

Sunshine Valley Gazette

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Montville brews up warmth and friendship in a COVID-19 landscape

by Cameron Outridge

MONTVILLE'S community spirit provided inspiration through the tourist town's dark days of COVID lockdown, according to locals.

"Montville has a very small residential population but they have been out in force supporting their local shops," said Montville Chamber of Commerce Secretary Shiralee Cooper. "The locals — I could just hug them — them and the coffee shop owners."

Ms Cooper said coffee shops, in particular, had provided an amazing connection to normalcy for people. "I think it was very good for people to be able to have their morning coffee," she said. "Having those few shops staying open through COVID has been wonderful. We're so impressed that people have kept their businesses running and shown the resilience to be there for the rest of the community."

Mountain Bean Cafe owner Wayne Bluck faced a particularly rugged climb.

The rookie brewer took on his business just as COVID struck and watched the normally steady tourism trade drop



Small town spirit ... A regular crew of locals gather for a catch-up at Mountain Bean Cafe Montville. Wayne Bluck, front, serves his grateful customers from left John McLennan, with Rosie the schnauzer, Garth Riley, Helen Inman, Jane Holmes and Michele Vermeulen. "It only takes us half an hour every morning to solve all the world's problems," said John.

Continued Page 2

Some progress made but a way to go to clean up Palmwoods landmark:

'Please clean up our park'

by Cameron Outridge

A Palmwoods father is maintaining pressure on authorities for a rejuvenation of neglected Kolora Park.

Resident of 10 years Adam Mathieson began voicing his concerns for the once-popular family destination last year.

He said last week there were positive signs with some work progressing but more needed to be done to bring it back to its former glory.

"We've had several meetings with council and council represent-

atives," Mr Mathieson said. "The most recent one was last week with our new councillor, which has been very promising."

"Since Winston (Div 5 Cr Winston Johnston) came into the role, there's been a number of things that have started to take effect around here, which is great."

"This park was run down like you wouldn't believe."

Recently the park has been pressure washed and some painting, garden and signage works completed.

But the issue was complex with Council, State Government and Queensland Rail involved. "And they don't talk," Mr Mathieson said.

He said residents wanted improved access to the park, improved facilities and removal of salvinia weed from the lake and a nearby bat colony from surrounding trees.

"For me and my kids to come down here today I had to walk through all the bat poo. It's horrible. My daughter says it stinks."

"At the moment there is no

access for disabled people or even elderly people to get into the park. They can drive but we've got no footpath access. So to get from the town centre, to this park, now you've got to walk across Chevallum Road which is as busy as anything."

Cr Johnston reassured residents he would continue working with community members to improve the park.

"It's its one of the most important parks in the Palmwoods area," he said.

"I'm working to get the park design-

nation upgraded to a higher level to ensure that it becomes something the whole community can again be proud of."

He said \$623,000 had been allocated in Council's Budget for the Kolora Park Sediment Basin Storm Water Quality Management Project. "If you're going to spend major work you've got to get it into the budget. And it's in the budget."

"The purpose is to control excessive sediment flowing into the

Continued Page 2

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Let's hope local park gets the attention it deserves

Editor's Letter. Cameron Outridge
editor@sunshinevalleygazette.com.au

There are some lively local news stories keeping us busy this edition. Adam Mathieson is a passionate Palmwoods resident concerned about his local park, and rightly so. Thankfully Cr Winston Johnston shares his concerns. So let's hope common sense prevails and the park will be cleaned up and returned to its former glory.

Expensive shelter

Meanwhile, an important issue raised by Mr Mathieson concerns the cost of the rotunda. If his estimation is correct — that he could have built the \$47,000 shelter for about \$10,000 — then that's a lot of money that could have been better spent elsewhere. We'll be following up with Council about the rotunda. Stay tuned for the next edition.

Montville locals shine

It was great to cover a wonderful story about Montville residents getting behind their local businesses during the lockdowns. Montville may have a small residential population, but the town certainly has a big heart.

DETAILS

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\$47k rotunda should only have cost about \$10k

from Page 1

existing ponded area. We have to control the flow of sediment into the pond, before we can do works to improve the lake and other associated works.

"But there will be continued works in the areas over the next 12 months to improve the facilities and the look of the park and walkways.

"As far as flying foxes are concerned it's a recognised problem. There are State Government controls on councils attempting to move flying fox populations out of an area. So that's a work in progress."

Mr Mathieson has emails of support from at least a dozen residents on his side of town who have lived in this area for over 20 years.

"Some of them have lived in the area for over 40," he said. "They've said they've never see the park get to the state it's in now.

"This park used to be fantastic. They used to have weddings in the garden and people would come across for photographs in the rotunda. Now there's nothing.

"Some days you'll come down here and there are itinerants in the park, that have caught the train, asleep in the rotunda or using the toilet facilities. That's not what we want."

A mat of salvinia weed choking up the lake was also an unsightly issue.

"The lake needs a good cleanout. Obviously dredging of some sort is going to have to be done. There's two and a half meters of silt in there."

Mr Mathieson said council would be wise to consult the community before pushing ahead with any plans for the park.



Adam Mathieson with his children Georgina, 4, Henley, 7 months, and Cindy the dog at Palmwoods' Kolora Park... "My argument has always been that this is the first and last part of town that you see as you come in to Palmwoods and as you leave Palmwoods."

"That rotunda down there cost \$47,000. And they boasted about it!" he said.

"That's a waste of money. I can build that for \$10,000 materials and labour. So to spend \$47,000, on something I could build for \$10,000, when you've got playground equipment that is 20 years old. It's just a misdirection of funds by Council."

Mr Mathieson, who has a background in business management and project management, provided a breakdown of what he thought the project should have cost:

- materials - \$2000
- table - \$1000,
- sandstone blocks - \$1000.
- removal of the old structure- \$1000
- labour (3 days 4 staff) - \$5000.

"In all the job should have costs \$10k.

Not \$47k as council proudly boasted," Mr Mathieson said.

History & Background

• The lagoon was described on early survey maps as a permanent waterhole within a reserve for camping and railway purposes. It was regarded as a pure water source for steam trains on their scheduled water stops at the Palmwoods Station. The lagoon is home to many families of ducks - hence the local name "Palmwoods Duck Ponds". In 1970, the park was named "Kolora": an Aboriginal word meaning "freshwater lagoon". Over the years, the park area was improved and extended and was one of the key attractions of the Palmwoods township.

'I'm so grateful for all the local support'

from Page 1

to near nothing. "I'm so grateful for all the local support," he said. "It has really helped get us through the restrictions. We would have really struggled without it. Like so many businesses in Montville we welcome the relaxations. The relaxations and the support from locals has put a more positive outlook on business.

"They call this little area the Village Square and it really is a meeting place, with the news-agent, the chemist and the IGA ... this is where the people come in the morning and it's nice to be able to provide the essentials."

Ms Cooper said she took her hat off to businesses like Little May Espresso who kept the coffee brewing.

"By having businesses like that stay open and keep the lights on ... it helped people realise that Montville was still open for business. The fact that Hannah and Rich Hayes (from Little May Espresso) were there every day was comforting and you always got an encouraging story or a word of inspiration from them whenever you visited. It really helps keep people going and I don't think business people sometimes realise the benefits they bring."

Shali's Cafe owner Shalini Carnevale said



Shali's Cafe owner Shalini Carnevale and her mother Sheila Carnevale, 81, who has helped her daughter every day for the past 20 years ... "When restrictions hit, it was pretty grim for the first four weeks."

visitors were thankfully returning in numbers to Montville, especially on weekends, but it had been dire for a while.

"When restrictions hit, it was pretty grim for the first four weeks," she said. "It was just Mum and I working the shop. So it was very quiet. I took a photo of the main street one

Sunday morning, when it would normally be pumping, and there wasn't a car in site ... not driving or even parked.

"We're very grateful and thankful for everyone who came out and supported our little business. It's certainly helped see us through the hard times."

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From front, Drop-In Centre and Opp Shop volunteers Sande Bamford, Sandra Farrell and Marie Regazzoli on the sewing machines at the Sanctuary Park Church of Christ Op Shop.

Sew wonderful! Volunteers plan to help up-cycle clothes

NAMBOUR'S Sanctuary Park Church of Christ Op Shop volunteers are opening a Repair Cafe where the public can come and mend or make garments using sewing machines free.

"This has come about in response to the publicity we received last year about learn to sew classes," said volunteer Sande Bamford. "So many sewing machines were donated that we just had to do something positive! All we did was say we were going to offer free learn to sew classes and then we had an avalanche of donated machines.

"What was the computer room has now

become the Repair Cafe. People can bring the things they need to repair and use the machine for free. Later we plan to do workshops in upcycling second-hand clothing into something different and useful. It's amazing what can be done with a sewing machine and some imagination."

The Opp shop is part of the Sanctuary Park Church of Christ Op Shop at 22 National Park Road. The Opp Shop will be reopening in July with the Repair Cafe planned for September. Enquiries to Sande at bamfordsbest1@gmail.com

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Staff lead by example to maintain blood flow

NAMBOUR hospital staff are rolling up their sleeves to make vital donations to Australian Red Cross Lifeblood.

Lifeblood is calling on eligible Australians to become blood donors and for existing donors to honour their appointments, especially ahead of the traditionally challenging winter period.

Jan English, Clinical Nurse Consultant for Transfusion and Blood Management said it's important to remember blood and plasma donations remain vital.

"Donating blood and plasma is essential to keep blood flowing to patients across the country," Ms English said.

"Coronavirus does not stop the need for blood and plasma. It is a critical resource and demand for blood is constant and will continue to be

SCHHS Physiotherapist Nicholas Brooke answered the call, donating blood for the first time.

"I have always been meaning to start giving blood, but never got around to organising a donation," Nicholas said.

"My wife gives blood regularly, and one day my six-year-old daughter asked me why 'I wasn't giving blood like mum?' I didn't have an answer, so we all got into the car and went to the Blood Donor Centre and I donated that day.

"I downloaded the blood donor app in the waiting room and booked in for my next donation before leaving the clinic.

"I'm not a massive fan of needles but everyone in the donor centre was fantastic. It was much better than I expected, and my daughter thought I was pretty brave. Also,



Physiotherapist Nicholas Brooke answered the call, donating blood for the first time ... "It was much better than I expected, and my daughter thought I was pretty brave".

there are lots of goodies to munch on afterwards as well which helps!

"I would encourage anyone thinking about donating to go ahead and do it, I only wish I had started it a lot sooner."

Lifeblood Donor Centres are safe places to visit and have strict sanitation protocols in place. To book an appointment to donate blood visit www.donateblood.com.au or phone 13 14 95.

Nambour to host drive-in concert at Showgrounds

NAMBOUR Showgrounds will host the Sunshine Coast's first-ever all ages drive-in music festival.

The "Airwaves" three-day festival from Friday to Sunday 10-12 July will have an 'Outer Space' theme. It's the brainchild of the creative team behind Australia's largest busking festival, Buskers by the Lake.

"Those eager to smell, see, hear and taste live music again will be able to drive in, park up and enjoy a night out under the stars," a spokesperson said.

"Airwaves sees some of Australia's best punk, indie and folk performers including The Chats, The Dreggs, Pierce Brothers, Bugs, Sahara Beck and more to be announced hitting the stage across three nights."

Organisers are encouraging fans to get creative and don their best galaxy-themed clothes.

Event Director Cindy Jensen has been carefully planning for months and says the driving force behind the event was an article detailing the possibility that festivals may not roll out across the country for at least two summers thanks to COVID-19.

"Reading it set off a rocket launch fire inside me and I wanted to bring some confidence back into an industry that has been so hard hit and affected. I miss traveling and the freedom it brings and the spacesuit represents the feeling COVID-19 confinement has had on me personally," she says.

Division 10 Councillor David Law said supporting innovative concepts to get the arts and cultural industry up and running as quickly as possible was critical.

"It is fantastic to see local and Queensland performers being offered work in what has been a tough time for our cultural industry," Cr Law said. "Using new event approaches to leverage our assets such as the Nambour Showgrounds and drive opportunities to showcase our town is a big part of the Reimagine Nambour strategy."

• Parking spaces are on sale through OzTix, on the Airwaves Festival Instagram and Facebook pages, and through www.airwavesfestival.com.au.

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Attraction may yet get funding

by Cameron Outridge

DESPITE meeting all the criteria, it looked like Maleny Botanic Gardens and Bird World had been overlooked for a share of \$94.6 million in COVID-19 financial assistance.

But now they are hopeful of relief after yesterday receiving a letter of support enabling them to apply for the Australian Government Zoos & Aquaria program.

General Manager Gareth Shipp said it had been a trying time for the business which was not initially on the list despite “literally every single other bird park, aquarium and zoo in Queensland making the list” including a bird park about a third the size of the Maleny attraction.

“I was just dumbfounded by it because we’re actually the number one paid attraction on TripAdvisor for the whole Sunshine Coast. The entire Sunshine Coast.”

Gareth said his father, Frank Shipp, was devastated at having to dip into his savings to keep his dream running after restrictions shut his business down in March. “He’s put 100 percent of his capital, everything into the business,” said Gareth.

The attraction opened in 2012 and covers 18 acres. Gareth said his father’s dream began when he was growing up in South Africa. “Where he lived, there used to be a bird park down the road. And he used to do everything in his power to go down the bird park every weekend, to go and play with the birds. And ever since then he’s wanted his own bird park.

“What you see behind me used to be just flat cow paddocks. So every single hill, bump, stone, flower, water feature, tree and rock has been put in by hand — every single thing you see there.”

The Bird World component of the destination was added in 2014 and now attracts 80 percent of all visitors. “People really love that hands-on interaction. You’re not looking at animals behind the cage. You walk in to one of our aviaries and you’re covered in ten macaws.

“We’ve also got the best views on the Coast. You can see Brisbane City from here.”

The gardens attracted 70,000 visitors to Maleny last year. “Before COVID-19, we had a lot of plans including two 150 seater decks going in. We just got approval from Council to build another 10 toilets. All of that’s been cancelled.”

Gareth said it was reassuring to see crowds return when they reopened Saturday. Most of the birds at the attraction are rescued or donated.

• The attraction is at 233 Maleny-Stanley River Road, Maleny. Phone 5344 0010.



Maleny Botanic Gardens and Bird World general manager Gareth Shipp is relieved to be eligible for funding after receiving a letter from the State Government yesterday.



One of the New Generation Rollingstock trains, some of which are out of action at Woombye Stabling Facility.

Woombye hopeful of meeting with Minister regarding noise, light issues

TRANSPORT Minister Mark Bailey’s office has yet to confirm whether he will meet with locals to discuss light and noise issues at the Woombye Stabling Facility.

Community Engagement from Queensland Rail said a meeting may be held week-beginning Monday June 22.

On May 28 Woombye Community and Business Association (WCBA) sent formal letters of invitation to meet with the Transport Minister. “The purpose of the meeting is to discuss and action a bipartisan solution to light and noise issues given the community concerns which have arisen from the Woombye Rail Stabling Facility since its operations began in February 2020,” said resident James Kasmer.

“The WCBA is yet to receive word from the Minister’s Office if he is able to attend and what a suitable date might be.

“I checked with the President of the WCBA by text earlier this morning (Tuesday) and she has had no word from the Minister’s Office.”

Queensland Rail CEO Nick Easy said last fortnight air-conditioners in trains sitting at the facility were being run constantly to prevent a mould and odour issue.

The statement came only after months of concerns raised by locals about constant noise from the yard.

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\$60k to re-brand Nambour



From left, Peter Clark from the Nambour Tramway Company, Ted O'Brien, Marty Hunt, and Cr David Law.

REIMAGINE Nambour has received \$60,000 to create 'Brand Nambour' and help drive the town's transition to a new economy.

The funding means Sunshine Coast Council will also commit \$25,000 and State Member for Nicklin Marty Hunt \$5000.

"A rebranding campaign has long been one of the game changing projects on Reimagine Nambour's wish list," said Federal Member for Fairfax Ted O'Brien, who chaired the project for two years before handing the reins to Peter Boyce in March.

"Now, with all three tiers of Government working together once again, we are able to support the town through this transition starting with a \$60,000 rebrand.

"This was the only project on the Sunshine Coast to receive Building Better Regions Funding.

"It was always going to be tough,

with this funding round specifically targeted to support drought declared regions and there certainly were a lot of areas harder hit than us, so I'm delighted we have been successful."

Sunshine Coast Councillor David Law said the project would be a great way to help Reimagine Nambour to take their plans and ideas and help bring them to life.

"This will give us confidence as we build and as we come together and emerge from everything that's going on around us at the moment.

"We will have a town, a brand and an image that will give a lot of confidence to the local businesses and capitalise on the work done over many years to provide a vibrant and fulfilling future for Nambour and its community.

Member for Nicklin Marty Hunt said the Reimagine Nambour pro-

ject had the support of the community, the business community and all three levels of Government.

"As Nambour reinvents itself, there are a lot of different projects we're seeking funding for and this particular one, about rebranding Nambour, draws all of those together and links them all into the rebranding and redefining of Nambour," Mr Hunt said.

Peter Clark from the Nambour Tramway Company and Reimagine Nambour board member said the community would be delighted by this latest funding announcement.

"We've worked so hard for so long to make Nambour a prosperous and thriving community and to receive the recognition through these grants vindicates the work that so many people have done for so long in the background to make and improve our town," Mr Clark said.



Bodie Head was taken to Queensland Children's Hospital.

Palmwoods boy in hospital with shocking burns

PALMWOODS boy Bodie Head is in hospital with shocking burn injuries after a camping accident while on holiday outside of Gympie on the June 7-8 weekend.

The accident occurred at a managed camp ground through no fault of Bodie or his family.

The nine-year-old has full thickness burns to most of his right leg worsening to his ankle, foot and toes and severe burns to his left leg.

The surgeons have made an incision down each side of his calf to relieve pressure.

Friend and GoFundMe organiser Melanie Collett, also from Palmwoods, said Bodie had been experiencing the most excruciating physical pain.

Bodie's parents Karissa and James Head were overwhelmed by community support.

"Words cannot describe their appreciation to each and every one of you who have donated to the Go Fund Me page for Bodie," said Melanie.

There's a high chance Karissa and James will not be able to return to work for the rest of the year and then beyond that Karissa will be by

her son's side every day.

"James and I spoke with the head consulting doctor today Dr Craig McBride in depth about where he sees Bodie heading towards the next many weeks," Karissa said on the GoFundMe page. "It's hurting my heart just to write, but I'm also trying to focus on the fact that he is still here with us and we are in the best place possible."

Bodie was due for his fourth surgery on Sunday or Monday.

"The burns have turned out to be a lot deeper than hoped and Bodie will require a Biodegradable Temporary Matrix (BTM) placed from the top of the foot through to the ankle," Karissa said. "This is due to the fact they have cut right through to the fatty soft tissue and there is no longer any layers of skin in place.

"It's going to be a massive process and he will be in a huge amount of pain as skin grafts are much more painful than the burns. I just can't fathom that he is here and this has happened."

To donate: www.gofundme.com/f/ygpe6h-support-the-head-family

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Clouds Montville - \$12.00 Each

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. HAM & PINEAPPLE PIZZA
- READY MADE (COOK AT HOME) | 5. SAVOURY ZUCCHINI MUFFIN WITH SALAD (VEG) |
| 2. MEAT DELIGHT PIZZA
- READY MADE (COOK AT HOME) | 6. CREAMY GARLIC PRAWNS & RICE |
| 3. CARAMELISED ONION & CHEESE PIZZA
- READY MADE (COOK AT HOME) | 7. SEAFOOD MARINARA FETTUCCINE |
| 4. CHICKEN BRIE & PROSCIUTTO PIZZA
- READY MADE (COOK AT HOME) | 8. PENNE PASTA WITH MEATBALLS |
| | 9. RISOTTO - PUMPKIN, SPINACH, FETA & PINE NUTS (GF & VEG) |
| | 10. RISOTTO - CHICKEN, BACON & MUSHROOM (GF) |

Café Mapleton Menu - \$12.00 Each

- | | |
|---|--|
| 11. VEGETARIAN FRIED RICE WITH EGG (VEG) | 16. STIR FRY MIXED VEGETABLES IN SOY SAUCE SERVED WITH RICE |
| 12. VEGETARIAN FRIED NOODLES (VEG) | 17. STIR FRY CHICKEN AND MIXED VEGETABLES SERVED WITH RICE |
| 13. BACON FRIED RICE (GF) | 18. STIR FRY CHICKEN WITH GINGER AND MUSHROOM SERVED WITH RICE |
| 14. MINCED CHICKEN IN TOMATO SAUCE WITH RICE NOODLES (GF) | |
| 15. VEGETABLE OMELETTE | |

The Barn on Flaxton Menu - \$10.00 Each

- | | |
|--|--|
| 19. CHUNKY CHICKEN, BACON AND MUSHROOM SOUP (GF) | 23. CURRIED SAUSAGES AND RICE (GF, DF) |
| 20. CREAMY POTATO & LEEK SOUP (GF, VEG) | 24. VEGETABLE COCONUT CURRY (GF, DF, V) |
| 21. BEEF LASAGNE & SALAD | 25. BRAISED BEEF AND ONION STEW (GF, DF) |
| 22. VEGETABLE QUICHE & SALAD (GF, VEG) | 26. PENNE BOLOGNESE |
| | 27. PENNE CHICKEN CARBONARA |

Le Relais Bressan Menu - \$25.00 Each (portion size for 2 people)

All Le Relais Bressan meals are available to be purchased Wednesday - Friday. Meals include a side of baked potatoes, except the fish. All meals, except the fish option can be frozen.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 28. COQ AU VIN (CHICKEN IN RED WINE) | 32. CONFIT DUCK WITH ORANGE SAUCE |
| 29. BEEF BURGANDY (BEEF IN RED WINE) | 33. FISH ROULADE WITH LEMON RESULING SAUCE AND RICE |
| 30. CHICKEN IN CREAM SAUCE | 34. CREAM OF SWEET POTATO SOUP
- also available to purchase for \$8.00 |
| 31. BEEF TOURTE WITH TOMATO & CREAM | |

The Cottage Meals Menu - \$9.90 Each

- | | |
|--|--|
| 35. CHICKEN CURRY AND RICE (GF) | 48. CORN BEEF, WHITE SAUCE AND VEGETABLES (GF) |
| 36. CURRY SAUSAGES AND RICE (GF) | 49. THAI VEGETABLE CURRY AND RICE (GF, VEG) |
| 37. LASAGNE | 50. VEGETABLE LASAGNE (VEG) |
| 38. SWEET AND SOUR CHICKEN AND RICE (GF) | 51. SWEET AND SOUR VEGETABLES AND RICE (GF, VEG) |
| 39. RISSOLES AND VEGETABLES (GF) | 52. MIXED BEAN CURRY AND RICE (GF, VEG) |
| 40. BUTTER CHICKEN AND RICE | 53. MOUSSAKA (VEG) |
| 41. ROAST BEEF AND VEGETABLES (GF) | SOUPS |
| 42. ROAST CHICKEN AND VEGETABLES (GF) | 54. CREAMY PUMPKIN |
| 43. PORK POT ROAST WITH APPLE AND VEGETABLES (GF) | 55. CAULIFLOWER AND CHEESE |
| 44. HONEY CHICKEN AND RICE (GF) | 56. CREAMY TOMATO |
| 45. SHEPHERD'S PIE AND VEGETABLES (GF) | 57. PEA AND HAM |
| 46. SAUSAGES WITH TOMATO/ONION GRAVY AND VEGETABLES (GF) | 58. VEGETABLE |
| 47. MOROCCAN BEEF, RICE AND VEGETABLES (GF) | 59. POTATO BACON AND LEEK |
| | 60. CHICKEN AND VEGETABLE |

GF = Gluten Free | DF = Dairy Free | VEG = Vegetarian | V = Vegan

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*Order before 10am for a next day delivery. A minimum of 3 meals per order.

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****Delivery to any other suburb will incur a delivery fee of \$10****

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Made Local

Now you can grow your herbs from seed and they won't be dug up by the dog, eaten by bugs, burned by the sun or simply forgotten. Everyone has a green thumb according to Nambour's Ange Jones.

Seeds of a great business sown from growing problem

THE seeds of Nambour gardener Ange Jones's business emerged from frustration trying to grow herbs by the usual methods.

"I'd find the bugs would eat them. But mainly I'd forget about them because they were outside in some obscure place we all put seedlings, I'd forget to water them, and eventually they would die," she said.

Ange then started growing from seed inside placing saucers under pots on sun filled window ledgers. This worked however the saucers didn't fit on the windowsill properly, and there was often water spillages.

"Then I was having my coffee one morning and when I pulled out the coffee bag, I don't know something just hit me ... waterproof, and it would fit on the windowsill! Oh yeah that could work. So that's where the idea started. From a coffee bag."

Now Ange sells the self-sufficient packs of herb seeds to a growing online audience.

"The benefit of growing it in the bag is firstly, there's no waste, I pack exactly what you need. You get the growing medium which is a mix of peat, coconut core, and woodchips. You add water to those little discs and it puffs up like soil. And you also get the right amount of seeds, all you have to do is add water. The foil lining of the bag also helps keep them warm and reflects light to encourage germination."

But Ange said the real secret to growing success was keeping your infant herbs nearby. "By growing them in the bag, they can sit on your windowsill. And they're safe and protected. One of the most important things is they are generally kept around the heart of the home, so around the kitchen area and they get your attention. It's great for kids. The kids want to watch them grow."

Once the seedlings are big enough you replant them from the bag into a pot or in the garden. "It's good for your soul to watch them grow."

Ange said when the COVID crisis started in March, sales went through the roof.

"It was pretty much instant, overnight really. I couldn't believe it. Everybody was exploring the urban garden movement as I believe lockdown gave a true sense of needing to be more self-sufficient to ensure you had enough to eat".

"It's kind of nice in a way that COVID has encouraged more people to be introduced to growing your own food, knowing where it comes from, and having some input into what goes into your mouth."

All Ange's seeds are sourced from Eden Seeds. They are organic and non-GMO. Basil, Chives, Chilli, Nasturtiums, Parsley, Coriander, Mint, Sage from \$13.95 (including postage) are available at SowGrowEat.com.au

Montville Visitor Info Centre reopens

VISITOR Information Centres in Glass House and Montville re-opened their doors from Saturday 13 June, in line with eased travel restrictions in Queensland.

The centres closed in March, following social distancing measures and public health directions.

"The Montville and Glass House centres will initially open at reduced hours and be staffed by VSC employees," said Andrew Fairbairn from Visit Sunshine Coast.

"We are incredibly excited to welcome visitors back to the Sunshine Coast and providing up-to-date information on the region's tourism attractions and businesses has never been more important."

The Glass House and Montville VICs will

operate from 10am-2pm on weekdays.

On weekends, The Glass House VIC will open 9am-12pm Saturday and Sunday, and the Montville VIC will be open 12:30pm-4pm on Saturday only.



Montville kids go 'head over heels' for Russell Family Park

SUNSHINE Coast Council has delivered a fun, bright and lively look for Russell Family Park in Montville.

An inviting cone-structured playground stands just under 10 metres high with butterflies eclipsing the tip of the equipment.

The park also includes a spinner bowl, waterlily spring toy and slippery slide twisting to the ground.

The play equipment has a strong emphasis on nature-based play, making both parents and children smile as they enjoy the new rock seating walls, colourful artwork and interweaving pathways for children to ride and play.

Division 5 Councillor Winston Johnston said the 75,000 square metre recreational park and green open space was a great place for families, friends and visitors to enjoy almost anytime.

"It was really important for council to complement the existing character of Russell Family Park and create a place which actively connects us to our environment – giving our children the opportunity to explore the outdoors and build on their social skills," Cr Johnston said.

"The new playground has been designed for a broader age range than the previous design, catering for children two to 12 plus years and is suitable for all ability levels.

"I really like how the park offers nature and landscape play activities,

with large grassy hills, mature trees, an environmental walk, and a range of wildlife for children to experi-



Montville Chamber Secretary Shiralee Cooper hams it up for the camera as Cr Winston Johnston & former Cr Jenny McKay wait their turns.

ence."

Council endorsed the Russell Family Park Master Plan in 2001 after the community expressed the need for a welcoming space and additional car parking, which has been progressively implemented.

Works on the 125 space car park wrapped up in 2018 boasting 55 extra spaces, as well as two disability parking bays.

Upgrades have seen major improvements to the amenities block, landscape and softscape plantings along with drainage improvements, lighting and signage.

Some of the original play equipment has been reused to improve other play areas in the region.

"Wet weather delayed completion of the upgrade, coupled with closures due to national public health directions due to novel coronavirus (COVID-19), and the community has been incredibly understanding – I thank you for your patience during the completion," Cr Johnston said.

"This much needed upgrade now provides enhanced recreation and business access for the Montville community, which I believe will be a fantastic asset for residents and visitors to Division 5.

"I would like to congratulate the community members who championed this project and former Division 5 Councillor Jenny McKay for her hard work."

The playground opened in mid-May, following easing of COVID-19 restrictions.

Russell Family Park is located off Western Avenue in Montville, however is best accessed via the public carpark at 198 Main Street.

Sunshine Coast Division 5 Councillor Winston Johnston thanking former Division 5 Councillor Jenny McKay for her contribution to the new Russell Family Park playground.



Montville's Jory Sanim 10, hit the swings at the new playground.



Proud to support our local community

Palmwoods Community Branch is a joint venture between the Palmwoods Community and Heritage Bank. By doing your banking with the Palmwoods Community Branch you can assist with generating the funds to support your local community groups through grants and sponsorships.

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Green policies put people before profits, says candidate

THE Queensland Greens have chosen "tradie" Andrew McLean as their candidate for the seat of Glass House in the October state election.

Mr McLean, 50, who grew up in Gilgandra, NSW, moved to Queensland permanently in 2000. He lived in Brisbane before moving to Maleny to "downshift" to a simpler, more ecologically sustainable lifestyle.

The Greens candidate is a motor mechanic by trade, and ran a mobile business for 10 years before moving into the Glass House electorate.

He has three adult children, and was an ordained Lutheran minister.

While he is passionate about the environment and sustainability, his main interest is in calling out what he sees as too much corporate influence over our political system.

"Since 2006, corporations have contributed \$100 million to the mainstream political parties, and that buys them policy outcomes," Mr McLean said.

"Politics should be about the voters, and the Greens' policies put people before profits.

"As a small businessman myself, I know that government policy needs to be geared to helping small businesses and communities thrive, rather than siphoning money off to mining magnates, banks and billionaires."

Mr McLean is also an advocate for consensus politics.

"The Greens' policies are evidence-based, and co-created by consensus of party members.

"Our political and economic landscape has been skewed towards the billionaires. The Greens think it needs to come back towards ordinary people, and I love that."



Greens candidate Andrew McLean is a motor mechanic by trade, and ran a mobile business for 10 years before moving into the Glass House electorate.

Mr McLean will launch his campaign for Glass House on-line on Thursday, June 18, at 7pm. Registration is required. Email: andrew.mclean@qld.greens.org.au

For more information and inter-

views, please contact Andrew McLean at the above email address, or phone 0491 035 932. Keep up with his campaign at: greens.org.au/qld/glass-house; [Facebook.com/Andrew-McLean.Greens](https://www.facebook.com/Andrew-McLean.Greens).

Borders to open but 4 sqm rule still a roadblock

QUEENSLAND'S state borders will probably reopen July 10 as part of Australia's fast-tracked third stage of lifting coronavirus restrictions.

But that date could be brought forward or pushed back if circumstances change.

Federal and state leaders have also agreed to ease rules for stadiums and other public gatherings, including funerals, weddings, pubs and restaurants.

"June is Queensland open for Queenslanders," Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk said. "July will definitely see more of Queensland opening up ... so I expect to see more people if our health response continues as it is. There will be more people in restaurants and cafes ... more people in activities and in stadiums. So July is going to be a very good month for Queensland."

The 100-person cap on indoor venues is also set to be eased, allowing more people to attend gatherings such as weddings. In fact 100 mourners are now allowed to attend funerals in Queensland after the limit was lifted yesterday.

Pubs and restaurants will be included in the new limit, probably July 10, along with other venues and workspaces.

Wedding crasher

But the size of the space will be crucial, with only one person allowed for every four square metres.

Under the rule venues must still guarantee there is four metres of

space per person. Plus, people must be separated by 1.5 metres.

It means, for instance, that wedding venue Tiffany's of Maleny can only host 25 people in a chapel that normally holds 125 people.

Hinterland weddings expert Marlene Murray was part of a Hinterland Tourism group that developed a six-point plan to open wedding venues safely. She said operators were frustrated by double standards like those which saw 30,000 people marching in Brisbane's streets recently while a couple couldn't have a normal wedding with a reasonable attendance.

"The 4 square metre rule needs to be removed from gatherings of 100," she said. "There are more than 100 people in shops and shopping precincts and there has been for some time now.

"Weddings can be fully tracked and traced, as it is a gathering of family and friends of the couple. By allowing couples to have weddings of up to 100 without the 4 metre rule we would be back in business across the Hinterland, as well as not adding another round of cancellation stress to couples.

"If venues cannot trade in Spring a year's trade will be wiped out for all wedding venues and affiliated businesses.

"Unfortunately the rules are inconsistent and that is what is causing the most frustration as businesses cannot operate fully and they are hurting.

"Couples do not have the confidence to hold dates for spring weddings re numbers and borders."



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Authorised by A.Wallace, Liberal National Party of Queensland, 10 Lake Kawana Boulevard, Bokarina QLD 4575.



Cr David Law inspects the Zealey Road boardwalk with newest Sanctuary Park Retirement Community resident Bill Turner, the community's first resident Gwen Rose and Manager Russell Elms.

New Zealey Road boardwalk 'keeps our residents safer'

NAMBOUR'S Sanctuary Park Retirement Community residents will be able to take a walk without fear of encountering a dangerous traffic situation after Sunshine Coast Council unveiled a new boardwalk and pathway along Zealey Road.

Division 10 Councillor David Law said the final stage of the more than \$300,000 project was nearing completion.

"We are pleased to deliver a terrific new boardwalk alongside Zealey Road, plus a 1.8 metre-wide concrete pathway through to National Park Road," Cr Law said.

"This is a safe off-road pathway

for both pedestrians and cyclists that everyone, both young and old, in the area will be able to make the most of.

"It was good to talk with Gwen Rose, who was the first resident at Sanctuary Park Retirement Village, about the benefits that will be gained from having this new pathway and boardwalk."

Retirement Living Manager Russell Elms explained how grateful the local community was for these improvements which helped keep pedestrians safe.

"Our residents used to walk along the road and it is very narrow and very dangerous because it takes a lot of big trucks — very unsafe for our

residents. We just wanted to thank the council for the great job they've done in adding the boardwalk and the footpath right to our entrance. It keeps our residents safer. Everybody's happy. Job well done."

The project was funded through council's \$320 million 2019/2020 Capital Works Program and took six weeks to complete.

Nambour's Churches of Christ in Queensland Sanctuary Park Retirement Community opened in 2008. It offers two and three-bedroom homes and enables residents to remain independent and keep active in a secure, supportive and social environment.



Clouds head chef Cory Gore-Johnson-Maber prepares wonderful meals such as chicken, brie & prosciutto pizza and creamy garlic prawns & rice.

Clouds Montville partners with RangeCare on meal service

AFTER having undertaken months of renovations, the owners and staff at Clouds Montville began planning the grand opening of their Glasshouse Café. However, they didn't anticipate that a global pandemic would put an end to their plans.

"We were due to open the week the lockdown began, and like so many people on the range, it will take some time to recover," said Clouds Retreats Director Kaye Pitman.

Thanks to some creative thinking, Clouds Montville Glasshouse Café created a meal, coffee & cake takeaway service. "We are grateful for the support we have received from locals," Kaye said.

According to Kaye the menu range is quite varied and suits many tastes. It includes items ranging from slow cooked meals to pizzas. Chef Cory is also able to accommodate special dietary requirements on request.

In an ongoing effort to adapt to the community's changing needs, Clouds Montville have now partnered with RangeCare to expand on

their existing contactless delivery meal service.

"We have had a long association with RangeCare and when we found what they were offering their clients and the wider community, we knew we could assist," Kaye said.

"RangeCare's partnership with Clouds Montville Glasshouse Café has allowed us to add meals such as chicken, brie & prosciutto pizza and creamy garlic prawns & rice to our menu," said RangeCare Marketing Officer Jess Garey. For more information about this delivery service or to get a copy of the menu visit www.rangecare.com.au/frozen-meals

Clouds Montville have also introduced a range of relishes, jams and more locally sourced produce as part of their new Clouds Gourmet Pantry.

These items are available to purchase at Clouds Montville and Vines Café (at The Barrel). For more information about Clouds Montville or to make a reservation at the Glasshouse Café visit www.cloudsmontville.com.au/the-glasshouse/

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M. Capiron - 280 Western Ave. Montville

Prime 'village centre' property for sale

A LANDMARK property in the centre of Palmwoods is going to auction this month. It offers the opportunity of seven rental incomes.

Zoned village centre, the 506sq m holding contains the original Pages Cafe, dating back to 1912.

Today the property comprises a single unit dwelling, three professional offices plus restaurant and cafe, natural remedy shop and beauty therapist. All this on one title with a rental return of around \$90,000 pa net.

"It is a pretty amazing property," Mike Burns of Burns Property said.

"More than 100 years old, it is steeped in history.

"It is part of the town hub, an eclectic blend of cafes, studios and book shop.

"Opposite the railway line, you can get a meal, a coffee from Willow and Squirrel, there's natural healing."

James Page established the cafe with his wife Margaret, specialising in hot meals, pies, tea and scones, as well as cold drinks, confectionary and fruit.

Mr Burns said Palmwoods had changed dramatically over the years. "A lot of larger blocks and rural lifestyle properties have been made residential. There are still a number of large parcels ear-marked for future urban zoning.

"The old farm land - it's a shame it's no longer viable - is being opened up."



Agent Mike Burns at the site. The holding contains the original Pages Cafe, dating back to 1912.

Details

- 10 Little Main Street, Palmwoods.
- What: Palmwoods commercial investment opportunity.
- Agent: Mike Burns and Meng Meng at Burns Property 0418 991 702 or 0426 282 229.
- Features: Landmark

retail, offices and dwelling in main street location, opposite railway.

• Zoned: village centre. Opportunity for seven rental incomes

- Area: 506sq m
- Price: Auction on Saturday, June 27, at 2pm
- Inspection: Contact agent

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16 Berganns Lane, **Witta**

4 2 5

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Reduced to
\$875,000

Inspect
By Appointment Only

Rodney Millett
0477 702 073
rodney@malenyrealestate.com



8 Avocado Lane, **Maleny**

3 2 2

With enviable established garden beds and a great lawn area for the younger members of the family to play, the property is spoilt for outdoor living spaces that are complimented by the generously- sized timber deck. Inside, soaring cathedral ceilings, exposed timber beams and the thoughtfully planned flow from indoor to outdoor living will delight.

For Sale
\$739,000

Inspect
By Appointment Only

Rodney Millett
0477 702 073
rodney@malenyrealestate.com



15 Tulip Street, **Maleny**

3 2 1

Lovingly renovated, this family home is now looking for a new family to continue the traditions; a morning coffee on the north facing verandah and a quiet afternoon drink enjoying the treed outlook to the south of Maleny from the rear deck. With 809m2 of land there is still ample room for the young rowdy family and their furry friends as well.

For Sale
\$649,000

Inspect
By Appointment Only

Rodney Millett
0477 702 073
rodney@malenyrealestate.com



75 Curramore Road, **Witta**

6 5 5

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Taking your needs into account

by Tanya Outridge

TWO years after purchasing Hintertax Beerwah, business partners Brett and Dee Piercy and Melissa Jones have integrated the sophistication of a metropolitan business practice with the relationship centred focus of a rural accounting firm.

“Mel and I both started in business services in Sydney,” said Brett. “We each have strengths in different but complementary areas so we can offer our clients specialised advice and services across a fairly broad range of issues,” he said.

“Importantly, we have shared core values around how we wanted the practice to operate,” Melissa said. “We have created internal systems that allow us to meet every client where they are at, and tailor our services to them on that basis,” she said.

“Accountants are in a pretty interesting position as far as professional services providers are concerned,” Brett said. “People’s financial concerns can be emotionally charged and complex.

“The ‘technical’ aspects of what we do are generally straightforward, but they can open up conversations about quite personal facets of people’s lives. We often have to be ready to assist people through some very difficult financial decisions. It’s a responsibility we take very seriously,” he said.

“Melissa said the firm catered to a broad range of clients.

“Many firms will ‘fit’ their clients into a familiar mold, but we know that would not work well for ours. We deal with everyone, from people who are technically savvy and interested in geopolitical events and how they might affect their business or investments, to others who bring their receipts into the office in a box. And we are very happy to look after them all.”

Brett’s background was originally in tax-



Brett Piercy and Melissa Jones ... “Many firms will ‘fit’ their clients into a familiar mold, but we know that would not work well for ours.”

tion law and Mel was more specialised in chartered accounting and business services.

“So Mel is across business compliance, financial reporting, auditing and basically helping business clients get organised,” Brett said.

“When we see clients, we evaluate their position and then we can help them choose the best cloud-based accounting options for their business,” Mel said. “Then a member of our team gives them one-on-one training. It is incredibly empowering for people to take control of this aspect of their business. And we are of far greater benefit to them when we sit down and talk to them than when we are going through their box of receipts,” Mel said.

“Brett’s experience and strengths lie in strategic planning and this can cover everything from the growth of a business, to retirement planning. All of this is built on the structures we set clients up with.”

“A big part of what we do is educate our clients and work with them to achieve their financial goals,” Brett said. “This includes whether the structure of your business is optimum to offer you legal protection and to minimise tax. People invest a tremendous amount of time in their business, often to the exclusion of other things, and it is our job to make sure that this investment makes sense in the context of their financial goals for retirement. When we ask people when they plan

to retire, and how much money they will need to do this comfortably, you would be surprised at how many of them don’t know. We help our business clients to break down their costs so they know exactly where they stand.”

During the recent COVID lockdowns, Hintertax was overwhelmed with enquiries from clients.

“We were extremely busy, but Dee was on the forefront of every change, from Job-Keeper to Government Boost, so we were able to help our clients with any Government assistance they were eligible for,” said Brett. “And we allocated resources internally to help our clients through what has been a very stressful time for so many.”

“I think a lot of people feel overwhelmed by financial issues and they don’t like to ask questions because it makes them feel stupid. I encourage clients to ask me any-



Hintertax Beerwah provides clients with one-on-one training in the particular cloud based software that will fit their needs.

thing because there are no stupid questions,” Melissa said. “I look for ways to help people understand important concepts, even if it means drawing them a picture. When our clients get a sense that we are on their side, and we have their back, we have done our job.”

• Hintertax is at Unit 1 13 Turner Street, Beerwah. Phone: 5439 0188. Email: admin@hintertax.com.au

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Dogs in Business



This week's Dog in Business is Harry. Harry is a cattle dog cross who was fortunate enough to have found his 'forever' home with Nathan Major of Intersect Bookkeeping. Harry is an extremely friendly boy, who spends his days snoozing under the desk, playing with his fur brother, Barkley, and chewing up sticks from the back yard.

Bowel Cancer does not discriminate

JUNE is Bowel Cancer Awareness Month, a Bowel Cancer Australia initiative to raise awareness of Australia's second deadliest cancer. Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service (SCHHS) surgeon Dr Scott McDonald, said the good news is it's one of the most treatable types of cancer if found early.

Dr McDonald said: “Nine out of 10 cases of bowel cancer can be successfully treated. So, if you are experiencing any unusual symptoms such as a recent, persistent change in bowel habit, abdominal pain and swelling, frequent pain or cramps don't delay in talking to your GP.”

Tourism bodies chase fair share of funding

SUNSHINE Coast Council and Visit Sunshine Coast are urging the Premier to allocate \$1 million in funding for an intensive marketing campaign to attract Queensland visitors over winter.

The call came after the Government provided \$2.4 million each to the Gold Coast and Tropical North Queensland Regional Tourism Organisations (RTOs).

Sunshine Coast Council Mayor Mark Jamieson said the additional \$2.4 million provided to each of those RTOs means they were now competing against the Sunshine Coast for intrastate visitors.

“What we now have is a situation where the Sunshine Coast and its tourism industry are having to fight for market share with one hand tied behind their back, due to an inability to compete on a level playing field with the Gold Coast and Far North Queensland,” Mayor Jamieson said.

Hinterland Accounting Services

1/13 TURNER ST, BEERWAH QLD

P 5439 0188
hintertax.com.au
admin@hintertax.com.au



Above: Allen Pitcher of Pristine Water Systems say it's important to maintain your tank, roof, gutters and pipework and install a filtration system.
Right: This is what can be inside some water tanks.

A clean catchment means safe water

CLEAN, healthy water is our most precious resource. When we are reliant on catching our own rainwater, every drop counts.

But do we need to compromise water quality and the health of our families to conserve water? Absolutely not, according to Allen Pitcher from Pristine Water Systems.

"Rainwater quality is affected as soon as it hits our roof," Allen said. "Water passes through guttering, pipes, tanks, filters and taps before we drink, prepare food and wash in it."

Allen said this presented opportunities for potential contaminants at every stage.

"It is therefore vital to plan and maintain the system as a whole," he said. "This includes maintaining the cleanliness of your entire catchment. This means your roof, gutters and pipework, as well as maintaining the cleanliness of your tank."

Allen said a water filtration system should be installed and the filters replaced regularly to prevent bacteria build up.

"Filtration is part of the bacteria-control process, and a full range of options are available for consideration," he said.

He said Pristine Water Systems had developed a process called QUADCLEAN that leaves your tank water totally cleansed, san-

Hazardous matter found in tanks can include organic sludge, silt and ash, animal droppings and even decaying carcasses.

itized, aerated and invigorated, wasting very little water in doing so.

"This process involves testing the water; vacuuming off sediment and sludge; filtering the water and using an oxygenating process to kill harmful bacteria."

Hazardous matter found in tanks can include organic sludge, silt and ash, animal droppings and even decaying carcasses.

Parasites (Giardia), Bacteria (E.Coli, Cryptosporidium) and insect larvae (mosquitoes, sandflies) can be present, potentially causing illness to family members and visitors.

"It makes sense to clean your tanks now while they have plenty of water in them rather than wait until levels are low," said Allen.

Incoming water from the first storms of the season after a long dry period will stir up the settled sludge on the bottom of your tank contaminating your fresh rainwater.

"I also have had complaints from home owners after a water delivery that the water delivered was contaminated. But this is not generally the case at all. Water suppliers are not going to risk their livelihood by delivering substandard water.

"The contamination occurs when the inflow of water disturbs the settled sludge on the bottom of the tank."

Allen said cleaning and sanitizing your tank now will prevent these problems occurring later in the year.

A complete inspection along with water correction options can be discussed with Allen to maximise this valuable resource.

• Contact Allen at Pristine Water Systems on 0404 302723, or check out the website at www.pristinewater.com.au.



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IGA thrives on small-town service

by Tanya Outridge

DURING the past few months, family and community have never been more important. And this is particularly evident at the Mapleton IGA.

Kelly and Linda Anderson have owned the business since 1995, having previously been dairy farmers in Maleny. Today they work alongside their son Kel, his fiancée Esther and his son Brendan, their daughter Marianne and her two children Jack and Jessica Fenton.

"When we took on the business, there was a strip of seven small shops here including a haberdashery, a bakery and a hairdressing salon," said Kel. "Then in 2004 we bought the freehold and began the conversion to the store that is here now."

"We chose to go with IGA because of the lines they run and because we have a good deal of freedom as business owners to source and sell local products as well," he said. "It allows us to put our own stamp on the store and to support our world class local producers."

"We stock the entire core IGA range, which is around 18,000 lines. This means that we can provide a consistent shopping experience. And we are always happy to source favourite brands for our regular customers. But we also have products that are unique to our store and our area, and that is something that even the largest of the major supermarkets does not offer. I think that is what many people love about shopping here."

When you enter the store, you are greeted by the happy smiling faces of the friendly staff and the warmth, sounds and smells of a home kitchen.

"Customer service is just so



Family affair: Esther Johnson, Marianne Fenton, and Brendan, Linda, Kel and Kelly Anderson maintain a family-feel at Mapleton IGA.

Left: Sarah Burrough prepares a morning coffee.

Right: Luke Camini fills a happy customer's petrol tank.



important and I think we are very fortunate to have a close team of people who recognise that, and go out of their way to look after our customers. We are a family business and we have made a 'home' of sorts, in our store," said Kelly. "During the early stages of the lockdown, there were a lot of very anxious and stressed people in our area and we worked hard to make sure that we were able to supply our local customers with all the essentials. You would not think that supplying



toilet paper would be such a big deal, but it was. None of our customers went without."

There is an extensive range of ready to eat food for those on the go as well. "All our sandwiches, rolls and wraps are freshly prepared every day," said Marianne. "They look homemade, because they are!". "We also roast chickens and have a great selection of hot food, which people appreciate on chilly days. For morning and afternoon teas, we have coffee and have sourced a local supplier for really delicious pastries, tarts and cakes," she said.

The store not only caters for locals, but also motorists traveling through the area. "We are the only fuel station between Nambour and Landsborough," Brendan said.

"And we have a really good range of products for motorists and tourists, from car care products to hats and sunglasses. We stock a terrific range of beautiful local cheeses and deli lines that are perfect for picnics on the Range."

"Some years ago, I read an article in The Australian newspaper about the most liveable places in the country," Kelly said.

"And Mapleton was one of them. I think this is very true because it is located in such a beautiful, central part of the Coast, it is still very affordable and because it is such a caring community."

"It is so gratifying to us to be able to live locally, employ locals, support our local producers and to give back to our community in as many ways as we can," he said. "It is places like Mapleton that embody the best of small towns and caring communities."

• Mapleton IGA have a new website. Check it out at MapletonIGA.com.au. Phone 5445 7711 or email sales@mapletoniga.com.au.

Must Do's on the Coast these School Holidays

IN line with easing of restrictions in Queensland, the Sunshine Coast has plenty to see and do these school holidays.

So pack away the jigsaw puzzles, crafts and baking; get out of the house and escape to the wide open spaces of the Sunshine Coast with these suggestions courtesy of Visit Sunshine Coast.

1. Get Back to Nature

More now than ever, we could do with a dose of good old Mother Nature. For impressive views, lace up the sneakers and get some fresh air with a hike up Mount Coolool or Mount Ngungun, spot a pademelon at Mary Cairncross Scenic Reserve, or marvel at Serenity Falls in Buderim or the Maleny Botanic Gardens and Bird World.

2. Immerse in the Aquatic

Don't have your own boat? You're covered with tube and banana boat rides at Oz Ski Resort, learn to hang ten at Coolool Surf School, dive into the Cotton Tree pool or find your own stretch of sand to dip your toes in the ocean at any one of the pristine beaches lining the Coast from Golden Beach in the south to Rainbow Beach in the north.

3. See Wildlife in Action

Meet the adorable little blue penguins at Sea Life Sunshine Coast or get up close and personal with more than 700 native and exotic birds from around the world at Maleny Botanic Gardens. Crocodiles are back at Australia Zoo or head out on a whale watching cruise with Sunshine Coast Afloat to see the majestic gentle giants of the waters as they migrate north.

4. Bag a Bargain

A hidden treasure on the Sunshine Coast, The Caloundra Street Fair features more than 120 unique stalls and is open every Sunday from 8am to 1pm. And just in time for school holidays, The Caloundra Twilight Markets will re-open on 26 June. With a large range of

both food and artisan stalls, this market runs along the Bulcock Beach Esplanade on the last Friday of each month from 5pm-9pm.

5. Tackle a Course

Little ones can be amazed at Bellingham Maze and older kids can get the adrenaline racing around the chicanes at the Big Kart Track. For the ultimate encounter to push your limits, why not visit Australia's highest and most thrilling Adventure Park designed for the entire family aged 8+. Located at the iconic Big Pineapple, the Tree Top Challenge will take you sky-high at 25 metres above the ground with 100 challenges and 12 ziplines suspended across five courses amongst sub-tropical rainforest.

6. Food Glorious Food

With many parks and playgrounds re-opening, savour in the fresh air and sunshine with a picnic of fresh seafood straight from the trawlers at Mooloolaba Spit, indulge in a sweet treat from Fior Di Latte Gelateria at The Wharf Mooloolaba, pick your own berries fresh from the farm at Strawberry Fields or sample a taste of goodness at the Ginger Factory due to re-open on 27 June.

7. Get Eventful

10-12 July: Airwaves Drive-In Music Festival bumps into the Sunshine Coast's Nambour Showgrounds next month for three all-ages concerts featuring a new trio of bands each day and an 'outer space' theme.

8. For Mum & Dad

Set out on a private tour with a small group of family and friends for a Taste of the Hinterland Tour to the vineyards, cheese factory and lunch at a selection of amazing local restaurants with Mystic Mountain Tours.

Choose from a Coastal Hop, Noosa Brewing Trail or Hinterland ExBeerience to sample some local ales on a frothy Sunshine Coast Craft Beer Tour.



From left Ted O'Brien; Library convener Nita Lester and volunteer Joyce Simpson.

Volunteers unpaid but not unvalued

MAPLETON'S Community Library is all about serving the community and that will be even easier thanks to a Federal Government grant recognising the work of local volunteers.

The library was one of 18 groups across his Sunshine Coast electorate to share in \$60,000 from this year's Volunteer Grants program.

"The work of our volunteers may be unpaid but it is definitely not unrecognised," said Member for Fairfax Ted O'Brien.

"From sporting clubs to service organisations, their contribution brings communities together and helps deliver vital services to those in need. "I am delighted to announce that the Mapleton Community Library has been recognised and will receive \$1,180."

Library convener Nita Lester said volunteers made the library possible.

"We have 46 volunteers, which may seem like a lot but they tend to be older retired people - the eldest is actually 92 - but they're often going on holidays, they're often baby sitting or are occasionally ill so the 46 makes it a very relaxing situation and we have a rotation every fortnight," Dr Lester said.

"With the grant we are going to renew the

office chairs and put the rest of the money towards a slimline dishwasher which will add to an upgrade that we've just scored through the local Council for new office and kitchen space.

"We have well over 400 members but we also run workshops and children's story time, art and craft, yoga and we have special book nights, so we probably touch at least 4500 people and that's right from south through Maleny to Bald Knob out to Kenilworth and to Nambour.

"It is a special library because we own everything and so they do treasure what we have. We never lose a book, which is quite unusual from what I understand from other libraries, because everybody feels they own it and a lot of our resources are actually donated to us too," she said.

Volunteer Grants are about supporting the work of volunteers.

The grants range between \$1,000 and \$5,000 and help community organisations with a range of needs, including buying equipment, training volunteers or reimbursing volunteers for the cost of fuel or transport.

This should bring a smile to your face: Denture Care Group back after closures

LIKE others in the healthcare industry, The Denture Care Group was forced to close their doors during the COVID-19 lockdown. Happily, as the restrictions are lifting people can now have their denture concerns looked after once again.

"We are very excited to be open for business again," said Practice Manager Natalie Pryor.

"We are back to providing all of our usual services and we will be implementing additional safety measures such as booking longer appointment times to eliminate patient cross over in the waiting area, sanitising each patient's hands upon arrival and conducting general health checks/screening on each patient.

"We will continue to uphold all of our usual infection control and sanitisation," she said.

Aaron was born and raised on the Sunshine Coast and is now proudly raising his children who are sixth generation to the Coast.

Aaron owns The Denture Care Group which is a second generation family business based in Woombye, Maleny and Caloundra.

The Denture Care Group manufactures all of their products at their own Laboratory on the Sunshine Coast which is run and personally overseen by Aaron.

"This is really important for our patients, because they have the continuity of dealing with Aaron and the peace of mind that he is looking after each step of the process.

Aaron prides himself on delivering personalised service and customising each denture to suit the needs of the patient.

"This is also why we offer an after-hours emergency service, Aaron truly cares about his patients," said Natalie.

"We have advanced technology and equipment to make and repair new dentures.

"We can provide new full upper and lower dentures, metal and metal-free partial den-



Aaron Pryor offers advanced technology and equipment to make and repair new dentures.

tures, denture relines and repairs, sporting mouthguards and implant retained dentures," she said.

"For over 35 years, we have had a lot of practice looking after patients with comfortable custom dentures."

The Denture Care Group offers free denture examination and consults and a Senior Discount.

You can find their clinics at 6 Hill Street Woombye (where they operate out of Hinterland View Dental) on 5491 2288 as well as locations in Maleny and Caloundra.



New owners of Independent Blinds and Awnings, Michelle and Dale English: "People like to have that single point of contact. Customers are reassured that there will not be a lot of different trades in and out of their homes."

Lockdown prompts renewed focus on the comforts of home

AS people have spent an unprecedented amount of time at home in the past few months, there has been a greater appreciation of the importance of making homes as comfortable and enjoyable as possible.

"Ours is a 30 year old business that we only took over three and a half weeks ago," said owner, Dale English.

"When COVID hit, we thought we would be twiddling our thumbs but in fact, we have been extremely busy," he said.

"Dale had been a cabinet maker for 25 years and wanted to do something a bit different," said his wife Michelle.

"This has panned out to be the perfect crossover for him because he is very hands on and does all of the measuring, quoting and installation himself.

"People like to have that single point of contact, and because we offer exclusively in home service, our older customers are reassured that there will not be a lot of different trades in and out of their homes."

Independent Blinds and Awnings offer a range of products that allow homeowners to extend their outdoor living space and take advantage of our temperate climate.

"We do fabric and metal awnings, plantation shutters and zipscreens which have pretty much replaced the older style PVC cafe

blinds," Dale said. "We install a product called Ziptrak which our customers really love.

"It is a type of blind that fits very well with design styles from older homes, to very modern ones. In particular, it is extremely easy to use. You basically need one hand to adjust the height to exactly where you want it."

"Ziptrak can take winds of up to 35km, so you can still use your outdoor area, even on the blowiest days," Michelle said.

"Extending living space with these types of products is far more affordable and cost effective than adding more rooms and it is a wonderful way to bring the outdoors in.

"We also do interior blinds, including rollers, verticals, panel glides and venetians as well," she said.

"Our products are locally made here at Forest Glen and Coolool," Dale said.

"We have really noticed that people appreciate being able to access such high quality, locally made products.

"I think that during the COVID lockdown, people definitely turned their attention to improving their homes to make them as pleasant and functional as possible."

Independent Blinds and Awnings

- independentblindsandawnings.com.au
- P: 5476 5338 or 0411 872 060.



Above: Year 9 student Abigail Matchett doesn't mind a bit of hard work. Right: An Agricultural science lesson.

NCC prepares students with skill-based training for real world

BUILT on the grounds of an old pineapple farm, Nambour Christian College has always had its roots in agriculture. For over 40 years, the College community has acted as stewards of the land, teaching students the importance of quality food and farming, and imparting the greater life lessons that caring for animals and the environment offers.

Over time the College farm and Agricultural Science program has grown to become one of the most respected on the Sunshine Coast. "Offering a more organic style of learning, Agricultural Science at Nambour Christian College goes beyond the classroom to shape a generation of students that genuinely care for the land," said NCC Head of Agricultural Science Phil Rienecker.

The most recent addition of certifications available to NCC is Rural Operations studied through The University of Queensland at Gatton. The students can do this course as a timetabled subject at NCC and have the opportunity to travel to the UQ campus at Gatton for practical training camps twice a year.

And it's not only Ag Science. At NCC students can acquire up to advanced diploma level across a range of vocational education and training areas including Hospitality, Baking,

Furnishings, Manufacturing, Sport and Recreation, as well as learning the foundation skills for work.

VET provides courses for nine of the 10 occupations with the highest predicted growth over the next five years. Students can gain QCE points while also building their career preparation skills with qualifications to help them get into their chosen industry.

NCC's Hospitality Trade Training Centre provide real-life experiences through the ability to work in a range of areas, including a commercial kitchen, 100 seat restaurant with an additional alfresco dining area and a fully equipped non-alcoholic bar.

NCC's Sport and Recreation qualification allows students to work in NCC's fully functioning, open-to-the-public gym, Shalom Fitness.

Meanwhile, the furnishing and manufacturing workshop is fitted with all the tools and equipment to ensure students feel they are working in a real-life cabinet-making business.

The future of Vocational Education and Training at NCC is looking bright with the investigation into potential qualifications in other areas, including Health, Community Services, Business, Child Care and many more industries.

Time to visit the Zoo

ON June 5, Woombye's Wildlife HQ welcomed its first visitors, after COVID-19 restrictions forced its closure in March. The zoo follows a COVID-Safe Industry Plan approved by Queensland Health.

The zoo can now be visited any time, without Pre-booking a tour, so visitors can enjoy the zoo at their own leisure and pace. Social distancing is still in place and The Reptile Barn and Cafe will remain temporarily closed.



Package seen as a lifeline for building

THE Federal Government's announcement recently of the HomeBuilder stimulus package designed to stimulate building activity and protect jobs is just what the doctor ordered.

Master Builders CEO, Grant Galvin said the industry's calls for assistance have definitely been heard and the package will be key to ensuring residential construction in Queensland doesn't fall off a cliff by August or September.

"The \$25,000 HomeBuilder package will certainly head off the looming crisis facing the industry, by ensuring demand for new homes is boosted, protecting thousands of building industry jobs," Mr Galvin said.

"This latest round of stimulus, which will commence immediately, is so important as it's another piece of the stimulus puzzle and will support other measures announced recently by the Queensland Government.

"Enquiries and contracts were already starting to dry up, so we have no doubt this package will be the shot in the arm our industry needs and a real confidence booster for anyone thinking of building or undertaking a major renovation.

"We're also hoping the Queensland Government will come to the party and follow suit by expanding the \$15,000 First Home Owners' Grant to all new home builds.

"That would put Queensland firmly at the front of the game and mean anyone building a new home in Queensland would be eligible for \$40,000 towards their new home, not just first home buyers.

"We're also asking the Queensland Government to urgently bring forward and consider new opportunities for social housing - whether this be a new social housing construction program or maintenance of existing stock.

"Programs like this have a clear community benefit, as well as ensuring the industry has a clear pipeline of work and certainty, and support smaller contractors, who won't necessarily see the benefit of the new home stimulus or the renovation package on offer.

"The renovation component of the package is also welcome - let's face it, any stimulus is good stimulus. While it would have been nice for smaller renovations to be included, the data we've seen so far suggests the renovation market has been busy in recent months, particularly for smaller projects."



Rotary Club of Maleny Youth Director Paulette Steele, left, and President-Elect Greg Williams invite Maleny Hotel Manager and Executive Chef Jo Veniamakis to nominate worthy employees for the Pride of Workmanship Awards. Mr Williams will take over as President from June 28, at which time Ms Steele will become Vocational Director.

Workmanship Awards help create a habit of excellence

IT was Aristotle some 2400 years ago, who first said "We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence then is not an act, but a habit."

The Rotary Club of Maleny is recommencing their Pride of Workmanship Awards this year to provide businesses and organisations with an opportunity and a way to acknowledge and thank employees for this habit of excellence.

"Given the COVID19 times, some employees have gone to exceptional lengths to help their managers and businesses in this difficult period," said Rotary Club of Maleny Youth Director Paulette Steele.

"This is a great way to publicly recognise their employees for their efforts. It seems it's even more appropriate than ever to do so. Talking to a couple of businesses last Friday, there are some employees who have stood out with their massive efforts."

"Members of the Rotary Club of Maleny will be going around the community and talking to

as many businesses and organisations as possible and giving out nomination forms," said President Elect Greg Williams.

Nominees for the Pride of Workmanship program will be presented with a special plaque, which has their name engraved on it, in recognition of their achievements at a dinner at Tranquil Park on Saturday August 29. Nominators will explain the reasons and the achievement behind why each recipient was chosen.

Nominations commence now and the close off date is August 1st. As it is impossible to get to everyone, please contact Paulette at paulette.steele@gmail.com if you want a nomination form or more information.

It was Mark Twain who said, "Thousands of geniuses live and die undiscovered - either by themselves or by others." Let us hope that in our small way, the Rotary Club of Maleny can ensure the light is shone on someone who might otherwise go unnoticed.

Grant helps ageing population to live well & stay home on the Range

A social and recreational hub which enables older people and the elderly on the Sunshine Coast Hinterland to stay connected is set to undergo an expansion, with Blackall Range Care Group Ltd receiving a \$100,000 grant from Eastern Star Foundation.

The Nambour Social Centre's Sundowners and the Clubhouse Respite Room building, which was first established almost 40 years ago, will be remodelled, repainted and fitted-out with new furniture and equipment, enabling the organisation to not only meet the demand for its services into the future but to also increase the range of services offered.

Blackall Range Care Group Chief Executive Officer Greg Mannion said the Hinterland's aged population had already surpassed the national average percentage of those aged 70+, indicating how timely these upgrades were.

"As more people choose to retire in the region in the years to come, these figures will continue to climb, which is why this funding is so vital. In the Nambour District alone, we currently provide community care services to over 650 clients," Mr Mannion said.

"We've seen how a dedicated space, where older people can get together to socialise over a game of cards, be entertained by a local musician, take part in arts and crafts amongst many other activities, can make a world of difference to their day-to-day lives. To know that this centre will be able to provide this service on a larger scale is a great outcome for our community."

The grant was one of three initiatives to be funded by Eastern Star Foundation in its inaugural grant round, since becoming a charitable foundation last year. The group, which was formerly known as Star Aged Living and was established by members of the Order of the Eastern Star, operated a not-for-profit aged care facility in Beaudesert before it was sold to Whiddon Group early last year.

Eastern Star Foundation Chairman Jonathan Nantes said his organisation's focus was to empower charitable groups that support the ageing in our communities to live well.

"By backing this initiative, we will be helping more aged people on the Sunshine Coast Hinterland to maintain their independence, be active members of the community and have a positive outlook on life," Mr Nantes said. "We are proud to support this regional initiative."

Nambour Chronicle and North Coast Advertiser 1903-1983

WITH the imminent demise of several local newspaper print editions it's timely to reflect on a snapshot of the Nambour Chronicle and North Coast Advertiser.

For 80 years, the Chronicle recorded local and overseas news, social, sporting and business activities, and photographs of the area we now know as the Sunshine Coast.

The first Chronicle was issued by its proprietor and editor, Luke Wilkinson, on July 31, 1903. It was printed in a small weatherboard building in Currie Street, Nambour and later a shift was made to the northern end of the street.

Staff initially included Luke Wilkinson (the proprietor-editor), a compositor and two juniors. The paper was produced by hand, so the task of type composition and printing the few hundred copies was very demanding and labour intensive.

Over the years the paper changed hands on a number of occasions - partnerships were formed and disbanded between Luke Wilkinson and Albert A McFadden and then between McFadden and Alexander W Thynne.

In 1923 McFadden bought Thynne's share and his three sons became active in running the Chronicle. In 1964 the McFadden family sold the paper to the Toowoomba Newspaper Company.

As the district grew, so did the Chronicle and the number of the paper's staff. By the 1960s new premises had to be found and in 1966 the paper moved to a new building in



Chronicle Newspaper and Printing Office Street, Nambour, 1958. Thanks to Sunshine Coast Council's Heritage Library Officers for the words and Picture Sunshine Coast for the words.

Price Street, Nambour. The business acquired a Buhler Duplex press capable of printing 5000 copies per hour. Colour could also be used on certain pages.

In the same year the paper became a bi-weekly, published on Tuesday and Thursday. By 1968 it was the biggest bi-weekly paper in Queensland and by 1971 it was distributed from Pomona in the north, to Glass House Mountains in the south and west to Kenilworth.

The growth in the tourist industry also gave the Chronicle the opportunity to publicise the district to the friends of holiday makers. By 1971 its circulation was well over 12,000 copies with many copies finding their way to southern homes.

The last issue of the Chronicle was published on September 1, 1983, by which time the Sunshine Coast Daily had taken its place.

On November 27, 2006 a digital version of the Chronicle was launched. It was the first Australian newspaper to be digitised and as such, it continues to serve an important function for researchers, historians and those interested in the history, development and people of the Sunshine Coast.

Any articles from 1903 to 1958 can be accessed electronically from the Nambour Chronicle website, nambour-chronicle.com or via the National Library of Australia's Trove. Articles from 1903 to 1983 can be accessed at Council's Heritage Library, Nambour.

Welcome swallows



Reader's Photo

THIS photo is from Bush Care Sunshine Coast

Coordinator Norm Morwood of Woombye.

"The cutest thing I've seen for a while," said Norm. "The most recent family of welcome swallows in the nest on our porch. They've since flown away. They managed to negotiate the netting I put up, since last year's nest and brood were taken out, probably by a currawong."

The name 'welcome' swallow comes from sailors who knew that the sight of a swallow meant land was not far away.

Meanwhile, Bush Care Sunshine Coast volunteer activities recommenced on Saturday 13 June.

In response to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, and with the health, safety and well being of our volunteers and community in mind, the program will recommence activities in a staged approach.

Our first stage is the commencement of BushCare Community group working bees - check out our working bee schedule and see how you can get involved. Contact Norm if you'd like to volunteer on 0409 639 944.

• If you have a nature or landscape photo you'd like to share please send them to editor@sunshinevalleygazette.com.au.

Council reopens customer service centres

SUNSHINE Coast Council has reopened its Nambour customer service counter following the easing of COVID restrictions, but customers are encouraged to continue using online platforms where possible.

"Closing our customer service centres in early April was an unfortunate but necessary measure to protect our staff and residents, but the Sunshine Coast community and business operators have truly embraced the use of our online platforms," said Community Portfolio Councillor Winston Johnston.

"We are now able to reopen our counters to provide face-to-face services, but I would encourage everyone to continue using the many other convenient channels we offer."

To help maintain social distancing, an appointment system has been introduced and customers are encouraged to book in advance. Bookings can be made via council's website or phone 5475 7272.

The Nambour customer service counter will be limited to four customers at a time. One customer at a time using the self-service computer. Counters open Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 4pm.

Game on for field and court facilities

IT'S time to dust off the footy boots and get out the netball gear after Council reopened four of its major sporting fields from last Monday June 8.

The reopening follows the State Government releasing its Industry COVID Safe Plan for Field Sports and Fitness Facilities.

Council reopened the following venues:

- Sunshine Coast Stadium/Kawana Sports Precinct

- Maroochydore Multi Sports Complex
- Nambour Showgrounds
- Caloundra Indoor Stadium

The Industry COVID Safe Plan - Field Sports enables outdoor fields to accommodate multiple playing spaces or zones, with three zones of up to 20 people permitted across ovals and fields and up to 20 people per court for sports such as netball.

Sunshine Coast Council Mayor Mark Jamieson said these Council managed sports venues were now taking bookings for all field and court sports, within the guidelines of the approved Industry Plans.

Region's flagship Gallery set to reopen its doors

CALOUNDRA Regional Gallery will reopen to the public on Wednesday, June 17 following the Stage 2 easing of COVID-19 restrictions.

The reopening will allow culture vultures, art lovers, or anyone wanting to wander through an exhibition of international brilliance to have the opportunity to see the stunning Johanna DeMaine: the form, the function, the aesthetic exhibition that had to close early due to COVID-19 restrictions.

DeMaine's highly sought-after artworks are held in private and public collections both nationally and internationally, including the British and Danish Royal Family collections. The exhibition, covering five decades of practice, includes early functional ware, the decorative and ornamental, through to recent works incorporating new techniques and imagery that combine the influences of the Sunshine Coast and Japan.

Community Portfolio Councillor Rick Baberowski was relieved to see the gallery was reopening to provide the community with access to exhibitions once again.

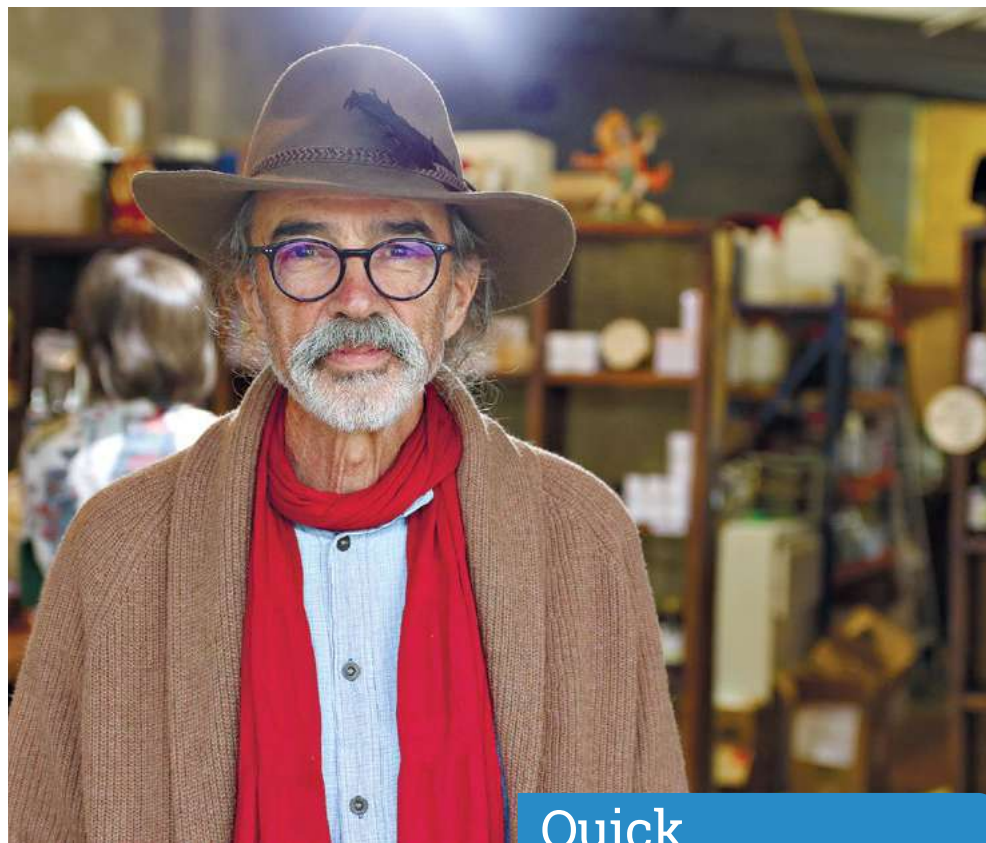
Demand leads to suicide awareness training

HIGH community demand for online suicide awareness training has prompted USC to provide more opportunities for Sunshine Coast residents to develop skills that could save lives.

USC, which leads The Alliance for Suicide Prevention - Sunshine Coast, is offering suicide alertness training for a further 300 people from June 26, after the first round of training in May was booked out in just over a week.

To register for the free online training session, visit The Alliance for Suicide Prevention's website at <https://www.thealliance.org.au/upcoming-events/>

Meet the Eumundi Medicine man



He grew up in Fitzroy when milk was delivered by horse and cart. He's known as the Eumundi Medicine Man and has an Ayurvedic Herb Shed in Palmwoods. Find out more here about Jay Dharma Mulder here ...

Birth date and/or star sign: April 16 1950. I'm a double Aries, both Sun and Ascendent.

Favourite local hinterland food and why: Home cooked tasty aromatic fresh and mouth watering meals with Sushi at Mooloobah spit.

Where did you grow up: Fitzroy, Melbourne, a stone's throw from downtown, bread and milk came on a horse and cart.

Last book read: Srimad Bhagawatam, 10,000 pages, By A. C. Bhaktivedanta

Nickname as a kid: Yamasuka Yamaha, kids thought I looked oriental.

First and last job & what was it like: Trainee manager of a grocery store. It inspired me to work for myself.

What do you like most about your current job: The unlimited depth, always learning and inspiring others.

Quick Questions

Jay Dharma Mulder

What's the most important thing you ever learned: The difference between the body and the knower of the body. Who is looking out of your eyes?

Your favourite saying: Knowledge is the greatest medicine.

Happiest moment in life that wasn't related to family matters: Embracing all conditions and smiling at destiny.

What were you doing 10 years ago: Growing up, learning, being the Medicine Man.

What do you hope to be doing in 10 years: In knowledge, because to not have wisdom is as good as being dead.

What did you want to be as a kid? Happy, an endless summer, no work and a rebel.

Your question: Can eyes actually see? Who is looking through your eyes?



The Ginger Factory is reopening

THE Ginger Factory will re-open Saturday, June 27 following closure due to Covid-19 regulations.

"We couldn't be more thrilled to be opening our doors again," said Tourism Manager Brenda Bailey.

"We've been busy making the Ginger Factory even better during the closure and we can't wait to share all the changes with everyone."

Those changes include a brand new shop fit out, new café menu and Moreton the train back on the tracks.

The first 200 children through the door on Saturday and Sunday, June 27 and 28, will also receive

a free ice-cream voucher as a welcome back gift.

About the Ginger Factory

The Ginger Factory has something for the whole family to enjoy with Moreton the train, the Overboard boat ride, live bee shows, Buderim Ginger factory tours, tropical gardens to explore as well as their Ginger Shop, Ice Creamery and Ginger Café!

The Ginger Factory is open 7 days a week, 9am to 5pm. It's one of the Sunshine Coast's most popular tourist attractions. The iconic Ginger Factory boasts boutique shopping, café, ice creamery, lush sub-tropical gardens as well as exciting rides, activities and tours.

How to shorten social distance

Business Advice
by Peter Gamgee



THE roller coaster has started. For some it is in overswing already - just try to book a camping ground anywhere a bit west of the coast and hinterland. Surprise - no vacancies. It seems the general sentiment is "breakout" and perhaps this was also a contributor to people gathering in large protests.

For others e.g. restaurants, events and therapeutic businesses the motor has only just started on the roller coaster and is still trying to get the first carriage up the incline.

The physical social distancing rules are still in place and this continues to reduce business capacity.

That lack of camping spaces is partially due to the breakout rush and partially due to the need to maintain pandemic protocols including distancing.

For those struggling up the first incline social distancing rules are the biggest impediment.

So how can business get socially close to customers?

Social media of course - but only if it is used in the right way.

Many traditional business owners avoid social media. My advice to them is simple - you do not have to like or promote the negative sides of social media to benefit from the reach it gives you to your customers.

I believe most businesses can benefit from using social media to get socially close to their customers using what I call a "professional" approach.

Because social media algorithms track the actions, network, likes, dislikes, interests, location etc of your customers "social media" knows more about your customers than you do.

"Social media" also knows when those customers are in a position to buy certain products and services.

So if you know that your customers use social media you can leverage the "social media" information to get the attention of those people who are most likely to buy what you have to sell AND to get them to buy from you rather than a competitor.

Let's use an example to illustrate how this works.

A hypothetical young lady "Elenore" has



just received a proposal for marriage and has accepted.

This of course will be shared with friends and Elenore will then start the process of searching for wedding venues, dresses, planners, flowers to name a few.

She chats with her friends about all this. "Social media" knows straight away that Elenore is engaged - in fact "social media" may have known before Elenore did because of her fiancé's activity on social media.

Luminare is a wedding venue not far from where Elenore grew up (where all her friends still live who would be invitees to the wedding).

Luminare have a social media advertisement running that selects women in the age 20 to 35 from the local area who fit the profile of someone getting engaged.

The advertisement will appear in Elenore's news feed.

The Ad gets her attention and she sees the opportunity to take up an offer to spend a free night with her partner at the venue.

Do you think she accepts that offer?

Do you think Luminare is in the box seat to provide the venue for the wedding?

This is about leveraging the social media to be closer (socially) to your customers.

Different media for different customers, products and services. This will help to achieve growth and partially combat the physical social distancing that limits us at present.

Airwaves to debut at Nambour

From **David Law**
Division 10 Councillor



I'm thrilled to share some fantastic news for Nambour. Airwaves, the Sunshine Coast's first drive-in music festival is coming to Nambour Showgrounds in July. Indie, punk and folk bands will play to 280 cars each night from July 10-12.

I'd like to send a big thank you to organiser Cindy Jensen for choosing Nambour to host this incredible event. Tickets are selling fast, visit www.airwavesfestival.com.au for more information.

Reimagine Nambour

It's great to see all levels of government working together for better outcomes, and the backing of Reimagine Nambour is a fantastic example of this.

Reimagine Nambour (a community association designed to implement the Nambour Economic Transition Strategy) can now start a rebranding campaign to create "brand Nambour" and transition to a future economy building on our point of difference to attract new investment.

Council has contributed \$25,000 to this project, along with a \$30,000 federal grant from the Building Better Regions Fund and \$5000 from State MP Marty Hunt.

Watch this space for exciting updates on its progress.

Leadership Group

I'm pleased to be part of council's Sunshine Coast Community Strategy Leadership Group (CSLG), which held its first meeting earlier this month.

The formation of the CSLG is a commitment in the Sunshine Coast Community Strategy 2019-2041 and represents a further demonstration of council's partnership approach to helping communities thrive.

It's a real privilege to be appointed, where we have the intention to make a real difference to everyone across the Sunshine Coast community.

Please email or call me if you have any questions or concerns. david.law@sunshine-coast.qld.gov.au ph 5441 8373; m 0437 825 569.

Confidence returning as restrictions ease

From **Ted O'Brien**
Federal Member for Fairfax



Restrictions are continuing to ease - we're currently at Stage 2 - and this week it was also announced that up to 100 people will now be allowed to attend funerals.

In Queensland Stage 3 restrictions are still scheduled to come into effect on July 10 and the Prime Minister has announced a couple of additional changes to be introduced under Stage 3. For indoor venues the 100 person maximum will be replaced by the 4sqm rule for each room of any venue. Importantly, that will allow for greater capacity at larger venues like RSLs, pubs and wedding locations.

Outdoor venues, which can hold less than 40,000 people, will also be able to offer ticketed and seated events up to 25 per cent capacity.

Face Masks

We were fortunate to receive a donation of face masks to assist our local community during the coronavirus crisis. While there is no direction to wear a face mask generally, we have supplied 30 boxes to local service groups, including Meals on Wheels and Suncoast Christian Care in Nambour and the Compass Institute in Palmwoods.

Bruce Highway Upgrades

Work begins this week on the \$301 million Maroochydore Road and Mons Road interchanges which, when complete, will make a huge difference to traffic caught up on the Nambour Connection Road during the morning peak, bound for the Coast or trying to get to Brisbane.

Works include a new, four-lane, eastbound bridge at the Maroochydore Road interchange over the Bruce Highway and new two-way service roads on the western and eastern sides of the Highway.

As always, please don't hesitate to get in touch with any Federal issues, concerns or enquiries on 5479 2800; via email at ted.obrien.mp@aph.gov.au or visit us at 17 Southern Drive, Maroochydore.

400 calls a month for injured wildlife

from Donna Brennan Wildlife Volunteers WILVOS
5441 6200 www.wilvos.org.au

THE WILVOS Hotline 5441 6200 has continued to receive over 400 phone calls a month for orphaned and injured wildlife.

Our amazing group of volunteers record all their calls and this is a story in itself.

We can see what is happening out there in the environment.

At the moment there has been a large increase in macropod calls. When we get an increase in wallaby calls it usually indicates that areas of forest have been destroyed. Even those small one hectare areas of bushland house so many species. Wallabies, being a smaller macropod, depend on the concealment of the bush.



On the other hand when more Hotline calls are received about eastern grey kangaroos, it indicates another highway has been built in an area which was usually a pathway for kangaroos. Sadly most of these animals suffer compound fractures after car impact and are euthanized, and often the females will have a joey in pouch. Even the small furless joeys are able to be raised and our WILVO rehabilitators do a wonderful job.

One of our carers had her first experience raising a whiptail wallaby. Mr Whippy came in with just grey skin and the beginnings of fur growth. He has just been passed on to another carer who has a number of the same species so I'm sure that was a sad day for Rachel, Dale and Esther. Nevertheless, they were very proud of their achievement. They reared Mr Whippy in those tough early stages, with no 'hiccups' in his rehabilitation.

Though this is a quieter time of year for wildlife carers, the phone calls for help continue to increase. We are going to have some very busy months ahead and I am so thankful for all our younger WILVO carers who have joined, and are showing such great dedication and commitment to our native animal care.

Have your say on COVID-19

From **Andrew Powell**
State Member for Glass House



Queensland Parliament's Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee is encouraging Queenslanders to make a written submission to the committee's inquiry into the Queensland Government's health response to COVID-19. Submissions are to be made by Friday 3 July 2020.

Over the past four months every Queenslanders' life has changed to enable us to tackle the pandemic. If you have opinions or experiences to share on the health-related actions taken by the Queensland Government in response to COVID-19, the committee welcomes your submission. They should be sent either by: Email to health@parliament.qld.gov.au; or Post to Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee, Parliament House, George Street, Brisbane QLD 4000.

Submissions must include the author's name and at least two of the following: mailing address; email address; daytime phone number.

Please ensure your submission includes the above or it may not be considered by the committee.

Glass House Main Roads Tour

I was recently privileged to host the Shadow Minister for Transport and Main Roads, Steve Minnikin MP, in the Glass House electorate to do a 'problem roads tour'. We visited and discussed Maleny-Kenilworth Road, Maleny-Stanley River Road, the intersection of the D'Aguilar Highway and Campbells Pocket Road in Wamuran, Mount Mee Road in Ocean View, Caboolture River Road, Beerburum Road, the intersection of Landsborough-Maleny Road and Mountain View Road in Maleny and, finally, Maleny-Montville Road. It was great to bring the Shadow Minister "up to speed" on the many roads in our area that have been neglected by the government, despite my many emails, phone calls, petitions and surveys calling for upgrades.

Sport

Roll up, roll up to Woombye Bowls Club

AT last, our small friendly hinterland bowls club is reopening, with more than bowls roll ups allowed.

From Monday 8 June our club doors will be open to all. Many changes need to be in place to follow Covid 19 regulations, to keep our staff and patrons as safe as we can. But, we are confident that all our supporters will be understanding, supportive and happy to be back.

During our shut down, many hard-working members and staff volunteered their time and energies. Now our club looks great-freshly painted, decluttered, cleaned, restocked and refenced. A top job by many to get our club back on track! True Woombye Bowls Club spirit!

On Friday 12 June, our newly renamed bistro "Cobbs Camp Kitchen" opens to restricted numbers, but it is a start, which we are excited about. So, we encourage all our loyal supporters to come along, bring family and friends and enjoy our hearty, reasonably priced meals.

Right: Wayne Knetter decorates the bar with the club logo.



Ian Cranney and Peter Harris get to work restocking the Club.



Eumundi Dragons' seniors rugby union recruitment back in full swing

After only being able to play one match in the 2020 season before COVID-19 restrictions came into force, the newly re-formed Eumundi Dragons' reserve grade Rugby Union team is eagerly making preparations for the return of community Rugby matches on the Coast in early August.

The team, coached by Dan Cooper (left of picture) will start training from 5.15 pm on Thursday evenings at their fields in Black Stump Rd Eumundi. The first session will be on Thursday 18th June.

In their first match against Caboolture on the 14th March the Eumundi team fielded 16 of

their own players with reserves from a Gympie team who had played a previous game.

The Dragons are still seeking a couple more players to complete their team roster. Dan Cooper stated that 22-25 players would be an ideal number to cover replacements due to illness, injury or work commitments.

Prospective players, 19 years of age and over are asked to check the club's Facebook page for relevant details. (Check FB post for 29th February.)

Alternatively, contact the club president, Doug Toms, on 0426 664 293.

Coast's oldest bowls club weathers COVID storm

By Stewart Medland

OFTEN I hear from new retirees that they are busier now than when they were working, testament to this would be the current Chairperson of Palmwoods Bowls Club, Glynis Myers.

Moving from Country Victoria to settle in Palmwoods, 12 months into retirement Glynis offered her services to the Bowls Club where her husband Noel is a bowler.

With a background in finance and strong business acumen, Glynis took over the position in February.

The following month came the Covid-19 restrictions resulting in Glynis having to draw on her organisational experience and tackle the daunting prospect of keeping the club viable.

"Panic was my first response, I estimated we would last until August unless we could make some major changes," she said.

Glynis praised the efforts of board members & club volunteers.

"As chairperson with a great board and the dedication of other volunteers we have been able to turn what was initially an overwhelming situation into an opportunity to undertake some changes and projects."

Cleaning from the ceiling down followed by fresh paint along with some reorganisation of outings.

"The support from our regular suppliers and generosity of the greenkeeper have made a big difference," she said.

"We have been able to successfully apply for funding through local council & state assistance, with a lot of the submissions undertaken by long-standing member Dave Robinson."

With limited full bowling members and regular players much of the club's running costs are met by the patronage of social members.

The easing of restrictions has seen bowling on the greens and the much needed return of social members.

As the oldest surviving Bowls Club on the Sunshine Coast, founded in 1931, it is a credit to Glynis and her team of volunteers that the future of bowls and the many social events are firmly on the agenda.

Aquatic Centres reopen with some improvements

LOCAL swimmers keen to dive in to their nearby public pool can rejoice, with nine aquatic centres reopening on Saturday 13 June.

This includes: Beerwah, Buderim, Caloundra, Coolumb-Peregian, Cotton Tree, Eumundi, Kawana, Nambour and Palmwoods aquatic centres. Mayor Mark Jamieson welcomed the State Government's release of its Industry Plan for aquatic centres.

"This is welcome news for our entire community and, like many other business owners, our aquatic centre operators who have been doing it tough during the COVID-19 pandemic," Mayor Jamieson said.

"This means mums and bubs classes can recommence, seniors' fitness sessions can start up again and swimmers can participate in their weekly squad sessions."

While closed, council proactively brought forward refurbishments to Caloundra, Kawana, Cotton Tree, Eumundi and Nambour aquatic centres, who shared in approximately \$1.9 million of capital works projects," Mayor Jamieson said.

Venues with multiple pools/spaces can have multiple groups of 20 for adults and larger groups of children so long as social distance between groups is observed and patron details are recorded and kept.

For the latest information about council facilities and services and business assistance during the COVID-19 pandemic, visit www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/coronavirus.



After some months off, players were allowed back on the rink Friday June 5 for the first time since COVID restrictions struck. Enjoying a social bowl in beautiful conditions at Palmwoods Bowls Club were, from left, Greg Johnston, Brian Badke, Brian Livings and Mick Primmer.



New Palmwoods Bowls Club President Glynis Myers adapted the club to cope with COVID ... "I estimated we would last until August unless we could make some major changes."



Nambour Badminton Club welcomed back 20 members last Tuesday. Happy to play for the first time since mid-March were, from left, Eunice Paulett, Shirley Dengate and Sobee Temachik.

Shuttles away. Let's play badminton

LAST Tuesday 20 members of Nambour Badminton Club were happy to get back on the court and play for the first time since mid-March.

Among them were from left. Eunice Paulett, Shirley Dengate. And Sobee Temachik.

The current restrictions meant changes to normal routine. Only financial members were allowed in. No friends, or spectators. No doubles, just singles, making sure players were always apart. No morning tea. When restrictions are eased new players will be welcomed. The Badminton Centre is opposite Queensland

transport on coronation Avenue Nambu contact Eunice. 0437 359 707 for more information.

The same restrictions apply to the Monday and Thursday night sessions. contact Darren 0402 800 466.

Eunice said badminton was an all weather, exercise, which was very good for you. You can play as hard, or as soft as you like. There's a guy here, who is over 80 years old. He's been with us for a long time. He's an excellent player. He was an excellent player in his time badminton is excellent for reflexes and anticipation.

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