koala, call the 24 hour Koala Rescue Hotline on 6622 1233.

To report a koala sighting, volunteer or donate visit bangalowkoalas.com.au or friendsofthekoala.org

Angela Saurine

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

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Hot Docs now at Bangalow Medical Centre

The phone lines for Bangalow Medical Centre are being upgraded to a more reliable service, they hope will be in place by the end of August. There are new extended hours with first appointments at 8.15am, in addition to the emergency clinic running each morning at 9.00am, and last appointments will be 5.00pm. The practice is now offering online appointments through Hot Doc which can be booked via the Appointment tab on the website bangalowmedicalcentre.com

- Bangalow Medical Centre

The Bangalow Herald committee membership now open

Want to be a member of a popular, classy local media organisation? *The Bangalow Herald* committee memberships are now open. For a chance to have your say in the running of our periodical or just bragging rights, email murrayhand1@bigpond.com for a membership form. (\$10 per annum plus \$10 fee)

- Murray Hand

Bangalow Museum Heritage House

The community is invited to a working bee to prepare the gardens and surrounds at Heritage House in anticipation of the planned re-opening of the Museum in late September. A return date for the Café is not yet known, however we hope Council will soon find a suitable tenant to take on that role. The working bee will also tackle cleaning on the verandah and the transfer of some bulky items to the storage container.

The proposed dates are Tuesday 6 September and Wednesday 7 September from 9am. Contact Trisha Bleakley from the Bangalow Historical Society on 0429 882 525, and thank you in advance, on behalf of the committee.

- Trisha Bleakley



Bangalow Op Shop new trading hours

Unfortunately, because of COVID and other factors, the Bangalow Op Shop has had to amend their opening times to Monday-Thursday 10am-2pm. and Saturday 9.30am-12.30pm. Important to note as we head into school musical, fancy dress party season, the shop will be closed Fridays until further notice but open Saturday mornings for those last-minute feather boas, Harry Potter capes and other magical finds.

- Nan Dwyer



Bangalow Sportsfields: Council wants to hear from you

Council is reviewing the Plan of Management for Bangalow Sports Fields, and wants to hear from local residents, people who use the fields, and the wider community, with their thoughts.

To do that, it's asking for people to complete a short online survey, by 5 September. The survey can be found on Council's website.

Specifically, Council wants feedback on landscape design and vegetation for the Landscape Masterplan being developed for the site, which is Council-owned community land. It also would like to know what you think would be the best future use of the sports fields, facilities and amenities.

- Christobel Munson

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Photo supplied

Celebrate Father's Day on the Harvest Village Green

Looking for a great way to spend the day with Dad this Father's Day?

Harvest Newrybar are throwing a Father's Day Pop-up event on the Village Green this year. They've got a full day of activities for the whole family, including wood-fired porchetta rolls from 12pm, live music, lawn games, kids activities, Shorty the Clown from 12:30, meat tray raffles and a pop-up bar from Young Henrys! This is a free event but you need to RSVP here harvest.com.au/latest/fathers-day-pop-up-event.

Harvest 22 Old Pacific Hwy, Newrybar NSW 2479

Forget-Me-Not Dementia Update

The Dementia Inclusive Ballina Alliance (DIB) became incorporated in NSW and registered charity with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission (ACNC) in July 2021. The Alliance is committed to improving the lives of people with dementia, their carers and families in the local area. Ballina Shire is now recognised by Dementia Australia as a dementia-friendly community. On Thursday, September 22, during Dementia Action Week, the Alliance will be holding an education event at the Nightcap Restaurant, Wollongbar TAFE from 9:30-2pm for people with dementia, their carers and professionals working in dementia and aged care. The program will include an overview of the Alliance, an update on dementia, information about local support services, the role of medication and the importance of maintaining good nutrition, health, and regular exercise. Registration is \$25 for DIB members and \$30 for non-members, with morning tea and lunch provided.

Email dementiainclusiveballina@gmail.com for more info



The best worst team in Bangalow?
Will The Porks bring home the bacon in the 2022 season?

Summer 6s is back

Whether you call it soccer or football, the most important thing is that you have a crack in what is quite possibly the greatest six a side comp in the southern hemisphere. After missing a season due to The Rona, Bangalow Summer 6s is happy to announce that they are back to full capacity for the 2022 season. This year, the comp will run from Thursday 13 October to Thursday 15 December at the Bangalow Sports fields. Open to men, women and kids, there will be 72 senior teams (not mixed) and 24 junior teams. Find out more summer6s.org.au

Art Byron

Asking the question do we choose Love or Fear?, the inaugural Art Byron will gather local and nationally celebrated artists for a feast of events including exhibitions, gallery talks, music, film, a multi-media installation and an art dinner. Art Byron founder Lisa Cowan said the gathering would bring the local arts community together and provide a dynamic platform for contemporary art. "Art Byron will provide the opportunity for visitors to experience the depth of the northern rivers art scene and see the calibre of artists working across our region," she says. Art Byron is a contemporary art gathering held September 30 to October 3 on Bundjalung country at many locations around the Shire.

Find out more art-byron.com.au



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Has that 'new world someday' actually arrived?

As the weather warms, our public areas are once again bristling with outside activities. **Christobel Munson** writes about an Expo coming to Bangalow Showground in September that's designed to display and inform us about an incoming rush of electric vehicles (EVs).



Mark Tidswell, proud owner of a VW Kombi converted to EV, will have his car on display on 11 September
Photo Christobel Munson

Electric vehicles (EVs) have been slowly dribbling into Australia in recent years. Only the most keen 'early adopters' were brave enough to try and even buy, the early, often prohibitively expensive versions to hit our shores. This year, however, the tide has turned. A wide selection of new EVs is starting to arrive, with a range of brands, prices, driving ranges and looks. Many are expected to be on display at the Bangalow Showgrounds on 11 September, as well as second-hand models, converted 1970s VW Kombis, electric bikes and locally owned cars.

"We're really happy to be able to give Northern Rivers people the opportunity to inspect so many different electric vehicles at our second EV Expo," said event co-convenor, Dr Muriel Watt. Dr Watt - an expert in solar and renewable energy, together with leading Australian EV writer Bridie Schmidt, associate editor of The Driven, and a keen team of volunteers from Zero Emissions Byron - has been working for months to organise the display.

At their first EV Expo and Forum in 2019, only a handful of models was available, together with a number of privately owned electric vehicles. While their 2019 event had a series of presentations from industry experts, this year, there will be less talking and more looking.

"What's changed in the intervening years is the higher level of public awareness of EVs and the wider range of options," said Dr Watt. "For instance, our principal sponsor is BYD ('Build Your Dreams'), which is just launching its ATTO 3 EV. Built to Australian specifications and selling from \$44,381, it's the lowest priced EV currently on the market in Australia, but still has an impressive 400-500km range."

The NSW Government's Office of Energy & Climate Change was quick to become

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New and used Electric Vehicles
Photo
Christobel Munson

a major event sponsor and book a stall in the Moller Pavilion. The office is keen to show how it can “lead the way on climate change” and “seize the opportunities from the transportation sector to a new low-cost, clean energy economy” its website states. “There are significant opportunities for the transport sector to increase the uptake of electric vehicles ... and shift towards renewable energy sources,” it adds, so it can contribute “to the state-wide transition to a new zero economy”. Come along and ask them how they’ll do that.

Zero Emissions Byron, a volunteer-led non-profit and registered charity, began in 2015 with the aim to accelerate Byron Shire’s transition to net zero emissions. It does this by engaging with the local community to

encourage and inspire emissions reduction activities. “Staging an Expo to inform and educate the public about the advantages of electric vehicles, is just one area we focus on,” explained Dr Watt.

Byron Shire Council is another supporter and sponsor of the event, along with local solar company Light Touch Solar & Electrical, EV scooter company Fonzarelli, ClubCar (which offers electric off-road vehicles, available for fun drives on the day) and The Driven, the “most read” online electric vehicle news site, with over a million readers. The Driven’s Bridie Schmidt will lead an hour-long Q&A session after the official opening, which happens from 11-12 noon.

Some of the EV dealers will be offering off-site test drives during the day. Already lined up to display their latest EVs are Audi, Hyundai Kona and Ioniq, Jaguar, Polestar, Porsche, Volvo and ClubCar (some of which are priced to benefit from the \$3,000 grant being offered by the NSW Government) as well as the Good Car Company, known for its successful community bulk-buys of second-hand EVs.

In order to get the low-down from “real people” as well, there will be a number of

locally-owned EVs arranged around the Jarrett Oval, so visitors can ask owners all the questions they really want to have the answers to, such as ‘range anxiety’ or charging options.

On the day, the Moller Pavilion will be the site for a number of stalls, including a popular primary school kids’ art competition with entries from students from Bangalow Public School and Byron Bay Public School (with prize-giving at 1pm). As well, Southern Cross University will be displaying an old Kombi it converted to EV, and two other converted 1970s EVs will also be on site.

Parents need not feel guilty to be exploring the world of EVs as there will be free face-painting for kids, with a selection of short EV and environmental films to be screened in the Scout Hall, plus fun e-rides around the venue, as well as the kids’ art show. Members of Bangalow Men’s Shed will be helping out on site, and the Bangalow Lions will open their popular kiosk with food and drinks.

For more information, go to zerobyon.org

*Christobel is the chair of Zero Emissions Byron

“There are significant opportunities for the transport sector to increase the uptake of electric vehicles... and shift towards renewable energy sources”

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Horse with No Name



In the July school holidays, a motley crew of Bangalow dads and sons hit the road for a once in a lifetime trip across the Madigan Line in the Simpson Desert. Leaving from Bangalow, they headed to Tenterfield, then on to St George, Cunnamulla, through the Strzelecki Desert and on to Birdsville.

Tex Hussey, 15, says "My favourite place of the trip was probably going over the first few sand dunes just because it was kind of a mystery about what was on the other side." Tex was one of three teenaged local boys to see the desert for the first time.

"We spent a day and night at Madigan Camp 13," says Hugo Brandon, 13. Madigan Camp 13 is close to the geographical centre of the Simpson Desert. "We created our own golf challenges around the salt pan. We created 'holes' on the course like hitting a bush, landing in a hole we dug with a stick, and hitting the Madigan Camp 13 sign. We also had our biggest bonfire there."



"I learned that the most efficient way of collecting firewood was to drag it behind my dad's car," says Tex.

"My favourite part was 4WD in the desert and seeing the animals," says Tex's brother Kik, 13. Some of the animals encountered on the trip include kangaroos, camels, dingos, thousands of budgerigars, wild pigs, and a lucky black swan.

"We drove 5,000 kilometres in 10 days. That's around the same as driving to Sydney and back three times!" says Hugo. To alleviate

the boredom of the long stretches of driving, the crew (called the Bang Bang Moto) used their UHF radios to play trivia between the cars, with witty banter between the fathers keeping things entertaining.

All of the boys completed a survivalist challenge by starting the nightly bonfires using a flint and steel.

"One of the things I learned is you don't go to Birdsville on the weekend of the Big Red Bash," says Kik.

Isaac Brandon



Photos Mav Rick





Smoking ceremony at the Bangalow launch of the new mobile library
Photo Sem Han

Books back in Bangas!

The original much-loved mobile library was destroyed in the floods but now a new library van will take its place on Saturday mornings in Bangalow writes Mary Nelson.

Have you been down to the Bangalow parklands lately? Things are abuzz in anticipation of Spring. New paths, green grass and a general feeling of more people being out and about in the sunshine.

The Friends of the Libraries, Byron Shire and the community of Bangalow were excited to be able to officially welcome back the RTRL (Richmond Tweed Regional Library) new mobile library van.

Regular users of this service will know that the old van was destroyed in the floods. However, the staff of the mobile library kept a makeshift mobile library service going, operating out of the back of a station wagon. Each week Rod, the mobile library technician, would lug boxes and boxes of books out of the car, onto a table and then back again after

people had borrowed and returned books.

Happily, the new mobile library is here. Purchased from a company in Victoria, the story goes that a friend of the salesman had come from Victoria to volunteer in flood recovery and was telling his mate how devastating it really was and so his mate did his darndest and best to get it to Lismore.

The vendor had received many enquiries for the purchase of this van, however he thought it much more important that it serve the people of the Northern Rivers, and sold it to RTRL and delivered it to the northern rivers free of charge. As you can imagine delivery would have been a significant cost with the price of fuel at the moment. As well getting prompt payment from Lismore council following insurance claims and the like was difficult; however it did not matter



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Top The new mobile library Photo Mary Nelson

Right The temporary popup library Photo Judy Baker

Below The old mobile library damaged beyond repair in the floods Photo supplied



the floods. The flood went to the top of the bookshelves on the second floor.

The building structure is ok. Work is almost complete on removing all the internals of the second floor right down to the tainted lead paint in the window frames. Next up are considerations for preparing to flood proof the library - design of shelving on wheels that can be taken up to the third level in the lift in the event of future flooding. The circulation desk is also made of wood components and was destroyed so consideration is being given to making it in sections, and on moveable wheels or casters to move it to the third level as well.

The historical images and photos that were part of the circulation desk were removed and saved before the flood waters reached its peak.

At the moment the very top floor is acting as the storage space for the toy library that was on the bottom floor (they managed to move this up the top floor before the floods reached their peak.)

The kids castle in the children's area unfortunately was destroyed, with many people asking how it fared. The castle and other areas of the library were only upgraded in 2020.

Once again donations for the Lismore library came from all over Australia with the library experiencing a loss of perhaps half a million dollars of books in the whole flood. The staff have been working very hard and 10,000 of these new books have been catalogued.

A happy ending for now and the van has been officially welcomed back to all its stops and it is business as usual. Come down next Saturday and see what's on offer. There's plenty of parking available as well. Who knows, Bangalow Heritage House may well be open too?

on this occasion to that considerate salesman in Victoria.

The van is looking and feeling like brand new and is full of approximately 5,000 new books all donated from people and organisations all over Australia. Publishers donated, books were received from individuals, schools, other libraries; a bunch of nurses from a hospital in Victoria got together and sent some books. Authors, local and national sent copies of their books.

Each Saturday morning from 9.30 – 11.30 am the mobile library stops in Ashton Street Bangalow, right next to the Op Shop, and you can join up to the library there and of course

borrow all sorts of resources from books and magazines, through to DVDs, CDs and jigsaw puzzles. There's disabled access and a dedicated space for kids to get comfy with their favourite book. It certainly has a very comfortable fresh feel to it.

The new mobile library van's first stop was Nimbin and rumour has it that after one days reopening the shelves were heavily drained of books and the van had to be restocked before it went on to the next stop. The van makes 19 stops per fortnight around the Byron, Lismore and Tweed shires.

Speaking of libraries, an update from the Lismore library that was devastated in

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A sobering thought

Two years ago, I gave up alcohol. This mother of two, lover of gin and wine, former binge drinking party girl decided she'd had enough. My 'sober journey' actually began on the loo. I was sitting there contemplating the fact that I had just polished off a bottle of wine, and I felt fine (great, I thought, that means I will probably escape the hangover too! Yay!).

That's when it occurred to me that I probably shouldn't be feeling fine. I had just polished off seven or eight serves of alcohol in the space of a few hours. I knew from past experience that drinking a whole bottle of wine was enough to have me driving that porcelain bus and sick for a couple of days. So, feeling OK was not a good sign. That night was the culmination of around two years of an incessant internal dialogue questioning my drinking habits. Was a half a bottle a night a problem? Was the inability to go a day without wine a problem? Was always planning every evening around my wine schedule a problem? I didn't know the answer, but I suspected it was all a problem, and mostly I was exhausted just thinking about it all the time. I had never even contemplated Dry July or having a few days off drinking.

I didn't drink the night after that whole bottle of wine. Or the next day, or the next. I had already been researching available 'quit lit' and decided after a week or so I could do with some help - hello Annie Grace and *The Alcohol Experiment!* What a woman! Lotta Dan and Claire

Pooley audiobooks were brilliant as well. All these fabulous inspiring people had walked the path before me, and I was learning so much about alcohol. Why didn't I know this stuff? Why didn't I know what alcohol was doing to me while I happily drank every single day?

I'll tell you why. I didn't want to know. Society doesn't want to know. We are soaking in alcohol and anyone that gives it up is seen as an oddity. In the sober world it's an often heard cry that it's the only drug you have to explain NOT using. And you certainly don't push cigarettes onto someone who's just given up smoking. People seem to be very uncomfortable when you say you don't drink. And I get it. Because I was that person that couldn't ever understand someone that didn't drink. Until I did it, and found out about alcohol, and what it was doing to me. No, I wasn't a morning drinker, a closet drinker or a black out drinker. I was a mum, doing the daily, and blurring the edges. Alcohol is one of the most addictive drugs we can get our hands on. It's a hard habit to break. But it's possible, and it's bloody fantastic on the other side.

What are the best parts? Sleep! Sleep quality is sublime! Going to bed sober, knowing you're going to wake up without that scratchy feeling? Frigging awesome! Never having to wonder how you will get home from a night out? Brilliant! Finding out you are actually as fun and nutty sober as you are with a few drinks under your belt? Eye opening and life changing! Being present for my family every day? Words can't express.

Renae Baker



Photo Amber Melody





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Restoring riparian rainforest

In August 2019, coastal and marine ecologist, Dr Zan Hammerton, supported by Liz Gander of Bangalow Land and Rivercare, successfully won an Environmental Trust Restoration grant of \$54,867 to undergo restoration of the riparian zone along a section of Bandongrove Creek. “The project funded the restoration of a lowland subtropical rainforest riparian zone, set in a gazetted wildlife refuge,” explained Zan.



Photos Zan Hammerton

The particular spot is a listed ‘endemism priority area’ and a climate change corridor. Over the three grant years, the riparian site has been planted out with over 2,600 native trees and shrubs, with the survival

and growth carefully monitored. This has included an intensive parallel program of weed management.

Now in the third year of the project, a community engagement morning is being hosted by Bangalow Land and Rivercare, with all welcome to attend. The presenter, Mark Dunphy (pictured left) has over 35 years’ experience in ecological restoration projects locally and is the owner of Firewheel Nursery. He will cover topics ranging from ‘bio-bridges in the landscape’, to ‘wildlife corridors and creek health’, as well as best practice regeneration techniques and long-term habitat management for a shifting climate, with the Bandongrove Creek project as a case study of what can be achieved.

The Northern Rivers region of NSW was once home to the largest area of what is defined as Lowland Subtropical Rainforest in Australia, now listed as critically endangered. “Riparian zones act as the interface between the land, rivers and creeks, playing a critical role in supporting biodiversity,” Zan said. “Healthy riparian vegetation acts as a buffer between the land and water, filtering pollutants, helping to reduce stream bank erosion, maintaining stable stream channels, and playing a critical role as

“Healthy riparian vegetation acts as a buffer between the land and water”

climate change and wildlife corridors.”

Mark Dunphy has been involved in all aspects of rainforest restoration, directly participating in 100 rainforest restoration projects, planting more than a million trees – and annually growing 200,000 trees of 300 species at his Dorrroughby nursery. He has also taught relevant TAFE courses on conservation and land management and contributed to many publications on subtropical rainforest restoration.

The free workshop will be held in the Jindibah community hall, in Fowlers Lane, from 10am to 12.30pm on Saturday 10 September. Following Mark’s presentation, there will be a barbecue with a vegetarian and meat sausage sizzle. To book, register via the Eventbrite page: ‘The Importance of Riparian Rainforest Restoration in the Byron Hinterland’.

Christobel Munson



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The People's Pantry

The People's Pantry has arrived in Bangalow. A social enterprise which supports small scale farmers via a click and collect marketplace. The brainchild of Kiara Cerutti, it was initially set up in the Tweed area linking farmers and consumers with fresh seasonal food. But 'what about the farmers markets?' I hear you ask. Not everyone can attend the markets for a variety of reasons, including some small-scale producers.



Illustration
by Lyn Hand

The People's Pantry offers a variety of foodstuffs that can be picked up weekly at the Bangalow Mens Shed, the charitable part of the enterprise. Ninety percent of the profits go to the producers but ten percent goes to the group. You can purchase spray-free wholefoods, macadamia butter, eggs and cocoa just to name a few. For the bakers there is organic flour, rye, spelt, gluten free sorghum, dried figs and dates. There is muesli, sweets, lamb, pasta, kombucha and a very special honey.

With spring here the thought of Sunday lunch on the deck comes back into focus. How about a loaf of crusty bread made from organic Rider flour, studded with figs and drizzled with honey, or a quick cooking lamb backstrap to ease into lighter flavours of Spring.

The People's Pantry is always looking for new producers thepeoplespantry.com.au

Honey Glazed Lamb

2 lamb backstrap fillets
100ml olive oil
1/3 cup honey (try Lightforce Flavanoid)
Juice of 1 lemon
1 cup yoghurt
1/4 cup tahini paste
Baby spinach to serve
2-3 parsnips
2-3 baby beets
2-3 baby carrots, halved lengthwise
8 garlic cloves
1/2 cup toasted sunflower seeds

Method

Heat oven to 200°C
Combine vegetables and garlic
Season, toss in 2 tbsps oil
Roast for 30-35 minutes until golden and tender
Heat 1tbsp oil in a large frypan over medium to high heat
Season lamb and then cook lamb for 2 minutes, turning until lightly browned
Reduce heat to medium. Brush lamb with honey. Continue cooking, turning and brushing with honey for 5-6 minutes until caramelised.
Remove lamb and rest under foil for 5 minutes then slice.
To make dressing, combine resting juices with lemon juice and remaining 2 tbsps of oil, season. Add tahini to yoghurt with a squeeze of lemon juice. Mix well.
Arrange vegetables, spinach and seeds on a serving plate and drizzle with the dressing.
Drizzle with yoghurt

Lyn Hand



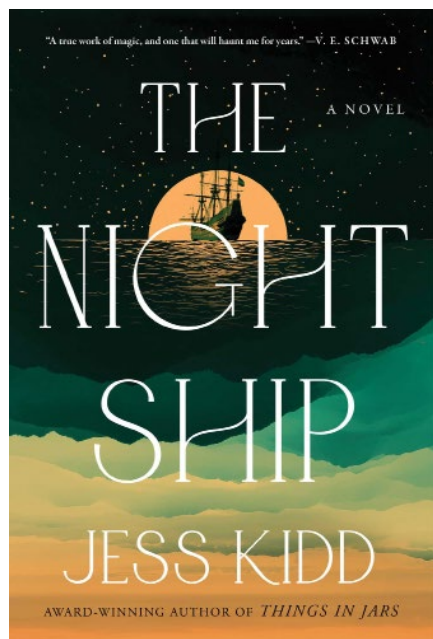
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The Night Ship

by Jess Kidd



The Night Ship is the latest book from Jess Kidd and it did not disappoint. Set in two timelines it starts in 1629 with a young Dutch girl, Mayken, boarding the newly built ship Batavia to be re-united with her father in Indonesia at the end of the gruelling seven-month sea voyage. Carefully researched the author imagines the passengers and crew of this famous ship which was destined to shipwreck off the coastline of Western Australia. Mayken is an adventurous child and slips away from her nursemaid frequently

to explore the ship in places where she does not belong – it is hard to imagine the horrors of the lower decks! Tension builds along the journey as we learn of the volatile relationship which exists between the Upper Merchant, who bears financial responsibility for the success of the voyage, and the Skipper – it is recorded that the two hated each other so much that they took turns on alternate days to use the Grand Room for dining.

The second timeline is 1989 and a young boy, Gil, has been sent to live with his grandfather on Beacon Island. Gil's mother is dead in circumstances which are slowly revealed but her death means the end to an itinerant life continually on the run from unpaid landlords. Beacon Island is one of the islands inhabited by the survivors of the Batavia shipwreck in 1629 and its current inhabitants include a group of scientists, a contingent of cray fishermen and their families and ghosts from the violent past. Gil's grandfather is seemingly hated by all the inhabitants on the island over some historical unresolved issue. Gil is pretty good at keeping to himself but when Roper's boys come to the island for the school holidays and deliberately inflict grievous injury on his pet tortoise things get very messy and the simmering tensions erupt.

Jess Kidd is an Irish author and this, her fourth book, is a big departure from her others. I'm a big fan; she's a terrific writer and a great storyteller. Her other books, *Himself*, *The Hoarder* and *Things in Jars* are all set in Ireland and I can highly recommend them.

Good Reads rating 4.2 stars. Published by Penguin Books

Carolyn Adams



Kombucha Culture

What's the big deal with kombucha? Of all the trendy new drink fads in recent times, 'booch' seems to be the most ubiquitous. Originating in China about 2000 years ago, it has been popular in Eastern Europe and Asia for most of that time, so perhaps not a trendy new drink fad.

Kombucha is fermented tea. It is naturally fermented from sweet tea and a live culture known as a SCOBY (Symbiotic Culture of Bacteria and Yeast). Various flavours can be added when bottling. The popularity of the drink is largely due to its claimed health benefits, particularly for your gut health as it is a natural probiotic.

Locally delicious kombucha is available from Lovemore Fermentary at the Bangalow Farmers Market. Owner of the business, Flossy, makes seasonal flavours such as blueberry/lavender, Davidson plum/rosemary and meyer lemon/mint. She also makes krauts, pickles and gut shot from the juice of kraut. Flossy's shop in Lismore was destroyed in the floods and she now operates from her home in Dorrroughby, selling online as well as at the markets.

I find kombucha with dinner on my alcohol free days is a good substitute for wine. The meyer lemon and mint drink from Flossy is perfect with my humble crumbed chicken. It is not effervescent, as most are, with a good balance between the two flavourings. It is not sweet nor is it bitter which is interesting given that it is made from sweet tea, however the fermentation process absorbs the sugar. With a slice of lemon and mint leaves in the bottle, it is a far cry from the popular kombuchas available from the supermarket. Refreshing and efficacious.

Murray Hand

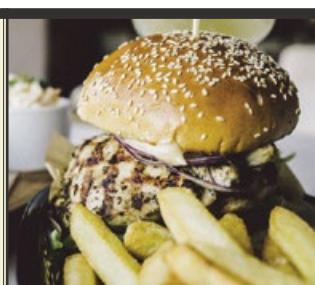
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Power, prayers and pots and pans

Need a new streaming fix? This is cult viewing, in more ways than one.

Season 2 of **Hacks** (Stan) is out and it is such rewarding viewing. No wonder it received 15 Emmy nominations, including awards for Outstanding Writing, Outstanding Directing and Outstanding Lead Actress, plus a Golden Globe for best TV series. This series, set mostly in Las Vegas, is based around the relationship between veteran comedienne Deborah Vance (Jean Smart) and young writer Ava (Hannah Einbinder) sent to help her 'freshen up' her show. Ava wants to inject some modern materials into the show, such as abolishing any stray colonialist attitudes and non PC language. Deborah draws on her years of experience working in the fickle and bruising entertainment industry and responds with commentary about the realities of touring and knowing your audience. Here we have clever writing about what happens when new feminism meets old feminism. This is about women, their work and their friendships, the confusion and ruthlessness of ambition and survival. Special mention for Carl Clemon-Hopkins as Marcus, her manager who struggles to navigate multiple demands in the cut throat business world. It's so good it has been renewed for a third season. **Hacks** is extremely funny, smart, excellent viewing.

The confusions of power intertwined with sexual power plays in cults and secretive religions are examined in two series. **Seduced: Inside the Nxivim Cult** (Stan) is about the struggle of actress Catherine Oxenberg to rescue her daughter from a cult based in upstate New York. It's a scary, horrible story, about how the process of seduction was methodical, happened in stages and was aided by other cult members who led her daughter deeper into the organisation. We learn what she gave up, how much money was

“how easy is it to be seduced by promises of love, connection and empowerment”



Aftertaste Photo supplied

involved and what horrors she consented to. It raises the confronting question – could this happen to you or someone you love? It asks, how easy is it to be seduced by promises of love, connection and empowerment and not realise they hide a dark story of abuse of power (surprise, surprise). Confronting viewing.

Keep Sweet: Pray and Obey (Netflix) is a series about the FBI pursuit of Warren Jeffs, the leader of the polygamous Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (FLDS). This true-life series is a horror story about plural marriage, psychological, domestic, and sexual abuse. Here the power dynamic includes the separation of children from their families and the marrying of disturbingly young girls to older men, to be one of many wives. It's hard to think this is actually happening right now.

These situations where men (usually) of dubious but charismatic character manage to persuade followers to do their bidding, to surrender their independence and sexual boundaries, give up their money and allow abuse of their children never fails to appal and fascinate. Although these are both stories from the US, cults like these and their sinister

practices might be closer than you think. It's harrowing and alarming and a reminder to protect your family and vigilantly guard your independence of thought.

Lastly, a different angle on the uses of power. **Aftertaste** (ABC iView) is an Australian made production about celebrity chef (Erik Thomson) who returns to Adelaide after burning his bridges overseas in a series of very public tantrums. He seeks redemption by teaming up with his niece (Natalie Abbott) a clever pastry chef. It's a dynamic, hilarious satire that skewers white male privilege and pomposity. Rachel Griffiths plays a cool, sexy winemaker. The old white guy meets his match, when classic fine dining comes up against the modern approach of his niece, and her sharp foul-mouthed wit. There are cakes, pigs, family rivalries and secrets, rabbits, fine wines, modern food and a compelling scene with an emu. The director Jonathan Brough also did *Family Law* and *Rosehaven* to give you an idea of the clever wit of this highly watchable, extremely enjoyable show. Two seasons.

Dr Airdre Grant



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Michelia (Magnolia) 'Bubbles'

This lovely pyramid-shaped small tree has brought brightness, perfume and best of all, the bees, back into my garden and combined with the days that it isn't raining, hope for a renewing Spring. The flowers are abundant, creamy white with a little tinge of pink on the edges and a delicate perfume.

Firstly, we all can be confused with the seemingly interchangeable names so for clarity:

Michelias are usually evergreen and have clusters of flowers amongst the foliage whilst magnolias are nearly always deciduous and bear larger flowers at the ends of branches.

However, both names have become interchangeable in nurseries.

They are both part of the huge family Magnoliaceae, genus Michelia which is a historical genus of ancient flowering plants (the angiosperms) which date back at least 95 million years!

The cup-shaped flowers actually lack distinct petals or sepals and the large, non-specialised flower parts, that resemble petals, are called "tepals". (Wow, I didn't know this!) They were native to tropical and subtropical zones in SE Asia but are now grown widely and have been hybridised hundreds of times with 'Bubbles' originating in NZ.

The genus was named after the Italian botanist, Pietro Antonio Michel in the late eighteenth century.

These lovely trees are extremely hardy and adapt to a wide variety of climate and regions and tolerate sodden soils as I have found recently and am grateful as, like many others,



Michaelia doltsopa x figo 'Bubbles'
Photo Carole Gamble

I have lost a lot of my garden to waterlogging.

They grow to approximately four metres or can be pruned and make lovely hedges or screens with glossy foliage and plenty of branching.

They prefer acidic soils and have quite shallow roots. Pinebark and pine needles make great mulch and I tip our coffee grounds

around (which is high in nitrogen) but apart from the annual dynamic lifter or similar organic soil improver and mulch that all of my garden receives, my Michelia doesn't need any help and has no pests or diseases that I have observed and the bees are having a ball in the thousands of inviting flowers right now.

Carole Gamble



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ADFAS Life Membership Awarded for Outstanding Service

Sue Shearer (R.I.P) from Byron Bay attended several meetings of the Australian Decorative & Fine Arts Society (ADFAS) in Brisbane and was impressed with the lecturers and their subjects.



Shirley Nelson, Dianne Stuart (Chair ADFAS Byron Bay) and Nan Pulsford
Photo Marion Pescud

Sue was instrumental in starting a similar Society in Byron Bay in 2000. It was a challenging experience for many reasons. Were there enough people interested in the Arts in the area, could she rally enough people to form a committee to run a Society, let alone find a suitable venue? However a Society was established and the first speaker was John Nelson who was the founder of the Restoration of the Lost Garden of Heligan in Cornwall. The first lecture about this internationally renowned garden was a resounding success.

The majority of the lecturers were from NADFAS based in England who were experts on subjects related to Art, Art History, Decorative Arts and Garden Design. They paid their own fares here but were hosted in members' homes who also showed them around the area. The first years were held in the Uniting Church Hall in Byron Bay, no alcohol was allowed there which somewhat detracted from the conviviality shared over a glass of wine and the delicious suppers. Michael Molloy (R.I.P) offered them the use of the A&I Hall where the lectures are held today. In 2002 Shirley Nelson became the Chairman and Nan Pulsford, the secretary who among

her many duties was responsible for setting up the screen and making sure the slide projector was in working order. All of the Committee meetings were held at their lovely home and garden in Ewingsdale. The most crucial and ongoing issues were getting enough publicity to attract new members and staying afloat financially. In winter attendance tended to drop off because of the cold but now the A&I Hall is air-conditioned this is no longer a problem. Shirley and Nan were recently made Life Members for their mammoth efforts but feel much thanks should be given to many early members for their support and enthusiasm which has made ADFAS what it is today.

For the last four years it has sponsored a Young Musician Award recognising the achievements of the young local emerging stars. This year the recipient was Tilly Jones from Lismore and the award was presented to her at the Bangalow Musical Festival. Today AFDAS is a vibrant part of the cultural life of Byron Bay and Districts under the guidance of the present Chairman Dianne Stuart.

byronbay@adfasc.org.au

Helen Johnston

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AA (5.30pm Tues)	Karen Mc	0403 735 678
ADFAS	Dianne	0412 370 372
Al-Anon (2pm Fri)		1300 252 666
Bangalow Koalas	Linda	0411 491 991
Bridge	Dennis	6687 1574
Chamber of Commerce	admin@bangalow.biz	
Community Children's Centre	Kerry	6687 1552
Co-dependents Anonymous	Gye	0421 583 321
CWA (Wed)	Lorraine	0417 705 439
Garden Club (1st Wed)	Diana	0418 288 428
George the snake man	George	0407 965 092
Historical Society/Museum/Cafe	6687 2183	
Kindred Women Together	Janice	0401 026 359
Koala rescue line (24 hr)		6622 1233
Land & Rivercare (8.30am Sat)	Noelene	0431 200 638
Lions Club (7pm 2nd/4th Tues)	Chris	0416 005 700
Market (4th Sun)	Jeff	6687 1911
Men's Shed	John	0427 130 177
Op Shop (9.30am-2.30pm, Sat 9.30am-12.30pm)		6687 2228
Parklands	Lynn	0429 644 659
Park Trust Committee	Shane	0475 732 551
Police – DCI Matt Kehoe	Fax: 6629 7501	6629 7500
Pool Trust	Jo	6687 1297
Progress Association	Ian	0414 959 936
Poultry Club	Hector	6687 1322
Quilters (2nd/4th Thur)	Karen	0413 621 224
Red Cross (1st Fri)	Liz	0409 832 001
Show Society	Anne	6687 1033
Sport		
Bowls men (1pm Wed & Sat)	Gerry	6687 1142
Bowls women (9.30am Wed)	Frances	6687 1339
Cricket	Anthony	0429 306 529
Karate self-defence	Jean	0458 245 123
Netball (3.30pm Wed)	Ellie	0429 855 399
Rugby Union (Rebels)	Dave	0412 080 614
Soccer (Blue dogs)		0434 559 700
Tennis court hire	Bernie	0433 970 800
Venues		
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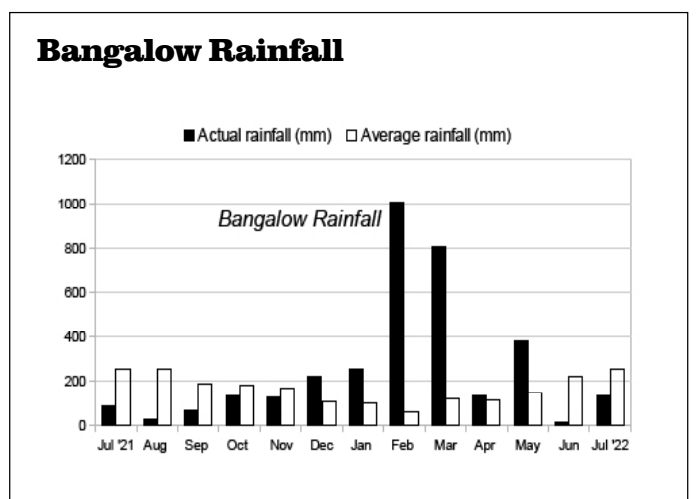
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WHAT'S ON

Spring has sprung and along with it a glorious burst of new events to get you out and about in 2479 and surrounds.

Sample Food Festival

When Saturday 3 September

Where Bangalow Showgrounds

Information samplefoodevents.com/sample-food-festival

As well as boasting a range of tempting food and drink experiences, the 10th anniversary Sample Food Festival is also showcasing some incredible live music with this year's guests including Ngaiire, MT WARNING, Old Man River, Naomi Connell, The Button Collective and Mel Scarlett.

Bangalow Garden Club

When Wednesday 7 September, 1.30pm

Where Moller Pavilion, Bangalow Showgrounds

Contact/information/tickets

Diana Harden mobile 0418 288 428

This month one of our members, Lesley Player will be talking about roses. Lesley will tell us which roses are suited to the sub-tropics and will share some of her tips for successful rose growing.

Bangalow Flea Markets

When Saturday 10 September, 8am-2pm

Where Bangalow Uniting Church, Station St

After a seven-month break due to rain, rain, and yet more rain Bangalow Flea Markets are back. All of your favourite stalls will be returning as well as the garage sale section so whether it's clothes, jewellery, household goods, or vinyl, come along for a fun day out and grab a bargain or two. As usual, there will be yummy food and refreshing drinks available.

Byron BYD EV Expo

When Sunday 11 September, 10am

Where Bangalow Showground

Information zerobyron.org

Zero Emissions Byron's second Electric Vehicle Expo will give you the chance to ask questions, see what's available, and explore current options in the transport of the future. Speak with industry experts, dealers and local EV owners about ownership, servicing, charging, range and related issues, and book a test drive.

ADFAS September

When Monday 12 September

Where A & I Hall, Station St, Bangalow

Tickets for non-members trybooking.com/BYGPD or byronbay@adf.org.au

The Chateau of Vaux-le-Vicomte: too magnificent for a king? by John Broadley. Completed in 1661 for Nicolas Fouquet, the Chateau of Vaux-le-Vicomte led to him being jailed and the building confiscated. This lecture will look at Nicolas Fouquet, the rivalries that led to his downfall, and the subsequent owners and occupants of the château.

Cheeky Cabaret

When 12-25 September

Where Brunswick Picture House

Information brunswickpicturehouse.com

An outrageous, genre-bending, two-hour adult variety show, Cheeky features a different cast of troubadours, miscreants, delectable divas and cabaret queens every season, so no two shows are ever the same! Bring Grandma but leave the little ones at home.

ADFAS Chateau of Vaux-le-Vicomte Photo
John Broadley



Love for One Night

When 15-24 September

Where The Eltham Hotel

Information

norpa.org.au/events/love-for-one-night/

Love for One Night is a circle dance of intersecting love stories told in the playful and theatrical style of Railway Wonderland and Dreamland. A series of brief encounters are told through dialogue, movement and song — while stunning visual effects and a live band add to the electric outdoor ambiance.

pressed specimens Book Launch

When Friday 16 September 3pm

Where Manning Clarke Room, Southern Cross University Library, Lismore

Information facebook.com/MoyaCostelloWriter

MoyaCostelloWriter

pressed specimens: Prose Poems from the Medicinal Plant Herbarium, Southern Cross University will be launched by the Herbarium and a brief talk and reading of poems by Moya Costello. Costello's fifth book is a collection of 'eco' poetry featuring 18 poems with images. Tickets are free, the event is open to all and drinks and nibbles will be available.

Bangalow Billy Cart Derby

When Sunday 18 September

Where Byron Street, Bangalow

Information bangalowbillycart.com.au

A classic family day out, the Bangalow Billy Cart Derby returns after COVID put the brakes on the event for the past two years. Build a billy cart and race it down the main street. Races for young and old. Rules and registration form available on the website.

The Pit Stop – Bangalow P&C Fair

When Sunday 18 September, 9am-3pm

Where Bangalow Public School

All the fun of the fair as the Bangalow School P&C hosts their annual fundraiser, coinciding with the Bangalow Billy Cart Derby. This year, stalls spill out onto the street featuring everything from rides to ice cream to face painting and more.

Bangalow Progress Association General Meeting

When Wednesday 21 September, 6pm

Where Mens Shed, off Station St carpark, Bangalow

Community members of the 2479 postcode



The CWA Cake and Produce Stall

are invited to attend the next Bangalow Progress Association general meeting. Our shared values and proactive engagement in emerging development and infrastructure projects can make a real difference to our village. Current focus is on two game changing initiatives – the development of 6-10 Station St, and the amalgamation of the Bowlo with Norths Rugby Club. Join the discussion.

CWA Cake and Produce Stall

When Saturday 24 September 8am-12pm

Where CWA Rooms, Byron St, Bangalow

Call in for cakes, biscuits, jams and more.

BANG! Presents: Fantastic Mr Fox

When Friday 30 September & Saturday 1 October, 3pm & 6pm

Where The Byron Theatre

Tickets byroncentre.com.au or bangacademyofperformingarts.com

Mischievously marvellous Mr Fox needs to save his family and friends from three horribly gluttonous, but also entertaining farmers Boggis, Bunce and Bean. Come and see how this clever fox outwits and outsmarts them. Written by Roald Dahl, one of the greatest storytellers of all time, Fantastic Mr Fox leaps off the page and onto the stage at The Byron Theatre in the September School holidays for four shows only!

Friends of Libraries Byron, book event, author Chris Hammer

When Monday 3 October 6pm

Where Marvell Hall, 37 Marvell Street Byron Bay

Contact information byronbayfol.com

Bookings are essential

Tickets \$20

Chris Hammer, the international bestselling author of *Treasure and Dirt*, is in conversation with author Ken Sealey. Chris will discuss his book *The Tilt*, how the darkest secrets can lie close to home. Refreshments are provided plus a lucky door prize. An event not to be missed.

Diary

September 2022

- 1 Bangalow Business Networking
- 3 Sample Food Festival
- 7 Bangalow Garden Club
- 10 Bangalow Flea Markets
- 11 Byron BYD EV Expo
- 12 ADFAS
- 12 Cheeky Cabaret
- 15-24 Love for One Night
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- 30 Fantastic Mr Fox

October 2022

- 1 Fantastic Mr Fox
- 3 Chris Hammer

October 2022 Deadlines

What's On 15 September

Advertising 15 September

Copy 15 September



**NATURALLY SWEET FRUIT,
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Farewell to our Sweetheart



Heartfelt messages of love, adoration, and gratitude have circulated the globe in honour of Australia's sweetheart, Olivia Newton-John – a true testament to her beautiful nature and inspirational character.

Olivia left a lasting impression on every person that knew or even briefly met her, including many of us here in the local community.

As one of the early pioneers to call the beautiful Northern Rivers her “heart home”, Olivia, along with friends and co-founders Gregg Cave, Ruth Kalnin, and Warwick Evans, knew this was the place to create something profound. Something that would better the lives of so many through a re-connection to heart, self, and this incredible land we are privileged to call home.

“As the Gaia story began organically, inspired by friendship, dreams, and synchronicity, it became something we often find difficult to put into words. The heartbeat of our healing sanctuary embodies the magic of Mother Nature, and carries the grace, gratitude, and positive energy of its visionaries.” ~ The Gaia Team.

Vibrant and engaging, Olivia was both “Australian Royalty” and a much-loved local at many of her favourite places such as Town, remembered for making her a birthday pav! She adored the village lifestyle, dining out with friends and discovering the local produce, artisan boutiques, and markets on every visit.

“Bangalow and Newrybar are my favourite places to shop. Let's face it, I love a good shop” ~ Olivia.

Olivia will be dearly missed in both the Gaia family and our local community. With optimism and charisma, she brought a calming nature wherever she went, sharing her life with those around her and uplifting the spirits of others.

As we celebrate her greatness, stardom, and remarkable talent...above all we unite in celebrating her momentous contribution to wellness, cancer research, and patient care.

“At first it felt very strange thinking about having a building named after me (*The Olivia Newton-John Cancer Wellness & Research Centre*), especially a cancer centre. However, my wise mother Irene, said, “Listen Darling, in life, if you can help somebody, then you should”.’ ~ Olivia, *Surrender, The Story of Gaia Retreat & Spa*.

Continuing to nurture her commitment to Mother Nature, personal wellness, and natural healing, we remain inspired by her radiance, exuberance, humanity, and genuine warmth in everything we do. We cherish the love and appreciation she had for this region and remind ourselves of the gift we share.

And as Olivia reminded us...we all owe it to ourselves, our loved ones, and the world, to live with an abundance of love, energy, gratitude, and optimism.

Our thoughts, hearts, and healing energy are with Olivia's family and friends.

The Gaia Retreat & Spa family