



PHOTO OF THE WEEK: Mogendoura Farm Christmas Wreath Workshop with The Wild Rose Florist Moruya captured by Emma Lipscombe.

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- NSW taxpayers footing the bill for native forest destruction

The Office of Dr Michael Holland MP will be closed from Friday 20th December 2024 and reopening Monday 6th January 2025
For State Government matters please contact us via bega@parliament.nsw.gov.au
(02) 6492 2056 | 122 Carp Street Bega NSW 2550



Merry Christmas

Peace on earth and good will to all

With best wishes

Dr Michael Holland, Member for Bega

Authorised by Dr Michael Holland MP funded using Parliamentary Entitlements December 2024



Bay Pavilions questions

I would like to thank the Moruya Mail and Phil Herrick for your strong commitment to reporting on the Bay Pavilions and your recent questions [reported 6th December] to the GM and staff in relation to InConsult's recommendations for the Bay Pavilions.

In 2020 the Office of Local government suggested Council should ensure it was satisfied with the community demand for an entertainment facility with a 25m pool and another large gym when there are already other gyms in Batemans Bay, replacing a valued sports facility – old, well used and needing work but important to the Batemans Bay community.

What stands out is the link between the then council's failure to transparently engage the community and the lack of community demand so much so the expected patronage on opening of the Bay Pavilions in 2022 was 12% lower than forecast and in 2024 has not improved. Of course people use the Bay Pavilions. They attend aquatic classes, attend the gym and see shows. Some people swim, but nowhere at the level that is necessary for the facility not to continue losing cash and being an ongoing drain on Council's General Fund.

The question is what actions recommended by InConsult are the GM and staff going to implement? Surely an important starting point, the first question you report asking, would have to be for council to set a loss tolerance level for the Bay Pavilions. Is the General Manager and staff going to set a loss tolerance level for the Bay Pavilions and when?

Increased patronage is the key to making the Bay Pavilions sustainable. That is obvious. But how are you going to increase patronage without hearing from and engaging the community and when necessary experts who understand the issues at hand as though you value the input.

The renewal of the contract with Aligned Leisure is on the agenda at Tuesday's council meeting. There is no mention at all of the community in the agenda item CAR24/010. It will be interesting to see what issues on that agenda item are challenged, prioritized, amended and agreed to.

Maureen Searson
Catalina

Public access to Councillor briefing meetings

On 5 September 2024 the Office of Local Government (OLG) released a discussion paper entitled Councillor Conduct and Meeting Practice. I spoke in Public Forum on 19th November 2024 in support the suggestion made on page 18 that the public be accorded access to councillor briefing meetings in the same manner in which they have access to council meetings (i.e. apart from those sensitive personal or commercial in confidence sections which are considered in closed session). Such a development would contribute significantly to the achievement of the fifth goal of the Eurobodalla Shire Council (ESC) Community Strategic Plan i.e. Our Engaged Community with Progressive Leadership which states "our leaders act fairly, listen to, and represent our community. They are accountable and transparent in their decision making process."

The current Community Engagement Strategy (September 2022) of ESC also advocates wide community consultation about all substantial matters. Public access to councillor briefings is a natural extension of this strategy.

As a candidate in the recent ESC local government elections, I was often at a distinct disadvantage compared to those candidates who had previously been councillors, as they had been briefed on council matters prior to Council meetings, but that information was not publicly available. Neither, of course, can there be any media coverage of these briefings to inform residents and ratepayers without such access being in the public domain.

If all ratepayers and residents were accorded the same level of information as councillors gain in briefing meetings, they would be in a better position to respond to the council agenda and assess the responses of the councillors, who are of course, their representatives. Also public access to councillor briefing sessions would often obviate the need for ratepayers to make individual enquiries to council, and thus avoid staff time in responding to these requests.

The draft ESC submission presented to Council on 19th November on this matter argued strongly against public access to councillor briefing meetings, often on specious grounds. The motion moved by Councillor Schutz to accept this report lapsed as no seconder was forthcoming, and therefore no submission was made by ESC.

Just this week OLG has released at its website, details of a revised Model Code of Meeting Conduct which proposes amendments to the Regulation that will restrict councils from holding briefing sessions rather than opening such briefing sessions to the public as originally proposed! Submissions are open until 28 February 2025. I would encourage all those with an interest in transparency in local government to respond to this opportunity.

Neil Gow
Long Beach

The Truth Cost of Nuclear Power

The recently completed Vogtle nuclear power plant in Georgia USA took 15 years to build and cost AU\$57.5 billion. A large part of the overrun was passed on to Georgia's residents though increased property rates and increased power bills. There is a similar story for a new nuclear power station in the UK.

It would be very optimistic to think that in Australia, with a much smaller construction sector than the USA, with no experience in building nuclear facilities and with already stretched resources, we would be able to do better.

This information has not been widely circulated in the Australian press but I think Australians should be fully informed as diametric choices are being offered by our political Parties. We have to get this one right.

Full details can be found in this link: <https://truthaboutvogtle.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Truth-about-Vogtle-report.pdf>

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PFAS free, Eurobodalla's drinking water in the clear

Mathew Hatcher is raising his glass – tap water all the way – to cheer test results showing Eurobodalla's drinking water is clear of harmful PFAS.

PFAS – per-and-poly-fluoroalkyl substances – hit the news in August with drinking water from several locations around Sydney shown to have elevated levels of the contaminants. The Eurobodalla Mayor says most people would be more familiar with them as 'forever chemicals'.

"PFAS are a group of synthetic chemicals that have been around since the 1950s and used in everyday products – clothing, furniture, make-up, food packaging, non-stick pans, firefighting foam, cleaning products – to repel oil, stains or water," Mayor Hatcher says.

"They can take thousands of years to break down and they gradually accumulate in the environment and in the bodies of animals, including humans due to exposure through water, air, food and skin contact."

There are many different forms of PFAS, and potential health issues from high concentrations of some PFAS include high cholesterol, hormone disruption and cancer.

Following the media furore, the NSW Government offered one-off water-supply testing to regional councils, with Mayor Hatcher confirming Eurobodalla opted-in for the free testing.

"Our water supply had not been tested previously, so we had both the northern and southern sections of our water supply system checked. I am happy to report our drinking water has tested clear of PFAS," he says.

Eurobodalla's northern water supply was tested in late October and analysed by Sydney Water for 45 different PFAS, coming back clear with no detectable levels. Testing of the southern water supply was delayed until that system came online in November, and during that time high demand on the testing laboratory saw the NSW Government reduce the number of PFAS tested to five representative chemicals. Regardless, testing of the southern water supply also came back clear with no detectable levels of PFAS.



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- 23 THE AIR RAID TAVERN/ MONARCH HOTEL
- A MORUYA SURF CLUB*
- B BIG4 EASTS DOLPHIN BEACH HOLIDAY PARK

Hop on the adventure bus!

A "hop on, hop off bus" will be doing laps around Moruya to Broulee and Mogo all day every day thanks to the Moruya Business Chamber along with local businesses.

The new initiative for the holiday period will see the bus run from Moruya, to the Mogo bike tracks, Mogo Zoo, the Foxdog Distillery, then via Tomakin, Broulee Brewhouse and Surf Club, then back in to Moruya via Skydive Oz, and doing a loop around Moruya via The Addy, Monarch, Moruya Golf Club, Quantum Brewery, Moruya Bowlo and back via Moruya Waterfront Hotel Motel every hour on the hour! For just \$20 per person for a full day – the Adventure Bus provides a safe, easy option for singles or groups or families to spend a day out and visit lots of our awesome venues in the same day without having to worry about a designated driver or parking. Bookings can be made at <https://www.eventbookings.com/b/event/the-adventure-bus>

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Council silence a Bay Pavilions mystery

By Phil Herrick

Life has many mysteries. Why is the sky blue? Does Lasseter's Reef exist? On Tuesday, another was added to the list at the Eurobodalla Shire Council meeting.

Why do our councillors say nothing and do nothing about the massive losses the community is paying to run the swimming pool, theatre and gym at the Batemans Bay Pavilions?

They had the chance this week when staff put forward a proposal to renew the management contract with Aligned Leisure, who operate the Pav for council.

Early in the meeting the councillors spent time arguing about spending \$10,000 to scope a major water reuse project in Narooma, so clearly cash is an issue at council.

But there was no discussion when it came to consider the management contract for the Pavilions, where cash losses are running at over \$10,000 every single day of the year. There was simply the unanimous, mute approval of a staff recommendation to renew the contract with a few minor changes.

There were no comments or outrage from councillors on the current performance of the Pavilions, where revenues for the first three months of this financial year are 30% below the annualised target, a trend that may see the cash loss this year pass \$4.5 million, all of which will be paid from the General Fund at the expense of other community needs.

The councillors ignored the advice they paid big bucks to get from their consultants 18 months ago who said the contract with Aligned Leisure was a dud and should be renegotiated to see the managers put some skin in the game and also include penalties for non-performance along with rewards for exceeding requirements.

Instead they raised their hands in unison to tick off the one-year contract extension that has no penalties, just rewards – and not a word was spoken, other than “moved”, “seconded” and “unanimous”.

Why wouldn't the councillors do everything possible to save the community money? Who knows. Why is the sky blue?

Essential Grants for empowered community projects

Community organisations in regional, rural and remote areas of NSW looking to spark change will soon be able to apply for grants that contribute to a positive environmental and sustainable future.

Is your community organisation considering electrifying community buildings or looking into solar panels and battery storage options? Or maybe there is interest in water and waste reduction initiatives, beekeeping, tree planting or community gardens that contribute to a brighter, greener future. If so, Essential Energy's newly revamped Essential Grants program, formerly Community Choices, may help jumpstart your project. The Essential Grants program is looking to empower communities within the Essential Energy network footprint by funding projects for amounts up to \$15,000.

Since 2018, Essential Energy has contributed more than \$1 million to 1560 community groups, through previous programs. From 2025, it is changing to a grant-based program that provides opportunities for community organisations to develop, educate or invest in projects that focus on the environment, education and resilience, and are related to the energy transition.

Examples of projects may include:

- initiatives that support a circular economy and waste reduction, habitat restoration or community gardens
- funding contributions for solar panels or electrifying community buildings
- investment in STEM education in schools and community organisations
- the provision of resources that support communities affected by disaster events.

Community groups and service providers, registered charities, and other not-for-profit organisations in the Essential Energy footprint are eligible to apply.

Applications open on 3 February 2025 and close on 31 March 2025. Register now to receive updates.

FIONA PHILLIPS

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I'm proud to be your local voice in parliament and to continue delivering cost-of-living relief, tax cuts and supporting vital projects like the Batemans Bay Medicare Urgent Care Clinic, Batemans Bay headspace and the Medicare Mental Health Centre at Moruya.

I'm here to help you with issues like Medicare, Centrelink, aged care and pensions, the NDIS, Veterans' Affairs and community grants.

I'm on your side.



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Grey nomads camping area plan for Moruya Showground

By Phil Herrick

A proposal to establish a primitive camping area at the Moruya showground will be put out for community comment by the Eurobodalla Shire Council. The plan is to establish two areas at the showground for self-contained caravans and motor homes. There would be 18 camp sites in total with stays limited to seven nights. Community, arts and recreation services director Kathy Arthur said council would contact key stakeholders including the Showground Committee and local accommodation providers over the next month. The council website will also have plans and other information on display.

"Restricting the number of nights visitors are permitted to stay and limiting camping to self-contained caravans and campervans ensures that accommodation is catering for a small niche market, such as grey nomads," said Ms Arthur.

Campers would use the existing toilets near the grandstand, although Ms Arthur has recommended council put funds aside for an upgrade to the showers and toilets in future, along with a communal kitchen.

Cr Rob Pollock pointed out possible conflicts with major events like the show and rodeo, but Ms Arthur was confident this could be managed. He also mentioned the Moruya Business Chamber has floated the idea of a similar camping area for recreational vehicles at the eastern end of Riverside Park.

The consultation with community and industry stakeholders would be started this week and will continue for 42 days.

New equipment for South Coast Emergency Services

NSW SES Moruya Unit reports "Exciting news for our **NSW SES Moruya Unit** that we have taken ownership of a 'Medium Rescue Gen 4 Truck'.

This truck is fitted out to attend General Land Rescues and Road Crash Rescues as well as assistance with floods and storms incidents. The rescue truck features 4 wheel drive, automatic transmission, electric cutting tools, ergonomic shelving and many other new features.

We are about to undertake a Recruitment drive! Come and make a difference, whatever your skills are and join NSW SES Moruya Unit! Whether you want to provide on - ground support, assist in operations or raise awareness, there are countless ways you can make an impact in your community! If you are interested in volunteering in NSW SES, please phone 0428 691 457 for more information."



NSW Rural Fire Service - Far South Coast Team reports "Exciting News: **New Firefighting Pumper for Dalmeny-Kianga RFB**. Christmas has come early for the Dalmeny-Kianga Rural Fire Brigade, as they take delivery of a brand-new firefighting pumper today!

This addition to the fleet will enhance the brigade's capabilities and ensure they are better equipped to serve and protect our community. Congratulations to the team on this significant upgrade!"



AND Tuross RFB Now Operational with CABA Capability

"The Tuross Rural Fire Brigade is now fully operational with Compressed Air Breathing Apparatus (CABA) capability—just in time for the season.

The brigade has successfully completed all necessary training, and now boasts seven qualified operators ready to protect their community using this upgraded equipment.

A huge congratulations to the team for their dedication and hard work in achieving this milestone. Well done!"



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Nelligen taps in: 160 properties now connected



A new water supply reservoir on Clyde Road, North Batemans Bay. From here, water is gravity fed to another new reservoir on Old Nelligen Road.



Nelligen's new sewage pump station.



A booster pump station on Bay Ridge Drive boosts the water flow on its way to a reservoir on Clyde Road, North Batemans Bay.

Water is flowing to Nelligen residents for the first time today, after Eurobodalla Council connected the village to the shire's drinking water and sewerage systems.

After five years of planning and construction, the \$26 million project has connected 160 properties. Council's project engineer Billy Alves said the project was a lot more than new pipes, pumps and reservoirs.

"The sewerage scheme is a win for the environment and public health, and the water supply has added security during bushfires and drought," Mr Alves said.

"Nelligen has seen a lot of construction work over the years, and I am sure residents and businesses will be pleased to see it all wrap up."

Mr Alves said contractors will take a break over Christmas and return briefly in the new year to complete the final part of their works and check over infrastructure, making sure it services the community well into the future.

"Our contractors Leed Engineering and Construction and Ledonne Constructions have done an excellent job delivering this project on time, connecting residents before Christmas," Mr Alves said.

"It was a big project, but because most of it is underground, you can't see the scale of it."

For connection to the shire's water supply, a new booster pump station and two 880 kilolitre water reservoirs were built, along with the installation of 15 kilometres of piping.

Connection to Batemans Bay's Sewerage System involved building a new sewage pump station and installing 17 kilometres of piping.

The Nelligen Water Supply and Sewerage Scheme was a priority project identified in Council's Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy. The NSW Government contributed \$3.5 million through the Safe and Secure Water Program, with Eurobodalla Council contributing the remaining required funds.

For more details visit the [project page on Council's website](#).

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Councillor Conduct Framework Discussion Paper welcome but local government peak body has concerns

13 December 2024

The state's peak body for local government is supportive of the State Government's review of the Councillor Conduct Framework, but is concerned about several proposed changes in the recently released Councillor Conduct and Meeting Practices Discussion Paper.

LGNSW President Cr Darriea Turley AM said the sector supported modifications that would boost transparency, integrity and probity across all levels of government.

"However, we are particularly concerned about proposed reforms to confidential councillor briefings and how information will be able to be shared with councillors, as well as the composition and operation of the proposed Privileges Committee," she said.

As the state's peak body for local government, LGNSW responded to the Office of Local Government's (OLG) discussion paper with a submission following extensive consultation with member councils, county councils and joint organisations.

In relation to the proposed ban on briefing sessions for elected representatives, Cr Turley said these sessions provided an opportunity for councillors to ask questions of staff, some of whom may not attend council meetings, which may be too sensitive to ask or respond to in public.

"By way of comparison, the NSW Government, Opposition and Crossbench are briefed on draft legislation before it's tabled in Parliament, and Ministers receive briefings from staff and departmental officers to help prepare draft bills and motions before they're debated in Parliament," Cr Turley.

"These private briefings lead to better informed MPs and more informed decision making once a matter comes to the public forum in Parliament. It should be no different for elected representatives on local councils."

The Councillor Conduct and Meeting Practices Discussion Paper also sets the groundwork for the introduction of a Local Government Privileges Committee to deal with complaints about councillor misbehaviour.

Cr Turley said that while LGNSW did not oppose the concept of such a committee the sector had several concerns about its proposed composition and operation.

"While we don't wish to see a system that makes it too onerous for legitimate issues to be dealt with, we agree with Local Government Minister Ron Hoenig that changes need to be made as the current Code of Conduct allows for too many frivolous or vexatious complaints," she said.

"A potential option for serious complaints might be to empower the proposed Privileges Committee to require the payment of a complaint filing fee, and/or to recommend the OLG consider action potentially including either a suspension or costs order against those found to have made a frivolous and/or vexatious complaint.

"We would call for penalties to be commensurate with misconduct and or achieve something more substantial than a slap on the wrist so that they are taken seriously and act as an effective deterrent.

"However, LGNSW shares the concerns of many of our members over the potential for politically motivated outcomes from the proposed privileges committee, particularly where committee members may be currently serving as elected representatives.

"We're also concerned that committee members may have a dual role of being both the investigator and decision maker for alleged breaches of the Code.

"If this is the case, it raises serious questions about whether natural justice will be afforded to persons who are brought before the committee.

"LGNSW would be pleased to participate in discussions about the nature and makeup of the committee.

"We have requested that the OLG and NSW Government consult further with our sector on guidelines for the operation of the committee and the selection of committee members.

"We look forward to liaising with the Minister and the Government to ensure we get a final framework that works for everyone."

A copy of the Councillor Conduct Framework Discussion Paper and more details on the consultation process can be found on the Office of Local Government Website.

Changes coming to council meetings

Tuesday, 17 December 2024

The **NSW Government** is continuing to progress reforms to strengthen local government, announcing changes to the way council meetings are conducted to ensure greater transparency and increase community confidence in council decision making. All councils are required to adopt a code of meeting practice based on the Model Meeting Code issued by the Office of Local Government.

The government has now released a consultation draft of amendments to the Model Meeting Code for public comment.

The changes aim to simplify the Model Meeting Code and ensure councillors are making decisions in the full view of the communities they are elected to represent.

They also aim to increase the dignity of the council chamber and remove the general manager's involvement in council politics.

Key changes, some of which have been recommended by the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) include:

- preventing councils from holding private councillor briefing sessions
- requiring information considered at closed meetings to be made public after it ceases to be confidential
- requiring councils to give reasons when making decisions on planning matters that depart from staff recommendations
- de-politicising the role of the general manager by removing the requirement for them to prepare reports on councillors' notices of motion
- expanding the powers of the mayor to expel councillors from meetings for acts of disorder
- requiring councillors to stand when the mayor enters and when addressing the meeting

Minister for Local Government Ron Hoenig said "Council meetings are where a council's most important decisions should be made.

"It concerns me that these decisions are increasingly being made behind closed doors in private briefings, locking out the community and protecting councils from public scrutiny.

"As a former mayor, I want to see all councils conducting their business in an open and public forum, where communities can engage with their council on issues that directly affect them.

"The current Model Meeting Code has become unwieldy and is prone to drawing the general manager into political disputes which should be left to elected councillors to resolve.

"These changes are part of the government's commitment to restoring public trust in local government which has been eroded by years of neglect and a cultural shift towards secrecy over public service."

Changes to the Model Meeting Code were flagged in a discussion paper outlining the government's proposed reforms to the councillor code of conduct system.

Submissions will be accepted until Friday, 28 February 2025. To learn more and provide feedback, go to:

<https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/councils/governance/model-code-of-meeting-practice/reforms-to-the-model-code-of-meeting-practice/>

Numbers stack up for both a Eurobodalla Hospital Level 4 and a Batemans Bay Hospital Emergency Department

The campaign to keep Batemans Bay Hospital Emergency Department open 24/7 continues to gain momentum & support from concerned Shire residents and visitors at losing one of the most important services a community could have – quick & timely access to an Emergency Department.

The committee continues to support a new Level 4 Hospital, but not as a trade-off to close Batemans Bay Emergency Department. Genuine concerns are around increased travel times in addition to lack of public transport.

Research & extensive consultation now confirms that keeping Batemans Bay Hospital Emergency Department only has the effect of 4 additional beds to total services expected for the Shire allowing for Intensive Care and future expansion.

We have made extensive consultation with doctors, nurses, Paramedics & health care workers, both current and past, in addition to analysis of NSW Health Information Statistics to confirm a best possible distribution of beds & services for the entire Shire. The result is that the expected new Hospital Level 4 services & beds will not be impacted with a Batemans Bay Hospital Emergency Department remaining 24/7. Not only would Batemans Bay Hospital Emergency Department be complimenting the new Level 4, but it would reduce the cost & demand on our Paramedics.

As there would only be an additional 4 beds needed should the model be accepted and it would have little to no effect on recruitment and services.

Although there are critics of the campaign, real concerns were confirmed when Dr Stuart Stapleton, Emergency Department Director Eurobodalla Health Service, advised the recent Commissioner of Enquiry into Health Care funding that “there was no forward planning with the new hospital and there will be issues within 5 years.”

Campaigning continues with no answers forthcoming from the 18,000 Petition signatures collected. The Petition passed through the Legislative Assembly (Lower House) with majority support but now sits with NSW Government in the Legislative Council (Upper House). Attempts to get an update from local Member for Bega, Dr Michael Holland has failed to gain an answers on any further progress.

The group “Don’t Close Batemans Bay Hospital Emergency Department” continues to advise they support the new Eurobodalla Hospital Level 4 being constructed at Moruya but insist, with huge local support, that the local Hospital Emergency Department must stay open for best possible health outcomes – something that has wide support from large numbers involved medical services within & outside the 2536 Postcode.

Peter Ryan - President Don't Close Batemans Bay Hospital Emergency Department



Neil Greentree Photo of the Moruya Hospital construction .

Kate a new Candidate for Gilmore

Kate Dezarnaulds is running as an independent candidate for Gilmore, “offering bold, community-driven leadership to tackle the challenges our region faces.”

Kate has an extensive background in small business, community development, and regional advocacy and is the President of Berry Chamber of Commerce. Kate’s campaign focuses on four key priorities for Gilmore:

1. Affordable Housing, Healthcare, and Infrastructure: Ensuring everyone has access to the basics –secure housing, quality healthcare, and modern infrastructure that meets the needs of our growing region.
2. Powering the Future: Leveraging the energy transition to create jobs, reduce costs, and future-proof Gilmore’s economy for everyday people, not multinational corporations. Bold, practical action on climate change to safeguard our community and future generations.
3. Community Resilience: Equipping Gilmore to face natural disasters and build stronger, more connected communities.
4. Honest Leadership: Bringing transparency, accountability, and independent representation to Gilmore, free from party politics.



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Community rebukes NSW government over treatment of nurses and midwives

A new poll has revealed the Minns government is at odds with New South Wales voters over its handling of the current pay and conditions dispute with nurses and midwives.

The state government has been at logger heads with the NSW Nurses and Midwives' Association (NSWNMA) since May, unwilling to negotiate a deal beyond its original baseline public sector pay offer of 3% per cent over three years, excluding superannuation.

[Polling and analysis of marginal electorates](#) conducted by the RedBridge Group revealed voters had overwhelming support for the NSWNMA's pay claim, with 70% of participants in support of a 15% pay increase, including 71% of Labor voters, 66% of Coalition voters and 90% of Greens voters.

Support increased (80% overall) when respondents learned nurses and midwives were leaving NSW due to the pay disparity with other states, including the 18% pay gap for early career nurses and midwives compared to their Queensland counterparts.

NSWNMA General Secretary, Shaye Candish, said the Minns government had failed to recognise the vital contribution nurses and midwives make to the state's public health system and in their broader communities.

"Our members feel incredibly under-valued by the Minns Labor government and are devastated they are being forced to contemplate moving interstate for better pay and conditions, or leaving their chosen professions altogether," said Ms Candish. "The people of NSW expect their public health system to provide accessible and appropriate care to every patient who needs it, but voters have witnessed the demoralising working conditions for themselves, and they know the sacrifices nurses and midwives make to provide care.

"This report is further evidence of just how out of touch this government is with the electorate. By punishing nurses and midwives they are punishing the people of NSW and poorly managing our state's health system."

Director of Strategy and Analytics at RedBridge, Kos Samaras, said Labor was vulnerable on healthcare.

"Voters' existing opinion of the NSW Labor government's policies and performance in this area is lower than the government should be comfortable with, and this ongoing industrial dispute has the potential to pull this down further," said Mr Samaras.

"Labor's softest supporters do not rate it highly when it comes to healthcare. In fact, the Coalition is better rated by Labor voters on healthcare than Labor is scored by Coalition voters."

Sixty-seven per cent of voters said the ongoing pay dispute with nurses and midwives decreased their confidence in the NSW government's ability to manage healthcare, and 61 per cent said their view of the government was shaped by whether it increased the pay for nurses and midwives.

"Voters in these marginal seats say the current state of the NSW public health system is important to their vote at the 2025 federal election, and it matters most to those who are supportive of the pay demands of nurses and midwives," added Mr Samaras.

NSWNMA Assistant General Secretary, Michael Whaites, confirmed the union's pay and conditions dispute was headed towards arbitration after the Minns government applied to progress its inadequate pay offer in the NSW Industrial Relations Commission.

"This government cannot be allowed to ram through a three-year award that offers only 3% per annum. Underpaying nurses and midwives like this is simply not good enough and we intend to continue our fight," said Mr Whaites.



Bat warning – leave rescue to the experts

Residents in southern NSW are being reminded to avoid handling or touching injured or distressed bats as they may carry the fatal disease, lyssavirus.

The number of people reported to the public health unit requiring vaccination after exposure to bats has started to increase, as often occurs during summer when bats become more active.

A close relative to the rabies virus, Australian bat lyssavirus has been found in species of flying foxes/fruit bats and insect-eating microbats. It is assumed that any bat in Australia could potentially carry Australian bat lyssavirus. Director of Public Health, Southern NSW Local Health District, Ms Alison Nikitas said if you find an injured bat, do not attempt to handle it yourself.

"Lyssavirus can be transmitted from bats to humans through infected saliva from a bite or scratch and can easily be contracted through breaks in the skin," Ms Nikitas said.

"The chances of people coming across dead or dying bats increases at this time of year, as we may sometimes see large numbers of bats become distressed or die following prolonged exposure to heat, or when they are unable to find enough food."

Ms Nikitas warned a bat can be infectious without showing visible signs of sickness.

"The best way to protect yourself from infection is to leave the handling of the animal to the trained experts," Ms Nikitas said.

"If you see a bat in distress, injured or on the ground, do not try to rescue it. Instead contact WIRES on 1300 094 737 or your local wildlife rescue group or local veterinarian who can help care for the animal," Ms Nikitas said.

Ms Nikitas said once symptoms of lyssavirus commence in people who are scratched or bitten by an infected bat, it is almost always fatal, so seeking post exposure treatment quickly is crucial.

"If you or someone you know has been bitten or scratched by a bat, immediately wash the wound with soap and water for at least fifteen minutes," Ms Nikitas said.

"An antiseptic solution with anti-virus action should be applied after washing. People should then seek medical attention as soon as possible for treatment and advice.

"NSW Public Health Units will work with your doctor to assess your risk and where indicated, will arrange for rabies post-exposure treatment to be delivered to your GP or hospital."

[For more information about lyssavirus refer to the Rabies and Australian bat lyssavirus infection fact sheet.](#)

100 years ago from the Moruya & District Historical Society



Commercial Hotel 1924 (Tooth Yellow Cards)

20-12-1924

A Happy Xmas and Prosperous New Year to all.

The cold snap after the excessive heat on Saturday and Sunday brought down overcoats and furs from the top shelf.

The following pupils of the **Forest Home School, Cadgee**, under the tuition of Mrs. J. A. Reid, have gained their permit to enrol: - Reginald Murphy, Maurice Murphy, Ruth Egan, Jean Jessop.

An inspector under the Apiaries Act, with the appropriate name of Hives, was on duty in this district last week end. He found foul brood in some of the apiaries and gave the owners the necessary warning.

In our last issue the Shire Council warned owners against allowing stock to stray in our main streets. Seargent Rose now informs us that unless the warning is heeded to, he intends to carry out the law in the matter without respect to persons.

The best and most successful concert ever presented by pupils of the local Convent School took place in the Amusu Theatre on Thursday night. The attendance was the largest ever seen here, over 500 being present from all parts of the district.

The results of the Diocesan examination at St. Mary's Convent reflect the highest credit on the talented teaching staff, as well as upon the pupils. Little Josephine Brogan, who is only 13 years of age, is to be commended for her creditable achievement in gaining a gold medal in the Preparatory Intermediate Grade, and for securing the second highest marks in Mathematics in the whole of the Diocese.

Mr. J. King, formerly host of the Hotel Adelaide, has purchased the property and business of the Commercial Hotel from Mr. M. McKeon.

We must congratulate Mr. A. H. Preddey on his successful effort in accomplishing what a steamer with its steam winch failed to. With the assistance of one man, a hand winch, and a wire rope, Mr. Preddey lifted the boiler of the wrecked steamer Benandra out of nine feet of mud onto the stone wall. The boiler, with the accumulation of sand, etc., inside, is estimated to weigh over 30 tons.

Bateman's Bay. (From our Correspondent) The Bay has experienced very quiet times for the past few weeks, but livened up on Saturday, when the wood-chopping contest was run off.

There was a fair crowd of spectators; A big party left here on Sunday en route to Nelligen, some by launch and some by cars. The interest was centred in a friendly game of cricket between the Bay and Nelligen clubs.

The launch ran aground when nearing Nelligen, and the party had to be transhipped to another launch. A two innings match was finished in the dusk, the Bay winning by 7 runs.



Commercial Hotel 1930 (Tooths Yellow cards)

Extracted from the Moruya Examiner by the Moruya and District Historical Society Inc.

Renovation planned for historic Moruya House



Preparing for a new lease of life: Shannon View on Larrys Mountain Road.

By Phil Herrick

One of the earliest houses built by settlers in the Moruya district will be renovated by its new owners. Shannon View is on 8 hectares of land at the corner of Larrys Mountain Road and the Princes Highway. It changed owners earlier this year.

In 1829 the colonial governor gave an Irishman named Francis Flanagan the title to four square miles on the north bank of the Moruya River covering both sides of today's Princes Highway along the Mullenderee flats.

Records tell us by 1838 Flanagan was running about 800 cattle, 12 horses and 200 pigs on the land and he may have had the money to build the solid building still standing today.

Over a number of years he was also a local magistrate, census taker and distributor of government blankets to the Yuin people.

It's believed Flanagan built the house in the mid 1800's with bricks that may have come from a brickworks in the area of today's industrial estate at North Moruya.

According to the heritage statement presented to council, the aim of the renovation is to ensure Shannon View is once again a liveable residence while ensuring its heritage history is evident throughout. The original fabric will be retained and repaired as much as possible.

"Careful restoration will be carried out by experienced craftsmen who have previously restored other heritage buildings. Works will not be rushed nor compromised. Where ever possible, like for like materials will be used and if not, then suitable replacements will be utilised after final discussions with a Heritage Architect," says the statement. The original core of the building will be restored, rotting verandas replaced and a modern kitchen and bathroom installed.

The cost of the renovation is estimated at \$400,000. It's a project worthy of a TV show like Renovation Australia, and as those shows love to say... "What could possibly go wrong".

New year, new rules: government sides with developers over local voices

Today's confirmation of eligibility criteria for the State Government's new Housing Delivery Authority (HDA) has generously presented developers with the freedom to exceed development standards by up to 20 per cent, giving greater opportunities for profit-driven land banking, and no mandated requirement to meaningfully provide affordable housing.

Local Government NSW (LGNSW) – the peak body for NSW councils – says the HDA will further weaken the role of community-led strategic planning while doing nothing to address real barriers to housing delivery such as land banking, skills and labour shortages and soaring costs of materials and labour.

LGNSW President Cr Darriea Turley AM said today's announcement would be viewed by developers as an early Christmas present.

"Far from the season of giving, these planning changes will leave local communities empty-handed while big developers celebrate," Cr Turley said. "Until now, details of the HDA have been limited, but the NSW Government has confirmed today that it's basically handing the keys to planning rules over to developers, while local communities will be sidelined in decisions about what happens in their towns and suburbs.

"The new three-person HDA will be receiving EOIs from large developers and recommending these bypass councils and instead progress through state assessment and Ministerial determination."

Cr Turley said that while councils across the state supported efforts to accelerate housing delivery, they opposed the move to establish this new planning body and state-assessed planning pathway.

"This is not only because of the concern about bypassing local councils, but fundamentally, but also because it opens the planning system to more ad hoc proposals, disregarding local strategic plans and risks adding more uncertainty to the planning system," Cr Turley said.

"The NSW Government is continually shifting the planning goalposts for communities and developers. Developers now know that if they continue to delay construction on already approved sites, they only have to wait for the next rule change when they'll be able to generate even greater profits.

"Councils acknowledge the need for new and more diverse housing in well-located areas across NSW, but maintaining strategic, evidence-based planning and doing this in a collaborative way, is critical.

"Unfortunately for the NSW community, there is no requirement that developers who receive approval under this pathway must actually deliver the promised dwellings – just that they must demonstrate a capability to do so.

"There is nothing in the planning system to compel them to build. This toothless aspiration opens the planning system to more land banking by developers in search of even greater profits.

"And despite this new planning pathway allowing proposals to exceed development standards by up to 20 per cent there is no clear mandate for a meaningful contribution to affordable housing, nor that any affordable housing will remain in perpetuity.

"Rather than the vague requirement for a 'positive commitment to affordable housing', the requirements should clearly mandate what is required at the outset, to allow developers to factor this into their EOI for this pathway."

Cr Turley called for Minister Scully to consider targeted collaboration, rather than blanket policy that bypasses councils.

"When first announced last month, councils resolved to condemn this new spot-rezoning and State approval pathway, which will deliver windfall gains for developers while removing safeguards that protect communities from inappropriate overdevelopment," Cr Turley said.

"Rather than layering another blanket, statewide policy on the planning system, efforts to improve approval pathways for housing would be more effective if they focused attention and support where it is needed to overcome specific issues and to reach jointly agreed planning outcomes with councils for their communities.

"Any accelerated process must not compromise infrastructure provision, build quality, environmental considerations, public safety, liveability and other planning outcomes."



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A Beer with Bazz # 174

With
John
Longhurst

"Oi..... over here Bazza."

Bazza blinked a couple of times to adjust his eyes to the dim light and wended his way to the back corner of the pub.

After a decent sip of the offered schooner, he raised both eyebrows at Mick.

"We have to change spots in the pub, Bazza, just in case the brother in law walks by the front window. His family are staying with us over summer but no exit date has been discussed. It is making me a tad anxious."

"Ahh..... that would be the family from Newtown, Mick. I always knew that would be a challenge for you these holidays."

"Bazza, they are usually the last to arrive before Christmas and the first to leave but the cost of living crisis has changed all that. They have not been away for twelve months. I should have twigged when they unpacked the latest model coffee maker with enough fair trade beans to see us through to next Christmas, cartons of soy and almond milk, organic muesli, a rice cooker with four settings, designer mineral water, cases of inner city craft beer, Newtown distilled gin, a smoker for our barbecue, their preferred 1500 thread count Egyptian cotton sheets....."

Bazza interrupted with a chuckle.

"They even brought a bloody air purifier..... Do you believe it? An air purifier..... for down here!! And then the kids unpack every latest electronic gizmo. I regret giving out the wifi password as we have used up about three months worth of internet. As well, their idea of outdoor entertainment is to fly the drone they got last Christmas, which sets off every dog in the street. Bazza.....there is a level of permanency to this visit which I just don't like."

They both took long sips and Mick's eyes skirted the bar.

"On top of all that, Bazza, the brother in law has struck up a friendship with the neighbour, another blow in from Sydney. I've hardly ever spoken to this bloke but it's now glasses of Chardonnay and discussions about fringe theatre until midnight."

Mick shook his head.

"I tried that, Bazza. I took the lot of them to the beach for a swim. The parents put sunscreen and zinc cream on the kids every fifteen minutes. The kids would not go in the water because they reckon it's full of sharks and then spent the whole time making Tik Toks on the beach."

Mick paused for a sip of his schooner.

"I followed up with a trip to the local club for lunch. The brother in law asks about membership which causes me immediate concern. Anyhow..... the parents query whether the chicken is free range and the salad organic. They try to order some French Beaujolais vintage and are quite shocked when it is not available. I mean..... it's the local bloody club."

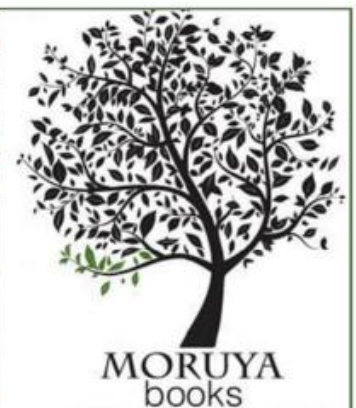
Mick openly sighed.

"I tell you, Bazza. I am going to be spending a bit more time in the pub."

They both finished their schooners in silence just as a thin man with a barista beard, black tee shirt and tight black jeans strolled over in his Doc Marten boots with three schooners.

"Ahhhh..... there you are, Mick. And you must be Bazza. Why didn't you tell me they had a craft beer brewed in Newtown on tap at this pub, Mick? It's a bloody good reason to stay a bit longer."

Have a beer with Bazza at
john.longhurst59@gmail.com





Author, Journalist and Screenwriter Robert Macklin is a regular contributor to the Moruya Mail. The Gadfly Papers, are a delightful collection of columns he has been writing since 2012.

Gadfly

The best thing about Christmas in Australia is Christmas in Australia. Here we are, a multi-cultural community way down in the Southern Hemisphere; no snow, no sleighs, no mangers and no one knows much about the little chap whose birth didn't really occur on the day we celebrate it.

But we all know of the visiting shepherds and three wise men said to have brought bizarre gifts to the little fellow. Oh, and there's talk of angels being spotted in the vicinity.

Truth is, an Australian Christmas is unique. And even though we do strange things like decorating a plastic pine tree with stars and bunting, it's really about getting together with families and opening the presents glowing in flash wrapping paper under said plastic tree.

Then having a big feed where Uncle Aubery gets pissed and slobbery, and maiden Aunt Jessica wants to play Monopoly because once in a dim distant Xmas past, she won with every property on the board (including the Train Stations)

But my dear wife Wendy has the best Christmas story. When we lived at Batehaven for a few years she taught at the local Bateman's Bay school and as a music specialist produced the annual tableau of the birth scene in the manger. I was a mere onlooker that famous year she prevailed on a local lady farmer, to lend an actual lamb and bring a bit of verisimilitude to the scene.

A stinking hot day it was, and the six-year-old kiddies in Year 1 were suddenly in showbiz. For some unknown reason her wardrobe mistress had clad several angels head-to-toe in blue crepe paper and by the time the curtain rose and they entered stage left the blue dye had started running down their foreheads and chubby cheeks. Enter the shepherds from the other side in gowns of tea towels until one waved at Mummy in the audience and tripped over her gown and into the back of the boy shepherd in front. The domino effect took place. Shepherds everywhere. Angels in blue masks. The parental audience hooting. Mary and Joseph unmoved, caring for the doll in the manger.

No gold, frankincense or myrrh were available in The Bay that year, but the wise men carrying silver sugar bowls filled with Marshmallows, Smarties and Jaffas made their entrance, just as the lady farmer launched the lamb from the wings. Naturally, the audience applauded; and the startled lamb responded with a pee so powerful that you could hardly believe it came from such a tiny bladder.

The tableau became unhinged. Blue angels, sprawling shepherds, wise men and even the doll's doting parents panicked. Theatrical chaos threatened.

That's when the chunky Headmaster, the late lamented Charlie Wedd, leapt to his feet and shouted (of the lamb), 'Get it off! Get it off!' And some bright spark in the audience cried, 'It's not prawn night at the Club, Charlie!'

By then the parents, visitors and supporters were clutching their sides and falling off their little chairs. Wendy rose to the occasion and saved the day with her Aussie carol composed for just such an eventuality. To the tune of Jingle Bells she tickled the ivories, the lady farmer rescued the lamb and the tableau recovered and sang:

'Dashing through the sand, On a sunny Summer's Day,
Surfboard in my hand, Laughing all the way
Floating on the waves, We will swim and play,
Oh what fun to ride my board, This sunny Christmas Day,
Hey,
Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way
Santa Claus is coming now, surfing all the way, Hey,
Hurrah for dear old Santa Claus, Hurrah for Christmas Day!

That's what I call a fair dinkum Ausiralian Xmas.

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Planning changes to speed up 'Meanwhile Use' accommodation

More crisis and temporary accommodation will be accessible under the **NSW Government** with recent changes to planning controls introduced on 16 December 2024.

Exempt and complying development pathways will be made available to organisations, providers and Government agencies that manage social and affordable housing to permit the use of certain homes as temporary accommodation.

Current planning controls often require a Development Application (DA) to allow the change of one existing land use to another, which means that vacant residential properties that could be utilised for crisis and temporary housing before they are repurposed or redeveloped, often sit empty for years.

Without the need for a DA, vacant buildings could be repurposed for temporary or crisis accommodation for those in need more quickly. The need for emergency housing has grown in recent years and can include housing for women and children trying to leave a violent home but not having a safer option to go to, a sudden or unexpected change in a person's circumstances or members of the community facing homelessness.

Temporary accommodation can offer people a safe home while they receive the support they need before finding a more permanent home.

These planning changes follow the Minns Labor Government's historic \$5.1 billion investment in public housing in the recent budget and extensive planning reforms to deliver more homes and improve housing affordability.

Dr Michael Holland, Member for Bega said: "In the Bega Electorate, there is a pressing need for more crisis accommodation and temporary accommodation to support those in urgent need."

"The changes introduced by the Minns Labor Government will make it easier for organisations, service providers, and government agencies involved in social and affordable housing to use certain vacant residential properties as temporary or crisis accommodation."

Community invited to shape future South East and Tablelands transport system

People who live, work or play in South East and Tablelands communities are being invited to have their say on a draft blueprint for the region's future road and transport network as part of the Minns Labor Government's work to build better communities.

The draft South East and Tablelands Strategic Regional Integrated Transport Plan (SRITP) outlines a vision for regional transport where communities are more better connected by high quality road and transport infrastructure and services.

By identifying actions governments can take to improve transport options in line with future population growth and projected demographic changes, the draft SRITP presents potential short, medium and long term progress opportunities for the community to consider.

Building on previous planning documents and developed through extensive consultation with local councils, members of parliament and community groups, the draft SRITP is now being shared with the broader community for the first time.

Minister for Regional Transport and Roads Jenny Aitchison said "The SRITPs we are developing in nine regions across NSW will change this and help better guide future government decision making around investments and community priorities.

"I urge all residents, businesses, community and industry groups to visit the website, take a look at the draft plan and share your feedback.

"The final plan will be accompanied by an implementation plan to ensure we deliver better transport and road networks across the region and I am excited to see what the community feedback is and what the final plan looks like."

Community members can view the draft SRITP and provide comment until 28 February, 2025, by visiting

www.haveyoursay.nsw.gov.au/sritp/south-east-and-tablelands

A survey has been designed to allow community to easily provide feedback on the key themes heard so far and the initiatives in the plan.

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Labor's coal mine expansions fly in the face of science

Climate Council

THE ALBANESE GOVERNMENT'S approval of four coal mine expansions locks in decades of climate pollution and flies in the face of science, says the Climate Council. Environment Minister Tanya Plibersek has justified the mine approvals because they will mostly produce coal for steelmaking, with some thermal coal also produced for burning in power stations.

Climate Councillor Professor Lesley Hughes said: "Our atmosphere doesn't care if this coal is for steel or power—it's all heating our planet and driving climate pollution. Burning coal fuels the climate crisis, worsening bushfires, floods and heatwaves that devastate our communities. This decision flies in the face of science, common sense, global responsibility and our duty to protect our kids' future."

The International Energy Agency (IEA) has made it clear: new or expanded coal mines are incompatible with limiting global warming to 1.5°C. Even for steelmaking, existing coal supplies are capable of meeting demand through to 2050.

This decision is a clear example of how Australia's broken environment laws fail to protect the environment from its biggest threat: climate change. Currently, they don't require projects to account for their climate pollution, allowing coal and gas giants to open more polluting projects without accountability. Addressing this blind spot by strengthening our environmental laws could stop this, but the Albanese government seems to have all but given up on these critical reforms.

"Approving these mines while delaying stronger protections shows a clear disconnect between the government's rhetoric and its actions. It's past time to make cuts to climate pollution central to every decision we make" Professor Hughes said.

The **Australian Conservation Foundation's** climate program manager Gavan McFadzean said, "Approving coal projects is the opposite of climate action.

"Together, these three coal mine extensions will generate more than 850 million tonnes of lifetime emissions, undermining Australia's emissions targets and our claims to be a good global citizen and a good neighbour to Pacific nations.

"Climate scientists and the International Energy Agency say the world cannot approve new coal and gas projects.

"The Albanese government keeps trying to walk both sides of the street – supporting clean export and manufacturing initiatives through its Future Made in Australia package while also approving major expansions of coal mines.

"Coal is fuelling the climate crisis, making bushfires, heatwaves and floods more frequent and more intense.

"These coal mine approvals will have consequences for Australians who are forced to live with the reality of a damaged climate."

Ribbon cut on state-of-the-art disability holiday accommodation at Sanctuary Point

New state-of-the-art holiday disability accommodation at Sanctuary Point will provide respite opportunities for families visiting the South Coast over summer.

Purpose-built by Interchange Shoalhaven the two homes in an Ethel Street duplex are fully accessible and have been designed to support people with diverse disabilities by fostering independence, inclusion and comfort.

The duplex was officially opened by Federal Member for Gilmore today (Wednesday December 11, 2024) and will be available for holiday stays from January.

"This is such a fantastic and much-needed service in our region," Mrs Phillips said.

"It provides an opportunity for families who may have a child or parent with a disability to come and enjoy the fabulous South Coast.

"Finding suitable accommodation for people with a disability can be difficult, so I congratulate Interchange Shoalhaven on this initiative which I know will be highly sought after by visitors to our region, as well as those taking a short break from within the electorate.

"The specially designed homes, built by Hotondo, are sensational and the location, close to Jervis Bay and the new accessible Huskisson Mangrove Boardwalk, is amazing.

"People and families shouldn't miss out on holidaying in our beautiful region just because they have a disability."

In the next few weeks, the homes will be fitted out with furniture, including bed lifts, to ensure visiting families can be comfortable during their stay.

Interchange board chair Michelle Miran said the opening of the two homes in the rapidly-growing Bay and Basin area was a "significant milestone" for the organization which has provided housing, support services and specialised disability programs out of Nowra for almost 30 years.

"It's time to take our services to people who want to be closer to their families and their community," she said.

"This duplex embodies Interchange Shoalhaven's commitment to providing inclusive, high-quality accommodation and services tailored to meet the needs of NDIS participants and their families.

"We are evolving to meet the changing needs of people with disabilities."

The accommodation can be booked through online holiday platforms including Accessible Accommodation and Stayz.

Mrs Phillips said the Albanese Labor Government was deeply committed to creating a more inclusive society where all Australians with disability had the chance to fully participate in all aspects of community life and to thrive.

Working together for a cleaner, smarter future for the Eurobodalla



Medicare Mental Health Centre provides free walk-in support in Moruya



Federal Member for Gilmore Fiona Phillips took a tour of the new Moruya Medicare Mental Health Centre with staff.

The Eurobodalla community now has access to free, walk-in mental health care and support at the new Moruya Medicare Mental Health Centre.

Open from Monday to Friday, the centre will provide immediate support for adults who needs mental health advice or care, as well as support for those in distress. Medicare Mental Health Centres offer support including from psychologists, social workers, mental health nurses and peer workers.

The Moruya service is one of 61 Federally-funded Medicare Mental Health Centres being rolled out by the Albanese Government across the country.

To ensure every centre can provide access to specialist care, the Australian Government is investing an additional \$29.9 million so that every centre has a psychologist and psychiatrist on call.

Federal Member for Gilmore Fiona Phillips said the Moruya community could now access free mental health care close to home.

"The Moruya Medicare Mental Health Centre provides a safe and welcoming space for people in our community," she said. "I've lobbied hard to get this service up and running, to ensure Eurobodalla residents can get the mental health care and support they need.

"This service is free and no appointment or referral is needed. "Walk-ins are welcome and peer support workers can help people navigate a range of mental health services and connect them with the best service for their care needs."

Mrs Phillips said the service would improve access to and awareness of mental health care, especially for people who haven't previously accessed mental health support.

Operated by Grand Pacific Health she said the walk-in adult clinic would work alongside a range of mental health services, including The Family Place, Directions Health Service, Katungul Aboriginal Family and Child Centre, and headspace Batemans Bay, to provide whole-of-community support.

"I'm proud to have delivered this service, as well as the free Medicare Urgent Care Clinic at Batemans Bay and the free bulk-billed South-Eastern Endometriosis and Pelvic Pain Clinic at Milton," Mrs Phillips said.

"Importantly, these services are free, which is taking some financial pressure off families who we know are doing it tough.

"The Labor government is delivering on its promise to provide more doctors, more health workers, and more accessible, affordable health care for people in Gilmore."

Located at 7-9, 73 Vulcan Street, Moruya the walk-in Moruya Medicare Mental Health Centre is open from 8am until 8pm Monday to Friday.

People can find out more by calling 1800 595 212 or at www.health.gov.au/medicare-mental-health.

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\$50M over three years: NSW taxpayers footing the bill for native forest destruction

Australian Climate and Biodiversity Foundation

NSW taxpayers footed a bill of \$29 million to destroy irreplaceable native forests last year, raising the total public cost to more than \$50 million in three years, as calls for a cessation in native forest logging and a transition to a full plantation-based industry grow louder.

Released quietly on Friday afternoon, the 2024 Forestry Corporation Annual Report revealed the extent of the financial woes to its native forest logging operations, reporting a \$29 million loss to its Hardwood Forests Division in 2023-24 as the balance sheet of its operations worsens. The commercial viability of native forest logging in NSW is falling at an alarming rate with this year's shortfall almost double the loss of the previous year. Native forest logging was \$15 million in the red in FY23, after posting a loss of \$9 million in FY22. Compounding the financial performance of native forest logging, Forestry Corp's annual report deemed its hardwood assets as being fully impaired, meaning they have no financial value.

"These results confirm what we've long known - native forest logging is an economic and environmental failure that survives only by reaching deep into the pocket of taxpayers," Dr Ken Henry, ACBF chair, said. "Most taxpayers would be appalled to learn that they paid \$29 million last year for the privilege of destroying native forests and endangering koalas and gliders."

While the report reveals significant losses for the native forest division, the corporation's plantation operations returned a profit of \$22 million, highlighting the viability of transitioning to reliable timber production.

"What's even more appalling is that a lot of these native trees are felled for export woodchips. This economic and environmental failure for such low-value products. We have to find a better way," Henry said.

"We need to confront reality and establish a proper plan that fosters sustainable plantation timber and forest management jobs. With foresight, we can protect and restore our native forests while also building strong and dependable jobs for regional communities."

The 2024 Forestry Corporation Annual Report also documents multiple regulatory breaches and enforcement actions:

- A conviction for breaching environmental protections in Mogo State Forest, where four hollow-bearing trees essential for wildlife habitat were illegally felled
- A \$500,000 enforceable undertaking after contractors harvested 17 trees from protected Riparian Exclusion Zones in Cooperook State Forest
- Convictions for breaches in Bagawa and Nadgee State Forests
- Additional convictions recorded for breaches in Yambulla State Forest

ACBF supports the implementation of the Improved Native Forest Management (INFM) carbon method. Led by the NSW Government as the proponent, INFM will protect and manage public native forests, as we move from native forest logging to a full plantation-based timber industry.

Recently approved for further development by the federal government, INFM modelling shows the method will deliver significant revenue through additional sequestration of carbon, funding permanent jobs in forest management that will ensure native forests are better managed, more resilient to hazards and remain habitats for our iconic species.

"Our native forests are much more valuable to us by storing carbon. Through the Improved Native Forest Management method proposed by the NSW Government, native forests can store an additional 1.5 million tCO₂ per year, delivering up to \$2.6 billion in revenue over 15 years that will fund 1700 new jobs in forest management," Henry said.

Friends of the Forest response to Forestry Corp losses

"The latest \$29 million Forestry Corporation NSW loss over 2023-2024 (\$50m loss over the last three years) is despite profits from the pine plantation sector flowing into FCNSW to offset native forest logging losses" said Joslyn van der Moolen from Friends of the Forest (Mogo).

"The loss is because the "stumpage cost" paid when a truckload of hardwood trees arrives at the woodchip mill, firewood yard or the Narooma pallet mill, does not cover the costs of FCNSW staff and contractor payments, fines etc."

"Basically, NSW taxpayers are paying to cut down our public native forests north of Moruya, around Shallow Crossing and west of Eden" said Joslyn.

"The woodchip carrier, the Fujian Express is currently at the Eden chipmill loading more than 50,000 tonnes of export woodchip to China."

"Logging contractors and logging truck drivers can easily work in the successful softwood pine plantation sector that provides over 80% of Australia's construction timber. The state of the art Bombala Dongwa pine mill (130 jobs) and the Tumut Visy Kraft pine paper mill (>300 jobs) provide skilled sawmilling and manufacturing jobs. AKD Softwoods owns 12,000 hectares of pine plantations in Tumut and Oberon and has over 1000 employees across regional East Coast Australia."

"In southern NSW we are logging 411,651 hectares of NSW public native forest. The electorate of Bega has a total of 246,942 hectares being logged from the Bega Shire (140,480 hectares) and the Eurobodalla Shire (106,462 hectares)" said Joslyn.

Responding to Ken Henry's (see at left) support for the implementation of the Improved Native Forest Management, Joslyn said "Selling our public NSW forests for carbon credits, privatises our forests by putting them on the market. This also allows big coal and gas polluters to buy carbon credits to continue business as usual instead of cutting emissions. NSW can simply follow the Victorian and WA lead and end native forest logging by focussing on an effective NSW plantation plan. The Australia Institute and Wilderness Australia warn that trading our NSW public forests for carbon credits can be varied to then allow thinning in national parks. Forestry needs to be conducted 100% in plantations for construction timber so we can stop trashing our wild forests for carbon emitting export woodchips and firewood" she said.

Floodplain Management Program grants announced

The Eurobodalla Shire Council has been awarded \$139,998 in funding to help manage flood risk and reduce the impact of floods on their community under the NSW Government's Floodplain Management Program. The Eurobodalla Shire Council will use this funding to undertake the Broulee, Mossy Point, Mogo, Tomakin flood risk management study and plan.

Member for Bega, Dr Michael Holland MP said, "This is one of 41 grants providing \$8.08 million statewide to help councils mitigate flood risk." "The Broulee, Mossy Point, Mogo, Tomakin floodplain risk management study and plan will build on the outcomes of the adopted study and identify opportunities with the community to mitigate and manage significant impacts of flooding for current and future generations."

The Eurobodalla Shire Council adopted the Broulee, Mossy Point, Mogo, Tomakin flood study in 2017. There will be an emphasis on reviewing the model and aligning planning advice with the outcomes of the 2022 Eurobodalla Open Coast coastal management program, which also covers part of the study area.

Funding for the Floodplain Management Program is usually provided at a 2:1 ratio, with \$2 contributed from the state government for every \$1 provided by the council. More information about the Floodplain Management Program grants can be found on the NSW Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water Department website. Minister for Climate Change and the Environment Minister Penny Sharpe said "Past flooding events have shown us how vital it is to understand and reduce the impacts of flooding on local communities. This grant funding assists local councils to make informed decisions on managing flood risk."

THE FAMOUS BROULEE SURF SCHOOL PRESENTS

NEW YEARS EVE SAND MODELLING COMPETITION 2024

31st December @ North Broulee
Registration 2pm
Competition from 3 - 4pm

*Pro Entry Fee \$25
*Open Entry Fee \$15
*Junior Entry Fee \$10
Cash and Prizes to be won!!

ENTER HERE: brouleesurfschool.rezgo.com

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Broulee Brewhouse



Aboriginal Art workshops **Salt Dust Connections**

Join Bronwen Smith and Gavin Chatfield, co-founders of Gwiyaala Aboriginal Art, for a small group three-hour art workshop. Attendees will focus on painting their story, through which they can feel connected to their own heritage or personal journey while learning about the traditions and techniques of contemporary Aboriginal art. As part of the process the workshops aim to provide an opportunity for attendees to paint about the impact of the 2019 bushfires, with the intent of a creative healing experience.

These workshops are designed to be filmed and archived for future story telling. This will be at participants discretion.

Funding for these workshops is through a Fire and Flourish grant.



Batemans Bay Library
Monday 3 February, 12pm to 3pm
Monday 10 February, 12pm to 3pm

Moruya Library
Wednesday 5 February, 12pm to 3pm
Wednesday 12 February, 12pm to 3pm

Narooma Library
Tuesday 4 February, 12pm to 3pm
Tuesday 18 February, 12pm to 3pm

Free event.
Eventbrite bookings essential.

For more information about this event please contact your local library or visit www.esc.nsw.gov.au/events

Eurobodalla Libraries

Batemans Bay | Moruya | Narooma

SOUTH COAST SEAFOOD

NOW TAKING CHRISTMAS ORDERS
SKIP THE HASSEL OF TOWN
Conveniently Located at
Liberty Petrol Station Cullendulla
December 23rd & 24th: 9am - 5pm
The Water Front Moruya
December 23rd & 24th: 9am - 5pm
Cooked Prawns, Sydney Rock Oysters,
Pacific Oysters & Fish
Ken & Casey
PH: 0409-033-362

Find us on facebook

CONGO

FOODIE FESTIVAL 2025

Proudly organised by the Congo Community Association CCA

ELK ESPRESSO VAN *
CONGO PLAYGROUND 12 Jan 7:30am-10:30am

CUT AND RUN PIZZA
CONGO PLAYGROUND 18 Jan 5-7pm

THE NOURISHED SOVEREIGN COFFEE VAN *
CONGO PLAYGROUND 25 Jan 7:30am-10:30am

WHOPPA ICE CREAM
CONGO PLAYGROUND 26 Jan 10 am - 12 pm

CCA FUNDRAISER BREKKIE FOOD STALLS
HELD ON THE MORNINGS OF THE 2 COFFEE VANS * 12 & 25 Jan 7:30am-10:30am

* There will be a call out for volunteers to make cakes and baked goods for these events. PLEASE BRING CASH TO PAY ALL VENDORS!

WORKSHOP Rockpools & Waterfalls 1 - 2 March 2025



TRICIA TAYLOR

Based in Moreton Bay, Tricia Taylor is a Master Pastellist with the Pastel Society of Australia and has won many awards including Pastellist of the Year 2010. Tricia's work has been published in a variety of national art magazines including Australian Artist, Art Edit and Paint and Draw Magazine UK. Teaching from beginners to advanced students for many years Tricia's workshops are in demand in Australia and internationally including Fiji, New Zealand and the USA.

Venue: Malua Bay Community Centre
George Bass Drive, Malua Bay
Cost: \$240 (SCPS member)
\$250 (non-member)
Contact: Anne Lindley
Phone: 0402408882
email: alindley690@gmail.com



BOOK A TECH TALK

FOR YOUR CLUB OR
COMMUNITY GROUP

2024 <<<<<<

www.TheTecExec.com.au



Trish Pye Digital Literacy Trainer
Phone: 1300 366 802

40TH ANNUAL CABBI Arts & Crafts EXHIBITION



"Slipstream" courtesy of Debra Smith, winner of 2024 Best In Show Award

January 4 - 20, 2025
Open Daily 10am - 4pm
Batemans Bay High School

cabbi
CREATIVE ARTS BATEMANS BAY INC



Tell them you saw it
in the Moruya Mail!

Subscribe free at www.moruyamail.com.au

YUIN NATION

BIRRIGA BUNAAN

**YUIN NATION
BIRRIGA BUNAAN**

**4TH OF
JANUARY 2025**

TILBA TILBA FOOTBALL FIELD
NSW



10AM ARRIVAL & MINGLE

- DANCERS ORCHERD UP

10:20AM ELDERS SPEECHES AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

10:40AM SMOKING CEREMONY YUIN (ONLY)

10:50AM SMOKING CEREMONY ALL INDIGENOUS DANCERS

11:05AM WELCOME DANCE UNCLE WARREN & GULAGA DANCERS

11:15AM SPECIAL MENTIONS

11:20AM WELCOME DANCE ALL INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

11:30AM BUNAAN STARTS

1:30PM LIVE ENTERTAINMENT (DANCERS BREAK)

2:30PM BUNAAN COMMENCES

4PM LIVE ENTERTAINMENT / OPEN MIC (DANCERS BREAK)

4:30PM ENDING CEREMONY AND GOODBYES

YUINNATIONBIRRIGABUNAAN2025

PROUDLY PRESENTED BY DREAMTIME ENTERTAINMENT AND UNCLE WARREN FOSTER



Justin Pearson - "Fantasia" 2024, oil on canvas, 120cm x 120cm

JUSTIN PEARSON



Fantasia

thurs 5 dec 2024 to sun 5 jan 2025

please join us for opening drinks
with Justin sat 7 dec 3pm

gallery bodalla

open thurs to sun 11am - 4pm & by appointment | visit the exhibition at www.gallerybodalla.com.au
post office 66a princes hwy bodalla | valerie faber ph 0421 238 174 | gallerybodalla@gmail.com

SAM FLETCHER, 350 EUROBOALLA, EUROBOALLA SHIRE COUNCIL, GOOD VIBES and SMOKEY DAN'S PROUDLY PRESENT

ROCK ON

FOR CLIMATE ACTION
SATURDAY 15TH FEBRUARY

SMOKEY DAN'S
SATIN CALI + ARCHIE
SAM FLETCHER + POLAROID

LIVE MUSIC
+ SMOKEY DAN'S
DELICIOUS MENU
+ CREATIVE
DISPLAYS BY LOCAL
ENVIRONMENTAL
GROUPS

350.org
Eurobodalla
SHASA
eurobodalla
shire council

FROM 5PM | TOMAKIN NSW | TIX \$30-40 VIA HUMANITIX
ALL DONATIONS TO 350 EUROBOALLA WELCOME

SMOKEY DAN'S

FREEDAWG PROMOTIONS AND THE SPINDRIFT SAGA PRESENTS

THE 12TH NELLIJAM MUSIC FESTIVAL

-SAT 11 JAN-

THE RADIATORS

TAXIRIDE

JEFF LANG

MINNIE MARKS

CLAUDE HAY AND THE KUNGFU MUSTARD

THE SPINDRIFT SAGA

ANDY JANS BROWN

FLAVUH

SLIGHTLY BENT CHOIR

VIOLET AND ELSIE

TIX VIA - HUMANITIX



**NOON
TIL
LATE**



**STEAMPACKET
HOTEL
NELLIGEN**

**BACK BY
POPULAR
DEMAND**

Travel Team Batemans Bay

**FOODWORKS
LIQUOR**

McGrath



ART EXHIBITION

Sibling Rivalry II

2nd December 2024—31st January 2025. 9.30—4.30 M-F
Framing Pieces 30 Orient St Eatmans Bay

Christine Dimmer Paul Dimmer Sue Law

Sculpture Pastel Painting Drawing



PASTURE RAISED MEAT & EGGS

MONTHLY SUBSCRIPTION
OR PREORDER ONLINE TO
PICKUP AT SAGE FARMERS
MARKET:

BBFARM.COM.AU

BRANCH & BURROW BRAIDWOOD



Coming up in the theatre at the Bay Pavilions

- 21 Dec - Daniel Connell: Little Aussie Battler
- 19 Jan - Illusionist Anthony Street
- 7 Feb - Kath and Kim Drag Bingo
- 8 Feb - Pink Floyds wish You Were Here
- 15 Feb - Sons of Sun (Elvis, Jerry Lee Johnny and me)
- 22 Feb - Baby Boomers live Comedy Tribute of Music Legends and more
- 8 March - Get Rhythm 2025 (Johnny Cash and June Carter)
- 22 March - Dreams (Fleetwood Mac)
- 29 March - Diesel Bootleg
- 9 May - Robertson Bros 60's Variety TV Show
- 13 May - Ross Noble
- 23 May - The Roy Orbison Story
- 30 May - The Eagles Story

See more at

<https://baypavilions.com.au/whats-on/>

back to
**THE ROARING
TWENTIES**

SATURDAY, 25TH JANUARY

6pm 3-course French dinner
7.30pm swing jazz by Blueberry Jam

Les Gourmandises, Moruya
\$80 pp
BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL
(bookings close on 22 January)

gourmand.iz2537@gmail.com
02 4405 8678

2EARFM GIG GUIDE
"LOCAL and LIVE"

Friday 20th Dec:
Klaus Tietz – Top Pub, Pambula (6pm)
Jackson Fisher – Tura Beach Club (7.30pm)
Garry Carson Jones – Tathra Bowlo (8pm)
Alex Clarke – Steam Packet Hotel

Saturday, 21 Dec:
Steve Martin – Club Malua (7pm)
Coastal Fringe – Club Narooma (7.30pm)
Joe Driscoll – Tathra Bowlo (7.30pm)
Allan Watts Blues Band – Merimbula RSL (8pm)
Tony Jaggers – Quantum Brewery 4pm
Tom Henry – Steam Packet Hotel 5pm
Barry & Rick – Broulee Brewhouse

Sunday, 22 Dec:
Rick Bamford – Club Tuross (2pm)
Tony Jaggers – Narooma Hotel 4pm
Met'Foa – Steam Packet Hotel
Sam Fletcher – Broulee Brewhouse

Tuesday, 24 Dec:
Ricky Bloomfield – Club Narooma (5.30pm)

Want to be listed in the Gig Guide?
Email tj@tonyjaggers.com

2EAR FM
Eurobodalla Access Radio 107.5 & 102.9

THE GALLERY
Featured Craft Artisan
December 1 - February 2
Deborah Ellis

52 Sydney St, Mogo www.cabbi.com.au

Quantum Brewery
Saturday Chill 4.30-7.30pm

21 Dec	Tony Jaggers
28 Dec	Casey Green & Jeremy Sawkins
4 Jan	Sam Fletcher
11 Jan	Richard Lawson
18 Jan	Giaan Cafe
25 Jan	LP Duo

Christmas Hours : 19 Dec to 19 Jan
Thu to Tue 12 – 9 pm
Only closed Public Holidays & Weds

www.artisanfactory.com/Live music

THE GALLERY
Featured Artist
December 1 - February 2
Karen Warburton

52 Sydney St, Mogo www.cabbi.com.au



Got an event coming up ?

Let the Moruya Mail know at hello@moruyamail.com.au

Go to www.moruyamail.com.au to subscribe FREE

Animal Welfare League Eurobodalla

Animal Welfare League Eurobodalla is bursting with adorable kittens, with one to suit everyone looking to share their life with a feline friend. Our smallest kittens range in age from 7 to 12 weeks, all short haired, a mix of males and females, and a wide range of colours. They are all really sweet, affectionate and playful, and they're also great with dogs and other cats. If a lively baby is not for you, we also have a few really lovely older kittens and cats available who are ready to go now to their forever homes.

So, if you're after a feline companion, we can definitely help!
All AWL pets come desexed, microchipped, vaccinated and flea, tick and worm treated. Some of the younger kittens are available as foster-to-adopt, which means they can go to their new homes prior to desexing, which will be done at AWL's expense. Please ring AWL on 0410016612 to arrange a meeting with any of our animals.
Merry Christmas to all Moruya Mail readers from Animal Welfare League Eurobodalla.

COMING 26TH DEC
- SONIC 3
- BETTER MAN

THE KINEMA

COMING 1ST JAN
- PADDINGTON IN PERU
- NOSFERATU

WEEKLY FILM PROGRAM

NAROOMA

ONLINE TICKETS AVAILABLE

ALL FILMS WITH AN ASTERISK () ARE IN OUR SMALLER CINEMA. WE HIGHLY RECOMMEND BOOKING IN ADVANCE FOR ANY FILMS IN THIS CINEMA.

19TH - 25TH DECEMBER	THURS 19TH	FRI 20TH	SAT 21ST	SUN 22ND	MON 23RD	TUES 24TH	WED
MUFASA PG, 1H 58M, ADVENTURE/MUSICAL	11.30am 4pm 6.30pm	10.20am 3pm 7.35pm	10.20am 3pm 7.35pm	10.20am 3pm 7.35pm	10.20am 3pm 7.35pm	10.20am 3pm	
MEMOIR OF A SNAIL M, 1H 34M, DRAMA/ANIMATION		10.05am*	10.05am*	10.05am*	10.05am*	10.05am*	
GOODRICH M, 1H 51M, COMEDY/DRAMA		5pm*	5pm*	5pm*	5pm*		
MY FAVOURITE CAKE M, 1H 36M, IRANIAN ROMANCE/DRAMA		12pm*	12pm*	12pm*	12pm*	12pm*	
MOANA 2 PG, 1H 40M, FAMILY/ADVENTURE	1.55pm	12.50pm 5.25pm	12.50pm 5.25pm	12.50pm 5.25pm	12.50pm 5.25pm	12.50pm	
WICKED PG, 2H 40M, FANTASY/MUSICAL	3pm*	2pm	2pm	2pm	2pm	2pm*	
GLADIATOR II M, 2H 28M, ACTION/ADVENTURE	6pm*	7.10pm*	7.10pm*	7.10pm*	7.10pm*		
TOSCA E, 3H 28M, MET OPERA PRICES APPLY	11.15am*						



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



NOW SHOWING

DECEMBER	THU 19	FRI 20	SAT 21	SUN 22	MON 23	TUE 24	WED 25
<i>The Owners & Staff wish you a very Merry Christmas & Happy New Year</i>							
CONCLAVE Advanced screening PG 120 MIN				2:00 PM			CLOSED
GLADIATOR 2 MA15+ 148 MIN	1:50 PM	1:50 PM	1:50 PM	1:50 PM	1:50 PM	1:35 PM	
KRAVEN THE HUNTER 127 MIN	11:20 AM 4:35 PM 6:55 PM	11:20 AM 4:35 PM 6:55 PM	11:20 AM 4:35 PM 6:55 PM	11:20 AM 4:35 PM 6:55 PM	11:20 AM 4:35 PM 6:55 PM	10:30 AM 3:05 PM	
MOANA 2 PG 100 MIN	11:20 AM 1:50 PM 4:25 PM 6:00 PM	11:20 AM 1:50 PM 4:25 PM 6:00 PM	11:20 AM 1:50 PM 4:25 PM 6:00 PM	11:55 AM 1:50 PM 4:25 PM 6:00 PM	11:20 AM 1:50 PM 4:25 PM 6:00 PM	10:30 AM 1:00 PM 3:35 PM	
MUFASA: THE LION KING PG 118 MIN	11:00 AM 1:20 PM 3:40 PM 6:30 PM 8:00 PM	11:00 AM 1:20 PM 3:40 PM 6:30 PM 8:00 PM	11:00 AM 1:20 PM 3:40 PM 6:30 PM 8:00 PM	11:00 AM 1:20 PM 3:40 PM 6:30 PM 8:00 PM	11:00 AM 1:20 PM 3:40 PM 6:30 PM 8:00 PM	10:40 AM 1:00 PM 3:20 PM	
THE LORD OF THE RINGS: THE WAR OF THE ROHIRRIM M 134 MIN	11:15 AM 7:05 PM	11:15 AM 7:05 PM	11:15 AM 7:05 PM	11:15 AM 7:05 PM	11:15 AM 7:05 PM	11:00 AM	
WICKED PG 160 MIN	1:25 PM 3:55 PM	1:25 PM 3:55 PM	1:25 PM 3:55 PM	3:55 PM	1:25 PM 3:55 PM	12:35 PM	



MOANA 2

PG| 1hr 40min

~ Family ~ Animation ~
DWAYNE JOHNSON

After receiving an unexpected call from her wayfinding ancestors, Moana must journey to the far seas of Oceania and into dangerous, long-lost waters for an adventure.



WICKED

PG| 2hrs 40min

~ Family ~ Musical ~

Ariana Grande & Cynthia Erivo

Two students meet at Shiz University in the fantastical Land of Oz and forge an unlikely but profound friendship. Following an encounter with The Wonderful Wizard of Oz.



GLADIATOR II

MA| 2hrs 28min ~ Action ~ Adventure ~

Paul Mescal & Denzel Washington

Gladiator II continues the epic saga of power, intrigue, and vengeance set in Ancient Rome. Years after witnessing the death of the revered hero Maximus.



MUFASA

PG| 2hrs

~ Family ~ Animation ~
Seth Rogan, Lennie James & Keith David

"Mufasa: The Lion King" enlists Rafiki to relay the legend of Mufasa to young lion cub Kiara, daughter of Simba and Nala. The story introduces Mufasa as an orphaned cub, lost and alone until he meets Taka - the heir to a royal bloodline. The chance meeting sets in motion a journey of an extraordinary group of misfits searching for their destiny - their bonds will be tested as they work together to evade a threatening and deadly foe.



THE LORD OF THE RINGS: THE WAR OF THE ROHIRRIM

M| 2hrs 14min ~ Animation ~

Set 183 years before the events in the original films, "The Lord of the Rings: The War of the Rohirrim" tells the fate of the House of Helm Hammerhand, the legendary King of Rohan. Hera the daughter of Helm, must summon the will to lead the resistance against a deadly enemy intent on their total destruction.


Merry Christmas
WEEKEND ADVANCES


CONCLAVE


MORUYA
MAIL

"Free local
news for
Moruya &
the
Eurobodalla"

ALSO SCREENING - KRAVEN THE HUNTER

CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEA - CINEMA GIFT VOUCHERS AVAILABLE AT THE CANDY BAR

BOXING DAY - SONIC 3 & BETTER MAN

2024 Diary Dates

- 20 December - **Carols by Candlelight Moruya**
- 29 Dec to 4 Jan - **George Bass Marathon**
- 25-26 January - **Eurobodalla Agricultural Show**
- 15th February - **Rock On For Climate Action**
- 28th Feb - 2 March **2025 Cobargo Folk Festival**
- 8 - 16 March - **Sculpture Bermagui**
- 2 - 3 May 2025 **Narooma Oyster Festival**
- 1 - 8 June 2025 - **Sculpture for Clyde**
- 15 - 17 Aug 2025 **80th Anniversary - VP Day in Moruya**
- 26 Sept - 6 Oct 2025 - **River of Art Festival**
- 22-26 October 2025 - **Sea Otter Australia MTB Event**

It's baby bat season! What to do if one needs help

Flying-foxes have arrived! It's baby bat season and pups are present in flying-fox camps right now. ESC says "If you come across a baby bat that needs your help, please call WIRES on 1300 094 737 (13000 WIRES).

They've had multiple call outs after mums have been zapped on powerlines, or to rescue pups who've fallen on the ground. If you find one orphaned, sick, injured, or dead ... please don't handle it, leave to experts! These flying friends are a protected species that help pollinate our valuable bushland."

For more information visit our [flying-foxes web page](#).

Watch out for Ticks

Moruya Veterinary Hospital reported this week: "We currently have five pets in hospital with tick paralysis which now brings our total for December to 22 animals treated and the month is only half over.

The preventatives on the market at the moment are very effective and can cost as little as \$8 a week.

If you suspect your pet has tick paralysis please seek veterinary advice asap.

Your animal may show several or only one of these symptoms:

- An unwillingness to jump into the car or onto the lounge.
- An alteration in the quality of the dogs' bark.
- A slight cough, throat clearing or gagging
- Vomiting - often looks like white froth
- The pupils of both eyes become widely dilated and eventually fail to respond to light.
- Wobbliness of the hindquarters, which rapidly worsens - after a few hours the dog is unable to stand.
- Respiration becomes slow and laboured and a grunting respiratory noise is often present."

2025 Eurobodalla Agricultural Show

Fri 24th Jan 2025 - Sun 26th Jan 2025

Horse Events: Hacks and ASH Fri 24th

: Showjumping Sat/Sun 25/26th

: Pony Club Sun 26th

Entries open 8am 20/12/24

Enter via GLOBALONLINE for all horse events and booking stables and yards.

Entries are \$5 each class so come along and have some fun with your horse.

Non Publishing Date

No Moruya Mail edition on 27th December. Back on Friday 3rd January

Double Demerits to close out 2024

Double demerits will be enforced in NSW over the End-of-Year period, from Friday, 20 December 2024 until the end of Wednesday, 1 January 2025 inclusive.

During double demerit periods, double demerit points apply for speeding, illegal use of mobile phones, not wearing a seat belt and riding without a motorcycle helmet.

Keep in mind that Mobile Phone Detection Cameras are active in NSW and the ACT and drivers caught using their phones during a double demerit period will be hit with a \$410 fine and 10 demerit points.

Bush Fire Risk Management Plan

Fire agencies and land managers have been working to develop a new Bush Fire Risk Management Plan for the Far South Coast, to assist in the protection of the community, property and the environment.

You can review the plan and provide feedback here <https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/plan-and-prepare/managing-bush-fire-risk/bush-fire-management-committees/far-south-coast> or visit the below libraries and Bega Valley Shire Council or Eurobodalla Shire Council building.

SAGE Food Share

- Saturday 21st Dec at SAGE Garden (9am)
- January 5th at Riverside Park (10am)
- 18th Jan at the SAGE Garden (9am)

Moruya Community Workshed

New members are always welcome. We are located in the grounds of the Moruya High School operating two days per week. For inquiries please contact Wayne on 0488 743 788.

L & E Hemler Transport

Livestock Transport Specialists Ph 0438 850 345

Narooma VIEW Club welcomes new members

Narooma VIEW Club meets on the fourth Friday of each month at Narooma Golf Club Seahorse Room at 11.30 for lunch & a guest speaker. (Except October will be Friday 18th).



Moruya District Hospital Auxiliary

If you would like to join the Hospital Auxiliary and help raise funds for your local 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 email mdha@y7mail.com or PO Box 469 Moruya 2537



Rally for Recovery

Ainslie Parade Tomakin

CHEAP!

Mega Garage Sale

Every Wed and Sat
8.30 - 12.00

Small bric-a-brac to furniture
Crocery, and glassware
Tools and electrical equipment
Books and puzzles
Manchester and haberdashery
Toys and baby items
Paintings and artwork
Plants and garden tools.
Beds and bedding
.....the list is endless.

CHEAP!

rallyforrecovery.au 0406 363 166



RfR
CONTAINER ONE
Gift Box
Gifts Created by Local Artists

RFR COMMUNITY SOLAR REUSE CENTRE
21 YARRAGEE RD MORUYA
OPEN FROM SATURDAY DECEMBER 7TH
**CONTINUES FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS
10AM TO 2PM UNTIL CHRISTMAS**

YOU ARE INVITED TO
Christmas Day Lunch
**DECEMBER 25 AT 12 P.M. OUTDOOR AREA
STARFISH DELI**

NO ONE SHOULD BE ALONE ON CHRISTMAS DAY
**PLEASE COME TO CELEBRATE AND MEET NEW PEOPLE
NO NEED TO BRING ANYTHING**

**RSVP IS ESSENTIAL FOR CATERING PURPOSE
BY SENDING AN SMS MESSAGE TO CEL 0401 660890**

THIS PROJECT IS SUPPORT BY:
EUROBODALLA MULTICULTURAL GROUP
CARING CORNER
BATEMANS BAY DINNER GROUP
STAR FISH DELI, BATEMANS BAYS

Christmas Community Lunch
St John's Moruya
Red Door Hall

**Saturday
21 December
11.30 for 12 noon**

Entertainment
Jeff Aschman &
Julie Kid
Song, Books
Dinner Music
Christmas sing-along.
Guitar, Vocals
Harmonica, Banjo

Booking Essential
Please call
Ilonka - 0428213787 or Sharon - 0467586912

St Andrew's Anglican Church, Tuross Head Christmas & Holiday Season Services

Wednesday, Christmas Day, 25 December, 8.30am. Readings and Carols
(Communion is available at our sister church, St Johns, in Moruya at 10am.)

Sunday, 29 December. No Tuross service. Combined Communion service at St John's.

Sunday 5th January. Combined communion service at St John's. This is the last service by Rev. Linda Chapman who is retiring, but will remain a member of the Parish.



Fifth Annual Guerrilla Roasters
**BOXING DAY
FREE COFFEE**

DONATIONS WELCOME!
**ALL FUNDS RAISED GOING TO SOUTH
COAST COMMUNITY KITCHEN & THE
FAMILY PLACE**

**THE MOSSY
CAFE**
8.00am - 12.00pm

RR

'Tis the season to remember those who...

- Have lost a loved one
- Are struggling financially
- Have had a tough year
- Don't feel safe at home
- Are working through the holidays
- Are spending the holidays alone
- Have challenging family relationships
- Are unwell over the holidays
- Are experiencing stress
- Are feeling overwhelmed by world events

'Tis the season to be asking
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www.batemansbaysundaymarket.com.au

NAROOMA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PRESENTS

Carols By Candlelight

LIVE MUSIC - CHRISTMAS MARKETS - FREE PHOTOS WITH SANTA
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LOCAL COMMUNITY FUNDRAISERS
COCKTAIL SHACK - RESTAURANT AND BAR FACILITIES

FROM 5PM **21** DECEMBER FREE ENTRY

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STARTS NOVEMBER 2024 AT PARTICIPATING SHOPS

AT SHOPS NEAR YOU! BETWEEN MORUYA AND TILBA

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Support local Business
1x \$500 CASH Prize each quarter!

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Want more info?

FOLLOW US FOR CLUES!
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BAY POOL SERVICES

Phone: (02) 8529 8974

A new Pool and Brew shop has opened at 4/7 Cranbrook Road Batemans Bay (next to 3d shade sails). We are your exclusive dealers for Dolphin pool cleaners. Stockists of pool and spa chemicals and Coopers and Morgans HOME BREW supplies. We also service swimming pools from North Durras to Moruya from \$65 a service plus chemicals.

Open 9 to 4 Monday to Friday and 9-12 on Saturdays

Address: Unit 4/7 Cranbrook Rd, Batemans Bay NSW 2536
baypoolservices@outlook.com

REPAIR CAFE



SHASA'S REPAIR CAFE
IS HAVING A HOLIDAY !

The Repair Cafe Moruya will be taking a well earned summer holiday break !
Our final day for 2024 will be Friday December 13 and we will return in 2025 on Friday 31 January.

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN 2025.

contact.shasa@gmail.com



SHASA
Shoreline Housing and Support Agency
shasa.com.au

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Fundraiser for Carers' Accommodation
At the new Eurobodalla Regional Hospital
A perfect Christmas Gift suggestion -
A chance to win a great prize whilst
SUPPORTING A VERY SPECIAL CAUSE



Tickets only \$50 each
ONLY 3000 TICKETS AVAILABLE



COMPARE THE ODDS

LOTTO/SCRATCHIES - MILLIONS TO ONE
Tickets available from our Market Stall in Moruya, Batemans Bay, Narooma or enquiries can be made through text or phone to Col Jay on 0429 190 299
Drawn following the sale of 3,000 tickets.
Charity Art Union No 26731



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

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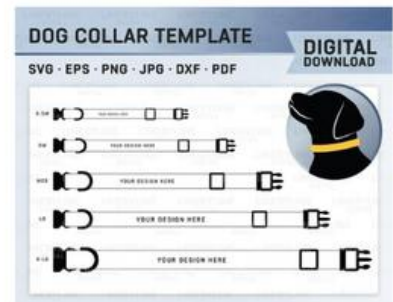
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COASTAL STATIONERY SHOP
10/65 QUEEN ST MORUYA



25th & 26th of January 2025

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

Outback Jack's Stockman Show, Irene Cartoons, Fizzics Science Show, showbags, sheep shearing demo, duck racing, chicken poo lotto, photo booth, arts & crafts pavilion, flowers & vegetable pavilion, photography, stall holders, bar, food & drinks, novelty events, music, horse ring events and much more!

KIDS ZONE

Fairy La La, face painting, jumping castles, prize wheel, hop scotch, basketball hoops, soft ball targets

SATURDAY

Animal nursery, Young Woman of the Year Competition (aka Miss Showgirl), Grand Opening, showjumping, novelty events, Mick McGrath live music, pet show, dog ball catch, dog high jump, wife carrying, pony rides, 6 bar jumping, rodeo in evening and the Paddy Dodgers live music

SUNDAY

Feature limousine cattle show, poultry pavilion, show jumping, Pony Club sporting, ute competition, pet show, lawn mower racing, Gerry Bussa Memorial Motorbike Obstacle Course



Main schedule can be found on our website <https://eurobodallashow.org.au/>

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Teensafe Course

The next Teensafe course for young L and P drivers is in the school holidays on Thursday 23 January at Moruya Speedway. The program specialises in practical behind-the-wheel safe driver training for teens in the secure environment of the speedway.

Cars and instructors provided, fee \$80.

For info and rego form go to www.teensafemoruya.org or email garys.home@bigpond.com

Safe Driver Tip - When waiting on the highway to make a right hand turn into a side road, keep your foot on the brake to illuminate your brake lights as warning to drivers following AND keep your steering wheel straight so the front wheels are not turned right - because if a car hits you in the rear the impact may push your car into oncoming traffic. This has happened and highway speeds can be up to 100 km/hr.

Safe driving,
 Gary Smith. Teensafe manager.

Moruya Sacred Heart Catholic Parish
Welcomes you to the
BODALLA TWILIGHT
Christmas Market

Sunday 22nd December

Open 3 - 7:30pm

162 Princes Hwy Bodalla
The Grounds of St Edmunds Church

Food • Drinks
Handmade Gifts • Plants
Fundraiser • Music
+ Much More!


2024 Christmas Mass Times
 Dec 24th - Moruya: 5pm, Dec 25th - Moruya: 10am, Tuross: 8am



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

Click on the cup
Buy me a coffee



Club Malua Stingrays Women's Bowls Report

Thank you to Gayl Vidgen, Robyn Butcher and Pat Bill for the great job they do each week whilst we have no Bowls Organiser. This will change early in the New Year when we get to meet our new Bowls Organiser. Thanks to Bev Feehan for your Christmas Greetings to all we will look forward to seeing you in 2025. Farewell to Anne who is moving to Queensland and Carol on her move to Canberra, Best Wishes to you both. There were only 15 ladies on the Green brave enough with the forecast of very hot weather, but as always there was a nice sea breeze to help keep us cool. All had a pleasant morning of bowls. Winners, Michelle Adler and Carol Dutkiewicz in a Pairs game. Runners-up, Tricia Wheeler as Swinging Lead, Di Wotherspoon and Gayl Vidgen. Lucky number winner Julie Quinlivan. Money Club, Gayl Vidgen.

Women's Bowls returns 7th January. Special thanks to Kathy & Disco @ 2EAR fm also Alex Rea @ Moruya Mail for my Reports each week you are very much appreciated. Christmas Greetings to everyone, Best Wishes in 2025. (Photo)

Carol Dutkiewicz, Tricia Wheeler, Di Wotherspoon, Gayl Vidgen.



Carol Dutkiewicz, Tricia Wheeler, Di Wotherspoon, Gayl Vidgen.

Tomakin Twist Tops Bowls Report



Margaret Carney, Michael Voce, Beth Whittington & Colleen Beadon.

President Steve Hogan welcomed everyone, especially to long time Twistie Cathy Egan who now resides in Queensland also a visitor Allan. Winners on Most Winning Ends +16, Margaret Carney, Michael Voce, Beth Whittington & Colleen Beadon. (photo) Runners-up +13, Robyn Best and Neil Mather. Colleen selected Rink 10 to try for Jackpot. Winning Skip Pat Jones cut cards but no luck finding Joker.

Other winning teams, Madge Elliott and Trevor Innes. Karen and John Signor. Ruth Ebsworth and Pat Jones. Alma Scott, Sandy Mather & Peter Edwards. Karen Crowe, Ute Krook, Steve & Jennie Hogan.

Lucky number winners, 1 Brett Megee, 33 Peter Edwards. Twisties will continue throughout the Holiday season each Sunday morning. Thanks to our fabulous committee for another great year, also to Kathy & Disco @ 2EARfm, Alex Rea @ Moruya Mail for publishing my Reports each week.

A Joyful Christmas to everyone Best Wishes in 2025.

HOLIDAY OPENING HOURS 2024

Christmas Eve	6:00AM - 4:00PM
Christmas Day	CLOSED
Boxing Day	8:00AM - 4:00PM
New Year's Eve	6:00AM - 4:00PM
New Year's Day	8:00AM - 4:00PM

MORUYA
WAR MEMORIAL SWIMMING POOL

Early Bird Special!
Book Now!

Holiday DANCE Program

JAN 14-16, JAN 21-23 2025 | 9:00 AM-3:00 PM

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TUESDAYS
DISCO

WEDNESDAYS
BEACH VIBES

THURSDAYS
POP STARS

Activities include:

- LEARN DIFFERENT DANCE STYLES
- CREATE YOUR OWN ROUTINES
- DANCE GAMES
- ARTS AND CRAFTS
- DANCE MOVIE

What to bring:

- DRINK BOTTLE
- LUNCH (SNACKS PROVIDED)

What to wear:

- COMFORTABLE CLOTHES
- DANCE SHOES OR BAREFEET

FOR AGES
5-16yrs

\$55

PER DAY

\$150 FOR 3 DAYS
\$200 FOR 4 DAYS
\$250 FOR 5 DAYS
\$300 FOR 6 DAYS

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@ THE DANCE COLLECTIVE MORUYA



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Tuross Head Golf Results



Winner: Steve Collins with sponsor Peter Hogan



Winner: Bruce Harding



Winner: David Woolley with sponsor Ian Kingston

Tuross Head Golf Results Saturday 14th December 2024

A field of 52 players registered for a Stableford Medley event today. The event was sponsored by Peter Hogan. The day was sunny with some great results.

The Winners were:

- 1st: Steve Collins (17) with 39 points
- 2nd: Ruth Gschwend (18) with 37 points (countback)
- 3rd: Michael Elfar (29) with 37 points (countback)
- 4th: David Schmid (17) with 37 points
- 5th: Wayne Fullerton (19) with 35 points (countback)

Nearest to the Pins

- 4th: Ian McManus 1.08 A Grade
- 4th: David Gray 2.37 B Grade
- 4th: Peter Coffey 1.00 C Grade
- 6th: Malcolm Gilbertson 2.57 A Grade
- 6th: Lars Gupset 3.67 B Grade
- 7th: Ruth Gschwend 4.92 A Grade
- 7th: Wayne Fullerton 5.30 B Grade

Balls went to: Graeme Bell 35, Ian McManus 35, Paul Ferguson 35, Michael Coloe 35, Allan Langford 34, Malcolm Gilbertson 34, Lars Gupset 33, Greg Maloney 33, Ian Manton 33, Tony Brown 33, David Gray 33, Brad Doolan 32, Martin Booth 32, Rex Wood 32 and Michael Walsh 32.

Tuross Head Vets Golf Results Wednesday 18th December 2024

A field of 29 players registered for a Single Stableford event today. The weather was sunny and there was hot competition on the course!

The winners were:

- 1st: Bruce Harding with 20 points
- 2nd: Steve Gardner with 19 points
- 3rd: Barry Hoban with 18 points (countback)
- 4th: Len Rogers with 18 points
- 5th: Steve Collins with 17 points
- 6th: Rick Brake with 15 points
- 7th: Shirley Quinlan with 14 points
- 8th: Annette Manton with 14 points
- 9th: Paula Coffey with 14 points
- 10th: John Cox with 14 points

Nearest to the Pins

- 4th: Ross Hendy (2nd shot)
- 6th: Bruce Harding (1st shot)
- 7th: Ladies: Paula Coffey (2nd shot)

Mens: Peter McRae (2nd shot)

Accuracy: Margaret Downey (5th hole)

Bradmans: Cody Bush

Tuross Head Golf Results Thursday 19th December 2024

A field of 46 players registered for a Stableford Medley Combined event. The course was in great condition and there were some fantastic results. The event was sponsored by Ian Kingston.

The Winners were:

- 1st: David Woolley (16) with 39 points
- 2nd: Brad Doolan (8) with 36 points (countback)
- 3rd: Mark Haberkorn (15) with 36 points
- 4th: Peter Coffey (25) with 35 points (countback)

Nearest to the Pins

- 4th: Colin Houghton 0.70 A Grade
- 4th: Mark Haberkorn 1.20 B Grade
- 4th: Graeme Sindel 2.79 C Grade
- 6th: Colin Houghton 6.45 A Grade
- 6th: Michael Coloe 5.71 B Grade
- 7th: Zac English 4.40 A Grade
- 7th: Stephen Gardner 6.03 B Grade

Balls went to:

Leonie Snodgrass 35, Leigh Coloe 35, Nigel Barling 35, Michael Coloe 35, Thomas Engelbrecht 34, Peter Garn 33, Graeme Sindel 33, Grant Kiely 33, Peter Nikolic 33, Ruth Gschwend 32, Colin Houghton 32, Teri Swanbury 32, David Schmid 32, Anthony Mellick 32 and Marilyn Bingham 31.



TUROSS HEAD RURAL FIRE BRIGADE SANTA RUN 2024

It wouldn't be summer or Christmas without it!

You need to know:

Monday 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

Tuesday 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



TRI TAG RUGBY x **BRUMBIES**

TWILIGHT SOUTH COAST TRI TAG 7S

7TH, 14TH, 21ST, & 28TH FEBRUARY

LOCATION: HANGING ROCK, BATEMANS BAY

TIME: 5:00-8:00PM

MIXED GRADES: U12S, U14S, U16S, OPEN SOCIAL

COST PER PLAYER: \$30

CONTACT CORY.LARSEN@BRUMBIES.RUGBY

Sailing Report from Saturday 14/12/24



Adams 10.6 "Accolade".

"It was a great day for sailing last Saturday when Batemans Bay Sailing Club conducted the Durras Race, which was the first coastal race completed this season.

Four yachts were at the Caseys Beach start line where race officer Andrew Bain did the race management from on shore. "Moonmist" (Tony Sutton) got the best of the start but then inexplicably tacked off to the right on the work out to the Marine Park middle mark when left was always going to be the way to go. "Accolade" (Lachlan Brown) held a narrow lead at the middle mark but her sister ship "Wishful Thinking" (Simon Dunlop) was going faster and got through to the lead by the time the fleet rounded North Head. The fleet did a rock hopping work along the incredibly pretty coastline before rounding Wasp Island and heading to a mark laid off South Durras. "Wishful" held a two minute lead at the Durras mark.

The "Accolade" crew set a spinnaker half way back to North Head and started gaining ground on "Wishful". "Wishful" was sailing short handed so Dunlop ordered a poled out #1 headsail instead of flying a spinnaker. This was an effective move in the light sea breeze enabling "Wishful" to sail deeper on the square run to the finish line at Caseys. "Accolade" approached the finish line on port gybe and was obliged to pass astern of "Wishful" which was on starboard but moving slowly. "Accolade" got past right at the line to win line honours by the barest of margins. Meanwhile the "Moonmist" crew was looking after their rig, damaged a fortnight before, by flying their storm spinnaker off the jib halyard. They finished 7 minutes later. "Sail La Vie" (John Drummond) had a prolonged run back across Batemans Bay in the dying breeze and finished nearly an hour behind. "Accolade" won on AMS but on PHS the victory went to "Wishful". Full results are up on the BBSC website www.bbsc.org.au. Thanks must go to race officer Bain and to Geoff Perrem who set the Durras mark especially for this race. The next BBSC keelboat race will be the Bengello Property Services 2 Bays Classic on January 11th."

Lachlan Brown

Full Centre Tours

Free goodie bag for the first 20 new members

\$0 Joining fee!

BAY PAVILIONS

OPEN DAY

Saturday 18th January 2025
9am - Midday

Behind the scenes theatre Tours

Pavvy The Dolphin is making an appearance

Free evolt scans

Free Slushies

Free tea & coffee PLUS meet the staff & other members

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Come 'N' Try

SKILLS-BASED LEARNING

I AM A GIRL - COME 'N' TRY!

AGE: 5-13 YEARS
COST: FREE
DATE: 8TH JANUARY 2025
TIME: 10.00AM - 12.00PM
WHERE: MORUYA BASKETBALL STADIUM

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MARKET
MORUYA



Tackle World Moruya Fishing Report

Moruya River

With only 4 sleeps to go, are you ready for the silly season rush to kick off? I'm not sure I am, but here we go anyway.

The Moruya river has been fishing very nicely this past week, with lots of reports coming in from my regular customers all up and down the river.

The lower areas around Shelly beach, Preddy's Wharf and the hole in the wall have all held good of numbers bream, trevally, Luderick, flathead and salmon. Some of the local kids have had a heap of fun on the salmon with a fish a cast numbers of 60+cm fish being caught. Heaps of fun on light tackle.

Live nippers pumped from the Garlandtown flats, have accounted for some good bream, flathead and whiting when fished back over the same areas you pumped them from. Try collecting the nippers on a rising tide, and fish the newly flooded areas with those same nippers, tacking advantage of all the burly you have created while collecting the baits.

The quarry wharf through to the town bridge flats and the area in front of the hospital have all been producing fish as well.

The river is fishing well, and will only continue to get better as the summer progresses.

Tuross River.

Coila lake will start to fire up on the prawning front as we get closer to the next dark on the 31st of December. Last dark produced plenty of good sized prawns, and the next few weeks should be even better again. We have all your prawning needs covered, with a full size range of waders, prawn scoop and drag nets, and two options in prawning lights. It is a really easy and fun activity for the whole family, and there is nothing like freshly self caught local prawns as a feed.

The Tuross lake system itself, has been living up to its reputation, as the flathead capital of the south coast, with many good fish being caught over the last week. Please remember that we have a slot limit on flathead now of 36-70cm. You can't keep any below or above this size range. It is your responsibility as an angler to know the regulations, and with an increase presence of compliance officers around, now is a good time to brush up on the rules.

The Tuross system is a vast area to fish, with plenty of areas to explore, from the to the upper fresh reaches, there is plenty to offer all anglers of all experience levels. Bream and whiting or the flats, estuary perch in the snags and bass up in the fresh. Get out there and get amongst some good fish this summer.

Rock and beach.

Bream, whiting, salmon and tailor have all been on the cards for anglers who prefer the open expanse of our pristine beaches this past week. Live worms, pipis or nippers have been the gun baits for those wanting to chase fish in close gutters, while pilchards or metals cast further out into the deeper gutters have been finding plenty of salmon. The forecast for the next few days looks good, with the day temps building towards Boxing Day. It's going to be a comfortable week.

The Moruya breakwall is an ever popular location for both anglers and fish, and as such will see plenty of activity over the next few weeks. Please take your rubbish with you, you bought it in, and you can take it out.

Offshore.

The strong winds we have had this week, have kept the offshore activity down a fair bit, as such I haven't heard too many reports. What I have heard, is that the flathead are willing to play ball over the inshore grounds, with the 20-30m marks producing some good catches. The snapper are a bit deeper, with the 40-50m marks being a good place to start.

There have been good tuna to date available for those wanting to head out wide for some line stretching action. While any bit of floating debris has been holding good numbers of Mahi Mahi.

There is plenty on offer for those who prefer to fish out in the deep blue.

The bait freezer has been stocked, and will be again early next week also. Apart from those baits that haven't been available for a while now, we have good stock of everything else.

The shop is full to the brim, with everything we need on the walls and shelves, if we don't have it by now, it won't be until the new year now.

If you can't think of what to get that hard to buy for person, we also do Gift Vouchers for whatever amount you'd like to spend. That way they can get what they like.

A practice idea when you are out of ideas or time.

Don't forget that we have the Mega Giveaway running until the 31st of December, just spend \$100 in store to qualify to enter. You could take home \$12,000 worth of gear. See I store for details.

From Graham, Gaye and myself, we would like to wish you all a very Merry Xmas season and would like to thank you for your patronage this year. We look forward to seeing you over the next month while you enjoy some holiday time with your friends and family in our little slice of heaven.

Stay safe everyone and remember "Every day's a good day for fishing..."

Team Tackle World Moruya.

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SAGE Farmers Market
Tuesday 3pm Moruya

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growing the community

Next Generation Tennis – Batemans Bay / Moruya / Narooma

Tennis Holiday Camp – Fun for the Kids!

Get the kids outdoors and into the swing of things with our Holiday Tennis Camp! Perfect for building skills, confidence, and friendships.

Dates & Locations:

- Moruya Tennis Club: 6th January 2025
- Batemans Bay Tennis Courts: 7th January 2025
- Narooma Tennis Club: 8th January 2025

Time: 9 AM – 2 PM Cost: \$55 per child

Why This Camp?

- Expert coaching for all skill levels
 - Games, activities, and so much fun!
 - A holiday experience you'll never forget!
- Limited spots available—click below to register today!
- Next Generation Tennis

2025 GEORGE BASS SURFBOAT MARATHON

~ 29 DECEMBER 2024 to 4 JANUARY 2025 ~

7 days, 7 legs and 190km's of the best coastline in Australia
The World's longest and toughest Surf boat and ski marathon. 190 Kilometres, 7 days along the NSW South Coast Batemans Bay to Eden

The George Bass Marathon is fast approaching and this year is an extra special one! It is the 50th Anniversary of the event.

Moruya SLSC have three Surf Boat Crew's entered. Our Master's Women's Crew "Coast Huggers" is swept by Paul Hill. Our Open Men's "Bassman" crew is swept by Brad Coppin. Our Open Men's "Vikings" crew is swept by Gavin Hunt.

Best of luck to the crews.



CHOOSE YOUR

FOOTY ADVENTURE

AFL PLAY

2025 BATEMANS BAY AUSKICK (5-8)
Holiday Program
 When: Friday 24th January – 9:00am to 3:00pm (6 hrs)
 Where: Batemans Bay Hanging Rock
 Age: **Turning 5 years to 8 years old**
 Cost: \$55 per participant (includes a footy)
 Note: BYO food and drinks

SCAN THIS BARCODE TO REGISTER NOW
 ON PLAYHQ & COME ALONG FOR SOME FUN!

SCAN ME

AFL Superkick 2025 BATEMANS BAY SUPERKICK (8-12)
Holiday Program
 When: Friday 24th January – 9:00am to 3:00pm (6 hrs)
 Where: Batemans Bay Hanging Rock Oval
 Age: **8 years to 12 years old**
 Cost: \$55 per participant (includes a footy)
 Note: BYO food and drinks

SCAN THIS BARCODE TO REGISTER NOW
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SCAN ME

For more information please contact John Dyball – 0411 226 086 John.Dyball@afl.com.au

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 GREENSIDE GROOVES
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KARA COEN

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FREE | 2PM - 5PM
SUNDAY 29 DECEMBER
 FUN ACTIVITIES + PUTTING COMP | BEAN BAG THROW | HOOKY FOR THE KIDS