



Photo of the Week: Mossy Point residents and supporters gather at Council to protest a subdivision that would see wildlife corridor developed into 14 lots. Photo Nina Shatifan Story Page 2

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Mayor's casting vote green-lights controversial Mossy Point subdivision

By Nina Shatifan

Eurobodalla Shire Mayor Mathew Hatcher used his casting vote to override a deadlocked chamber on Tuesday, approving a highly contentious 14-lot subdivision in a mapped wildlife corridor at Mossy Point. The dramatic 5-4 split decision sparked fury among local residents and environmentalists. Opponents argue the approval effectively bypasses the Eurobodalla Council's own 2021 C4 Environmental Living guidelines. This legally prioritises natural environment protections in areas of high ecological value.

The approved Development Application (DA) allows for the clearing of 70% of the native vegetation on a critical 2.06-hectare site. Public forum speakers and local ecologists argued before the vote that the extensive clearing directly violates local environmental protections for irreplaceable wildlife corridors, specifically threatening vulnerable local species such as the Yellow-bellied Glider.

The floor of the council chamber saw intense debate from both sides. Councillor Sharon Winslade led the opposition, citing eight separate examples where she argued the approval cuts corners on both State and Council environmental protections. She emphasised that the 14-lot layout fragments the continuous native canopy and will require massive clearing to accommodate mandatory bushfire safety margins.

When questioned, Council's Director of Planning and Environment, Gary Bruce, said that they had not assessed whether the remaining habitat could still support local wildlife so close to the new housing lots.

Councillor Anthony Mayne said the reduction from an initial 16 lots down to 14 was still far too high for a C4 zone. "Growth and environmental protections can go hand in hand; that's why we have C4 zoning to ensure appropriate development". Cr Mayne also warned that the move sets a dangerous precedent. He added that Council needs to be wary of supporting developers who play "mathematical games" to bypass development controls regarding minimum lot sizes and retained forests.

Councillor Colleen Turner suggested that building fewer houses would reduce the risk of trees being cleared in the first place. She questioned how Council could guarantee ongoing compliance, highlighting the steep challenges staff face in preventing the illegal destruction of irreplaceable trees, even with tools like a tree register.

Conversely, councillors supporting the DA pointed to the recommendations of Council staff. Councillor Phil Constable referred directly to the staff report, which maintained that necessary protections and mitigation measures were securely in place. Backing this up, Mr Bruce said the DA complies with minimum lot sizes and includes strict flora and fauna management plans alongside formal offset mechanisms. Councillor Amber Schultz strongly defended the DA, stating that the rights of landowners to invest and develop their land should be protected. Council accepted her proposal to add further restrictions on cutting down hollow-bearing trees, which endangered fauna rely on for survival. Cr Shutz pointed out the developer's use of "biodiversity offsets" in the DA which means they can clear locally by purchasing environmental credits elsewhere. However, she also acknowledged this still effectively destroys the immediate Mossy Point wildlife corridor. When the matter was put to a vote, the chamber was split down the middle in a deadlocked 4-4 tie. Councillors Laurence Babington, Phil Constable, Amber Schultz, and Mayor Mathew Hatcher voted in favour of the DA. Councillors Anthony Mayne, Mick Johnson, Sharon Winslade, and Colleen Turner voted against. Mayor Hatcher and Councillor Babington did not contribute to the debate.

Mayor Hatcher used his casting vote to break the tie and pass the motion.

After the vote Councillor Mick Johnson said "I think this will be one of the decisions we will live to regret for time immemorial. I think it's a very sad day." Community attendees expressed surprise that Mayor Hatcher chose not to explain his views during the meeting, given the contentious and close nature of the vote. Local advocate Reverend Linda Chapman noted that in the case of a split vote, a Mayor normally votes to maintain the status quo. Speaking on behalf of outraged residents, Rev. Chapman declared that the community group will continue to actively protest the decision.

"This isn't just about losing a few trees; it's the systematic dismantling of a critical environmental corridor," Rev. Chapman said. "C4 zoning exists precisely to prevent high-density fragmentation like this. Sadly, Council has prioritized large development over extinction risks."

Moruya Mail understands that Council has now received a motion to rescind the decision. It seems the story has not ended yet.

mm MORUYA MAIL

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Rotary Club of Moruya Celebrates 70 Years of Service and Fellowship



R President Merv Jamieson and L outgoing President Tony Armstrong



Rotary Club of Moruya - Merv Jamieson's board 2026-27

By Steve Picton

The Rotary Club of Moruya marked a significant milestone on Thursday evening 26 June 2026, celebrating both its 70th Anniversary and the annual Changeover Dinner in the company of 95 members, partners, guests and visiting Rotarians.

Representatives from the Rotary Clubs of Narooma, Batemans Bay, Queanbeyan, Goulburn and Crookwell joined the celebrations, making the evening a wonderful demonstration of the fellowship and friendship that Rotary fosters across our region.

The occasion provided an opportunity to reflect on the proud history of the Rotary Club of Moruya. Established in 1956, the club was formed through the dedicated efforts of local community leader Don Mackay and members of the Rotary Club of Queanbeyan, who recognised the need for a Rotary presence on the South Coast. Their vision, enthusiasm and commitment laid the foundation for what has become seven decades of service to the Moruya community.

Over those 70 years, Moruya Rotarians have supported countless local projects, youth development programs, scholarships, international initiatives and community organisations. The club's impact can be seen throughout the region and continues to grow through the dedication of its members and volunteers.

One of the most special moments of the evening was the recognition of Charter Era member Michel P Nader. Michel has been associated with Rotary throughout the entire 70 year history of the Rotary Club of Moruya, an extraordinary achievement that few Rotarians anywhere in the world could claim. His commitment, wisdom and service exemplify the values of Rotary and provide an inspiring link between the club's founding generation and its future leaders.

Outgoing President Tony Armstrong reflected on a successful year for the club, highlighting strong community engagement, support for youth programs, successful fundraising activities and the continuing positive impact Rotary has throughout the Eurobodalla.

The evening also featured the presentation of Paul Harris Fellowships, Rotary's highest honour for service. Congratulations were extended to Col Jay, John Sewell and Steve Picton, who were recognised for their outstanding contributions to Rotary and the wider community.

Partners were also acknowledged for their ongoing support, with Phil Smith proposing the Toast to Partners, recognising the vital role families and supporters play in enabling Rotarians to serve their communities.

The formal Changeover Ceremony then saw President Tony Armstrong pass the chain of office to incoming President Merv Jamieson. Members expressed their appreciation to the outgoing Board and welcomed the new leadership team for the 2026-2027 Rotary year.

As the Rotary Club of Moruya begins its 71st year, members can look back with pride on seven decades of achievement while looking forward with optimism to new opportunities to serve. The spirit that inspired Don Mackay and the Rotarians of Queanbeyan in 1956 remains alive and well today, ensuring that Rotary continues to make a meaningful difference in the lives of people both locally and around the world.

Service Above Self continues to guide the Rotary Club of Moruya as it embarks on another year of fellowship, friendship and community service.

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Trash talking the long game

The Eurobodalla waste team reworking how we collect, process and dispose of rubbish. With a new Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy ready to go, we're focusing on finding value in reuse and keeping it out of landfill longer.

The biggest shift is in soft plastics – we've trained our staff to bale it. We now compress all the shire's soft plastic at Moruya's Waste Transfer Station. Baling saves so much space we've more than doubled the load – from under one tonne to well over two – with RecycleSmart transport carrying it to be processed at APR Plastics in Dandenong.

All our polystyrene recycling will move to Moruya Waste Transfer Station. Cleaner rubbish makes for a better product and polystyrene is no exception. The best uses clean, dry and white material – like the rigid packaging protecting appliances such as televisions – to make an A-grade foam.

For textiles the waste team trialling different solutions. Textile recycling event days – much like our household chemical clean-out events – seem to work best. You can expect another later in the year, where we'll be partnering with textile recyclers RRR Australia and Eurobodalla's very own Yumaro.

Our food waste future

NSW mandates for food and garden organics (FOGO) rolling out for bigger businesses from July, however Eurobodalla businesses are exempt until 2028 to let regional systems ramp up to cope with increased organic waste. Rather than rely on one giant processing facility, we're assisting our local businesses in exploring a decentralised model for Eurobodalla's business organic waste. This could include commercial composting, community compost hubs, worm farms, Bokashi systems for smaller businesses, and direct partnerships between businesses and local farmers.

For example, food waste from clubs and hospitals is diverted for composting and agricultural reuse rather than landfill – the circular economy in action.

Full FOGO services for domestic organic waste across Eurobodalla will be established by 2030.

The Job Shop's resume-worthy achievement

Almost 300 Eurobodalla residents found work last year with the help of Eurobodalla Council's Job Shop. The service has now been recognised as one of the best local government initiatives in NSW.

The Job Shop won the Special Project Initiative (Population under 100,000) category at the 2026 NSW Local Government Excellence Awards for connecting local people with local jobs.

The Job Shop's success comes down to working closely with both jobseekers and local businesses to create lasting employment outcomes – a simple approach that's making a real difference across Eurobodalla.

In 2025, the free service connected jobseekers with thousands of employment opportunities, helping almost 300 people secure work while supporting local businesses to find the staff they need.

The Job Shop was one of 10 finalists in the category, with projects from councils including Byron, Strathfield, Waverley and Wollondilly.

If you're looking for work or need to fill a vacancy, The Job Shop is a free service connecting local jobseekers and businesses across Eurobodalla. Find out how the team can help or sign up for weekly job alerts.

Who's your local hero?

Nominations are now open

Who makes Eurobodalla a better place? Now's your chance to recognise them, with nominations open for the 2026 Local Hero Award.

Mayor Mathew Hatcher said the award recognises the quiet achievers who make a real difference in the lives of others.

"Eurobodalla's strength lies in those who give their time and heart to help others," Mayor Hatcher said.

"The Local Hero Award shines a light on the quiet achievers who inspire us all. These awards let us pause, say thank you, and celebrate the local legends who make Eurobodalla proud."

Established in 2018, the Local Hero Award recognises individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the Eurobodalla community through volunteer work, leadership, advocacy or acts of kindness.

Community members are encouraged to nominate someone whose efforts deserve recognition. Nominations are open from Wednesday 1 July until Friday 31 July 2026. Finalists will be invited to the Mayor's Charity Ball later this year, where the 2026 Local Hero will be announced.

Nomination forms and award guidelines are available on [Council's Local Hero Award webpage](#).

THE NEXT AUSTRALIAN OF THE YEAR COULD BE ?

Australians are encouraged to nominate people in their communities who are making a real difference, with nominations for the 2027 Australian of the Year Awards closing on 31 July 2026.

Importantly, nominators do not need to know the person they put forward personally. Many nominees are people Australians have seen, heard about, or been inspired by through their work, leadership or service. Nominators can also choose to remain anonymous.

The Australian of the Year Awards recognise outstanding Australians across four categories:

- Australian of the Year
- Senior Australian of the Year (65 years and over)
- Young Australian of the Year (16–30 years)
- Australia's Local Hero

Each state and territory selection panel chooses four recipients, one in each award category.

Nominations can be submitted online at

australianoftheyear.org.au

Nominations close at midnight AEST on Friday, 31 July 2026.

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Notes from the June 30 Eurobodalla Council Meeting

There was a full gallery at Tuesday's Public Forum and monthly Council Meeting which lasted almost 6 hours. The vast majority were there to protest the DA for a 14 lot subdivision at Mossy Point.

Speakers at Public Forum

- Louise Webb (Animal Shelter)
- Peter Cormick (Animal Shelter)
- Owen Carthige (finance plans)
- Kerri Riches (Moruya Country Markets)
- Patricia Hellier (Operational Plan and Surfside scrapping)
- Linda Chapman (for Pamela Green Mossy Point DA)
- Suzzanne Gray (Mossy Point DA)
- Brett Stevenson (Mossy Point DA)
- Jay Cootes (Mossy Point DA)
- Anthony Whitelaw (Beach Rd Batemans Bay DA)
- Sam Bailey (Beach Rd Batemans Bay DA)

GMR26/005 Code of Meeting Practice

This was brought back to Council as the new legislation was not passed by the upper house, so Council had to revert to the 2021 Code.

The Major changes are that the Public Forum would move to a week before the Council meeting, meaning that it would not need to be cut short.

Council will stay with councillor workshops open to the public to observe.

Council is looking to bring forward the publication of Agendas to give the Councillors and public more time to digest the information.

GMR26/006 Adoption of the Operational Plan 2026-27, Fees and Charges 2026-27 and Long Term Financial Plan 2026-36

There will be a 3.1% rate increase in line with the rate peg.

QON26/005 - New Animal Shelter

Cr Mick Johnson added to his list of questions on notice to question Director Gary Bruce about the number of kennels and the budget for the building.

Cr Johnson was concerned at the time it has taken to get this far (7 years) with the current facility being substandard.

PER26/019 DA0134/26 - 14 Lot Torrens Title Subdivision, public road and earthworks - Annetts Parade, Mossy Point, Lot 16 DP 1248291

See p2 and presentations on pp 6-7

PER26/020 DA0052/26 Demolish existing dwelling and construct a new residential flat building - 43 Beach Road, Batemans Bay -

Carried Unanimously

PET26/002 Petition- Support and equitably secure the continuation of the Moruya Country Markets at their current location

Carried unanimously

GMR26/007 2026-27 Determination of the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal

Councillors will receive a 3.7% pay increase as recommended by LGNSW.

Carried All for except Cr Mayne.

GMR26/008 LGNSW Membership and Conference Attendance

Council nominated Cr Hatcher, Pollock and Schutz to attend the conference.

Carried unanimously

Investments made as at 31 May 2026 GMR26/009

Carried unanimously

PER26/016 Project Plan Batemans Bay Master Plan

The Project Plan is now going out to the community for consultation.

PER26/017 Draft Biodiversity Strategy

Carried unanimously

Eurobodalla's draft Biodiversity Strategy is now on public exhibition with the public invited to have their say on the draft until 14 August 2026.

The draft strategy outlines a range of actions for Council as well as Council-led community initiatives.

The draft is available on Council's website or in hard copy from the customer service desk in the Moruya Administration building and the libraries.

CAR26/005 Batemans Bay Community Centre - Exhibition of draft Fees and Charges

Will go out on exhibition and there will be an open day for people to come along and have look after it's been cleaned up.

CAR26/006 Aboriginal Advisory Committee

Carried unanimously

CAR26/007 Creative Arts Advisory Committee

Carries unanimously

CAR26/008 Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2026-2030

Carried unanimously

CAR26/009 Classification of land to operational - 33A

Murray Street Moruya

Carried unanimously

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Council Meeting Public Forum Presentations

Dr Brett Stevenson

PER26/019 - DA0134/26 - 14 LOT TORRENS TITLE SUBDIVISION, PUBLIC ROAD AND EARTHWORKS - ANNETTS PARADE, MOSSY POINT, LOT 16 DP 1248291

Good afternoon, and thank you for the opportunity to address Council. I am presenting as Co-convenor of A Better Eurobodalla (ABE), a community forum working to achieve open, accountable and responsive governance in the Eurobodalla Shire.

ABE has examined both DA0134/26 and Council's Planning report and concluded that the current subdivision proposal does not satisfy the intent and requirements of the Eurobodalla C4 Environmental Living zoning. It therefore should not be approved in its current configuration. ABE is also deeply concerned that if the current proposal was adopted by Council it would set a appalling precedent for future development and planning processes across the entire Eurobodalla Shire.

The key concern with the current proposal is its reliance on the 4(1)e "lot averaging" clause in the Eurobodalla LEP, which has been used to undermine the 1,000 sq metre Minimum Lot Size (MLS) specified in C4 zoning provisions. MLS is a planning tool designed to assist protecting land of high environmental value by helping to ensure that development activities do not compromise the ecological integrity of these sensitive areas.

Lot averaging was introduced to allow better environmental outcomes through appropriate siting, not simply to maximise lot numbers. However, its use in DA0134/26 to manipulate the MLS provision produces the opposite effect, resulting in irretrievable ecological impacts across the bulk of this C4 block.

This mis-application of lot averaging in DA0134/26 delivers sub-standard outcomes which are unacceptable based on numerical logic, planning practice and environmental protection, as outlined below.

1) Mathematically absurd outcomes :

The mathematical "logic" of lot averaging is based on an assumption that the average value provides a reasonably accurate indication of the typical value for a set of numbers. However, the average value is easily distorted by one or two large values in a set of otherwise much smaller values, as described in Darrell Huff's classic 1954 book *How to Lie with Statistics*.

DA0134/26 provides a text book example, where a few large blocks significantly inflate the average block size to 1330 sq metres, in apparent conformance with the required MLS. However, this apparent conformance rapidly dissolves upon further consideration of block sizes, revealing that 11 out of the 14 proposed blocks (i.e. 79%) are substantially below the required MLS, with 7 out of the 14 proposed blocks being less than 600m² (a 40% or greater MLS deficiency), including one 500 m² block that is only half the size of the MLS specified for this C4 land.

From a mathematical perspective, the most meaningful measure of central tendency for DA0134/26 is the median value, which comes in at 615.15 m² well under the MLS, and is a much more accurate indication of most block sizes currently proposed in DA0134/26.

These figures speak for themselves, and underscore the logical absurdity and problematic planning practices used to justify the current design configuration of DA0134/26.

2) Significant Inconsistency with C4 Objectives

In environmentally sensitive areas such as C4 lands, lot averaging to achieve higher density subdivision is considered poor planning practice because it permits high housing densities and urban impacts directly adjacent to fragile ecosystems, leading to habitat fragmentation and water pollution. Key flaws include:

·Habitat Fragmentation: Grouping smaller lots tightly together still introduces domestic pets, noise, light, and human traffic. This breaks continuous habitats into smaller "islands," which threatens local flora and fauna.

·Inadequate Buffer Zones: The conserved "open space" is frequently comprised of the most sensitive parts of the land (e.g. wetlands), leaving little to no safe buffer zone between active residential areas and conservation zones.

·Edge Effects: Concentrating development near the edges of preserved habitats increases "edge effects," where invasive species, weeds, and pollutants easily infiltrate the core ecological zones.

·Cumulative Environmental Stress: Even with smaller footprints, higher concentrations of driveways, waste water systems, and paved roads result in hard surfaces replacing permeable surfaces. This increases stormwater runoff, which degrades water quality in local streams and aquifers.

DA0134/26 will manifest these effects, and impact known breeding and/or feeding habitat for 2 threatened species listed at the state and national levels (Yellow-bellied Glider and the Southern Myotis), as well as habitat for a range of other threatened species that have been recorded using the site. The loss and degradation of the vegetation on Lot 16 DP 1248291 from the current proposal will affect the ongoing suitability of the site for these species, as attested in submissions Council has received from concerned community members.

These significant negative environmental impacts clearly conflict with relevant C4 Environmental Living objectives to :

·Provide for low-impact residential development in areas with special ecological, scientific or aesthetic values; and

- Ensure that residential development does not have an adverse effect on those values.

While areas of vegetation are proposed for retention, DA0134/26 involves vegetation clearing across three quarters of the C4 land, followed by intensive residential subdivision across the site, immediately adjacent to sensitive C2 zoned land.

In addition, DA0134/26 relies on purchasing external off-site biodiversity credits to offset its significant local impacts on this Mossy Point C4 land, without adequately exploring whether these impacts could have been avoided or substantially mitigated by reducing lot numbers, and whether the remaining land can continue as a functional ecosystem in the future. Given that the proposal requires removal of a significant hollow bearing tree, followed by substantial further vegetation removal to meet the Bushfire Protection Measures specified for 14 newly created dwellings, it is clear that there is still considerable scope to refine the proposal to reduce its on-site environmental impacts in the Mossy Point area.

In view of these significant impacts, it is imperative to note that the Eurobodalla LEP Clause 4(1)e requires that, when evaluating a development proposal reliant on lot averaging, the decision maker must be satisfied that the proposed subdivision will retain environmental values and result in no significant adverse environmental impact. As outlined in previous presentations to Council and numerous submissions from concerned community members, as well as today's presentation, there is an extensive body of evidence indicating that the current proposal does not satisfy this criteria, and should therefore be rejected.

In conclusion, this density-driven and mathematically misleading application of lot averaging fails to satisfy key objectives of the Eurobodalla C4 zoning requirements, as well as the criteria specified for its evaluation. ABE strongly urges Council to exercise its better judgement and discretion and reject the current configuration of DA0134/26, in order to protect both the integrity of Eurobodalla planning processes going forward as well as significant existing environmental values at Mossy Point.

Thank you for your attention,
Brett Stevenson,
Co-Convenor, ABE



Council Meeting Public Forum Presentations

Pamela Green Presentation read by Linda Chapman Mossy Point 14 Lot Subdivision

I appreciate that this application has been carefully considered and that you have sought additional information, including legal advice, before coming to a decision. I also appreciate that there are competing considerations before you. There is pressure to provide more housing. There are expectations associated with the purchase of the land. There is a recommendation from Council staff that the application can be approved. And there are many members of the community who remain deeply concerned about the environmental outcome.

However, I ask you to focus on a single question - not whether this proposal can be approved but whether this proposal should be approved?

I accept that legal advice may indicate that approval is available to you. But planning legislation does not simply require Councillors to identify what is legally possible. It requires you to exercise judgement about whether a proposal achieves the outcomes the legislation was designed to secure.

The C4 Environmental Living zone was not created to maximise residential yield. It was created to allow low-impact residential development in places that possess special environmental values. And it was created to ensure that development does not have an adverse effect on those values.

Those words matter. Because they describe not merely what development is permitted, but what kind of outcome the community was promised when this land was zoned Environmental Living.

Similarly, Clause 4.1E was not introduced simply to provide a mathematical pathway to more lots. It was introduced to provide flexibility where environmental values could be conserved through the appropriate siting of development. The purpose of the clause is environmental protection. The flexibility is conditional upon achieving that purpose.

When I look at this proposal, I do not see a development that has been shaped by the environmental values of the site. I see a development that has been shaped by the pursuit of fourteen lots.

The proposal clears most of the C4 land, relies heavily on offsets and retains some pockets of vegetation and individual habitat elements. But the question before you is not whether some trees remain standing, it is whether the environmental attributes of this land are genuinely retained.

Environmental attributes are not individual trees. They are not isolated habitat patches. They are the functioning ecological systems that exist across the site today. They include habitat connectivity, movement pathways and the bushland character that gives this land its environmental value.

Once clearing for houses, roads, bushfire protection, driveways, lighting, fencing, vehicles, domestic animals and residential occupation are introduced across the site, those systems will inevitably change - and that change cannot be undone.

This is also not a choice between development and no development. A different outcome is clearly available. A lower-yield, more clustered design could still provide housing. It could still realise value for the landowner. And it could do so while better reflecting the purpose of the C4 zone and Clause 4.1E.

Your responsibility is not to decide whether a legal pathway to approval exists. Your responsibility is to decide whether this proposal gives proper effect to the environmental protections legislated in the LEP and that the community relies on. If there is doubt about whether the environmental attributes of this land will truly be retained, if there is doubt about whether this represents low-impact

environmental living, if there is doubt about whether the outcome reflects the purpose of the C4 zone and Clause 4.1E, then I respectfully suggest that those doubts should not be resolved in favour of irreversible environmental loss.

The decision you make will not only shape this site, but it will also help define what Environmental Living means in Eurobodalla for years to come.

We respectfully ask that you refuse the application in its current form and require a better outcome.

Peter Cormick QON26/005 NEW ANIMAL SHELTER

I am grateful to Councillor Johnson for not only bringing these questions into the chamber but also for his doggedness (!) in this long running, hugely important issue, of providing the lost and unwanted animals of our shire with as much comfort as they need and deserve, while they wait for their owners or to find a new home.

Such comforts do not exist for those unfortunate animals who are incarcerated in our current pound.

As part of my presentation, below is a copy of my submission to councillors, on the Animal Shelter DA, dated 22 June 2026.

I and others have found this whole process of acquiring a new animal shelter to be inordinately and unnecessarily demanding, frustrating and more recently, infuriating.

I will speak to the following points:

- The process, 7 arduous years on:

- o Its starting point, the brief to the architects: how, when and by whom was it drafted?

- o The order of events. Designed according to animal welfare needs or a fixed, nominal budget? No doubt at all that the budget came first: "Give them 'something'".

- o Where did the \$3 million referred to in a report to the 19 November meeting, as the amount required "to support the project", come from? It's basis?

- Animal welfare expert report - completely absent from DA documents. Essential requirement of the Australian Veterinary Association policy on animal shelter design - that a veterinarian be engaged to advise on design - as been ignored; and yet we are told that "regard has been given" to the AVA requirements. But where, for example, are the required isolation areas shown on the plan?

- 14 Kennels. That number is unbelievable but even more unbelievable, yet true, the brief required "approximately 12" kennels. The current pound has 25 kennels. What possible reasoning could support this utter nonsense?

- No provision for population growth. Relying on doubling-up, using the euphemistically termed "configurable kennels", in breach of animal welfare standards.

- Community engagement. Prior to the DA 'exhibition', there was NO engagement with the community.



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NSW News in Brief

Landlord penalties now in force for premises selling illicit tobacco and vapes

New laws targeting commercial landlords who knowingly permit tenants to sell illicit tobacco and vaping goods from their premises begin today, as part of the Minns Labor Government's continued crack down on the illicit market.

The new offence applies to landlords who are aware of the sale of illicit tobacco and vaping goods from their premises and knowingly permit this activity to continue, without taking steps to report or evict the tenant. It carries a maximum penalty of 1 year imprisonment, a fine of \$165,000, or both.

As of 26 June 2026, NSW Health has issued 321 short-term closure orders since 3 November 2025, with 162 currently in force.

Members of the public can lodge complaints about retailers they believe are doing the wrong thing via the [reporting portal on the NSW Health website](#)

A faster and easier planning system for NSW

The NSW planning system will undergo one of the most significant structural changes in a generation from today, with the establishment of the Development Coordination Authority (DCA), to help deliver more homes through a modern, faster, and fairer planning system.

The new one-stop-shop will mean applicants and councils seeking NSW Government input on planning matters receive one coordinated response, instead of being bounced around between up to 22 different agencies. The DCA was established as part of the Minns Labor Government's landmark planning reforms, which passed Parliament last year with almost universal support.

Bringing together experts from across government, the DCA will cut red tape and speed up approvals for new homes. Under the current system, when a Development Application is referred to multiple state agencies for advice, each additional referral can add around 100 days to the assessment process.

The DCA will replace this fragmented approach with a single coordinated NSW Government response within 28 days.

The new framework will safeguard important areas like the environment, heritage and bush fire management and prevent unnecessary referrals of DAs to DCA.

Next phase of firearms reforms take effect

Phase two of the Minns Labor Government's firearms reforms takes effect today with the changes intended to strengthen oversight, reduce risk and help keep the community safe. Following the antisemitic terror attack at Bondi Beach in which 15 innocent people were killed, the NSW Government passed the Terrorism and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2025 – which include the toughest firearms reforms in a generation.

Regulations are being implemented in stages, allowing the NSW Firearms Registry to effectively operationalise the reform and licenced firearms owners the opportunity to become compliant with requirements.

From today, changes that apply include:

Firearm licence terms

Licences can only be issued for a maximum of two years, a reduction from five years.

A five-year licence term will no longer be available when submitting a firearms application, for both new applications and renewals.

Firearm licences issued prior to this date remain valid until expiry.

Strengthened identity proofing processes

Identity verification is mandatory before an application can proceed, formalising existing processes.

This applies to licence and permit applications, including renewals.

Amended permit to acquire provisions in place:

A Permit to Acquire (PTA) firearms will not be issued until a person can demonstrate they meet safe storage requirements.

A PTA will not be issued unless the Commissioner is satisfied the applicant has never been investigated by a Commonwealth or State law enforcement or intelligence agency for terrorism-related offences and is not residing or associating with a person who has been investigated for terrorism-related offences.

Streamlining decision-making functions

An internal administrative change to delegate certain decisions involving criminal intelligence to an Assistant Commissioner or above.

The Government is investing \$42.8 million over ten years into the NSW Gun Registry, including additional staff and system upgrades to support the implementation of these reforms.

These changes build on a suite of reforms from the Minns Labor Government designed to protect the community, prevent intimidation and allow NSW Police to focus on keeping people safe, including:

- Investing \$94.3 million for an Australian-first specialist armed response command, with 250 police officers, 28 civilian staff, rapid-response vehicles and a 24/7 operations centre.
- Investing \$26.9 million for 30 additional police multicultural liaison officers.
- Banning the display of Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corp (IRGC) and Hizb ut-Tahrir symbols in NSW.

Taking back footpaths and kicking e-bike clutter to the kerb

E-bikes blocking the path of pedestrians will be substantially cleaned up under rules to establish marked parking bays on the streets and at the kerbside.

The explosion in the number of shared e-bikes cluttering footpaths in the Sydney CBD and surrounding suburbs has frustrated many in our community.

A \$6.6 million funding program announced today will grant up to \$200,000 per application to local councils and other public authorities to deliver e-bike parking and improve rider behaviour.

Councils will have the power to decide 'no-go' and 'go-slow' zones for shared and private e-bikes and will be able to choose which operators can set up in their area.

Grants open for housing innovation to accelerate delivery in NSW

Applications are now open for two grant programs supporting the uptake of modern and innovative approaches to designing, building and delivering high-quality homes across NSW.

The funding comes as the Minns Labor Government is set to turbocharge the way homes are built in NSW, unlocking the potential of Modern Methods of Construction (MMC) and lifting productivity in the building sector.

To fast-track this, the Government has today opened the Housing Innovation in Construction Fund and the Housing Innovation Network Grants Program – a nearly \$4 million investment to strengthen the local industry MMC sector.

For more information about Housing Innovation in Construction Fund, and how to apply, please visit www.nsw.gov.au/hic.

For more information about the Housing Innovation Network Grants Program, and how to apply, please visit www.nsw.gov.au/hin.

Minns Labor Government cracking down on knives, dangerous weapons

The Minns Labor Government will make powers targeting knife crime permanent to remove dangerous weapons from our streets and keep communities safe.

The legislation being introduced today will ensure police can continue conducting 'wandering' operations which were first brought in on a trial basis in 2024, modelled off 'Jack's Law'.

It follows a successful trial, a statutory review of current laws and a recommendation from the Bondi Junction Coronial Inquest to consider making them permanent.

The new laws will make police knife 'wandering' powers permanent and will expand where police can run operations.

Carroll College Cares: Homeless Sleepout Initiative

By John Longhurst

Carroll College in Broulee has once again decided to tackle increasing homelessness in the Eurobodalla Shire head on with its third Winter Sleepout on the 28th August. According to the NSW Statewide Street Count returned in 2023 with its headcount of those experiencing street homelessness, Eurobodalla Shire recorded one of the largest increases across the state.*

Anecdotal evidence from St Vincent de Paul indicate this number has only increased in recent years.

Carroll College Religious Education Coordinator, Ms Anna Smart, is once again organising the Sleepout.

Ms Smart said “We are aiming to beat last year’s effort and raise \$10,000. Participating students will remain at school at school on Friday, 28th August. A hot evening meal will be provided as well as breakfast the next morning. Students will sleep in the Hall, supervised by male and female staff.

Partitions will be provided to separate areas for different genders.

Carroll College is teaming is teaming with St Vincent de Paul and the Vinnies Youth Team from Canberra will lead workshops and activities to foster a deeper understanding of homelessness and social inequity.

Ms Smart said “All monies raised will be donated to the Vinnies South Coast Outreach Van ensuring a local and visible service for homeless people.”

Carroll College Principal, Andrew Keneally, is keen for the event to be an annual feature on the school calendar. Mr Keneally said “We invite individuals, businesses and organisations to sponsor the Carroll College Sleepout and make a difference to people doing it tough in our community.”

Donors can make contributions and track the fundraising initiatives at:

[Carroll College Winter Sleepout in Vinnies Winter Appeal](#)

Or use the QR code: >



Carroll College Sleepout Coordinator
Ms Anna Smart.

Have your say on the future of NSW’s biosecurity framework

The **NSW Government** is inviting members of the community to provide feedback on a draft NSW Biosecurity Strategy that will provide the focus for improvements to the state’s biosecurity framework over the next 10 years.

The draft strategy helps address recommendations made by the Natural Resources Commission and former Independent Biosecurity Commissioner Dr Marion Healy to improve strategic planning and coordination for pest and weed management.

It outlines a clear whole-of-government approach to strengthen how NSW manages the risk of disease, pests, weeds and other biosecurity risks to protect the state’s most important assets and values.

Biosecurity is a shared responsibility, and input from industry, businesses, organisations and the community will help ensure the system is effective into the future.

The Draft Strategy focuses on four priority areas:

- Strengthening adoption and compliance with the biosecurity duty, including the actions a person must take to protect what is important and meet their legislative obligation.
- Driving partnerships and collaboration to support cross-tenure and cross-sector outcomes nationally and across NSW, regionally and locally
- Delivering an agile and strategic approach to prepare, prevent, respond and recover from biosecurity risks; and
- Improving biosecurity systems and infrastructure that enables coordinated and dynamic approaches to planning, surveillance and compliance.

The NSW Government is seeking your feedback on what is working well and what needs to improve, as well as the biggest challenges facing biosecurity now and in the years ahead. Feedback will be used to inform the final Strategy, to be released later this year.

Delivery of this strategy will mean that the commitments and investment by government are targeted and effective at delivering outcomes for our economy, environment and community.

The final Strategy will be supported by an Implementation Roadmap to outline the key actions government will take to deliver on the Strategy’s outcomes from 2027.

The Strategy is a key deliverable of the NSW Biosecurity Action Plan 2025-26, providing a clear direction for government’s role in shaping improvements across the biosecurity framework. The Biosecurity Action Plan has delivered a number of improvements to the biosecurity system to date with more in progress, including:

- Improved support for local control authorities to tackle priority weeds through a 4-Year Weeds Action Program
- A dedicated biosecurity compliance and investigations unit to improve compliance with biosecurity obligations
- Establishing an Integrated Regulatory Framework for NSW with regular reporting on compliance activities
- Improved coordination and decision making with a new State Biosecurity Committee

The draft strategy is open for feedback until 29th July 2026 via the Have Your Say website at

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

Be Part of Something Bigger - Recruitment campaign launch for new Eurobodalla Regional Hospital

Southern NSW Local Health District is further strengthening the local health workforce, with a recruitment campaign aiming to attract skilled and passionate professionals to the new \$330 million Eurobodalla Regional Hospital.

The **'Be part of something bigger'** recruitment campaign features a video series profiling current Southern NSW Local Health District health staff, sharing their personal and professional journeys in the Eurobodalla region. The campaign highlights a variety of roles and unique employee experiences soon to be available to support the new, purpose-built Eurobodalla Regional Hospital, which is expected to open in 2027.

Southern NSW Local Health District is also hoping the Eurobodalla community will get behind the campaign and support this recruitment drive by spreading the word among family, friends, and networks. Community members are urged to share and talk about the campaign and help generate word of mouth momentum.

More than 160 additional positions will be offered across a number of areas, including: Aboriginal health, allied health, anaesthetics, biomedical engineering, corporate and support services, emergency medicine, general medicine, general surgery, mental health, nursing and midwifery, obstetrics and gynaecology, and pharmacy.

As part of the campaign, interested individuals are encouraged to submit an Expression of Interest form, to be kept informed and receive direct communications about roles as they become available.

This campaign is in addition to active recruitment already underway for general physicians, junior medical officers, paediatricians, and paediatric clinical nursing positions. A number of key positions have been appointed, including an Intensive Care Unit Director, Magnetic Resonance Imaging Manager, and Nurse Unit Managers.

All existing staff at Batemans Bay and Moruya hospitals will transition to the new Eurobodalla Regional Hospital.

The new Eurobodalla Regional Hospital will be larger than both the current Batemans Bay and Moruya hospitals combined, delivering expanded services to help meet the growing health care needs of Southern NSW communities.

The NSW Government's \$330 million Eurobodalla Regional Hospital development includes a new Intensive Care Unit, an expanded Emergency Department, increased access to chemotherapy and renal dialysis, new operating theatres and day surgery unit, ambulatory care, paediatrics, maternity and special care nursery, mental health and specialist services, and the district's first MRI.

Dr Michael Holland MP Member for Bega said "This recruitment campaign is about attracting talented healthcare professionals who want to be part of something truly transformational for the Eurobodalla region and the communities we serve.

"The new Eurobodalla Regional Hospital will provide state-of-the-art facilities, expanded services and exciting career opportunities across a wide range of specialties, creating an environment where staff can thrive professionally while delivering exceptional care close to home.

"We are building not only a new hospital, but a workforce that will help shape the future of healthcare in Southern NSW for generations to come."

SNSWLHD Chief Executive, Margaret Bennett said "We are incredibly proud to launch this recruitment campaign and share the inspiring stories of our passionate staff.

"The Eurobodalla region offers the perfect balance of rewarding work and a wonderful lifestyle. We invite healthcare professionals from all backgrounds to join us and help shape the future of care in our community."

See the campaign Here - [Join us Eurobodalla Regional Hospital | Videos & Movies on Vimeo](#)

To learn more about the campaign and the opportunities available, visit <https://www.nsw.gov.au/departments-and-agencies/snswlhd/work-us/work-at-eurobodalla-regional-hospital>

To submit an Expression of Interest form visit <https://msnswlhd.snapforms.com.au/form/snswlhd---register-interest-to-work-at-eurobodalla-regional-hospital>

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New Eurobodalla Regional Hospital Construction Update June 2026

Construction of the new Eurobodalla Regional Hospital continues to make strong progress, with several exciting milestones reached this month. A major highlight is the completion of the new roundabout providing a safe connection from the Princes Highway to the hospital site. As the area becomes operational, drivers are reminded to observe the new speed limits on the Princes Highway, south of Moruya, to help keep everyone safe. Across the site, work is advancing on multiple fronts. Helipad works are now underway, with earthworks forming the first stage of this important infrastructure. At the same time, landscaping around the building is taking shape, with more concrete pathways and garden beds now formed, giving a clearer view of how the outdoor spaces will look and feel. The hospital's main entry is also coming to life. The entry driveway is being prepared for pavement and the main entry canopy structure is now in place, marking a visible transformation at the front of the building. Inside the hospital, progress is just as encouraging. The maternity and birthing suites are the first departments nearing completion, with joinery installed and painting complete. Other departments across the large structure are advancing through various stages of fit-out and finishes. The new hospital is shaping up to be a modern, welcoming space that will support staff and deliver excellent care for the Eurobodalla community. The new Eurobodalla Regional Hospital is expected to be completed in 2027.

Batemans Bay Community Health Construction Update June 2026

Construction at Batemans Bay Community Health continues to progress well. Work is advancing steadily on the building exterior, with façade installation now well underway, bringing the character of the new facility to life.

Inside, the building remains a hive of activity. Services installation, wall sheeting and floor levelling are underway, preparing spaces for the installation of vinyl flooring and joinery installation. Externally, services works are also progressing to support critical infrastructure for the site.

Behind the scenes, planning for the new facility is also well advanced. Furniture, fittings and equipment are being selected in close collaboration with staff, ensuring the spaces are functional, welcoming and ready to support the community from day one. Construction on Bateman Bay's new Community Health centre will be complete in late 2026. There will be a period of operational commissioning and staff training before the new facility opens to the public. Services provided at the current Batemans Bay Community Health Centre will be provided at the new facility.

The new Batemans Bay Community Health and the Medicare Urgent Care Clinic will continue to operate on the site of [Batemans Bay Hospital](#), once hospital services transition to the new Eurobodalla Regional Hospital in 2027. The new Batemans Bay Community Health carpark will be completed after this transition.

Southern NSW Health Local Health District Excellence Awards

Southern NSW Local Health District has honoured health staff at its 2026 Excellence Awards.

The annual Excellence Awards, held at the Bicentennial Hall in Queanbeyan in June, recognised staff achievements in safety, innovation, sustainability, workplace culture, and patient care across 23 categories.

This year's nominations highlighted the dedication and professionalism of staff from across the district's diverse services and locations.

Southern NSW Local Health District's Chief Executive Margaret Bennett presented the Chief Executive's Award to the Elevating Surgical Services Project, Cooma & South East Regional Hospital.

This project stood out across all award categories and demonstrated exceptional commitment to the health and wellbeing of the people of Southern NSW.

Board Chair Elizabeth Hoskins presented the prestigious Board Chair Award to Dr Marielle Ruigrok, Director, Emergency Department, Queanbeyan Hospital for her exceptional commitment to patients and her passion for leadership.

This honour highlights Marielle's remarkable contribution that has strengthened patient care, and improved staff wellbeing.

Dr Allan Hawke AC Outstanding Leadership Award was presented to Clint Wilkie, Manager Allied Health & Community, Coastal Network. This award recognised Clint's outstanding leadership, collaboration and commitment to strengthening our culture and performance.

While the Chief Executive's Award was awarded to the Elevating Surgical Services Project at Cooma and South East Regional hospitals, recognising the project team's contribution that strengthening culture, improving care, and supporting the long-term success of the organisation.

Member for Bega Dr Michael Holland said "These awards celebrate the people and teams who make a real and lasting difference in the lives of others in the Bega Valley."

Chief Executive of the Southern NSW Local Health District, Margaret Bennett:

"Excellence in healthcare is not a single moment, but the result of consistent dedication, compassion and collaboration across our teams.

"Behind every nomination is a story of care, leadership and commitment to delivering high-quality, patient-centred services.

"By recognising excellence, we continue to build a culture where people feel valued, supported and inspired to do their best work."

Some of the local winners included:

Small Acts of Kindness Award: Winner: Jason Morris, Clinical Nurse Consultant, Disaster Response and Recovery Team, Mental Health and Alcohol & Other Drugs Location: Moruya.

Volunteer of the Year: Winner: Mark Browne, Member, Consumer & Carer Advisory Group Location: Eurobodalla

Transforming Patient Experience Award: Winner: Indigenous Chronic Disease Equity and Access Outreach Program, Aboriginal Health & Single Point of Care Location: District-wide

Environmental Sustainability Award : Winner: Sterilising Services Endoscopy Storage Extension, Corporate Services and Asset Management Location: District-wide

ACI Rural Innovation Award: Winner: Safer Patient Outcomes Through Allergy Assessment – a pharmacist-led roll-out initiative of direct oral penicillin challenge guidelines, Pharmacy Location: District-wide

For more information on the winners, visit:

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/departments-and-agencies/snswlhd/about-us/awards>

Rotary Business Breakfasts Boost to Local Economy



Lt: Sarah Roberts, Business Development Manager at Batemans Bay Community Bank.

Right: Tricia Pye, The Tec Exec

By John Longhurst

The Rotary Club of Batemans Bay Business Breakfasts are proving to be a successful venture promoting local businesses.

The Breakfasts are held on the first Wednesday of each month with the most recent one held at Corrigans Cove Resort at Batehaven on 1st July.

Over thirty local businesses people were in attendance to listen to guest speaker, Teresa Lever, Manager of Economic Development and Place Activation at Eurobodalla Shire Council (ESC).

Each month a local guest speaker is invited to address the breakfast. Past speakers include: Alison Miers from Bay Breeze Boutique Hotel and Leisa Tague from 'Crank it Up'. Trish Pye from Tec Exec*, Broulee, is a regular attendee.

Trish said "I come to the business breakfasts for opportunities to collaborate and opportunities as well as joint ventures. It is a great way to build business opportunities and promote economic growth."

Local Licensed Real Estate Agent**, Greg Robson said "I attended to interact with like minded people. The breakfasts motivate people to improve their businesses and also promote community spirit. It is a plus for Batemans Bay."

Connection and interaction are key motivators for Sarah Roberts, Business Development Manager at Batemans Bay Community Bank (part of Bendigo Bank).

Sarah said "My role is to generate business, build our community profile, sponsorship as well as provide home loans."

Jo Starling at create@jostarling.com specialises in navigating the social media landscape from a business perspective.

Jo said "I was so excited to discover that the Batemans Bay Rotary Club is running a business breakfast. It is an opportunity for me to join with like people who are finding their feet in business. I've been at Tuross Head for 12 years, but not applying my talents and expertise in the local market. It's time for that to change and these breakfasts offer an opportunity to meet fellow business folk and build my local network."

Incoming Batemans Bay Rotary Club President, Robert Shore is keen to expand the concept.

Robert said "The initiative has been running for 5 months and it is good to see the level of attendance with more than 30 people in the depth of winter. It is a great opportunity for businesses to interact.

Just contact <https://rotarybbay.org.au/> and come along to the next breakfast at 7.00am on 5th August at Corrigans Cove Resort ... enjoy the sunrise and connect with like minded people."

*ce.org.au

** gregrobson@atrealty.com.au

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THE BINGIE POINT

Opinion by Cid Mateo



Progressive political power set to follow dysfunctional conservative grievance mobs for a good time yet

While the Australian old-school legacy media comprising newspapers, digital news, TV, radio and new-school social media obsess about the culture wars, their investments, and the mid-electoral cycle polling, yawn, the train wreck that is the Lib-Nat Coalition and that wreck's scavengers, the One Nation Party, rip each other to shreds. The progressives must be looking at each other laughing, "This is our time to shine". PM Albo has a spring in his step. Albo cut his teeth in Parliament observing PM Howard win four elections on the trot. He knows full well what it takes. On entry to Parliament, Albo had seen the progressive side of politics split in 1992 with the advent of The Greens. This is a 30-year head start on the split of their conservative rivals. The latter is now breaking apart. Starting with a few community-focused independents in the 2010s, the bigger cracks appeared when the first Teal, Zali Stegall, in 2019, followed three years later by half a dozen or so, Teal independents, all in the most wealthy and socially progressive electorates in inner city Sydney and Melbourne, broke away. In 2025, most Teals held on to their seats for a second time. They are all smart reasonable women. They are now starting to unify. Meanwhile, the Lib-Nat Coalition imploded at the 2025 election and hasn't recovered. The mono-cultural, One Nation Party, is cannibalising its conservative cousins' carcasses.

Fortunately, Australia has a robust electoral and parliamentary system, which is standing up well to grievance politics while other political systems around the global Anglo-sphere are in shambles. Two things hold us in good stead: compulsory voting and preferential voting in the House of Representatives. Like coming to a T-intersection, in every electorate of the House of Reps, everyone votes and every vote must go left or right, until the last candidate remains standing with a taxpayer-funded golden ticket to Canberra. Spare a thought for Canberrans, the same old political circus comes to Canberra so often, and while the faces change, the tricks are always the same.

Come the 2028 election, Australians will either tire of the incumbent party or stick with them. While the mid-election cycle polling noise is a boon for the pollster companies, and the media pack, Albo & Co. can start planning for the future. Ms Waters and Ms Faruqi can do the same. Right now they are all in the box seat.

PM Albo has a formidable cabinet in 2026. Dr Jim, Penny, Katy, Clare, Tanya, Malarndirri, Catherine, Michelle, Jason, Mark, Anika, Tony, Amanda, to name a few. Gender balanced. Smart. Fair. Experienced. Assertive. United. The next Labor leader and Prime Minister is likely to come from this lot, and those with ambition need to start stepping up and prepping their lines for their time at the top of the pops. Are Australians ready for their second female Prime Minister? Wouldn't this be timely for the 50th Parliament of Australia in 2031?

The Labor Party introduced quotas for women in winnable seats in 1994. Thirty years later, there are more women in the Labor caucus than men, and women make up half of the 22 members of Cabinet. How many private sector businesses and boardrooms can say the same? PM Albo needs to start thinking and planning for smooth succession now. Albo's got one, 2028, maybe two, 2028 and 2031, elections in him yet. That would be four, around a decade as PM, and a good time to move on.

Meanwhile, the Australian Greens continue to grow up politically. Finally. It's taken them well into their 30s. They were born in 1992. Very Gen-Y. This is fine as long as they keep maturing as they have demonstrated in recent years.

In November 2007, Kevin Rudd beat John Howard for PM in Howard's fifth election. Howard didn't know when to abdicate. The power went to his head as it did for Kevin07 and The Greens leaders, Bob Brown and Christine Milne. They all lost judgment, with Bob and Chris voting down the emissions trading scheme (ETS) three times in 2009 because it wasn't perfect enough. The ETS wasn't first-best public policy but little policy that gets through the Parliament ever is. The political economy is deep rooted in compromise. Bob and Chris should have known better. They threw away political compromise on the environment, for ideals, and Australia's climate change policy is yet to recover almost two decades later. Instead of having a carbon tax/ETS locked-in like the smarter countries around the world, Australia is still an expensive high carbon polluting economy.

To his credit, before the 2022 election, Green's leader, Adam Bandt accepted The Greens' place in Australian politics as a balance of power party. Unless they form a governing coalition, they always will be. Ironically, Bandt lost his seat. His acceptance was a growth spurt. Instead of attacking Labor for a few votes and an extra Senate seat or two, as The Greens had done for decades, Bandt realised what no other Green leader had before him. The Greens are stronger having the balance of power, than not. They are more influential negotiating with Labor than fighting it.

Last week, The Greens demonstrated that political maturity. They put themselves in the middle of the negotiating table and won a few concessions from the Government on the tax reforms and an inquiry into the NDIS. They didn't get all they wanted and they didn't throw a tantrum. The Lib-Nat-One Nation peeps were left talking above each other while running the tombola stall down sideshow alley. This is what happens when progressive parties work together. No wonder Albo and his Cabinet have a spring in their step. The chance to influence every major piece of legislation during the 48th Parliament of Australia is a privilege and great position to be in. Ms Waters and Ms Faruqi, use it, or lose it.

In 2028, Australians will come to the election T-intersection again. Whether they go left or right is anyone's guess, but right now, it's Albo's and The Greens to lose.

Cid Mateo is a demographer, governance and public policy specialist, who has advised the Australian and Solomon Islands governments and their parliaments on economic, tax, budget, fiscal and social security policy.



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Tuross Head News

Here are some interesting facts. According to Ruth Mount (MM 10/6/2026) there were 73 people living in Tuross in 1961. The Australian Bureau of Statistics Census figures in 2021 have our population as 2,353.

Robyn from Little Lambs Preschool reported (MM 24/6/2026) that they have 36 children under the age of 5 currently enrolled. Back in 2021 under 5's was not recorded. The total of children 5 – 14 was 136. (5-9=65, 10-14=71). As the Census is taken every five years, the next will be 11th August, 2026, it will be interesting to see the difference in our population, especially as the 2021 Census states the average age was 62 years old. There is a note to this figure saying that our 62yrs is significantly older than the national median of 38yrs. The average household size was 1.9 people. We have a number of holiday houses and we have a new housing estate opened up consequently trying to hazard a guess in the shift in numbers is difficult.

I also found out that as of mid 2026 the median house price in Tuross Head is \$790.00 and the median weekly rent \$578.00 per week.

Tuross Head is tranquility for the soul, a banquet for the eyes and a bank of elderly wisdom. From all stories gathered so far, the caring and friendship of the town has always been prevalent.

I thank Linda from the Tuross Head Community Gardens for the following: In August 2010, a group of locals held a meeting under a tree at the original Tuross Community Hall to talk about establishing a community garden in Tuross Head. After lengthy discussions with the Eurobodalla Shire Council, fundraising and generous donations, Tuross Community Garden Inc was founded. We signed a lease for a patch of land owned by the Council (near Kyla Hall) and began to create our beautiful and productive garden. The perimeter fence was installed late in 2012, and the first harvest was in May 2013. Garage sales, donations, grants from a number of generous organisations (private and government), and the sale of delicious jams and chutneys made by some of our talented members, helped (and continue to help) grow our garden. Water tanks, our ingenious 'roof on the ground' water collection system, timber compost bins, sheds, swales, a water pump, a small solar system, and gardening equipment have been acquired and installed over the years. Some of the people who have carried our this mountain of physical work and paperwork over the years are Lei Parker, Peter Gow, Stuart Whitelaw (SAGE), Fraser Bailey (SAGE), Kyle Levier, Lance Shadbolt, Steve Gibson, Steve MacFarland, Susi Sager, Walther Kohler-Bond, Steve and Heather Coleman, Costa Georgiadis (yes, THE Costa G), Steve Cornthwaite (MESA and RfR), Steve (Gypsy) Smith, Ingrid Meyer, and many, many other dedicated members over recent years.

Our members get together on Tuesday and Saturday mornings, between 10am and 12 noon. They come along when they can, and do what they can, and at the end of the gardening enjoy some coffee or tea (and sometimes some cake!) before heading home with a share of whatever was harvested that day and a smile on their face.

Annual membership is \$15 concession, \$20 single and \$30 family, smiles included. If you are interested in joining our band of green (and not so green!) thumbs, give our convenor, Tony Jackson, a call on 0418624307, or just turn up at one of our gatherings, you'll always be welcome.

SERVICES NSW advises that their Mobile Service Centre will in Tuross on Tuesday 14th July, 2026 in the car park of Club Tuross from 9am to 12 noon

*Vehicle registration renewals (can be done up to 3 months in advance).

*Driver licence, photo card applications and renewals (renewals can be done up to 6 months in advance)

*Birth, death & marriage certificates.

*Driver knowledge tests.

*Applying for a Seniors Card.

This is a great service to locals especially as so many don't drive and there is no public transport into Moruya. Please pass this information on.

Happy to announce that Kirsty as SALES has reopened for business and the shop looks very welcoming. Coffees and hamburgers are back in demand.

Thanks to Mary and John Mathais, the Tuross Head Men's Shed, Club Tuross and the Wiles family there is now a large selection of books to choose from in a lovely position in the Club.

REMINDER: The Tuross Head Progress Association will be meeting in the Kyla Park Hall, Thursday 2nd July at 2pm.

Articles for Moruya Mail greatly appreciated.

Pat Anderson.

Tuross Head Caring Group. Mobile: 0497 315 534.

Email: turossheadcaringgroup@gmail.com



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100 years ago from the Moruya Examiner

03-07-1926

Messrs. A. H. Fox, L. E. Finch, J. Hansen, and S. Ryan have been appointed to fill the vacancies on the A. and P. Society's committee caused through the resignation of Messrs. A. F. Emmott, E. A. H. Shepherd, A.H. Annetts, and the death of Mr. P. Flynn.

As Mr. J. S. Greig, of Bergalia, has decided to turn his property into a run for the "golden fleece" next year, he is disposing of his dairy herd and young stock. The sale will be conducted by H. J. Thomson on Saturday, 17th inst. Besides cattle there will also be offered horses, pigs, dairy utensils, and six months' grass right of the paddock. The sale commences at 1 p.m. sharp, luncheon being provided at 12 noon.

The population of Australia now exceeds six million, and it is expected that it will double itself in about 20 years.

Through the new Workers' Compensation Act there are already signs of a serious dislocation of the State's industries. In the timber trade the toll of unemployed is daily increasing. Every mill on the south Coast, with the exception of Mitchell Bros., at Narooma, has closed down. Mr. Mitchell informs us that they will come to a decision today. They are faced with a serious problem, as closing their mills means throwing their steamer Kiangra out of commission, thus depriving the Narooma residents of regular supplies of foodstuffs, etc.



Mitchell Bros Sawmill Narooma (photo from Narooma's Past by Laurelle Pacey)

The turning out of their many horse and bullock teams, the forage bill alone amounting to over £3000 per year, is another big consideration, but with the slackness of trade, and the consequent inability to pass along the added burden that the new Act will impose, Mr. Mitchell says there appears to be no alternative but to follow the economic policy of other sawmillers.

The football match – married v. single – was won by singles, the scores being 14 to 11. It was one of the best matches ever played on the local ground. About 300 people witnessed the game.

In Bateman's Bay a Plume bowser has been erected in front of Mr. A. H. Annetts' residence, and a Shell bowser at Mr. Baghurst's motor garage.

The principal difficulty in connection with the new system of selling petrol from bowzers is that house wives will experience a shortage in rubbish tins.

AMUSU THEATRE. THE SILENT ACCUSED featuring Peter the Great, the wonderful dog star, a Canine Sherlock Holmes. Also, **THE GREAT WHITE WAY** with a celebrated cast of star artists, a big romance of the turf and the ring, a real sporting picture. Also, Inkwell Cartoons, screen snaps, and news. Skating Monday and Friday nights – 7.30 till 10.

Extracted from the Moruya Examiner by the Moruya and District Historical Society Inc.
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Securing the future of NSW abalone industry through science-led reform

Friday, 26 June 2026

The **NSW Government** is taking decisive action to secure the long-term future of the state’s abalone industry, with the release of the independent Total Allowable Fishing Committee’s (TAFC) determination for the 2026–27 fishing season.

The determination has been made by the independent expert Committee, informed by the latest scientific stock assessments, and confirms abalone stocks across NSW are under increasing pressure and require immediate action to stabilise and rebuild.

The NSW Government is currently progressing broader, coordinated reform of the abalone fishery to reset the fishery and ensure it remains sustainable in the long-term.

The challenges facing the abalone fishery are complex and driven by multiple factors, including environmental pressures, decreasing international demand, illegal fishing and past fishing activity.

The Government’s actions to protect abalone includes:

- Acting on independent scientific advice to reduce catch limits and support stock recovery
- Strengthening compliance and enforcement to crack down on illegal harvesting and black-market trade
- Undertaking a review of the abalone fishery management framework, with input from the abalone industry and key stakeholders
- Considering a voluntary share buyout program aimed at reducing commercial fishing pressure on the resource.

Minister for Agriculture and Regional NSW, Tara Moriarty said

“This is about securing the future of an important resource that supports regional jobs and has deep cultural significance. “There are no simple answers, which is why we are taking a comprehensive approach that tackles the issue from all angles.

“Illegal harvesting undermines sustainability and the livelihoods of lawful fishers, which is why we are strengthening enforcement and targeting illegal supply chains.

“At the same time, we recognise environmental conditions and concentrated fishing effort are also contributing to stock decline, and our response reflects that broader reality.

“We are working closely with key stakeholders to design a system that is fair, sustainable and capable of withstanding future pressures.”

The NSW Government has been consulting with industry and Aboriginal stakeholders since 2025 on a new abalone management framework, focused on sustainability, economic viability and fair resource sharing.

A draft management framework for the abalone industry is currently out for targeted consultation until 17 July.

The Government will continue to engage with stakeholders as consultation on the draft management framework progresses, with feedback helping to inform the final settings for the fishery.

Call for Moratorium on New National Parks in Southern NSW

TIMBER NSW

Forestry and regional community stakeholders are calling on the NSW Government to halt the creation of any new national parks in southern New South Wales until a comprehensive assessment of economic, environmental and community impacts can be undertaken.

The call follows growing concerns that further expansion of the national park estate could reduce access to sustainably managed timber resources, increase pressure on regional employment, and limit active land management options needed to address bushfire risk.

Currently, the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service manages more than 7.6 million hectares in over 890 parks and reserves.

State Forests cover about 2 million hectares.

Foresters impact only about 0.2 per cent of that State Forest area (0.042 per cent of National Park and State Forest combined)

According to Timber NSW Chief Executive Maree McCaskill, ‘Southern NSW already contains extensive areas of national park and future conservation efforts should focus on improving management outcomes rather than simply increasing the size of the national park network.

‘The combination of parks stretching from the South Coast through the Snowy Mountains already forms one of Australia’s largest contiguous protected landscapes. The debate, if one is needed, should be about the balance between locking up land, timber production, recreation, fire management and regional economic activity.

‘Communities across the region are increasingly concerned that productive forests are being locked away without a clear understanding of the long-term economic and social consequences,’ said Maree.

The forestry sector supports thousands of jobs across southern NSW and contributes significantly to regional economies through timber harvesting, transport, processing and manufacturing. Industry representatives argue that sustainably managed state forests can deliver both conservation and economic outcomes.

‘There is growing and well documented evidence that active land management plays a critical role in building resilience against catastrophic bushfires and maintaining healthy forest ecosystems.

Timber NSW is suggesting that before making any more non-scientific decisions like the supersized Great Koala National Park, the NSW Government should demonstrate how existing protected areas are being managed and whether alternative approaches can deliver stronger environmental, social and economic outcomes.’

‘Regional communities deserve to have a genuine voice in decisions that affect their livelihoods, their environment and their future.

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\$41 million investment into NSW's aquaculture industry

The Minns Labor Government is investing in the state's aquaculture industry in a major funding boost that will create jobs and drive innovation in aquaculture businesses across New South Wales – from Tweed Heads down to Eden on the South Coast.

Funded through the Regional Development Trust, the Minns Labor Government is supporting 31 projects in the aquaculture industry with a \$27 million investment, while the selected businesses' projects will contribute nearly \$14 million, bringing the total investment to \$41 million.

Modern oyster cultivation systems, increased kelp farming and clean energy seafood production, are among the projects being funded. The NSW Government increased its initial allocation by \$7 million to fund the large number of projects focused on modernisation, innovation and productivity.

NSW's aquaculture sector contributes almost a quarter of a billion dollars to the state economy and supports 2,200 jobs.

This investment increases economic outcomes, drives more sustainable practices and enables businesses to continue providing delicious seafood across the state.

In 2024, the Minns Government launched the NSW Aquaculture Vision Statement in partnership with industry, setting an ambitious target to double the sector's economic output by 2030.

The investment in these projects enables greater sustainability in the industry to re-use by-products and waste, improving environmental outcomes and creating new products.

There are many projects focused on moving away from diesel powered assets to electrical assets powered by solar and batteries delivering cost savings and carbon friendly products for customers.

Minister for Agriculture and Minister for Regional NSW Tara Moriarty said "This \$41 million investment demonstrates the Minns Government's commitment to building a modern, sustainable aquaculture sector and positioning NSW as the leader in quality seafood production and marine bioproducts.

"This funding program is new to the industry and delivers on our plan to grow this unique sector so we can boost jobs and innovation along our coast and inland waterways now and into the future.

"Our seafood products are amongst the best in the world, and we need to increase production, enhance supply chain efficiency and sustainability, so that our local businesses can take advantage of market demand for quality and low carbon footprint seafood."

The grants are another important step toward building upon the Minns Government's vision and supporting the long-term growth of the industry in regional NSW.

In the Euobodalla grants were awarded to :

- Tollgate Oysters \$959,491- Develop collaborative and expansive oyster farming infrastructure on existing leases that are presently under-used and fixed to traditional farming systems.
- Ritchie Oysters Pty Ltd \$684,435 - Supporting modernisation, resilience and expansion by replacing traditional methods with automated on-water infrastructure with 10,000 additional floating units and onshore processing to meet growing demand for premium product.
- The Trustee for OysterLife Unit Trust \$348,480 - This will support Batemans Bay operations to transition towards net-zero by decommissioning fossil-fuel based operational equipment with electric alternatives and adopting cleaner energy solutions across its operations.
- Glasshouse Rock Oysters \$139,148 - Upgrade from manual to automated oyster grading equipment to improve processing capacity and increase stock security.

In the Bega Valley grants were awarded to :

- Ocean2Earth \$1,882,750 - Expand innovative marine waste recovery and biofertilizer manufacturing capability from pilot scale to industrial scale. Enabling the sector to access a cost-free, environmentally compliant outlet to process unavoidable seafood by-products and create new local skilled jobs and value-add capabilities.
- Wapengo Sydney Rock Oyster Company Pty Ltd \$1,284,798 - Replacing traditional methods with automated on-water infrastructure with 10,000 additional units, solar power, reduce water fouling and grow premium product.
- Auskelp Pty Ltd \$896,805 - Purchase, modify and operate a specialised offshore research vessel based at Eden to expand planting, collecting and preparing kelp, plus installing permanent specialist equipment.
- Sandingroove Pty Ltd \$544,465 - Expanding automation, cold-chain capacity and solar power to better control fouling, improve oyster health and survivability, doubling production from 55,000 dozen to 110,000 dozen oysters per year, and increasing job creation opportunities.
- R.W Rutter & Tro Pty Ltd \$465,188 - New equipment and upgrading of the oyster nursery will improve outcomes for growing Pacific Oyster spat (oyster larvae) through to a strong juvenile size allowing for the supply and restock of oyster farm.
- Michael W and Alana N Ballantyne \$211,000 - Upgrade freezing and refrigeration systems to increase bait and catch capacity, to improve fish handling efficiency, storage hygiene, food safety and market outcomes.

For more information, go to:

nsw.gov.au/regionaldevelopmenttrust

Working together for a cleaner, smarter future for the Eurobodalla



Many pieces but no peace?



In a world full of counterfeit connection, many of us are struggling to find real meaning and purpose in life. Even in the beautiful surroundings and lifestyle of the Eurobodalla, we are left wanting something deeper and more long-lasting. Anxiety is the most common mental health problem in Australia, while 1 in 3 Aussies report feelings of loneliness and social isolation. We are more connected, more informed, have access to more resources than ever before, yet peace still escapes us.

Have you ever noticed how we fill our lives to the brim, yet when the quiet breaks through our noisy lives, the distant sense of dissatisfaction threatens to reveal itself to us.

So we stay busy. We scroll. We watch another episode. We work more, we distract ourselves, we plan holidays to keep the discontent at bay, but the still small voice etched on our hearts manages to whisper. Asking the age old question “ is there more to life than this?” So with all these pieces, why no peace? We humans are wired for connection; in person real-life true connection that invites us to show more than the masks that we hold up day-to-day. If we’re willing to get really honest with ourselves, we’re tired of pretending to be something that we are not. We are exhausted by the relentless social messaging that tells us that if people really knew who we were, they wouldn’t love us. Isn’t that at the heart of it all?

We all suffer in some way or another, we all experience heartbreak, grief, disappointment and loss; so why aren’t we willing to share ourselves and be loved by others who know it all too well, even if they won’t always get it right? We harden our hearts and put on our happy face lest we gather more hurt by risking true connection that only comes from shared vulnerability. I invite you to take the risk because you are not alone and you don’t need to do it alone. There is a place where your questions about life are invited, doubts are welcome and deeper discussions are commonplace. Meaning, peace and purpose is offered but not through another thing you have to do or become. Not through hiding your brokenness, manifesting it, spending money on it or creating the life of your dreams, but through restoration of your soul. When we openly discuss our shared hurts, come together to discover different points of view and are just brave enough to find out more, our lives become richer in ways beyond our bank balances and circumstances of life.

Come and see for yourself. Give yourself a couple of hours every week for a couple of months and join a group of people face-to-face, right here in Batemans Bay coming together to talk about life’s big questions. We’ll share a meal together, explore ideas and have an open and honest discussion.

No judgement and no expectations of who you’re meant to be, come as you are. <https://southland.org.au/Exploring-Christianity/>



Winter Films and Discussions

We are spoilt for choice in Eurobodalla at the moment, with a plethora of film screenings, panels and information evenings over the coming weeks.

The **July Euro-Visions film night** (second Thursday of the month) features the beautiful, locally made film *yana djamaga ganji/Walk Good Fire*, which shows the groundbreaking work of Eurobodalla’s Walbanja Rangers. After the film, there will be a panel discussion with Uncle Andrew White of the Walbanja Rangers, Shelley Clarke from council’s Fire Mitigation team, and Paul Martin from council’s Environment team.

Free entry, with tea, coffee and biccies on hand. And there will be soup!

Thurs July 9, 6:00-8:00pm, Red Door Hall, Moruya

yana djamaga ganji walk good fire

Another treat is the screening and Q&A at the Eurobodalla Botanic Gardens of the Penrith Miers Archive film *Yackaduna*. The film traces the life of 19th century Wiradjuri/Yorta Yorta artist Tommy McRae and was shot largely where he lived on the Murray River near Corowa. It is built around the Murray creation story and explores themes of displacement and resilience through eight generations of Tommy’s family, down to his 4 x great granddaughter Madika Penrith. The film will be accompanied by a soundscape by Juanita Sumner, who has created a soundscape in response to the film’s exploration of Country along the Murray River. She uses field recordings from her mother’s country Ngarrindjeri ruwe on Raukkan, where the Murray flows out into the ocean. The night will conclude with a Q&A with filmmakers Madika Penrith and Sam Miers, facilitated by djinjamandjali co-founders Jordan Nye and Eliza Cannon.

Tues July 7, 6:00-8:30pm, Eurobodalla Botanic Gardens, Bateman’s Bay

Yackaduna - Community Film Screening + Q&A

The following week, local group Concerned People of Eurobodalla will host a screening of **People’s Emergency Briefing**, a film combining science and community connection. Featuring a range of experts on weather, health, food security and ecosystems, the film addresses climate change, human rights and democracy.

Tues July 14, 5:30-7:30, Red Door Hall, Moruya

Concerned about our climate? Film and Discussion

The Euro-Visions column is presented by the ECSN (Eurobodalla Community Support Network) with support from the Sustainability Team at Eurobodalla Shire Council





A Beer with Bazz # 242

With John Longhurst

Outrage blasted from the radio in the front bar as the commentator spared no prisoners in a tirade, seemingly bagging any word beginning with 'b', from Baghdad and burquas through to bánh mì. Mick nodded away, chomped on his Jatz biscuit and pulled the pencil from behind his ear. He rubbed his chin and focused on the job advertisement before him on the bar table. Bazza approached with two schooners.

"Thanks Bazza, I might need a bit of help here with this job application ... but no smart arse contributions."

Mick's pencil was at the ready.

"Number 1 ... must be white. Easy one to start off, Bazza ... big tick. It says middle age and portly physique... a stretch ... but my wife says I do not look a day over 50, and I do not mind a meat pie ... so another tick.

Ok ... must have an Australian Flag flying at full mast in the front as well as the back yards come Australia Day and Anzac Day."

Bazza had a sip, raised an eyebrow and took a peep of the application form.

"Oh ... big tick there, Mick. You are a 365 days a year man and the Aussie Flags adorning your old Holden Ute resemble a diplomat's car. Ahh ... next up, a current subscriber to News Corp? I don't think I have ever been to your place and not spotted a copy of the Daily Telegraph next to the Vegemite. Plus, Sky News is telling the truth twenty four/seven on your TV... so that's another big tick."

Mick rubbed his chin.

"We are doing well, Bazza. This next one is a bit personal. I might need a bit of help. It says 'applicant must have strong and forthright views and exhibits qualities in any term ending with 'ism'."

Bazza took a long sip.

"I think it means impetuous and very loud opinions as well as actions on terms such as communism, nationalism, fanaticism, feminism, cronyism, racism, ageism, chauvinism, jingoism, narcissism, hedonism, opportunism and the like. Anyhow, what is this job?"

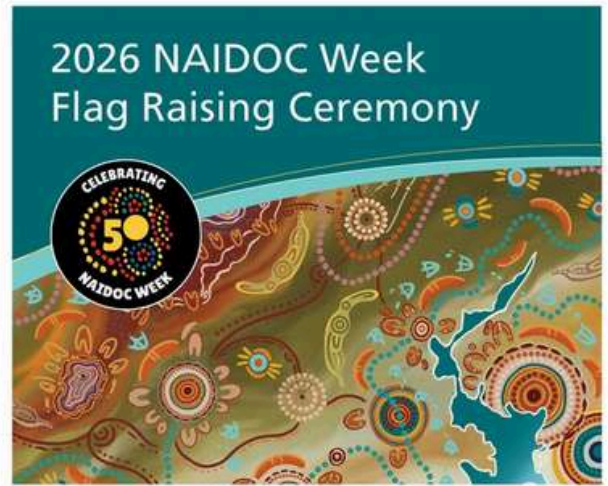
Mick pursed his lips.

"Breakfast announcer on radio ... it's a move to Sydney, but I seem to be well qualified. I also have a mate who works at the station, so I might be a shoe in."

Bazza rubbed the smirk from his face.

"Be careful, Mick ... people might accuse you of nepotism."

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



Mayawar-bara Gulaga-nggul (Gulaga and her two sons). ©2024 Leanne Brook. This work is an original work commissioned by Eurobodalla Council.

Join us in reflecting on five decades of celebrating Indigenous voices, culture and achievements.

We will host the official flag raising with distinguished guests, speakers, community members, and local school representatives.

When: Wednesday 8 July 10am to 11am

Where: Eurobodalla Council forecourt, 89 Vulcan Street Moruya

The ceremony will include a Welcome to Country, NAIDOC Week address, smoking ceremony, the raising of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags.

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



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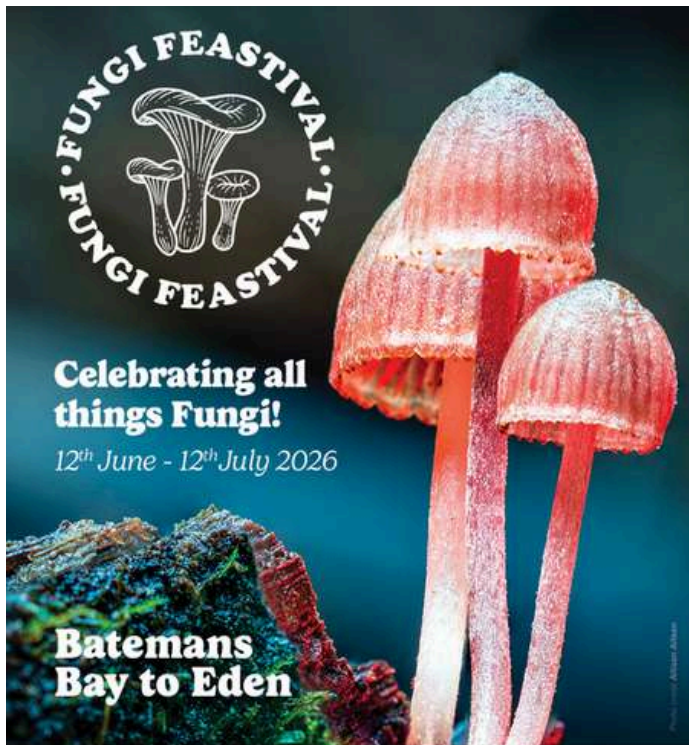
Mushrooms as Medicine

For centuries mushrooms have played an important part in the traditional healing practices of various cultures around the world. The Egyptians called mushrooms 'the sons of gods' and the 'plants of immortality'. Ancient Chinese texts describe the Reishi mushroom (*Ganoderma lucidum*) as a tonic for longevity. In India, traditional Ayurvedic medicine recognized the immune-boosting qualities of certain mushrooms such as Shiitake (*Lentinula edodes*) and Maitake (*Grifola frondosa*). Many indigenous cultures with their sophisticated and intimate understanding of their environment saw wild-foraged mushrooms as an accessible and powerful medicine. For example, Native American peoples revered the Agaricon mushroom (*Agaricus blazei*) for its antibacterial and antiviral properties.

Modern science has investigated many of these traditional medicinal mushrooms and found that they contain an astonishing array of bioactive compounds which have been shown to have diverse therapeutic effects including immune enhancement, as well as anti-inflammatory, antioxidant and anti-tumor properties. As a result, countries such as China and Japan have developed officially approved mushroom-derived medicines that are prescribed in hospital settings. However, medicinal mushrooms are yet to be widely understood and accepted in Australia.

The Fungi Festival is therefore excited to announce that Nutritional Medicine Practitioner Sofia Keady will present a special session on 'The Power of Medicinal Mushrooms' where she will invite her audience to step into the fascinating world of fungi. Discover how medicinal mushrooms have been used for centuries to support health and well-being and look at ways they can work in your life in a relaxed and informative setting. Sofia will be joined by Andy from the Nourished Sovereign who will be serving up his delicious drinks and healthy treats containing the medicinal mushroom of your choice.

The Power of Medicinal Mushrooms is happening at the St Johns Red Door Hall cnr of Page and Campbell Streets, Moruya on Sunday 5 July from 2-4pm. Tickets are \$10 either at the door or you can book and find out more at: <https://www.fungifeestival.com.au/wellness>



More information & details at www.fungifeestival.com.au

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Go Get Healthy

with Sofia Keady

GO VITA

Unlocking The Secret Power of Medicinal Mushrooms at the Fungi Festival

Most people love the rich, savoury flavour mushrooms add to a dish, but few realise just how powerful they are for our health. While they've been used in traditional medicine for centuries, modern science is only just beginning to scratch the surface of what they can do.

Out of the estimated 140,000 mushroom species on Earth, scientists have thoroughly studied fewer than 100 of them. But what we've found so far is incredible - these select few shows massive potential for boosting our everyday health and well-being.

If you have been curious about how medicinal mushrooms fits into modern life, but you want to skip the dense, lecture-heavy academic talk, I would love for you to join me for a relaxed and practical session at this year's Fungi Festival. As a Nutritionist, my goal isn't to overwhelm you with jargon, but to give you real, actionable insights you can actually use in your day-to-day life.

We will be gathering on Sunday, the 5th of July, from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm at the St John's Anglican Red Door Hall, located at 15a Page St, Moruya. You can secure your spot ahead of time directly through the [Fungi Festival website](https://www.fungifeestival.com.au/event-details/the-power-of-medicinal-mushrooms): <https://www.fungifeestival.com.au/event-details/the-power-of-medicinal-mushrooms>.

This session is designed to be a comfortable, conversational look at how mushrooms can support your health. We will focus on three absolute powerhouse mushrooms that I work with regularly:

- Reishi: Widely known for its calming properties and its ability to support a resilient nervous and immune system.
- Turkey Tail: Highly valued for its targeted benefits toward gut health and robust immunity.
- Lion's Mane: A favourite for anyone looking to sharpen their focus, improve memory, and support overall brain health.

I will break down exactly what these fungi do, how they work within the body, and share simple, realistic ways you can start incorporating them into your daily routine without feeling overwhelmed.

Afterward, the afternoon transitions into a fun, social experience. Andy from The Nourished Sovereign will be on-site selling delicious hot drinks and snacks infused with these very mushrooms. It is a fantastic opportunity to sample the flavours, chat with like-minded locals, and discover how easy it is to elevate your wellness routine.

Whether you are already deeply invested in natural health or just mildly curious about the fungi kingdom, this afternoon is the perfect, welcoming environment to learn something new. Space is limited, so please book your tickets early, and let's explore the power of mushrooms together. I can't wait to see you there!

For more information about medicinal mushrooms, 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



International mycology experts visit South Coast for one-off Fungi Festival Science Days



Prof Alison Bennett visiting from USA, speaking on how beneficial soil fungi can help plant communities recover after fire.



A.Prof Patricia Silva-Flores visiting from Chile, speaking on how fungi help plants cope with drought.



Ema Corro, President MYCOcommunity Applied Mycology, a Victorian community based mycological organisation that aims to increase public awareness of fungi.

Two internationally recognised mycology researchers from Chile and the USA will join Australian mycology educator Ema Corro on the Far South Coast next week for two special Fungi Festival International Science Days.

Associate Professor Alison Bennett from the USA and Associate Professor Patricia Silva-Flores from Chile are travelling to Australia to present at the International Conference on Mycorrhiza in Cairns later in July. Before they do, they will visit the Far South Coast to share their knowledge in Moruya on Saturday, 4 July, and Bega on Sunday, 5 July. The full-day events run from 9am to 4pm and cost just \$50. Sessions can be booked separately, but participants are strongly encouraged to come for the whole day, as this is a completely unique opportunity that is unlikely to be repeated in the region.

The day begins with Mycology 101, presented by Ema Corro, President of Mycommunity Applied Mycology. This plain English session introduces the fascinating world of fungi – what they are, how they grow, and why they are so important to healthy forests, farms, gardens and natural landscapes. Ema will also present Fungal Restoration of Native Ecosystems, exploring how fungi can help rebuild soil health, support native plants, strengthen ecosystems and improve landscape resilience. In the afternoon, Associate Professor Bennett will speak about fire and fungi, including how beneficial soil fungi can help plant communities recover after fire. Associate Professor Silva-Flores will present on how fungi help plants cope with drought by improving access to water and nutrients and supporting healthier soils.

At the end of the day, those who would like to go deeper can stay on to hear the presentations Alison and Patricia will be giving at the International Conference on Mycorrhiza.

Fungi Festival co-convenor Fiona Kotvojs said the visit was an exceptional opportunity. “Having researchers of this calibre come to Moruya and Bega is incredibly exciting,” Dr Kotvojs said. “It is very rare for regional communities to have direct access to this level of expertise. This is not something that will happen again, and we really encourage people to make the most of it by coming for the full day.” Dr Kotvojs said the Science Days would appeal to farmers, gardeners, growers, Landcare members, artists, students, photographers, bushwalkers and anyone curious about the natural world.

“Fungi are essential to healthy soils, productive farms, native forests and resilient ecosystems. By the end of the day, people will look at the ground beneath their feet in a completely new way.”

The Fungi Festival International Science Days will be held in Moruya on Saturday, 4 July, and Bega on Sunday, 5 July, from 9am to 4pm.

Bookings and details are available at www.fungifeestival.com.au

The Fungi Festival would like to give special thanks to our 2026 sponsors for supporting our Science events: Eurobodalla Shire Council, Whale Coast Realty, Quota Narooma and Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal.



Working for a climate safe future



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Let's do coffee with ... Jess Thomas

After interviewing Jess Thomas (JT), she asked whether the Moruya Mail (MM) was watching Race Around the World on ABC Television. Following our chat, I assured her it is now at the top of my list of television programs; 'NO NEED TO WATCH'.

Jess has travelled extensively and continues to travel the world ... a lot ... in a most adventurous manner.

MM: From Taree to Timbuktu, back again and then somewhere else ... I really should strap a seat belt on you for this interview. Well ... I cannot find anyone or anything to rival you in the year of your birth ... so let's get pedalling!

JT: (Laughs ...) Wow, thanks ... I think! Yes, I was born in 1992 and grew up on a hobby farm about 40 minutes out of Taree. Dad was a linesman with Country Energy and Mum is a veterinary nurse. I have a younger brother.

I attended Wingham Primary School before moving to Moruya in 2003 to start at Moruya High School (MHS). For exercise, I would ride 30 km before school each day. The Student Representative Council (SRC) featured prominently in my schooling ... (smiles ...) I was known as the "Queen of the SRC".

I loved it ... organising discos and fundraising. I attended state SRC conferences and met friends for life. I raised thousands of dollars through NGI Wheelchairs for Kids to provide wheelchairs for people in developing countries. It introduced me to wealth disparities and sparked an ongoing interest in the international community.

It was goodbye Moruya in 2010 and off to Townsville to join the Army. I transferred to the Australian Defence Force Academy in Canberra in 2011.

Army life was OK ... but obviously very regimented. Something changed when I had a panic attack on the rifle range and realised it had a deeper meaning.

By 2012, I had taken leave without pay to think about whether I still wanted to be in the military and flew to East Africa.

In lots of ways, I was just "hanging out" ... on my own. I remember one time covering myself in calamine lotion to pass off a skin condition so nobody would sit next to me on a bus on one notoriously risky section. The experience was pivotal. I witnessed the sinking of a ferry and the drowning of many people, with hardly a murmur in the world press. It made me think about the value of life and the injustices in our world.

I survived Africa and the next adventure took me into Europe, where I walked 400 km of the Camino pilgrimage. It was an ideal opportunity to think about my future.

(Laughs ...) I kind of think my backpack had a mind of its own and I just provided the legs. Before I knew it, I was hitchhiking through Europe, making amazing connections and ending up in quite random places such as Oberwil im Simmental in Switzerland. This lift offered me accommodation on a cheese-making alp with an attached bed-and-breakfast.

I did not have a mobile phone, used internet cafés and embraced couch surfing. Off to Italy, Slovakia and wherever my backpack decided to go ... and then on to England and Scotland.

I had an around-the-world ticket in my money belt and decided on Canada. I arrived but had lost my wallet ... so no cards or money. That was a test of my survival skills until I could organise replacement cards.

Off to Calgary to visit a teacher from MHS before a sweep through the USA and then to South America, where Mum came to visit. After providing her with a sanitised account of my adventures, it was back to couch surfing through Ecuador and on to Brazil, where I fell in love with Diego on Ilha Grande ... he was so ... Brazilian! (smiles ...). We hung out on an island off Rio for some time.

When I arrived home for my 21st birthday, my family and friends gave me money towards a flight, but made it clear there was one place I wasn't allowed to go back to — Brazil. Bye-bye Diego!

I formally quit the Army and started studying International Studies at UNSW. My course allowed me to study in Spain in 2014 and it turned out to be another adventure. I packed my bicycle and cycled 3,000 km from Greece to Spain. A friend joined me in Albania and we turned it into a "Mission for Peace".

As you may have guessed, my new passion was cycling. The next summer it was a 3,500 km ride from Paris to Stockholm over 35 days with a new bestie I had met while walking the Camino.

MM: My calves are killing me and I am up for some serious jet lag ... get me home, Jess!

JT: (Smiles ...) OK ... I am back in Australia and finished uni in 2016 ... and you will never guess ... I bought a really cool bicycle.

After finishing my university degree, I cycled to Bermagui with a greater dream of cycling around the world and hooked up with nine friends ...

My Bermagui connection lined me up for a job as a tour guide in New Zealand and before I knew it, I was leading young people on 70-day outdoor adventures with Pacific Discovery.

Between tours with Pacific Discovery, I would head off on my own trips. Central America beckoned for three months and then another trip to India, where I cycled with two seventy-year-olds from Visakhapatnam to Bangalore.

On a return trip to India in 2017, Dad and two of my girlfriends joined me for a five-week cycle from Goa to central India. I found the culture enlightening and the Hindu term jugaad* summed up my approach to life. I was inspired to eventually start a tour company specialising in cycle tours of India.

Back to Australia and some work with World Expeditions as a trekking guide in the Northern Territory (NT) ... the Larapinta and Jatbula Trails.



Next ... to Lord Howe Island for a family holiday in 2018 and, as luck would have it, I scored a job as a hiking guide with Pinetrees Lodge, a resort on the island. MM: (Shakes head ...) The movie Forrest Gump comes to mind, Jess ... "Life is a box of chocolates" ... and then?

JT: (Smiles ...) Well, for the next few years I was in and out of Lord Howe Island for stints of up to six months. I would look after guests for a week at a time and lead the iconic treks.

Of course, COVID intervened and, like many others, I worked from home in Moruya on some research tasks.

In 2020, I started a master's degree in International and Community Development at Deakin University, which I finished last year.

Anyway ... back to travel adventures. I was back with World Expeditions in 2021 with more trips to the NT as well as Tasmania and South Australia, supplementing my continued work with Pinetrees Lodge on Lord Howe Island.

At 30 years of age, and following some volunteer work in Guatemala, sponsored by Moruya Rotary, I ran a successful GoFundMe campaign to raise money to buy sewing machines for a community on Lake Atitlán.

On a whim, I produced a flyer advertising a cycling trip to India and 22 people signed up. For the last four years, I have been conducting trips to India and am now expanding into Sri Lanka**.

These days I work as a Development Officer with Eurobodalla Shire Council (ESC), as well as designing trips and adventures.

MM: Well Jess ... I am bloody exhausted ... get on your bike! A great chat.

*Jugaad (pronounced joo-gahd) is a colloquial Hindi/Urdu term that refers to a flexible approach to problem-solving, an innovative fix or a clever workaround.

**Instagram:

https://www.instagram.com/jess_revolveyourself/

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**

Yackaduna - Community Film Screening + Q&A

Tue, 7 Jul, 6pm - 8:30pm

Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Garden

Join us for a special community screening of the incredible film YACKADUNA by Penrith Miers Archive on walbunja country at the Eurobodalla Botanic Gardens.

Penrith Miers Archive is Wiradjuri/Yuin/Gumbaynggirr Archivist Madika Penrith and Batemans Bay Ethnomusicologist Sam Miers.

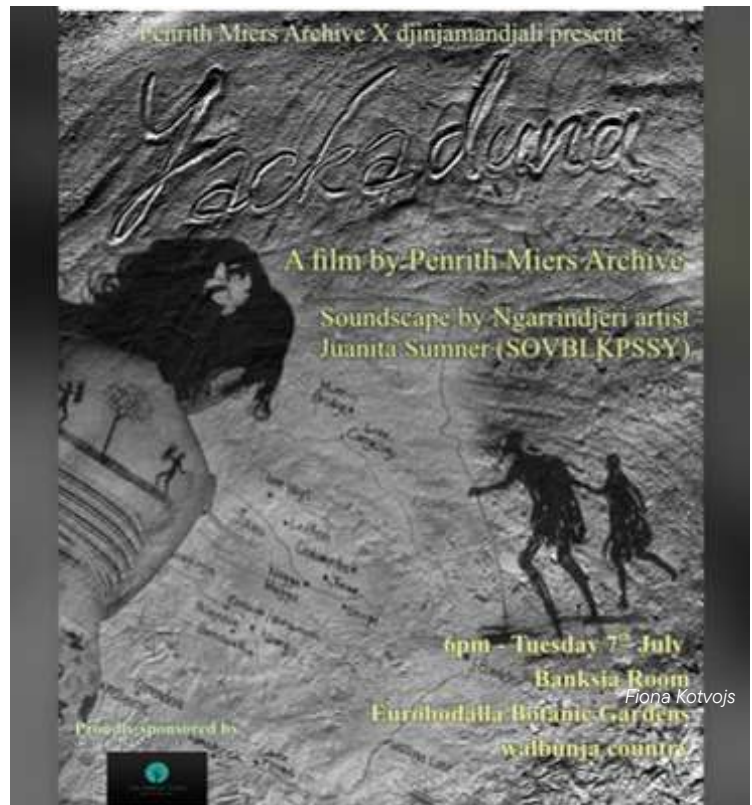
The duo are dedicated to a life for caring for Country through building aural, dialogic and accessible local histories. Their film YACKADUNA, traces the life of 19th century Wiradjuri/Yorta Yorta artist Tommy McRae and was shot largely where he lived on the Murray River near Corowa. It is built around the Murray creation story and explores themes of displacement and resilience through eight generations of Tommy's family, down to his 4 x great granddaughter Madika Penrith.

The film will be accompanied by a soundscape by Juanita Sumner. Juanita is Ngarrindjeri DJ, producer, radio presented and sound artist. She produces club music and DJ's under the moniker SOVBLKPUSSEY. She has created a soundscape in resonance to the film's exploration of Country along the Murray River. She uses field recordings from her mother's country Ngarrindjeri ruwe on Raukkan, where the Murray flows out into the ocean.

The night will conclude with a Q&A with filmmakers Penrith and Miers, facilitated by djinjamandjali co-founders Jordan Nye and Eliza Cannon.

A bowl of something warm and vegetarian will be served on arrival. We can't wait to see you. Please arrive at 6pm for a 6:30pm start.

We would like to thank The Family Place for generously sponsoring this event and supporting our community with their important work on the ground.

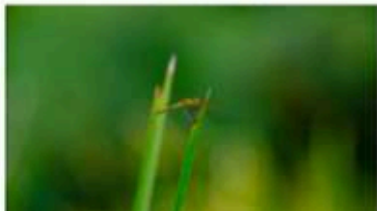
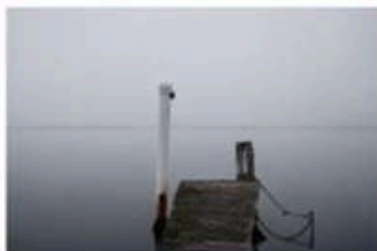


The June meeting for the Eurobodalla photographic club.

The competition this month was an "Minimalism". Tim Moon was the remote judge.

Afterwards our club member, Phil Morrison gave a really entertaining presentation of his 5 item photo Challenge. Anne Brown gave a fascinating presentation on "Life on a Northern Territory Cattle Station" where her son, daughter-in-law and their three children live.

If you would like to check the club out, please come to our next meeting night, which is Tuesday 28th of July at Tomakin hall, starting at 7pm.



June Competition Results

IMAGE OF THE NIGHT: *Debbie Osiecki - Beyond*

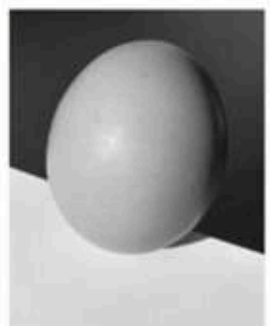
COLOUR

- GOLD:** *Debbie Osiecki - Beyond*
Jeanette Robben - Solitary Whakatete Bay
Louise McDonald - Ruby
- SILVER:** *Robyn Isaacson - Franz Joseph Glacier*
Colin Pass - Chrysler Building - Manhattan
Mick Newnham - Rock Salt
Nandini Narayan - Dragonfly at Rest
- HIGHLY COMMENDED:**
Beth Westra - Branch Companions
Dale Evans - Pink Curve
Robert Bednarik - Shell and Sand
Jo Love - Magpie Silhouette
Ian Robinson - Branching Out
Gary Jones - Dark Night
Ruth Mackay - Hiding
Greer Atkinson - Hazy Days
Anne Brown - Sugar Cane in Flower
Anne Brown - A Knotty Problem



MONO

- GOLD:** *Colin Pass - Hanging About*
- SILVER:** *Robyn Isaacson - Sydney Harbour Bridge*
Sue Hartland - Snake Lines
Louise McDonald - The Dune
Sue Hartland - The Beginning or Is It
Debbie Osiecki - The Crossing
- HIGHLY COMMENDED:** *Jeanette Robben - Lone Pine*
Nandini Narayan - Out to Sea



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL WINNERS



**REFUGEE WEEK MOVIE:
"THE MERGER"**

**SCREENING ON SATURDAY 4TH JULY 5.30 FOR 6PM
AT THE RED DOOR HALL MORUYA**

Mark Refugee Week by joining members and supporters of the Eurobodalla Refugee Action Committee (RAC) to watch *The Merger*, an uplifting positive story about community and refugees in regional Australia.

Eurobodalla RAC works for better conditions for refugees and raises funds that go directly to refugee support groups in Australia and Southeast Asia.

Adapted from a comedy play of the same name, *The Merger* is a tale of how a struggling Aussie Rules footy team (The Roosters) in an equally struggling town (Bodgy Creek) learns to accept people for who they are and what they can offer a community.



REFUGEE ACTION MORUYA

Entrance fee \$10. All proceeds to assist refugees. Refreshment provided.



Forest Flashes by Josie Cosgrove

SPOREADIC GATHERINGS

a network of artists for the Fungi Festival

Sally Barnett, Josie Cosgrove, Karyn Fearnside, Kath Fries, Emma Anna, Susan Hey, Belinda Piggott, Rachel Robb, Tika Robinson, Charli Rose Gerry, Rozalie Sherwood

Quantum Brewery Moruya
57 Hawdon St, Moruya
Thursday to Sunday 12pm to 6pm
June 12th - July 12th 2026

Opening Event
12pm Friday 12th June 2026



www.fungifestival.com.au



Tell them you saw it
in the Moruya Mail!

Subscribe free at www.moruyamail.com.au

**BASIL SELLERS
ART PRIZE**

CALL FOR ENTRIES
\$55,000 TOTAL
PRIZE POOL

ENTRIES CLOSE
11 SEPTEMBER
2026

2024 Winner - Lexie Watt, Bombo Headland

**MOGODHA
NAIDOC
BIG DAY
OUT
2026**

ALL WELCOME

**FREE event
10am-2pm
Saturday
11th July**



**river of
art**

ARTS FESTIVAL
25 Sept-5 Oct 2026
EUROBODALLA | SOUTH COAST NSW



Photo New Exhibition for July

Local Broulee photographer Louise McDonald is exhibiting her collection, Our Coast, throughout July at Framing Pieces 1/30b Orient St, Batemans Bay. Featuring original fine-art photographs and photographic art inspired by the local coastline, Louise's collection ranges from dreamy sunrises and energetic surf to delicate coastal flora. All works are ready for sale or can be ordered in a range of sizes. Cards are also available. The exhibition runs for the month of July from 9 to 4:30pm Monday to Friday and visitors are welcome to drop in and view the collection.



Louise McDonald at Framing Pieces

Quantum Brewery
Saturday Live Music
4.30-7.30pm
 and

Fun-time Events – [QB website for details](#)

26 June	Trivia Night 6pm
27 June	Dave Newman
4 July	Tony Jagers
5 July 1-3pm	Coastal Womens' Catch Up
11 July	Reflections Trio
18 July	Piper Allen
25 Jul	Mick Fernandez

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

"Everyone needs to see this film at least once in their lives"

WE ARE NOT POWERLESS

Tickets and info at the venues or wearenotpowerless.com.au

Two Screenings each
 Narooma Kinema, Narooma
 Th 9th JULY 11AM & 6PM
 Headland Theatre, Tathra Hotel
 FRI 10th JULY 2PM & 7PM

SOUTH COAST NSW FILM SCREENING TOUR

Includes Q&A with directors Muzafar Ali & Jolyon Hoff

artcentral TERM 3 2026

21 JULY TO 25 SEPTEMBER

CLASSES

Price per class: \$25 members, \$30 non-members and \$15 concession to be paid by cash at the beginning of each class. Materials included. Please contact the tutors directly to book.

ESSENTIAL PRINTMAKING

Learn aspects of many printmaking processes using simple equipment and household items.

Mondays 1pm to 3pm

Full - no places available

CREATIVE TECHNIQUES

Learn the techniques and principles of drawing, painting, and mixed media.

Tuesdays 10am to 12pm

Nick Summers 0410 774 543

EXPLORING SCREEN PRINTING

Learn screen printing while exploring different stencils and materials.

Wednesdays fortnightly 9am to 12pm

July 22, August 5, 19, September 9 & 23

Sonja Skagen 0421 197 358

THE ART OF DRAWING

Creative mark making using mixed media and tools

Fridays 10am to 12pm

Full - no places available

WORKSHOPS

FROM SKETCH TO SHOWCASE: A MENTORING PROGRAM FOR EMERGING ARTISTS

with Victoria Westwood

A 6-session program, with a focus on skill development, conceptual exploration, and professional presentation.

Tuesday 1pm to 3pm

July 21, August 4, 18, September 1, 15 & 22

\$150 members, \$180 non-members, \$90 concession

[Book online](#)

SHORT STORY, MEMOIR & POETRY

with Paul Cullen

Learn how to develop a narrative arc, to write dialogue and to compose vivid and authentic landscapes and characters

Wednesday 1pm to 3pm, August 19 & Sept 2

\$50 members/concession, \$60 non-members

[Book online](#)

COURSES

LINO BLOCK PRINTING FOR BEGINNERS

with Alda Rudzisz

Be guided through a design process, learn how to carve a lino block and print your block using various inks and techniques.

Thursday 9:30am to 11:30am

July 23, 30, August 6, 13, 20 & 27

\$180 (includes materials)

[Book online](#)

LINO BLOCK PRINTING - CONTINUERS

with Alda Rudzisz

Continue developing lino block skills and techniques in this continuation course.

Thursday 9:30am to 11:30am

September 3, 10, 17, 24, October 15 & 22

\$180 (includes materials)

[Book online](#)

CLAY TO CUP, BOWL, PLATE, PLATTER

with Sarah Ludowici

A six-week ceramics course where you'll learn hand-building and glazing techniques to create your own unique, handcrafted tableware. Perfect for beginners and beyond.

Saturday 1.30pm to 3.30pm

August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 & September 19

\$360 (includes all materials and firing).

[Book online](#)



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TeenSafe **TRAINING SAFER YOUNG DRIVERS**

a driving skill for life

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

Enjoy reading the Moruya Mail? *Just Click on the cup*

You can support this free publication when you




[Buy me a coffee](#)

MORUYA PUPPY CLUB



Social school for dogs under 24 months
Saturdays 9.30 - 11.00am at Riverside Park
\$20 No Puppy Club this weekend
No ID necessary
All ages welcome to join our 9.30 pack walk :)
bigheaddogtraining.com

Eurobodalla
Orchid Club

Winter Orchid Show



Friday July 10th
9am to 4pm

Saturday July 11th
9am to 2pm

Free Entry

CWA Hall Moruya
Queen Street
Moruya
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2026 Diary Dates

- 12 June to 12 July - **Fungi Festival**
- 5-12 July - **NAIDOC Week**
- 11 July - **Mogodha NAIDOC Big Day Out**
- 18 July - **Red Door Hall Car Boot Sale**
- 25th July - **2026 Lazer Rally of the Bay**
- 26 September - **Tilba Festival**
- 21st-25th October - **Sea Otter Australia**
- 13 March 2027 - **NSW State Election**
- 7-9 May - 2027 **Narooma Oyster Festival**

Dr Michael Holland MP Mobile Office

8th July
Narooma, Location TBC 10am - 11am
28th July
Club Malua, Malua Bay 10am - 11am
Catalina Club (Golfers Club Room), Catalina 12pm - 1pm

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/>

Free Legal Advice

South Coast & Country Community Law is coming to Batemans Bay to provide in person legal appointments for clients.

When: Thursday 2nd July 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).

How: Appointments are required.

Call us on 1800 229 529 to make an appointment

Next Teensafe Driving Course

The next Teensafe Course is in school holidays Tuesday July 14 at Moruya Speedway 10am. Practical behind-the-wheel safe driver training for L and P licenced drivers. Fee \$100.

Cars and instructors provided. For info & forms go to Teensafe link at baybeginnersdrivingschool.com.au

or phone Sean at 0412 446 568

Safe driving from the Teensafe team.

Is it time to downsize those bookcases?

The Moruya Hospital Auxiliary Is getting ready for its Annual Bookfair in October. We would appreciate your book donations that are clean & in good condition that we are able to sell to raise funds to provide equipment for the Eurobodalla Regional Hospital. We cannot accept magazines, CDs & DVDs. We will accept jigsaws & board games.

Please email mdha@y7mail.com for details of what we can accept and to arrange pickup or drop off details.

BATEMANS BAY RFS STATION OPEN DAY

Batemans Bay Brigade is delighted to announce that we will be having a Station Open Day this year!

10am to 2pm, Sunday 5 July 2026 54 Orient Street, Batemans Bay. There will be plenty of fun for all ages! Thinking about volunteering and want to ask some questions about the roles and skills you can acquire in the RFS? Want to have an up close look at our fire trucks and equipment including some live demonstrations? Want to meet Smokey the Koala who will be there to share all the fun with the kids?

School Holidays

- Winter Holidays: Saturday 4 July – Friday 17 July 2026
- Spring Holidays: Saturday 26 September – Friday 9 October 2026
- Summer Holidays (End of Year): Saturday 19 December 2026 – late January 2027

Next ESC Public Access dates

- 14 July 2026 and 11 August 2026

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



Moruya District Hospital Auxiliary

If you would like to join the Hospital Auxiliary and help raise funds for your local Hospital, you would be most welcome. Meetings are held at the Moruya Golf Club on the 1st Monday of every month at 2pm To find out more email mdha@y7mail.com or PO Box 469 Moruya 2537



Rally for Recovery
Ainslie Parade Tomakin

CHEAP! **Mega Garage Sale** **CHEAP!**
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
.....the list is endless.

rallyforrecovery.au 0406 363 166



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cup or
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GREAT RESULTS.
ANYTIME, ANYWHERE.**

Animal Welfare League News



Smiley Buster



Valentino

Five-year-old Valentino is a big, handsome boy who is a perfect mix of affection, independence and playfulness. His good looks and confident personality ensure he stands out from the crowd. Valentino is a totally indoor cat who has lived with two small dogs but he needs to be the only cat. A little aloof to begin with, Valentino is at heart a smoocher, who will rub against your legs and cuddle up next to you. Handsome, confident, playful and affectionate - that's Valentino, and he's ready to become your best friend! Valentino's microchip number is 900164002035113.

Smiley Buster is a 12-month-old Bull Arab cross. He's an athletic, curious, and loyal boy who loves a good challenge. He will thrive on training and routines. Buster's ideal home will be with an experienced, patient owner who can guide him with positive reinforcement and consistent boundaries. He needs daily exercise and mental stimulation, plus a safe, secure yard to stretch his legs. Buster is best with adults and older kids who can handle his energy and give him steady leadership. Buster has the makings of a devoted, active companion; he just needs his chance to shine. Buster's microchip number is 991003002520833 and AWL's Rehoming Organisation Number is R251000222.

All AWL animals come desexed, microchipped and vaccinated. To arrange a meeting with Valentino or Buster, call AWL Eurobodalla on 0410016612 or complete the form on the AWL NSW website:

www.awlnsw.com.au



July 2026
National Desexing Month

We are offering financial assistance to **all** pet owners living in the Eurobodalla Shire who wish to have their pets desexed as part of National Desexing Month.



Make an appointment with your Eurobodalla Vet, then call us on **0436 816 718** to have the discount voucher actioned



BECOME A FOSTER CARER TODAY

CALL ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE EUROBODALLA ON **0410 016 612**

Do you know an environmental hero who should be recognised?

Help recognise our local environmental heroes by nominating someone for the 2026 State and Territory Landcare Awards! These awards celebrate individuals, groups and organisations protecting Australia's land, water and ecosystems. They recognise leadership across climate action, sustainable agriculture, First Nations landcare, Coastcare, innovation, youth and women in landcare, and more. Nominations are free and open to everyone, including self-nominations. It only takes around 10-minutes to submit a nomination and shine a light on the important work happening in communities across the country.

This biennial national program highlights outstanding contributions to environmental care at a local level, helping build a more sustainable future for all Australians.

National category winners will go on to become finalists for the 2027 National Landcare Awards.

Don't miss out, nominations close 31 July 2026 (ACT closes 14 June 2026).

[Nominate now](#)

Health Check Convoy

COORDINARE is bringing a [Health Check Convoy](#) to Moruya on Tuesday 4 August 10am and 3pm, Riverside Park with the message 'Get screened. Stay well'.

Five mobile screening clinics will help local community members to access free health and wellbeing services and to refer to local providers.

Free health checks that will be available on the day.

- Skin checks
- Heart and health checks
- Dental checks
- Mental health support
- Immunisations and screening
- Health advice and information
- Free refreshments

SHASA is recruiting!

Is there anyone you know in your networks that might be suitable for this paid part-time role (\$45,000 over 18 months)? The Haven Coordinator will be fully supported by the SHASA President and SHASA volunteers involved with the Disaster Ready Fund Haven Project.

<https://shasa.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2026/06/Haven-Coordinator-Job-Description.pdf>

Hold Fast Distillery

Hold Fast Distillery

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

Info@holdfastdistillery.com.au holdfastdistillery.com.au

See you at
SAGE MARKET MORUYA



Yoga pose of the week
with Christina Carroll



Corpse pose – Shavasana

Once we get over the name of the pose, we can adopt the attitude of releasing tension, tightness and dissolving into the present. Often practised at the beginning and end of a class, this pose helps to relax the whole psycho-physiological system.

To practice - Lie flat on the back, if this is uncomfortable place a pillow under the head and knees. Place the arms beside the body, not quite touching, with the palms turned up. Place the legs straight, heels hip width apart and allow the feet to fall naturally to the sides. Ensure that the head, neck and spine are in alignment. Close the eyes and lips and relax the whole body.

STONE RIVER CHURCH
South Coast Community Kitchen

COMMUNITY MEAL

Sunday 26th July
12-1:30
Russ Martin Park Moruya

CATALINA CLUB
Veteran Golfers Section

Moruya Market

PRANA PRODUCE

Seedlings
Herbs
Salias
Berries

12volt electrical systems

A crash course for beginners

- Understand the basics of a 12 volt electrical system for a van, caravan or 4WD
- De-mystify batteries, solar, chargers and wiring
- Make sense of the information overload around DIY electrical

WITH MAGGIE

TRYBOOKING
<https://www.trybooking.com/DNOHA>

25th July 11am-1pm
RFR Centre, Moruya NSW
\$30 pp
Morning tea included

REPURPOSING for RESILIENCE

MONDAY 6TH JULY AND TUESDAY 7TH JULY, 2026

PICKLEBALL HOLIDAY CLINIC

Group Technique Coaching

Ages 8-11 and 12-16

Professional & Friendly Coaches

To book, contact Coach Brad on:
04 34 474 468
barratennis@gmail.com

REGISTRATION \$65 PER DAY

9:00AM - 12:00PM @ BROULEE : ST PETERS SPORTS HALL

POWERED BY: SOUTH COAST TENNIS ACADEMY

PARENTS, TAKE A BREAK!
ENJOY A WELL-DESERVED PARENTS NIGHT OUT AND LET US TAKE CARE OF THE FUN!

The DANCE COLLECTIVE MORUYA

TDC NEON Disco Night!

THURSDAY 9TH JULY 5:00PM - 7:00PM

INCLUDED:

- GLOW STICKS
- POPPER
- PIE OR SAUSAGE ROLL
- FACE PAINTING

\$20 PER TICKET

DANCING • GAMES • MUSIC • GLOWING FUN!

TREATS & ZOOPEE DOOPERS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE ON THE NIGHT!

SPOTS ARE LIMITED - BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL!
Drop the kids off and enjoy a couple of hours to yourself. BECAUSE PARENTS DESERVE A SCHOOL HOLIDAY BREAK TOO!

LEVEL UP

YOUR SKILLS. Elevate your dance.

2-DAY WORKSHOP WITH GUEST TEACHER **LAURA Marbrow**

OPEN TO INTERMEDIATE + LEVEL DANCERS READY TO LEVEL UP

LEVEL UP your technique, strength, and ability

PUSH YOUR LIMITS in a supportive and empowering space

LEAVE INSPIRED with new skills, choreography, and confidence

TUESDAY JULY 14TH & WEDNESDAY JULY 15TH
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

The Dance Collective MORUYA

DAY 1 ACRO SKILLS + CHOREOGRAPHY

DAY 2 TURNS & LEAP + CHOREOGRAPHY

\$60/Day or \$110 for 2 Days

CHALLENGE YOURSELF. GROW YOUR SKILLS. DANCE FEARLESSLY.

Tuross Head Golf



Winner: Teri Swanbury with President Bruce Harding

Tuross Head Golf Results Thursday 25th June 2026

A field of 32 players competed in a Medley Stableford event. Today's Winner set the pace early on and maintained the lead until the end! A wonderful score achieved.

The Winners were:

- 1st: Teri Swanbury (30) with 39 points
- 2nd: Brad Doolan (7) with 37 points
- 3rd: Colin Houghton (4) with 36 points (countback)

Nearest to the Pins

- 4th: Troy Kingdom 3.62 A Grade
- 4th: Stephen Swanbury 2.36 B Grade
- 4th: Anthony Mellick 3.33 C Grade
- 6th: Nick Brice 0.87 A Grade
- 6th: Jim Wade 1.24 B Grade
- 6th: Gavan Wheelahan 3.24 C Grade
- 7th: Ruth Gschwend 1.85 A Grade
- 7th: Teri Swanbury 9.75 B Grade

Balls went to: Jim Wade 36, Marie Muriwai 36, Ray Bollard 36, Ricky Hayes 35, Gavan Wheelahan 35, Mark Haberkorn 34, Ian McManus 34, Terry Milliken 33, Nick Brice 32, Rex Wood 32, Mark Forrest 32, Shane Gschwend 32, Ian Kingston 32, Stephen Swanbury 31 and John Phyland 31.



President Bruce Harding with Winner Lars Gaupset

Tuross Head Golf Results Saturday 27th June 2026

A field of 59 players took to the course to compete in a Stableford Medley event. It was a cool day, and some wonderful, and close scores were achieved.

The Winners were:

- 1st: Lars Gaupset (16) with 36 points
- 2nd: Michael Elfar (33) with 35 points (countback)
- 3rd: Simon French (18) with 35 points (countback)
- 4th: Colin Houghton (4) with 35 points
- 5th: Ray Bollard (3) with 34 points

Nearest to the Pins

- 4th: Ray Bollard 0.40 A Grade
- 4th: Peter Coffey 7.77 B Grade
- 4th: Herb Muriwai 10.73 C Grade
- 6th: Ray Bollard 1.10 A Grade
- 6th: Mark Forrest 1.50 B Grade
- 6th: Tony Brown 5.50 C Grade
- 7th: Brad Doolan 3.30 A Grade
- 7th: Lars Gaupset 5.77 B Grade

Balls went to: Jim Madden 33, Martin Booth 33, Herb Muriwai 33, Wayne Burgess 32, Troy Kingdom 32, Paul Scholze 32, Reginald Apps 32, Tim Watson 32, Teri Swanbury 31, Steve Johnston 31, Ken Hush 31, Sandra D'Onofrio 31, Brad Doolan 31, Bruce Handley 30 and Ian Lawson 30.



Winners: Dorothy Madden and Gail Page.

Tuross Head Ladies Golf Results - Tuesday 30th June 2026

Today the ladies held their 2 Ball Best Ball Multiplier event. The event was sponsored by Haven Beauty and Spa. 18 Players signed up to play on a cool Winter's morning with some fantastic results.

The Winning teams were:

- 1st: Dorothy Madden and Gail Page with 58 points.
- 2nd: Chris Wratten and Pam Alexander with 57 points.

Place Getters:

- 3rd: Leonie Doolan and Judy Apps with 54 points.

Hole Prize: 2nd Shot

- 7th: Gail Page A Grade Distance:1.63
- 7th: Kerrie Sands B Grade Distance:1.40

Nearest to Pin: 2nd Shot

- 6th: Stacey Davidson Distance: 2.80
- 15th: Pam Alexander Distance: 1.50



Winner: Steve Gardner

Tuross Head Vets Golf Results Wednesday 1st July 2026

31 players braved the cool morning to compete in a Single Stableford event today and some brilliant scores were achieved.

The Winners today were:

- 1st: Steve Gardner with 22 points.
- 2nd: Paul Pereira with 20 points.
- 3rd: Steve Lymbery with 19 points (countback).

Balls or Chocolates:

Bruce Harding 19, Frank Pomfret 19, Des Jackson 18 and Chris Wratten 18.

Nearest to the Pins:

- 4th: Derek Hoare (2nd Shot)
- 6th: Ken Hush (1st Shot)
- 7th: Ladies: Chris Wratten (2nd Shot)
- Mens: Steve Gardner (2nd Shot)

Accuracy: Derek Hoare (5th hole)
Bradman's: Greg Bush

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Driving Change

Club Malua Stingrays Women's Bowls



There were 24 social bowlers on the Green whilst some of our ladies have headed north for Winter. It was lovely to see Janet McKay back with us and bowling well. Birthday greetings to Wendy Geary and Judy Davis . Before calling cards Jay Breust Bowls Organiser explained the new format for Stingrays bowls . Winners Rink 3, Di Wotherspoon and Lisa Grice . (Photo) Runners-up Rink 2, Olga Geshwend, Jan Shalders and Colleen Ashby. Lucky numbers, 17 Di MacPherson, 25 Nancy White. Jackpot now \$132, number selected was 46 Di MacPherson who found 4 of hearts + a free game of bowls . Money Club, 18 Marlou Rollinson, 4 Lyn Hardy. Well done as always to resident coach Sue Morgan as she imparts her knowledge to new bowlers. Good bowling this Friday to Brooke Wilson in State Singles Final.

Tomakin Twist Tops Bowls



There were 19 Twisties on the Green on a coolish morning after the rain , but by mid morning the sun was shining and so warm everyone was stripping off. Robbo welcomed everyone especially two bowlers from Belconnan David Wright and Jim Tolser who have joined Twisties. Thank you to Dave Kleinnan for the yummy sausage rolls and Vince Bruno for the lovely juicy oranges. We are definitely being spoiled. Winners with Highest Winning Margin, Sumpy, Jonesy and Chanty. High/Low scores 25/7 not won. Lucky numbers, 24 Bob the Builder, 20 Matilda two weeks in a row. Other winning teams, Trish the Dish, Foxy and Jim 16/9 Bob the Builder, Vince & Moby with Robbo sharing a half game 20/7. Don't forget next Sunday 5th July AGM will commence @ 8am in Bowls Shed to welcome our newly elected committee. Bowls will be played after meeting.

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DARTS Night

WEDNESDAYS @ 7PM

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Rugby Union results

Canberra Suburban Cup competition

Results Rd 11 - Saturday 27th June 2026

- Batemans Bay "Boars" 57 beat ADFA "Lions" 38
- The Boars took an early commanding lead but dropped in defence as the game progressed leaking some easy tries
- Hall "Bushrangers" 35 beat Easts "White" 34
- Hall had to work hard all day to get the win and retain second spot on the ladder
- Easts "Red" 102 beat Uni Norths "Owls" 0

It appears the Uni Norths "Owls" were asleep for the game

Competition Ladder

- Easts "Red" 45, · Hall "Bushrangers" 36, · Easts "White" 30, · Batemans Bay "Boars" 27, · ADFA "Lions" 13, · Uni Norths "Owls" 8.

Next weekend - Rd 12 - Saturday 4th July 2026

- Batemans Bay "Boars" v Easts "White" @ Hanging Rock Oval, Batemans Bay
- Hall "Bushrangers" v Uni Norths "Owls" @ Hall
- ADFA "Lions" v Easts "Red" @ Dorsett Oval ACT

Women's Rugby 10's

Carnival held at Braidwood for all teams playing twice

- Braidwood 44 beat Batemans Bay 7
- Cooma 39 beat Batemans Bay 5

Next weekend

- Goulburn v Batemans Bay @ Goulburn

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

Tackle World Moruya Fishing Report

26.6.26

Moruya River.

With the winter doldrums well and truly upon us, the week day trade has been slow to say the least. As a result, the reports from local or traveling anglers, has been non existent.

What little I have managed to glean from anglers this week, has been that fishing in the river system has been hard work. Cooler temps, have definitely slowed the local fish activity.

Fish deep and slow is the best advice I can give this week. Blade style vibs lures hopped slowly in the deeper holes can work well when fish activity is at a stand still. You are looking for a reaction bite to persistent annoyance rather than a fish that is actively hunting its prey. Cast in the same area 3-5 times to annoy any fish in the area to bite. Repeated casts into the same water with slow retrieve rates is what tends to bring fish undone this time of year.

Look for areas of deep water, quarry wharf is a good example of an area with the depth of water you want to look for. There are many other areas along the length of the Moruya river that also fit this type of water, some accessible from land, others requiring a boat to find.

Bream, flathead, tailor or salmon are going to be the main species you will be searching for during the cooler months.

Tuross River.

Much like Moruya, I have not had too many reports from Tuross this week. I can really only go on historical precedent to say what should be available in this system at the moment.

Flathead and bream will still be available along the deeper holes and drop offs adjacent to these areas. Estuary perch do tend to school up this time of year for their spawn run, and multi fish sessions can be had if you find the schools. Just remember, it is a closed season for EP's this time of year, so any fish captured need to be returned straight away.

Salmon schools can tend to make smash and grab missions into the river this time of year, and if found are a lot of fun on light tackle. Small 5-10gm metals or small minnow style soft plastics cast into working schools can equate to many hook ups and screaming drags.

Rock and Beach.

Salmon are the main stay along the local beaches, breakwall's and head lands this time of year. Finding the active schools, is however the part many anglers can tend to find difficult. These schools are constantly moving, looking for a food source, or staying away from becoming a food source, so there can be a lot of water between fish. You can stay mobile looking for active schools, or you can set up at a likely looking gutter and wait. Burley can attract fish to you, this can be as complex as you choose to make it, but I tend to find old pilchards in a keeper bag left to wash around in the surf zone does the trick.

The drummer off the local ledges should be on the bite at the moment, and all that is required is some bread for burley, prawns for bait, a strong hook and minimal weight to get onto some hard pulling, great eating fish. Fingers xed I manage to get into some this weekend.

Offshore.

The have been a few reports of snapper starting to make their into shallower waters this week. 15m being a good depth to start looking.

Further offshore, there have been reports of Yellowfin Tuna in the 30-60kg range available off Moruya all the way down to Tatura, there are also reports of Bluefin well off the continental shelf for those prepared to drive all that way out. Hopefully I get some reports back early next week.

The bait freezer was restocked this week, we have all the sort after baits available at the moment.

There are plenty of mid winter bargains to be had in store at the moment, 20% off all Shimano summer clothing range, 30% off all Joybees footwear, 50% of all Nomad Live Op's soft plastics, so get in this weekend and restock your tackle boxes, or kit yourself out with some great clothing.

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

Team Tackle World Moruya.

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BROULEE MORUYA SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

When: Monday 13th July - 9:00am to 3:00pm (6hrs)

Where: Captain Oldrey Park, Broolee

Who: Boys & Girls 4 years to 12 years old

Cost: \$55.00 includes a footy

Note: BYO food and drinks

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ALL GIRLS GROUPS AVAILABLE

Major boost to shark-spotting drones to improve beach safety with \$120m shark program

The NSW Government is significantly expanding its investment in shark-spotting drone technology to help keep people safer in the water with year-round coverage that will deliver the largest expansion of aerial shark surveillance in the world.

The Government will invest an additional \$34 million in drones including harnessing artificial intelligence and emerging technology in a major scale-up of drone coverage across beaches in Sydney and along the NSW coast.

Under the expanded program, around 70 beaches will benefit from drone monitoring 365 days of the year, including at least one beach in every coastal local government area.

This additional monitoring by Surf Life Saving NSW will prioritise beaches with high numbers of swimmers, surfers and paddlers including in Sydney and the North Coast, where shark incidents have become more frequent.

This expanded monitoring will start 1 July and include year-round coverage across all Sydney beaches expanding from 26 to 38 beaches – from Palm Beach to Cronulla. The enhanced shark program also includes two SharkSmart listening stations in Sydney harbour to alert swimmers to the presence of tagged sharks.

No government can promise there will never be another shark incident. What we can do is keep investing in the technology, research and education that help reduce risk and better protect people using our beaches.

This boost in funding brings the Government's total investment in the Shark Mitigation Program to more than \$120 million over the next two years. It will see more beaches covered, longer daily patrols from dawn till dusk and year-round monitoring at key locations across the state.

Expanded regional operations along the coast will for the first time include:

- flights every weekend throughout the year
- daily flights from 1 December to 30 April
- extended daily flight hours to cover dawn to dusk

This is additional to the existing school holiday drone program along the coast.

Importantly, coverage will not be limited to patrolled beaches, ensuring protection extends to popular, unpatrolled surf locations. Surf Life Saving NSW will continue to lead drone operations which will be scaled to reflect seasonal demand with increased coverage during summer and school holidays, flexible deployment based on beach usage and targeted monitoring during periods of higher recreational activity.

Like all mitigation measures, drones have limitations, including weather conditions, visibility and battery constraints, but they remain a vital tool in protecting water users.

The NSW Government will continue to partner with Surf Life Saving NSW but will also partner with external providers to drive the adoption of emerging technologies to enhance drone monitoring across the state.

This will include trials of at least two new artificial intelligence systems over summer, harnessing automation to improve shark detection, with the ambition of making new technologies standard practice at our beaches. The NSW Government will also work with Surf Life Saving NSW and CASA to pursue regulatory approvals to introduce more autonomous drone operations.

The funding for Surf Life Saving NSW will also enable them to upgrade their remote pilot and operating facilities, support deployment of new technology, and pave the way for a future of daily, automated flights from surf club rooftops and other purpose-built infrastructure.

Drone schedule 2026/27

South Zone – Wollongong, Kiama, Eurobodalla, Shellharbour, Shoalhaven, Bega Valley

- Every LGA has at least one beach with coverage 365 days per year
- A number of other beaches will be covered:
 - o daily from 1 December to 30 April,
 - o daily in spring school holidays, and
 - o every weekend throughout the year.

Sporting clubs can now apply for grants of up to \$100,000 for energy upgrades

Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
Sporting clubs can now apply for grants of up to \$100,000 for energy upgrades such as solar, LED lighting, water-saving systems, building improvements and more.

Extreme weather is already impacting [#CommunitySport](#). These upgrades can help lower costs and keep clubs running.

Applications close 28 July 2026, or sooner if funds run out. The [#GameOn](#) program will work alongside other government programs, including the Cheaper Home Batteries program and finance from the Clean Energy Finance Corporation.

To help clubs get the most from their funding, we've engaged Sport Forever, led by Cricket for Climate, to help deliver the program. They will provide practical support for project delivery, impact measurement and community engagement.

For info on eligibility and how to apply, visit <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/energy/programs/sports-clubs-energy-climate-upgrades>

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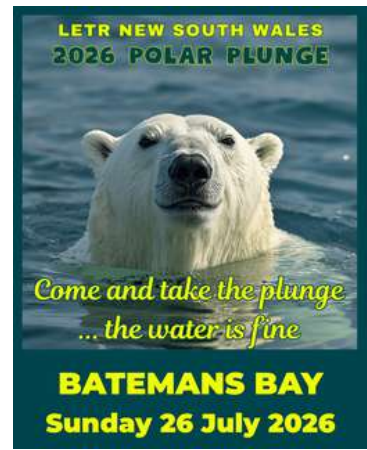
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Special Olympics South Coast taking the plunge again



Photos from the 2025 Polar Plunge at Corrigans.

On Sunday 26 July athletes and brave supporters of Special Olympics South Coast will again be plunging into the balmy waters of Corrigan's Beach, Batehaven to raise funds for their club. The Polar Plunge is a fundraising initiative of the Law Enforcement Torch Run NSW (LETR) held in conjunction with and in support of Special Olympics Australia. "It was a hugely successful and fun event in 2025 and we're hoping it will be even bigger and better this year!" stated Kathy Godwin, Chair of South Coast SO.

Most of our athletes, who come from as far south as Wolumla and north as Callala Bay, will be participating. They will be joined a local police team, Dr Michael Holland (MP for Bega) and Liza Butler (MP for South Coast). Batemans Bay Surf Life Saving Club will be in attendance – just in case!!

This year in particular, some of the funds raised will go to help pay the levies our 5 athletes who have been selected to represent NSW at the upcoming Special Olympics National Games, Melbourne, in October. Special Olympics South Coast is a small volunteer-run club in the global Special Olympics movement that empowers individuals with intellectual disabilities and/or autism through sport, fostering inclusion, confidence, and community engagement. We welcome participants of all ages, abilities, and ambitions, offering year-round training, competitions, and social opportunities.

There's still time to join us or donate to the club or any athlete. Click on the QR code or go to:

https://polarplunge.sydney/Regional_Plunges/Batemans_Bay/

Everyone is invited to share in the fun, but only those registered will be able to plunge.

More information is available by contacting Kathy (southcoast.chair@specialolympics.com.au) or checking out our Facebook page: Special Olympics Australia – South Coast.

REGISTER FOR OR DONATE TO THE BATEMANS BAY POLAR PLUNGE HERE

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Corrigans Beach, Batemans Bay

GAME DAY

SUNDAY 5 JULY

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 Cost: \$60 per day

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2-DAY YOGA IMMERSION

with Mark Breadner
 Founder & Facilitator, YogaCoach

SAT 11 & SUN 12 JULY
 11:00AM – 3:00PM

Far South Coast Branch 2025/26 Awards of Excellence



Surf Life Saving Far South Coast report - "What an incredible night we had on Saturday, celebrating the amazing achievements of our members across the FSC Branch. A huge thank you to Moruya SLSC for hosting, and everyone who attended.

Congratulations to the phenomenal individuals, teams and clubs that were recognised for their efforts this season. We are so lucky to have so many special people within the FSC surf lifesaving family.

MAJOR AWARDS

- Club of the Year: Broulee Surfers SLSC
- Surf Lifesaver of the Year: Troy Burhop, Tathra SLSC
- Volunteer of the Year: Miep Krechting, Pambula SLSC
- Administrator of the Year: Sam Robinson, Broulee Surfers SLSC
- President's Award: Kate Hunt, Batemans Bay SLSC

SURF SPORTS AWARDS

- Official of the year: Anthony Griffiths, Batemans Bay SLSC
- Coach of the Year: Neil Innes, Batemans Bay SLSC
- Overall Athlete of the Year: Zara Hall, Moruya SLSC & Rosie McPartland, Broulee Surfers SLSC
- Open Athlete of the Year: Zara Hall, Moruya SLSC
- Youth Athlete of the Year: Rosie McPartland, Broulee Surfers SLSC
- Masters Athlete of the Year: Darren Drewsen, Broulee Surfers SLSC
- Surf Sports Team of the Year: Narooma Nauti's, Narooma SLSC
- The Jack Beale Trophy for Highest Point Score: Broulee Surfers SLSC
- Carnival Point Score Champions: Tristan Heinemann, Rosie McPartland & Rachel Duczynski

- Age Point Score Champions: Isaac Donne, Tristan Heinemann & Rachel Duczynski
- Surf Sports Overall Champions: Tristan Heinemann, Broulee Surfers SLSC & Rosie McPartland, Broulee Surfers SLSC
- Surf Sports Best & Fairest: Tristan Heinemann, Broulee Surfers SLSC

MEMBER SERVICES & YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AWARDS

- Junior Lifesaver of the Year: Emma Dawson, Broulee Surfers SLSC & Harry Leach, Broulee Surfers SLSC
- Youth Volunteer of the Year: Charlie Johnson, Tathra SLSC
- Services Team of the Year: Bermagui Nippers, Bermagui SLSC

ADMINISTRATION & EDUCATION AWARDS

- Community Engagement of the Year: Gotcha4Life, Moruya SLSC
- Trainer of the Year: Mike Hallahan, Moruya SLSC
- Assessor of the Year: Peter Bootes, Pambula SLSC
- Facilitator of the Year: Nyrie Tickell, Pambula SLSC

LIFESAVING AWARDS

- Support Operations Member of the Year: Anthony Bellette, Batemans Bay SLSC
- Patrol Captain of the Year: Paul Hill, Moruya SLSC
- Patrol Efficiency Award: Bermagui SLSC
- Youth Lifesaver of the Year: Brandon Ford, Pambula SLSC
- Rescue of the Year: Troy Burhop, David Eadie & Tanya Smith, Tathra SLSC

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 SECOND CHANCE DRAW - 8:30PM

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