



Photo of the Week : Raymond Sillett captured these light beams at Coila Lake last week.

INSIDE THIS WEEK

- Heritage grants available now
- Paul Allard Fundraiser at the Moruya Waterfront Hotel
- Dance It Up! 50+
- Keeping Our Youth Alive on the Roads : RYDA
- Narooma Kinema launches mark centenary of Memorial Hall
- Another reason to get off the 'carbs' quick smart

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RAFFLES DRAWN - 7:30PM
BADGE DRAW - 6:30 PM & 8PM
JOKER JACKPOT - 8PM
SECOND CHANCE DRAW - 8:30PM

ESC AGENDA

Ordinary Meeting of Council 24 March 2026 COMMENCING AT 2pm

1. WELCOME
2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY
3. APOLOGIES Nil
4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING
- 4.1 Ordinary Meeting held on 24 February 2026
- 4.2 Extraordinary Meeting held on 10 March 2026
5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST OF MATTERS ON THE AGENDA (Declarations also to be made prior to discussions on each item)
6. MAYORAL MINUTES Nil
7. NOTICES OF MOTION NOM26/001 Creative Arts Advisory Committee
8. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE FROM COUNCILLORS
- QON26/002 Eurobodalla Animal Shelter and euthanasia rates
9. PETITIONS Nil
10. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORTS GMR26/001 Joint Organisation Membership Review and Council Submission
11. PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT REPORTS
- PER26/006 Pedestrian Access - Carroll College
- PER26/004 Planning Proposal 25 - Rezoning of Land for Residential Purposes - Lot 189 DP 1027692; Lot 191 DP 1070903 and Lot 1 DP 1173641 Reservoir Road, Malua Bay
12. FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES REPORTS
- FCS26/007 Acquisition of land - Wharf Road North Batemans Bay
- FCS26/008 Investments made as at 28 February 2026
13. INFRASTRUCTURE REPORTS
- IR26/003 Local Transport Forum No.6 for 2025-26
14. COMMUNITY, ARTS AND RECREATION REPORTS Nil
15. DELEGATE REPORT Nil
16. URGENT BUSINESS
17. DEALING WITH MATTERS IN CLOSED SESSION
18. CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

Heritage grants available now

Owners of eligible heritage properties or objects in Eurobodalla can apply for grants of up to \$5,000, helping them restore places or items. As part of its commitment to heritage conservation, Eurobodalla Council's Local Heritage Grants program supports projects that enhance individual items or buildings, or promote the appreciation of Eurobodalla's history. Successful applicants will need to contribute on a dollar-for-dollar basis and finish their project before 30 April 2026. Visit Council's [grant opportunities webpage](#) for guidelines and application form - with applications open until 2pm on Friday 4 July. For more information contact Councils heritage officer on 4474 1226.



South Cross replica Visit

Sunday 22 March - The Southern Cross, which is the replica of Kingsford Smith's plane from the 1930s, will visit Moruya for refueling, on its way back from Cooma to Wollongong HARS Museum, ([Historical Aircraft Restoration Society](#)) an Australian volunteer organisation and museum located at Shellharbour Airport. The plane has been to a memorial for the 95th anniversary of its sister aircraft Southern Cloud that crashed in the Snowy Mountains in 1930. As a result of that crash, it became compulsory for passenger aircraft to have a radio. It will land at Moruya and taxi up to the fuel bowser near the terminal about 10am on Sunday.

What's On at the libraries

Books to movies screening - Batemans Bay Thursday 19 March 2026 2pm - 4pm

Where: Batemans Bay Library, Hanging Rock Place, Cost: free.

Join us for the launch of our book-to-movie screening series. We'll be screening iconic films that have been adapted from books. Set against the turmoil of the Russian Revolution, Yuri Zhivago is a young doctor whose life is shaped by love, loss, and duty. Though married to his cousin Tonya, Yuri's enduring passion for the captivating Lara reignites when their paths cross again years later. Places are limited, please book early online or contact your local library for assistance. T: 4472 5850 E: [Batemans Bay Library](#) W: [Book online](#)

Celebrating the legacy of Archie Roach and Ruby Hunter - Moruya Thursday 26 March 2026 5:30pm - 7:30pm

Where: Moruya Library, Vulcan Street, Moruya Cost: free Join us at Moruya Library to celebrate the music and stories of indigenous Australian musicians Archie Roach and Ruby Hunter. This award-winning film tells Archie and Ruby's love story, explores their trauma as members of the stolen generations, centering on their 2004 concert Kura Tungar: Songs from the River. Places are limited, please book early online or contact your local library for assistance. T: 4474 1333 E: [Moruya Library](#) W: [Book online](#)

Poetry workshop with Dakota Feirer - Moruya Saturday 28 March 2026 10am - 12pm Cost: \$10 per person.

Join black&write! Writing Fellowship winner Dakota Feirer for a reflective and inspiring poetry workshop. This two-hour workshop will include opportunities to reflect, strengthen and expand your understanding of culture, Country, healing and custodianship as well as: connect to Country through poetry work collaboratively in a safe and supported LGBTQ+ and ally-friendly space learn, develop and refine a range of creative writing and poetic techniques listen and share poetry. Please bring along your preferred writing materials. Light refreshments will be served. If you identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, this workshop is free. However, you still need to book a ticket as spaces are limited.

Places are limited, please book early online or contact your local library for assistance. T: 4474 1333 E: [Moruya Library](#) W: [Book online](#)

Saturday matinee movie - Moruya

Saturday 28 March 2026 1:30pm - 3:30pm

Cost: free Join us for our Saturday matinee screening of this classy murder mystery, starring Joan Crawford and Jack Carson. Based on a novel by James M. Cain, this film is set during the Great Depression and follows Mildred, a determined housewife who has divorced her unfaithful husband and works as a waitress to support her family. She finds success, but obsessive love leads to ruin and betrayal.

Enjoy the film, light refreshments, and a chat afterwards. Due to licensing restrictions, we cannot advertise the movie name. Ask our friendly library staff for more information. Moruya Library closes at 12.30pm on Saturdays. Access to the Moruya Library & Arts Centre (BAS) is via the public car park at the back of the library, off Murray Street. There is ramp access from the car park to the entry.

Places are limited for this event. To avoid disappointment, please book early online or contact your local library for assistance. T: 4474 1333 E: [Moruya Library](#) W: [Book online](#)

mm MORUYA MAIL

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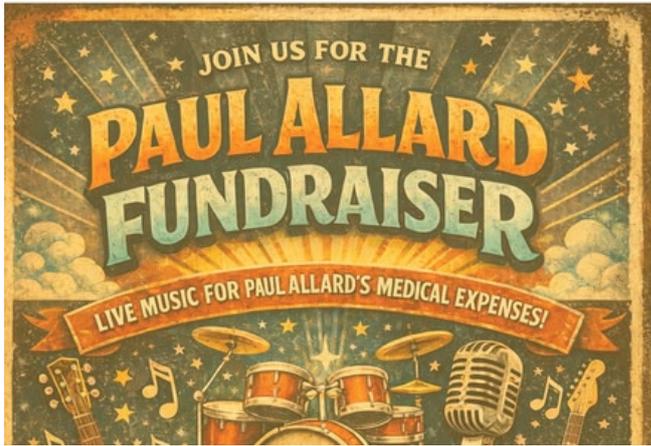
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Paul Allard Fundraiser at the Moruya Waterfront Hotel



Popular Moruya truck driver Paul Allard has had a bit of bad luck so his friends and family will be banding together to run a musical fundraiser for him at the **Moruya Waterfront Hotel at 1pm on Sunday, 22 March.**

The highlight of the day will be local band Driving Sideways featuring Stan Culic on bass, Dave Berry on guitar and vocals, Billy Stait on guitar and vocals plus Pev on drums and vocals. The band has been kicking many goals lately with regular gigs at both Catalina and Soldiers Clubs in Batemans Bay plus outings to Club Narooma, Bermagui Club, Merimbula RSL Club and Longstocking Brewery in Pambula to the south.

Additional entertainment will be provided by Tim McMahon, DJ You're Welcome, Davey Hilder and Graham and Michelle Scobie who are neighbours and friends of Paul and Rhonda Allard.

Paul was born in Moruya Hospital on 22 Nov 1964 and is allegedly named after the doctor that brought him into the world, Paul Bannon. He went to school in Batemans Bay, Eden and Moruya before leaving prior to the age of 15 to work in the bush with his uncle Laurie. He met the love of his life, Rhonda Steane, and they married in 1995. Two kids were born, firstly Natalie and then Daniel who unfortunately lost his battle with cancer in 2018.

Paul has had a number of jobs in his life including logger, sawmill worker and truck driver, including on the construction of the Batemans Bay bridge. Although he only turned 61 in November last year, with plenty of good working years ahead of him, Paul suffered a stroke and has been in rehab in Canberra for the past three months, with his wife Rhonda constantly by his side. She has had to put her work on hold so the family has had limited income during that time. Paul returned to Moruya Hospital rehab unit last week and is hoping to be allowed to attend the event held in his honour.

Entry to the fundraiser is \$10 at the door but if you are unable to be there in person you can contribute to the Go Fund Me page that has been set up to assist Paul and Rhonda to cover expenses.

Contributed by Graham Scobie



Join us as we host a local açai van in our office car park! Fresh açai bowls will be **available to purchase**, so you can treat yourself while supporting a local vendor.

This occasion ties in with Epilepsy Awareness Day.. Whether you're grabbing breakfast, taking a lunch break, or just curious to learn more about epilepsy (or WithNot4), come down, say hello, and enjoy some açai

See you there!

 **26 March 2026**

 The Acai van will be at WithNot4 from **10am - 3pm**

 **14 Page Street, Moruya**



Dance It Up! 50+ ... A Hit at Bay Pavilions



By John Longhurst

For the past three years a regular Wednesday dance class has been delivering physical, emotional and mental wellbeing to over fifty year olds. The classes are run by Elise May MA (Research) BFA who is a dancer, choreographer and teacher with 25 years experience. Elise performed independently in Australia and overseas with Expressions Dance Company and became Assistant Artistic Director to Natalie Weir. She is the founder of Wellbeing In Motion offering adult dance classes in Batemans Bay and was recently profiled by the Moruya Mail*.

Elise said “The classes develop strength, stamina and cardiovascular health and muscle tone as well as increasing flexibility and range of motion. There is also a focus on posture, stability, balance, mobility and coordination. An added benefit of regular attendance is cognitive stimulation, through memory recall, creativity and imagination.” Not surprisingly, the classes improve self-esteem, confidence, motivation and physical empowerment.

Elise said “Classes explore a range of dance styles including Ballet, Bollywood, Contemporary, Salsa and Latin Dance using accessible, expressive movement set to uplifting music.”

Laura Blake from Surf Beach has been a regular attendee over the past three years.

Laura said “The classes provide a connection to our inner child and a feeling that can only be described as joy. It is a great neurological workout for our age group with Elise providing specific moves to challenge the brain. It provides an avenue for pure “fun” and often provokes spontaneous laughter. In addition Elise’s music is varied and fabulous - we all just love the whole experience.”

The classes are very popular with up to 20 people in regular attendance. The classes take place in brand new purpose built dance studios at the 'BAY PAVILIONS' Venue within the new Art and Theatre facility. The dance studio is fully equipped with air-conditioning, 112 square meters of floor space, full length mirrors, ballet barrés and a sprung wooden floor that meets dance industry standards.

Elise said “It is a perfect new state-of-the-art venue to host our exciting program of dance classes for adults.”

In 2022 Elise successfully applied for a Staying Active NSW Government grant to conduct the classes ensuring the cost is affordable for attendees and the classes have continued since then, due to popular demand. Classes are conducted Wednesdays 10:00 – 11:00am. Cost is \$15 per class (cash or card in person, or via booking link). Bay Pavilions Arts + Aquatic CentreDance / Rehearsal Studio.

* <https://moruyamail.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/MM115-20260225-min.pdf>

Who Let the Boats Out 2026
See NSW SES in action

Saturday 21 March - 7:30am-11am
Moruya Boat Ramp
Riverside Park, Ford Street
Moruya

See our skilled boat operators and flood rescue crews in action as they take on real-world scenarios during the exercise.

Discover how your skills and passion can make a real impact in your community as an NSW SES volunteer.

Chat with our team and learn practical ways to get your home and family ready for floods, storms and tsunamis.

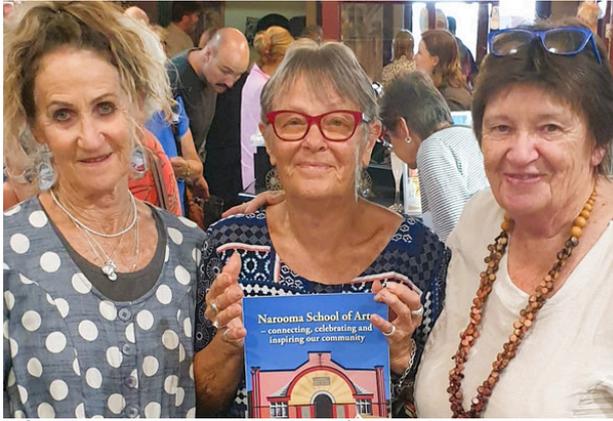


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Narooma Kinema launches mark centenary of Memorial Hall



NSoA President Jenni Bourke, left, launched the book - *Narooma School of Arts - connecting, celebrating and inspiring our community - a centenary project by Narooma Historical Society*. With her are the Society's Vice President Gero Mitchell and President Laurelle Pacey.



Celebrating the official launch of the Centenary of the Memorial Hall film is Murray van der Veer of Moving Pictures, left, Narooma IMB Branch Manager Ange O'Brien, Narooma School of Art President Jenni Bourke and Danielle Griffin of the NSoA Grants Subcommittee.

Good memories flowed at the initial celebration of the centenary of Narooma's Memorial Hall, operating as the Kinema, with two launches at the Kinema on Tuesday (3 March).

One was an emotive short film *Narooma celebrates the Hall centenary* that outlined 100 years of the Memorial Hall being at the heart of Narooma's community.

The other was the launch of a book detailing Narooma School of Arts' history which pre-dates the Memorial Hall by 30 years.

The Hall and the adjoining Narooma Arts Centre currently under construction are owned by this community and held and managed on the community's behalf by Narooma School of Arts (NSoA).

The NSoA commissioned the extraordinary 3½-minute film by Murray van der Veer of Moving Pictures which was proudly supported by the IMB Bank Community Foundation.

The film is being shown every day in the Kinema before each feature film over several months.

'What's so extraordinary is that Murray has animated still photos to create the movie that shows the Hall's significance to our community over many years,' said NSoA President Jenni Bourke. 'You can't help but be moved by it; young and old are surprised at what they learn.'

The book by local historian Laurelle Pacey was a Narooma Historical Society project for the Memorial Hall's Centenary. In launching the book, Mrs Bourke said, 'It gives great insight into how our community has worked together through the years to provide a place for everyone including visitors to gather, enjoy, be involved in and support. Laurelle's love for this area and its people brings home the importance of community.'

The book *Narooma School of Arts - connecting, celebrating and inspiring our community* - is on sale at the Kinema and The Hub (in the former Visitors' Centre) for \$35.

More centenary events will follow in coming months.



Be/Longing

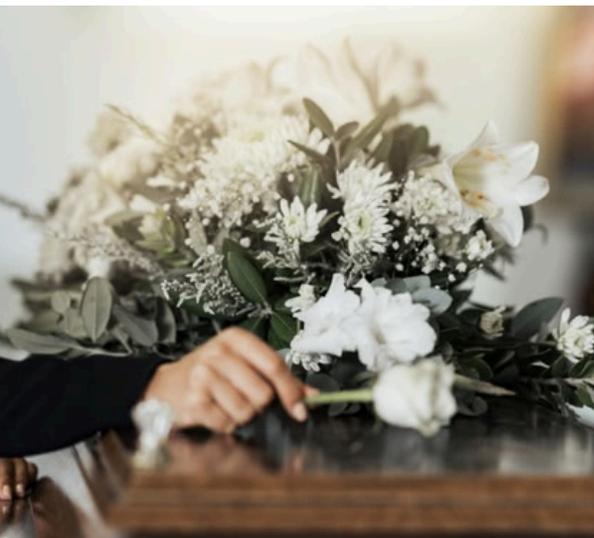
Applications now open

The Narooma School of Arts is proud to announce **Be/Longing**, the inaugural exhibition for the new Narooma Arts Centre.

We invite artists working in any medium to submit a work for consideration.

Submissions Open: Friday 27 February 2026

Submission Close: Friday 24 April 2026



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Oil wars drive energy and cost-of-living shocks, and climate change will make it worse, say former defence leaders.

Only an end to fossil fuel use can stop this economic and security threat. **The Australian Security Leaders Climate Group** (ASLCG) has called on the Australian government to heed the warning from the Persian Gulf war and oil crisis, and plan an energy transition to stop the economic and security threats of oil dependency.

The group warns that wars and geopolitical conflict have historically triggered severe global oil price shocks, and Australia’s reliance on imported oil means those shocks rapidly translate into economic stress for Australian households and businesses, and impact security planning.

Air Vice-Marshal John Blackburn AO (Retd), a leading expert in energy security, warns: “Australia’s heavy reliance on foreign oil, and fertiliser prices governed by the global gas market, leaves us dangerously exposed to global disruption and supply-chain crises.”

“Middle East conflicts drive energy shocks,” says Blackburn. “Wars In 1956, 1967 and 1973, and involving Iraq and Iran from 1979 to 1991, caused energy crises and price shocks. In Australia, that shock is made worse by our dependence on imported oil, and on gas sold at world prices.”

“A sustained closure of the Strait of Hormuz would severely interrupt petrochemical feedstocks fundamental to apparel and fertilizer production, copper and nickel mining and microchip manufacture. Food prices and transport costs would skyrocketed, triggering economic recession or worse.”

Admiral Chris Barrie, former Chief of the Defence Force, adds: “The intersection of climate change and security demands immediate action. Our future stability depends on a rapid shift to clean, domestic energy.”

“Global warming has already driven food shortages, social conflict and war in the Middle East and North Africa, including Syria, the Arab Spring, and across the Sahel. From a security perspective, global warming means increasing conflicts over water and food and resources, resulting in social breakdown, war and more severe fossil-fuel energy crises. Climate change is affecting human security across the Middle East.”

The security leaders say Australia needs a comprehensive climate and energy security plan because fossil-fuel energy dependence is a national security threat. Only by replacing fossil fuels with clean, renewable wind, solar, batteries, hydro, and geo-thermal energy, along with cleaner renewable fuels produced in Australia, can we help the world avoid both instability and conflict driven by unlivable heat and declining crop yields, and at the same time avoid more severe energy price shocks and the economic disruption they cause.

The ASLCG has released an Open Letter, published in national media, urging the Australian Government to treat fossil-fuel dependency as a national security risk and accelerate Australia’s transition to renewable energy and electrified transport.

\$100 million to back First Nations vocational education and training in NSW

First Nations students across New South Wales will soon benefit from expanded access to Vocational Education and Training (VET) support under a \$100 million joint investment by the Albanese and Minns Labor Governments in partnership with Aboriginal training and community organisations.

This investment, announced in Sydney today by **Minister Giles and Minister Whan**, will help students stay engaged in training and improve pathways into jobs and further study.

It will also deliver mentoring, wellbeing services, and outreach support for students to ensure they are supported across New South Wales, whether this be in the cities, the regions or remote parts of the state.

The funding will strengthen the work of Aboriginal Community Controlled and First Nations-owned training organisations, grow the First Nations VET workforce to teach more students, and improve knowledge across the system.

The investment delivers the second and final stage of the NSW Closing the Gap Bilateral Implementation Plan under the \$30 billion National Skills Agreement, a landmark five-year agreement between the Albanese Government and state and territory governments.

The Albanese and Minns Labor Governments will each contribute \$50 million to activities under the plan:

· \$83.4 million to strengthen Aboriginal Community Controlled and First Nations-owned training organisations, including:

- o \$42 million to improve training quality, student supports, governance, compliance and outreach roles
- o \$36.4 million for an innovation fund to support outreach training delivered in local communities
- o \$5 million for Aboriginal-led research and evaluation, embedding Aboriginal led methodologies, to strengthen self-determination, accountability and continuous improvement.

· \$9 million to support and expand collaboration between Aboriginal Community Controlled Registered Training Organisations and the NSW Aboriginal Education Consultative Group through dedicated on the ground resources to strengthen the partnership capacity of the Aboriginal Community Controlled training sector in NSW.

· \$7.6 million to grow the First Nations VET teaching workforce and improve knowledge across mainstream training providers, ensuring VET trainers have the capacity and expertise to support the community.

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AUTHORISED BY FIONA PHILLIPS MP, ALP, 3/59 JUNCTION ST, NOWRA NSW 2541



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Keeping Our Youth Alive on the Roads : RYDA



For more than 16 years, Year 11 students from schools across Eurobodalla have participated in a full-day Rotary Youth Driver Awareness (RYDA) program designed to prepare young people for safer driving.

Held annually at the Moruya Jockey Club since 2008, with the exception of the COVID years, RYDA this year will welcome 330, Year 11 students from all the five Eurobodalla Shire high schools on either Monday 23 March or Tuesday 24 March.

Now in its 17th year, the program is delivered as a joint initiative of the Rotary Clubs of Batemans Bay, Moruya and Narooma. Eurobodalla RYDA Coordinator Pam Williams of the Rotary Club of Batemans Bay said students will rotate through six professionally delivered sessions throughout the day.

“With support from expert presenters and NSW Police, students learn about the impact of speed on stopping distances, common driving distractions and hazards, the influence of attitude and mindset, the responsibilities of vehicle ownership and the real-life consequences of road trauma,” Ms Williams said.

Rotary volunteers accompany student groups and lunch is provided for all students, volunteers and presenters by the Rotary Club of Moruya.

“The aim of the day is simple - to save lives,” Ms Williams said.

“RYDA goes beyond teaching driving skills and focuses on awareness, decision-making and responsibility.”

Ms Williams, a RYDA presenter herself, noted that newly licensed drivers quickly become the highest-risk group on the road. “The moment young people receive their licence, their crash risk increases significantly. RYDA aims to challenge that trend by equipping them with the knowledge and mindset they need to make safer choices as a driver or a passenger.”

Arrangements have been made to ensure all Year 11 students in the Shire can attend on one of the two days. Parents are encouraged to confirm attendance with their child.

In 2026, 50,000 students across Australia and New Zealand are expected to participate in RYDA programs. Considered best practice in driver awareness education, RYDA has been delivered locally to more than 3,300 Eurobodalla students to date.

Rotary acknowledges the ongoing support of community and Rotary volunteers, presenters, school staff and partners. Coastal Auto Group provides a vehicle for the stopping-distance demonstration, NSW Police supply officers and a highway patrol vehicle and the Moruya Jockey Club continues to make its venue available free of charge.

Contributed by **Sofia Keady**

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Foundations laid for Batemans Bay Community Health facility

Construction of the new Batemans Bay Community Health project has reached a significant milestone with the major concrete pour completed, setting the foundations for the new health facility.

The **NSW Government** is investing \$20 million to deliver a modern and purpose-built community health service to support communities across the Batemans Bay area.

The new health facility will be located on the existing Batemans Bay Hospital site next to the Medicare Urgent Care Clinic, providing the community with convenient access to both health services.

Approximately 30 concrete trucks were used to deliver 200 cubic metres of concrete to the site to complete the pour, which paves the way for construction of the building's framework.

Batemans Bay Community Health Service will provide improved access to a range of health services in one location, including:

- Allied health services
- Child, youth and family services
- Women's health and sexual health services
- Community nursing, wound management
- Palliative care
- Aboriginal health services
- Alcohol and other drugs services
- Specialist outpatient clinics
- Pathology

Construction for the new health facility is expected to be completed in late 2026. Batemans Bay Hospital will continue to provide healthcare services for the community while the Batemans Bay Community Health and the new \$330 million Eurobodalla Regional Hospital are being built.

Every effort is being made to minimise disruption to residents, staff, patients and visitors.

The Minns Labor Government is also investing \$24 million to attract and retain healthcare workers in Southern NSW by delivering more key health worker housing. This investment is part of a broader \$200.1 million Key Health Worker Accommodation program that is delivering housing for staff across NSW.

To find out more visit

www.hinfra.health.nsw.gov.au/projects/project-search/batemans-bay-healthcare-facility

Community invited to help shape future health services on the Far South Coast

Southern NSW Local Health District is inviting the community to help shape the future of health services in the Bega Valley and Eurobodalla as work begins on new Clinical Services Plans for the Far South Coast. Chief Executive Margaret Bennett said the District wants to make it as easy as possible for people to get involved.

"There are lots of ways to have your say during the consultation sessions in March and April. You can speak with us at the markets, join a drop-in consultation session, complete our online survey, or send feedback by email or post.

"We recognise the community's investment in local health care and every contribution helps us plan safe, high quality care for the future."

Local Health Districts undertake Clinical Services Planning to guide the planning and development of healthcare services, to understand the unique challenges and health needs of communities, and to ensure they meet those needs into the future.

Ms Bennett said developing the Clinical Services Plans for Bega Valley and Eurobodalla at the same time will help create a stronger, more connected network of health services.

"Many health services already operate across multiple locations. Planning together helps us design care that works smoothly for patients, no matter where they live or receive treatment."

The planning work draws on population trends, health risk factors, service activity, patient flows and benchmarking, alongside close engagement with staff, community members and other stakeholders.

Ms Bennett said the new Eurobodalla Regional Hospital remains a key part of the region's future. She said detailed transition planning for the new hospital is already underway, but the Clinical Services Plans will add a broader and longer-term view of what services may look like in the future.

"The new Eurobodalla Regional Hospital is an important investment for the region. A lot of work is already happening to safely transition services into the new hospital. The Clinical Services Plans look beyond the opening of the new facility to help ensure health services across the whole Coastal Network grow in the right way, work well together and meet the future needs of our community," Ms Bennett said.

Clinical Services Plans are periodically updated to reflect any changes which may have occurred in a community or are projected to occur, or to better reflect any updated or new models of care.

Healthcare continues to evolve to improve outcomes, quality, experience and access. The Clinical Services Plans look at how changes such as virtual care, stronger primary care, shorter hospital stays, better integration across services, and more support for out of hospital care can improve the way we deliver our health services. The updated Plans may also help guide any future investment in health facilities across the region.

The District encourages all interested community members to attend a session, visit the market stall or share their insights online.

A community survey is also available as another channel for feedback and ideas.

Links to the survey and dates for upcoming face-to-face consultations can be found at <https://bit.ly/farsouthcoast>



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THE BINGIE POINT

Opinion by Cid Mateo



Another reason to get off the 'carbs' quick smart

Our addiction to hydrocarbons like petroleum and natural gas is killing us. It's making us hot, bothered and dumb. It's making our lives more expensive and miserable. Some will say, "it's too late, hydrocarbons deliver our food, and especially the far-away-produced, and the goods we consume". They will tell us our withdrawal symptoms from a 'high-carb diet' will be the end of us, our lifestyles and the end of the world, as we know it. I think we'll survive. The sun will come up each day, the moon will keep putting on a cracking show, and the tides and waves will be worth watching, catching, and fishing. We might even start laughing and talking to each other again.

Even if one doesn't believe in science, and heat waves are just 'hot air', a quick look at the reels shows us what carbs do to some people. Self-proclaimed global emperors, living in another world to us, brag and profiteer about more oil. When one called us "baby", he told us to "drill". If we'd taken notice, we may have made a 'motza'. This emperor's plan is there for all to see. Undermine and control two of the biggest global producers of petroleum, Venezuela, and Iran, profiteer on high oil prices, cause global chaos, greed, hoarding and cost of living pain for most of us, and make more 'motzas'.

A colleague once told me, if you want to understand who gains from human behaviour, "follow the money". The only people that are laughing at the moment, are the big oil companies like Exxon Mobil and Chevron, expected to make an extra \$60 billion in gross profit by the end of 2026 if the oil price stays at its current level (Tim Buckley, The New Daily, 17 March 2026). This is war profiteering while the rest of us pay the cost. Of course, the emperor is 'going for gold' and wants the oil price higher. More disrespect of us.

Now add US military companies, also known as defence contractors, all sitting on billions of dollars of weapons order backlog while agreeing to "quadruple production" of weapons with, you guessed it, public taxpayers money (Aljazeera, 9 March 2026). There is another emperor, called Vladimir, who is laughing too. The US-Israeli War on Iran is the biggest free kick to Russia's oil business since the start of Russia's War on Ukraine. Wars only 'make hay' for very few and make fools of the rest of us. This is not about the rights of Iranian citizens. The US has blown up their kids too. This is not about an oppressive regime. There are plenty worse around the world in Myanmar, Afghanistan, and Sudan for example. This is not about nuclear weapons. Israel is the only nuclear power in the Middle East. The US is the only nuclear power to have ever used a nuclear bomb. These emperors make the ayatollahs look like kindergarten cops. This is about money, greed, control and unrestricted power. The US 'emperor' and his family have made about USD\$4 billion in a little over a year (Wikipedia, Duckai). The Russian 'emperor' was reportedly worth USD\$200 billion in 2017 (Time Magazine, 26 February 2022).

Even in far away Australia, the US-Israeli War on Iran, and the War on Oil, is causing conniptions. Some people are hoarding fuel and unnecessarily increasing demand and petrol prices. Some politicians are supporting this behaviour, blaming Albo and Co for everything. They are misleading the public and creating fear. The media is addicted to fear, doom and gloom. The petrol hoarders, political blamers and miss-informers are not our friends. Their nonsense is only making things worse. Australia has about a month's worth of petroleum reserves. Thanks to Albo and Co. our reserves are in Australia, not Texas, like they were under the Libs and Nats under Angus and Barnaby. There's no need to panic. We've seen the hoarders before. Think loo-paper during COVID. Most of us survived. Many of us have rationed water before during a drought. Most of us have had to go without something at some point. It's not the end of the world.

We may not be able to "get off the carbs" and our addiction to petrol and gas overnight, but there's plenty we can do in the Eurobodalla. Some of us can cut out non-essential car, plane and recreational vehicle travel. Some can work from home. Some can use public transport. Some can stop hoarding fuel. Some can switch to a hybrid or electric vehicle or install solar panels. Some can eat more local seasonal produce. Some can reduce non-essential consumption. "Team Australia", you, me, and all of us, won't get far with a 'dog-eat-dog' attitude at the expense of others. We will get there by all chipping in and doing our bit to get off the 'carbs'.

COMMUNITY &
VOLUNTEER
EXPO 2026

BATEMANS BAY - MORUYA - NAROOMA
Sat 13th June Fri 12th June Sat 23rd June

REGISTER YOUR ORGANISATION

- Become a **stall holder** and connect with potential volunteers
- Be included on the **Community Directory** for increased visibility
- Join in our **workshops** specifically designed for your volunteering organisations and building your capacity!



Free!

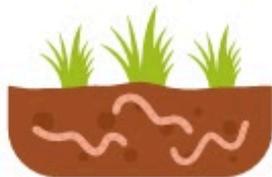
Home Composting & Worm Farming Workshops



Start or improve your home compost or worm farm this autumn with our free workshops. Receive a free starter kit to get you going!

Worm farming workshops:

- Friday 13 March, 9.30am – 11am
- Saturday 14 March, 9.30am – 11am
- Saturday 21 March, 9.30am – 11am



Composting workshops:

- Friday 13 March, 12pm – 1.30pm
- Saturday 14 March, 12pm – 1.30pm
- Saturday 21 March, 12pm – 1.30pm

Where: Moruya Waste Transfer Station, 21 Yarragee Road



Call or email Council's friendly waste services team:

4474 1024

council@esc.nsw.gov.au

Regional NSW events to receive \$1.5 million boost

The NSW Government is backing regional investment with a \$1.5 million injection for events across regional NSW through the Regional Event Fund for events held in the 2026/27 financial year.

From today, event organisers can apply for grants of up to \$50,000 to help deliver events that attract visitors, drive overnight stays, and boost local economies.

Managed by Destination NSW, the Regional Event Fund forms part of the NSW Government's plan to grow the NSW visitor economy by enabling communities to host events that reflect their local culture and create authentic experiences that drive visitation and generate expenditure for local businesses.

The latest Tourism Research Australia data shows regional NSW welcomed more than 15 million domestic and international visitors in the September 2025 quarter alone, injecting over \$6 billion into the regional visitor economy. A key strategy for continuing growth in regional tourism is supporting the array of events delivered in regional towns across the state.

Last year, the NSW Government released the NSW Visitor Economy Strategy 2035, outlining its ambition of \$91 billion in annual visitor expenditure by 2035. With almost half of this target (\$44 billion) expected to come from regional NSW, ongoing investment in events is essential to supporting growth of regional visitor economies and reaching the NSW Government's stretch goal.

The Regional Event Fund supports regional events through three funding streams:

- Incubator Event stream: New events in their first or second years can receive up to \$20,000 in seed funding to support activities that help establish an event as a key driver of visitation.
- Flagship Event stream: Emerging events that have been running for more than two years can receive \$20,000 grants to increase their profile and attract visitors. Events that have already received three annual grants will be eligible for grants of \$30,000 over three years.
- Event Development stream: Established events that have previously received and completed triennial funding through the Flagship Event stream can receive grants of up to \$50,000.

Applications for the Regional Event Fund 2026/27 open today and will close at midnight on Sunday 12 April 2026. All applications must be for eligible events that will be staged between 1 July 2026 and 30 June 2027.

For more information and to apply, visit www.destinationnsw.com.au/destination-nsw-business-support/grants-and-funding

Make the most of your land.

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nsw.gov.au/lls



CGT discount inquiry report demands bold action on housing

Everybody's Home, ACOSS, TUNSW, Better Renting

The Senate inquiry report into the capital gains tax discount adds to mounting evidence that the investor tax break is making Australia's housing crisis worse, with social housing advocates warning the federal government can not afford to delay reform.

The report handed down on Tuesday highlighted that the CGT discount, in combination with negative gearing, is driving up home prices and worsening inequality, while foregoing much-needed revenue that could fund social housing.

The report also included warnings against grandfathering and carving out exclusions for different assets in the reforms, which would worsen inequity and weaken the impact on housing affordability.

Last month, Everybody's Home analysis of organisation submissions to the inquiry found more than seven in 10 want the investor tax break to be abolished or reformed.

Around half of all organisation submissions supported or raised the idea of redirecting the billions in savings toward building affordable rentals.

Everybody's Home, Australian Council of Social Service, Tenants' Union of NSW and Better Renting said appetite for tax reform is growing and the government has no excuse not to act.

The groups are urging the government to wind back the capital gains tax discount and negative gearing, and use the billions in savings to build more public and community housing.

Everybody's Home spokesperson Maiy Azize said: "The government is losing billions every year by lining the pockets of investors. It's driving up the cost of housing and everyday Australians are paying the price.

"More and more Australians are crying out to end unfair investor tax handouts. Reform can no longer wait, and there will never be a better moment. The government has the numbers, the evidence, and the support of voters to be bold. Inaction will make housing even harder to afford and widen the gap between the rich and everyone else.

"These investor tax breaks are making the housing crisis worse. It's only fair they are scrapped and the billions saved are used to build rentals that Australians can actually afford and desperately need."

ACOSS CEO Cassandra Goldie said: "This inquiry has highlighted clear evidence that the CGT discount and negative gearing are driving up home prices and supercharging inequality, all at enormous damage to the community and to the budget.

"The federal government spends over \$20 billion each year on these tax breaks, which largely go to people on the highest incomes - while housing and financial stress worsen. That cannot be a fair or sensible use of public funds.

"With all the evidence before it, there is no excuse for the government to ignore the generational opportunity for reform in this budget. It must act to curb unfair tax arrangements like the CGT discount, negative gearing, and discretionary trusts, and invest the savings in essential services and supports like boosting social housing and income support."

Tenants' Union of NSW CEO Leo Patterson Ross said: "These proposed reforms are long overdue and a correction to an approach to owning property that is closer to gambling than keeping Australians safe in their homes. We have seen first hand the inequality of our housing system and the negative impact the capital gains tax discount has on housing affordability." "Capital gains tax discount incentivises owner behaviour to prioritise the financial treatment of housing above its usage. Nearly half of rent spent in Australia is being used to pay for landlord borrowing as a result of these tax settings, while only 6% of rents paid are spent on repairs and maintenance. "Australia deserves a fairer approach to keeping homes as well as funding new, genuinely affordable homes. We must see reforms to these tax discounts for an equitable, more stable renting experience."

Better Renting CEO Angela Cartwright said: "The Albanese Government has the opportunity to take decisive action to support responsible, long-term investment in the provision of rental housing and improve housing stability and quality for the one-third of Australian households who rent. "Better Renting hears from too many renters getting kicked out of their homes every year or two by landlords cashing in massive capital gains and selling out when the negative gearing benefits dry up. The current tax settings reward short-term, speculative investment, driving up house prices and parallel increases in rent, while discouraging landlords from maintaining - let alone improving - homes they need only hold for 12 months to score generous tax breaks on their super profits when they sell. "Renters in Australia are sick and tired of paying too much for too little while watching people wealthy enough to own bonus homes get rewarded by government for contributing to rental housing precarity. The Albanese Government must abolish the capital gains tax discount and negative gearing in the May Budget to deliver a fair, affordable, and stable future for renters."



Working for a climate safe future



euro350.org@gmail.com f350Eurobodalla





A Beer with Bazz # 229

With
John
Longhurst

The television was almost shaking with the reporting of bombs, missiles and drones exploding in movie like fashion in the Middle East.

Earnest faced, body armoured reporters spewed unbelievably low death and casualty numbers that could not possibly match decimated apartment buildings, with distressed families running and seeking shelter with faces of utter bewilderment.

The news report switched to the leader of the 'free' world, dressed in colourful golfing attire, as he took a break on the eight hole of The Trump International Golf Course in West Palm Beach to brief media. Incoherent verbiage was spliced together with cartoon superhero claims of not just 'bad' and 'really bad' but 'total destruction', 'haven't seen anything yet' to 'in the history of the universe'. A tirade of abuse followed with 'scum', 'filth', 'dogs', 'garbage' and the like padding out sentences.

Questions on the aims of the war and actual detail went unanswered as the 5 - Iron was handed to him by the caddy. His moment of total focus captured on the golf ball before the television flicked back to incredulous faces of children running through bomb scarred streets in the Middle East.

The new bar attendant was busy wiping tables as Bazza shook his head.

"I just don't get how this bloke is not accountable for anything. Democracy might be flawed but it is supposed to rein in this kind of excessive behaviour. The rules have disappeared."

Bazza paused and turned his attention away from the television and engaged the new bar attendant wiping the near table. "What is your take on what's going on in the world?"

The new bar attendant paused and raised a brow.

"I do not watch the news. I do not read newspapers. If it is not on my social media links, it is not happening."

The bar attendant continued to wipe the table before pausing and looking up.

"You know ... I only heard about this war thingy yesterday."

Bazza's eyes were saucy and he repeated the term 'war thingy' numerous times before returning to the previous conversation at his bar table.

"As I was saying, I just don't get how Trump gets away with it I mean ..."

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



NAROOMA ROTARY MARKET

Sunday 22 March
8.30am — 1pm

NATA Oval behind former Visitors' Centre



Fresh produce, local crafts, great food and coffee, clothing and accessories, books, tools, fishing and sporting gear, plants, bric-a-brac

Market Manager 0408 489 247



SUNDAY 31 MAY 2026

7am registrations | 8.45am briefing | 9am race start

WHERE

START: Riverside Park
FINISH: Moruya Surf Life Saving Club

REGISTER & MORE INFO

RUN, JOG OR WALK, PRAM FRIENDLY
(no dogs, bikes or scooters)

Get your entry here:

<https://raceroster.com/events/2026/115871/moruya-town-to-surf-fun-run>

Early bird entries before 30 April: \$35 adults, U16 \$25
Standard Pricing: \$45 adults, U16 \$35
For runners U16 an automatic discount of \$10 will be applied at checkout

BBQ & FOOD STALLS @ SURF CLUB

Contact for more information: : moruyafunrun@gmail.com

BOOK A TECH TALK

FOR YOUR CLUB OR COMMUNITY GROUP

2025

Email: admin@theTecExec.com.au



Trish Pye Digital Literacy Trainer
Phone: 1300 366 802



Aged Care Reform Eurobodalla Region, NSW

Join Ageing Australia and Eurobodalla Shire Council for a two-hour Community Engagement Forum, including morning tea.

This forum will provide an open and informative discussion on navigating home and community care services.

Older Australians, families and carers are invited to attend and hear directly from the Department of Health and key aged care sector agencies. Presenters will share updates on current aged care reforms and offer practical information to support informed decision-making.

When: Tuesday, 31 March 2026

Time: 9:30 am – 11:30 am

Venue: Moruya Golf Club

To attend, please register:

[Registration link](#) or scan me



For more information or assistance to register, please contact:

Jodie Hodgetts ☎ 4474 1270

Emails: Jodie.Hodgetts@esc.nsw.gov.au or

irene.jung@ageingaustralia.asn.au

Tell them you saw it
in the Moruya Mail

Free tech café drop-in sessions

Term 1 2026 – 2 February – 1 April

Narooma – Mondays 10.00am – 12.15pm - Narooma Golf Club

Moruya – Tuesdays 12.30pm – 2.30pm - Moruya Library

Batemans Bay – Wednesdays 10.00am – 12pm - Bay Pavilions

Need a helping hand with digital devices? Come and chat to experienced digital mentors for one-on-one support or join one of our group classes:

- | | |
|--|--|
| Wk 1 - smartphone features, functionality, maintenance and updates | Wk 5 - how to avoid scams |
| Wk 2 - jargon, terminology and AI | Wk 6 - install, use and remove apps |
| Wk 3 - security settings | Wk 7 - understand and use the internet |
| Wk 4 - The camera function | Wk 8 - how to fill out online forms |
| | Wk 9 - emailing from your device |

No bookings required

For more information contact Community Development Officer Michael Lawrence-Taylor on 4474 1276 or email michael.lawrence-taylor@esc.nsw.gov.au



Go Get Healthy with Sofia



Over the past few years, collagen has become something of a celebrity in the world of supplements. From powders stirred into morning smoothies to capsules taken as part of a daily routine to support healthy skin. One question that often pops up, however, is why some formulas use marine collagen rather than bovine collagen. Is there really a difference? Before we dive into that, let's take a quick moment to refresh our understanding of collagen. Collagen is the most abundant protein in the human body and acts a bit like the scaffolding that keeps everything supported and structured. It's found in skin, bones, tendons and connective tissue. As we age, our natural collagen production gradually slows down, which is why skin can lose some of its firmness and elasticity over time.

Most collagen supplements start their journey as gelatine, usually sourced from either fish or bovine (cow) tissue. Gelatine contains long chains of proteins, which the body needs to break down into smaller components called amino acids before they can be used. For collagen supplements to be most effective, that breakdown ideally happens before they reach your digestive system. This is where hydrolysed collagen also known as collagen peptides comes in.

Hydrolysing collagen simply means breaking those long protein chains into much smaller peptide fragments. These smaller peptides are easier for the body to absorb through the intestinal wall and into the bloodstream. Think of it like this: sending long protein chains through the gut is a bit like trying to fit a couch through a narrow doorway. Hydrolysis turns that couch into smaller pieces that can slip through the door much more easily.

Both marine and bovine collagen provide beneficial amino acids, but there are a few differences worth noting. Marine collagen, sourced from fish skin and scales, is particularly rich in Type I collagen - the most abundant form in the human body and the primary type found in skin. Marine collagen peptides also tend to be smaller in molecular size, which may help improve absorption ⁽¹⁾.

Also, some studies have shown that taking around 2.5 grams of collagen peptides daily may improve skin elasticity and hydration after several weeks ⁽²⁾.

Of course, while collagen can be a helpful addition, it works best alongside the basics: a balanced diet, good hydration, sun protection and a decent night's sleep.

For more information about collagen, drop into Go Vita, Your Health Shop at 5 North Street, Batemans Bay. You can also call us on (02) 4472 9737 or visit us online at www.govitabatemansbay.com.au. Don't miss our weekly segment on 2EC radio, where Marianne and I chat about health and wellness with Kimmi Saker every Wednesday after 12.30pm.

Yours in Health,

Sofia Keady

Nutritionist - Go Vita Batemans Bay

100 years ago from the Moruya Examiner

20-03-1926

In connection with the big reliability test held under the auspices of the Royal Automobile Club of Victoria, 48 cars and one motor cycle passed through Moruya on Wednesday morning. Many shapes, makes and sizes were amongst the cavalcade.

The 2-storey bucket gold dredge which was destroyed by the bush fires at Nerrigundah was valued at £3000. It is now a mass of twisted iron. The loss is a severe one to Mr. Walter P. King, of Tumut, who only recently purchased the dredge. It was insured for only £1000.

On Sunday last, 14th instant, the death occurred at her late residence, "Gunday," Ernest St., North Sydney, of Mrs. Isabella Constable. Deceased, who was in her 72nd year, was the widow of the late Mr. James Constable, of Moruya Pilot Station, and later of Gunday [Moruya]. A daughter of the late Mr. E. W. K. Wyatt, Moruya, she was well-known here for her exceptionally kind and charitable disposition.

A very serious accident befell our popular Presbyterian Minister, the Rev. Mr. W. M. Herd, on Sunday morning last. He was on his way to hold a service at Coila, and when passing a lorry near a culvert at the foot of "Black Hill," the horse he was driving became frightened and backed over the ballast of the culvert into a drain beneath, a drop of about six feet. Fortunately, Mr. Burbidge, the driver of the lorry, heard a noise and looking back, saw that an accident had occurred. With the assistance of Mr. W. Grumley he rescued Mr. Herd from underneath the sulky. He was semi-conscious and bleeding profusely, his head and face being considerably cut about. He was hurried to Bergalia where he was transferred into Mr. Arnold's motor car and brought into town. On examination, Dr. McCredie found that the victim was suffering from severe concussion, and he was admitted to Moruya Hospital.

He remained in an unconscious state until Thursday when he came to for a while and recognised his wife. Friday's report states that he is now fully conscious and much improved. Very much sympathy is expressed for Mrs. Herd, who is beloved by all who know her, in her long suspense. The horse escaped injury, but the sulky was considerably damaged.



**Use our dependable
Car repair service**

OUR reputation for quick, dependable repairs at a fair price continues to

Turoos Head, 1926 view

We are proud to note that nearly every new customer is sent here by those who themselves find our service agreeable, efficient and economical.

**MORUYA MOTOR
GARAGE** (A. H. Weatherby,
Prop.) Phone 18
MORUYA

How should the word Canberra be pronounced?

The varying attempts which delegates of the Associated Chambers of Commerce had included "Canberra," with emphases on the "Can." There were also suggestions during conference discussions of "Can-beer-a" or "Canbra." It is understood that all these attempts are wrong, and that the correct pronunciation, although not yet officially adopted, is "Carn-brae."

Extracted from the Moruya Examiner by the Moruya and District Historical Society Inc.
If you are interested in history why not join us and become a volunteer at the Museum or our library. Check us out at <https://www.mdhs.org.au>

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MORUYA**



National Plan to End the Abuse and Mistreatment of Older People

On Monday, the Federal Government, together with all state and territory governments, launches the National Plan to End the Abuse and Mistreatment of Older People 2026-2036. The National Plan represents our shared commitment to prevent, respond to and ultimately end the abuse of older people in Australia.

All older people in Australia have the right to live free from abuse, mistreatment and neglect. This National Plan is an important step towards making that right a reality. The Plan will bring together governments, the sector, families and the community over the coming decade to reach our goal of ending, not just responding to, the abuse and mistreatment of older people.

1 in 6 older Australians have been abused by someone they trust, most often a family member. This is unacceptable. Older people experiencing abuse and mistreatment frequently do not seek help or advice, as this form of abuse and family violence is often hidden and misunderstood.

The Government is working to respond to these challenges and ensure support is available for older Australians when they need it most, including by committing additional funding over four years from 2026-27 to specialist elder abuse services comprising lawyers, social workers and other specialist staff. Importantly, the Government is working on developing a National Prevention Framework to support organisations, communities and families to address the causes of abuse and mistreatment of older people.

Attorney-General, the Hon Michelle Rowland MP said “Every older Australian has the right to live free from abuse, mistreatment, and neglect. The National Plan to End the Abuse and Mistreatment of Older People 2026-2036 is the commitment by all governments to making that right a reality. Minister for Aged Care and Seniors, the Hon Sam Rae MP said “From working to prevent elder abuse to once-in-a-generation reforms to aged care, delivering outcomes that keep older people safe and healthy is a top priority.

“This National Plan is the result of years of close and ongoing work with the states and territories to support older Australians as they age.”

The Age Discrimination Commissioner, Robert Fitzgerald AM, welcomed the release of the National Plan, describing it as a decisive step toward ending the abuse and mistreatment of older Australians.

‘A human rights-based approach for ending abuse and mistreatment is at the heart of the Plan, placing dignity, autonomy, equality, safety and participation at the core of every principle, policy and action.

‘Critically, the Plan includes the recognition of ageism as a driver of abuse, the inclusion of targeted initiatives to address and end ageism, as well as a new focus on recovery and healing for older people who have experienced abuse,’ he said.

The Commissioner also welcomed the Plan’s focus on addressing the urgent issue of financial elder abuse.

‘Since the last national plan, community awareness of financial elder abuse has increased significantly. Financial exploitation is also expected to grow, particularly as Australia undergoes the largest intergenerational transfer of wealth in its history and as families face sustained cost of living pressures.’ The Commissioner welcomed the Plan’s approach to understanding First Nations experiences, commitment to culturally informed and community-led responses, as well as recognition of the disproportionate risks faced by older women.

‘Abuse does not occur in a vacuum. It is important that the Plan acknowledges diverse experiences and the gendered nature of many forms of abuse, and it will be essential that these realities are reflected in implementation to ensure responses are targeted, effective and equitable.

More information is available on the Attorney-General’s Department website.

If you experience, witness or suspect elder abuse, you can call the National Elder Abuse phone line 1800ELDERHelp (1800 353 374) for free and confidential information, support or referrals. You can also visit Compass.info for further information and resources.

A HOME AMONG THE GUM TREES

National Eucalypt Day
ERBG Arboretum
Sun 22 Mar 2026

- 10.30am **Guided Walks**
- 11.30am **Kids Storytime**
- 12 noon **Community BBQ**
- 1.30pm **Kids Storytime**

Bring cash for BBQ or buy a voucher at Visitor Centre

Book now for walks and storytime on **EVENTBRITE**
 go to erb.org.au or use **QR code**

all enquiries to friends@erb.org.au

EUROBODALLA REGIONAL BOTANIC GARDEN

South East Local Leaders is a rural leadership development program building community, industry and government leadership capacity for resilience and sustainability. The program accesses some of the best leadership thinking and practice, sharing practical leadership tools and helping participants develop leadership skills.

What the program offers
 This dynamic leadership experience runs over 9 days from April to July, including 3 immersive residential workshops designed to build strong connections, deepen leadership capability and inspire real regional impact.

Through the program, participants will:

- Strengthen leadership skills
- Expand regional networks
- Build confidence and influence
- Develop practical tools to drive positive change in their communities

South East Local Leaders Program
 Expression of Interest
 Now Open

EOI Applications Close
 27 March 2026

Details & Registration
SCAN FOR MORE

Australian Government NSW Government Landcare Global Learning

The South East Local Leaders Program is funded by the Australian Government Natural Heritage Trust and delivered for Local Land Services, a member of the Commonwealth Regional Delivery Partners panel.



Let's do coffee with ... Paul Dickson

willingness to ensure future generations share in these environmental wonders? Cough ... cough! Too often, it has been the case of governments being pushed by conservation groups to take action. These local groups rely on activists to take up the campaign, convince the wider public of the need for conservation and force the hand of governments. Moruya Heads resident Paul Dickson (PD) is one such activist. The Moruya Mail (MM) had a coffee with Paul last week.

MM: Thanks for joining us Paul. It is the year 'Hey Jude' is topping the charts, our Prime Minister goes missing in the surf off Portsea, Victoria, the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. and Robert F. Kennedy and ...

PD: (Smiles ...) Yes it is 1968 and the year I was born in Sydney. My Mum was a homemaker and Dad was a graduate of Sydney University in Science, becoming a secondary school teacher. I have an elder and a younger sister. My early years were spent at Frenchs Forest and I went to Belrose Primary School for a year in 1973. We moved to Griffith in 1974 for my Dad to take up duties as the Deputy Principal of Wade High School. I was enrolled at North Griffith Primary School.

I absolutely loved Griffith. You might not be aware but by the end of the 1960s and heading into the 1970s, Griffith was recognised as having the highest concentration of people of Italian birth or descent per head of population of any town or city in New South Wales. There was lots of sharing and dinner parties a key feature. People kept an eye on each other so there was an overwhelming feeling of being safe. It was only time to go home from playing when the street lights came on!

I really enjoyed sport and in particular, soccer and I also managed to represent the Riverina in both cross country running and soccer.

The school had about 350 kids so it had a village feel to it. I was School Captain in Year 6 ... so life was pretty cool.

In 1981, Dad accepted the position of Principal at Dapto High School so we moved to Shellharbour and I began Year 7 at Oak Flats High School (OFHS).

OFHS was about three times the size of my primary school and in Years 7, 8 and 9 I hated school with a passion. I was bullied and beaten up because of my small size, excluded and ostracised. The innocence of primary school was replaced by students who were far more 'street smart' than myself.

Unsurprisingly, I lost interest in school, dropped classes and stopped playing sport. My life was upended and I became quite withdrawn.

My Mum and Grandmother were determined to provide the best for me, so they arranged for a transfer to St Joseph's Catholic High School in Albion Park. The school had only been open for a year so I had to repeat Year 8. I began to regain confidence and the years 1983 to 1987 were much better and I also took up surfing. My self esteem improved.



My Father started as a science teacher before becoming a principal and he shared his knowledge of all things 'natural history' and we spent many school holidays exploring national parks. It sparked my passion for the environment and I joined the Wilderness Society in 1986.

After completing my Higher School Certificate in 1987 I moved in with my Grandmother at Willoughby and secured a job in sales in the menswear department at David Jones in Chatswood and then onto the shoe department at nearby Grace Brothers the next year.

1988 was also memorable as I met my first girlfriend; a classic blue eyed blond haired Abbotsleigh School girl who was a part time model. It only lasted 5 weeks and I think the break up was due to the influence of her close knit 'gossip girls'.

At about 20 years of age, I worked at Dick Smith Electronics Head Office at North Ryde in sales only to leave that job and return home in 1989.

Like many young people, I was a bit lost and started an Introductory Certificate in Welfare at Shellharbour TAFE for about 8 months.

I gained employment as a service station attendant at Barack Heights and then onto a similar position at Campbelltown. Some late night shifts opened my eyes to the murkier, or at least more colourful side, of humanity. I have also been a long term member of the Uniting Church and made a very deliberate decision to be a Christian at 15 years of age. In 1990, I was a regular at a Christian Nightclub in Wollongong where I met my wife and we married in 1993.

By 1996, I was becoming more active in the Wilderness Society (Illawarra) with meetings once a month and then full on campaigning by 1998, in the lead up to the Southern Regional Forest Agreement of April, 2001.

It was an incredibly stressful time and I worked as an unpaid full time campaigner by 1999 with media releases, radio interviews and organising fundraising events.

I am enormously proud of the fact we added 9,500 hectares to the Deua National Park in the 2001 Agreement as a consequence of our actions.

My commitment to The Wilderness Society put enormous financial and emotional strain on our marriage by 2001. I, in turn, resigned from the Wilderness Society to save our marriage. I undertook training in childcare in 2001 and gained a Diploma in Early Childhood in 2003 and gained work in childcare.

I was also working as an outdoor activities instructor for The Tops Conference Centre at Stanwell Tops, offering fun outdoor activities and challenges on 200 acres of prime bushland for community groups and schools. With our marriage on steady grounds our daughter, Chelsea, was born in 2005 and son Liam in 2010.

MM: Life sounds fairly rosy. How do you end up in Moruya Heads?

PD: (Sighs ...) The Second Season of my Life is far from rosy. 2013 was a disastrous year. Our marriage broke down and I found myself out of work.

By 2014, I was in a downward spiral, committing petty crimes such as shoplifting and living in a men's hostel. In August, the same year, I was involuntarily admitted as a mental health patient to Shellharbour Hospital where I remained for 7 weeks. I was diagnosed with Bipolar 1 Disorder at the ripe old age of 47 years. I knew I was not well so the diagnosis was a combination of surprise and relief.

In 2018, I was accepted into the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) and my life was literally saved. I suddenly had the care that was required, and I started to put my life back together.

I met Liesl in April 2023, we married in March 2024 and moved to Moruya Heads the same year.

These days my aim is to work alongside disability and aged care, but my passion for the environment lives on. I run Nature Engagement Tours* in NSW South Coast National Parks. These 4-6 hour day walks allow me to share my knowledge of the natural history and reveal the hidden secrets of this pristine environment.

MM: It takes much passion to commit oneself to an environmental cause and an equal amount of courage to share your mental health journey. Sincere thanks, Paul.

* www.natureengagementtours.com.au

LET'S DO COFFEE WITH ...' is a column exploring the interesting personalities of the Eurobodalla Shire.

Feel free to nominate a personality by emailing **John Longhurst** at john.longhurst59@gmail.com

CWA BATEMANS BAY presents

Sister Act

FREE FILM

Entry: A small plate of something to share

19th of March, 10AM
CWA Hall, Edward Rd, Batehaven

Come dressed for a nightclub if you can!

SAT 21ST MARCH

MORUYA Adelaide HOTEL

RESET

Cello & Piano Sonatas

Join Edward Neeman and Rachel Johnston for a selection of beloved duo sonatas for cello and piano

SAVE THE DATE!

Sat 28
March 2026, 3pm
St Andrew's Anglican Church Braidwood

Grab your ticket now!

TUROSS COMMUNITY MARKETS

NOW HELD AT CLUB TUROSS!

9am - 1pm

2ND SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH

40 MONASH AVE, TUROSS HEAD

LILIAN MEADE PRESENTS

Thinking Out Loud

art

EXHIBITION

2026

Opening: Tuesday 3rd March | 5.30-7.30pm
Art on display till Monday 30th March

6 AM - 7PM
BAY PAUILLIONS - BATEMANS BAY

FREE ENTRY

REPAIR CAFE

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 test training)
- organise and serve morning tea for the repairers

Interested?

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

Bach Akademie Australia

Bach: A Life in Music

Narooma

Music in the Regions

Saturday 28 March, at 2:30 PM

Narooma St Paul's Anglican Church
11 Tilba St, Narooma

Visit musicintheregions.com or scan to book

LOCAL PARTNERS: MUSIC IN THE REGIONS PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY: General Admission: \$35 Under 18s: FREE

BAY THEATRE PLAYERS INC:

GREEN ROOM GATHERINGS: A WICKED CABARET

SATURDAY 14TH MARCH @4PM
THE BAY PLAYHOUSE, GREGORY ST BATEMAN BAY

COME AND JOIN US FOR A WICKED INSPIRED SINGALONG! THIS IS NOT A PERFORMANCE, REHEARSAL, OR PRODUCTION. IT'S A CHANCE TO EXPLORE THE SONGS YOU LOVE IN A CASUAL, SUPPORTIVE SPACE; WHETHER YOU WANT TO SING OUT, BLEND IN, OR SIMPLY SOAK IN THE ATMOSPHERE.

Please contact Anna Smart (anna.smart@cg.catholic.edu.au) to express interest and for further information.

Bay Theatre Players Inc presents an

ADULT DRAMA WORKSHOP

SUNDAY 29TH MARCH

10AM - 1PM

Soldiers Club Batemans Bay

This workshop is being facilitated by EATON GORGE THEATRE COMPANY

Come along and have some fun. Work alongside other creatives, building skills and confidence as you explore your creativity.

\$30 per person.

To book a place please call Lyn 0416181003 or email lsterling@bigpond.com

What's on in the Eurobodalla Photographic Club this March

Our March meeting is on Tuesday the 24th, in the Tomakin Community Hall, Ainslie Pde Tomakin. Doors open at 6:45pm. Visitors are always welcome.

Please be advised that, whilst visitors are more than welcome to our general monthly meetings. It is members only on excursions, field trips, workshops and competitions. For details on joining, please visit our website, <https://eurobodalla.myphotoclub.com.au> March's competition is an "Open" topic. A chance for photographers to shine at what they do best.

Two presentations are programmed for the March meeting. One on the "Snapseed App" (try saying that fast half a dozen times) and the second relating to "Bell's Carnival".

A brief note on the total lunar eclipse that occurred on the evening of Tuesday 3rd. This was something of a wash-out, with the eather being most unco-operative. Without even the occasional glimpses afforded through cloud gaps. For those who don't know, the blood red colouration comes about from sunlight being refracted around the earth and the longer wavelengths (red) lighting up the moon.

Something to note in your long-term calendar is the Total Solar Eclipse on Saturday the 22nd July 2028. This, apparently, will be visible in Sydney, with totality (when the moon completely blocks the sun) lasting some 3 minutes 49 seconds. Unfortunately for us, being much further south, means we only get to see a partial eclipse. You must be at least as far north as Gerringong, Kiama to witness totality. Let's hope it's not a cloudy day.

If you are seeking more information on the above and other similar events, have a look at the "Time and Date" website, timeanddate.com

And as always, we welcome people of all abilities, from novice to experienced enthusiasts. And you don't need expensive equipment, just an interest in photography and a willingness to learn.

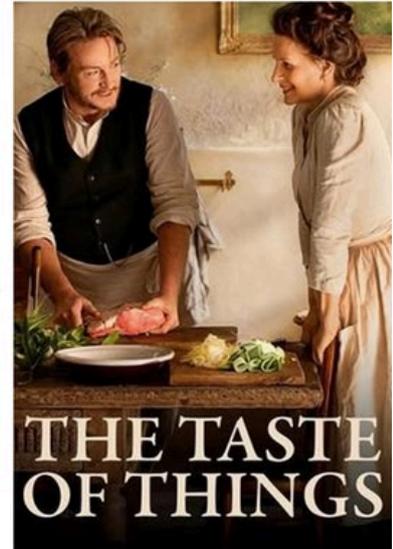


**MORUYA
COMMUNITY
FILM GROUP**
@ THE RED DOOR

THIS MONTH'S FILM THE TASTE OF THINGS

SCREENING ON SATURDAY 28TH MARCH AT 7PM FOR A 7.30PM SHOWTIME

Synopsis - The Taste of Things is a 2023 Romance · 2h 15m starring Binoche as Eugenie, the long-term professional and romantic counterpart to culinary artist Dodin (Benoît Magimel at the tail end of the 19th century. Despite their mutual admiration, forged from decades of chasing gastronomic innovation together, Eugenie remains resistant to Dodin's proposals of marriage. Not only is Dodin (who bears the objectively hilarious moniker of "the Napoleon of culinary arts") tasked with winning Eugenie over, another challenge comes his way when he agrees to prepare a meal for a visiting prince with extravagant tastes, whose appetite can extend across a single 8-hour meal. The pair's wordless choreography in the kitchen is expressed with a gentle yet confident physicality.



Moruya Community Film Group is a social club for film lovers. We meet once a month to enjoy wine, nibbles, film quiz and of course, a great film! Join us at the RED DOOR, rear of St John's Anglican Church, Page Street, Moruya. Membership available at the door \$65 for 12 months/\$40 for 6 months. Guests are welcome.



2026 Wombat Care Course for Beginners- online ZOOM course

Sunday 12 April 2026 10am - 4pm AEST (approx.)

Any prospective wombat carers need to complete a wombat carer course for licensing purposes, and to be a good carer for the wombats entrusted to you. **This is not a pinky wombat care course.**

This wombat care course will give you a good overview of:

- Basic wombat rescues and assessment of rescued wombat
 - Equipment for rescues
- Equipment/ infrastructure needed as carer
 - Feeding a wombat
- General care, housing and husbandry
- Diseases / illnesses/ General problems

This training workshop is jointly offered by NARG (Native Animal Rescue Group) and Wombat Rescue and presented by Les and Bill Waterhouse- Majors Creek Wombat Refuge

Certificate and extensive course notes are provided after course completion.

Enrolment via Humanitix: \$20 donation (Link below)

To be a carer in NSW and ACT, you need to be affiliated to, or a member of a licensed wildlife group in your area. This course is aimed at anyone in any state who needs wombat care training to join a shelter or wildlife group and would like to become a carer.

If you are going to become a wildlife carer, it is advisable that you familiarise yourself with the current Code of Practice (or similar) for the State/Territory you reside in:

[The Code of Practice for Wildlife - ACT](#)

[The Code of Practice for Wildlife - NSW](#)

[Code of Practice for injured, sick and orphaned wombats \(under review\)](#)

[The Code of Practice for Wildlife -VIC](#)



QR code with your phone

or

click on this link [2026 Wombat Carer Course](#)

you're invited to... Saltmarsh Planting with Moruya Landcare

High Value Habitat

Saltmarsh improves water quality, draws down carbon, and provides habitat. Some avian visitors come from as far away as Japan, such as the Latham's Snipe seen recently in Gundry Wetland!

On the Agenda

- Connecting with our local community
- Planting buffers to protect saltmarsh
- Discovering local native plants
- Epic morning tea!
- Bring gloves, sunscreen and a hat.

Thursday 26th March
9 - 12

Meet at Moruya
Bowlo Carpark



creative arts for wellbeing workshops

LEARN FUN CREATIVE TOOLS TO SUPPORT YOUR WELLBEING + MAKE A PERSONAL PROJECT

collage calligraphy + affirmations
d coupage photography

Free | 3.30pm - 5pm
Book online via Eventbrite!

MORUYA LIBRARY 19/03
BATEMANS BAY LIBRARY 24/03
NAROOMA LIBRARY 25/03

GOING POTTY
Hug Mug with plate and spoon
Workshop is back



Sunday, March 22nd
10 am - 2 pm
Mogendoura Farm the Loft

Limited places book @Mogendoura farm website
<https://mogendoura.com.au/workshop>,
Instagram or Facebook

RfR SHARPEST TOOL IN THE SHED
WORKSHOP
POWERTOOL
WORKSHOP FOR WOMEN

NOW
MARCH 28TH
9am - 2pm

BOOKINGS
Purchase Ticket Via Trybooking
Plus Ticketing fee

\$75 NON MEMBERS - \$70 MEMBERS
Lunch Included

Quantum Brewery
Saturday Live Music
4.30-7.30pm
and
Fun-time Events

21 Mar	Greg Byng
27 Mar	Trivia Night 6pm
28 Mar	Tommy Steez
4 Apr	Avant Raag
11 Apr	From First Light
12 Apr	Dogs Big Day Out 1-4pm
18 Apr	Steve Jackson
24 Apr	Trivia Night 6pm
25 Apr	Anzac Day Two Up Tutorial 2.30-4pm
25 Apr	Peter Shilling
2 May	Richard Lawson

OPEN: Fri & Sat 12 - 9pm : Thu & Sun 12 - 6pm
Check Quantum Brewery Moruya website-Events

Got an Event coming up?
Let the Moruya Mail know
hello@moruyamail.com.au

ALL IN TWILIGHT
TAKEMITSU - DEAN - BACH - CRIVICI - ALB NIZ



TOMMASO GIROTTO
CLASSICAL GUITAR

St John's Commons Moruya
Sunday 5th Apr at 3pm

mm MOJOS/MORUYA MAIL
Live Music Gig Guide

Friday, 20 March
Davey Hilder Soldiers Club (7.30pm)
Totum Steampacket Hotel

Saturday, 21 March
Tony Jagers Foxdog Distillery (12.30)
Pearlerz Tura Beach Club (7pm)
Salt Club Catalina (7.30pm)
Davey Hilder Soldiers Club (7.30pm)
Drive Time Merimbula RSL (8pm)
Allan Watts Band Grand Hotel, Bega (8.30pm)
Candelo Blues Club Tilba Valley Winery
Joe Conroy Steampacket Hotel
Moondog Broulee Brewhouse
Greg Byng Quantum Brewery

Sunday, 22 March
Paul Allard Fundraiser Moruya Waterfront (1pm)
Rob Simpson Club Narooma (3pm)
Phil Coleman & Friends Fundraiser for Cancer Society
Tilba Valley Winery

Patrick Newton Steampacket Hotel
Amber Kenny Broulee Brewhouse
Chango Tree The Dromedary Hotel Tilba

For weekly listings email tj@tonyjagers.com by 5pm Tuesday

Tell them you saw it
in the Moruya Mail

MORUYA HIGH SCHOOL
Japanese Trivia Night

Join us for an evening of fun, facts & prizes!
\$25 per head
Includes dinner, dessert & trivia!
Non-alcoholic drinks sold separately
*This is an alcohol free event

SATURDAY
28th MARCH
5:30PM FOR A
6PM START
SCHOOL HALL
97 ALBERT ST

A maximum of 6 people per table
Phone: 4474 2155

save the date!
entries open now!

CURRENTS BATTLE OF THE BANDS
sat 18 april

* Youth 12+
* RSL Hall Moruya
* Entry info + free tix at link in bio

Eurobodalla Council's Youth Services team

Enjoy reading the Moruya Mail? You can support this free publication when you **Buy me a coffee**

Turross "Blue Door" Singers

Do you have a song in your heart? Would you like to join our fun group of guys and gals for 90 minutes of well known songs and laughter? Sing along and let the music weave its magic. Happiness guaranteed!

St Andrew's Anglican Church,
Craddock Road
Turross Head. (The little church with the blue door.)
Parking at rear.
\$10 per session, visitors free.
1.30 pm Wednesdays
Phone 4473.8703

Red Earth - Salt water at Bodalla Gallery



Annie Franklin 'Redgum Ballet'

Gallery Bodalla features the works of two exceptional and much loved south coast artists Annie Franklin and Tanja Riese in the next exhibition red earth | salt water.

The show opened last week to a full house.

These exquisite, colourful and light filled paintings, are inspired by both the desert and the far south coast, with a deep love of place. I hope you can come along, Valerie.

Annie Franklin: The paintings in this exhibition have been made as a response to being immersed in landscape. The red earth collection was created over twelve months, after a two week painting trip to Mparntwe/Alice Springs. The desert landscape is visually and emotionally powerful and, although impossible to understand deeply from such a short visit, irresistible to an artist who loves colour. The salt water collection is from my home country on the south coast, painted mostly 'en plein air' during regular excursions with friends. It is a landscape that I have developed a deep connection to over 25 years, and it is also irresistible to an artist who loves colour - with a very different palette.

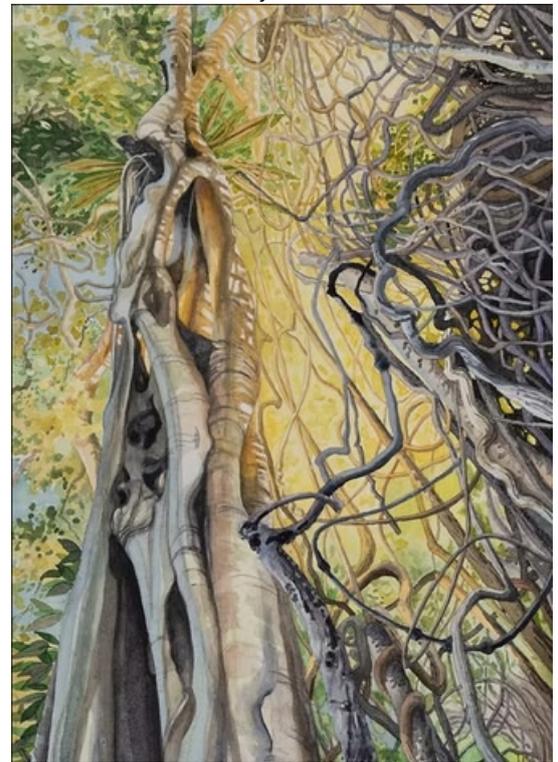
Tanja Riese: The practice of painting allows me to look deeply and linger on the curves, forms, colours (and smells) of the remnant wild places that can still be found. Be they in the scrub just off the road, beside a well-trodden path or tucked away in dense bushland, these places are uplifting, refreshing and filled with incredible beauty, for which I am grateful.

The Show runs through to Sunday 12 April 2026

Gallery Bodalla is open Thursday to Sunday (closed Good Friday open Easter Sat & Sun) 11am to 4pm and by appointment. View exhibition & catalogue at www.gallerybodalla.com.au



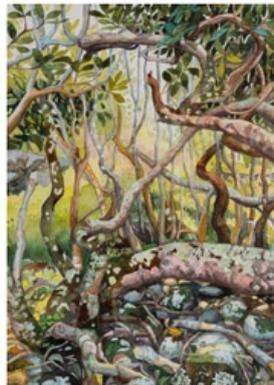
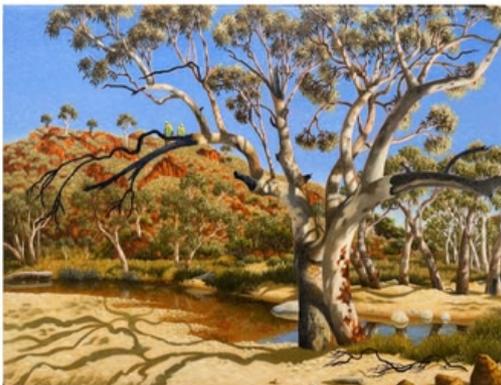
Annie Franklin and Tanja Riese



Tanja Riese 'Light through the tangle.'

ANNIE FRANKLIN

TANJA RIESE



red earth | salt water

thursday 12 march to sunday 12 April 2026

please join us for opening drinks and artists' talk sat 14 march 3pm

[gallerybodalla](http://www.gallerybodalla.com.au)

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

Sculpture For Clyde
Artist Applications Closing
Friday March 27!

See the Sea at Love our Ocean Exhibition



The opening was well attended



Camelle Denny, Adrienne Green and Heide Weber.

A group exhibition 'Love Our Oceans' by the 'All Weather Artists Group' opened at the Moruya Mechanics Institute last Friday evening. The works include painting, prints, collage and sculptural forms. Participating artists are: Sam Amide, Kristen Arrayet, Lynda Burke, Janet Carr, Kaicy Chen, Charlie Li, Susan Christie, Di Clark, Camelle Denny, Jane Elek, Adrienne Green, Jane Ihara, Gary Kemp, Marie Lund, Sheryl Miller, Sid Palazzi, Fiona Parke, Juliet Ramsay, Dave Ramsland, Clay Sare, Selanie Waddilove and Heide Weber.

The group statement says "The intention of the exhibition is to raise awareness of our marine environment, and the importance of it for our wellbeing as individuals as well as for our whole community and lifestyle. The works will range from ones showing the beauty of our coastal scenery and our local underwater marine world, to those showing threatened or endangered species as well as impacts of climate change and other stressors, such as fishing and storms, on the marine environment.

Eurobodalla is already feeling the effects of a global warming. An unseasonably warm ocean is fuelling severe storms at sea, creating huge swells which lash our coast and causing the coastline to erode rapidly.

Underwater, unseen by most people, the warmer water is causing changes to our marine ecosystems. For example, it is stimulating urchin populations to explode and, with most of their predators having been fished down, our kelp forests are being eaten down to bare rock so that fish no longer have any food or shelter.



Lynda Burke with her work

As the pH of the ocean gets lower due to all the CO₂ it is absorbing from the atmosphere, it will become increasingly difficult for animals like oysters, abalone and crabs to form their shells. This will lead to deformation and death of vulnerable species."

Opening hours: Daily 10am – 3pm except Tuesdays. Closed Tuesdays.

Closing event: Performance by Deep River Choir Sunday 29 March, 2.30pm



HELLO EV OWNER AND WELCOME TO EuroBEV!

SHASA's Eurobodalla Battery Electric Vehicles Group EuroBEV is an informal group. We have luncheons every 6- 8 weeks at chosen venues across our beautiful Eurobodalla Shire. The aim is to meet with fellow EV drivers and those interested in purchasing an Electric Vehicle.

Our next luncheon will be held on **SUNDAY 17 MAY 2026**
 Ellens At Tilba
 4 Bate St
 CENTRAL TILBA
 12noon

If you are thinking of coming along or have a question to ask about owning or driving an EV please contact Stuart Absalom at shabsalom47@gmail.com

Scan the QR Code for more information on SHASA.

HOPE YOU CAN JOIN US !



SOUTH DURRAS BIOBLITZ

Saturday 28 March

- 19.00am **Spotlight Walks**

Sunday 29 March

- 9.00am **Introduction**
- 10.00am **Nature Walks**
- 12 noon **Lunch**
- 1.00pm **Nature Walks**





Book now for walks

Use QR code or go to budawangcoast.org.au



budawang coast atlas of life

New crime thriller from far south coast author is so bad it's good

Bad People, the second novel from award-winning writer and Tuross Head author, **Kim Ulrick**, is attracting attention as a page-turning, gritty Australian crime thriller.

Kim's debut novel, Bad Country, explored the concept of psychogeography – the connection between people and place – and whether the land, like people, holds memories of horrific events that have occurred and can influence behaviours and actions of the people that call it home.

Bad People, the second instalment in the Bad crime series, examines whether some individuals are born bad and the extraordinary lengths they will go to for vengeance, power and money. It's a classic struggle between organised crime and law enforcement, which follows the protagonist and female main character, Laura Murray, as she forges a career as a canine handler with the New South Wales Police on a special taskforce investigating a spate of missing young women across the state. Laura's dreams are haunted by the dead serial killer she helped to put behind bars more than five years ago. Amidst the chaos of a high-profile police investigation, Laura finds love, but with a traitor in their midst, she doesn't know who to trust.

Host Tracey Lee, author of the Lily O'Hara mystery series and The Aphorism Club. See below. Tracey described Bad People as '...a gritty and at times brutal view of the criminal underworld. It's scary. But it's also a story of tenacity, hope and the investigative strength of law enforcement. Kim Ulrick will keep you on the edge of your seat as she cleverly builds to a crescendo of twists and turns.'

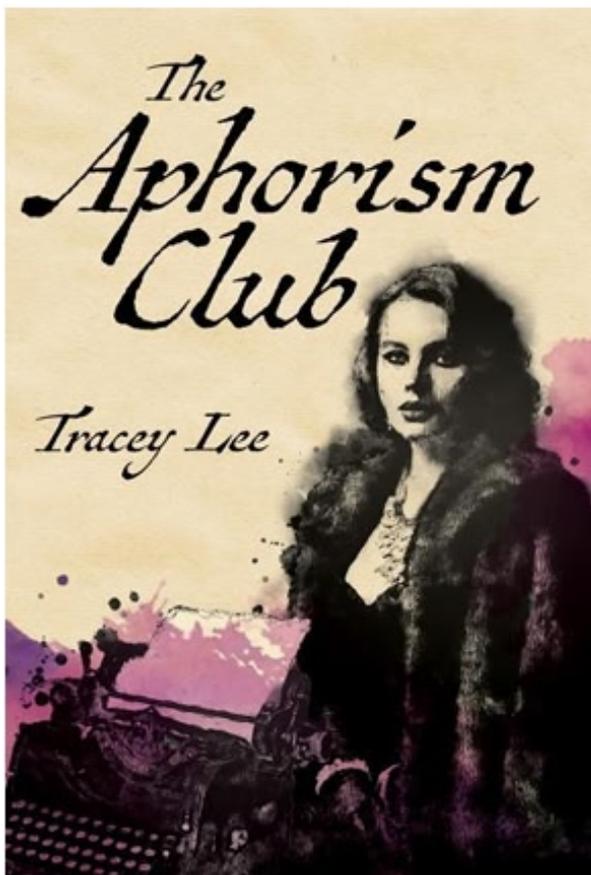
Kim says Bad People was shaped by her experiences working alongside national law enforcement agencies during a thirty-year career in the Australian Public Service, where she ran national awareness campaigns and policy initiatives to counter the threat posed by organised crime.

'What I learned is that organised crime networks are ruthless, fluid, opportunistic and highly innovative and are always searching for new ways to seize power and make money. Bad People pulls back the covers to reveal a seedy underbelly where human beings are just another commodity.'

Published by Contempo Publishing, Bad People will be released on 30 March 2026.

Pre-orders are available from www.kimulrickwriter.com

From urban Melbourne to rural Launceston: A 1920s tale of female tenacity



A story of resilience, female tenacity and the reality of unrealised promises of liberation, Tracey Lee's The Aphorism Club takes readers into the heart of post-suffragette Melbourne and Tasmania. The story follows the life of Ruby Pearl Hart, a girl with a raspberry birthmark on her face whose childhood is marred by careless adults and tragedy.

Exiled to Launceston after a cruel twist of fate, she finds companionship and home in a group of artists, writers and misfits. Buckle in for this second coming of the bohemian revolution: truth, freedom, beauty and love.

Tracey Lee has been writing since she was eight years old. The Lily O'Hara Mystery Series, which has a 4th book coming out in 2026, has been widely praised for its addictive storylines and its keen observation of family dynamics.

Tracey's newest book The Aphorism Club, takes its title from the writing group which was founded by Tracey and a group of close friends in 1994. This group remains integral to Tracey's writing process. Tracey holds a highly distinguished, 38-year career as an English/Behavioural Science teacher who has taught in Tasmania, Western Australia, Canberra and most recently in New South Wales.

In 2005, Tracey completed a Masters in Creative Writing at the University of Canberra. Both her teaching and writing are focused on what motivates human behaviour and what maintains equilibrium, as well as the disturbances that threaten this balance. Her fiction often follows ordinary people as they face extraordinary circumstances. Since retiring from the classroom, Tracey has run several writing sessions at local libraries, joined the Eurobodalla Writers Group and hosted local panel discussions for International Women's Day and Crime Writers of the Eurobodalla.

Living on the far south coast of NSW, she now spends most of her time writing.

Explore Braidwood's Gardens this autumn



The Braidwood Museum's Dodge Car Gellibrand at Millpond.



Bridge at Mona Farm



The Mill at Millpond.

Community Bank Braidwood Preschool Open Gardens 28 & 29 March 2026

An autumn take on a perennial favourite Community Bank Braidwood Preschool Open Gardens are back this March.

One of Braidwood's most beloved events the Braidwood Open Gardens returns this year, offering a fresh twist in time for the freshening mornings.

Usually held in spring, the Gardens committee have arranged an autumn edition for the event's enthusiastically anticipated return. This means new perspectives on some of Braidwood's most iconic gardens, new opportunities for expression and inspiration from arguably the most beautiful season in our region.

This year, visitors will see the return of some of Braidwood's admired destination gardens, as well as a number of new private gardens, never before shared. It's important to Open Gardens organisers that there is a variety within the program to demonstrate that special, creative places are not only found within grand heritage properties and homesteads, but also within the smaller spaces, working yards and newly built pockets of our town.

This diverse selection means everybody will find something for inspiration, motivation and delight. Whether you love the expansive dreamscapes of a formal garden estate, or the serenity and practical abundance of an intimate domestic retreat.

Choose your own adventure over the weekend by buying an all garden pass. This allows you to pick and choose which gardens you visit when across the weekend, and return as many times as you like.

Make a day trip of it by driving out to Mill Pond and Mona Farm. Or put on your walking shoes and enjoy gardens in town with a spot of lunch and coffee in between.

As always, all proceeds go towards supporting the wonderful Braidwood Preschool, and by extension the youngest members of our community.

The Community Bank Braidwood Preschool Open Gardens are March 28th and 29th 10am – 4pm each day (only exception: Mona Farm open Sunday only 12pm – 4pm) Ticket options: \$10 per garden / \$30 one day multi garden pass / \$40 full weekend multi garden pass. Under 18s free. For garden listings, ticketing and access information, visit: www.braidwoodgardens.com.au.



Longsight

28 & 29 March 2026

Community Bank Braidwood Preschool Open Gardens

10am - 4pm

Longsight
Millpond
Gillamatong Vista
18 Coronation Ave
Happy Yellow House
Mona Farm (SUNDAY ONLY 12-4PM)

\$10 INDIVIDUAL GARDEN PASS
\$30 ONE DAY PASS | \$40 FULL WEEKEND PASS
UNDER 18s FREE

braidwoodgardens.com.au

PROUDLY IN PARTNERSHIP WITH COMMUNITY BANK BRAIDWOOD

Bendigo Bank Community Bank Braidwood

BRAIDWOOD & DISTRICT HEAVY HORSE SHOW

9 MAY 2026 BRAIDWOOD SHOWGROUND

Proudly Supported by Community Bank Braidwood

Bendigo Bank

Easter mini MARKET

TUROSS HEAD BOWLING CLUB EASTER SUNDAY

- Local Arts & Crafts
- Sausage Sizzle • Devonshire Tea
- Books • Plants • Bric A Brac
- Homemade Cakes

All Welcome

CLUB TUROSS ENQUIRIES

DENISE LIDBURY Mobile: 0459 540 442 Email: thelidburys@bigpond.com
ROSE FARRINGTON Mobile: 0488 043 994 Email: roseludwig70@gmail.com

CLUB TUROSS

40 Monash Avenue Tuross Head, NSW 2537 Phone (02) 4473 8186 clubtuross.com.au



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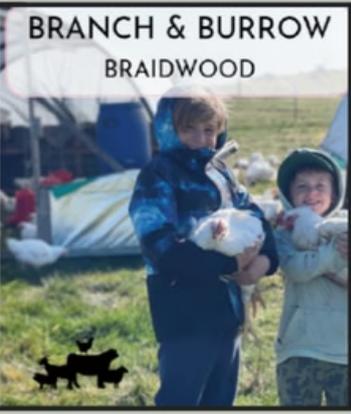



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when you need it most

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Email: treeoflifefunerals@outlook.com

Picaluna Beautiful Funerals

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Supplying Home Brew
equipment, Coopers and
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Essences and more.

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Unit 4/7 Cranbrook Rd, Batemans Bay

BAY POOL SERVICES Open 9 to 4 Monday to Friday
and 9-12 on Saturdays baypoolservices@outlook.com

scooterswholesale.com.au

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sister store, for
all your daily living needs



everydaymobility

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Nth Moruya
Industrial Area
Mobile: 0402 328 365

42-44 Wallace St
Braidwood NSW
Mobile: 0402 328 365



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Ask about our advertising rates at hello@moruyamail.com.au

Working together for a cleaner,
smarter future for the Eurobodalla



Animal Welfare League News

Three-month-old kitten Midnight is ready for her forever home! As her name suggests, Midnight, is completely black except for about six little white hairs on her chest. Although small in stature she is an extremely outgoing little girl who loves to climb and play rough and tumble with her siblings. After her energy is spent Midnight will curl up on your lap and enjoy cuddles and head scratches. Midnight is staying with two adult cats and confidently interacts with them. With her assurance, playfulness and affection, Midnight is ready to be someone's perfect pet. Her microchip number is 991003003350049 and Animal Welfare League's Rehoming Organisation Number is R251000222.



Midnight

To meet Midnight, or any of our available pets, contact AWL Eurobodalla on 0410 016 612 or complete the form in the Adoption section of the AWL NSW website: www.awlnsw.com.au

Also, AWL is looking for volunteers to join our branch and help with the rewarding work of rehoming companion animals. We need people for a range of roles, so, if you love animals, call us on 0410 016 612 or complete the form on the AWL NSW website: www.awlnsw.com.au

Quantum Brewery Moruya
and the
RSPCA Eurobodalla Supporter Group

Dogs' Big Day Out

\$20
RSPCA

Sunday 12 April, 1 - 4pm
Bring your pooch for a great big fun afternoon

All moneys raised stays in the Eurobodalla, supporting people and pets in need.

\$20 all-inclusive, your pup receives:

- a bright bandana - which may help win a prize in Furry Fashions on the Field
- bag of doggy treats
- ticket in the lucky door prize (drawn at 3pm)
- unlimited free access to the special Pupper Bar for
 - Pawgaritas
 - Dirty Barktinis, and
 - Frozen Pupsicles

For Hoomans, Quantum Brewery will have its kitchen and bar operating as usual

Pet Desexing Months
Prevent Unwanted Litters - Desex your Pet

March - Cat/Kitten Desexing
We are offering financial assistance to all cat and kitten owners living in the Eurobodalla Shire who wish to have their pets desexed.

April - Pet Desexing
We are offering financial assistance to all pet owners living in the Eurobodalla Shire who wish to have their pets desexed.

To have your pet desexed:

1. Call your Eurobodalla Vet in March (cats/kittens) or April (dogs/puppies/cats/kittens/pocket pets) to make an appointment (the appointment does not need to be in March or April, but must be within 3 months of arranging the appointment).
2. Call us on **0436 816 718** to have the subsidised voucher actioned.

MONTH OF LOVE SPECIAL ADOPTION PRICES FOR CATS AND KITTENS!

Bonded Pairs — \$200
These inseparable best friends must stay together, and they'll fill your home with double the love.

- **Crystal & Pearl** - gentle, sweet, 10 month old sisters looking for a quiet home.
- **Polly & Kitty** adorable, loving companions who adore each other and will absolutely adore you too!

Adult Cats — \$175
Perfect for those wanting a calmer, settled companion.

- Yoki
- Leo

Kittens — \$225
Full of fun, curiosity, and affection.

- Yoshi
- Zorro
- Mimi

ADOPTED ADOPTED

Let love find you this February!

To meet any of these gorgeous felines:

- call Animal Welfare League Eurobodalla on **0410016612** or
- apply online at the AWLNSW website
- www.awlnsw.com.au

Rehoming Organisation Number R251000222

Everyone's Welcome!

Community BBQ

With thanks to Banksia Village Residents for their support

Sun, March 29 | 12 - 1:30 PM

Russ Martin Park Moruya
next to the bridge

SAGE Farmers Market

Tuesday 3pm Moruya

sagefarmersmarket.org.au growing the community

2026 Diary Dates

- 16- 26 April - **Youth Week**
- 25 - 26 April - **Batemans Bay Sailing Club 2026 d'Albora Batemans Bay Regatta**
- 1 - 3 May **19th Narooma Oyster Festival**
- May - June - **2026 Sculpture for Clyde**
- 5-12 July - **NAIDOC Week**
- 12 June to 12 July - **Fungi Festival**
- 21st-25th October - **Sea Otter Australia**
- 13 March 2027 - **NSW State Election**

Eurobodalla's Community Services Jobs Drive

Real conversations about real jobs with employers direct.
From 10am to 12pm on Thursday 19 March at Moruya's Memorial RSL Hall.

SAGE Food & Knowledge Share - Sunday March 22th at 10am, Riverside Park. Guest Speaker - Joyce Wilkie on Growing Onions

Narooma VIEW Club welcomes new members

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

Moruya 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.

Tuross Community Markets

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

Can Assist Eurobodalla

Support country cancer patients and enjoy tax benefits while you do it. Set up a regular donation and help ensure those in rural NSW get the support they need, when they need it, to get to their cancer treatment.

100% tax deductible - No need to remember - it's automatic - Every dollar makes a real difference

Click the link to learn more and start giving today.

<https://canassist.org.au/ways-to-give/donate/>

Moruya District Hospital Auxiliary



EASTER STALL

Tuross Golf Club



Sunday 5th April 2026

8am-2pm

Eftpos Available

Bric a Brac, Handmade Bags, Cards & Rock Pendants plus general craft Items

All profits raised go towards purchasing Hospital Equipment for Moruya Hospital CFN 11058

Moruya Landcare Planting Day postponed

Planting day postponed from this Saturday until next Thursday the 26th March.

South Coast & Country Community Law

coming to Moruya to provide in person legal appointments for clients.

When: **Thursday 26th March** 2026 10am to 1:30pm Where: Moruya Medicare Mental Health Centre, Mirrabooka Avenue Moruya 2537 (Building address: 73 Vulcan Street, parking and entry at rear, off Mirrabooka Avenue).

When: **Tuesday 31st March** 2026 10:00am to 1:30pm Where: Mackillop Family Services, 5/1 Clyde Street Batemans Bay Appointments are required.

Call us on 1800 229 529 to make an appointment

South Coast Seaweed are running a FREE Sea Country Connections Seaweed Foraging Tour in Eurobodalla

during the Easter Holidays where you'll discover:

- How to identify edible seaweeds along the shoreline
- The cultural and environmental connection to Sea Country
- Why seaweed is becoming one of the world's most sustainable foods

- How to harvest responsibly from the ocean

This isn't just a walk on the beach.

It will completely change the way you look at the coastline.

Proudly supported by Eurobodalla Shire Council

FREE event but spots are limited. Register here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/.../sea-country-connections...>

South Durras Bioblitz - 28-29 March

See full program and booking links at:

<https://budawangcoast.org.au/south-durras-bioblitz/>

Presented by the Budawang Coast Atlas of Life in association with Eurobodalla Landcare

UPCOMING RESCUE TRAINING - NAROOMA

Do you want to help protect and rescue whales, dolphins, seals and dugongs along the NSW South Coast? **Join ORRCA's next Marine Mammal Rescue Training Day on Saturday 21st March at Narooma Golf Club.**

Sign up via the link in bio or visit www.orrca.org.au/workshop

When: Saturday 21st March at Narooma Golf Club.

Rally for Recovery

Ainslie Parade Tomakin

CHEAP!

Mega Garage Sale

Every Wed and Sat
8.30 - 12.00

CHEAP!

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

rallyforrecovery.au 0406 363 166

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



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Tuross Head Golf



Winner: Shane Gschwend with Secretary Michael Coloe and Hole in One Winner Col Houghton

Tuross Head Golf Results Thursday 12th March 2026

A field of 34 players competed in a Medley Stableford event today. The game was closely contested and there were some amazing scores achieved, including a Hole in One!

The Winners were:

- 1st: Shane Gschwend (16) with 40 points
- 2nd: Paula Coffey (43) with 39 points
- 3rd: John Harb (15) with 36 points (countback)
- 4th: Colin Houghton (3) with 36 points

Great Score:

Colin Houghton Hole in One Prize!

Nearest to the Pins

- 4th: Colin Houghton 0.00 A Grade
- 4th: Shane Gschwend 6.62 B Grade
- 6th: Brad Doolan 2.36 A Grade
- 6th: Shane Gschwend 5.67 B Grade
- 6th: Peter Coffey 2.16 C Grade
- 7th: Michael Coloe 0.95 A Grade
- 7th: Dianne Brown 7.44 B Grade

Balls went to: Bruce Martin 35, Mark Haberkorn 35, Wayne Fullerton 35, Wayne Lilley 34, Brad Doolan 34, Ray Bollard 34, Jennifer Gray 34, David Schmid 34, Troy Kingdom 33 and Ian Manton 33.



Winner: Chelsea Mayes with Sponsor Cathy Milliken.

Tuross Head Golf Results Saturday 14th March 2026

A field of 55 players registered for a Stableford Medley event today. The event was sponsored by Cathy Milliken. It was a beautiful Autumn day and some wonderful and high scores were achieved. Lots of pars and birdies today and well done to the Winner!

The Winners were:

- 1st: Chelsea Mayes (33) with 44 points
- 2nd: David Gray (17) with 42 points
- 3rd: Colin Houghton (3) with 40 points
- 4th: Dianne Brown (35) with 39 points
- 5th: Mark Haberkorn (14) with 37 points

Hole Prize:

6th Hole: Ray Bollard Jackpot Prize Distance: 0.88

Nearest to the Pins

- 4th: Martin Booth 0.66 A Grade
- 4th: Frank Pomfret 1.85 B Grade
- 6th: Ray Bollard 0.88 A Grade
- 6th: Bruce Harding 1.60 B Grade
- 6th: Michael Elfar 6.80 C Grade
- 7th: Ruth Gschwend 1.00 A Grade

Balls went to: Steve Pritchett 36, John Harb 36, Bruce Martin 36, Peter Hogan 36, Martin Booth 36, Wayne Lilley 35, Ruth Gschwend 35, John Phyland 35, Frank Pomfret 34, Ken Hush 34, Wayne Fullerton 34, Ian Manton 34, Peter Garn 34, Shane Gschwend 34 and Peter Coffey 34.



Winners: Jane Eglitis and Pauline Nash

Tuross Head Ladies Golf Results – Tuesday 17th March 2026

A field of 16 ladies played in a Stableford event today. The weather was overcast and some light rain fell, however some excellent scores were achieved.

The Winners were:

Division 1:

- 1st: Pauline Nash (30) with 37 points
- 2nd: Chelsea Mayes (31) with 36 points

Division 2:

- 1st: Jane Eglitis (40) with 33 points
- 2nd: Judy Apps (40) with 29 points

Place Getters

Jeanette Miller 28 and Chris Wratten 26.

Hole Prize: 2nd Shot

7th Pauline Nash Distance: 2.10

Golden Shot A

7th Jane Eglitis Distance: 2.32 Golden Shot B

Nearest to the Pin: 2nd Shot

6th Judy Apps Distance: 2.00

15th Samantha Dryden Distance: 0.89

Tuross Head Vets Golf Results Wednesday 18th March 2026

A smaller field of 28 players signed up for a Single Stableford event today. The weather was overcast and some fantastic scores were achieved.

The Winners were:

- 1st: Derek Hoare with 23 points
- 2nd: Neal Watson with 20 points
- 3rd: Ross Davidson with 19 points (countback)

Balls or Chocolates went to: John Cox 19, Lynda Puglisi 19, Greg Smith 19 and Bruce Harding 19.

Nearest to the Pins:

- 4th: Stacey Davidson (2nd Shot) In the Hole!
- 6th: Frank Pomfret (1st Shot)
- 7th: Ladies: Shirley Quinlan (2nd Shot)
- Mens: Bruce Harding (2nd Shot)

Accuracy: Tory Puglisi (5th hole)

Bradman: Jane Eglitis



Winner: Derek Hoare



Moruya Ladies Golf

Well, Bravo to all the ladies who ventured out to play at Moruya ladies golf on Wednesday 11th March. The day was unbelievably hot and sticky as the temperature rose and the humidity was at a high. The winner on the day was Leonie Doolan with a great score of 36 stableford points, followed by Sharon Knight with 33 points ocb. Balls went to Pauline Nash, Margaret Flynn, Noelene Cowdroy, Robyn Hawkins, Jan Lumsden, Vicki Goodwin, Nicola Gallon and Maree Coffey. Nearest the pin was won by Sharon Knight".

< Pic: Leonie Doolan



Club Malua Stingrays Women's Bowls



Tomakin Twist Tops Bowls

President Pedro welcomed Twisties to bowls on another very hot morning before cards were called for 6 games of Pairs . Pedro announced he will be moving from the area and resigning his position as President but will continue until election time . He has done a fabulous job and will be missed.

Welcome back to Suzy Q and Magpie also Happy 80th Birthday to Bob the Builder.

Winners with Highest Winning Margin, Hot Lips and Spike with Kaz 35/8 (photo)

Runners-up, Matilda and Pedro 21/5

Kaz selected Rink 5 to try for Jackpot of \$114 .

Winning Skip Helena cut cards but no luck finding Joker just the 4 of Clubs .

Hi/Low Scores 35/5 not won but someone very close with 34/5 .

Lucky number winners 14 Hoges, 13 Whizza .

Winning teams, Breadroll and Jamesy with Irish 21/11

Trish the Dish and Susy Q who played like a Champion after being away for a while, girl power!! 23/14

Megoo and The Friendly Finn. 15/11

Ute with J.H. and Hoges 28/16.

Today started off with the ladies taking part in Championship Club Pairs proceeding to Green 1.

Jay called cards for Social Bowls of 3 bowl Triples and 18 Ends.

Social winners, Gay Biggs, Gai Gibson and Rae Fayle. (Photo)

Lucky number winners, Joan Rimmer, Michelle Weekes and Bev McKague. Money Club winners, Di MacPherson and Julie Knorpp.

Gai Gibson selected card for Jackpot of \$940 but not won.

Round 1 Pairs.

Jenny Blyth & Sue Beavan 25 defeated Colleen Ashby & Lyn Hardy 16.

Sonia Frey & Margaret Bridges 20 def. Michelle Adler & Julie Knorpp 15.

Wendy Geary & Lisa Grice 19

def. Lynda Franks & Gwen Ware 9.

Thanks to Umpire Robyn Butcher.

Semi Final. Jenny Blyth & Sue Beavan 22 def. Sonia Frey & Margaret Bridges 14.

Wendy Geary & Lisa Grice 16 def. Brooke Wilson & Patricia Weekes 15

what a great game.

Thanks to Umpire Yvonne Huddleston.

120W to 350W Panels
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SAVE THE DATE!
PRE SEASON GALA DAY

Sunday 29th March
Gudary Oval, Moruya

FOOTBALL • FUN • COMMUNITY



BROULEE NETBALL CLUB INC

REGISTRATIONS ARE OPEN

registration closes	WINTER COMPETITION STARTS
20 April	TERM 2 2026
	CAPTAIN OLDREY PARK BROULEE



- WHAT TO EXPECT:**
- ✓ GAMES HELD ON SATURDAYS
 - ✓ WE CAN PLACE YOU IN A TEAM
 - ✓ OPEN TO ALL AGES

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TeenSafe
a driving skill for life

TRAINING SAFER YOUNG DRIVERS

Teensafe is a safe-driver program for L and P plate drivers - a skill for life. Practical behind-the-wheel courses are provided in school holidays at Moruya Speedway. Cars and instructors provided. Fee \$100. Teensafe is a community group operating for over 25 years supported by IMB Bank and partnered with Bay Beginners.

For info and forms go to TeenSafe link at - baybeginnersdrivingschool.com.au or phone Sean 0412446568

MARINE RESCUE NEW SOUTH WALES

ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF DAY AND DINNER
FRIDAY 1 MAY, 2026

Support our Volunteers

Limited Numbers

GOLF (registration from 10.00am)
 Tee off, shotgun start at 11.00am.
 18 holes, 4 person ambrose: \$35.00 Club members, \$60.00 non-members.
 BBQ sausage sizzle lunch: \$4.00.
 Putting competition: \$2.00 per ball or \$5.00 for 3 balls.

DINNER (6.30pm)
 Chinese buffet dinner: \$40.00 per person.
 Huge auction and raffle (great prizes!)

Bookings and payment by 24 April 2026

Call the MGC on 4474 2300 (also booking golf cart if required).

MORUYA GOLF CLUB
 CELEBRATING 100 YEARS

Moruya Golf Club
 Evans Street, Moruya, NSW

Be part of the solution

REPURPOSING for RESILIENCE

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rfreurobodalla.com.au

Batemans Bay Sailing Club report 14th March

It was a great day for sailing last Saturday when Batemans Bay Sailing Club held the annual 3 Bays Race. The course consisted of a work from the Toll Gates to a rounding mark off South Durras, then a round down the coast to the shark mark in Malua Bay followed by a work around Black Rock and a reach to the finish off Caseys Beach.

With the committee boat "Dave Magill" awaiting repairs, the yachts did a self timed start at the BBSC Toll Gates mark. It was a beautiful afternoon with a moderate sea breeze. Dave Boardman at the helm of "Moonmist" timed her start perfectly adjacent the mark, forcing "Accolade" (Lachlan Brown) above the mark. "Accolade" had to circle around to start which cost about a minute. "Sail La Vie" (John Drummond) started just behind "Accolade".

There was more east in the sea breeze than usual, allowing the boats to lay Wasp Island without tacking. "Moonmist" held her advantage at the Durras rounding but "Accolade" soon came past once both yachts set spinnakers. It was a delightful run down the coast. Things were in cruiser mode aboard "Sail La Vie" where they reportedly broke out the Iced Vovos. Both "Accolade" and "Moonmist" dropped their spinnakers earlier than necessary, perhaps because the Malua Bay shark mark looks like the BBSC rounding marks but is at least twice as big so the mark appeared closer than it was in reality.

After a short work to Black Rock, the power reach to the finish line really suited "Accolade". "Accolade" extended her lead over "Moonmist" to 6 minutes at the finish. This resulted in a win on AMS by about a minute while on PHS calculations the winning margin was 5 seconds after 3 hours of racing. Full results are up on the BBSC website www.bbsc.org.au. The next BBSC keelboat race is the final Bay Cup race of the 2025/26 season on March 28th. Contributed by Lachlan Brown



Photo: David Holt and Tony Bonouvrie on board "Accolade" during the race. Lachlan Brown.

TRIAL GAME

MORUYA SHARKS vs BELCONNEN SHARKS

Under 18's		130
Ladies Tag		230
Open Grade		330

Saturday 21 March | Ack Weyman Oval

Canteen and Bar open

ADELAIDE HOTEL MORUYA

Where you're part of the family



Courtesy bus available
call 44 742 084 for bookings

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

A promotional poster for an NRL Footy Tipping Competition. It features a central image of a Steeden NRL football. The text "NRL FOOTY TIPPING COMP" is written in large, bold, green and white letters. Below this, it lists the prize pool: "1ST 70%", "2ND 20%", and "3RD 10%". At the bottom left, it says "\$50 ENTRY" and at the bottom right, "REGISTER NOW AT THE BAR". The background is dark with various NRL team logos and a stadium scene.