FREE Independent News for Moruya & the Eurobodalla

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## Developer high rise interest pushed Bay Masterplan

**Bv Phil Herrick** 

If there has been one question many people have asked of the draft Batemans Bay masterplan it's this... "Who asked for Gold Coast style 100 metre skyscrapers in our small south coast town? Where did this idea come from?"

Now we have a clear answer... it was the council. And the reason? Because a developer interested in buying the old Bay Bowling Club site will only put money on the table if they can build a high rise hotel and apartment block.

The council is keen to sell the land to raise money to help cover some of the huge losses operating the Bay Pavilions next door to the development site.

These answers surfaced when the topic was discussed on Tuesday this week at the meeting of the Eurobodalla Shire Council in Moruya.

It also became clear there was no serious community consultation before the draft plan was published, meaning debate about the plan would focus on height limits.

According to Cr Anthony Mayne the developer talked of a building up to 70 metres high, but for no obvious reason the council's draft plan pushed that up to 100 metres. It seems the council may have floated 100 metre limits knowing the idea will draw a negative response so they can fall back to 70 metres as a compromise acceptable to the community and sell the block of land.

Four members of the public spoke to council about the masterplan on Tuesday, with one, Frank Ross, summing it up as "a real estate development plan masquerading as a masterplan.

All the public speakers were critical of the plan, most focusing on a process that did not include the community. The 75 year time span of the draft plan and the failure to integrate all the existing documents that cover development in Batemans Bay were also points of criticism.

Kathryn Maxwell from SHASA told "developed in a vacuum of strategic planning"

Steph Chiu, an architect and planner summed it up, saying "In my professional view, this document and exhibition process is disappointingly unprofessional, inconsistent, poorly written, and does not represent the Bay community."

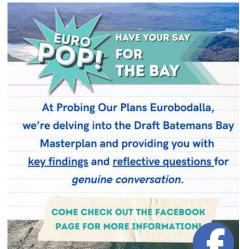
The trigger for the comments was a question on notice to council staff He questioned the planning process, the strategy behind it and the

General Manager Mark Ferguson said external consultants will be bought in the draft plan was developed by council staff.

This review is expected to check on

In a line that could have come from Sir Humphrey Appleby in the old TV show "Yes Minister", general manager Ferguson said, "the council was courageous in putting out a 100 metre height limit plan".

Courageous indeed.



councillors the document had been

from Cr Mayne on aspects of the plan. exhibition process.

to conduct a probity review of the way

council's actions as the seller of the old bowling club site while also being the regulator of the height of buildings allowed on that land and proposing to change the height limit to progress the sale.

The draft Batemans Bay masterplan is on exhibition for public comment until 30th June.

#### Improving road safety in Moruya and Malua Bay

Motorists are set to benefit from safer journeys in Moruya and Malua Bay with reduced speed limits to come into effect next month on a number of roads. Transport for NSW recently completed a review in response to concerns from NSW Police and the local community and, as a result, the speed limit will be reduced on roads around Moruya and Malua Bay. Sections of Bruce Cameron, Tallara and Nugara drives, Janari and Narambi close, and South Head Road in Moruya will be reduced to 60 km/h.

A length of Larrys Mountain and Pollwombra roads in Moruya will be reduced to 80 km/h.

In Malua Bay, the eastern end of The Ridge Road will be reduced from 100 km/h to 60 km/h, a section of Link Road will drop from 80 km/h to 60 km/hand parts of Burri and Tallgums Way and Ridge Avenue will be reduced from 70 km/h to 60 km/h. A Transport for NSW spokesperson said, these local roads support residents accessing properties and businesses. There was a lack of alignment with the speed zoning standard, a high crash rate and presence of vulnerable road users. "Electronic message signs will be installed before and after the changes come into effect and there will be community notices via local councils to advise motorists of the new speed limit," the spokesperson

"Streets are not just about moving people and goods - they also interact with places where people live, work and spend time. All of these aspects are considered when setting new speed limits.

"Speed limits are set to ensure motorists travel at a safe and appropriate speed for the surrounding road environment, and to allow time for drivers travelling at the limit to detect a hazard and react quickly enough to brake or take evasive action. "We thank the community for its understanding."

The speed zone reviews were carried out to ensure speed limits are in line with the NSW Speed Zoning Standard, applying the Safe System approach.

The Safe System approach has been adopted by all Australian jurisdictions to support road safety outcomes in jurisdictional and national road safety action plans.

Installation of the new speed zone signs will start from Wednesday 11 June 2025, weather permitting.

Motorists are advised to drive to the conditions and follow the directions of signs and traffic control during the installation of signs.

A speed zone review is a comprehensive process that includes site inspections, analysis of the current road environment and road condition, consideration of crash data and traffic volumes.

# mm MORUYA MAIL

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# Hundreds attend 2025 Sorry Day Bridge Walk at Batemans Bay

By John Longhurst

A crowd in the multiple hundreds gathered on the northern banks of the Bhundoo (Clyde River) last Monday morning for the 2025 Sorry Day Bridge Walk.

26 May 2025 marks the 28th anniversary of the tabling of the Bringing them home report in the Australian Parliament in 1997 and commemorates Stolen Generations survivors.

The <u>Bringing them home inquiry</u> was a landmark truth-telling process, bringing to light the extent of Australia's Stolen Generations history, and sharing this with the nation.

In 1997, the report made a series of recommendations to go some way in righting these past wrongs, yet almost 30 years on many crucial actions have not been taken.

A Healing Foundation report released earlier this year, 'Are you waiting for us to die? The unfinished business of Bringing them home' found only 6% of the Bringing them home report recommendations have been clearly implemented.

A generation on, Australia has already lost many Stolen Generations survivors. Those who are left are ageing.

The urgency of acting now, to support elderly survivors in their last years and decades, cannot be overstated\*.

Hence, the theme for Sorry day 2025 is **'Bridging Now to Next'**. Following the bridge walk, Aunty Meryl Crole gave a heartfelt 'Welcome to Country' before Michael Withers and his team led a range of cultural activities

Aboriginal Education Officer, Sam Ellis gave a 'Message of Reconciliation' and Eurobodalla Mayor, Matt Hatcher was invited to say a few words.

The cutting of the Reconciliation Cake was conducted by the Elders. Seth Merritt from the Wiradjuri Nation and Ray Smith from the Kameloroi Nation are members of the Eurobodalla Sorry Day Organising Committee.

Ray said "It is the seventh time we have organised such a day. It has been weekly meetings for the past three months with much liaising with businesses, sponsors, schools, government and non government organisations. We are most thankful for all the support."

Seth said "The day was all about bridging the gap between young and old. It serves as a call out to ensure the Elders are not forgotten." Young people were front and centre in the day's proceedings, following the implementation of the program 'My Voice, My Journey' in the Shire. Based on Yuin country in Eurobodalla, 'My Voice, My Journey' is a testament to the strength and resilience of community and the dedication to the next generation. With deep roots in the community, this team of First Nations mentors and staff bring a wealth of cultural knowledge and lived experience to the program.

It fosters meaningful connections that extend beyond the boundaries of the program and empowers the next generation of First Nations leaders in building a brighter future for all.\*\*

Eurobodalla Mayor, Matt Hatcher was effusive about the day. Matt said "It is always a fantastic day bringing the community together around true reconciliation. it starts with honesty and requires genuineness. Walking together with our Elders, in our actions and within our community."

\*<u>https://healingfoundation.org.au/sorryday/</u> \*<u>https://myvoicemyjourney.com.au/about-us/</u>







# Community comes together for Talk2mebro in Batemans Bay







Lexie Adobo 'enjoys' an ice bath

By John Longhurst

More than 70 locals gathered at Surf Beach last Sunday morning, braving the crisp autumn air to take part in Talk2MeBro's breath-work, connection circle, and ice bath experience — a growing initiative aimed at improving mental health and building community.

This was the fifth community event held in the region by Talk2MeBro, a not-for-profit charity founded in 2018 after its founders lost loved ones to suicide. The organisation creates safe spaces for people of all ages and genders to open up, connect, and support one another — without judgement.

Sunday's event was the culmination of three days of training for local participants, led by custodians from more established chapters. Among the facilitators was Sarah Marco, a Talk2MeBro custodian based in Newcastle.

"I had a close friend who took their own life," Sarah said. "I have two boys, aged 5 and 11, and I wanted to understand more about men's mental health. However I now stay for my growth and connection, events like this are about encouraging mass healing and creating a ripple effect in the community."

The session began with guided breath-work, helping attendees regulate anxiety, release stored emotions, and process trauma.

"I'm constantly amazed by the impact these sessions have on people," Sarah said. "The emotional release, clarity, and connection are powerful."

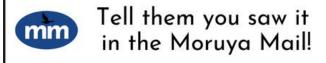
The morning concluded with a 2-minute ice bath plunge, with water temperatures dropping as low as  $5^{\circ}C$  — a mental and physical challenge that many participants found transformative.

"Research shows that cold water immersion (CWI) can support mental wellbeing by increasing norepinephrine and endorphin levels — chemicals that help improve mood and alertness," Sarah explained. "It may also help reduce cortisol, the body's primary stress hormone, which can enhance resilience to stress. More than anything, it takes people out of their comfort zones and often sparks powerful conversations."

Local resident Joshua Stevens, who's attended several sessions, shared: "I've been going through a tough time lately, and these mornings help keep my head in a good place. The community, the breath-work, the ice — it shifts your mindset in such a positive way."

First-time participant Lexie Adobo, a content creator from Malua Bay, agreed;

"The ice bath was a huge physical challenge — but getting through it was such a relief. I honestly felt like I could conquer the world afterwards. Plus, I made some great new friends during breath-work. It was a perfect Sunday morning." Talk2MeBro Custodian and South Coast Coordinator Jay Prothero is in awe of the community response. Jay said "We hope to continue these catch ups every month, and we are over the moon with the local support who keeps showing up for themselves with participant numbers averaging 50-60 locals at each event, which just shows that these events and bringing about awareness to mental health and suicide is a much needed resource for our community. Our local volunteer crew members are helping this organisation grow and without them T2MB in Batemans Bay would not be able to bring about the change that is needed in small regional towns."



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# Massive losses continue at Bay Pavilions

#### By Phil Herrick

Like a giant, bloated leech the Batemans Bay Pavilions remains firmly attached to council's money supply, sucking out astonishing sums of money.

The latest report on the financial performance of the Pavilions was tabled by finance director Stephanie Speedy at the meeting of Eurobodalla Shire Council on Tuesday this week. The cost of running the swimming pool, theatre and gym at the Bay Pavilions for the nine months from last July to March was \$4,504,701 and ratepayers are on track to pay \$6,205,707 (including depreciation) for the full year. That's bit over \$17,000 being lost every day, or around \$120,000 a week. You could say "that's a tonne of money!" And yes, quite literally, it is!

A \$1 coin is 2.8mm thick and weighs 9 grams. Stacked carefully on top of each other the Bay Pavilions lost dollars would tower 17.4 kilometres into the sky, literally into the stratosphere.

If the councillors and their staff had to stand at the door and shovel the \$1 coins inside to cover the yearly loss they'd need to move 55.85 tonnes of money!

They'd clearly be exhausted and might need a swim to cool off! Thank goodness they only need to tap a keyboard. The General Fund (the source of those \$1 coins) continues to push to losses over \$9 million this year, with Ms Speedy labelling the situation as "unsustainable" in the council's draft budget, currently on display for comment.

On Tuesday she reported "Council is struggling to contain operating expenditure within operating revenue." Hardly a surprise when the cash loss from the Bay Pavilions this year is on track to hit around \$3.7 million.

As usual when the financial report on the Bay Pavilions and its impact on council's finances was tabled there was no discussion or comment from our elected representatives. For example, the Yuin Theatre at the Pavilions is currently advertising events on just 23 days in the five months from June. Will it gather dust on the other 128 days, burning money on staff and overhead?

The staff offered no plans to improve the business and stem the cascade of cash. The councillors asked no questions or demanded any action from them.

It seems the staff and councillors don't care. After all, it's not their money.

#### **Eurobodalla Business Awards Finalists Announced**

After their triumphant return last year, the Eurobodalla Business Awards are back and bigger than ever.

With even more nominations in 2025, our judges had their work cut out.

The official awards ceremony gala will take place on Saturday 14 June at the Bay Pavilions where winners will be announced.

A huge congratulations to the 2025 finalists. Outstanding community organisation finalists

- Eurobodalla Meals on Wheels
- People of Action, Rotary Club of Moruya
- The Family Place

Excellence in diversity and inclusion finalists

- Ness Shannon, Active Art
- Starfish Deli, Batemans Bay

Outstanding indigenous business finalists

- Dream-time Entertainment
- Katungul Aboriginal Corporation Regional Health & Community Services

Excellence in micro business finalists

- Love of Garden Design
- Oakleigh Farm Cottages
- TravelManagers Jessic Bennett

Excellence in small business finalists

- Narooma Bridge Seafoods
- Unlocking Rocky Trails in Eurobodalla, Rocky Trail Entertainment
- Southbound Escapes

Excellence in large business finalists

- IRT
- Yumaro

Outstanding new business finalists

- Clyde's Equine Bodywork
- Salty Magazine
- Southern Mobile Meat

Outstanding visitor experience finalists

- Narooma Oyster Festival
- River of Art Festival
- The Wild Rose Florist, Moruya

Outstanding young business leader finalists

- Charlotte Jenkins, Clyde's Equine Bodywork
- Rebecca Mylan, Moruya Waterfront Hotel
- Jade Griffiths, Narooma Kinema

Tickets to the awards ceremony go on sale Wednesday 29 May, 9am from <u>TicketSearch Online</u>.





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# Coffee Culture boost to Batemans Bay



By John Longhurst

Open Face Coffee is a welcome addition to Batemans Bay thriving coffee culture with owner and barista, Murray Ferguson, investing his 18 years of coffee making into the new enterprise.

Murray began fine tuning his coffee making skills nearly two decades ago at Manly Barefoot Coffee Traders before a stint at Single Origin Roasters (Single O) in Surry Hills.

He moved to the south coast 7 years ago and set up the 'Brewbar', a hole in the wall coffee bar at the Bayview Hotel, Batemans Bay and the 'coffee journey' continued at Crumb Cafe at Batehaven for 4 years.

Murray's latest venture at Open Face Coffee at Shop 2, Number 1 Orient Street, takes his barista skills to a new level.

Murray said "We are the only coffee shop in town serving filtered coffee. We are also selling high end specialty coffee including Single O, Proud Mary in Collingwood (a cafe ranked fourth best in the world in 2025) as well as Axil Coffee Roasters in Hawthorne (Jack Simpson from Axil was named 2024 Australian Barista Champion)."

Open Face is also serving home made muffins, cookies and breakfast specialties.

Murray said "The muffins and cookies are all made from scratch with our pandam and coconut cookie our most popular. Our toasties and breakfast wraps are also in demand."

For the sweet toothed, Open Face is stocking a range of pastries from the award winning 'Lagom Bakery' from Burrill Lake\*."

The decor of the new business exudes warmth to match an overall welcoming vibe. There is a nice local touch with special coffee cups as well as vases sourced from Will Burtenshaw at 'Made of Mogo".

South Durras resident and local teacher, Kit May is now a regular at Open Face.

Kit said "The quality of the coffee is excellent and I can vouch for the toasties. Open Face also caters for the decaffeinated coffee drinker without fuss."

As for the name Open Face Coffee? Murray said "Very early in my training I received advice that appreciating coffee is more than just the taste. It is about using the senses of the eyes and then the nose followed by the mouth, hence an open face approach." Open Face Coffee is open from Monday to Friday 6.00am-2pm, Saturdays from 7.00am-12pm and best of all, those suffering caffeine withdrawals on a Sunday, it is also open from 7.00am-12pm.

\*https://www.lagombakery.com.au/about-us-lagom-sourdough-bakery

#### Farmers welcome focus on ferals

NSW Farmers President Xavier Martin says all options need to be on the table to tackle the state's feral animal problem, welcoming comments from the Premier.

On Tuesday NSW Premier Chris Minns suggested the NSW Government would be open to bounties and other measures to control feral animals that were causing increasing damage to both farmland and the natural environment.

"The problem of feral animals – such as pigs – is an escalating concern for farmers, and we would welcome a shared responsibility, including additional funding, to control these nasty pests," Mr Martin said. "Feral pigs, for example, cause millions in damage each year. They attack people and animals, they tear up paddocks, destroy fences, they really are incredibly nasty animals.

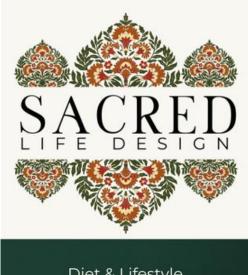
"It's not just pigs – wild dogs and cats are a perennial problem that need to be controlled, and feral deer are an increasing problem.

NSW had the highest number of feral mammal species in the nation, according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics, costing farmers millions each year in damage and production losses.

More funding to deliver coordinated, long-term, cross-tenure pest control programs across the state were critical, Mr Martin said, and all options needed to be on the table, including bounties, baits, trapping and aerial culls.

"We know animal pests are expected to cause damages in excess of \$489 million annually by next year," he said. "That's a staggering amount of money, and that's why we welcome the Premier's approach to look at every option to slash the number of feral animals."





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#### CAR BOOT SALE

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- \$10 per outside grassed site.
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- Sites must be booked 10 days before the sale.
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- Sale will be postponed in the event of extreme weather.
- Phone for site bookings: 4473 8703



# Two Medicare Urgent Care Clinics to offer more free health care in Gilmore

Almost 15,000 people have received free urgent care at the Batemans Bay Medicare Urgent Care Clinic since it opened its doors in December 2023.

Federal Member for Gilmore Fiona Phillips said she was excited to see expanded hours introduced at the Batemans Bay Medicare Urgent Care Clinic by the end of this year, and a new federallyfunded Medicare Urgent Care Clinic opened at Nowra in the next financial year.

"The Batemans Bay clinic is already taking pressure off local doctors and the hospital emergency department," Mrs Phillips said.

"And the longer opening hours, from 6am until midnight, will ensure people living in and around Batemans Bay have access to fully bulkbilled urgent care with no appointment needed."

More than 1.5 million Australians have already received free, urgent care at Medicare Urgent Care Clinics, without waiting hours in a busy hospital emergency department.

The Albanese Labor Government will open another 50 Medicare Urgent Care Clinics, including a clinic at Nowra.

"I know how busy the ED at Shoalhaven District Memorial Hospital is, and the people of Nowra have told me how much they need access to a Medicare Urgent Care Clinic," Mrs Phillips said.

"I'm excited to be delivering this seven-day-a-week service in Nowra, because it means locals can avoid an unnecessary trip to hospital. "The Nowra Medicare Urgent Care Clinic will take so much pressure off Shoalhaven hospital which saw over 23,000 non-urgent and semi-urgent presentations in 2023-24."

An <u>interim report</u> of the evaluation of Medicare Urgent Care Clinics found that nearly half of all patients who attended a clinic would have gone to the hospital emergency department if the Urgent Care Clinic wasn't available.

The report found the average hospital visit costs \$616 to deliver – more than double the \$246 that the average Urgent Care Clinic visit costs

# Help Accelerate Home Energy Upgrades in Eurobodalla

SHASA (South Coast Health and Sustainability Alliance) has submitted an expression of interest to join an exciting new program aimed at accelerating home energy upgrades across our region. These upgrades could include insulation, draught-proofing, solar panels, batteries, hot water heat pumps, and other energy-saving measures. The benefits are substantial—households could cut energy bills by up to 40%, lower emissions, and become more resilient to heatwaves and cold snaps.

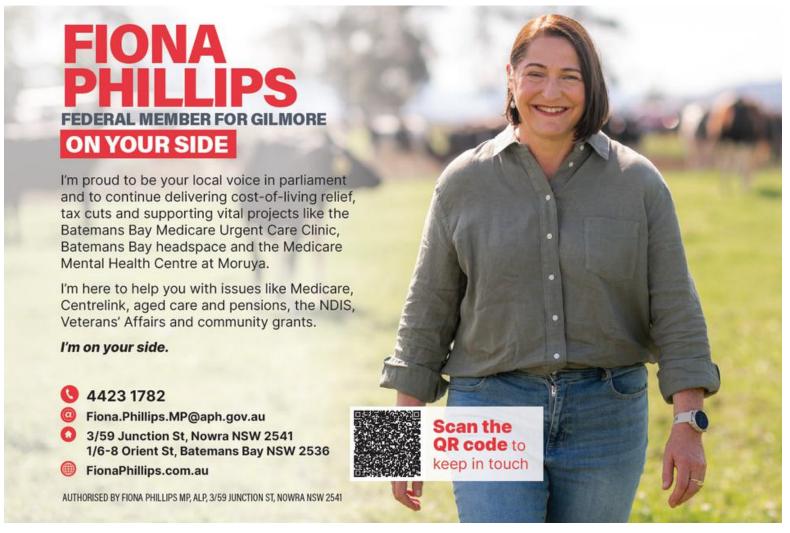
The program is completely free.

Participants are asked to commit around 2.5 hours per month for six months (starting late June), which includes attending online Zoom training and supporting the development and eventual delivery of a tailored program for the Eurobodalla Shire.

If you're passionate about energy efficiency and would like to contribute your skills and experience, we'd love to hear from you.

Please contact Arno Schaaf at arno.schaaf@ee.proton.me, and include a brief note on your background and why you're interested in getting involved.

Together, we can make our homes and communities more sustainable and resilient.



# Victims Register reforms to ensure victim-survivors of serious crimes receive mandatory notification

Significant reforms to the state's victims registers passed the NSW Parliament last night, ensuring victim-survivors of serious crimes receive a mandatory notification about their right to sign up as a registered victim, to receive critical information about an offender.

The three NSW victims registers include the Corrective Services NSW Victims Register, Youth Justice Victims Register, and Specialist Victims Register for victims of forensic patients. Those who opt-in will receive timely, accurate and trauma-informed updates regarding the perpetrator's progress through the custodial system.

This may include details about the offender's location, sentence, parole eligibility, and any changes that may affect the victim's safety and well-being.

Registered victims also have the right to make a submission about an offender's parole where relevant.

Over several months, Corrective Services NSW has hosted consultation meetings with victim-survivors, victim advocates, and victim support services to ensure these changes reflect the views of the people the registers serve.

Eligible victims of serious offenders will receive a mandatory notification letting them know about the relevant register and their eligibility to opt-in.

If victim-survivors do not want to make a decision at the time, they will have the option to be contacted at a later date to discuss the benefits of registration and decide whether they would like to be registered.

Generally, the serious offenders that will cause a mandatory notification about the Victims Register to be sent to a victimsurvivor or family member will be:

- ·An offender who has committed murder
- ·An offender who is serving a sentence of life imprisonment ·An offender who is serving one or more sentences, totalling a minimum of 12 years in custody, for offences such as attempted murder, serious sexual assault, abduction, and aggravated robbery.

Ensuring victim-survivors continue to have the choice to register is considered to strike the appropriate balance between ensuring that victim-survivors are aware of their right to be on the register, while importantly maintaining victims' choice and avoiding re-traumatisation.

Work will also be done to make the sign-up process simpler, with fewer technological or communication barriers for non-English speakers.

The Minns Labor Government acknowledges the severe impacts for people directly or indirectly exposed to crime. A person who has experienced personal violence can suffer long-lasting trauma and the feeling that their safety and security are under threat.

It is for this reason the Minns Labor Government has passed these important reforms to the three victims registers to bolster support for victim-survivors of serious crimes.

# NSW Government engages community on plan for the Illawarra Renewable Energy Zone

The Minns Labor Government will engage with industry, community and union leaders in Wollongong on its new plans to establish NSW's first 'urban renewable energy zone', leveraging the unique characteristics of the Illawarra region to deliver more affordable and reliable power to NSW homes and businesses.

The Illawarra REZ Roundtable will see energy experts, business leaders and community representatives map out next steps for the REZ, including initial options which can be delivered by 2030.

The Roundtable coincides with the signing of a new memorandum of understanding between EnergyCo, which leads the delivery of REZs, and local electricity distribution system operator, Endeavour Energy, to jointly develop innovative network and battery solutions within the REZ. Renewed attention is being given to the integration of consumer energy resources, such as rooftop solar systems and home batteries, as well as community-scale batteries and utilisation of spare government land and commercial roof space. This will minimise the impact on surrounding communities and the environment by repurposing existing infrastructure as much as possible.

The Illawarra region contains unique features that make it an ideal location for a REZ. The region already hosts major energy, port and transport infrastructure, has a skilled workforce and has strong demand for future renewable energy projects. The Illawarra REZ will help strengthen the region's economy and support jobs for decades.

EnergyCo will engage closely with community, industry, local government and other stakeholders as the design and delivery of the REZ progresses.

#### What is a Renewable Energy Zone?

- REZs will group new wind and solar power generation into locations where it can be efficiently stored and transmitted across NSW. Five zones have been identified and will keep electricity reliable as coal-fired power stations retire, by delivering large amounts of energy.
- · REZs will help deliver lower wholesale electricity costs and place downward pressure on customer bills through increased competition.

#### What is EnergyCo?

- · EnergyCo is the NSW Government authority responsible for leading the delivery of REZs, as part of the Electricity Infrastructure Roadmap. The Roadmap is the state's 20-year plan to transform our electricity system and unlock more affordable and reliable energy.
- · EnergyCo leads strategic planning and consultation processes, to make sure the new transmission infrastructure needed is built in the right place at the right time, with benefits for host communities.



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# Fungi Feastival Marries Science and Art in Moruya

Fungi Feastival returns this winter with a vibrant mix of science, art, and food—and Moruya is at the heart of the action. Local fungi enthusiast and retired botanist Deb Stevenson has been a dedicated volunteer with the Feastival for two years, helping bring fascinating fungal stories to local audiences.

Thanks to Deb's efforts, two fungi-focused films will screen at The Red Door Theatre: the stunning documentary Fungi: The Web of Life (5 July), and the thrilling environmental horror Gaia (19 July), a chilling reflection on humanity's impact on nature. Deb has even prepared "duck-for-cover" signs to help squeamish viewers through the scarier moments! Adding flavour to the film nights is Andy from The Nourished Sovereign, who will serve up fungi-inspired beverages and truffle popcorn. Andy is also hosting a Shiitake mushroom log inoculation workshop in his home garden near Moruya on 12 July—a hands-on experience for budding mushroom growers. For those ready to dive deeper into cultivation, Little Acre Gourmet Mushrooms will run a full-day Fungi Fundamentals Masterclass in Tuross Head on 29 June. Closer to home, FungiCo will present three popular workshops in Moruya on 6 July: Growing Oyster Mushrooms at Home, Medicinal Mushrooms, and Cooking with Exotic Mushrooms.

Moruya's cultural scene is also embracing the fungal theme. Moruya Books will host visiting artist Emma Anna, whose enchanting fungi collages will be on display in their window, followed by the launch and signing of her new book Once, Upon a Mushroom: a fungitale on 28 June. Emma will also lead a whimsical evening of "Collage Forage" at the Air Raid Tavern on 25 June—perfect for those wanting to create and celebrate all things FUNgi.

And for families, there's something special too. Deb, who also has a background in botanical art, has secured a Eurobodalla Fires to Flourish grant to deliver Fungi Rock & Clay Art Activities at Art Central on 19 July. Children and their carers are invited to enjoy a relaxing and creative school holiday session painting mushrooms on rocks and sculpting in clay.

With over 70 events across the region from Batemans

With over 70 events across the region from Batemans Bay to Eden between mid-June and mid-July, the Fungi Feastival has something for everyone—whether you're curious about the science, love creative expression, or just want to taste something new. Explore the full program and book tickets at <a href="https://www.fungifeastival.com.au">www.fungifeastival.com.au</a>.



Emma Anna's Collage Forage art & book launch at Moruya Books plus exciting art event at Air Raid Tavern (note the acronym ART!).



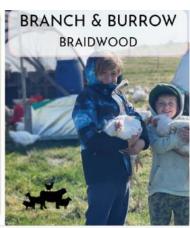
Leonie McGlashan of Fungi Co in Mittagong Mushroom Train Tunnel discussing fruiting conditions for Oyster, Lion's Mane & Shiitake mushrooms. Leonie & her husband Peter Wenzel will facilitate mushroom growing & medicinal mushroom workshops in Moruya for Fungi Feastival.



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# Council Discussion on Batemans Bay\_Masterplan

At the Eurobodalla Shire Council Meeting on Tuesday The following questions on notice about the Batemans Bay Masterplan were received from Councillor Anthony Mayne: **Question** 

- 1. **Collaboration?** What consultation has been undertaken with the Walbunja and Yuin community prior to and during the process of planning the development of the Masterplan, as specifically requested throughout the creation of the Eurobodalla Open Coast Coastal Management Program
- 2. **Process?** What was the governance process undertaken to develop this draft masterplan and why does it appear that the document not consider or refer to other key ESC planning documents on crucial issues for the Batemans Bay township including (and not limited to) climate change (Climate Action Plan 2022-2032), coastal management (Eurobodalla Open Coast Coastal Management Program, 2022), flooding (Batemans Bay Urban Creeks Flood Study and Plan, 2021) and the housing crisis (Eurobodalla Housing Strategy, 2025?)?
- 3. **Strategy**? As a key urban centre and residential hub for the Eurobodalla shire with many residents experiencing exponential rental stress, housing stress or homelessness, why has the DBBMP been developed and endorsed before the finalisation and adoption of the Eurobodalla Housing Strategy? a. Additionally, why has the issue of affordable housing been used as a planning mechanism incentive to argue for an increase in building heights for the financial gain of developers largely external to the Eurobodalla?
- 4. **Climate?** Why have the proposed urban forms been selected as appropriate for this part of Walbunja Country when they may exacerbate existing climate disaster risk for Batemans Bay residents through the increased population density in high risk flood and storm surge areas, increased urban heating, overshadowing, creation of wind tunnels, increased strain on utilities & infrastructure, increased emissions and embodied energy of construction and subsequent contributions to anthropogenic climate change?
- a. **Liability?** Who is liable and responsible for the planning decisions within the DBBMP which may negatively impact the disaster resilience of this community into the stated time frame of 2100 and beyond?
- 5. **Surfside?** As an immediately relevant precedent for the costly legacies of past 1800s planning decisions which did not fully account for the future impacts of flooding and coastal erosion, the current discussions regarding ongoing maintenance costs of nourishing a constantly eroding beach face may be relevant for the southern banks of the bay in anticipating the unpredictable future dynamics of a 2100 bay reformed by significantly risen sea levels.]
- 6. **Clarification.** Is the information presented to the public as during the exhibition period contemporary? For example, the 'Draft Batemans Bay Masterplan fly-through simulation' does not show the proposed building heights described within the document, but instead features 6 examples of building models without clearly communicating the entire scheme or its impacts on the Batemans Bay community. Additionally, the draft figures and diagrams present within the document are not drawn clearly or presented at a high enough resolution for the public to effectively discern what may be proposed. The text itself is unclear, and builds on unfounded claims to determine decisions which the community has had no input on, without evidence to back them up.
- 7. Could Council staff prepare a single stand-alone document incorporating all the assumptions fed into the economic and population analyses in the DBBMP, plus a listing of all sources and references used in its compilation. (Note: The current document does not provide any references at all.)
- 8. Is it true that 75% of the proposed development increases are well within the Probable Maximum Flood extents determined by the Batemans Bay Urban Creeks Flood Study (Rhelm, 2021)?

#### Response

The draft Batemans Bay Masterplan is currently on public exhibition until 30 June 2025. The shopfront at Batemans Bay has been open since 14 April and is receiving many visitors seeking to understand and learn about the proposed vision for Batemans Bay. In response to the questions raised by Clr Mayne, the following information can be provided.

The primary purpose of the Masterplan is to attract residential development and encourage people to live in the town centre. This should do two things:

- · increase commercial activity and the night time economy and
- provide a different type of housing which can contribute to housing affordability.

One of the key reasons for the Masterplan was to assess holistically the effects of requests from developers to build above the prescribed height limits. The Masterplan process would enable the Council and the community to make conscious decisions about what Batemans Bay should look like in the future, rather than assess individual proposals in a piecemeal approach.

A key action of the draft Housing Strategy is to prepare masterplans for the Shire's town centres.

The draft Batemans Bay Masterplan and draft Housing Strategy are separate strategies of Council but are inter-related and companion projects that are not done in isolation.

The purpose of the Masterplan is to identify a vision for the town centre that is accepted and adopted by both the community and Council. Future work in terms of infrastructure planning and development outcomes will all need to respect and work within Council policy.

#### Consultation

The draft Masterplan has been on public exhibition since the middle of April 2025 and will continue until 30 June 2025. This includes a shopfront with access to Council's planners during the working week. Additional consultation included the Moruya and Batemans Bay markets and a pop-up stall at Narooma Plaza.

Prior to the drafting of the Masterplan, direct contact was made with various representatives of the local Aboriginal community, including the Batemans Bay Aboriginal Land Council. This engagement continued throughout the development of the draft Masterplan.

#### Key consultation activities included:

- a) Direct outreach to community representatives to inform and invite participation in the planning process
- b) Involvement in a research project to understand what constitutes beautiful coastal towns, which included sourcing a participant from the local Aboriginal community to ensure cultural perspectives were represented.

Informal engagement has also occurred through the shopfront, where several Elders visited over the past four weeks to discuss issues, share insights and identify opportunities relevant to the Masterplan.

# Governance matters and relationships to other Council policy/strategies

As part of a general governance overview and due to recommendations included in the draft Masterplan relating to the old bowling club site, Council is seeking to commission a probity report. The probity report can review and make findings in relation to the following:

- General assessment of the draft Masterplan and the processes that led to the key recommendations/actions
- Specific analysis of the landmark sites and adequacy of the reasons as to why they were identified
- Governance review of the old bowling club site (Council owned) and the proposed recommendations included in the draft Masterplan
- Review of Council policy/strategy and assessment of their compatibility with the draft Masterplan i.e., Climate Action Plan, Flood Studies and Coastal Management Plan
- Assessment of the relationship between the draft Housing Strategy and the draft Masterplan
- Economic and population analysis that informed the draft Masterplan
- Probable maximum flood extents and suitability of residential development in the town centre >>> continued over

# Council Discussion on Batemans Bay Masterplan

# Continued from previous page >>> Fly through simulation and 3D models

The fly through simulation or 3D models are tools used in the consultation period to provide some visual aids and highlight landmarks and iconic sites. This provides some context in terms of scale for the community. The 3D models do not pick up all the proposed height amendments and this is mostly due to the financial cost. The draft Masterplan is the document on exhibition and should be referred to for clarity on what is being proposed. The formatting of the draft Masterplan document is deliberately not a published document. This was done on purpose and is meant to look like a draft document. The purpose of doing this is to assure the community that this is a consultation process and the document will not be final until the community's views have been considered, and Council has made a decision.

If there are any aspects of the draft Masterplan that are not clear, members of the community are encouraged to contact the planning team and seek clarification or write a submission.

Clr Mayne's remining questions will be addressed by the probity review, which will be reported to Council and therefore available to Councillors and the community.

**RECOMMENDATION THAT** the response to the questions regarding the draft Batemans Bay Masterplan raised by Councillor Anthony Mayne be received and noted, noting that the probity review will provide answers to the questions not addressed in this response.

#### **Public Presentations on the topic**

#### **Stephanie Chiu Presentation**

Djamaga yiribini njindiwan, good afternoon everyone. My name is Steph Chiu and I am here today to represent a community of concerned residents and custodians of Yuin Country here in the Eurobodalla Shire. As a community facilitator and a practicing registered architect, I am privileged to partner with communities and governments in designing resilient ways to live together in relationship with this beautiful coast. In my 14 years of architectural practice I have collaborated with a wide variety of local governments, planners, and urban designers across diverse scales and contexts.

Well designed master planning processes have great potential to bring communities together through the creation of a shared vision for the future and for future generations.

However, this particular draft leaves me very concerned. In my professional view, this document and exhibition process is disappointingly unprofessional, inconsistent, poorly written, and does not represent the Bay community.

The community deserves a genuine Masterplan through a participatory process that is reflective of them, collaborative and ultimately achieves design excellence in alignment with existing council Strategies and Plans. Having personally taken time over the past month to hear from my elders, neighbours, fellow designers and across the community broadly and it is clear that they would have loved to have shared their aspirations had they been given the chance.

Noting that yesterday was National Sorry Day, our local elders have consistently asked for greater transparency and voiced the necessity for Traditional Owners to be collaborated with throughout developments on their Country. They express the pain and disrespect caused to Country and community when their perspectives and knowledge have been disregarded. Councillors, can we truthfully claim to be working together for a shared future with our Elders and community when their direct requests for collaboration are ignored?

In Council's response to the Questions on Notice, Planning staff have stated that the 'primary purpose' and 'key reason' for the Masterplan was to attract and respond to 'requests from developers to build above prescribed height limits'.

Councillors, whose interests does this purpose actually represent, and why do their interests take precedence over the residents of the Bay and the Traditional Custodians of Walbunja Country? This painfully honest 'primary purpose' has clearly not been developed to meet the primary needs and desires of the Bay community today or in 75 years time, as the Masterplan process had completed no engagement or collaboration with the community before rushing to public exhibition.

Also clear is Council's original brief sent to consultants in 2023, now sitting in front of you. This document established a reasonable strategy and project objectives which are completely at odds with the priorities of the draft plan currently on exhibition. Some key differences include:

The original timeline of 20-40 years.
 Today's draft is for an unprecedented 75 years unheard of in any other urban masterplan in the world.

· The first objective in the project brief was "to provide affordable housing choices" - yet today's draft has no action to ensure this. The proposed voluntary incentive is a pointless claim of false credit as this mechanism already exists under the State Housing policy.

Additionally, the project was tasked "to manage the challenges of increased future flooding and coastal inundation events". Instead, this draft proposes 75% of its proposed building height increases sitting within the Probable Maximum Flood area, and completely ignores any subsequent management or responsibility for such actions, except to claim that 'flooding risks result in a need for taller buildings' on p33.

 Due to many such discrepancies between the original brief and draft, the technical studies produced according to the original work provide no evidence for the outcomes or claims made in the more recent masterplan, including the necessity to 'be tested through stakeholder and community input that will be run concurrently" to the consultant. Today's draft shows no such input and even more worryingly a departure from recommendations to heights without grounded evidence on impact. Councillors, Who truly benefits from this draft plan? It is not the residents, future generations or Country. Why and how did we veer so far from the original intent of the master plan process and brief? So then, what systems and mechanisms need to be put in place such that this does not happen again to the potential detriment of residents and future generations? Councillors, a Draft Masterplan can be an opportunity to collaborate together to invest in local culture and economies, building innovative and affordable homes for our communities, preparing for the future and designing and building disaster resilience specific to Walbunja Country. Why don't we

As a group of concerned residents of the Eurobodalla Shire volunteering our time and expertise to speak on behalf of the future generations potentially impacted by this Draft Masterplan, we request that Councillors:

do that instead?

1.not adopt this document, and; 2.reinvest our public resources and the \$200K state government funding for the master plan into a collaborative and inclusive shared vision which truly represents the needs and desires of the Batemans Bay community.

bundjala-ya-ndjali-nj bhundoo-dha walbanga-dha buraadja-gul Let-us-all-think-together with-bhundoo with-walbanga for-tomorrow After achieving this critical first step, then we can draft and execute the plan, and not before.

Such a crucial document must align with foundational Council plans and policies, and fundamentally, a completed Eurobodalla Housing Strategy.

As it stands, the Draft Housing Strategy requires similar reworking and rigour to achieve this goal.

3.In addition, we request: an independent review of the Draft Housing Strategy in relation to the Draft Masterplan, specifically addressing the common issues of unfinished, unclear, unprofessional and inconsistent planning which ignores the needs and desires of Eurobodalla Shire residents over the speculative interests of external developers.

The Draft Masterplan is an opportunity to fulfil the Vision outlined and adopted in our Community Strategic Plan: From our beaches to our bushlands, rivers and mountains... Our Eurobodalla is a place of inclusive communities embracing sustainable lifestyles. Our future balances our natural assets and thriving economy. Our community is resilient and

(notably)collaborative, and this underpins all that we do.

We request that the Draft Masterplan process be redesigned to uphold this vision, supporting and creating a Bay which embodies our shared Values and vision for future generations.



## Council Discussion on Batemans Bay Masterplan

# Dr Brett Stevenson, Co-Convenor, A Better Eurobodalla Presentation

Good afternoon. Thank you for the opportunity to address Council regarding QON 25/001 Batemans Bay Masterplan. I am presenting as Co-Convenor of A Better Eurobodalla (ABE), a community forum dedicated to having open and inclusive government in our region. ABE has applied the principles of good governance and technical expertise to the draft Batemans Bay Masterplan ("the Masterplan") and has identified significant problems with both the draft document as well as the response to Councillor Mayne's Questions on Notice. The questions raised by Clr Mayne canvass critical issues, and the responses provided in the agenda paper are exceedingly meagre and uninformative. For example, it strains the bounds of credulity that a "3D Fly By Video" which accurately represents the permissible building height and bulk proposals included in the Masterplan could not be included "because of cost". An accurate simulation video would cost no more than the inaccurate one provided, and avoid potential for misconception and misunderstanding.

One of Councillor Mayne's questions was a request for Council to prepare a summary document encapsulating the set of assumptions (such as population growth rates, demographic characteristics etc) incorporated in the Masterplan. This would give the community a useful starting point to assess the utility and credibility of the document in delivering its stated objectives, such as affordable housing, etc. However, the agenda papers indicate that this request will be answered by a probity report, which seems a bizarre response to a relatively straightforward question.

One important supplementary question is why Council's ownership of several of the blocks of land proposed for high rise development is not acknowledged as a potential conflict of interest or role in the draft Masterplan. Conflicts of interest or role are both significant governance issues under the NSW Local Government Act, which sets the rules under which all NSW LGAs must operate. This is a critical issue which needs to be included in the terms of reference for the probity report. In the interests of transparency, the community needs to know the terms of reference for the probity report before it is commenced, and be assured that an unabridged version of the final report will be available to the community. If this does not occur, it will indicate that Council has learned nothing from its unnecessarily clandestine behaviour throughout the Batemans Bay Pavilions project, which has created an ongoing financial black hole for Eurobodalla ratepayers. The Eurobodalla community cannot afford for this Masterplan to spawn another white elephant, draining community resources and hindering alternative sustainable growth options for both Batemans Bay and the wider Eurobodalla Region.

I will now briefly consider the draft Masterplan. This document was foreshadowed in Council's draft "Not an Affordable" Housing Strategy, whose significant shortcomings were identified in multiple presentations to Council on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2024, including one by ABE. The community has been told that the Masterplan is not just about height, but is also about affordable housing. However, this is not supported by a simple scan of the document - the term "affordable housing" occurs just 5 times in the 106 page document, while "height" occurs 158 times. In fact, the Masterplan recommends extensive height and zoning changes to the Eurobodalla LEP. Council has recently secured a \$200,000 grant to implement these changes, claiming they will provide an additional 8,000 dwellings. No documentation to support these projected 8,000 additional dwellings (equivalent to 16,000 people) is included in the Masterplan.

The Masterplan exhibits similar problems to the draft Housing Strategy in that it fails to include any references to sources or supporting studies, such as the consultancy documents available on the Masterplan webpage. As a result, it is virtually impossible to validate or cross check any of the information presented in the Masterplan – it must be accepted on face value.

The NSW Government Integrated Planning & Reporting Framework provides the planning benchmark for all NSW LGAs, and is the basis for Council's own delivery and work plans. In the Eurobodalla strategic planning context, the high level plan is the South East & Regional Tablelands Plan, whose timeline extends to 2042, which is then implemented through the Eurobodalla Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS), that extends out to 2040. It is notable that the first priority action listed in the Eurobodalla LSPS is to "develop an Affordable Housing Strategy". At odds with this strategic context, the Masterplan pays lip service to affordable housing and targets a population of 40,000 for Batemans Bay by 2100. However, the Masterplan does not define the area for this population target, and no explanation is provided for the exceptionally long 2100 timeline. Given that the supporting economic study utilises a 2042 time horizon for its analyses (consistent with both the Southeast Regional Plan and Council's usual planning horizon), the following questions are relevant - What methodology and data was used to project so far out into the future? What confidence limits can be placed on this type of projection? Where else has this methodology been used?

The Masterplan is largely silent on the biophysical issues which need to be properly assessed before deciding to build 100 metre residential towers on a vulnerable coastal floodplain faced with the prospect of rising sea levels and more frequent and intense extreme events such as floods, storms, coastal erosion episodes and bushfires. In spite of this, the words "sea level" are mentioned only once in the document, with a passing reference to work being undertaken to define how construction of unspecified protective works will occur. This is not a credible response to such a major issue.

The Masterplan also fails to consider the geotechnical capability of the Bay's underlying sediments and rocks to support massive structures up 100 metres high, and whether specialised construction methods would be required to make such proposals viable. There is no consideration of the consequent cost implications on the affordability of dwellings in these high rise buildings, nor what effects their vulnerable coastal location would have on their insurance eligibility and costs.

In addition, the Masterplan does not provide any substantive consideration of the infrastructure and servicing requirements for the large scale structures it proposes, including their technical and economic feasibility and who will bear the costs of providing these services.

In summary, this is not a masterplanit is a masterclass in how NOT to do strategic planning. The document fails to adequately address multiple major systemic strategic issues which cannot be resolved by subsequent "site by site" development assessment processes. The document should be deferred so it can be significantly reworked in close consultation with the community to properly integrate the multiple issues that need to be threaded together to bring it up to an acceptable standard.

Thank you,

Two other presenters on the topic were Frank Ross and SHASA

These presentation will be on the Moruya Mail Website.

# Local energy is the solution to electricity price rises **Rewiring Australia**

With electricity prices set to significantly increase from July, Rewiring Australia is calling for a greater focus on the combined power of household and community energy to end bill shock.

The Australian Energy Regulator yesterday announced price caps will rise by up to 9.7 per cent for many consumers, partly driven by the rising cost of the grid, and in a separate report last week, AEMO highlighted the high cost of building new transmission infrastructure.

"There are practical steps households can take with the support of governments to protect against this sort of bill shock. Empowering communities to switch to electric appliances, run by rooftop solar and stored by battery, is the first step," Rewiring Australia CEO Francis Vierboom.

"And what comes after that is even more impressive. Upgrading grid technology to allow households, businesses and local sites to generate, share and store electricity locally means communities won't have to rely on mega power plants. They will have a sustainable source made locally.

"We've seen exciting initiatives that support this kind of model, like New South Wales' first urban renewable energy zone which will focus on local energy generation, sharing and storage to create an energy resilient area," Francis Vierboom said

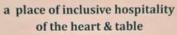
The recently announced urban renewable energy zone for the Illawarra will prioritise rooftop solar, community batteries and local grid fixes over large-scale transmission projects to ensure swifter access to cheaper and cleaner energy. "We know there is serious demand for household energy independence. There are hundreds of homes participating in our Electrify 2515 pilot project. We are helping people upgrade their homes to be able to make and store their own power. "With the right technology, and the right grid rules, excess power can be stored and used when it's needed around the community. We don't need to wait for expensive transmission projects. Australia has an incredible amount of rooftop solar already installed, and room for far more on homes and businesses, so we don't lack the ability or desire to become more energy sufficient. "Governments must support the rapid expansion of electrification like we have

"Governments must support the rapid expansion of electrification like we have seen in the 2515 pilot, and support more initiatives like the urban renewable energy zone in the Illawarra. If we combine households and local energy infrastructure, we can make bill shock a thing of the past," Francis Vierboom said.

Research conducted by Rewiring Australia has revealed the average household can save thousands of dollars each year by adopting rooftop solar, a home battery and switching to an electric vehicle, and swapping out gas appliances for electric

#### **Community Lunch**

The Red Door Cafe offers freshly prepared meals at no cost or by donation if possible. Everyone is welcome. The Red Door Cafe operates every Tuesday from Midday to 1.30pm. So, pop along and enjoy a delicious home cooked lunch.







# Game changing reforms allow GPs to treat ADHD to reduce wait times and costs

The Minns Labor Government will make it cheaper and easier for people to access life changing treatment for attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) by allowing general practitioners (GPs) to treat and diagnose people with ADHD.

Currently, most people seeking a diagnosis, management and ongoing prescription medication for ADHD must see a specialist. This is often extremely expensive and many patients wait months or years to get a diagnosis, or can't access treatment at all. The Minns Labor Government will enable GPs to provide ongoing ADHD prescriptions for children and adults who are on stable doses of medication, without the need of a formal arrangement.

A smaller number of GPs will be enabled to diagnose and initiate medication where

Once fully implemented, these reforms will save patients both months of waiting as well as significant costs in accessing treatment.

appropriate.

In both instances, GPs will be required to undertake accredited training and will receive support. Expressions of interest for GPs to undertake additional education and training requirements will be sought in coming months.

Interested GPs will be able to choose between two tiers of accredited training or registration, with each providing differing levels of capacity to diagnose, treat, prescribe or manage ADHD.

Up to 1000 GPs will be supported to complete additional training to allow continuation prescriptions once a patient has been stabilised.

NSW Health will fund these training packages and mentorship and access to resources to access the implementation of the reforms.

These reforms will be implemented in a staged approach, with an initial focus on prescriptions for children.

This is because a delay in diagnosis can have a significant impact on a child's development, such as poorer academic progress, employment opportunities and mental health.

NSW is the third state to implement reforms to make it easier for people to access treatment for ADHD. In Queensland, GPs can prescribe certain ADHD medications for children without a prescribing approval, and Western Australia has proposed to allow patients to receive a diagnosis and treatment from specialist GPs with specific skills and additional training in ADHD diagnosis and management.

GP training will commence in the coming months and the ability for GPs to provide ongoing prescriptions for children is expected to open up in early 2026.



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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.

# tadfly

When glancing across the faces of the new Albanese Ministry, you'd be forgiven if you couldn't name the Minister for the Arts. The answer is Tony Burke, guite a senior Labor figure, and so it should be since the arts and creative industries are a significant part of Australia's economy.

In 2022–23, for example cultural and creative activity contributed \$63.7 billion, some 2.5 percent of Australia's GDP. Over the last 15 years, the sector has grown by 62 percent. The performing arts alone saw its GDP contribution rise from \$1.5 billion in 2008-09 to \$2.4 billion in 2022–23. The arts employed 282,000 workers in cultural and creative industries in 2021 and more than 300.000 today.

But here's just one of the problems. Minister Burke is more broadly Minister for Home Affairs and Minister for Immigration and Citizenship and that's a fulltime job for

But wait, there's more. He is also Minister for Cyber Security, one of the key elements in Australia's defensive profile. That's a job for two people.

And yes, there's more. He is also the Leader of the House and thereby responsible for getting the legislative program of the government through the House of Reps, and running Labor's tactics in Question Time and whenever the Opposition or the crossbench get rebellious (which is most of the time).

He has a couple of Assistant Ministers for Immigration and 'Emergency Management', but none for the Arts. That's Tony's portfolio and he's sticking to it. If you think it doesn't leave much time for listening to the cries of artists, authors, screenwriters and poets scratching a living in their attics and studios as the Whitlam years of financial assistance fade to the shadowy past, the evidence is on your side.

It comes in the form of the most recent initiative of the Arts Ministry. It is dated 2023 and it's written either by a gibbering bureaucrat or the AI equivalent.

It's called 'Revive' which evokes an (appropriate) image of a surfing rescue with Tony giving Aphrodite mouth-tomouth resuscitation on the sand.

No such luck. Revive calls it, 'a place for every story, a story for every place.' Honestly, you couldn't make this stuff up. It continues, 'Pillars and Principles - Revive is structured around 5 interconnected pillars which set out the Government's strategic objectives.

1) First Nations First: Recognising and respecting the crucial place of First Nations stories at the centre of Australia's arts and culture. (Really?)

2)A place for every story: Reflecting the breadth of our stories and the contribution of all Australians as the creators of culture

3) Centrality of the Artist: Supporting the artist as worker and celebrating artists as creators. (Really?)

4)Strong cultural Infrastructure: Providing support across the spectrum

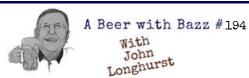
5) Engaging the audience: Making sure our stories connect with people at home and abroad. (How?) It then goes on interminably (and equally vapidly) about 'Principles', 'Key Measures', and a somewhat scary \$199 million over four years to provide 'greater strategic oversight' across the sector, and five more pages of pap.

However, I'm happy to report that among them, by 2025 'Writers Australia' will be established within Creative Australia, to provide direct support to the literature sector, including for writers and publishers (?), to grow local and international audiences for Australian books and establish a National Poet Laureate for Australia.' (If only they included a red editor's pen for bureaucrats!) Anyway, no sign of it yet. I guess Tony's been a bit busy. robert@robertmacklin.com



sagefarmersmarket.org.au growing the community





Timeless Tom took a measured sip and leaned in.

"I reckon it's the council. My cousin's neighbour overheard a conversation in the pub the other week. Mind you, it was a muffled conversation but it was between a couple of council workers. There were whispered tones but he swears he heard the words 'rocking horses', 'Kings Highway' and 'Clyde Mountain' in that order\*. Anyhow, my cousin's neighbour relayed these details to my wife's best friend at the checkout in Woolies last week so it is as good as an admission."

Murmurs of agreement before Know All Ron cleared his throat.

"The council flatly denies removing the rocking horses from the Clyde Mountain, Tom. I reckon they are pretty tuned into public sentiment. The kids love them and it breaks up the boredom on the drive back over the mountain."

Ron paused for effect.

"I reckon it was a well planned police raid. In fact, I would go even further and say it was a joint NSW Police Force's Counter Terrorism and Special Tactics Command and the Australian Defence Force's (ADF) Special Operations Command units based in NSW operation. I spotted two fully armed officers in regulation back uniforms having coffee in Batemans Bay poring over a map. On this map there was a big red kill target about 18kms up the Kings Highway from Batemans Bay."

All eyes on Ron and in unison.

"But why, Ron?"

Ron straightened his shoulders and lowered his voice.

"Well...I did a bit of digging around. The cleaner at Special Operations Command is an old mate. He said the term 'operation rocking horses' has been widely used in drills over the past month. I rang the Commissioner at Special Operations Command but he was quite circumspect in his response, and I quote; 'Operational security is paramount to conducting effective strategic and tactical operations. I cannot confirm or deny 'operation rocking horse' exists. I have nothing further to add."

Shaking of heads and conversations splintered into the likelihood of the rocking horses being held in the Batemans Bay Police Station lock up. Another theory was the mass kidnapping of the rocking horses and a ransom demand being circulated to parents and carers via the Parents and Citizens Associations of the various primary schools in the Eurobodalla Shire. There was much nodding of heads as another patron disclosed plans to open a toy store in Batemans Bay specialising in rocking horses.

After much 'tut tutting' the chat fell silent and Mick stepped forward.

"Let's not rule out National Parks and Wildlife Service's (NPWS) possible involvement. NPWS has been conducting a cull of brumbies in the Snowy Mountains with aerial shooting. Now, it is entirely possible one of the helicopters got a bit lost in recent fogs and took out the rocking horses by mistake. Of course they would have to land and take away the evidence. It is better for the kids to see no rocking horses as opposed to shot rocking horses."

Bazza joined the group and sighed at the flat schooner.

"Apologies for my lateness. You blokes all seem to be very serious... no doubt discussing the bloodbath in Gaza, Putin's continued attacks on Ukraine or is it the latest Trumponomics?"

Mick sipped his schooner.

"No Bazza... the missing rocking horses on the Clyde Mountain. Now... the kids are all upset, but without doubt, you would have a contrarian view."

Bazza half smiled.

"Well... Mick, let's just say if I went to a toy store to buy a rocking horse and found it stocked with native forests, I would be a bit annoyed."

\* https://aboutregional.com.au/the-case-ofthe-missing-clyde-mountain-rocking-horses

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

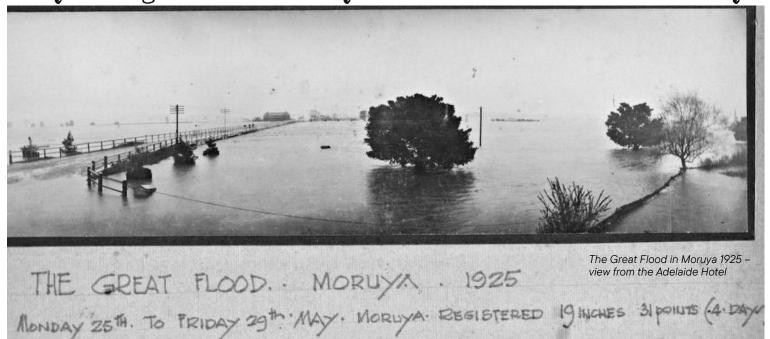
Working together for a cleaner, smarter future for the Eurobodalla







# 100 years ago from the Moruya & District Historical Society



#### Disastrous flood. Farmers ruined. Business paralysed. Elections overshadowed.

To-day (Saturday) is election day. Electors record your vote for the men you think best. Up to going to press ... the poll will be proceeded with to-day, except at the centres of Deua River and Eurobodalla, where owing to flood troubles it has been found impracticable to proceed until 6<sup>th</sup> June.

Never in the history of Moruya has such a disaster befallen it, as the one which happened during the week, when the whole of the lowlands were completely submerged by flood waters

From the 5<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> May close on 13 inches were recorded. With a spell of four fine days rain again set in on Sunday evening, and on Monday morning another 108 points had been registered. Rain accompanied by terrific south east wind continued all day and night, the fall increased by a further 540 points. By this time ... those living in the lower part of Campbell and Queen Streets had to be removed from their houses. By Wednesday morning another 1080 points had fallen. On Thursday the guage showed 203 points, making a total of 19 inches 31 points in four days.

On Tuesday, as the waters were still rising, the Staunton family came across to town by boat, and whilst crossing the paddocks, had a narrow escape through fouling a wire fence. Before darkness set in half the residents of that locality were sheltering at Turnbull's Criterion Hotel.

Shortly after midnight the river broke over both banks, all the houses on the town side from the Hotel to Mr. R. Knight's residence being inundated. Distress 'phone calls then came from the Milne family.

Sergt. Rose, Messrs. S. Fitzpatrick and Armstrong tackled the herculean task, and succeeded in reaching the marooned people. With considerable difficulty, by breaking a window, Mr. and Mrs. Milne, Mrs. W.Howard and Miss Gladys Milne were dragged through the opening and into the boat.

Dr. Cutler, Messrs. Feneley and Purvis started on the perilous journey to rescue the Louttit family. They found ten men, women and children on the house top. After two nerve racking trips, all were saved.

The scene on Thursday when the waters had subsided was almost indescribable. The loss to the district is incalculable, but many consider that £40,000 would not cover it. Bodalla. (From our Correspondent) Bodalla residents received another shock on Saturday morning, 16th instant, when it learned that another disastrous fire had taken place. This time it had occurred at the Rectory, and completely destroyed the Rev. Payne-Lewis's car - also garage. outbuildings, numerous tools, etc. The cause, as in the case of the hotel fire, is a mystery; Over five-and -a-half inches of rain for the week. The river rose again but not to the height of the previous week.

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



# Moruya's Devastating Flood of May 1925



On 5th May 1925, Moruya was struck by the most devastating natural disaster in its recorded history. Between the 5th and 20th of May, 18 inches (457.2 mm) of rain fell. After a brief reprieve of four days of fine weather, an extraordinary 19 inches and 31 points—nearly 490 mm—was recorded over a further four-day period, beginning on Sunday 24 May. Driven by powerful winds, the torrential rain caused the Moruya River to burst both its banks and overtop the bridge, triggering widespread and destructive flooding throughout the region. The resulting floodwaters surged through the town and surrounding districts, submerging low-lying areas and triggering mass evacuations. Streets like Campbell and Queen, along with the Mullenderree area, were hit hardest. Many residents had to be rescued by boat, some in harrowing, life-threatening circumstances.

Local heroes—among them Dr. Cutler, Mr. Feneley, Sergeant Rose, Allan Louttit, and J. Turnbull Jr.—braved the treacherous conditions to rescue families trapped by the rising waters. Around midnight, the river overflowed both banks, flooding homes right up to the Hotel Adelaide. People took refuge on rooftops and in public buildings as properties were inundated, livestock perished, and possessions were swept away. The damage across Moruya and its rural surroundings was catastrophic. Entire businesses lost their stock, buildings were destroyed, and infrastructure was severely impacted. Roads and bridges were rendered impassable. The SS Bermagui narrowly avoided disaster, eventually coming to rest in a safe location.

As the waters receded, scenes of devastation emerged: families wading through mud-filled homes, livestock carcasses tangled in fences and trees, debris piled high against buildings, and fencing left in ruins.

Mr. A.H. Preddey suffered greatly, with the floodwaters wrecking the Amusu Theatre. His expensive pianola was submerged, and the film Feet of Clay—screened the night before—was reduced to "feet of mud." Roads to the Deua and Araluen districts were heavily damaged, cutting off access and delaying recovery.

In the aftermath, the community responded with remarkable resilience. While the road to recovery would be long, their determination reflected the strength of the local spirit. Farmers faced enormous losses. Some lands were enriched by silt deposits, but others were buried under feet of sand and debris.

The timber industry ground to a halt, leaving many unemployed, and dairying was severely impacted, with milk production dropping from 800 to just 200 gallons per day. Homes, gardens, and livestock were destroyed, and clean water became scarce. Many households lost their rainwater tanks or found them contaminated with silt. Amid the chaos, stories of survival offered glimpses of hope: a loyal dog in Mullenderee rode out the flood on a couch and was found two days later on debris near Malabar Bridge; a boy discovered a flood-swept cheque and milk book far from home.

Some residents, like Mr. H. Davis and Mrs. T. Williams, lost nearly everything, but the community rallied with acts of kindness and solidarity. Churches opened their grounds for displaced livestock, and townspeople worked tirelessly to save what they could. Others were stranded in isolation for days, enduring terrifying storms and flooding with no food. Mr McKeon, who had been camping near his mine at Dwyers Creek, was stranded for two days without food. Amid the storm, he recalled hearing a loud report—distinct from the thunder—which he believed was the sound of a cloudburst, as torrential rain followed immediately after.

The nearby creek, normally 25 feet wide and 4 feet deep during a flood, swelled dramatically to 100 yards wide and 20 feet deep.

"Never will I forget that fearful Tuesday night. The roar of the waters, the pealing of thunder, the flashing of lightning and the crashing of huge trees all around were terrifying in the extreme." - Mr Mc Keon, Dwyers Creek mine, Moruya Examiner May 30, 1925

The financial cost was staggering, with damages estimated to exceed £40,000—a massive sum at the time. The flood devastated generations of agricultural work, but it also revealed the deep well of courage, endurance, and community spirit that defines the Moruya region. Despite unimaginable loss, the people stood together, determined to rebuild and recover.

From the Moruya District Historical Society Blog More see - https://blog.mdhs.org.au/2025/05/22/moruyas-devastating-flood-of-may-1925/





# Enjoy Winterlude at Moruya High School



Lovers of fine music are in for a treat this Sunday with 'Winterlude - An Afternoon of Music' showcasing four highly popular local ensembles at Moruya High School at 2pm.

The well regarded Eurobodalla Chamber Orchestra will commence 'Winterlude'. The orchestra was established in 2018, and with a focus on community participation, has grown from strength to strength. With a mission statement, 'To make it possible for everyone to sing together in a non-judgmental environment and to be inspired to sing the most glorious songs ever composed wherever they may be', the Sing Australia Choir are guaranteed to continue the uplifting vibe. Both ensembles will be conducted by the talented and charismatic, Kathie Harris.

The Mogendoura Swing Ensemble lead by Peter Poole will then take the stage. The ensemble consists of seven members who all play multiple instruments. The audience can expect to be entertained with a variety of swing style music.

Eurosax is a saxophone trio led by highly respected local music teacher, Barny Barnbrook and will provide a final cool performance. The grand finale will be all 45 musicians performing.

In all, the afternoon will provide a great variety of music ranging from classical and jazz all the way through to swing and music from blockbuster shows.

Instruments will include strings, brass, woodwind and percussion. The President of the Eurobodalla Chamber Orchestra, Penny Cook extends a warm invitation to the community.

Penny said "It can be a challenge for community groups to stage a performance on their own, but by combining with other groups we can put on a wonderful afternoon of music".

Afternoon tea will be served at interval.

#### 2pm Sunday, 1st June at Moruya High School.

Cost is only \$10 for adults and \$5 for students (to cover costs) with cash payment at the door.



# Nest box Workshop

Build a nestbox for your favourite wildlife. Materials provided!

Saturday 12-2pm

Batemans Bay Heritage Museum, 3 Museum place, Batemans Bay





Tell them you saw it in the Moruya Mail!

Subscribe free at www.moruyamail.com.au



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# Fund Raising success at Uniting Church Variety Concert

By John Longhurst

From jazz and poetry reading through to opera and a singalong, 'variety' was certainly the central ingredient at the Batemans Bay Uniting Church Variety Concert last Sunday at the church in Batemans Bay.

The concert was held to raise money for Pivotal Point, an outreach centre offering assistance for the many people experiencing hardship in the area.

The afternoon was off to a rollicking start with well known Moruya jazz band Blueberry Jam reuniting for a rare performance. Blueberry Jam is a unique jazz band performing swing jazz, bossa, samba & salsa sprinkled with French groove in multiple languages\*.

Popular local favourites Paul Marshall and Steve Johnston (Tenors Two) followed with a range of songs including movie classics, opera, gospel and all the way through to chart toppers from Barry Manilow and Tom Jones.

The Batemans Bay U3A Singers led the audience through classics such as 'Bless This House', 'The Sound of Music', 'Danny Boy', 'Deep in the Heart of Texas' and 'Simple Melody'.

The afternoon was capped with audience singalongs to songs such as 'Bye Bye Blackbird'.

Between acts, concert organiser and MC, Kay Killick and Roger Cole kept the entertainment flowing with poetry and short stories.

Roger Cole's unaccompanied rendition of Eric Bogle's haunting song 'The Band Played Waltzing Matilda' was particularly moving.

MC Kay Killick was well pleased with the fundraiser.

Kay said "It was an outstanding success. We had a capacity crowd who clearly enjoyed the afternoon. Many thanks to all the musicians who gratefully donated their talents. It was a fun way to raise well over \$1000 for Pivot Point."

\* https://blueberryjam.com.au/





Batemans Bay U3A Singers

# ACTIVE ART - WINTER SOLSTICE ART RETREAT CONNECT.CREATE.UNWIND MURRAH DREAM RETREAT 20-22 JUNE 2025 ACTIVE ART 2025



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#### WORKSHOPS

LIFE DRAWING WITH LESLEY WHALE THURS 29 MAY, 1.30PM TO 3.30PM

THE ALCHEMY OF OPPOSITES - EXPERIMENTAL PAINTING

> WITH LISA PATRONI FRI 13, 20 & 27 JUNE, 1PM-3PM

THE WRITE STUFF WITH PAUL CULLEN SUN 15 & 22 JUNE, 1PM TO 3PM

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**MORUYA HIGH SCHOOL** 

DRAMA CLUB

Moruya High School Hall

Tickets: \$25 per head (includes two course meal)

Doors Open 5:30pm (6pm start)

Maximum of 6 per table

Contact the Moruya High School Office to book (02) 4474 2155 Hurry, tables are limited!

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# artcentral

#### WORKSHOPS

CLAY TO CUP, BOWL, PLATE, PLATTER

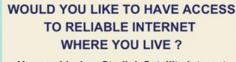
WITH SARAH LUDOWICI SATURDAYS 1.30PM TO 3.30PM MAY 24, 31, JUNE 7, 14, 21 & JULY 12.

POTTERS THROWING BOOT CAMP

WITH JOHN THE POTTER SATURDAY 25 MAY 2025, 10AM - 3.30PM

LIFE DRAWING WITH LESLEY WHALE THURS 29 MAY, 1,30PM TO 3,30PM

WWW.ARTCENTRAL.ORG.AU



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The Tec Exec are teaming up with SHASA to offer the opportunity to win a 12 month Starlink Satellite Internet Package. Scan the QR Code to find out more.





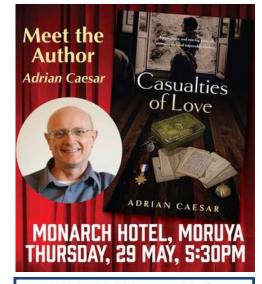


shasa.com.au



4:30 PM TO 9PM





#### 2EARFM / Moruya Mail GIG GUIDE "LOCAL and LIVE"

#### Friday 30th May

Riff Tom Henry Roddy Reason

**Saturday, 31 May** Driving Sideways Roddy Reason Mojo Riff Malumba John Stokes Emad Coastal Fringe

Sunday, 1 June

Totum Riff **Brothers South** Dan Gallo Gabbi Foreman Harrison Clynes

Soldiers Club (7.30pm) Steampacket Hotel Poolbar at Bannisters 5pm

Club Catalina (7.30pm) Tathra Bowlo (7.30pm) Merimbula RSL Club (8pm) Soldiers Club (8pm) Camel Rock Brewhouse Broulee Brewhouse Tilba valley Winery Steampacket Hotel

Club Narooma (3pm) Club Tuross (3.30pm) Camel Rock Brewhouse Broulee Brewhouse Tilba valley Winerv Steampacket Hotel

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



21 June









From First Light 7 June

Mac & Glenda 14 June

Richard Lawson

Steve Benic 28 June

Mark Smith 5 July

12 July Piper Allen

Phil Coleman 19 July 26 Jul Casey Greene

Dave Newman 2 Aug

9 Aug Giaan Cafe

**Opening Hours** Fri & Sat 12 to 9pm and Sun 12 - 6pm

www.artisanfactory.com/Live music



#### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

SHASA is looking for helpers at the Repair Cafe which is held every Friday from 9.30am-12.30pm at the Red Door Hall, St John's Commons, Moruya.

#### HELP IS NEEDED WITH

- fixing electrical goods (SHASA will cover the cost of volunteers to undertake tag and the cost of volunteers to test training) organise and serve morning tea for the

#### Interested?

Please contact Kathryn Maxwell on 0467558645 or email contact.shasa@gmail.com



# Donate through Return and Earn

Until June 2025, take your eligible bottles and cans to any depositing container in NSW and opt to donate your refund to the AWL NSW Eurobodalla Branch

campaign "Every Dog, Every Cat Deserves a Loving Home" via the Return and Earn App on your phone

Thank you for helping us to eare for the dogs and eats of Eurobodalla

(000)





Do you know someone in our community that deserves recognition for their volunteering efforts?



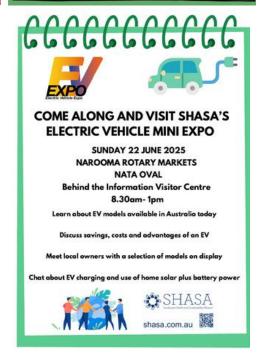
Nominations close 5pm Friday 23 May

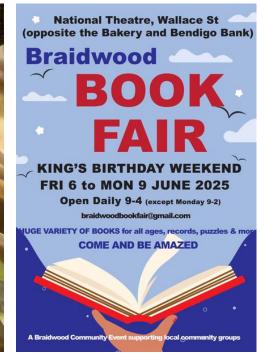
For more information about the Awards visit www.volunteering.com.au/awards











# Animal Welfare League News

Awl BELLA is a eight-month old white kitten with a sweet, loving nature. Despite being deaf, Bella is ready to be friends with everyone, and is not shy when it comes to unfamiliar faces. She is great with children, dogs and other cats. Bella is energetic but always happy to snuggle up next to you on the couch. Due to her inability to hear cars, dogs or other threats outside, Bella will need to be an indoor cat only. Bella is a clever girl who is currently learning basic visual commands and communication techniques with her foster carer. This confident, funny, loving girl is a real charmer, and is ready to make someone a wonderful pet. Can you give Bella the safe, loving home she deserves? Bella's details are on the Animal Welfare League NSW website here: <a href="https://www.awlnsw.com.au/animals/79510/">https://www.awlnsw.com.au/animals/79510/</a> You can arrange to meet Bella by filling out the form on the website, or by calling AWL Eurobodalla on 0410 016 612.

All AWL pets come microchipped, desexed and vaccinated. Previously advertised pets Missy, Nina and Brindie are all still available for adoption.











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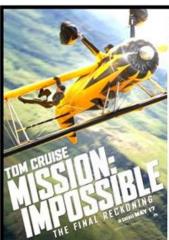


Located Top floor Citi Centre Arcade Perry Street Batemans Bay – 2536 – PH: (02) 4472 6009



## **NOW SHOWING**

MAY	THU 29	FRI 30	SAT 31	SUN 1	MON 2	TUE 3	WED 4
A MINECRAFT MOVIE PG 101 MIN	11:30 AM	11:30 AM	11:30 AM	11:30 AM	CLOSED	11:30 AM	11:30 AM
CLOWN IN A CORNFIELD MA15+ 97 MIN	3:15 PM	3:15 PM		3:40 PM		3:15 PM	3:15 PM
FINAL DESTINATION: BLOODLINES  MA15+ 110 MIN	1:05 PM 7:15 PM	1:05 PM 7:15 PM	4:00 PM 7:20 PM	1:30 PM		1:05 PM 7:15 PM	1:05 PM 7:15 PM
LILO & STITCH PG 108 MIN	10:45 AM 2:20 PM 5:10 PM 6:45 PM	10:45 AM 2:20 PM 5:10 PM 6:45 PM	10:45 AM 2:20 PM 5:15 PM 6:45 PM	11:15 AM 2:20 PM		10:45 AM 2:20 PM 5:10 PM 6:45 PM	10:45 AM 2:20 PM 5:10 PM 6:45 PM
MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE – THE FINAL RECKONING M 169 MIN	11:15 AM 3:10 PM 6:15 PM	11:15 AM 3:10 PM 6:15 PM	11:15 AM 3:10 PM 6:15 PM	11:15 AM 3:40 PM		11:15 AM 3:10 PM 6:15 PM	11:15 AM 3:10 PM 6:15 PM
THE ACCOUNTANT 2 MA15+ 133 MIN	1:30 PM	1:30 PM	1:30 PM	1:30 PM		1:30 PM	1:30 PM
THE SALT PATH M 115 MIN	10:50 AM 6:00 PM	10:50 AM 6:00 PM	1:00 PM 6:10 PM	11:15 AM		10:50 AM 6:00 PM	10:50 AM 6:00 PM
THE SURFER MA15+ 103 MIN	4:00 PM	4:00 PM	3:15 PM	4:00 PM		4:00 PM	4:00 PM
THUNDERBOLTS* PG 127 MIN	12:50 PM 4:25 PM	12:50 PM 4:25 PM	12:50 PM 4:25 PM	1:20 PM 4:25 PM		12:50 PM 4:25 PM	12:50 PM 4:25 PM



M | 2hrs 49min ~ Action ~ Tom Cruise is risking it all once again as Ethan Hunt in the epic eighth instalment of the legendary action-espionage series, One last time... Ethan Hunt (Cruise) and his IMF team embark on their most dangerous mission yet: To track down a terrifying new weapon that threatens all of humanity before it falls into the wrong hands...

# LILO & STITCH

STITCH PG | 1hr 48min

~ Family ~ Comedy

"Lilo & Stitch" is the
wildly funny and
touching story of a
lonely Hawaiian girl
and the fugitive alien
who helps to mend her
broken family.



## THE SALT PATH

DESTINATION inevitably awaits them.

FINAL DESTINATION BLOODLINES

MA | 1hr 50min

recurring violent night-

mare, a college student

the one person who can

returns home to find

break the cycle and

save her family from

the horrific fate that

~ Horror ~

Plagued by a

M | 1hr 55min

An honest and life-affirming true story of the healing power of the natural world.

## MORUYA MAIL

"Free local news for Moruya & the Eurobodalla"

**ALSO SCREENING** 



THE SURFER MA | 1hr 43min ~ Thriller~

FOR MORE
INFORMATION
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GO TO OUR WEBSITE
or use our QR code



ALSO SCREENING - THUNDERBOLTS/ A MINECRAFT MOV-IE/ CLOWN IN A CORNFIELD/ THE ACCOUNTANT 2/

5th JUNE - KARATE KIDS:LEGENDS

# Tension Neck Syndrome

National Spinal Health Week with the Australian Chiropractors Association (ACA) releasing new national data revealing that Tech Neck - often known as Tension Neck Syndrome - is now a serious public health concern.

Women and young people are the most affected, with 68% of women and 60% of men reporting symptoms linked to screen time, poor posture, and non-ergonomic device use - technology really is a pain in the neck, especially for women, but there are simple adjustments users can make to minimise the physical impact of device use.

#### **Key Findings**

- 1. 85% of women who don't take tech breaks experience neck pain (vs 61% who do break)
- 80% of smartphone users who rarely take breaks whilst using their device suffer neck pain compared to 60% of users who took regular breaks.
- 78% of respondents take over the counter pain relief and 47% prescription medication to treat neck pain.
- 73% of women aged 31–40 report neck pain the most affected group
- 70% of neck pain sufferers reported neck pain impeded their movement or daily activities.
- 64% of Aussies experienced neck pain 68% of women and 60% of men
- 71% of full-time students reported neck pain with female students 63% more likely to experience neck pain than male students (81.8% v 50%).
- Sedentary female workers experienced the highest rate of neck pain and were 22% more likely to experience neck pain than men (71.7% v 59%).
- Male gamers who had regular breaks reported 33% less neck pain than gamers who never took breaks.
- Female laptop users who stretched/took a break every 2 hours were 24% less likely to experience neck pain than women who only stretched or took a break when they were in physical pain (69.6% vs 86.1
- 71% of Workers undertaking 'repetitive movements' and 'pulling/pushing' reported highest incidence of neck pain
- 34% of ACA Chiropractors reported a "significant increase" in tech neck of teens, and 29% in children since COVID-19.
- A Deloitte Access Economics report found MSDs including tech neck, cost our economy over \$55 billion annually through direct health costs, lost productivity and reduced quality of life, making the burden on Australians and our economy significant.

Spinal Health Week (26 May – 1 June) aims to shine a light on Tech Neck and help Australians protect their posture and health in a tech-heavy world.

#### New EV fast chargers on the way for Monaro

NSW is rapidly rolling out more EV chargers, with the Minns Labor Government investing another \$16.1 million to install 246 fast and ultra-fast EV chargers across the state. This latest round of grant funding is boosted by private investment that will see a total of \$41.2 million to roll-out the new charging ports, which will all be powered by renewable energy.

The Minns Labor Government is delivering on its commitment to increase the number of EV chargers across the state, to help households and businesses reduce their day-to-day costs and take NSW closer to our legislated Net Zero targets. "I'm pleased to say that Monaro is going to be receiving three of these new EV fast chargers. These cutting-edge chargers allow drivers to replenish 70% of their batteries in only 10-15 minutes, meaning less time off the road, and more time enjoying your trip. Queanbeyan, Jerrabomberra, and Jindabyne will all be receiving a charger meaning 3 of the 246 new chargers will be in Monaro. "Additionally, all these chargers will be located at are pull-through charging bays, meaning people towing a caravan, trailer, or boat will have ease of access when topping up for their road trip."



**BOOK A TECH TALK** 

FOR YOUR CLUB OR COMMUNITY GROUP

2025 <

Trish Pye Digital Literacy Trainer Phone: 1300 366 802

Email: admin@theTecExec.com.au

# FREE community services tour

Eurobodalla Jobs and Training asks: Have you ever wanted to learn what it's like to be an aged care, disability, or childcare worker? Join our free tour and find out!

get a behind the scenes sneak peak of how aged care and disability services operate

bring your resume on the day or learn how to apply for jobs in aged care, disability and after school childcare job vacancies include care work, disability support, hospitality, after school and vacation care and laundry services

we'll be visiting Yumaro, The Glen Residential Care Service and Eurobodalla Council's Batemans Bay OOSH (after school childcare) you'll also learn about local training options at TAFE NSW

FREE bus pick up in Batemans Bay, Mogo and Moruya and catering for lunch is provided

This event will suit people looking to understand the different roles and career pathways in community services.

Event deets:

Thursday 5 June, 9am - 3.30pm Register here:

https://tinyurl.com/59jx64kc

This event is run in partnership with Get a Job South Coast and Workforce Australia Local Jobs. Pic below of our attendees at last years event.

Eurobodalla Orchid Club

# Winter Orchid Show

Friday July 11<sup>th</sup> 9am to 4pm

Saturday July 12<sup>th</sup> 9am to 2pm

Free Entry

CWA Rooms Queen Street Moruya Plants for sale,

Raffle and posies for sale



# Bay Brew Barn

# HOME BREW supplies

Supplying Home brew equipment, Coopers and Morgans, Wort kits, Spirit Essences and more.

Find us at Bay Pool Supplies

BAY POOL SERVICES

Unit 4/7 Cranbrook Rd, Batemans Bay

baypoolservices@outlook.com

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



#### All Abilities Dinner Dance

Adults living with disability in Eurobodalla are invited to a free dinner dance at Moruya in June. It's a community celebration where music and movement bring us together in friendship and connection.

We'd love to see you bring along a family member or your support person. Dinner, music and a photo booth are included in your free ticket. Drinks can be purchased separately at the bar.

www.esc.nsw.gov.au council@esc.nsw.gov.au 4474 1000

#### Event details

When Wednesday 4 June 2025 5.30 to 8.30pm

Where Moruya Golf Club, Evans Street Moruya (Chinese cuisine)

Cost Free with a confirmed booking

RSVP Bookings essential for all guests and support people. (Limited tickets available).

For bookings please contact:

Rhonnie South on 4474 1296 or rhonnie south@esc.nsw.gov.au





Moruya Food Run delivers a bag of meat and veggies to families every Monday. SHASA are currently accepting referrals from welfare agencies for new clients.

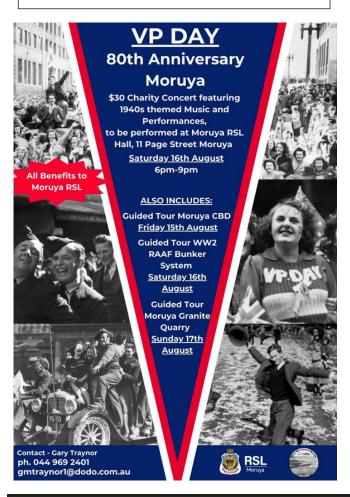




For more information email SHASA at contact.shasa@gmail.com

DONATIONS OF FOOD ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

# NRL OR AFL OR BOTH? **JUST \$2 A WEEK**











Info@holdfastdistillery.com.au

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#### Page 27 28th May 2025

#### **2025 Diary Dates**

- 28th May 3rd June Reconciliation Week
- 16th 22nd June Refugee Week
- 20 June to 20 July Fungi Feastival
- 6th 12th July NAIDOC Week
- 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
- 22 Nov Giiyong Festival
- 13 March 2027 NSW State Election

#### FREE LEGAL ADVICE APPOINTMENTS

A solicitor from South Coast and Country Community Law will be visiting your area for in person legal appointments. Where: Court House Arcade, 62-64 Vulcan Street, Moruya

When: Thursday 29th May 2025 9:30am to 2pm

Appointments are essential – please call 1800 229 529 What problems can South Coast and Country Community Law help with?

Free telephone advice and information is available by appointment only. Appointments can be in person or by phone. To book an appointment, call 1800 229 529. Staff will complete an intake, and a solicitor will see you or call you back at your scheduled appointment



Eurobodalla Amateur Beekeepers Club Inc. Varroa mite has spread across the whole Eurobodalla Shire — and our bees URGENTLY need your help! This tiny parasite is deadly to honey bees and has now been detected in every part of our shire. Without urgent action, local hives will suffer — and with them, our environment and backyard gardens.

We're fundraising for a Varroa Controller — A CHEMICAL

FREE, heat-based device to help local beekeepers treat hives and save bees. It will be available for all members to use and will support education and early intervention. If you love local honey and bees in your garden, now's the time to act. Please donate or share this campaign today:

https://www.gofundme.com/.../Eurobodalla-beekeepers-need...

#### 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).



#### **Tuross Community Markets**

held every 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month.

#### The Red Door Cafe

Offers freshly prepared meals at no cost or by donation if possible. Everyone is welcome. The Red Door Cafe operates every Tuesday from Midday to 1.30pm. So, pop along and enjoy a delicious home cooked lunch.

#### Have you received your Fire to Flourish

#### <u>Eurobodalla</u> household survey?

Come along to one of our upcoming community survey days to complete the survey, with support available if needed:

Thursday 29 May (10am - 1pm) - Moruya Library

Thursday 29 May (2-5pm) - Nárooma Library Friday 30 May (10am-1pm) - Batemans Bay Library

Alternatively, please visit our website

https://firetoflourish.monash/.../community-health-and...

More info on events:

Moruya Community Survey Day: <a href="https://fb.me/e/2WAHoeV2W">https://fb.me/e/2WAHoeV2W</a> Narooma Community Survey Day: https://fb.me/e/2Y60pcTz5 Batemans Bay Community Survey Day: https://fb.me/e/5DnJ1yYuP

# Batemans Bay Men's Shed Sale Super clearance sale on the 7th June 2025.

Between 8.30 am and 12.00 pm. Heaps of items for sale no reasonable offers will be refused.

You can find us at David St Batehaven behind St Bernards church.



#### Sharks celebrate Centenary

Calling all past and present Moruya Sharks Players, Coaches and Supporters of our club!

The TICKET SALES NOW OPEN to our 100 year formal celebration! You will need to get in quick as there is strictly limited tickets to our "MSRLFC Celebrating 100 years" formal event! (ticket sales close on Friday

You can purchase tickets via the link below or the link in the comments, or simply search "Moruya Sharks" on the try booking website and follow the prompts! https://www.trybooking.com/DBROE

#### 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.



#### 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

## ADVERTISE YOUR GARAGE SALE FOR FREE

Not everyone is on the socials. Email hello@moruyamail.com.au



# Personalised Gifts



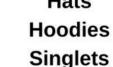


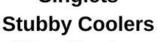
Drink Bottle Coffee Mugs Wine Cup Flask Tumblers

**Toddler Drink Bottles** 









Wine Coolers

Mouse Mats

Coasters

**Cheese Boards** 

**Tea Towels** 

**Tote Bags** 

**Travel Mugs** 

Wallets

Masks

Dog Coller

Dog Tag









COASTAL STATIONERY SHOP 10/65 QUEEN ST MORUYA

# Moruya Women's Golf

Moruya lady golfers took to the fairways on Wednesday 21st May for the final round of the Ladies

Championships for 2025. The weather just held out long enough for the field to finish the final day of 3 Stroke rounds to complete this years' event. Winner of the daily event was Colette Blacklock with a 65 Nett, followed by Jenny Ellis with a 75 Nett. Balls went to Val Moore, Jan Lumsden, Shirley Noy and Christine Quick.

Championship results:
Ladies Club Champion
Colette Blacklock
A Grade Gross - Jenny Ellis
A Grade Nett - Robyn
Hawkins
B Grade Gross - Angie
McMillan

B Grade Nett - Val Moore C Grade Gross - Arthean McBride

C Grade Nett - Shirley Noy"



Colette Blacklock - Club Champion

## Malua Bay Stingrays Women's Bowls.

Gayl started off proceedings with a Tribute to Bess Holloway who passed away on the weekend. Bess was generous and kindhearted, a former ladies President and a special friend. Farewell and thanks to lan Whybrow for the time he has spent with us as Bowls Coordinator. Best Wishes for the future in Wagga. Another farewell, to Ash Bruest our popular Barista wishing you well in whatever you choose to do.

choose to do.
To Stuart Megee as he takes up
position as Greenkeeper at Club
Bodalla we wish you all the best.
Winners Rink 6, Judy Davis, Karen
Signor and Lyn Hardy. (Photo)
Runners-up Rink 2, Julie Knorpp
and Michelle Weekes.
Third Rink 4, Di MacPherson,
Patricia Weekes and Jan Shalders.
Ian organised a Spider at the end
of the day with final winner Patricia
Weekes. Money Club, 2 Patricia
Weekes, 44 Kim Giannasca.



Judy Davis, Karen Signor and Lyn Hardy

## Tomakin Twist Tops Bowls Report.

What a beautiful warm sunny morning for 30 Twisties after all the rain during the week. Lovely to have visitors Patricia, Brooke and Dan to share time bowling with us. President Steve Hogan welcomed everyone reminding us that AGM will be held on Sunday 6th July and our committée will be retiring. Please think about nominating for these positions. Jennie Steve and our committee have done such a wonderful job over many years. Winners with Least Winning Ends. Bob the Builder and Witto. Runners-up, Dan and Ute. (Photo) Witto selected Rink 4 to try for Jackpot of \$140. Losing Skip Chanty cut cards but no luck finding Joker. Lucky numbers, 19

Witto, 7 Ute in the money

today girls!



Bob the Builder and Witto. Runners-up, Dan and Ute

Winning teams, Susy Q and Hoges. R&R with J.H. Trish the Dish & Kaz. Brooke, Lozza and Moby Dick. Doc and Magpie. HotLips & Pat. Foxy and Chocolate.





find us at the MORUYA COUNTRY MARKETS on Saturday mornings

find us at our shop Monday to Friday

nuts roasted daily

baynuts.com.au



Shop 8 CitiCentre Arcade, 10 Orient St Batemans Bay NSW 2536 0417 438 899

# Moruya Mail Sport

# Tackle World Moruya Fishing Report

Moruya River.

While the weekend forecast is looking better than what we have had for the last several days, the rain that has fallen will affect the fishing. We can expect the river to be less than ideal this weekend. Fishing towards the front of the system and deep is going to be the best approach. With the fresh that has fallen being less dense than salt water, the layer of fresh sits on top of the salt, this pushes everything that lives in the salt into the deeper holes or out of the rivers themselves.

The lower sections around the spur wall and Preddy's wharf will be the best options if you are looking to find fish this weekend.

Oily baits will be the best option, with tuna fillet or mullet fillet the go to options. Don't be afraid to add some scent to your baits, S-Factor, Pro Cure or the Gulp gels aren't only for soft plastics!

#### Tuross River.

This system will be having the same issues as Moruya this weekend. The holes in front of the boat sheds and in front of 4 ways, will be you better locations to try. Burley is a great option to draw fish to you when the water is dirty. Weight your burly pot so the trail is down low under the layer of fresh, to help bring fish to you. Again oily baits will be the better preforming options.

This weekend will be hard to find fish, but for those that persevere, and think out side the box a bit, there are fish to be found.

#### Rock and beach.

A ENE swell this weekend is going to make fishing the rock ledges a bit difficult. The swell will be dropping from todays high of around 4m to around 2m by Sunday, but care will need to be taken if a session from the stones was on your to do list this weekend. Please be safe, as no fish is worth dying for.

There should be a better than average chance at good numbers of fish off the breakwall this weekend. The fresh of the last few days will be pushing fish out of the system onto the beaches, they all have to pass by the breakwall to get there. Now is a good time to look for a mulloway or even a shark.

#### Offshore.

With 4m of ENE swell today dropping to 2m by Sunday, the bar crossing is not for the inexperienced this weekend. Please stay in the river if you are not familiar with the Moruya bar this weekend, it can be very dangerous in these conditions. The bar cam is a great resource to check before getting your boat in the water. For those that are heading out, the snapper will be actively feeding after the 4m of swell today, they do enjoy a bit of a stir up. 40m of water is a good place to start looking, but please be careful.

The bait freezer was restocked this week, the usual suspects are still a no show, mullet fillet, hawksbury prawns and white bait are all not available right now. Our weekly special is as follows,

20% off RRP on all tools this week. That includes, pliers, knives, scalers, lipgrips, scales and cutters. So if you are looking to replace lost or worn out tools, this is the week to do so.

Stay safe everyone and remember, "Every day's a good day for fishing..." **Team Tackle World Moruya.** 







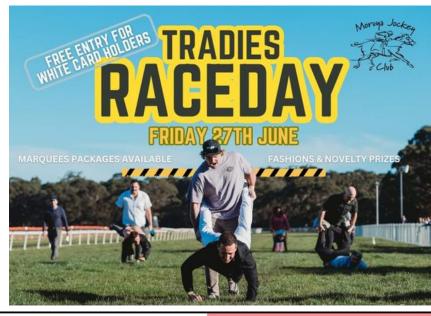














#### Ride on in to Mogendoura Farm

Three top quality, self catered, two-bedroom brick cottages with combustion fires, separate laundry and toilet, shower with bath, open planned kitchen dining and living, with a playground and communal barbeque.

Sleeps six people comfortably. All three sleep 18 people.

The beautiful 220 acre property enjoys 2km riverfront and nestles between the Moruya River and Mogendoura Creek.

Mogendoura Farm is an ideal place to

escape from the stress of a busy life.

The perfect get away!



15 minutes from Mogo Trails



# Ross Galvin off to the World Dragon Boat Racing Championships

Moruya will be represented at the 17th IDBF World Dragon Boat Racing Championships in Brandenburg, Germany, with local paddler from the Nature Coast Moruya club, Ross Galvin, being selected, joining paddlers from all parts of Australia.

This July the Australian Dragonboat Team, known as the Auroras, will proudly return to the International arena at the Championships in Brandenburg. With individual teams spanning all the age divisions, both men and women, the Auroras have cemented themselves as a powerhouse in the Dragonboat World. With 35 countries in attendance this will be the biggest world champs ever staged. Now they are ready to make Australia proud once again while motivating a new generation of paddlers to chase their dreams.

"It is an honour and a privilege to be selected for the Auroras and to compete at the highest level in our sport. Not only representing Australia but also representing the town of Moruya gives me immense pride. I will be doing my upmost best to put out performances that will make my family, my club and friends in Moruya proud," said Ross.

Since hearing of his successful bid for selection to the Auroras in November 2024, Ross has participated in a rigorous training schedule, often remotely, being from Moruya and some distance from the Hubs in the major cities and centres.

"It has been a bit of a slog keeping up with the requirements from the Aurora coaching staff but I wouldn't expect anything less when representing Australia. The support from my club, family and fellow paddlers have been fantastic" he said.

Dragon boating in Australia is a totally an amateur sport and the Auroras are entirely self-funded. To represent Australia on the international stage ADBNF rely on generous support via sponsorship and donations to offset the considerable costs.

"I knew from the outset that the cost of the 2025 campaign would be considerable, but unfortunately travel etc has gone through the roof and has added a fair bit of pressure on the budget" said Ross.

Fortunately, friends via the Adelaide Hotel in Moruya have come forward and are holding a fund-raising evening at the hotel to help Ross get to Germany. A trivia night with auction items is being held at the Adelaide on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> of June starting at around 5.30pm.

"I'm so appreciative to Matt from the Addie for offering to help me out. A great night should be had by all. Trivia is always a lot of fun and the communities' support for an Australian representative from our great little town will not go unnoticed" added Ross.

Please contact the Adelaide direct for more info. >>





# **ADELAIDE** Lunch and dinner HOTEL call 44 742 084 for bookings MORUYA 36 - 38 Vulcan Street, Moruya, ph 02 4474 2084

Where you're part of the family

