



Moruya Mail

FREE Independent News for Moruya & the Eurobodalla

www.moruyamail.com.au

Number 10

22nd December 2023



Merry Christmas from the Moruya Mail. Have a happy and safe holiday. The next issue will be 12th January 2024

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- Bay Sculpture event gets \$20,000 from Council
- Australian Premier performances of Lend Me A Soprano
- New tourism plan launched
- Forestry Corporation ordered to pay \$104,000
- Underwater Heatwave threatens crucial kelp habitat

**We wish you all a very Merry Christmas
and a Happy and Prosperous New Year!**

Please note our Christmas Trading Closure:

We will be closed from:

Noon Saturday 23 December 2023 to

8am Monday 8 January 2024 (Inclusive)

Normal trading will commence after this holiday period.

For URGENT Pump and Water enquiries, please call 0427 727 349

For vehicle inspections please call the owner listed on the sign provided.

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Changed traffic conditions will be in place on the Kings Highway at Misty Mountain



Changed traffic conditions will be in place on the Kings Highway at Misty Mountain from Friday while construction of the new eastbound overtaking lane is closed down for the Christmas break.

The project site will close between Friday 22 December 2023 and Monday 8 January 2024, weather permitting.

During this time, stop/slow traffic conditions will be removed, and one lane will be open in both directions to ensure safe and efficient travel for motorists throughout this busy holiday period.

The reduced speed limit of 60 km/h will remain in place for the safety of motorists. Transport for NSW is continuing to deliver a program of safety and efficiency upgrades on the Kings Highway to keep the community safe and freight moving between Batemans Bay and the NSW/ACT border.

As we move into the holiday season, motorists should continue to plan their journeys and check Live Traffic for the latest updates. Download the Live Traffic NSW app, visit livetraffic.com or call 132 701.

More EV Chargers for Moruya?

By Phil Herrick

The way has been cleared for two new public electric vehicle charging stations in Moruya, with approval of a plan to licence the use of the public carpark in front of the library at the shire council building.

At its meeting on Tuesday the council gave the go ahead and was told EV charging companies would install the equipment and the price they'd pay would be \$1,200 a year per car space for the use of the land.

The type of chargers to be installed was not known.

The Moruya Business Chamber voiced concern at its last meeting about the complete absence of fast chargers in town. The chamber believes Moruya will miss out on tourism spending as EV drivers move on to Batemans Bay or Narooma to use the available fast chargers.

At the moment there are six public chargers in Moruya, four at the Golf Club and two behind the Adelaide Hotel. All are trickle chargers that take many hours to fully charge a battery.

The council also approved a similar licence for EV chargers at the Visitor Centre in Narooma.



For those travelling the Kings Highway there is a new EV Charger at the Braidwood Servicemen's Club on the western side of town.

Moruya & Braidwood titles to be digitised on Trove

Researchers and historians will be rejoicing in the news that the National Library of Australia will be digitising four historic newspaper titles from Braidwood and the surrounding area.

Issues of the Braidwood News and Gold Fields General Advertiser from 1862, issues of the Braidwood News and Southern Gold-fields General Advertiser from 1864, issues of the Braidwood Observer and Miners' Advocate from 1859 to 1862, and issues of the Moruya Examiner from 1881 to 1896.

In total, the project will make over five thousand pages of historical newspaper content available. This material will be available on Trove from early in 2024, adding to the 24,683,303 pages of historic Australian newspapers already available in Trove.

The project was supported by a generous donation from Geoffrey White OAM, who is a Patron of the National Library, but also has a longstanding connection with the Braidwood area.

mm MORUYA MAIL

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The Moruya Mail is published by Capital Country Coast Pty Ltd

DEADLINE Thursday 12 noon
Publication time: Friday mornings

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WIN THIS EV

Win a MG ZS Essence Electric Vehicle
Valued at \$50,000

Fundraiser for Carers' Accommodation
at the new Eurobodalla Regional Hospital

"A great idea for Christmas presents for family & friends, giving them the opportunity to win this environmentally friendly all electric MG car and supporting this wonderful cause at the same time!"



Tickets only
\$50 each



All ticket enquiries can be made through text or phone to Col Jay 0429 190 299

Drawn following the sale of 3000 tickets
Charity Art Union No: 26731

MORUYA LIONS CLUB PRESENTS

MAJOR SPONSOR
MORUYA COUNTRY MARKET

MORUYA CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

@RIVERSIDE PARK, MORUYA 6PM - 9PM

23RD DEC
LOCAL ARTISTS FIREWORKS FREE EVENT

YUMARO



Café patrons listen to Carols and Christmas songs presented by the Eurobodalla Chamber Orchestra at Tukka Licensed Café on Friday. The orchestra has string and woodwind players, providing beautiful music for the ears, under the baton of Kathie Harris.

Bay Sculpture event gets \$20,000 from Council

By Phil Herrick

After a process that all agreed was messy and unfortunate for everyone involved, the Eurobodalla Shire Council is to give Sculpture for Clyde \$20,000 for marketing to support the event in late May 2024 and waive venue fees of \$8,074.

The saga saw the request for the grant considered at three council meetings, a council resolution the general manager termed “defective”, the last-minute cancellation of an extraordinary meeting to deal with a rescission motion and presentations by over a dozen speakers for and against the grant.

Those in support of the grant spoke of the cultural and economic benefits of the event that now offers a \$100,000 prize and is nationally significant.

Arguments against, revolved around the grant process, the perception of favourable treatment of the Bay event and the lack of open competition from other shire events for the \$20,000.

At no point did any of the speakers or councillors oppose the event in itself – it was always about the money.

The chair of the sculpture committee, David Maclachlan emphasised the event’s value for money where all winning sculptures are donated to the community for permanent exhibition on the Sculpture Walk along the Bay foreshore from the bridge to Batehaven.

“Our community gets great artworks at half price through the sculpture competition,” he said, and went on to detail a number of pieces that were worth a lot more than the prize money paid to the sculptor.

The question was raised asking why the Bay sculpture event was not a council recognised “Hallmark event” and given assured support like the Narooma Oyster Festival and River of Art. “We were told in no uncertain terms there were only two Hallmark events and we did not qualify,” Mr Maclachlan said.

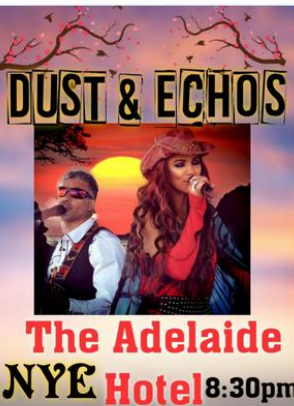
Cr Mayne then asked Kellee Pisanos, the staff member responsible for the events strategy if there was a more transparent process that could have been followed to ease concerns raised by those opposed to the gift.

“It has now been considered at three council meetings. I believe that’s very transparent,” she responded.

Ms Pisanos said a new events strategy will be developed in the new year and it will include more flexibility for requests for support.

When the vote was taken, Crs Mayne, Grace, Diskon, Schutz, Harrison and Dannock supported the gift of \$20,000 while Crs Pollock and Worthington voted against. Mayor Matt Hatcher had declared an interest and left the meeting, as he is a business partner of Mr Maclachlan.

ADELAIDE HOTEL MORUYA



Upcoming music at the Addie

- Chris McGrath
- 7pm 23rd Dec
- NYE Party
- Dust n Echoes

Where you're part of the family

Lunch and dinner 7 days a week
 Courtesy bus available
 call 44 742 084 for bookings



36 - 38 Vulcan Street, Moruya, ph 02 4474 2084

Australian Premier performances of Lend Me A Soprano



Curtain Call : Bell Hops (Carmel Mackin and James Gillett), Leo (Luke Ryan), Jo (Nichola Creighton), Mrs Wylie (Camilla Barr), Elena (Kersten Davis), Pasquale (Ben O'Connell), Jerry (Anthony Mayne) and Julia (Liz Fisher).

The last of 5 performances of the romantic comedy, Ken Ludwig's 'Lend Me A Soprano', was a sellout at the Moruya RSL Hall. The Red Door Theatre Company production was directed by Phillip Barr and was an Australian Premiere.

The rollicking comedy was set in 1930s Sydney with twists and turns in the plot till the end

Reviews left on [ticketor.com/mrdtc](https://www.ticketor.com/mrdtc) included: From Keith A.... "A near professional performance from excellent actors. Their timing of dialogue was brilliant."

And from Michael S.... "Simply Fantastic. The " Grow your own philosophy " really proves itself with this imaginative fully involved play at the Moruya Red Door theatre troupe. After seeing many plays in both Sydney and Canberra, my wife summed it up by saying " Lend me a Soprano was absolute best..." Might even book another night and once again be "transported" to another place within the 2 hours of mesmerising acting....loved it!"

This was the 10th play performed by the company in 7 years. The Moruya Red Door Theatre company are also celebrating as the Cast + Crew have been nominated for 6 Canberra Area Theatre Awards.

- Best Set - Lend Me a Soprano Phillip Barr.
- Best Actress Leading Role - Lend Me a Soprano Nichola Creighton.
- Best Actor Leading Role - Lend Me a Soprano Anthony Mayne.
- Best Monologue - Robin Aylott Chip in the Sugar.
- Best Ensemble - Acts of Passion (Curtain Call & Ladybirds).
- Best Original Script - Lost & Found by Jack Spahr.



Director Phillip Barr and Lighting and Sound Controller Michael Druce

Wishing you and your loved ones

Merry Christmas

AND A VERY HAPPY AND SAFE 2024



FIONA PHILLIPS MP
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR GILMORE



Authorised by Fiona Phillips MP, Nowra.

New push for camping in the heart of town

By Phil Herrick

An investigation into expanding camping at the Moruya Showground is about to get underway. It could see up to 200 people at any one time camping at the showground.

At the moment the only camping there is associated with big events like the show and the rodeo. This new proposal would see the showground become a council-controlled primitive camping ground similar to North Head, Dalmeny and Mystery Bay.

The move comes as council implements tasks outlined in the Moruya Showground Landscape Masterplan and the Moruya Golf Course and Showground Reserves Plan of Management that were adopted in 2018 and 2020

Kathy Arthur, council's director of community, arts and recreation services told the council meeting on Tuesday that options and issues about camping at the showground would be investigated and a report with findings and recommendations would later be given to councillors.

The benefits that are possible include increased use of showground facilities, reduced vandalism in the area as more people will be around, a financial boost to help pay for the upkeep the showground and more tourist spending for Moruya businesses.

Ms Arthur assured councillors that operators of existing camping and caravan parks in the Moruya area would be consulted as part of the work.

A number of showgrounds across NSW contain areas approved for primitive camping, offering overnight and short-term camping for caravans and campervans.

Have your say: heritage survey

The NSW Government is asking for your help to shape NSW's first Heritage Strategy. Join us in raising a voice for heritage and fill out the public survey by 31 March 2024. In 2024 the NSW Government will release NSW's first Heritage Strategy.

This will be a crucial step in protecting the historic places, objects and stories that make our State so unique.

To help guide the Heritage Strategy, the NSW Government is calling on communities to fill out a simple survey that takes around 10 minutes to complete.

This is a rare chance for everyone to share their views on the importance of heritage, and set a new direction for protecting these places for future generations. Fill out the survey

<https://www.haveyoursay.nsw.gov.au/nsw-heritage-strategy>

New tourism plan launched



South Head Beach

By Phil Herrick

A plan that aims to boost tourist spending in the shire has been launched. It identifies three main areas where tourism growth is possible, the wellness traveller, mountain bikers and people visiting friends and relatives.

Called the Eurobodalla Destination Action Plan, it is the new version of a plan first produced in 2018. It sets a direction to grow the visitor economy of the shire for the next five years. The 55-page document was produced for council by the consultants Destination Marketing Store.

The plan tells us that a quarter of overnight visitors to the shire are from Canberra, a quarter are from Sydney, 13 per cent are from nearby shires and the rest from other parts of Australia - and if we can convince a quarter of them to spend one extra night here we'd get an extra \$30 million into the local economy.

One surprising thing about the plan is the complete absence of focus on the major attractions that bring people to the Eurobodalla - the beach, waterways and fishing. Perhaps that is best, because if it ain't broke, so you don't need to fix it.

(Although, just quietly, the shower at Moruya South Head beach could really do with an upgrade. You have to nearly hug the post it's on just to get wet. It's not rocket science, council. Just copy what NPWS did at Shelly Beach - they're great!)



What's on at the Waterfront Hotel Moruya

1 - 5 Princes Hwy, Moruya (02) 4474 4399



DJS:
Joshua Brian / You're Welcome
Tennis Club DJs / The Usual Suspect DJs
18+ / 7pm-Late
TIX ON SALE NOW



Stuck for Xmas ideas?

Did you know we do awesome gift vouchers for our bar and bistro? Come in and see our friendly bar staff to purchase your voucher!

- **Boxing Day** Rumour Has It from 7pm
- **NYE party** with party band EKLYPSE along with our favourites 19 TWENTY! Tix on sale now!
- **January 13th** - Book now for Never Ending 80s v 90s Party
- **January 18th** THE RUBENS!
- **February 3rd** at 2pm SALTY NOISE
- **12 - 14 April** Moruya Blues & Roots Festival 2024



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Youth homelessness film - From couch surfing to seeking support



Eurobodalla Council's Youth Committee brainstorms ways to get the word out to the community on youth homelessness.

ESC - Eurobodalla Council's Youth Committee has collaborated with local services to create a short film on youth homelessness. The film, shot through the eyes of a young person, depicts challenges around not having a secure place to stay. The story emphasises their journey from couch surfing to seeking support from Campbell Page and the Moruya Youth Refuge. Council's youth development officer Ashley Darby said young people often don't know what services or support is available. "The youth committee wanted to help address homelessness locally and found out what was needed by services on the ground, using their creativity to help organisations like Campbell Page," Ms Darby said. "Last year, Campbell Page assisted over 200 homeless or at-risk young people along our coast. "The goal of the story is to de-stigmatise seeking help and show young people who don't have secure housing that they can confidentially reach out for free support by text, phone or email." Watch the short film on [Council's YouTube channel](#).

Council will campaign against family violence

By Phil Herrick

Action to reduce domestic and family violence in 2024 will be investigated by the Eurobodalla Shire Council.

At last Tuesday's council meeting, deputy mayor Alison Worthington asked her fellow councillors to agree to join the 16 Days of Activism campaign late next year.

"The campaign aims to raise awareness around the role we all can play in primary prevention to eliminate violence against women and their children," she said.

Cr Worthington said the program of events held by Orange City Council in November 2023 were a great source of inspiration.

"Their events included a night-time vigil for the 56 lives lost this year to domestic and family violence and an information session for local businesses to come along to learn how to recognise, respond and refer their staff and customers to support" she said.

Cr David Grace was strong in his support.

"This is a men's issue," he said. "We have to start saying it is unacceptable to make derogatory comments and for women to feel unsafe."

Cr Worthington's motion that council prepare a report to examine the opportunities and costs for events to be held during the 16 Days of Activism campaign was supported by all councillors at the meeting.

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Betta Brands.
Betta Deals.
Betta Service.

Crystal UHD

New Coffee Label will support young artists

It's now possible to drink good coffee and support student art. A painting by Year 10 student, Kayla Slattery adorns a new label from Guerrilla Roasters, and proceeds from the sale of the coffee blend will contribute to the Student Sculpture Prize at the 2024 Sculpture For Clyde exhibition.

Kayla was the winner of an art competition across local high schools and Guerrilla Roasters owner, Mat Hatcher is thrilled with the impact. Kayla also had an artwork at the Student Sculpture exhibition earlier this year.

"It's wonderful to see student art being showcased in the community," said organiser Frances Harmey. "By buying this label, coffee drinkers will be supporting creativity and rewarding young people for their skills."

"And we hope everyone will come to see the amazing student sculptures exhibited at the 2024 Sculpture For Clyde event."

Mr Hatcher, who enjoys supporting young people through various projects, said he was attracted by the colour and detail in Kayla's painting of a busy bee. This is the second student label to be added to his range of blends.

"The Coffee is available at the Mossy Cafes and in Burrill Lake at this stage," Mr Hatcher said. "We hope to have good sales over summer so money is available for the Student Sculpture Prize in May next year."



A new coffee blend and label was launched by the label artist Kayla Slattery, a Year 10 student at St Peter's Anglican College, and Mat Hatcher from Guerrilla Roasters Coffee blend. A portion of the proceeds will support the Sculpture For Clyde Student Sculpture Prize in 2024.

RAS Foundation delivers Christmas joy to Southern NSW Show Societies

Christmas has come early for twenty regional communities, including Eurobodalla, as pallets of presents were delivered to local Show Societies in a partnership between the RAS Foundation, Good360 and AgShows NSW.

An assortment of toys, books and other useful items, to the value of \$120,000, were packed by passionate volunteers from each organisation and distributed to Show Societies across the Riverina Murray, ACT, and Southeast and Tablelands regions.

Now in its sixth year, the annual collaboration has seen Christmas pallets delivered to a total of 163 rural and regional showgrounds and community halls in NSW.

RAS Foundation Manager, Cecilia Logan, said the RAS Foundation is honoured to drive an initiative that brings joy to so many people.

"The annual Christmas distribution is a special project for us, and we are grateful to once again partner with Good360 and AgShows NSW to help out communities in need during this important season", Cecilia Logan said.

"Over the years, the goods in these pallets have been instrumental in providing resources for Show Societies to be shared and distributed within their communities, bringing families together and ensuring every child has a gift under the Christmas tree".

"Our rural and regional communities are the beating heart of Australia, and this is a small but meaningful way that the RAS Foundation can give back to these areas".

The Christmas Distribution initiative is funded through fundraisers hosted every year by the RAS Foundation at the Sydney Royal Easter Show.

To ensure an equal distribution of gifts, recipient Show Societies are rotated each year. This year's deserving recipients are: Albion Park, Bega, Bemboka, Milton, Queanbeyan, Cobargo, Cooma, Camden, Braidwood, Dalgety, Nimmitabel, Moss Vale, Taralga, Nowra, Eurobodalla, Robertson, Batlow, Bombala, Tumut, Canberra.

Show Societies have distributed the toys and books at local Christmas events, in some cases co-ordinating with local Lions Clubs, Rural Fire Services, Women's and Children Resource Centres, Homelessness Support Services, and other local charities that assist families in need.

Each Society extended their heartfelt thanks to the RAS Foundation and its collaborators for such practical and generous support at this important time of year.

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New South Batemans Bay Link Road now open to traffic



Motorists will benefit from safer and smoother journeys between South Batemans Bay and the Princes Highway following completion of a major new Link Road. The new South Batemans Bay Link Road opened to traffic on Wednesday 20th December, just in time for the busy Christmas and summer school holiday period. The extension to Glenella Road will provide motorists with a critical connection between the existing Glenella Road and the Princes Highway while reducing congestion for local residents and visitors. Featuring a new roundabout on the Princes Highway and a new two-lane road connecting to the existing Glenella Road, previously upgraded by Eurobodalla Shire Council, the completed project will also reduce the risk of serious crashes. Minor work on the new Link Road will continue into 2024 with the installation of fauna crossings, landscaping work, final sealing and line marking activities, with the community to be given advance notice of any traffic impacts. The speed limit will remain at 60km/h after a Transport for NSW speed zone review found this would enable traffic to safely pass through the new roundabout, align with the surrounding speed limits and potentially save lives.

Minister for Regional Roads and Transport Jenny Aitchison said “This transformative project will take pressure off Beach Road, relieve congestion in the Batemans Bay CBD and support future growth in the area. “Most importantly, it will also reduce the likelihood of serious crashes and injuries. “More than 2500mm of rain fell across the project between October 2021 and November 2023, but crews have worked hard to finish major work before Christmas, so I want to thank them for their fantastic efforts and commitment to getting this road open despite the delays.” Member for Bega Dr Michael Holland said “We want to thank motorists and the community for their patience throughout the work; the end result has been well worth the wait. “I’m pleased to see Glenella Road has now been reopened between the Princes Highway and Heron Road with the upgraded two-lane road connecting the suburbs around Batemans Bay with the Princes Highway. “Access to The Ridge Road has also been reopened with a wider shoulder for passing vehicles on Glenella Road. This project is great for motorists living in, and visiting our region, and it reinforces the Minns Labor Government’s commitment to delivering for our communities.”

4TH ANNUAL

Free Coffee

BOXING DAY
25 CHURCH STREET MORUYA
8.00 - 12.00

RAISING MONEY FOR
SOUTH COAST COMMUNITY KITCHEN
& CARERS ACCOMODATION EUROBODALLA
REGIONAL HOSPITAL

OUR DONATING PARTNERS:

RR GUERRILLA ROASTERS **PEARL.** Lagom Bakery

WHO ARE THEY?

SOUTH COAST COMMUNITY KITCHEN

SOUTH COAST COMMUNITY KITCHEN HELP TO SERVE LOW INCOME HOUSEHOLDS IN BATEMANS BAY AND MORUYA BY DELIVERING FOOD PACKAGES PROVIDED THROUGH THE COLES SECOND-BITE PROGRAM.

South Coast Community Kitchen

WHO ARE THEY?

CARERS ACCOMODATION EUROBODALLA REGIONAL HOSPITAL

THE EUROBODALLA CARERS ACCOMODATION WILL BE ON SITE OF THE NEW REGIONAL HOSPITAL AND BE AVAILABLE FOR THOSE CARING FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE IN HOSPITAL. EMERGENCY ACCOMODATION IN EMERGENCY TIMES WHICH WILL REDUCE EMOTIONAL STRESS FOR PATIENTS.

CARERS

Share the shore, help birds survive



Pied Oystercatcher & 2 chicks, Durras Lake, Murrumbidgee NP.

ESC

It's a crucial time of year for threatened shorebird species like the hooded plover, little tern and oystercatchers who breed on Eurobodalla's beaches.

Council's environmental services manager Deb Lenson said shorebirds use soft sand above high tide marks and dune systems to nest between August and March.

"Shorebirds don't make the traditional bird nest – instead they lay their eggs in a tiny scrape in the sand," Ms Lenson said. "We really need the community to pay attention to signs and walk on wet sand where possible. If you see birds on the beach, keep your distance and make sure your dog is on a lead."

Ms Lenson said Council and NSW National Parks have been working together to help protect threatened shorebirds. She said off-leash dogs were a particular problem for chicks.

"Dogs are known to chase the young birds, which often lack the strength to survive the encounter," Ms Lenson said.

"The nesting period is hard for these birds as they also face foxes, floods, storms and disturbance from humans – but we can all do something about that last one."

Ms Lenson said there are a few simple steps to help keep beach-nesting birds safe:

- Look out for bird nesting signs or roped-off nesting areas on the beach and keep well away.
- Walk your dogs on dog-friendly beaches only and always keep them on a leash, unless you're on a designated off-leash beach.
- When you're near a nesting area, stick to the wet sand and give the birds plenty of space.
- Remember dogs are not allowed in National Parks

Council urges owners to be responsible for their dog's actions when walking in public. For more information on pet ownership and a map of dog-friendly beaches visit [Council's pet's page](#).

For more information on protecting shorebirds, visit NSW Environment's ['Share the Shore' web page](#).



Pied Oystercatcher nest.

Body found in search for missing boater – South Coast

The body of a man has been located on the Far South Coast. About 3.15pm on Tuesday 12 December 2023, emergency services were called to Haywards Beach, near Tilba Road, Bermagui, following reports a boat had washed ashore.

Officers from the South Coast Police District responded and commenced a search of the water and surrounding area, with assistance from Marine Area Command, Surf Life Savers, State Emergency Services and the Westpac Helicopter.

Despite an extensive search of the water and surrounding land, the 60-year-old man from Victoria was not located, and the search was suspended on Thursday 14 December 2023.

About 5.30pm (Monday 18 December 2023), the body of a man was located in the water at Haywards Beach, Bermagui. He is yet to be formally identified; however, is believed to be that of the missing man.

A report will be prepared for the information of the coroner.



SAGE Farmers Market

Tuesday 3pm Moruya

sagefarmersmarket.org.au

growing the community

Forestry Corporation ordered to pay \$104,000



Some of the hollow-bearing trees found felled at Mogo State Forest. Photos Nick Hopkins

Environment Protection Authority

Forestry Corporation of NSW (FCNSW) is required to pay more than \$100,000 after illegally felling hollow bearing trees in **Mogo State Forest** on the South Coast in March 2020.

The sentence was handed down after FCNSW challenged one of three \$15,000 penalty infringement notices issued by the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA), for breaching site-specific operating conditions following the damaging 2019/20 black summer bushfires.

Under these conditions, FCNSW was required to permanently retain all hollow-bearing trees to prevent the loss of habitat for hollow-dependent species.

Following the challenge, FCNSW was found guilty of the offence under the Forestry Act 2012 in Bega Local Court in November 2023. The Magistrate was satisfied all four trees had visible hollows before they were cut down.

The sentence was delivered in Batemans Bay Local Court yesterday, convicting FCNSW and ordering them to pay a fine of \$20,000 and \$84,340 to the EPA as legal costs.

EPA Executive Director of Regulatory Operations Jason Gordon welcomed the sentence and said the court's decision supports the EPA's position that the visibility of tree hollows must be assessed broadly, and requires scrutiny from several different angles.

"All hollow-bearing trees, living or dead, are important because they provide vital habitat for endangered and native species," Mr Gordon said.

"They can take decades to naturally form and provide a necessary refuge for animals from the weather and predators, as well as safe sites for roosting and breeding.

"Any decrease in the availability and variety of tree hollows can lead to a significant loss of species diversity and abundance.

"This outcome is a great result for the EPA and signifies the care needed when conducting forestry operations to comply with conditions and ensure homes for our wildlife are protected."

In sentencing, the Magistrate said there's no reason for a casual approach to environmental protection and the community views environmental offences as extremely serious.

The Magistrate required FCNSW to publicise the offence and the orders made against it in the Sydney Morning Herald and the Bay Post/ Moruya Examiner which would send a clear message of deterrence.

Nick Hopkins from Coastwatcher Associations said "FCNSW has wasted the court's time and taxpayers money making this challenge to the EPA. It should have accepted the original fine which the magistrate increased along with awarding of costs against FCNSW. It's also yet another example of the inability of logging contractors to operate within the rules expressly designed to protect the environment."

MORUYA DISTRICT HOSPITAL AUXILIARY



TUROSS SUMMER STALL

At the Presbyterian Church Hall
Cnr Craddock Road and Drake Street
Tuross Head



Cakes Plants Craft Books Bric a Brac

Eftpos Available

Saturday 13th January 2024

8.00am to 2.00pm

Raising Funds to purchase Hospital Equipment for Moruya Hospital
Registered Charity CFN 11058



TUROSS HEAD RURAL FIRE BRIGADE SANTA RUN 2023

It wouldn't be summer or Christmas without it!

You need to know:

Saturday 23rd December:

- Drop off gifts at the fire shed (Drake Street) between 2:00 and 6:00pm
 - Securely wrapped, labelled with street and number plus name of recipient
 - \$2 donation per gift

Sunday 24th December:

- Gifts will be delivered by Santa between 2:00 and 6:00pm
- Santa will come to your front gate. Please don't let children run across the road



Stop Work Order extended in Tallaganda State Forest



NSW Environment Protection Authority

20th December 2023

The NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has extended a Stop Work Order applying to parts of Tallaganda State Forest, near Braidwood.

The extension of the Stop Work Order was required because Forestry Corporation NSW (FCNSW) is yet to advise the EPA that it has undertaken the necessary surveys to identify and protect Southern Greater Glider den trees. The NSW EPA is continuing to engage with FCNSW.

The Stop Work Order was first issued to FCNSW by the EPA on 30 August 2023. Since then, the EPA has recorded 89 endangered Southern Greater Gliders and 20 den trees in areas subject to the Stop Work Order. Those areas had been earmarked for harvesting or planned harvesting operations.

Under the Coastal Integrated Forestry Operations Approval (CIFOA), FCNSW is required to plan, implement and conduct forestry operations in a competent manner. Once identified, FCNSW is required to protect den trees and implement 50 metre exclusion zones around them.

Den trees and their surrounding habitat are critical for Southern Greater Gliders feeding and movement. Removal of habitat removes shelter and food, making the gliders vulnerable to harm.

The EPA is also continuing its investigation into other alleged breaches detected in Tallaganda State Forest. These investigations include a range of alleged non-compliances with the CIFOA such as alleged damage to habitat of threatened species and/or ecological communities, alleged damage to environmentally sensitive areas and alleged failure to retain trees in accordance with the CIFOA.

Forestry Corporation trials new methods for identifying Greater Glider dens

20 December 2023

Forestry Corporation of NSW is trialling new ways of searching for Greater Glider dens in the wake of proposed introduction of survey requirements for this species tabled by the Environment Protection Authority.

The ruleset governing native forestry in NSW, the Coastal Integrated Forestry Operations Approval (CIFOA) outlines the protections for threatened species at a landscape level. These have been implemented for the past 5 years without any concerns being raised. However, in recent months Forestry Corporation has received stop work orders in two south coast forests related to searching for Greater Glider dens.

General Manager Hardwood Forests, Daniel Tuan, said that since the EPA raised concerns in Tallaganda State Forest in August this year, Forestry Corporation had been working with the EPA to understand the new desired survey requirements for dens and trialling new methods to achieve this.

"In the past we used spotlight transect sample surveys to search for Greater Gliders themselves to understand the density of glider populations in forests. These were conducted in the hours after sunset along tracks and trails to ensure it was safe for the people walking in the bush after dark and dens were seldom sighted.

"It was thought that thermal UAVs might offer a better alternative to finding dens so we have been trialling different technologies and methods in these two forests."

Across Tallaganda and Flat Rock State Forests eight nights of targeted Greater Glider surveys have been undertaken involving over 30 UAV flights.

The UAV flights must meet CASA regulations and require pilots to be CASA certified and qualified to fly drones with 'extended visual line of sight' and 'night operations'.

"This is a brand new proposed survey approach so we are trialling everything from the type of UAV fitted with equipment like thermal imaging cameras and spotlights, the duration of the flight, the speed, height, intensity of sampling and data recording requirements," Mr Tuan said.

"All of this has to be done when it is relatively cool to allow for thermal cameras to detect animals, so the survey flights are being conducted either late at night or very early morning. The efficacy of these surveys and the different equipment and techniques is simply not known at this stage.

"In Tallaganda we already knew Greater Gliders were present as we have been undertaking a monitoring program there for several years which has detected hundreds of records. In these latest trials with UAVs we found over 80 individual Greater Gliders but the technology did not allow us to identify any dens. In Flat Rock, which is a coastal forest less suitable for Greater Gliders, we found 2 individual Greater Gliders but again no dens." The UAV surveys have been conducted using a combination of new UAVs purchased by Forestry Corporation and a number of expert UAV specialist companies who have extensive experience in land and forest management applications.

"We have more trials planned across a series of other forests over the next month to see if we can find a method that can reliably identify dens across the landscape," Mr Tuan said.

"Protecting the habitat of threatened species is always a priority for us and something that the CIFOA ruleset is predicated on.

"With the trials of UAVs are proving challenging, we have also proposed alternate precautionary measures to the EPA across a broad range of forests we know Gliders use to augment the protections that are already in the ruleset."

Under the existing CIFOA ruleset, planning for harvesting operations in these two forests included over 300 kilometres of detailed habitat assessment traverse with over 6000 hollow bearing trees and over 2000 giant trees marked for protection. Hollow bearing trees will often be used as dens for arboreal mammals and birds, but can only be recorded as a 'den' when an animal is seen entering or emerging from the hollow.

"We are committed to protecting Greater Gliders and other threatened species and have also proposed alternate precautionary measures across a broad range of forests we know Gliders use to augment the protections that are already in the ruleset."

EPA Stop Work Order extended in Flat Rock State Forest

NSW Environment Protection Authority - 22 December

The NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has extended a Stop Work Order for Compartment 34A in Flat Rock State Forest near Ulladulla that prevents harvesting by Forestry Corporation of NSW (FCNSW).

The Stop Work Order has been extended as the EPA considers FCNSW measures to search for and identify protected species and their habitat have not been conducted in a competent manner.

This follows a report by FCNSW to the EPA that their drone survey did not find any endangered Southern Greater Gliders, however an EPA drone survey undertaken since the first Stop Work Order was issued found four endangered Southern Greater Gliders in the unharvested part of Compartment 34A.

The EPA's drone survey found a total of 10 endangered Southern Greater Gliders and 55 other smaller Gliders, including feather-tailed gliders and sugar gliders, in and around the compartment that was being harvested. The Flat Rock Stop Work Order was first issued on 14 November 2023 after an EPA inspection identified an endangered Southern Greater Glider den tree within 30 metres of active logging. The EPA understands that no den trees were identified by FCNSW prior to logging commencing.

The density of Gliders found during the EPA survey suggests further den trees may be present. To date no additional den trees have been located, however further EPA surveys are planned in January 2024.

Southern Greater Gliders rely on den trees and the surrounding habitat for shelter, feeding and movement. Once den trees are identified they are required to be protected with a 50 metre exclusion zone around them. Under the Coastal Integrated Forestry Operations Approval, FCNSW is required to plan, implement and conduct forestry operations in a competent manner. The EPA is continuing to work with FCNSW regarding their survey methodology.

The EPA's investigation is ongoing.

> Photo: Activists from [Sefr Southeast Forest Rescue](#), [Brooman State Forest Conservation Group](#), [Forest Defence NSW](#), [Friends of the Forest](#) and [Bob Brown Foundation](#) halting logging in Flat Rock State Forest compartment 34A in November.



RFS Benevolent Fund giving back to firefighters and families

The RFS Benevolent Fund, a charity created to provide support to RFS members and their families during challenging times, has been officially formed and is now available to help.

To support the new Fund, communities will be able to recognise firefighters while supporting recycling efforts through a partnership with the 'Return and Earn' program.

The RFS Fund, born out of the remarkable generosity of people in Australia and around the world, aims to assist RFS members, especially the families of those who lost their lives or were injured or fell ill while serving the community.

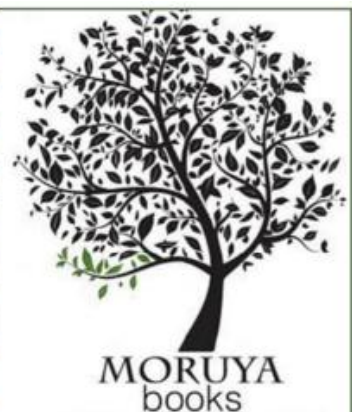
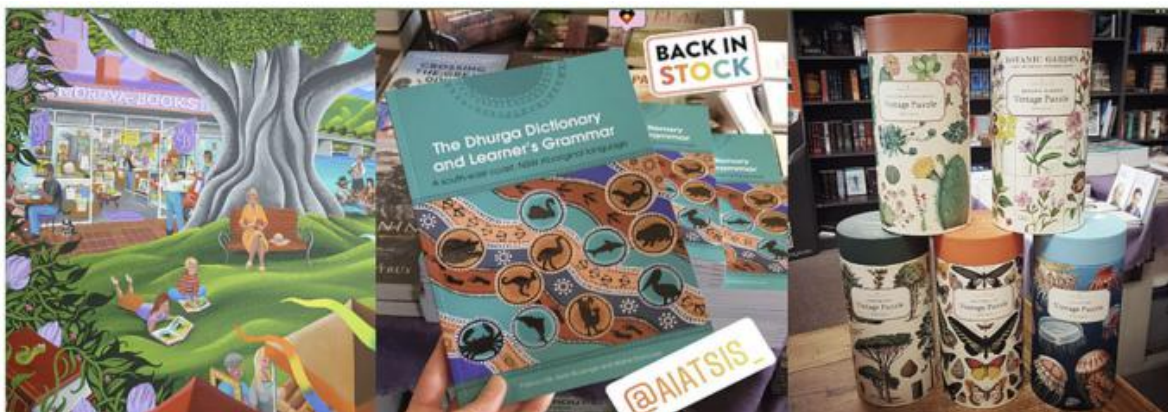
Following the devastating Black Summer fires a total of \$110 million in donations was given to the NSW Rural Fire Service and Brigades Donations Fund, with \$10 million of this support channelled to establish the RFS Benevolent Fund.

Mr. Ken Moroney AO APM MA, a distinguished figure with a 42-year track record in the police force and former NSW Commissioner of Police, will chair the Fund.

The board is now focused on supporting firefighters and their families and partnering with charitable initiatives, to keep the Fund self-sustained and assist in raising additional resources.

The board also includes Nancy Fox AM FAICD as Deputy Chair, Louise Meijer as Treasurer, Elizabeth Svoboda as Secretary, along with Trevor Anderson PSM AFSM, David Jordan, and former RFS Commissioner Phil Koperberg AO AFSM BEM serving as members. One of the initial collaborations is with the NSW Government's 'Return and Earn' scheme. This partnership aims to leverage community efforts in litter reduction and recycling, converting these endeavours into funds supporting the RFS Benevolent Fund. From now until April 2024, individuals can choose to donate the 10c return deposit to the RFS Benevolent Fund, the current statewide donation partner for the scheme.

More information on the RFS Benevolent Fund, including details of making a donation or applying for assistance, can be found on the Fund's website www.rfsbenevolentfund.org.au



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A guide to some of the best sites in South Coast state forests

Forestry Corp

To help families, who want to get out in nature over the summer holidays, we have put together a list of some of the best attractions in local state forests.

From free camping trips to day excursions and picnics, local forests offer a fun and free experience and there's loads to see and do on the South Coast.

State forest visitors will notice improvements to roads, campsites and attractions with widespread investment in construction works and maintenance across the forest estate over the past year.

To help you experience the best of what the region has to offer, Forestry Corporation has suggested a list of popular state forest experiences in your neck of the woods.

List of popular activities

- Visit the beautiful Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens – Mogo State Forest
- Pack a picnic basket – Bermagui Picnic Area – Bermagui State Forest
- Take a leisurely walk at one of the many South Coast walking trails.
- Explore hundreds of kilometers of sweet Single Track at one of the many State Forest based mountain bike destinations.
- Try and spot a platypus at Imlay Creek Rest Area – Timbillica State Forest.
- Wake up to bird song – Paddys River Dam – Bago State Forest

Forestry Corporation's Southern NSW Partnerships Leader, Brendan Grimson, said State forests offer a lot to people wanting to get away for a day trip.

"We encourage people to put State forests on their day trip plans, as well as supporting local businesses along the way," Brendan said.

"Yadboro Flat Camp Ground, Bermagui Picnic Area and Scrubby Creek Rest Area are just the tip of the iceberg of family friendly locations on the South Coast.

"We encourage people to visit State forests during their travels, you can take the family dog, pack a picnic lunch and find your own special place off busy well-travelled routes.

"These sites are just the tip of the iceberg for family friendly locations on the South Coast," he said.

Visitors should go to the Forestry Corporation website and make note of closures, notices and Solid Fuel Fire Bans before heading out to the forest.

We also urge motorists in state forests to stick to formed roads and trails and be mindful of other forest users and changing conditions.

With more than 2-million hectares of State forests across NSW, there are endless places to discover and experiences to share.

"Our State forests have spectacular scenery and award-winning visitor areas. I encourage everyone to get out and discover their new favourite places and make the most of the favourable conditions these holidays," Brendan said.

"Visitors can also follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) for up-to-date information on places to visit."

Sleighting Christmas holiday waste woes

Eurobodalla Council's rapid response team will be back in action this Christmas, keeping holiday rubbish in check and public toilets clean.

General Manager Warwick Winn wants visitors, residents and businesses to rest assured toilets will be clean and garbage bins emptied over the busy summer holidays.

"We've engaged our contract cleaners to provide extra services, and for the very high demand time over Christmas and New Year we'll have even more bins and an extra pickup at the popular tourist spots," he said.

"Again we'll have Council staff out and about across the shire keeping an eye on things; checking bins don't overflow, toilets are open and in good order, and acting as a point of contact with the public.

"This is the approach we took over the Australia Day and Easter holidays and it worked very well."

High-use public toilets in Batemans Bay, Mogo, Moruya and Narooma will be cleaned three times each day instead of twice. Outside these additional scheduled services, the rapid response team will be on call for any issues as they arise.

Mr Winn acknowledged Eurobodalla's public toilets are an ongoing issue.

"Many are old and outdated. Longer term, they require more than good cleaning. We finalised Eurobodalla's public toilet strategy in June and work to improve the 67 council-maintained public toilets is well underway."

To report overflowing public garbage bins or public toilets in need of cleaning over the summer holidays, contact Eurobodalla Council 24/7 on 4474 1000 or use the Snap Send Solve app.

BUILDINGS ACROSS OUR SHIRE ARE OPENING THEIR DOORS!

THE RED DOOR HALL MORUYA HEATWAVE & BUSHFIRE SMOKE HAVEN

The Red Door Hall Heatwave Haven will be open 10am-7pm when there are 2+ days of declared extreme heatwave conditions to keep you safe from the health impacts of excessive heat.

The Haven has

- *air conditioning
- *fans
- *volunteers on duty
- *games and entertainment kit
- *drinks and nibbles

Dogs on leads welcome as well.

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY SHASA SOUTH COAST HEALTH AND SUSTAINABILITY ALLIANCE PLEASE CONTACT KATHRYN MAXWELL TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST TO ASSIST WITH THE RUNNING OF THE HEATWAVE HAVEN AT THE RED DOOR HALL MORUYA ON 0467558645 OR EMAIL CONTACT.SHASA@GMAIL.COM



Author, Journalist and Screenwriter Robert Macklin has been writing THE GADFLY PAPERS since 2012.

Gadfly

Sociologists tell us Christmas is a dangerous time of the year. The stats for December depression show that all over the country there are people feeling left out and teary.

Well, maybe so. What they don't yet realise is it's only a fraction of the real collateral disaster of the jolly Santa season. And it's getting worse every year. But the real snake in the stocking is the pernicious practice of plastic packaging!

It is a worldwide blight. It not only causes millions of cut fingers spilling more rivers of blood than you'd find in a dozen Stanley Kubrick movies of Jack Nicholson going nuts in a deserted hotel, but I can also personally testify that it drives formerly peaceable grandfathers into wild, demented beasts.

It began so innocently. When Wendy and I furnished our first house in the then distant reaches of Pearce in the great Canberra expansion of the 1970s, my bride proudly ordered a small bookcase. To my surprise it arrived in a package of timber bound in soft plastic with another small bag containing four little legs. 'This'll be fun,' I thought, rolling up my sleeves to conquer this DIY challenge to my manhood.

I opened the instructions (in several languages). First step, 'Take the allen key...' it said. I was instantly stumped. I searched the plastic bag – nothing even vaguely resembling a key...and who was Allen anyway? Wendy was no help. She had a cousin named Alan but he was back in Temora and she didn't know his phone number. Actually, the phone wasn't even connected so we couldn't call her Dad in Red Hill either.

Undeterred, I saddled up with a few nails and screws and a new product called Super Glue. Three hours later – after I'd finally unstuck myself from the furniture and the shagpile carpet – we had the only bookcase in Canberra that Picasso would have applauded for its engaging cubist influences. It held its books upright with the iron Wendy discarded from her trousseau after declaring 'the end of the iron age.'

What we didn't realise was that it was the beginning of a terrible trend. In the next decade the plastic packaging industry took off. Supermarkets started putting more fruit and vegies in packs; and in time they'd price them so you always bought more than you needed and they'd spoil before you ate the last of them.

But the real demons were the hardware people. Where once you could buy however many individual nails or screws you needed for a job, now you had to buy a packet containing enough to build a substantial granny flat.

Then they packaged everything in hard plastic – even the tools you needed to open the packaging to get to the other stuff. And this year, they've gone right over the top. They now package women's cosmetics in such hard plastic that it defies the sharpest scissors to get to the soft, downy powder inside. And here's the ultimate Chrissy crusher. The packages of bon-bons with their little Chinese sayings and paper hats are themselves secreted behind hard plastic shells!

The solution? Easy – just sharpen the kitchen scissors to such a fine edge that the hard plastic will bare its contents to the celebraters. Trouble is, the scissor sharpener itself is protected by a hard, transparent plastic covering that defies all efforts to remove it.

That's when the formerly peaceable grandfather begins to feel a tingling at the base of the spine that presages what I call the terminal transformation. One glance at the dining room mirror, and Mr Peaceable's facial features are suddenly reminiscent of Jack Nicholson himself. Yes, there's that unforgettable, lascivious Christmas grin. 'Heeeeere's...Johnny!'
robert@robertmacklin.com



South Coast Property Specialists Franzen Tips # 1176

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Well, it is that time of the year again when our little piece of paradise expands with in the influx of visitors who are hopefully willing to spend up big on our local products and services. Real Estate wise it has been a more difficult year with the interest rate increases certainly slowing our market for most of the year. But, as we have reported, the market is swinging back again and 2024 looks to be a great year for real estate sales. As the year draws to close, all of our staff would love to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a happy and safe new year.

UNTIL NEXT WEEK ... GOD BLESS



100 years ago from the Moruya & District Historical Society



View of Bodalla from top of Church tower

22nd December 1923

Record heat experienced here last Saturday – 104 in the shade. [40°C]

Monday and Thursday, 25th and 27th Dec., have been gazetted public holidays for Moruya and a radius of 10 miles therefrom.

It is needless to remind our sporting fraternity that Bodalla's annual pony race will take place on **Boxing Day**, as this popular meeting is the general topic of conversation at present. The program is a very liberal one, in consequence of which the nominations constitute a record.

Mr. Godfred Hanscom, who announced in our last issue, that he would commence a Sunday motor service to Nowra tomorrow, 22nd inst., was approached by so many passengers to book seats that he had a full complement for a load in a few hours, and therefore made his initial trip last Sunday.

Batemans Bay. (From our Correspondent.) The residents of Batemans Bay and surrounding district received a severe shock on Saturday night when it was learnt that a fire had destroyed the residence of Mr. Albert Ryan, and that his little eight-year-old daughter Addie had perished in the flames. It appears that about 11 p.m., one of the children, Maudie, raised the alarm that the curtains and wall paper in their room had caught fire, and the father and mother made all haste to save the children, but although the four of them got to a place of safety the fire gained so quickly that the other girl, Addie, was overcome, and her charred remains were not recovered until after the house had been burnt to the ground. The Coroner's enquiry was held on Monday morning and on Monday afternoon the remains were laid to rest at the Catholic cemetery. ... No greater calamity has ever occurred at the Bay, and the expressions of sympathy for the sorrowing parents were far and wide.

Moruya District Hospital. Correspondence; From Bodalla Co., enclosing £5 donation to Hospital funds; also £16 10s donation from the people of Bodalla through the untiring efforts of Mr. F. N. Brice; From Miss Loader applying for the position of general at the Hospital. The Secretary and President's action in engaging Miss Loader was endorsed.

The House Committee reported the pump needs attention and also the bath heater. Mr. Preddey consented to attend to these matters as soon as possible. It was also necessary to have some wood split, and this matter was left in the Presidents hands.

General Business: The matter of feeding the cow at the hospital was allowed to the present matron's own judgement; The matter of renting the hospital paddock was left to stand over.



Merry Christmas from the Moruya & District Historical Society



At **Art on the Path** in Broulee last Saturday, Allana, Emma and Mimosia spruik the new Pharmacycle recycling of blister packs at the Library.

Underwater Heatwave threatens crucial kelp habitat

With a marine heatwave underway off the NSW south coast, Victorian coast and east coast of Tasmania, the Bureau of Meteorology has predicted sea temperatures could reach 2.5 degrees above average this summer which would wreak havoc on fragile kelp ecosystems.

Kelp forests cover one third of the world's coastlines, are vital to ocean food chains and the life cycle of hundreds of aquatic species, including species in some of our major fisheries. Despite this they're largely missing from international environmental governance regimes.

Kelp forests are a key part of the Great Southern Reef, a huge series of reefs along Australia's southern coastline. Ocean scientist Professor Gretta Pecl, Director for the Centre for Marine Socioecology at the University of Tasmania and author of the Australian ocean section of the latest IPCC report, said:

"The scientific community is extremely concerned about the Great Southern Reef. CSIRO's declaration of a marine heatwave for the NSW south coast is devastating but not surprising. With a warming climate and forecasts of unprecedented and 'off the charts' marine heat this summer, our marine ecosystems are at risk of utter devastation.

"We're observing the transformation of the oceans in real time, as marine species move to survive. In Australia, at least 200 marine species have shifted since 2003, with the vast majority headed south. As waters warm further south, many will have nowhere left to go.

"While climate change has already caused extensive change to our oceans – and we'll continue to see devastating impacts for decades – stronger action by governments to reign in fossil fuels right now can limit future harms and ensure more species and ecosystems are given a fighting chance.

Scientists agree: the single most important action we can take now is to leave fossil fuels in the polluting past – and it has to happen this decade."

Operation Trident takes aim at illegal seafood collection this holiday season

DPI - With the 2023 festive season upon us, authorities are clamping down on illegal seafood sales in a joint operation between NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI), the NSW Food Authority and NSW Police.

NSW DPI Deputy Director General Fisheries Sean Sloan said, Fisheries Officers will be cracking down specifically on the sale of illegal seafood with the aim of keeping consumers safe this Christmas, with 'Operation Trident'.

"Now in its 16th consecutive year, Operation Trident has been put in place once again to crack down on the illegal harvesting of Seafood across NSW," Mr Sloan said. "The Christmas and New Year holiday period is always the peak season for seafood and oyster consumption, which also leads to a rise in illegal seafood trading.

"We are working with NSW Police and the NSW Food Authority to ensure that the seafood that lands on NSW plates is safe, lawfully obtained and sustainably harvested.

"Our operation includes both covert and overt patrols and inspections across NSW and is designed to deter oyster theft and protect consumers against potentially unsafe black-market produce. "Maximum fines of up to \$275,000 and imprisonment apply, and offences are created in the black-market trade by both sellers and buyers."

NSW Food Authority CEO Dr Lisa Szabo said NSW is known for producing a diverse range of delicious, fresh, and healthy seafood that is enjoyed by customers all over the world, and we want to keep it that way.

"The black-market oyster trade poses a health risk to consumers, and we strongly urge the public not to consume Seafood products if they do not know where it has come from," Dr Szabo said.

"Stolen oysters might not come from an area covered by the NSW Shellfish Program, so the NSW Food Authority recommends people only buy oysters from reputable retailers as these oysters have been monitored for their safety by industry professionals."

State Rural Crime Coordinator Detective Chief Inspector Cameron Whiteside from the Rural Crime Prevention Team, NSW Police Force said in recent weeks we have seen an increase in Oyster theft heading into the busy holiday period.

"We encourage people to report these thefts so we can have timely investigations and put a stop to this activity," Mr Whiteside said. "Our operation includes covert and overt operations across NSW by Rural Crime Investigators and are designed to detect and deter oyster theft and protect consumers against potentially unsafe black-market produce."

The public are urged to report illegal or suspected illegal fishing activities to the Fishers Watch Phoneline on 1800 043 536 or via the online report form here - <https://fal.cn/3gJWh> and Anyone with information on marine-related crimes should contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000, or use the Crime Stoppers online reporting page: www.police.nsw.gov.au

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2024 <<<<<<

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Street Rally planned to support Batemans Bay Emergency Department not closing

By Peter Ryan

Batemans Bay local residents are showing over whelming support for the campaign to have their Emergency Department remain open 24/7 when the new Eurobodalla Hospital at Moruya opens.

A recent campaign by a small committee to alert locals to the pending closure has meet with massive support from Postcode 2536 residents & visitors who appear to have had no idea or expectations that they would lose an Emergency Department from there large and growing population. A Public Forum at Batemans Bay Soldiers Club alerted over 400 attendees to the pending closure with a ground swell of support since.

One of the main outcomes of the meeting was the commencement of a Public Petition to gain 10,000 plus signatures to support this vital service remaining. Campaign committee spokesperson Peter Ryan advised “we are approx. half way there in gaining the required minimum number of Petition signatures. It seems that everyone had no idea this service would be lost with everyone volunteering their signature to our petition”. The next stage in the campaign will be an organised Public Rally – a procession through Batemans Bay CBD to show support and invite more signatures to our Petition. Meetings with Health authorities and political members has failed to gain any support to date. “Everyone in an authority position appears to be blind to the devastating impact this will have on the community and the large number of visitors. Simply put lives will be lost – will it be you, a loved one or family member who dies in an Ambulance or back seat of a car?”.

A Public street Rally -procession has now been organised for Saturday 6th January 2024. Anyone interested in the debate, for or against, are invited to join the March. People will be asked to assemble at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial site, Beach Road Batemans Bay from 9.30am. The March will commence at 10.00 and will follow Beach Road side walk to the traffic lights at Orient Street, We will turn right at Orient street and walk to the Batemans Bay foreshore Park near Innes Boatshed were an update address will be provided to the Public. All State, Federal MP's & members of Southern Area Health have been invited.

The organisers simply believe this is a common sense approach to the Health needs of residents. It IS NOT against the new Eurobodalla Hospital to be built – we support the new Eurobodalla Hospital but strongly believe a vital service of an Emergency Department in Batemans Bay can't be ignored for such a large population base.”

Summer road safety in the Eurobodalla

NSW Police Force, Transport for NSW and Eurobodalla Shire Council are encouraging drivers to look out for each other and drive safely this summer with road fatalities in the region up on 2022.

A Transport for NSW spokesperson said, since last Christmas there have been nine lives lost on roads in the Eurobodalla shire, three more than the 12 months prior.

“Seven fatalities in the past 12 months have been on the Princes Highway, which is always busy during our summer season, with people travelling to and from our region,” the spokesperson said.

“Of the seven fatalities, at least three were speed related and two due to fatigue. “Regardless of the distance you're travelling, do so safely by, wearing your seatbelt or helmet, make sure you're well rested and take regular breaks, put down the mobile phone, drive to the sign-posted speed limit and never drive if you're affected by drugs or alcohol.

“To help improve safety along the Princes Highway, Transport for NSW has recently carried out improvement work and reduced speed limits at a number of key locations.

“This includes widened centre lines on the highway between Mogo and Moruya and widened centre lines and dedicated turning lanes between Turlinjah and Bumbo Road at Bodalla, to separate traffic and reduce the risk of head on crashes.

The new South Bateman Bay Link Road roundabout will also improve safety for those coming in and out of Glenella Road.

“We have also implemented speed reductions north of Batemans Bay and Moruya, to help reduce the likelihood and severity of crashes.

“We remind motorists to be aware of the speed limit at all times, whether on the highway or local roads as it may have recently changed.”

NSW Police will have an increased presence on the network this holiday season, so you'll see more patrolling the roads at all times of the day.

Supervisor of Batemans Bay Highway Patrol Sergeant Angus Duncombe said, “The message is simple. If you do the wrong thing - whether it be speeding, using your phone while driving or drink or drug driving - expect to get caught and face the consequences.”

Transport for NSW has also partnered with Eurobodalla Council, delivering safety initiatives for locals including motorcycle safety workshops, caravan weigh days, random breath testing at events, and road safety workshops at Moruya TAFE. This work will continue in the new year.

Council's Road Safety Officer Emily Evans said, “Road safety is everyone's responsibility and - whether you're planning a road trip to Sydney or Canberra, taking the caravan out, or driving five minutes up the road - doing the right thing these holidays means we all get home safely.”

Supporting The Regions – Applications Open for Local Community Grants

The Federal Government is supporting the continued recovery from COVID-19 in the regions, with up to \$10,000 available to community groups across regional, remote and rural Australia.

The Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal's (FRRR) Strengthening Rural Communities program provides grants of up to \$10,000 to support local organisations to uplift their communities following significant disruption from COVID-19.

Grants could be for initiatives such as workshops, education programs or improving facilities and community equipment.

The last round, delivered in November, saw 55 local-led projects across the country shared in over \$470,000 in grants.

The Albanese Government has invested \$5 million from 2022 to 2024 in the Rebuilding Regional Communities stream of the FRRR's Strengthening Rural Communities program.

This is the final round of the Rebuilding Regional Communities stream and applications close 5pm AEDT 26 February 2024.

For further information and how to apply visit www.frrr.org.au/funding/place/src-rebuilding-regional-communities/

Hold Fast Distillery gin school gift voucher a spirited gift this Christmas



Hold Fast Distillery, a regular at the Sage Market in Moruya, is sharing its craftsmanship by inviting the curious to come and see how it all happens at the new Gin School in Braidwood.

The Gin School offers an immersive experience. It's not just a school, it's a journey into the heart of gin making. Attendees will have the unique opportunity to learn about the intricate process of gin distillation, from selecting the finest botanicals to understanding the delicate balance of flavours. With a hands-on approach, participants are guided through the process of creating their own bespoke gin, tailored to their palate.

The school is equipped with state-of-the-art mini-stills, allowing each student to experiment with different combinations of botanicals under the expert guidance of Hold Fast's master distillers.

Dive into botanical bliss with access to over 40 botanicals, craft your very own gin recipe that's uniquely yours.

"We believe in not just crafting exceptional spirits, but also in imparting our knowledge and passion for distillation," says the founder of Hold Fast Gavin Gillin.

The Gin School's interior in the Historic Braidwood Hotel, reflects the distillery's ethos, blending rustic charm with contemporary design, creating an inviting atmosphere that echoes the artisanal spirit of Hold Fast.

All are welcome, whether you're a gin novice or a seasoned enthusiast, the gin school caters to all skill levels.

The Gin School's bookings are already filling up fast, but Gift Vouchers are available for that unique present this Christmas. For more information, prices or to book your spot at the Gin School, visit Hold Fast Distillery's website. www.holdfastdistillery.com.au



Free Community Christmas Lunch

at the Red Door Hall
St John's Church Moruya


Saturday 23rd December
11.30am for 12.00 noon

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL


Please Call
Ilonka 0428 213 787
or
Sharron 0467 586 912

Moruya Artisan Factory
home of
Quantum Brewery
(NOTE DIFFERENT TIMES)

Sunday
17 Dec 23
2-5pm
TOTUM
Acoustic guitar and vocals duo



Saturday
30 Dec 23
5-8pm
SAM FLETCHER
Easy going acoustic guitar & smooth vocals



Hold Fast Distillery

Hold Fast Distillery Braidwood

Creators of hand crafted Australian spirits. Specialising in whisky, gin and vodka.

Info@holdfastdistillery.com.au

holdfastdistillery.com.au



Mirrabooka Showjumping

MRC SUMMER SHOW FEATURING THOROUGHBRED SHOWCASE

6-7th January
\$13500 Total Prize pool
Including Cash/Rugs/Feed

Moruya NSW

Thoroughbred Showcase
8 Rugs
\$6500 Cash
20 Bags Hygain
\$300 Equissage Vouchers
Teams Event!

PLANET TX ★ TUKKA CAFE OPEN MIC NIGHT

PRESENTED BY TUKKA LICENCED CAFE MORUYA

ALL AGES, ALL WELCOME ★ RESTAURANT ★ BRING AN INSTRUMENT

EVERY THURSDAY EVENING!
FROM 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM
ENQUIRES CALL PLANET TX MUSIC 4474 5000

EUROBODALLA BRANCH
ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE NSW

Every Dog, Every Cat Deserves a Loving Home

Donate through Return and Earn

From 1 December 2023-1 March 2024, take your eligible bottles and cans to any depositing container in NSW and opt to donate your refund to the AWL NSW Eurobodalla Branch campaign "Every Dog, Every Cat Deserves a Loving Home" via the Return and Earn App on your phone

Thank you for helping us to care for the dogs and cats of Eurobodalla

cabbi
CREATIVE ARTS BATEMANS BAY INC

39th ANNUAL ART & CRAFT EXHIBITION

22 DECEMBER 2023 - 8 JANUARY 2024
DAILY 10.00am to 4.00pm (closed Christmas Day)

Batemans Bay High School Auditorium
2 George Bass Drive, Batehaven NSW


OPENING NIGHT 22 DECEMBER AT 6.00PM

ACLAWYERS

Marine Rescue NSW provides life-saving advice ahead of holiday season

Marine Rescue NSW is asking those planning to hit the Eurobodalla and Bega Valley Shire's waterways this holiday season to boat or paddle like their life depends on it. With numerous coastal bars along the Batemans and Eden Coasts, Marine Rescue NSW Inspector Glenn Sullivan is urging boaters to approach crossing the region's bars with caution. "The coastal bars are significantly increased with risk at Moruya, Narooma, Merimbula and Batemans Bay. "If an easterly swell is rolling through Bermagui Harbour can also become quite treacherous for people who are inexperienced," he said. Boaters looking to cross a bar should standoff, check the conditions and then decide whether it is safe to proceed. "Always go out with somebody else prior (if attempting to cross for the first time) and seek advice from Marine Rescue NSW on where the best options are going in or out in that particular area and what other navigation aids are available to you," Inspector Sullivan said. Capsized vessels can lead to life-threatening emergencies and Inspector Sullivan said boaters and paddlers should always wear a lifejacket and remember some key actions if they find themselves in the water.

"Stay with the vessel and make sure you grab a hold of anything floating and try and collect that. "Try and raise the alarm with either your flares, your mobile phone if it is in a waterproof cover and always carry a marine band radio with you so you will be able to call for assistance on that," Inspector Sullivan said. Boaters and paddlers are encouraged to Log On with Marine Rescue NSW via the Marine Rescue app or VHF Channel 16 every time they head out on the water with paddlers more vulnerable to minor changes in conditions. "Paddlers have the ability to Log On with Marine Rescue NSW because they too like any other vessel on the water can find themselves in trouble. Inspector Sullivan said Logging On with Marine Rescue NSW saves vital time during an emergency response. He is also reminding boaters to assess conditions and prepare thoroughly before hitting the water this holiday season. "Check all your safety equipment, make sure it is in good working order and always wear a lifejacket," Inspector Sullivan said. In the first 11 months of 2023, the six Marine Rescue NSW units on the Batemans and Eden Coasts (Batemans Bay, Tuross Moruya, Narooma, Bermagui, Merimbula and Eden) have completed 231 search and rescue missions, safely returning 481 people to shore. Marine Rescue NSW is a volunteer based not-for-profit professional organisation dedicated to keeping boaters safe on the water and supporting local communities.




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NAROOMA KINEMA FILM PROGRAM

PH: 4476 2352

ADDRESS: 94 Campbell St, Narooma

WEB: www.naroomakinema.com

DECEMBER 21 ST – DECEMBER 27 TH	THURS 21 ST	FRI 22 ND	SAT 23 RD	SUN 24 TH	MON 25 TH	TUES 26 TH	WED 27 TH
WONKA PG, 1H 56M, ADVENTURE/COMEDY	10.45am 3.05pm 7.20pm	10.45am 3.05pm 5.20pm	10.45am 3.05pm 7.20pm	10.45am 3.05pm		2.05pm 6.20pm	2.05pm 6.20pm
THE EIGHT MOUNTAINS (LAST WEEK) M, 2H 27M, ITALIAN DRAMA	11.05am*	11.05am*	11.05am*	11.05am*			
UPROAR (LAST WEEK) M, 1H 50M, NEW ZEALAND DRAMA	1.50pm*	1.50pm*	1.50pm*	1.50pm*			
NAPOLEON (LAST WEEK) MA15+, 2H 38M, BIO/ACTION	6.50pm*	6.50pm*	6.50pm*				
THE HUNGER GAMES: THE BALLAD OF SONGBIRDS & SNAKES (LAST WEEK) M, 2H 37M, ACTION/ADVENTURE	3.55pm*	3.55pm*	3.55pm*	3.55pm*			
TROLLS BAND TOGETHER G, 1H 31M, ANIMATED ADVENTURE	1.05pm 5.25pm	1.05pm	1.05pm 5.25pm	1.05pm		12.50pm*	12.50pm*
AQUAMAN & THE LOST KINGDOM M, 2H 4M, ACTION/ADVENTURE						11.35am 5pm* 8.35pm	11.35am 5pm* 8.35pm
ONE LIFE M, 1H 50M, BIO/DRAMA						10.30am* 2.45pm* 7.30pm*	10.30am* 2.45pm* 7.30pm*
MIGRATION PG, 1H 32M, ANIMATION/ACTION						9.40am 4.25pm	9.40am 4.25pm
HOME ALONE PG, 1H 43M, COMEDY/FAMILY		7.30pm					

****ALL SESSIONS IN OUR SMALLER CINEMA (CINEMA 2) HAVE AN ASTERISK (*) WE RECOMMEND BOOKING YOUR TICKETS ONLINE OR OVER THE PHONE FOR THESE SCREENINGS. BOOKINGS THAT ARE 10 MINUTES LATE WITHOUT NOTICE MAY BE FORFEITED.***

 Find us on Facebook!

 info@perrystreetcinemas.com.au



Located Top floor Citi
Centre Arcade Perry Street
Batemans Bay – 2536 –
PH: (02) 4472 6009



NOW SHOWING

DECEMBER	THU 21	FRI 22	SAT 23	SUN 24	MON 25
A SAVAGE CHRISTMAS M 93 MIN	4:50 PM	4:50 PM	4:50 PM	3:35 PM	CLOSED
JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM PG 99 MIN	1:00 PM	1:00 PM	1:00 PM	12:30 PM	<i>The Owners & Staff wish you a very Merry Christmas & Happy New Year</i>
 MIGRATION G 91 MIN	11:05 AM 2:55 PM 6:20 PM	11:05 AM 2:55 PM 6:20 PM	11:05 AM 2:55 PM 6:20 PM	11:05 AM 2:55 PM	
NAPOLEON MA15+ 158 MIN	1:10 PM	1:10 PM	1:10 PM	12:35 PM	
ONE TRUE LOVES PG 100 MIN	11:10 AM	11:10 AM	11:10 AM	10:35 AM	
THE HUNGER GAMES: THE BALLAD OF SONGBIRDS AND SNAKES M 157 MIN	3:00 PM 6:00 PM	3:00 PM 6:00 PM	3:00 PM 6:00 PM	2:30 PM	
THE MARVELS M 105 MIN	4:10 PM	4:10 PM	4:10 PM		
 TROLLS BAND TOGETHER G 91 MIN	11:05 AM 1:00 PM	11:05 AM 1:00 PM	11:05 AM 1:00 PM	10:35 AM 1:00 PM	
 WONKA PG 116 MIN	11:15 AM 1:30 PM 3:45 PM 6:00 PM 6:45 PM	11:15 AM 1:30 PM 3:45 PM 6:00 PM 6:45 PM	11:15 AM 1:30 PM 3:45 PM 6:00 PM 6:45 PM	10:45 AM 1:00 PM 3:15 PM	

CHRISTMAS
GIFT IDEA
GIFT
VOUCHERS
AVAILABLE
AT THE
CANDY BAR
BOXING DAY
AQUAMAN 2
MIGRATION
WISH
ONE LIFE
ANYONE BUT
YOU

MORE MOVIE INFORMATION ON THE BACK OF THIS PROGRAM



WONKA
PG | 1hr 56min
~ Family ~ Adventure ~
Timothée Chalamet, Olivia Coleman & Hugh Grant
"Wonka" tells the wondrous story of how the world's greatest inventor, magician and chocolate-maker became the beloved Willy Wonka we know today.



MIGRATION - Advanced Screenings
G | 1hr 31min ~ Animation ~ Adventure ~
Elizabeth Banks & Danny DeVito
A family of ducks try to convince their overprotective father to go on the vacation of a lifetime.

The Owners & Staff wish you a very Merry Christmas & Happy New Year
We will be closed Christmas Day



THE HUNGER GAMES THE BALLAD OF SONGBIRDS & SNAKES
M | 2hrs 37min ~ Action ~ Adventure ~
Rachel Zeigler & Tom Blyth
Coriolanus Snow mentors and develops feelings for the female District 12 tribute during the 10th Hunger Games.



TROLLS BAND TOGETHER
G | 1hr 31min ~ Animation ~ Adventure ~
Troy Sivan, Ann Kendrick, & Camila Cabello
When Floyd is kidnapped, Branch and Poppy embark on a journey to reunite his two other brothers and rescue Floyd. ... Triple the Trolls, Triple the Music!



JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM
PG | 1hr 37min ~ Family ~ Adventure ~
Antonio Banderas, Milo Manheim & Geno Segers
This live-action Christmas musical weaves classic Christmas melodies with humor, faith, and new pop songs in a retelling of the story of Mary and Joseph and the birth of Jesus.

ALSO SCREENING - A SAVAGE CHRISTMAS/ THE MARVELS/ ONE TRUE LOVES & NAPOLEON



MORUYA MAIL
"Free local news for Moruya & the Eurobodalla"

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND BOOKINGS GO TO OUR WEBSITE perrystreetcinemas.com.au Or use our QR code below



BOXING DAY - AQUAMAN 2, WISH, ONE LIFE, ANYONE BUT YOU & MORE/COMING SOON - NIGHT SWIM

SAGE Moruya Boxing Day Market

The usual Tuesday market will go ahead on Boxing Day! Come down to Riverside Park @ 3pm and get your hands on some goodies.

South Coast Community Kitchen

Demand is high at the moment and hoping to source some items from our lovely community. As much as we appreciate all contributions, please only provide what is on the list. Non common items are not used amongst our clients. 1/2 price specials are a good way to help a lot with a little. We are in need of the following: Children's lunch snacks ie: muesli bars/fruit cups/chips/shapes etc, Cereal ie: Weet-bix, corn flakes etc, UHT milk, Sugar, Coffee, Tea, Pancake Mix, Vegemite/Jam/Peanut butter, Pasta, Pasta packets ie continental alfredo, Pasta Sauces, Canned Tuna, Sardines, Canned fruit, Canned soup, Soup sachets, Tuna bake sauce, - Baked beans, Canned spaghetti, Cordial, Fruit juice, Poppers, Any fruit/veggies you may have spare from your garden would be fantastic! If you live in the Bay, items can be dropped to Beyond Bank on Orient Street. If your in Moruya, please drop to 3 Jeffrey Place.

Volunteer mentors needed

CareSouth needs volunteer mentors for local kids in the Moruya / Batemans Bay / Narooma areas, as part of CareSouth's Aunties and Uncles program. Including male mentors! If you'd like to know more please contact us on 1300 554 260, email info@caresouth.org.au or visit [HERE](#)

Christmas Closures

Basil Sellers Exhibition Centre

The Bas team is gearing up for a festive break to recharge for an exciting 2024 ahead! Doors close from Friday 22 December 2pm, and reopening on Tuesday 2 January 10am.

FOUNDATION FOR RURAL REGIONAL RENEWAL

Strengthening Rural Communities - Small and Vital Grants up to \$10,000 are available for a broad range of community-led initiatives that strengthen local people, places and climate solutions that directly benefit local communities. For more information, [click here](#) Applications Close 26 February 2024

Community Christmas Lunch

The Combined Churches of Batemans Bay are again providing a Community Christmas lunch on Christmas Day 25 December. Young and old, singles, families, couples and kids are all invited. There will be two venues providing for the Christmas Day Lunch - the Salvation Army Hall and the Anglican Church Hall. If you are struggling with Christmas or worried about what to do on the day and would like to join us for lunch, we would love to hear from you. Bookings are essential so that we can plan our catering. Please book by 18 December. Bookings for both venues can be made through the The Salvation Army, Batemans Bay Corps on 44729644.

Eurobodalla Libraries Christmas Closure

We'll be closing our doors on Friday 22 December 2pm, and reopening on Tuesday 2 January 10am.



Tell them you saw it in the Moruya Mail!

Subscribe free at www.moruyamail.com.au

MORUYA LIONS CLUB PRESENTS

MAJOR SPONSOR MORUYA COUNTRY MARKET

MORUYA CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

@RIVERSIDE PARK, MORUYA 6PM - 9PM

23RD DEC ALL WELCOME! LOCAL ARTISTS FIREWORKS FREE EVENT

YOMARO



MORUYA DISTRICT HOSPITAL AUXILIARY

If you would like to join the Hospital Auxiliary and help to raise funds for your Hospital you would be most welcome.

Meetings are held at the Moruya Golf Club on the 1st Monday of every month at 2pm

To find out more information...

Email: mdha@y7mail.com or POBox 469 Moruya 2537



Enjoy reading the Moruya Mail? You can support the publication when you **Buy Me A Coffee**

Click on the cup *Buy me a coffee*



Moruya Rodeo TICKETS

Ticket prices

- Adult (16 and over) \$30
- Children (under 16) \$15
- Children (under 10) FREE



Online tickets will be sold through Ticketebo only!

Tickets will be capped this year to ensure everyone has the best view and experience without over crowding. Tickets are available online only, and will only be available at the gate if not sold out before. Get your tickets now to avoid disappointment.

Buyer BEWARE of those attempting to sell/transfer tickets, as there are many fake accounts/scammers out. Moruya Rodeo recommends all transfers of tickets to be done through a trusted site such as 'tixel'.

Moruya Golf Scramble Team



Moruya Golf Club Congratulates the Scramble team of Ryan Wassell (Jnr), John Wassell, Geoff Reis, Andrew Ganderton and PGA Associate Professional Gavin Fitzgerald. Although they did not win the final they gave our club great representation. Only 26 teams Australia wide make the final, so this was a great achievement! Keep an eye on our socials for our next Scramble qualifier event.
<https://www.moruyagolfclub.com.au/whatson>



Tell them you saw it in the Moruya Mail!

Subscribe free at www.moruyamail.com.au



27th & 28th of January 2024

MORUYA SHOWGROUND GATES OPEN 9AM

GATE FEES

1 DAY TICKET

- ADULT (16yrs & over) \$12
- CHILDREN (15yrs & under) \$6
- FAMILY (2 adults & up to 4 kids) \$35

2 DAY TICKET

- ADULT (16yrs & over) \$20
- CHILDREN (15yrs & under) \$10
- FAMILY (2 adults & up to 4 kids) \$55

Preschool children are FREE

BOTH DAYS

Lachie Cossor the Outback Stockman, Broulee Brewhouse, Coast to Coast Portable Synthetic Ice Rink Hire, arts & crafts pavilion, flowers & vegetable pavilion, photography, stall holders, food & drinks, showbags, duck racing, music, kids zone, face painting, horse ring events and much more!

SATURDAY

Animal nursery, Young Woman of the Year Competition (aka Miss Showgirl), Grand Opening, novelty events, Graham Brown Dog High Jump, wife carrying, rodeo in evening, Poddy Dodgers live music

SUNDAY

Poultry pavilion, ute competition, novelty events, pet show, lawn mower racing, Gerry Bussa Memorial Motorbike Obstacle Course



Main schedule can be found on our website <https://eurobodallashow.org.au/>
Facebook - Eurobodalla Agricultural Show



TeenSafe

a driving skill for life

Teensafe is a safe-driver program for L and P drivers - a skill for life.

Practical behind-the-wheel courses are provided in school holidays at Moruya Speedway.

Each course runs for 1 day.

Cars and instructors provided. Fee \$80.

Teensafe is a community group operating for over 35 years supported by IMB Bank.

For details, pics and rego forms go to

www.teensafemoruya.org

or email garys.home@bigpond.com

Fishing report from Tackle World Moruya Moruya River.

Who let winter back in the door? After a cold windy few days, we have a bit of sun today, for the short term! The forecast for the next few leading up to Xmas, isn't looking the best. But we will take it as it comes.

The river hasn't been fishing too bad this week, with a few surprises in the lower sections of the river. More than 1 rat king have been spotted around the Preddy's wharf chasing caught fish back to the landing area. A nicely presented squid or live bait could well be the undoing of these visiting marauders. Diving hard body lures or even stick baits or poppers in the medium sizes could also do the trick. There have been some very nice trevally caught this week in the lower sections of the river, with the spur wall having a good population at the moment along with some nice flathead and Luderick.

Quarry wharf has also had a few nice fish, with trevally, bream, flathead, tailor and the odd small mulloway doing out of the boulder strewn bottom of the river. Don't make the mistake of putting too heavy a sinker on when fishing this area, or you will be coming back to see me to buy more. This is snaggy country, which is why the fish are holding around this area.

Back closer to town, the town bridge is holding some nice flathead, trevally, bream, and estuary perch, both on the flats, in the deeper holes and along the weed beds of late. As the river continues to clear up post rain, we can expect to see the whiting come back into the system.

I haven't had any reports from the holes up around the hospital this week, but as the river improves, this would be an area to look at also.

Tuross River.

Flathead continue, as usual tone the main attraction throughout this awesome system this week. There are still good numbers of luderick, estuary perch and bream sitting on most snags and structure throughout the systems, with the top parts of the river still a little quiet after the rains we have had.

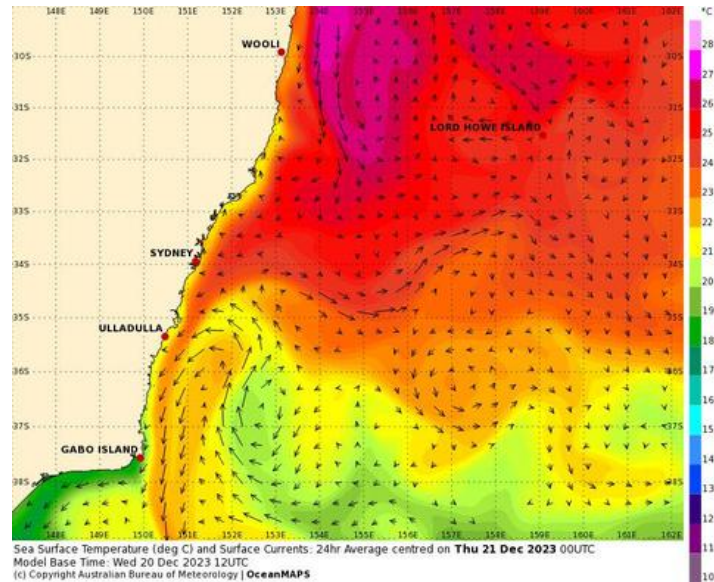
It's defiantly worth looking towards the lower and middle sections of the river this week.

The two main boat ramps will be congestion points in the next few weeks, so please if you see someone struggling to get their boat launched, why not offer a helping hand rather than throw abuse. It will help clear the boat ramp up quickly and leave a positive feeling for any visiting anglers this Xmas.

Unfortunately, this time of year, parked cars tend to become a target for those who will try and take advantage. Don't leave valuables in your car, while you are out on the water this Xmas, also if you have removable winch handles on your boat trailer, either take it with you in the boat, or stow it in the car. They have a tendency to walk this time of year. But we do have plenty in stock, if one of yours does disappear.

Rock and beach.

There have been good numbers of salmon on most beaches this last week, particularly now that the waters have cleared up after all the rain we have had. Along with the salmon, bream, whiting and flathead have also been available in the close gutters on a rising tide. Live nippers, beach worms or even soft plastics have been working on the bream and flathead, while the whiting have been preferring the bait options. Speaking of beach worms, we finally have king worms back in stock! We do however have limited numbers available.



The Moruya breakwall has been fishing well this last week, with plenty of salmon, trevally, bream, flathead, luderick and the odd kingfish being encountered this week. The kings are going to be very much a smash and grab affair, with them coming in for a quick period to hit the bait that is abundant then leaving just as quick. It will really be a matter of being in the right place at the right time to intersect with these hard fighting fish.

Offshore.

There have been good numbers of snapper, from 15m all the way out to 60m this week, my advise is look in close first and work your way out to the deeper drops if you have no luck in close first up.

Flathead are also easily available over all most areas, but the mixed ground areas or those adjacent to the reefs will hold the better numbers of fish. The usual suspects of mowong and pigfish can also be encountered on the reefs, while the less common Trag have also been encountered this week, no doubt as a result of the warm currents pushing down the coast at the moment. The fish being found are only in the 40-45cm size, so don't expect any trophy sized fish.

As mentioned, we have king worms back in the bait freezer, while whitebait is still unavailable. The shop is full and ready for the Xmas holiday makers to arrive. We are only closed Xmas day, with our trading hours extending while things are busy. We will be open 7 days as usual from Boxing Day onwards open at 7am closing at 6pm. We are looking forward to seeing you all this holiday period.

From Graham and Gaye, myself and the whole team at Tackle World Moruya, we wish you very Merry Xmas and a massive thank you for all your support this year. Stay safe everyone and remember, "every days a good day for fishing..."

Team Tackle World Moruya

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Tuross Head Stableford Medley Golf Results Thursday 14th December 2023

A field of 39 players registered for a Stableford Medley Combined event.

The Winners were:

- 1st: Lars Gaupset (14) with 38 points
 - 2nd: Anthony Mellick (34) with 36 points
 - 3rd: Ray Bollard (6) with 36 points
 - 4th: Ian McManus (13) with 35 points
 - 5th: Michael Coloe (16) with 35 points
- Nearest to the Pins: Distance
- 4A: Col Houghton 3.74
 - 4B: Ron Rogers 11.50
 - 4C: Rob McDonnell 2.80
 - 6A: Lars Gaupset 3.17
 - 6B: Paul Coffey 2.44
 - 6C: Rob McDonnell 6.10
 - 7A: Ray Bollard 0.67
 - 7B: Nil
 - 7C: Tony Mellick 2.34

Balls went to: Colin Houghton 35, Steve Johnston 34, Gavan Wheelahan 33, Leonie Snodgrass 32, David Schmid 32, Dorothy Madden 32, Rob Green 31, Tony Brown 31, Paul Coffey 31, Mark Forrest 31, Kevin Reilly 31 and Allan Langford 30.

Tuross Head Stableford Medley Golf Results Thursday 21st December 2023

A field of 37 players registered for a Stableford Medley Combined event and played despite ominous skies and threatening rain.

The Winners were:

- 1st: Ian Manton (21) with 41 points
 - 2nd: Greg Maloney (16) with 40 points
 - 3rd: Bruce Harding (19) with 39 points
 - 4th: Anthony Mellick (33) with 38 points
 - 5th: Simon French (17) with 38 points
- Nearest to the Pins: Distance
- 4A: J French 2.85
 - 4B: S French 3.84
 - 4C: Nil
 - 6A: I McManus 4.85
 - 6B: S Swanberry 5.00
 - 6C: Nil
 - 7A: Derryn Rogers 0.26
 - 7B: D Madden 2.38
 - 7C: I Manton 8.03

Balls went to: Paul Rowe 36, Maree Coffey 36, Ray Bollard 35, Paul Ferguson 35, Steve Swanbury 34, Steve Johnston 34, Bruce Martin 34, Graeme Sindel 34, Rob Green 33, Ruth Gschwend 33, Darrell Kildey 33 and Leonie Snodgrass 32.

Tuross Head Stableford Medley Golf Results Saturday 16th December 2023

A large field of 80 players registered for a Stableford Medley Combined event which was the Xmas Ham Lucky Card Draw day.

The Winners were:

- 1st: Ruth Gschwend (20) with 40 points
 - 2nd: Martin Booth (13) with 39 points
 - 3rd: Steve Johnston (25) with 38 points
 - 4th: Simon French (17) with 37 points
 - 5th: Danny Nickson (33) with 37 points
- Nearest to the Pins: Distance
- 4A: Daryl Kildey 2.20
 - 4B: Ron Rogers 1.26
 - 4C: Steve Gardner 1.58
 - 6A: Mark Schenk 1.02
 - 6B: Nil
 - 6C: Rick Brake 3.08
 - 7A: Paul Rowe 1.02
 - 7B: Ian Miller 2.03
 - 7C: Tony Brown 10.5

Balls went to: Michael Coloe 37, Graeme Bell 36, Peter Hogan 36, Chris Cox 35, Ian McManus 35, Ken Hush 35, Ron Rogers 35, Lars Gaupset 35, Jason Nikolic 35, Alan Langford 35, Denzel Bond 34, Reginald Apps 34, Stephen Gardner 34, Brad Doolan 33, Paul Scholze 33, Paul Ferguson 33, Darrell Kildey 33, Gavan Wheelahan 33, Paul Coffey 33, and David Gray 33.



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**SATURDAY, 27TH OF JANUARY
10AM TO 2PM**

ARALUEN FEDERAL HALL
5989 ARALUEN RD, ARALUEN



Black Flat Medieval Skill at Arms & Horseback Archery Clinic



Looking for something a little bit different or a surprise gift then come and join us for a weekend of medieval fun. New skills to be learnt and new friendships to be made. Novice to advance riders welcome.

Where: Kings Highway Nelligen. NSW. 2536

When: Saturday 13th & Sunday 14th
January 2024.

Contact: Ph: 44781000 Mob: 0458531909

F/B: Darrell Lisa Bossley or Black Flat Friesians



Narooma Cup Race Day Sunday 17th December

Local trainer Jamie Stewart on his way to winning the Race 3 Stitching Sisters Narooma Maiden Plate (1650m) with Fudge from Ten Feathers.

Sunday's Narooma Cup Race meeting at Moruya was held in perfect weather with around 2000 people attending. The races were so popular that even Santa took the time out of his busy schedule for a visit.

Local Moruya trainers shone on the day with Jamie Stewart winning Race 3 the Stitching Sisters Narooma Maiden Plate (1650m) with Fudge.

Matthew Stephens won the Cleanaway Class 2 handicap (1650m) with Temple Garden.

Kevin Cassidy won the Mitre 10 Class 1 Handicap (1010m) with Lord Remy.

There were highly contested fashions on the field with the Best Dressed Man going to Gary Doody, with Michael Ta second.

In the Ladies, Best Dressed Lady went to Victoria Nicholson, with Maddie Wright runner up.



UPCOMING RACE MEETINGS

- Sunday 17th December - Narooma Cup
- Monday 8th January - Moruya Cup
- Friday 19th January - Afflick Race Day
- Sunday 3rd March - SERA CHAMPIONSHIPS QUALIFIER
- Saturday 30th March - Rotary Easter Charity Raceday
- Friday 26th April
- Sunday 26th May
- Friday 28th June

SOUTH COAST SUMMER SLAM HOLIDAY BASKETBALL CAMPS

JOIN US FOR AN EXCITING BASKETBALL CAMP FEATURING A DYNAMIC SKILLS SESSION AND THRILLING 3X3 BASKETBALL ACTION! TEAMS WILL BE FORMED ON THE DAY, BRINGING TOGETHER PLAYERS FROM U12 TO U19 ACROSS VARIOUS AGE GROUPS.

6TH JAN - MORUYA HEADS	9TH JAN - BERMAGUI
7TH JAN - SHOALHAVEN	10TH JAN - BATEMANS BAY
8TH JAN - NAROOMA	12TH JAN - MERIMBULA

IT'S FUN & FREE
AGES: 10 - 19 YEARS
TIME: 10.00AM - 2.00PM

TO REGISTER ONLINE VISIT
bit.ly/SCSummerSlam24



Ladies Fashions on the Field

Narooma Cup Race Day Sunday 17th December



Race 4 Harcourts Batemans Bay Christmas Cup (Bm58) won by Mr Metrics.



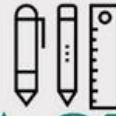
Best Dressed Man going to Gary Doody(far right), with Michael Ta second (third from right).



Children's Fashions on the Field.



Best Dressed Lady went to Victoria Nicholson.



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