

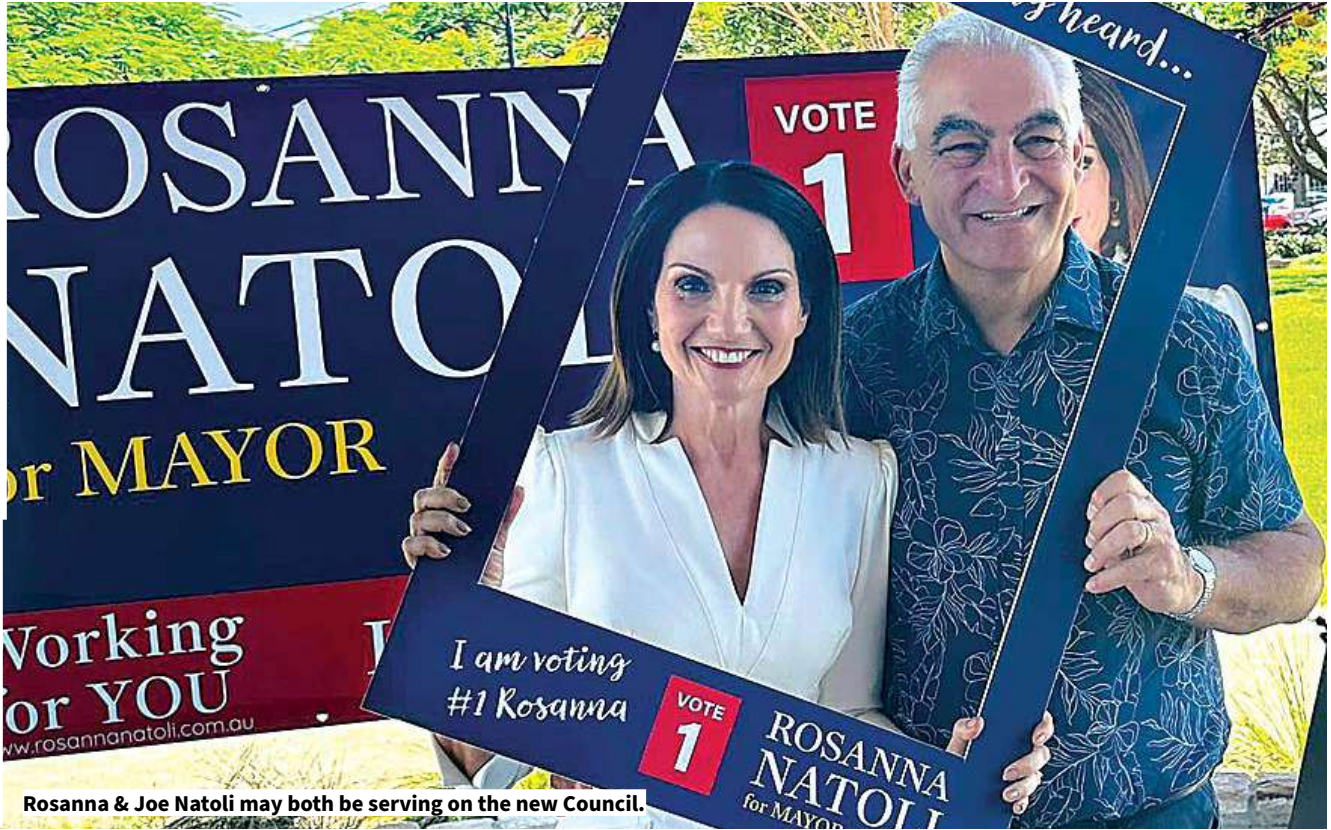
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Mayoral Race	Count	Percentage
OPRAY, Jason	30,478	21.45%
SWAN, Min	23,355	16.44%
BURGESS, Michael	4,897	3.45%
NATOLI, Rosanna	38,770	27.29%
PARCELL, Wayne	9,111	6.41%
ROBINSON, Ashley	35,458	24.96%
<b>Total formal votes</b>	<b>142,069</b>	<b>95.43%</b>



Ashley Robinson is hoping for a come-from-behind win.

Rosanna & Joe Natoli may both be serving on the new Council.

# NATOLI LEADS MAYORAL RACE

by Janine Hill

TELEVISION personality Rosanna Natoli held a narrow lead in the race to become the Sunshine Coast's next mayor as of Tuesday afternoon but was not yet claiming victory. Ms Natoli, with 27.29% of the primary vote in preliminary counting, was just ahead of surf lifesaving and rugby league identity Ashley Robinson on 24.96%. Jason O'Pray, the only councillor to nominate for the role vacated by Mark Jamieson after three terms, was in third place with 21.45% and looked like he would be out of

council after 12 years. Businesswoman Min Swan was running fourth on 16.44%, followed by hinterland campaigner Wayne Parcell on 6.41% and council critic Michael Burgess on 3.45%. Preferences might not be finalised for days but how much they could influence the result was difficult to tell. The election was run under an optional preferential voting system and not all voters would have exercised the option to nominate preferences. Ms Natoli was happy to be in front but was careful not to claim a win while Mr Robinson

was still within striking distance and there was still counting to be done. "I'm ahead at this point and obviously, we don't know what happens with preferences," she said. "It's certainly nice to be in this position because they have to claw back all of those votes but at the same time, in all honesty, until people's preferences have been allocated, it's a bit difficult to tell." She was well aware that she did not have 50% of the vote and said, if successful, she

• To page 2. More stories inside

Preference count nail-biters continue in **divisions 5 & 10:**

Division 5	Count	Percentage
JOHNSTON, Winston	7,190	37.47%
BRUINSMA, Richard	5,239	27.30%
BURTON, Tracy Queensland Greens	6,760	35.23%
<b>Total formal votes</b>	<b>19,189</b>	<b>94.90%</b>

Division 10	Count	Percentage
LAW, David	4,891	33.64%
WALSH, Peter	5,232	35.98%
PRIMAVERA, Camillo	1,989	13.68%
ETHERIDGE, Sue Queensland Greens	2,428	16.70%
<b>Total formal votes</b>	<b>14,540</b>	<b>94.16%</b>

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Tight contest:

# Division 10 front-runners await preference count

by Janine Hill

DIVISION 10 candidate Peter Walsh appeared to have snared division 10 from councillor David Law in the primary vote but did not like his chance of hanging on after the allocation of preferences.

Mr Walsh said he might still “jag it” but believed preferences from Greens candidate Sue Etheridge would favour Cr Law.

Mr Walsh was sitting on 35.98% versus Cr Law on 33.64% as of yesterday.

Ms Etheridge achieved 16.70% of the vote while retired medic and homeless advocate Camillo Primavera had won 13.68%.

Although he was ahead in the primary vote, Mr Walsh believed he would be “rolled” by Cr Law in the distribution of preferences.

“I might pick up some second preferences but not as many as David is going to get,” he said.

Cr Law was not ready to jump to conclusions.

## ‘Community’ versus ‘back to basics’

“The result is too close to call at the moment,” said Cr Law. “This will now come down to preferences.

“I’m very grateful to my incredible team of volunteers who spread their positivity and kindness across this election process.”

Cr Law painted the contest for Division 10 as a clear choice between “creating community”, with himself, or going “back to basics” with Mr Walsh.

“From the conversations I’ve been having, I know that my work over the past four years has resonated with many people,” he said.

Cr Law said people appreciated his community focus, positive attitude, determination, support and guidance and strength when needed.

“Most importantly, (they) appreciate my honesty, even when the truth is hard to hear.

“I would very much like to continue representing the people of Division 10 on the next Sunshine Coast Council. There is more important work to be done.”

Mr Walsh made a point of saying that he believed candidates should be upfront about their political alignments and affinities so that voters understood who they were really supporting.

“Local government should be about representation, not politics,” he said.

He said campaigning had been a great experience.

“I met a lot of great people along the journey, people I’ll probably now call friends,” he said.

“I met all kinds of people of different persuasions and different politics.

“One guy did 10 hours for me at the Kenilworth polling booth who I only met eight weeks ago at the Average Joes and we just clicked.

“I’ll probably still go to the Average Joes at Kenilworth because they’re a great bunch of people.”

A police officer and army reservist, Mr Walsh had to leave for a defence force training course collecting his corflutes from the roadsides on Sunday and will monitor the results from Newcastle.



Div 10 Cr David Law.



Key challenger Peter Walsh



Sue Etheridge



Camillo Primavera.



Rosanna Natoli at a Nambour Chamber of Commerce Meet the Candidates night.

## I’d be working for all voters, says Natoli

• From page 1

would be working to convince all voters she was worthy of their vote. “There are a lot of people who didn’t vote for me and I need to earn their trust if I’m mayor,” she said.

Mr Robinson thought his chances of overcoming Ms Natoli were slim but he had not given up. “I’ll wait until the official winner is declared but it looks like Rosanna is the winner and what it looks like is that there’s definitely been a message sent to the council about change,” he said. “I don’t agree with some of Rosanna’s rhetoric but I have to compliment her on the way she’s run her campaign. She was relentless, she worked hard, her team at the polling booths was relentless as well, and it’s worked well for her,” he said. “I’d also like to congratulate Min Swan and Wayne Parcell on the way they ran their campaigns.”

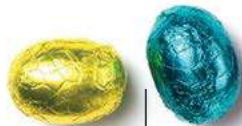
Mr Robinson said he had not realised until late in his eight-week campaign that the election would end up a tussle between him and Ms Natoli. “I always thought it was going to be Jason and Rosanna and me but the second week of pre-polling, all of a sudden, it was me and Rosanna,” he said.

The Gazette attempted to contact Mr O’Pray but he had not responded at the time of publication.

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# Frustrated voters report ballot shortages, long queues

by Janine Hill

SUNSHINE Coast voters trying to do their civic duty were confronted by long queues and a shortage of ballot papers at some polling booths on election day.

The Electoral Commission of Queensland has defended its running of the local government election on Saturday 16 March although it has been described as a joke and farcical by frustrated voters.

The Gazette was told that mayoral ballot papers ran out at times at booths in Palmwoods, Woombye, Sippy Downs and Landsborough. Voters, including elderly people and parents with babies and children, waited in line in the sun for up to an hour at some booths, only to find there were no ballot papers left.

A woman who queued for 30-40 minutes at Siena Catholic College overheard an electoral officer ask volunteers handing out how-to-vote cards to divert people to other polling booths as papers ran short.

"By the time we got inside, my mum was one of the last to get one in her line. In the line I was in, he had 22 left in his book and the line beside me already ran out," she said.

"People were standing around wondering, 'What's going on?'. I then heard them say they would take people's names down on a piece of paper to say that they came to vote to avoid the fine. The Gazette understands that electoral officers joined the end of lines at 6pm on Saturday as markers and that those ahead of them were allowed to cast their vote after the poll had closed.

## Call for digital voting

David Szabo, who voted at Siena, estimated the queue at the only active polling station in division six stretched for nearly a kilometre when he tried to vote on Saturday afternoon.

A cyber security expert, he called for the introduction of digital voting. "It's absurd that in 2024, we're still subjected to such archaic and inconvenient methods of voting, especially when there are far more efficient and accessible alternatives available. "Digital (online)

voting has been successfully implemented in numerous countries like Switzerland, Norway, Canada, and the US.

"Investing in modernising our voting system would not only save time but also increase voter turnout and accommodate those who can't participate in early voting.

"It's time we allocate resources to something as fundamental as our democratic process."

Bill Hoffman, campaign manager for mayoral candidate Ashley Robinson, said the Electoral Commission had failed to provide the necessary infrastructure to cover the voting population.

Mayoral candidate Rosanna Natoli, who spent Election Day at the Baringa polling booth, witnessed people queuing in the sun for an hour and said, "people were quite frustrated at times".

Councillor Winston Johnston theorised that the voter turn-out on the day at polling booths such as Woombye and Palmwoods, in his division, had been greater than expected because parking was easier than in Nambour, where pre-polling had been available.

Cr Johnston said that divisional ballot papers could be printed at the booths but the mayoral ballot forms could not, and therefore ran short when more voters than expected turned up.

"I think that's what happened. Very few people have left Woombye and Palmwoods to go and pre-poll because of the parking battle.

"Woombye and Palmwoods, almost all day up until 3.30-4pm, they were lined up down the road," he said.

An ECQ spokesman said queues, voting after 6pm and shortages of ballot papers sometimes occurred.

"Queues on election day are not uncommon and while there were long queues in some places, in many others the wait time for electors was very short..." the spokesperson said.

"Every Queensland elector who presented at a polling place before 6pm and wanted to cast a vote was able to cast their vote.

"We have received no reports of electors being turned away from a polling booth if they arrived before 6pm."

## Another nail-biter:

# Burton and Johnston locked in tight battle for division 5

by Janine Hill

COUNCILLOR Winston Johnston and seasoned Greens campaigner Tracy Burton were neck and neck in the battle for division five three days after polling closed.

Cr Johnston, on 37.47%, led Tracy Burton, on 35.23%, in the vote as of 11am yesterday.

Both were waiting to see which way preferences flowed from Richard Bruinsma, who had scored 27.30%.

Mr Johnston was confident preferences would go his way, saying "Richard's people, a lot of them are my people".

He said pre-polling also tended to favour the incumbent so postal votes, also submitted in advance, were likely to favour him.

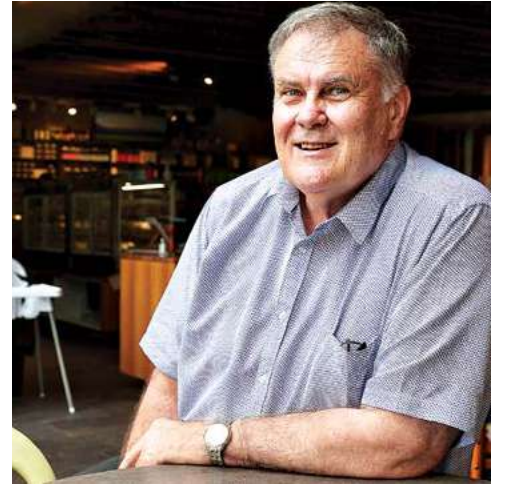
A breakdown of votes supported Cr Johnston's theory, showing he had won pre-polling at booths such as Maleny.

Ms Burton acknowledged that preferences would decide the election and was watching to see if voters had followed Mr Bruinsma's suggestion to direct preferences to Mr Johnston.

"I don't really know what Richard's people will do. Will they follow Richard's how-to-vote card?" she said.

This is the second time that an election has gone down to the wire between Cr Johnston and Ms Burton.

Ms Burton, who contested a state election in 2017 and a federal election in 2019, ran in the



Div 5 Cr Winston Johnston



Tracy Burton



Richard Bruinsma

2020 local government election and was beaten by Mr Johnston by 545 votes.

She pointed out that while this election seemed to be down to preferences, she was proud to have won the primary vote at the key centres of Maleny, Palmwoods, Montville and Mooloolah.

Mr Johnson, 71, said he would be happy whatever the final result.

"The way I look at it, I'm a winner no matter what happens. If I'm successful at this election, I represent the area for another four years and if I lose, I go on with my life and will spend a bit of time with the family."

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# Real estate experts call for medium density focus to spur Nambour revival

by Janine Hill

A NAMBOUR real estate agent has called for medium to high density housing to trigger the gentrification of the town.

Tristan Brown, principal of Remax Realty, said unit developments would inject people and life into Nambour's streets and money into local businesses.

Mr Brown called on the council to proactively encourage medium to high density development in Nambour, saying the town's rejuvenation was happening too slowly.

He said the designation of a special entertainment precinct in town was a positive "but I've not noticed any real change coming from that."

"I've been in real estate for 10 years and I can't say I've seen any great change in that time," he said.

"I don't know if we're going to see Nambour gentrify in the next decade at the rate we're going."

Mr Brown said units would meet a demand for affordable housing and the occupants would bring foot traffic and be more likely to dine out

in town, boosting business.

Gavin Wuiske, general manager of Grandview Developments, responsible for the 42 unit Pinnacle on Maud complex, said he hoped the project would not be the last of its kind for the town.

However, it had not been an easy project, at five to six years in the making and \$800,000-\$900,000 in council and Unitywater infrastructure costs alone.

Mr Wuiske said medium density housing would work for Nambour while continued subdivisions dotted with a few convenience shops worked against.

"All the little shops, the groceries, the retailers in the subdivisions, that's where people shop, and when they have to do a big shop, they go down to Maroochydore."

All the facilities that Nambour has aren't getting used."

Gavin said developers needed encouragement to look at Nambour rather than the coastal strip, where returns were better.

Tristan Stent, a partner in Stenwood, responsible for the 14-block Coes Creek subdivision The Retreat,

said that land prices and development costs, including infrastructure charges, meant it was becoming increasingly difficult for developers to deliver blocks of land at prices that could meet the market.

He said smaller blocks and units were the only way forward.

"I see the need for it. People need affordable property," he said.

Century 21 real estate agent Ian Black also supported medium density development in Nambour.

Ian has kept a news clipping from 2007 about a four-storey unit development proposed by the Walker Corporation which eventually walked away, unable to generate the required support for the project.

He has had the clipping laminated "to poke under noses at appropriate times" and said now was time to revisit the idea of similar projects for town.

A joint venture project on council land, similar to one once proposed for Mooloolaba, where a developer could provide public carparking on a lower level in exchange for the right to build and sell units above, could get the ball rolling.



From left, Gavin Wuiske, Ian Black and Tristan Brown say Nambour needs more developments in town, like Pinnacle on Maud, below.



## School of Arts Memorial Hall to celebrate 100 years

THE Landsborough School of Arts Memorial Hall is this year celebrating 100 years of service to the community.

Built between 1921-23 by soldiers returning from WW1 and opened officially in 1924, the hall continues to stand grandly as a beautiful town building. In collaboration with the

Landsborough Museums Street Festival on Saturday 18th May from 10am to 2pm, the hall committee would like to invite you to participate in this event.

"We are seeking any memorabilia that can be incorporated into a display, be it photos, video or a fond memory you would like to

share," said Administration Officer Leonie Edey.

"The Museum, will be open on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays between 10am and 2pm.

"You can call in and they will scan any memorabilia that you would like to contribute."

Copies of your documents will be added to an important collection of the history of

Landsborough.

Alternatively, you may like to donate such memorabilia and these can be dropped off at A1 Hair 27 Caloundra Street, Landsborough, Tuesday through to Friday.

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MEMBER



# Mayor reflects on legacy amid criticisms, achievements

by Janine Hill

MARK Jamieson believes the majority of residents are happy with the Sunshine Coast Council's performance during his time as mayor despite mass objections relating to some projects and decisions.

Mr Jamieson decided not to re-contest after three terms as Sunshine Coast mayor. During this time, hundreds laid their towels on the beach in a protest against the council's light rail proposal and thousands of people put their names to petitions against the Sekesui development at Yaroomba, which was approved by the council. Additionally the Twin Waters West development was approved by the council second time around, and a Point Cartwright master plan and by-law changes have riled dog owners. Lately council has been criticised for "not listening" and for putting feel-good, green agendas before people.

## Mayor Stands firm on decisions

Mr Jamieson said important projects would never have got off the ground if protesters had their way, and brave decisions sometimes had to be made.

"I respect people's right to protest and put forward submissions and ideas, but if I'd listened to all those people, we would never have completed the international airport, we would never have developed the solar farm site, we wouldn't have pursued the international broadband submarine cable, we would have been really challenged to get the city centre underway," Mr Jamieson said.

"So, whilst there are a number of people who have expressed their alternative view to what's been the decision of council, I'm still confident that the majority of citizens are supportive of what council has been doing.

"I don't need petitions or people telling me on social media in pretty blunt terms what their view is because I engage with people face-to-face in shopping centres, at the footy, at the racetrack, and generally they're supportive



Mark Jamieson: "You've got to make some brave decisions for the greater good of the community. Not everyone appreciates that."

of what's going on because they appreciate the fact that their families can stay together because we've now got better opportunities, better work opportunities."

## Follow-through is part of leadership

Mr Jamieson said he had an obligation to follow through on projects he had campaigned on.

"You've got to make some brave decisions for the greater good of the community. Not everyone appreciates that, and I get that, but if you go back to the earliest days of my campaigning, and at each election thereafter, I made it very clear after my own public

engagement that these are the things that I stood for, these are the things I intended to do," he said.

"I can't after being elected become frightened of what people might think and not do those things.

"That's the truthfulness in being a community leader, that you do what you say you're going to do."

Asked why many election candidates were reporting that voters felt the council was "not listening" he said: "time will tell in terms of whether they can demonstrate being able to do that better" and he queried whether or not any of them had engaged in any of the council's consultative processes themselves.

The outgoing mayor did not feel like he had left anything incomplete after three terms but said there were significant "inter-generational projects", such as the Maleny ecological park, the Blue Heart, that others could run with.

## Growth is good

Mr Jamieson took it as a compliment that some people thought the Sunshine Coast's growth had jumped ahead of where it should have been under his leadership, saying it otherwise would have been "delaying opportunity".

He said a population increase of 200,000 in the next 20 years would put pressure on housing and prices, and while there were still development opportunities in areas such as Beerwah East, "ultimately our community has to make a judgement call on whether we continue to sprawl or we consider higher density opportunities, particularly along key transport corridors that enable people to live in whatever style of housing they want. But generally in higher density housing or apartments, where it would be my desire in the future that people don't need to have a car because of the public transport system that we have available and the options they might have to hire a car or use

public transport that can take them beyond the Sunshine Coast boundaries when it's required."

He pointed out that the Coast's economic credentials had improved since he started in the job and said higher wages meant young people could continue to live on the Coast.

"People living on the Sunshine Coast are now not having to forfeit a decent salary. Where 12 years ago, we were 22% below the state average, household incomes today, we're about on a par. This means families can be confident that they kids can keep living in the same community that they live in and participate in if they wish. If they want to get away and advance their skills in other areas they can do that and come back and now they've got a great place to come back to."

He visited all of the offices and depots in his last week in office to thank the employees for the great work they had done over the past 12 years and would continue to do, describing them as the "essence of a good council".

"I'm proud to have been the leader of those people, proud that I've been able to convince three elected councils and the councillors that working as a team is what delivers outcome, and you won't get always get what you want but if you think of the greater good and we can work together and on behalf of our community deliver the things that we are expected to do, like better sporting facilities, like enhanced stormwater investment, like keeping roads in good order."

## Life after Mayoralty

Mr Jamieson plans to spend more time with his wife, Lorelle, and family but also has business interests and a farm to keep him busy.

Asked if he would miss the role of leader of a large organisation, he said "that's a risk you take when you make your decision to hang up your spurs but I'm confident that I'll continue to keep myself involved in different things".

"I'm going to take some time out to start with and just take it easy, enjoy some things with my wife and family and I've got some other interests that'll keep me going.

"I do think that my corporate knowledge, particularly with that engaging with the federal and state governments is in some ways lost as a consequence of me moving on but no-one lasts forever and the people coming through who want to take up the challenge, they'll have to do what I did and build those relationships from scratch and maximise those relationships in terms of outcomes for our region."

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# Online scam targets Maleny residents under guise of NBN installation

by Janine Hill

A MALENY resident who lost thousands of dollars in an online scam has warned others to beware. The cunning scam appeared to target not only the victim but others who living in the same area. The resident, who did not want to be identified, was willing to explain what happened to the Gazette to try and stop others from being caught out. The scam began with an email advising that NBN was coming to the resident's street. The email caught the eye of the resident, who was tired of patchy internet in her neighbourhood and found the prospective of better connectivity was attractive. When the resident received a phone call from someone offering to connect the NBN, the resident happily gave the go ahead and thought nothing of allowing the caller to remotely access a personal computer. Once access was given, the scammers sucked thousands from the resident's bank account. The scam appears to have been cleverly crafted as the resident was one of several in the same area targeted during the same period. "Two other neighbours within 100m of me also received phone calls within two days of my scam," the resident said. The resident's friends were able to give the scammers the flick. "They were lucky as I'd told them to be prepared for a call from NBN,"

the resident said. The victim, who is no fool, said they would not normally have handed over remote access to the computer but did so because of the email that had been sent in advance. The ACCC's ScamWatch provides the following information about how to recognise a remote access scam. "On the phone, a remote-access scammer will try to convince you that your computer or internet connection has a problem that needs to be fixed using new paid-for software, or a virus that can be removed if you pay money for the scammer's 'technical support' service. "They may also claim that your upcoming nbn installation requires 'testing' of your phone line to check compatibility with the network. "And these scammers will likely claim to be a staff member of large, familiar telecommunications or software companies - names like Microsoft, Telstra and nbn are commonly used - or they may claim to be providing technical support on behalf of your phone and internet provider. "The scammer will likely make different claims about the nature of your (fake) 'problem'. "This may include bogus claims that your computer is sending error messages, your internet connection has been hacked, or that your phone line or internet speed has been impacted by your computer's poor performance. "Do not agree to this under any circumstances."

# Nambour Bowls Club to host 4-week Business Challenge

by Janine Hill

"HUMP day" might be a little easier for Nambour's workforce to take next month. The Nambour Bowls Club has organised Business Bowls Challenge in April for workers to have some fun and to promote the club. The challenge will run over four Wednesdays - the 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th - from 6-7pm, finishing up with a sausage sizzle each night. The challenge is open to up to 24 teams of four, who can be work-mates, friends or family representing a business. To keep the match-ups fair, registered bowlers are not allowed in the challenge. Entry is \$12 per person, per week, with no experience necessary. Bowlers must wear flat-soled shoes, runners or go barefoot, and team shirts are encouraged but not essential. Organiser Peter Nixon said the short, sharp sessions were designed to be a bit of fun after work without taking too much time out of the week. "I've been involved with bowls a long time and if you have it too long, it becomes too much of a commitment," he said. Peter said the business challenge was one way the club was trying to draw in a wide range of people. "We're struggling for members and our membership is ageing. We want to appeal to a cross-section of the community," he said. "We have functions here and locals come down and they say they



Watching Venus Axiac bowl are Peter Cole, Peter Nixon, Gerry Peterson & Robyn Perren.

know we're here but they don't know what we have here." "We're just trying to get people to come down and have a game of bowls." **Relaxing outlook** Peter said a lot of people were impressed, particularly with the relaxing outlook over the greens, once they came to the club. He said there was a full bar staffed by volunteers, an undercover barbecue area, and a timber-floored room upstairs which was particularly popular with dancers. Flagging it as a possible venue for

business or Christmas functions, he said 14 staff from an aged care facility recently visited. "We put some music on, they had some drinks, ordered pizza, played bowls for an hour-and-a-half and had a ball," he said. The club will be open from 4pm on Fridays for people who want to try bowls or have a practice before the challenge begins. The bar and greens are open on Wednesdays from 5pm. To enter the Business Bowls Challenge, or for any further information, phone 0477 111 110 or email nambourbowls@gmail.com.

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The Big Pineapple has been covered and its famous crown removed for the time being.

## Under wraps: big plans for Big Pineapple kept secret

WHAT'S happening at the Big Pineapple is being kept under wraps, literally and figuratively.

The heritage-listed landmark tourist attraction at Woombye has been enclosed with scaffolding and shrouded for several weeks now.

A sign in the café/information office in early January indicated that it would be closed from 12 January to 30 March.

At the same time, the Pineapple, which was repainted about five years ago, appeared to be peeling at some points.

Some of the pineapple leaves appear to have been removed from the fruit's crown as part of the work.

The work site has had the many passers-by on Nambour-Connection Road curious.

On social media, Matthew Wild quipped that they were trying to ripen it.

"Looking at the paint work its over-ripened already," replied Craig Best.

"They've taken the top off, so maybe trying to grow a new one," wrote Reva Best

A sign by Gecko Paints hung on the scaffolding indicates the pineapple, or at least part of it, has been getting a new paint job.

Co-owner Peter Kendall gave little away when contacted by the *Sunshine Valley Gazette*, instead indicating that all would be revealed in a matter of weeks.

A source close to the Pineapple had suggested Mr Kendall would be tight-lipped because he did not want to let people down should something not go according to plan.

In December 2019, a new master plan for the Big Pineapple site was approved by the Sunshine Coast Council to govern its redevelopment.

Documents were lodged late last year regarding private certification for demolition of a caretaker's residence, refurbishment of the Pineapple, and a plumbing upgrade relating to a café refurbishment.



We have three of these Goannas around our place, one small, one about half grown and this bigger one. They lay their eggs in active termite nests.

## Agile climbers, apex predators: the lace monitor's remarkable adaptations

**Nature Watch** by Don McGlusky of Diddillibah

THEY are the second-largest monitor in Australia after the perentie, the lace monitor can reach 2m in length, and weigh up to 14kg.

They range from Cape York to south-eastern South Australia and frequent both open and closed forests. They are mainly active from September to May, but are inactive in cooler weather and shelter in tree hollows or under fallen trees or large rocks.

Despite its large size and mass, the lace monitor is an adept climber. One was recorded climbing a brick wall to seek shelter in a thunderstorm. Young lace monitors are even more arboreal than adults.

In temperate regions, the breeding season takes place in the summer. Females usually lay about eight eggs in active termite nests either on the ground or in the trees.

They may lay as many as 12 eggs to hatch 6-7 months later. Hatchlings remain around

the nest for about a week before leaving its vicinity. Females may return to the same termite nest to lay their next clutch of eggs.

These monitors can potentially live to reach over 20 years of age.

Lace monitors are predominantly carrion eaters, feeding on already dead carcasses of other wildlife, but also insects, reptiles, small mammals, birds eggs and young birds and mammals, making up a larger part of their diet in spring and early summer.

They also forage in areas inhabited by people, raiding chicken coops for eggs, and rummaging through unprotected domestic rubbish bins in picnic and recreational areas.

They frequently attack the large composting nests of scrub turkeys to steal their eggs.

Lace monitors are apex predators, though dingo packs and wedge-tailed eagles will prey on them and, like all Australian goannas, they were a favourite traditional food of Indigenous peoples, and their fat was particularly valued as a medicine and for use in ceremonies.

Their venom is similar to that produced by snakes but not enough to cause serious harm.

Previously, bites inflicted by monitors were thought to be prone to infection because of bacteria in their mouths, but research has shown that the immediate effects were more likely caused by envenomation.

Bites on the hand by lace monitors have been observed to cause swelling within minutes, localised disruption of blood clotting, and shooting pain up to the elbow, which can often last for several hours.



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- Linda, RangeCare Domestic Assistant





# Kulangoor man hit with 116 child abuse charges including rape

POLICE have charged a 31-year-old Kulangoor man with 116 offences, following extensive investigations on the Sunshine Coast District into child abuse offences.

Police charged Dion Adam Lingard with 116 offences, following extensive investigations and after police allegedly found evidence of him targeting minors online.

Police will allege he had been actively targeting minors since August 2023.

Child Protection Investigation Unit (CPIU) detectives executed a search warrant at a Sunshine Coast property in February, where Lingard was taken into custody.

He has been charged with rape, stalking, taking a child for immoral purposes, indecent treatment of a child, possession of child exploitation material, making child exploitation material and supplying dangerous drugs.

He has been refused police bail and is due to reappear in Maroochydore Magistrates Court on March 18.

Police have identified the multiple children involved and are continuing to work with and

provide support to them and their families. Detective Inspector Chris Toohey said it's a reminder for parents to be aware of their child's online activity.

"If you leave your child alone with a computer or phone in their bedroom, you are inviting strangers into their bedroom," Detective Inspector Toohey said.

"We're outlining this man's charges because we want parents to become more aware of the people their children can be exposed to online and the ways they interact with minors.

"Predatory behaviour is incredibly manipulative and can include scamming techniques.

"The CPIU encourages parents to work with their children on an agreed list of trusted people they can connect with on social media, and block users outside of that.

"It's important that parents know the password or passcode to their children's laptops, phones or other devices.

"CPIU suggests children should not take devices and headphones into bedrooms, bathrooms or behind closed doors.



**Detectives executed a search warrant at a Sunshine Coast property in February, where Lingard was taken into custody.**

"Please remind your children to never provide personal details like their home address or phone number to people online.

"We encourage children to listen to their instincts and tell a trusted adult if any conversation seems 'creepy' or makes them feel uncomfortable."

• For more online safety resources, visit the QPS website: <https://www.police.qld.gov.au/policelink-reporting/reporting-cybercrime/children-and-the-internet>.

## How to keep your child safe online

- Keep computer in a family room, not a bedroom
- Understand parenting controls on your internet browser
- Help your child understand that not everyone online is what they seem
- Know who your child is talking to online and what websites or apps they're using
- Never allow your child to have an unsupervised meeting offline with anyone they meet online.

# WCBA takes stand against proposed telecoms tower

THE Woombye Community & Business Association (WCBA) has officially declared opposition to the proposed location of a 31.34m telecommunications tower at 1-9 Campbell Street, Woombye.

Despite recognising the need for enhanced telecommunications services, the WCBA and its members have raised significant concerns over the site chosen for this infrastructure development.

In a community-driven effort, supported by an informational campaign, Woombye residents were encouraged to share their perspectives on the proposed tower location. An information stall outside SPAR and social

media outreach culminated in a decisive vote at the WCBA's February meeting, where a unanimous decision was reached to oppose the tower's placement.

"No votes were cast in support or neutral towards the tower; all votes cast were against the proposed location," said Milo Frawley, President of the WCBA. "Our community is not opposed to the idea of improved telecommunications. The contention solely lies with the proposed site of the tower."

The WCBA faces the challenge of preparing a comprehensive opposition submission to the Sunshine Coast Council (SCC).

To date WCBA Vice President Grant

Palethorpe, a town planning consultant has monitored the application and provided regular updates for the WCBA to share with the community.

The preparation of a comprehensive submission is a time consuming process and Mr Palethorpe has since provided a fee proposal for his professional services. Meanwhile, the Association is exploring options and the associated fee should another consultant be engaged. The WCBA is also contemplating a community-funded approach for submission preparation.

"The preparation of an effective submission requires expertise and a significant time

commitment," Mr Frawley said.

As the WCBA prepares for its March meeting, discussions will include strategies for fundraising to support the submission process. Mr Frawley emphasised the importance of community involvement and funding in addressing this issue which extends beyond WCBA members.

He estimated about 80 to 100 residences lay within 400 metres of the tower including homes, units and businesses.

The tower application remains a pivotal agenda item, reflecting the community's stance on ensuring that Woombye's development respects its needs and its character.

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# Easter

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# Former player takes helm at Woombye Snakes Football Club

THE wheel of time has turned full circle at the Woombye Snakes where a former child player has become the recently elected president of the football club.

David Gaskin has taken over the president's role from Andrew Kinden, who has stepped down after five years at the helm but will continue to be involved with the club.

David played footy for the Snakes in the 1980s from the age of 12 before going to Brisbane to take his game up a notch and then heading to the United States on a sporting scholarship.

He returned to Brisbane and got into playing and coaching but a move back to the Sunshine Coast about seven years ago allowed him to reconnect with his old club.

He was vice-president last year when members were rocked by the death of club secretary Amber Stokes, who was also Andrew Kinden's partner.

David said members rallied as a family, which was typical of the Snakes, a small club of about 370.

"It was good to see how the club did come together for Amber. At a get-together for Amber, there would have been more than 200 people there, and most of them were club people," he said.

"The club has always had very much a family feel to it, where everyone knows everyone and feels welcome," he said.

Andrew, who has done two stints as president, said he was

happy to step down given there was a strong group of people at the helm of the club.

"I'm grateful that it's a time at the club when there's a lot of good people who have stepped up to keep the club running, and who helped with everything after Amber passed away last year," he said.

"I feel like I'm stepping down when there's a good committee there."

Andrew said there were many people to thank but said special recognition was due to continuing secretary Michelle Brown, outgoing registrar Col Eckles, outgoing treasurer Leisa Webbe and her husband Dan, Jo Leis and Deb Griffith for their hard work and support.

## New executive committee

Besides David and Michelle, the new executive committee comprises vice-president Jacob Ingram, treasurer Maryann Sanders, and registrar Debbie Griffith.

David said he wanted to continue to foster the "family" feel of the club but also wanted to make the club's facilities available to

others and explore the possibility of getting some more space.

He is also keen on sourcing funds for change room improvements.

"At the moment, we have only two change rooms and we have three girls teams and three ladies teams and there are times when the guys and girls have to get changed outside because we don't

have the facilities," he said.

David's father was a on the club executive back in the 1990s and David believes he could be the first second generation executive member.

He said the Snakes had a proud history dating back more than 50 years and was one of the founding clubs of the Sunshine Coast football competition.



David Gaskin, left, has taken over the president's role from Andrew Kinden, who has stepped down after five years.

## Publicly funded home-birthing

from Rob Skelton

State Member for Nicklin  
nicklin@parliament.qld.gov.au



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## Women and Girls' Health Strategy

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BY SUNDALE

Images are indicative and to be used as a guide only. Information correct as at March 2024 and subject to change without notice.

The Gazette welcomes letters to the editor. Please keep your letters brief (under 300 words). All things being equal, preference is given to topical, shorter letters on local matters of widespread interest.

## Election result will deliver change, and we need it!

The election results, even though not yet absolutely final, will deliver a significant change to the composition of the council. Along with everyone else, I hope that this change will be surprisingly good, delivering on the raft of promises that were made by those who were elected.

The most disappointing aspect of the election, aside from the result for my campaign, was the widespread voter complaint about the voting system and how it was not delivered, with endless queues in the baking sun. We concluded with an outcome that will see a Mayor who was NOT chosen by 70% of the voters, which is far from ideal. The common complaint about the lack of consistency with the State and Federal system felt like arrogance to the voters who were rightly upset that the different system seems to be more about politics than representation. The State government needs to bring confidence back to the electoral system so the results meet the community's expectations.

There are great expectations of the new Mayor. Along with the laundry list of promises made, there is a lot to deliver to the whole Sunshine Coast region. We all want the new Mayor to succeed, because we will all share that success.

The State government cannot ignore the anger that people feel about a 19th century voting system with a carbon footprint the size of a small country. Many people asked why we cannot have electronic voting, with optional in-person attendance for those who need it. A significant number of voters I spoke to at polling booths over 11 days made it very clear that the system needs to be reformed. The current process wastes our resources and our time, and is not sustainable. We need to do better. - **Wayne Parcell, mayoral candidate, Montville**

## Time for safety measures on 'dangerous' Chevallum Road bridge

I am writing to express my concerns about the safety of the Eudlo Creek bridge on Chevallum Road, where I have been residing since 1985. Over the decades, I have witnessed numerous first responder activities at this bridge, particularly accidents occurring from the east. The extreme majority of incidents are not reported, with folks getting friends to help.



The writer has witnessed numerous first responder activities at Chevallum Road bridge.

Unfortunately, today's incident (March 9) serves as another stark reminder of the dangers associated with this stretch of road, compounded by last year's fatality.

One of the primary issues contributing to these accidents is the lack of adequate warning for drivers, especially as they approach the bridge and navigate the tight curve, particularly challenging at dusk when the sun obscures visibility. Even locals, familiar with the area, can misjudge the severity of the curve, leading to potentially catastrophic outcomes.

Furthermore, the absence of designated bike paths or safe verges along this busy road, which sees significant traffic including school children on bikes, is deeply concerning. It is alarming that the speed limit remains at 80kph despite the increasing volume of traffic, posing a significant risk to road users.

I urge the council to address these pressing safety concerns by implementing appropriate warning signage and measures to alert drivers of the upcoming hazards. Additionally, there is an urgent need for the council to reassess the speed limit and prioritize the installation of safe infrastructure for pedestrians and cyclists.

The safety of our community should be paramount, and it is imperative that the council takes proactive steps to fulfill its duty of care to all road users.

- **Jen Sanders, Chevallum**

Dean Hartley said a safe parking area, where people living in their car could camp and have a shower was desperately needed.

## Living in Limbo:

# Nambour's homeless seek shelter solutions

by Janine Hill

EIGHTEEN months ago, Dean Hartley had a job and a roof over his head.

Now he lives in a tent and survives on sausage sizzles, church burger nights, food hampers and whatever else he might be offered by a passer-by.

Dean, 57, is one of the homeless folk in the Nambour area who have been campaigning for disused buildings to be turned over as shelter and for the provision of safe parking for those living in their cars.

Dean became homeless when working as a cleaner when 13 hours a day became too much and he threw in his job.

"The cleaning just got too busy - six days a week," he said.

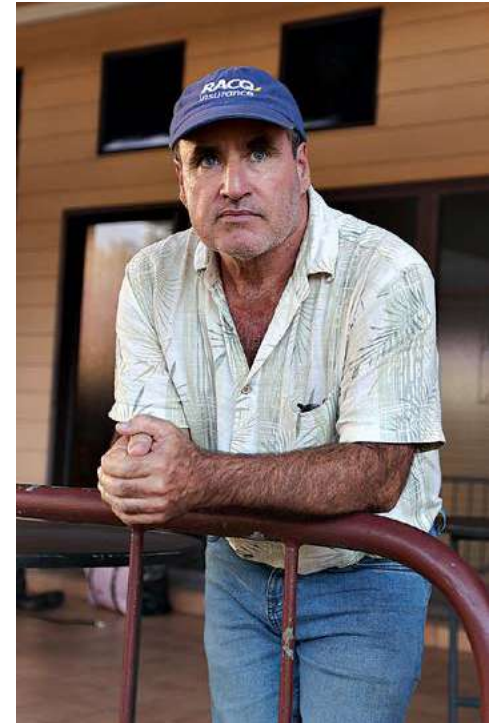
He had been living on a boat for \$200 a week because renting a room had been too expensive. But he realised he could not keep that up without a job.

"I was sleeping in my car for a while. It's probably been a year in the tent."

While homeless, he has written two books which he said he had been tasked to write by the Creator: The Defiance of the Human Soul, available for free through Booktopia, and The Salvation of the Human Soul, which he has only just finished.

"The words come and I write it on paper. Then I go to the library and type them and then I use Canva. I do all the book," Dean said.

He intends to get a job again one day, when he is ready. He said he was not hooked up with



Centrelink and instead obtained food offered for free by the churches and other services for the homeless.

"I had a couple buy me a foot-long sub from Subway and a drink once. That was nice of them," he said.

He washes his clothes at the mobile Orange Sky laundry and showers several times a week at the pool or at any free shower. "You get used to it, I guess," he said.

Dean said he felt safe but he was worried about others.

"There are women living in their cars with children," he said. "There's a lady I see go up and down the street every day, I think she's from a DV situation. She wears the same clothes all the time. I feel sorry for her."

Dean is furious about council buildings sitting empty while people sleep rough.

He said a safe parking area, where people living in their car could light a fire or have a shower without paying tourist rates in caravan parks was desperately needed but nothing had materialised.

"That was last summer. We want something before winter, before it gets cold."

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Visitors are invited to contemplate the Easter story in the presence of three full-size crosses at Sanctuary Park.

## Community invited to Easter reflection at Sanctuary Park

THIS Easter, the Sanctuary Park Nambour Church of Christ invites the community to an evening of serene reflection. The free event is for anyone to come to the open parklands and to contemplate the Easter story in the presence of three full-size crosses, located at the rear of their property.

After sundown, commemorating Easter Thursday March 28 (Maundy), when Jesus led the Last Supper with His disciples before He was arrested, is indeed an appropriate time for such reflection.

The scriptural story, leading into Good Friday, will be softly narrated, periodically during the evening. Soft reflective ambient background music will also be played between the narrations.

A lit fire brazier will be placed to provide soft light to the crosses. Larger log lit fireplaces will be made available further away from the crosses for those who would feel more comfortable reflecting next to a fireplace. A self-serve communion table will be positioned on the flat ground area.

Packages of reflective devotions and sug-

gested Scripture readings will be made available within the adjacent lit gazebo. Bibles will be made available if needed, as well as be given as gifts to anyone who may not own one. Water will be made available within the gazebo. If you are IT savvy, you may wish to download an applicable podcast, before attending, to assist your reflection time. Obviously, the use of headphones would be appreciated.

Attendees are welcome to come and go as they please without needing to speak to anyone. There will be people available, however, to talk to, within a nearby courtyard setting if required.

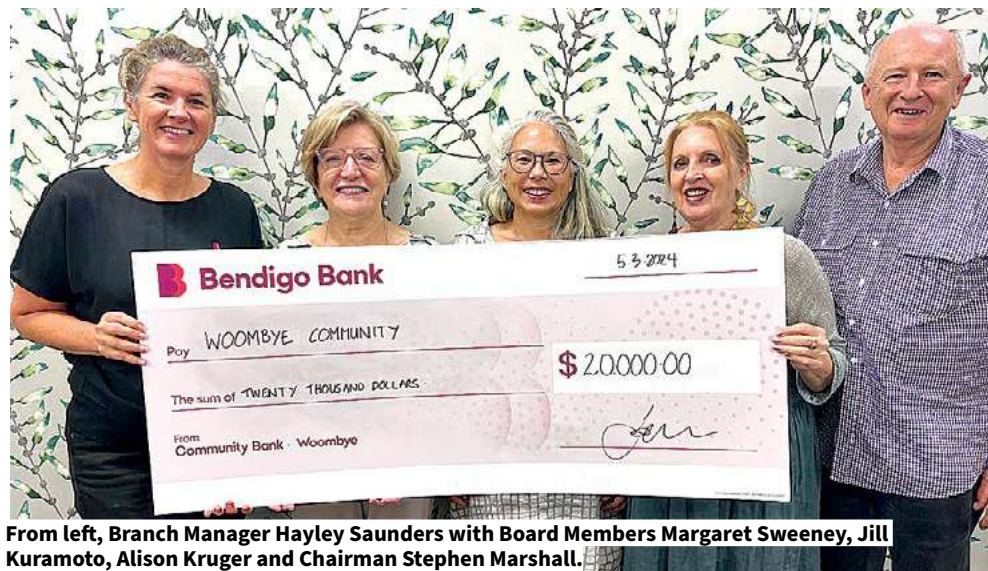
Everyone is also welcome at any time over the Easter period, during day-light hours, to quietly sit and reflect on the Easter story.

You are welcome to bring the kids with balls to kick around within the parklands or take advantage of the fenced small-child play area. Bring a coffee or even have a picnic. We simply ask for everyone to be mindful of anyone else who maybe quietly sitting within the reflection area.

Other Easter Services (in the Chapel): Good Friday - 9am & Resurrection Sunday 9am.

What to bring: Camp chairs or ground blanket, torch, covering clothing and insect repellent.

Maundy (Thursday 28th March) Reflection time: 6pm-8pm. Time may be extended if required. The address is 22 National Park Road, Nambour. Contact: Office 5441 2833 or Pastor Mark Wall 0456 789 294.



From left, Branch Manager Hayley Saunders with Board Members Margaret Sweeney, Jill Kuramoto, Alison Kruger and Chairman Stephen Marshall.

## Branch turns 15 as Woombye banks on generosity

IT is shaping up to be a big year for the Woombye Community Bank branch of Bendigo Bank.

"In addition to turning 15 years old this month, our staff and board members just hosted a gifting event where we returned another \$20,000 back to the local community," said Woombye Community Bank Branch Manager, Hayley Saunders.

This giveaway isn't a first for the Woombye Community Bank. In the 15 years since they opened the Bank has donated hundreds of thousands of dollars in financial support to the region. Recipients include The Woombye Bowls Club, Woombye Community Library, Woombye State School, Sunshine Valley Men's Shed, Nambour PCYC, 2nd Light Horse Regiment Woombye Troop and many more.

"I love the philanthropic component of working for the organisation," Ms Saunders said.

"I love knowing that the work I do every day has a positive effect on the entire community. Because of the way we operate, we contribute

directly to the growth and wellbeing of the Woombye town and its people."

Hayley says that the most enjoyable part of the job is helping customers to buy a property, or to save money by restructuring their current loans.

"It can be a bit scary at the moment for our home loan customers, with rising rates and cost of living," she said.

"For the next two months we are offering a Home Loan Health Check for any locals who have a home loan with another financial institution. We'd love to see if we can help you save by converting to a better product".

To celebrate their birthday, the staff and board members said thank you to locals and customers by hosting two coffee events in town.

"This generated a lot of conversation and some great new friendships."

• Call into the Woombye branch at 1a/33 Blackall St, Woombye if you'd like to talk about a new way of banking.

Woodies member Rob Forsythe hands over the completed Boomerang Bench

## Montville's beloved Boomerang Bench back to its best

MONTVILLE has welcomed back a unique piece of its streetscape, the Boomerang Bench, beautifully restored by local artisans. Originally crafted 25 years ago by Raby Bay Sculptors and positioned outside the Freemasons Lodge on Main Street, the bench had weathered over the decades. Its wooden parts, now made of durable Tallowwood, were meticulously replaced by the Blackall Range Woodcrafters' Guild, while the original sandstone ends were preserved and treated by art conservator Melanie Fihelly.

This project exemplifies the community's dedication to preserving its cultural heritage, showcasing the skilled craftsmanship of the "Woodies" and the collaborative effort with the



Council and Fihelly. The bench, shaped like a boomerang, required expert woodworking skills and a commitment to local causes, marking a significant contribution by the Guild.

Visitors and locals can once again enjoy this iconic seat, a testament to the enduring spirit of Montville's community and its artisans. Don't miss the Woodies' display at the upcoming Barung Maleny Wood Expo, a celebration of local woodcraft talent.

## Bushcare followed by a cuppa

Petrie Creek BushCare News with Norm Morwood

WANT to join us for a cuppa? It's a great way to finish off a couple of hours of BushCare. They are always different and always very much appreciated after our activities creating and improving local native animal habitat along Petrie Creek and its tributaries. The photo shows the team at Gulung Gung "tucking in" last month after another morning of planting and weed control. If you'd like to join in improving the native habitat and consuming the cuppa afterwards, the next volunteer BushCare bees will be:

• Gulung Gung on Wednesday 27 March starting at 7 am. (Parking is available in the NE part of Aldi Carpark in Howard St Nambour and then walk down to the creek by following the rough track that skirts the north of the Aldi carpark. Alternatively walk across the new park from Quota Park off Matthew St).



• Florabunda Pocket on Saturday 06 April 2024 starting at 8am. (Meet near the back Rugby oval at Woombye. Come down Laidlaw Rd and turn right just before the Gymnastics Hall, and follow that road till you see us) Note the 8am start time.

If you'd like to help in these activities, you'll need to come in "long everything" bush protective clothing including boots/shoes and a hat. All tools required will be provided. Then after a couple of hours of good exercise and satisfying achievement we'll finish with the well-deserved cuppa.

For more info and to check starting times and dates etc of events, see the FB Page <https://www.facebook.com/PetrieCreekCatchment-CareGroupInc/> and for additional info [www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/bushcare](http://www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/bushcare) or contact Norm Morwood 0409 63 99 44 or email [norm-morwood@gmail.com](mailto:norm-morwood@gmail.com).

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We would love your support during this time, come and see a movie! Please check session times on our website to see when we are open.

Thank you for all of the community support and love, we hope to serve you soon ♥



# The Norris's saved \$5,772 last year on their home loan!\*

All over Australia, homeowners are saving money with a free home loan health check.

**How much could you save? Call Hayley or Lisa on 5442 1311 to find out more.**

 Community Bank · Woombye

 **Bendigo Bank**

\*Amount saved was annual payments reduction on an owner-occupier home loan when repayments dropped by \$481 a month from lower interest rate and loan restructure. Actual savings will depend on individual circumstances. All loans are subject to the bank's normal lending criteria. Fees, charges, terms and conditions apply and are subject to change. Credit provided by Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178 Australian Credit Licence 237879. A1963171 OUT\_35879359, 12/03/2024

# Diary unveils insights into every-day Kenilworth life, 100 fascinating years ago

by Janine Hill

ONE hundred years after it was written, the diary of a Kenilworth woman has been published for all to read.

Published as Winnie Grace's Writing from 1924, the diary of Winnie Grace Sims documents the then-22-year-old's daily life and happenings in the area.

Publication of the diary by the Kenilworth & District Historical Association has been overseen by Winnie's niece and local historian, Lenore Meldrum.

Lenore said the diary was particularly significant as it recorded the opening of the Kenilworth's first shop which launched the town's commercial area.

The daily entries of about 50-100 words paint a picture of 1920s life in the area where Winnie's family ran a guest house and she was engaged to an entrepreneurial young man, Arthur Tanner.

She writes of the opening of Arthur's shop on 2 January and his takings of 16 pounds one day and 200 pounds in a month, a dance in a barn decorated with electric lights run off a lorry, and the arrival of a telephone.

"We got a ring and Ern answered it. He couldn't manage too well so I took the receiver and we didn't make

too much of a success of it. At tea time we thought it was our ring again and Ray answered it and interrupted two people having a yarn," she wrote.

The guesthouse was the only place for travellers to stay in the area and so meal times could be big affairs.

"We had 21 for dinner, but enjoyed it," Winnie wrote on 19 January. "Dorrie saw a snake in our room this afternoon. After a good deal of worry, Harry M. killed it under the house, on the sleeper."

Winnie and her sisters were often busy with housework and spare time was sometimes spent just resting.

"We washed. It was very hot. We only had 14 pairs of trousers to wash after an early dinner," she wrote on 28 January.

"Lil and I took the men's dinner down. We had a few grapes on the way back, then lay down on the flat for a while, then walked for the cows.

Winnie mentions buying suede shoes and silk stockings in Brisbane, men digging tonnes of potatoes, and her mother baking biscuits for the Kenilworth Show in October.

"I was disappointed that Mum didn't get more prizes, she got 16 blues and 11 reds. I didn't get any prizes. Ern and Dad did well."

The young woman was excited about getting married. "I overhauled my glory box. I have twelve towels,

8 tea towels, 2 pr of sheets, 2 table cloths, a pile of fancy work, 3 nights, 2 singlets, 1 pr cami-knickers, 2 camisoles, 2 pr of pillow-slips, 2 pr bloomers etc," she wrote on 1 July, later recording the gift of a block of land as a wedding present from her father late that month.

Winnie continued to keep a diary until her death in 1939 in a car accident on the way to Brisbane. She left behind a son, Ed, aged only 4.

Lenore was given the diary by Ed, who had already transcribed most of his mother's handwriting and asked that it be published before he passed away.

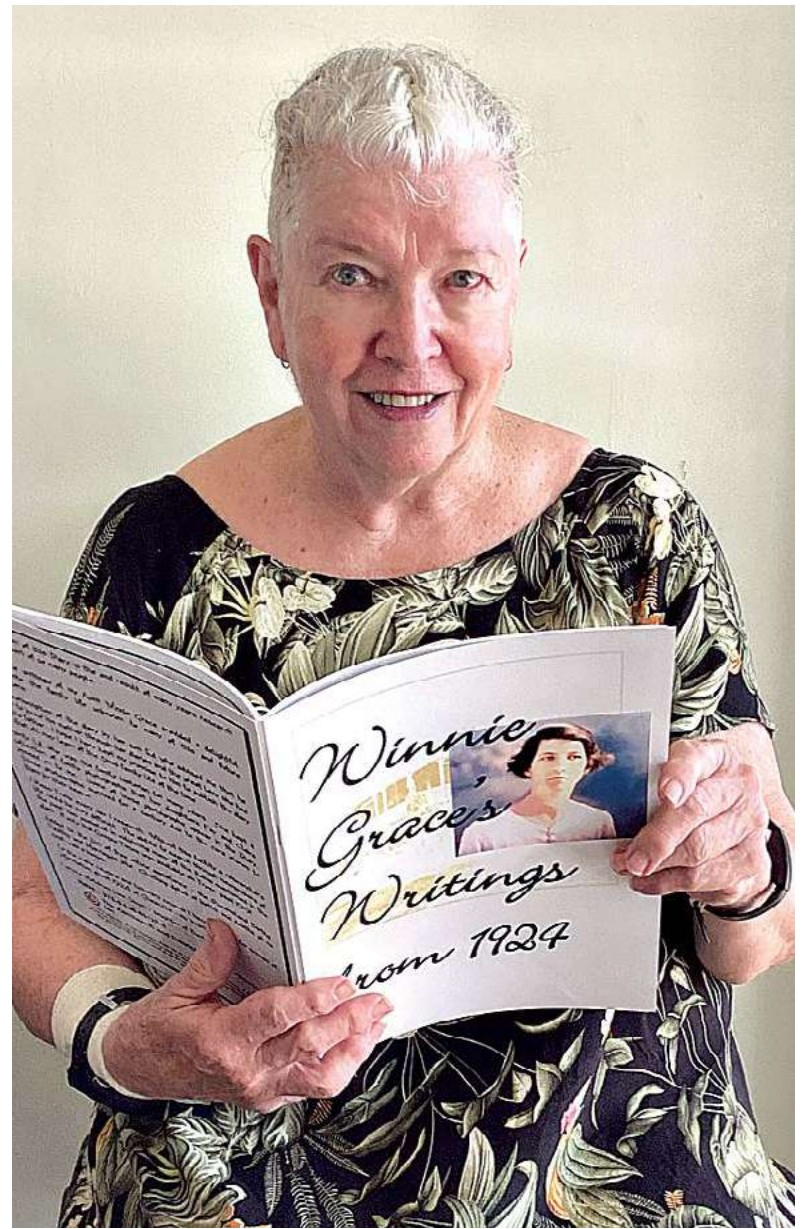
"Reading it, I realised Ed had got to know his mother by reading her diaries," she said.

Lenore was able to match some old photographs in her possession with some of the diary entries, including one about a picnic in the Brisbane Botanic Gardens.

She baked and raffled Christmas cakes to cover most of the costs of printing the diary.

"I sold 900 raffle tickets," she said.

The 68-page Winnie Grace's Writings from 1924 is available for purchase at the Kenilworth Historical Museum or the Kenilworth Information Centre for \$15 (\$20 with postage) or may be ordered by email through [winnies1924diary@gmail.com](mailto:winnies1924diary@gmail.com).



100 years later Winnie's niece and local historian, Lenore Meldrum, pictured, has brought local history back to life.

## Bad Habit's Big Birthday Weekend

BAD Habit Records & Collectables the famous vinyl, clothing, collectible and pro skateboard shop in Nambour are having their Big Birthday Weekend. A huge weekend of music and skateboarding to celebrate their first year anniversary of being in the Old Ambulance station in Currie Street Nambour.

Over four days starting on Thursday 18th of April there will be loads of bands at 3 different Nambour venues. International, local and national bands will be featuring, including the amazing Jet Boys straight off the plane from Japan. There will also be a huge vinyl sale to coincide with International Record Store Day on Saturday the 20th of April with in store DJ's as well as a vintage market and record fair on the Sunday morning. The famous Nambour Block party will be putting the finishing touches on the weekend in the afternoon of Sunday the 21st of April at Nambour skatepark. For more information check out the website [badhabitrecords.com.au](http://badhabitrecords.com.au) or find them on instagram and facebook.

## Flaxton Writers Group

HAVE you always thought about writing but never got around to it? Flaxton Writers Group is a group of interested, fledgling writers who invite the like-minded to join us in our twice monthly meeting on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday mornings.

The group has diverse interests that include novel writing, memoir and self-help. "We have an emphasis on learning craft, sharing what we write through discussion and reading and overcoming barriers to productive writing," a spokesperson said. "We also have fun."

Phone or email: Susan 0420 628 229 [s.peakels@hotmail.com](mailto:s.peakels@hotmail.com) or Gen 07 5445 7973 [genarosa89@hotmail.com](mailto:genarosa89@hotmail.com).

## Maroochy River Country Music Club

THE Maroochy River Country Music Club will hold their April Concert on Sunday 14th, commencing at 12 noon. Entry Fee is \$8 Members, \$10 non-Members. Free tea and coffee available and great raffles. Twenty singers plus a Featured Performance.

Venue is A.C.M.A. Hall of Fame on Steggalls Road, Yandina. All welcome.

Inquiries phone Darryl on 0458 671 568.



'The Bank Manager', stars Gyton Grantly.

## Flickerfest brings world-class short films to Majestic Cinemas

FLICKERFEST, renowned as Australia's premier short film festival, marks its 33rd year with a showcase at Majestic Cinemas in Nambour on the 22nd and 23rd of March at 7 PM. Celebrated for its Academy® Qualifying and BAFTA Recognised status, the festival brings a selection from over 3,400 entries, providing audiences with a glimpse into some of the world's most compelling short films, fresh from their Bondi festival premieres.

The festival's National Tour is set to captivate Nambour film enthusiasts with the 'Best of International Shorts' on Friday, featuring an array of globally-inspired tales. Notable screenings include the UK's heartfelt drama 'My Week With Maisy', starring Joanna Lumley, and 'Last Days Of Summer' from the Himalayas, a film

that entwines mystery with youthful curiosity. Ireland contributes 'Clodagh', a story of exceptional talent that disrupts the monotonous life of a priest's housekeeper.

Saturday's 'Best of Australian Shorts' programme pays tribute to local talent and cultural narratives. Standouts include 'Cold Water', a poignant film interspersed with humour and led by the iconic Bruce Spence. Comedy enthusiasts can look forward to 'Ashes', showcasing the genius of Michael Caton and Michala Banas, and the Queensland-based 'The Bank Manager', featuring Gyton Grantly of 'Underbelly' fame.

Flickerfest continues to offer a unique platform for both established and emerging filmmakers to present their work to discerning audiences who appreciate the short film genre. This year's line-up promises to both entertain and inspire, maintaining Flickerfest's reputation for excellence in cinematic art. For those seeking cinematic brilliance in bite-sized form, the festival is an event not to be missed.

• For tickets and information, go to [flickerfest.com.au/tour/nambour/](http://flickerfest.com.au/tour/nambour/) or phone 0455 037 441.



## Nambour market embraces new beginnings

THE Nambour Rummagers Market is set to captivate locals and visitors in its new location at the Eddie De Vere Building's forecourt, Currie Street, starting March 24 at 9am.

Offering an array of plants, vintage, preloved, handmade, and homemade items, the market is an ideal place for community engagement and treasure hunting. Suitcase and marquee sites are available from \$5 to \$20. For more details, messaging Nambour Rummagers Market on Facebook. Or visit the market in the heart of Nambour CBD to experience the evolving Sunday vibe.

## ANZAC Day Services in Montville and Mapleton

THE communities of Montville and Mapleton are set to commemorate Anzac Day on Thursday, 25 April 2024, with solemn services and parades to honor the memory of Australia's fallen soldiers. Gordon Ferguson will lead the Montville ceremony with the poignant sound of bagpipes, setting the tone for a day of remembrance.

In Montville, the day will begin early at 5:30 am at the Montville Memorial Gates, located outside the Montville Hall. Attendees are invited to lay wreaths in memory of the ANZACs. Following the service, the Montville Village Hall will host attendees for coffee, tea, and ANZAC biscuits, providing an opportunity for community members to come together in reflection.

Mapleton's service details are yet to be confirmed, but the day will start with a parade formation at the corner of Wilga Court and Flaxton Drive. The procession will then make its way to the Mapleton RSL Memorial Park, where the service will take place.

Original Forest Glen butcher Brenton Harris has jetted off to Texas to compete in the world steak World Steak Championships.

Grilling Glory:

# Butcher sets sights on World Steak Champs

by Janine Hill

IF you like to hover over a sizzling hotplate on a weekend, you might be just a little envious of Brenton Harris.

The Forest Glen butcher has jetted off to the United States to compete in the world steak championships.

The Steak Cook-off Association's World Championship X in Fort Worth, Texas, from 13-17 March, is billed as the largest steak cook-off in the world.

Sounding more Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory than barbecue, entry to the championship is by golden ticket only.

Brenton scored a golden ticket by winning the SunPork Smokeoff at Kingaroy last August in what was only his third ever competitive barbecue.

His winning steak was seasoned with his special mix of wagyu tallow, butter and garlic, then reverse seared.

"I cook it in butter at a low temperature and then bring up the temperature and sear it at the end," he said.

The reverse sear technique has become popular with steak cooks aiming for an evenly cooked steak with a thin, tasty outer.

Brenton was rightly chuffed that his reverse seared steak was good enough to be a competition winner.

"A lot of guys have been doing it for years and never get a golden ticket," he said.

He said the win did not seem to put any



noises out of joint because he "beat them square."

At World Championship X, he will be up against about 500 of other barbecue champions.

To ensure a level playing field, the SCA dishes out the steaks - all between 28 and 32mm thick.

"The first day, everyone cooks a steak and the top 10 from each group go through and 100 cook the next day, and from that, they choose a top 10," Brenton said.

"The first place winner wins \$US10,000."

"I'm excited to go. My goal is to make the top 100."

Brenton flew out to the US in 8 March with his father, Brett, and brother Alex, leaving his wife, Mel, at home to take care of the business, the Original Forest Glen Butchery.

Brenton got into competitive barbecuing after receiving enquiries from customers wanting specific sizes and types of meat cuts.

"I thought, 'What's this about?' I wanted to understand what they were doing," he said.

He gets plenty of opportunity to perfect his hotplate prowess.

He and Mel put on a barbecue out the front of the shop every Friday afternoon as their own contribution towards mental health and suicide awareness.

## Winter 2024 Maleny Wedding Festival Trail

THE hinterland is set to host the 2024 Winter Maleny Wedding Festival Trail, promising an enchanting showcase of the best of the region has to offer for hundreds of engaged couples. Slated for Sunday, 28 July, from 10am to 3pm, the event invites couples to explore nine stunning wedding venues including Flaxton Gardens, Goodwater Ridge Maleny, Maleny Country Estate, Maleny Orchard, Montvale at Montville, Secrets on the Lake, Stonebridge Gardens, The Old Dairy Maleny & Tiffany's Maleny.

Hinterland Tourism invites all wedding suppliers and members to participate and exhibit, offering a unique opportunity to highlight their services within a romantic setting. Vendor registration is open, with a closing deadline of 8 July 2024.

## Cinema on the Roof

CINEMA on the rooftop at the Cooroy Library will return again on April 13.

Bring your family, a blanket and a picnic to enjoy a movie together under the stars from 6-8pm and catch the great movie "Puss in Boots: The Last Wish".

Soft drinks and freshly cooked popcorn will be available to purchase. We suggest people arrive before dark to find a spot on the lawn while there is still daylight. We look forward to seeing families getting back together again!

Cooroy Library is at 9 Maple St, Cooroy. Admission by donation. The event is brought to you thanks to the Cooroy Future Group working in partnership with Noosa Libraries.

## Handcrafted Treasures

EXPLORE the charm of local craftsmanship at the Sunshine Coast Art Group's Veranda Market on Sunday, 21st April, from 9am to 1pm at 1 William Parker Place, Buderim.

This artisan market, nestled at the bottom of Buderim Hill, offers a wide selection of handmade items, perfect for gifts or a personal treat. With free entry and off-street parking, it's a wonderful opportunity to support local artists and immerse yourself in a creative community hub. For more details, visit their website or Facebook page.

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# Easter

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# Diana Bryce, community leader, honoured as Zonta's Woman of Achievement

THE Zonta Club of Blackall Range has announced Diana Bryce as their Woman of Achievement for 2024, a tribute to decades of dedicated service across various community sectors in Maleny.

The accolade was bestowed during a Dusk on the Deck event at the Maleny Community Centre, marking International Women's Day.

Diana's commitment to the Maleny Hospital Auxiliary, where she has been an instrumental figure for nearly 30 years, exemplifies her dedication to healthcare and community welfare.

"Diana has shown an incredible level of dedication and work ethic, becoming a Life Member and serving as President multiple times," said Zonta Club President Margy Henderson.

In addition to her healthcare efforts, Diana has worked to preserve local history through her work with the Maleny Historical Society and as Curator of Bryce Cottage.

Diana's artistic passion shines through her involvement with the Maleny Art and Craft Group, where her quilting talents have contributed to the community's artistic landscape.

"Diana's active participation in the Craft Group and her leadership in organizing quilt shows and retreats highlight her commitment

to fostering creativity and community spirit," said Margy.

Dedicated to Women's initiatives The Zonta Club of Blackall Range, under President Henderson's leadership, remains dedicated to supporting women's initiatives both locally and globally.

Margy articulated the club's mission: "Zonta International is committed to making a practical difference in the lives of women and girls by improving their status globally, nationally, and locally," she said.

The Woman of Achievement award recognized individuals like Diana Bryce who embodied the Zonta ethos through their service and leadership.

"Diana Bryce's extensive work across healthcare, historical preservation, and the arts reflects the profound impact one individual can have on their community. She is a true embodiment of the Zonta spirit of service and advocacy."

The Zonta Club's efforts in fundraising and volunteerism have facilitated significant contributions to local women's refuges, educational scholarships, and international projects.

"Through our collective efforts and the generosity of our members and the commu-



nity, we continue to support initiatives that empower women and girls," Margy said.

"This award is held in high esteem, and we are very grateful that, last year, we recognised the generosity and hard work of Gail Denver, before her sad passing."



## New competitions and spectacular attractions

Sunshine Coast Agricultural Show News with President Rowan O'Hara



Dust off your boots, and get those cowboy hats out - it's less than 100 days to the 2024 Sunshine Coast Show. This year is flying by, but patrons needn't worry as we've been busy preparing since last year.

Trade stall applications close soon - see our website for details.

Start planning to make, create, photograph and design during the Easter break. Ceramics - is a new section in our Competitions - this year it's in its own section.

### Silvercraft

Ideal for experienced or apprentice potters - with Junior and Senior classes. Silvercraft and Lapidary also have their own sections this year.

Not to be left out, we have Schools on Show (local school work), Lego, Floriculture, Art, Livestock, Fruit and Vegetables, Eggs, Creative Art and Handcraft, Cookery, Sweets and Preserves, Apiculture, and more. Check out the Competition Section on our website at sunshinecoastshow.com.au/info/competitions/

Bison - any idea what it is or looks like? One is visiting us this year thanks to Dave Manchon and his Roof Top Express Show.

Horses running free in the Showring, mix in a bison, and extra animals and you have an Arena Spectacular!

Not to mention, the Super V8 Cars, and we're taking you back in time to Chariot Races - with a modern twist, and we wouldn't forget Fireworks - one of the biggest 'Bang' Shows on the Coast.

On a proud note, our Treasurer, Jasmine Bethell, was recently nominated for an Outstanding Emerging Leader award at the Queensland Ag Show Awards night.

We're very proud of this amazing lady. Volunteering is part of who we are as a Show Society - we step up rather than step away.

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Quartz is adorable, friendly and loves human interaction.

## Help find a new life for Quartz the cat

4 Paws Animal Rescue operates as a 100 percent volunteer-run charity organisation. Offering a new home and a new life to homeless dogs and cats.

Here is one of our special girls who is seeking her new forever home. Pictured is Quartz, about 18 months old, arriving at 4 Paws from the Pound.

"Unfortunately little is known about her background," said 4 Paws Volunteer Marketing Assistant Beverley Parry. "But what we do know is that - while initially a little timid - once she has gained your trust, she is adorable, friendly and loves human interaction. We'd love to find someone who can offer this stunning girl a loving home."

Go to the website: [www.4pawsanimalrescue.org.au](http://www.4pawsanimalrescue.org.au) and complete an adoption application form.

## Look Local Classifieds

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### Yoga

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Hatha Yoga Pilates is held at the Woomby Hall: Sat 9am & Wed 9.30am. Beginners & Seniors welcome. Cost \$10. Call Christine: 5441 6285 (Cert. in Pilates matwork; Dip. IYTA: Yoga Instructor; USC Sport & Exercise minor: Ex. Prescrip. for Health & Rehab.)

### House For Sale

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# Police operation marks milestone with more than 200 arrests on Coast

POLICE have charged 203 people with around 179 offences across the Sunshine Coast since a high visibility policing operation began in March last year.

Operation Whiskey Unison focuses on preventing, disrupting, and investigating youth crime through community engagement and patrols at intelligence-driven hotspot locations.

In the past 12 months, Operation Whiskey Unison has resulted in a total of 11,023 people being arrested on 17,791 charges state-wide, including drug, weapons, traffic, property crime and bail offences.

Of the people arrested, 4,149 of them were juveniles, who are facing 7,551 charges.

There have been 5,647 proactive activities in the Sunshine Coast district and 160,406 proactive activities completed by Police and Police Liaison Officers across the state, including hotspot patrols, shopping centre and business walkthroughs, bail compliance checks, community engagements and service station drop-ins.

Targeted youth crime locations can vary across the state, but include shopping centres, business, retail and restaurant precincts, service stations and other public spaces, as well as residential areas.

The boots-on-the-ground style of operation also allows more opportunities for officers and Police Liaison Officers (PLOs) to conduct bail checks and engage with young people.

Patrols largely involve a dedicated police presence using marked vehicles, Mobile Police

Beats and foot patrols in known hotspot areas, with assets such as Mounted Unit and Highway patrol also utilised.

Youth Crime Acting Assistant Commissioner Andrew Massingham said these extra boots on the ground have been integral to supporting officers across the state over the past 12 months.

"Our officers work tirelessly to deter youth crime and we are taking steps in the right direction, but we know this is just the beginning of what will be a long road of persistent efforts," Acting Assistant Commissioner Massingham said.

"Everyone from our Police Liaison officers who engage our multi-cultural and First Nations communities, to general duties patrolling shopping centres and known crime hotspots, and our district crime prevention teams working hard to assist victims of crime – our frontline does a wonderful job and the result we've seen from Whiskey Unison is testament to this."

"We know high visibility is an important deterrent and it all counts towards ensuring the community feels safe."

• If you have information for police, contact Policelink by providing information using the online suspicious activity form 24hrs per day at [www.police.qld.gov.au/reporting](http://www.police.qld.gov.au/reporting).

• Report crime information anonymously via Crime Stoppers. Call 1800 333 000 or report online at [www.crimestoppersqld.com.au](http://www.crimestoppersqld.com.au).

**Police are seeking public assistance to locate Sonya and Wolfgang Wildgrace.**

Pic: Queensland Police

## Former Maleny couple's mystery disappearance

MORE than a fortnight after their disappearance, mystery surround what has happened to former Maleny couple Sonya and Wolfgang Wildgrace.

The Jindalee couple known for their new age counseling business, have been missing for over two weeks, sparking a widespread search and public concern.

They were last seen in their orange Mitsubishi Triton, but have left no trace despite police



efforts and a public alert issued February 25.

Their disappearance has intrigued the community, given their low profile yet significant contributions, including Wolfgang's involvement in an Adelaide Crows pre-season camp. The couple's background in alternative therapies and their sudden vanishing have raised questions, with police continuing to seek information on their whereabouts. Their last known business location was a discreet cabin in Maleny.

## Radio star guilty of child sex offences

A jury has found a former Nambour 4SS radio star guilty of five historic child sex offences after a week-long Maroochydore trial finished last Wednesday (March 13).

Peter Lang, 65, had pleaded not guilty to 22 historic child sex offences involving two underage girls.

The court was told Lang, who was aged 29 at the time of the his interactions with the girls, believed the girls were 16.

The jury heard Lang met up with a

13-year-old girl after she called the Nambour radio station 4SS, where he worked as a presenter, to request a song.

The jury heard Lang and the girl then met at the grounds of a local primary school where they had sex on multiple occasions.

Lang will be sentenced on May 10 regarding the five charges including two of indecent treatment of a child and three of carnal knowledge of a child under 16.

## Man assaulted at Nambour Church, attacker jailed

DYLAN James Brown Winning, 26, has been jailed after pleading guilty to assaulting a 60-year-old disability pensioner at the Anglican Parish of Nambour's burger night.

The court heard how the victim now struggles with physical and psychological trauma, to the point of fearing the night and avoiding church events.

The attack, described as "completely unprovoked" by Magistrate Haydn Stjernqvist, has left the older man with lasting injuries, including difficulties with his false teeth. Brown Winning, who was using meth at the time and claimed to not recall the incident, has been sentenced to 18 months with parole after 236 days served.

## First Zog Trail in Australia launches at Ginger Factory

THE Ginger Factory in Yandina is thrilled to announce the launch of Australia's first Zog Trail on March 27.

This free adventure, open seven days a week, invites families to explore the world of Zog, Princess Pearl, and friends.

Learn more about this enchanting experience at [www.gingerfactory.com.au/zog-trail](http://www.gingerfactory.com.au/zog-trail). See story in What's On starting on page 24, this edition.

## Performing arts comp welcomes school talent

THE Sunshine Coast Agricultural Show is seeking entries for its Performing Arts Competition on June 14.

Primary and secondary schools can compete in vocal, dance, or instrumental categories for a chance to win \$500.

Showcase your school's talent on the Community Stage. Contact Leith Corbett at [nrlacorbett@gmail.com](mailto:nrlacorbett@gmail.com) or 0407 594 523 for entry details. See column page 16, this edition.

Crushers action from the recent Nine's event. Photo courtesy Tegan's Photos



## Nambour Crushers kick off 2024 season with trial games this Saturday

THE Nambour Crushers Rugby League Club is excited to announce the launch of its 2024 season, starting with trial games on Saturday, March 23, at Crusher Park. Fans will have their first chance to catch live local action with the Reserve Grade game at 4pm followed by the A Grade at 5.30pm. The season launch event will take place at 7pm. Attendees are asked to RSVP to Mark Turner at 0407 712 206 or [nambour-crushers@outlook.com](mailto:nambour-crushers@outlook.com). Don't miss the opportunity to support your local team and get a first glimpse of the Crushers in action under new captain-coach Marty Cordwell.



## Saving 'Hope': tiny ringtail possum's rescue story

Nature Watch News from Donna Brennan. Wildlife Volunteers, WILVOS | 5441 6200 | [www.wilvos.org.au](http://www.wilvos.org.au)

HAVING the only 24 hour wildlife Hotline on the coast means our Wilvo phone volunteers are kept very busy, all hours, 365 days of the year.

Arriving home after a 'day off' this week I had barely walked in the door and the calls started. Feeling a little weary it was back on the road for a pickup of a little possum. The energy soon returns, recharged by the kindness of members of the public who have taken a special interest in our native animals.

When I arrived to collect the little ringtail possum, the young man had this very small possum wrapped up so it felt safe. He and his friend had been walking along the road and his friend said, 'there's a rat on the road'. This kind youngster immediately knew it was a possum and picked it up. Happy to get off the cold ground the possum ran up his neck and hung on! It was looking very content on my arrival, no doubt very happy not to be out lying on the road feeling very vulnerable to attack from everything. I placed the little one in a thick cave of possum pouches where "Hope" soon settled in the warm basket. The lovely name was given by her rescuer. On arrival home "Hope" weighed in at 73 grams and was ready to lap a small amount of milk, followed by toileting, and curl up and sleep for a few hours until the next feed.

A few calls came through that night, but that ringtail was saved from certain death. I love to see people phoning for assistance, containing their pets, and realizing we all have to share our precious space, as the wildlife habitat continually diminishes.

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4/130 MAIN STREET MONTVILLE

Live Local

# Real Estate & Hinterland Living

Your dream home could be just around the corner. We bring you the latest news & Agent's Choice listings.



This thoughtfully planned 3 year old home is positioned to enjoy natural light and sweeping views.

## Light, spacious and airy; just minutes from Nambour

**AGENT'S CHOICE:** 25 Albatross Avenue, Nambour. \$949,000.

THIS lovely home on 1137m2 of useable land (including veggie gardens) is just minutes away from all of Nambour's facilities.

It features warm timber floors throughout the open plan living, dining and kitchen areas. Raked ceilings contribute to the sense of light and space. The kitchen has stone benches, a

canopy rangehood and views out to both the privacy of the Council Reserve to one side and the forever view to the rear.

Upstairs are three bedrooms and two bathrooms including a master bedroom with direct access to the rear deck - and of course the view, along with a good sized ensuite and large built in robe. Downstairs is the fourth bedroom or home office, with dual purpose study nook built into the built in robe and its own private deck via sliding entrance door. It is the perfect space for a home office. There is also a laundry and double lock up garage.

The man cave/workshop (detached double lock up garage) has power and lighting, with its very own private deck at the rear.

• Phone selling agent, Jason Stock on 0499 562 675 to arrange your inspection today.

## Housing dynamics see Nambour prices rise 60%

**Real Estate Column**  
with RE/MAX Property Sales  
Principal Tristan Brown



**N**AMBOUR has witnessed significant fluctuations in its housing market over the past five years. From January 2019 to January 2024, the town has experienced shifts in property prices that reflect broader trends in the region's real estate landscape. Let's delve into the journey of Nambour's housing market during this period.

In January 2019, Nambour's housing market was characterized by affordability and steady growth. With its proximity to the Sunshine Coast beaches and its vibrant community atmosphere, the town attracted buyers seeking more affordable housing options compared to neighbouring coastal areas.

The median house price stood at around \$400,000, making it an attractive destination for first-time buyers, families, and investors alike.

As with many real estate markets, Nambour's housing prices were influenced by broader economic factors. In the years following 2019, the Australian economy experienced periods of growth and challenges, including changes in interest rates, fluctuations in employment rates, and shifts in consumer confidence.

These factors played a significant role in shaping Nambour's housing market trajectory. Over the five-year period from 2019 to 2024, that market experienced ups and downs. In the initial years, property prices continued to climb steadily, driven by demand from buyers attracted to the town's affordability and lifestyle offerings.

However, around 2021, the market saw a slowdown, influenced by factors such as tighter lending regulations and global economic uncertainties.

Despite these challenges, Nambour's housing market remained resilient, with prices showing signs of stabilization and even modest

growth in subsequent years. By January 2024, the median house price in Nambour reached approximately \$680,000, reflecting an approximate 60% increase compared to 2019 levels.

Several factors contributed to the fluctuations in Nambour's housing prices during this period:

**Demand and Supply Dynamics:** Changes in population growth, housing supply, and development activity influenced the balance between supply and demand in the market, impacting property prices.

**Infrastructure and Development:** Investments in infrastructure projects, such as transport upgrades and community amenities, played a role in shaping the attractiveness of Nambour as a residential destination, affecting property values.

**External Market Forces:** Global economic conditions, interest rate movements, and shifts in investor sentiment also influenced the local housing market, contributing to fluctuations in prices.

### Looking ahead

Looking ahead, Nambour's housing market is poised for continued evolution. As the region attracts more attention from buyers seeking affordable alternatives to coastal living, demand for housing in Nambour is expected to remain robust.

Some economists are even predicting a potential further increase of 8% -15% in house prices over the next 2 years. However, challenges such as housing affordability, infrastructure development, and economic uncertainties will continue to shape the market's trajectory.

Despite facing challenges along the way, the town has demonstrated resilience and maintained its appeal as an attractive residential destination in the Sunshine Coast hinterland. As Nambour continues to evolve, its housing market will undoubtedly be influenced by both local dynamics and broader trends in the Australian real estate landscape.

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The recently revamped kitchen overlooks the living and dining spaces in an open-plan design which benefits from rainforest views.

## Private acreage home in Glenview

**AGENT'S CHOICE:** 38 Tolson Road, Glenview. For sale by Openn Negotiation (flexible conditions online auction).

**O**CCUPYING 2.38 acres in a peaceful, Glenview no-through road, this home boasts four bedrooms plus a study, multiple living areas, a brand new kitchen, and an expansive outdoor entertaining zone complete with a covered deck, plunge pool and firepit.

All four bedrooms plus the study or fifth bedroom are air-conditioned and the master also features a private ensuite and walk-in wardrobe, along with a rainforest outlook. Generously proportioned living and media

rooms create an abundance of space, and there's a combustion fireplace in the living room, plus air-conditioning.

The recently revamped kitchen overlooks the living and dining spaces in an open-plan design, all enjoy rainforest views through the panoramic windows.

There are plenty of outdoor living options, with the large rear deck, a tiled plunge pool, and a thoughtfully landscaped garden firepit.

The beautifully established gardens are home to a 9m x 6m shed, a 40,000L rainwater tank, plus solar panels, solar hot water, and a septic system.

To secure an enviable home and lifestyle contact Chris Elliman to register your interest on 0408 154 947. The Openn Negotiation is under way and the property can sell at any time. Contact the sales agent immediately to become qualified and avoid disappointment.



**OFFERS OVER \$899,000**

**6 Appleberry Place, Yandina**  
4 🛏 2 🚿 2 🚗 701m<sup>2</sup>

Scott Walters 0447 474 982  
Linda Cloete 0497 097 808



**OFFERS OVER \$899,000**

**61 Maroochy Circuit, Yandina**  
4 🛏 2 🚿 2 🚗 700m<sup>2</sup>

Scott Walters 0447 474 982



**\$1,100,000**

**427 Image Flat Rd, Image Flat**     Richard Krausz 0422 997 810  
3 🛏 1 🚿 6 🚗 1.61 Hectares     Stephanie Black 0401 977 230



**OFFERS OVER \$719,000**

**11 Baloo Street, Burnside**  
3 🛏 1 🚿 1 🚗 620m<sup>2</sup>

Scott Walters 0447 474 982



**FOR SALE**

**38 Tolson Road, Glenview**  
4 🛏 2 🚿 6 🚗 9519m<sup>2</sup>

Chris Elliman 0408 154 947



**OFFERS OVER \$819,000**

**169/25 Owen Creek Rd, Forest Glen**  
3 🛏 2 🚿 1 🚗

Garren Reisinger 0476 950 007



**OFFERS OVER \$749,000**

**10 Altitude Drive, Burnside**  
3 🛏 2 🚿 2 🚗 561m<sup>2</sup>

Jason Stock 0499 562 675



**OFFERS OVER \$995,000**

**10 Erbacher Road, Nambour**  
4 🛏 2 🚿 2 🚗 1094m<sup>2</sup>

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Don't miss your chance to own this home in one of Maleny's most sought-after locations.

## Escape in style to this exclusive hinterland oasis

**AGENT'S CHOICE:** 48 Sinclairs Lane, Balmoral Ridge. Price by negotiation.

**S**ITUATED on 5.7 acres in a quiet country lane, this residence was designed by architect Phillip Boorman to take full advantage of the sweeping panoramic view that spans from the rolling green hills to the ocean. Perfectly positioned, this haven guarantees coastal views without the main road traffic.

This beautiful home has 4 large bedrooms plus a large study, over two levels

The light filled, galley kitchen has granite benchtops and a walk-in pantry, and the soaring ceilings are a feature throughout the

upstairs living areas.

The oversized, covered deck area plus full-length verandah have been designed to take advantage of the sweeping, uninterrupted views.

Downstairs is a second outdoor entertaining area plus a large storage room, and there are custom timber features throughout this immaculate home.

Outside is a 12m x 9m extra height shed with bathroom plus a 12m x 4m motorhome port.

There is ample water storage on the property plus 5.5kw solar power back to the grid.

The expansive grounds feature meticulously mowed lawns gently sloping northeast to secure the views. There is also a private rainforest area with walking track; creating an idyllic retreat.

• Contact selling agent, Jess Luthje of Maleny & Hinterland Real Estate <https://www.maleny-realestate.com/> on 0438 616 064 to arrange your inspection.



Inside and out, this is a low maintenance property – arguably the perfect acre.

## Framed by nature: leafy, private acre in Eudlo

**AGENT'S CHOICE:** 116 Ilkley Road, Eudlo. Buyer interest from \$999,000

**E**SCAPE to the hinterland with the purchase of this 2012-built home on a 4,003m<sup>2</sup> parcel of land, framed by forest, and offering peaceful, private living amongst nature just minutes to Eudlo.

Across a single level with a well-designed family-friendly floor plan, the home comprises four bedrooms, two bathrooms, a quality kitchen, two separate living areas, covered patio, separate laundry with external access, and a double lock-up garage.

The original owners have truly loved this

property, and have given meticulous care to this lovely home.

There are ceiling fans throughout, easy-care tiled flooring in the living areas, stone benches in the kitchen, Bosch stainless steel appliances, a gas cooktop, a tiled splash back, a wood burning fireplace, a separate shower and bath in the family bathroom, 2 rainwater tanks, Biotech septic, and a powered 8x12m double bay shed with drive-through access.

There is dog fencing in place, and masses of room to put in a pool, if desired. The soil is lush and fertile, ideal for growing your own produce, or keeping chickens. Inside and out, this is a low maintenance property.

This lovely home is being offered to the market for the first time since it was built. This is an attractive property in every sense that will suit those buyers seeking that 'goldilocks' acreage – not too big, not too small, just right.

• To arrange your inspection, contact Century 21 selling agents Gary De Paoli on 0408 731 412 or Sheree Jones on 0493 427 400.



## Stonebridge Gardens wedding and function facility on market

A wedding venue located on grounds hand-crafted across nearly four decades is ready to enter its next chapter.

Nestled on a sprawling 30-acre rural estate in Palmwoods, Stonebridge Gardens is a 12.1-hectare property that hand-planted and features extensive landscaping features and bridges "built by hand" by the current owners, who purchased the block in 1987.

The picturesque development is approved for a range of events, weddings and functions. The property features an existing café and

bar with a generous Gross Floor Area of 260m<sup>2</sup>, complemented by pavilions, stone pitched walls and three lakes, the largest spanning 100m in length - a sight to behold with a depth of 8m at its center.

Adding to its allure are the carefully cultivated gardens, predominantly planted with native species by hand since 1987. This attention to detail not only enhances the natural beauty of the site but also underscores a commitment to sustainability and environmental harmony that guests can appreciate

as they stroll through the serene surroundings. These gardens present a world where each photo opportunity weaves a tapestry of magic, crafting not just snapshots but lifelong memories.

Agent Kira Steinhaus from My Haus said the property was rich in history and primed for its next owner.

• For further information or to book your private tour, contact Kira Steinhaus of MyHaus on 0418 747 759.

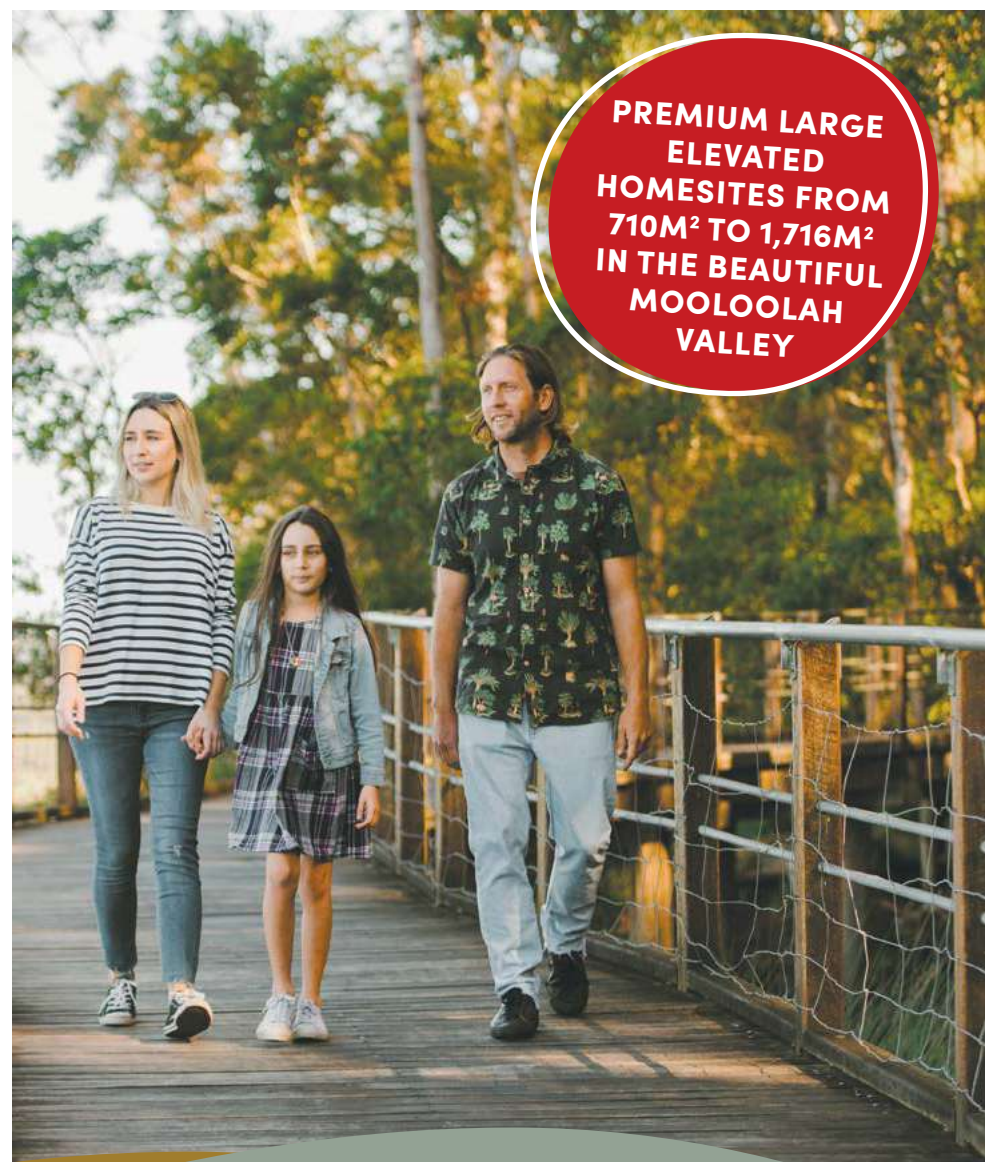
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# MALENY & HINTERLAND REAL ESTATE

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WELCOME TO THE MARKET

48 Sinclairs Lane **BALMORAL RIDGE**

4 3 6

Situated on 5.7 acres in a quiet country lane, this residence was designed by Architect Phillip Boorman to take full advantage of the sweeping panoramic view that spans from the rolling green hills to the ocean. Perfectly positioned, this haven guarantees coastal views without the main road traffic.

The expansive grounds feature meticulously mowed lawns gently sloping northeast to secure the views. There is also a private rainforest area with walking track; creates an idyllic retreat.

- 180 degrees of ocean views and rolling green hills
- Soaring ceilings throughout the upstairs living areas
- Oversized, covered deck area plus full-length verandah
- Second outdoor entertaining area downstairs plus large storage room
- 12m x 9m extra height shed with bathroom plus 12m x 4m motorhome port

**FOR SALE**  
Price by Negotiation  
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By Appointment  
**Jess Luthje**  
0438 616 064  
jess@malenyrealestate.com



309 Witta Road **WITTA**

3 2 1

Situated in ever-popular Witta, this Western Red Cedar home offers the perfect home or retreat from the hustle and bustle of the coast or the city.

- Master with en suite
- Open plan kitchen, dining and living
- Loads of storage throughout the home
- Private undercover entertaining area
- Potential space for boat, trailer or caravan

The demand from astute buyers looking to purchase in Witta is ever growing and here is your opportunity to enter the market with this very solid home.

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0477 702 073  
rodney@malenyrealestate.com



WELCOME TO THE MARKET

Unit 1/1 Fairview Court **MALENY**

3 1 1

Set high on the hill, this generously proportioned, stand alone, 3-bedroom residence is situated in a neat and tidy boutique complex of just 2 units with no body corporate fees.

- Light, bright living area with extra high ceilings
- Generous covered deck area overlooking stunning native plantings
- Well equipped kitchen with ample storage and bench space
- Low maintenance, beautifully landscaped yard
- One of only two units with no body corporate fees

If you're a first home buyer, downsizing or just looking for low maintenance living in town, do not hesitate to inspect!

**FOR SALE**  
Price Guide \$700,000

**INSPECT**  
By Appointment

**Jess Luthje**  
0438 616 064  
jess@malenyrealestate.com



WELCOME TO THE MARKET

Unit 1/6 Willaroo Way **MALENY**

3 3 2

This much-loved and very well-maintained townhouse offers the opportunity to enter the Maleny market, downsize, or create an investment property that will always be in high demand with quality tenants.

- Open plan kitchen, dining and lounge; high ceilings
- Generous deck space overlooking nature
- Double lock-up garage
- Third bathroom downstairs, utility sink space and extra storage
- Close to town and all amenities; just a ten-minute walk or short drive

Light-filled and immaculate in its care, this unit will tick so many boxes for a wide range of buyers; location, space and style.

**FOR SALE**  
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**INSPECT**  
By Appointment

**Rodney Millett**  
0477 702 073  
rodney@malenyrealestate.com



Villa 66/23 Macadamia Drive **MALENY**

2 1 1

Light-filled and perfectly positioned to capture wonderful breezes, this single level home in Maleny Living Gems offers low maintenance, lifestyle living.

- Open plan living, dining and kitchen area
- Front deck; morning and afternoons well spent
- Side access for a trailer immediately with potential for a caravan or second car
- Single lock-up, remote garage
- Level, sun-filled courtyard areas

Well-presented and beautifully maintained, this single level home is ready for its new owners.

**FOR SALE**  
\$525,000

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Maleny & Hinterland Real Estate

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PROUDLY A FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED AGENCY IN THE HEART OF MALENY



The pretty Queenslander was moved from Spring Hill.

## Queenslander at home on the Range

**This Old House** by Louise Tasker

**T**HIS old house at 238 Western Avenue will celebrate its 100th birthday next year.

The first settlers to own this part of Western Avenue were the Hamilton Muirheads. Hamilton purchased 80 acres in the late 1880s. In those days red cedars and birches covered the land. To make the land viable, it had to be denuded of most trees so that dairy and beef cattle could roam, and pineapples, citrus trees and bananas could be grown. Good livings were made here in the early to mid-20th century.

The house now situated on the old Muirhead property was not original to Montville. It is a pretty Queenslander which was moved from Spring Hill, Brisbane, to Montville in 1996. It is believed to have been either a police station or a school, once upon a time.

As we began to repair and renovate the house, I was able to make contact with the Cuthbertson family who had lived here as children in the 1950s and 60s, although in a fibro cottage that either burned down or fell down. They remember the beautiful jacaranda tree which every October continues to be covered with beautiful deep lavender blooms before it emerges into a voluminous green giant once more, shading our new back deck and kitchen. There was also a huge poinciana from which their father suspended a swing. By the time we arrived in 2016 the poinciana was being strangled by a fig and that fig now towers over everything.

The Cuthbertsons' uncle and his family, the Haggoods, lived in a timber house on the section of land next to ours which was at that time still part of the same acreage. That house was known as Woontooba meaning highest point. We have called our property Lower Woontooba as a nod to those days.

When we made changes to the house, it was to renovate the kitchen which involved removing walls and windows, adding an ensuite, a covered back deck and side verandahs. Those changes have given us plenty of places to sit and muse. The side verandahs are perfect for winter as they are wonderful sun traps. The back deck has been used countless times for dinners, lunches, drinks,

music and play rehearsals.

We held an open garden in 2022 and one of our visitors told us his wife's mother, Joyce, during school holidays, used to visit her grandparents who lived on this property in the 1930s which was then still part of the Muirhead's 80-acre allotment. She



The living room.

would ride horses and those adventurous days were some of the great joys of her young life. She continued to visit every year until she was about 19 or 20.

### We never counted on the weather

We never counted on the horrendous weather we all get here – howling hurtling winds, horizontal rain, and, lately, high humidity. But all this weather has helped us to create a garden from an almost blank canvas. There were some avocado trees plus a grafted mandarin and an orange tree. The avocado trees reward us year after year – reward us for doing very little with them. On the other hand, we have fed and pruned the mandarin and orange trees and the last two years they have given us so much sweet, juicy fruit that our friends have not had to visit a fruit shop!

Sometimes we talk about where we will go when this sloping meandering land becomes too much for us, and every time the conversation falters and fades into nothing because frankly where else could we go that would give us the sheer delight of living with a rainforest in our backyard, in a community that is kind and enveloping, with the lights of our closest town twinkling on the horizon?

# Stung by the bee buzz

## A beginner's guide to hinterland beekeeping and honey harvesting

**Hinterland Homesteading** with Racheal Pascoe

**I**T has been super-exciting here at home over the last 12 months as we have invested in three beehives and are up to the stage of harvesting our own honey. Last Saturday morning we processed 19kg of golden deliciousness! I encourage you to consider having a beehive at your place and learning all about it. Bees are such amazing insects and they need our help.

### Where to start?

We knew we wanted beehives at home here and reached out to the Sunshine Coast Beekeepers Club at Yandina for direction in how to start. The bee club has many members who have been involved in beekeeping for decades and they are very happy to help newcomers establish their hives.

There is a lot to organise when setting up a new hive. You will need hive boxes, frames, a queen excluder, beetle traps, a queen bee, worker bees and of course a bee suit/jacket to wear.

We actually inherited 3 hives which were in poor repair, so the bees were already there, but there was much work to be done refurbishing the hives. Beehives need to be checked every few weeks and unfortunately there are predators to watch out for too. Beetles want to set up camp in the hives and the varroa mite is now in Australia. The Sunshine Coast Beekeepers Club will help you identify and manage these pests.

### Overcoming the fear

I personally found it very confronting to stand close to the hives initially, with thousands of bees bumping into my bee suit. In fact, the very first time I could only stand within about 10 feet of the hives. Over the next few times of being

with the bees, I found I could stand there and help out, lifting out frames to check for brood and honey etc. It is really fascinating to see all the work the bees do. How they can fill a new empty frame with wax cells and then decide to either fill it with honey or brood. Brood cells are the ones the queen lays her eggs in. The worker bees then care for these cells until the new bees emerge. What a team they all are. Working together for the good of the hive.

### Honey harvesting

Do you know that a bee might only live for about a month and in that time travels hundreds of kilometres and takes 12 bees their entire life to produce only a teaspoon of honey. That's right, all that work for a mere teaspoon! I bet you will think about that the next time you are having honey on toast for brekkie! Harvesting honey is done in a honey spinner, which spins the frames and draws the honey out of the cells using centrifugal force. A tap at the bottom allows you to fill a jar or bucket with fresh golden honey. Honey spinners can be either electric or manual. We have just invested in a manual one and cancelled our gym memberships as it is a real arm workout! Ha.

after a bee hive does help you look at it all differently. You certainly appreciate them more. The trick to working with bees is to move slowly and calmly I have been told. (Thank you Alby and Tom, our Bee Mentors!) I am still trying to master remaining calm.

### 10,000 year old task

It is very rewarding to harvest honey. Throughout history beekeeping has been a skill passed down for around 10 000 years. A long time ago wild hives had to be destroyed to harvest the honey, but now we have developed a system of housing the bees and being able to manage the honey harvesting without so much destruction. If you would like to enquire about setting up a hive at your place, please contact the Sunshine Coast Beekeepers for more information. There is a lot to know about wonderful bees and how they are so important to us all.



Last Saturday morning we processed 19kg of golden deliciousness.

### Do you get stung?

Yes, it happens. Even with a fabulous bee suit on, it is possible for a bee to find a way. After one of our hive checking sessions, I removed my suit too soon and a bee got caught in my hair. I panicked, the bee panicked, I squealed and brushed my hair while jumping around like a mad person trying to get it out. The poor bee crawled up to my scalp and stung me. I don't know how it is inbuilt, to fear bees but most of us seem to have it. Looking

### How you can help the bees

If you can't have a hive at your place, you can still help. Please only buy honey from roadside stalls. This is because you are supporting local beekeepers and not the big companies who tamper with the honey before sale, diminishing the good properties of the honey. Plus, you have the added bonus of taking in local pollens safely through honey, if you suffer from hayfever, you should always buy local honey. Buying local when possible is always best.

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Phone Tanya on 0400 069 711

# What's On

in the Hinterland

Local Events and Entertainment coming up. Preference given to local events of widespread interest. All care taken but please check details with organisers. Send details to [editor@sunshinevalleygazette.com.au](mailto:editor@sunshinevalleygazette.com.au).

Visitors of all ages will be captivated by the enchanting world of Zog.

## A dragon-sized adventure awaits at the Ginger Factory!

HOLD onto your gingerbread hats because a spectacular treat awaits these Easter school holidays at The Ginger Factory; Australia's first ever Zog Trail! Fly headfirst into the enchanting world of Zog, brought to life from Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler's captivating picture book.

"We are so excited to host this unique and fun attraction at the Ginger Factory," said Tourism Manager, Brenda Bailey.

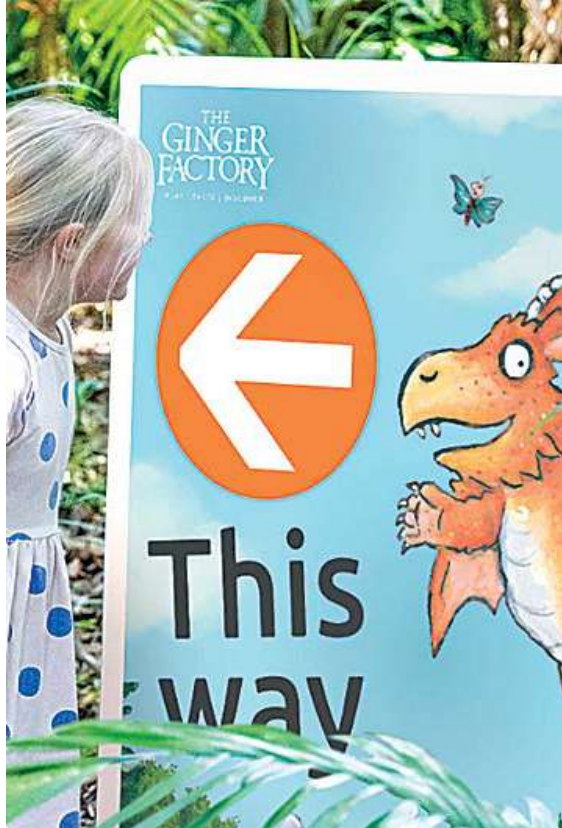
"It features augmented reality and a luscious trail through the rainforest, it is sure to ignite the imaginations of the entire family."

Picture this: friendly dragons, flying antics, and fire breathing lessons; and that's just the beginning of the dragon sized fun. Roar, fly, and breathe fire as you embark on an unforgettable adventure with Zog, Princess Pearl, Sir Gadabout, and Madam Dragon.

And the best part?

"The trail experience is free and open seven days a week," Ms Bailey said.

Take the adventure up a notch with the Zog activity packs available to purchase at the park. Packed with dragon wings, stickers, and activities, your little ones are in for infinite whimsical fun.



"This is going to be a wonderful activity for children over Easter and the school holidays," she said.

And there will also be Zog book readings, engaging craft activities, and more.

"From a leisurely ride on Moreton the Ginger Train to a thrilling adventure on the Overboard Boat Ride, The Ginger Factory promises an Easter holiday bursting with fun and excitement for everyone."

For full information, visit: [www.gingerfactory.com.au](http://www.gingerfactory.com.au)



The course traverses Mapleton National Park and some private land and will take competitors across bubbling creeks past a stunning lookout and up and down challenging hilly terrain.

## Yandina Five '0' Trail Run set to take place on March 23

RUN Queensland is thrilled to stage the third running of the Yandina Five '0' on beautiful trails around Yandina on Saturday March 23.

A spokesperson said "Yandina" meant "to go on foot" in the local Indigenous language and it was a fitting venue for the 50km, 36km, 21km

and 12km courses through the area.

The course traverses Mapleton National Park and some private land and will take competitors across bubbling creeks, past a stunning lookout and up and down challenging hilly terrain.

"Rounding out the experience, the event will be staged from the local craft beer brewery, Terella Brewing, where you can grab a drink and a meal," the spokesperson said.

"And there'll be fun for the kids as well. Come along and be part of this fantastic event."

• Go to [events.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au](http://events.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au) and search "yandina-five0".



## Breakfast Sunshine Coast

Wednesday to Sunday | 8:00am - 11:00am

### Breakfast

Wednesday - Sunday  
8:00am - 11:00am



### Lunch

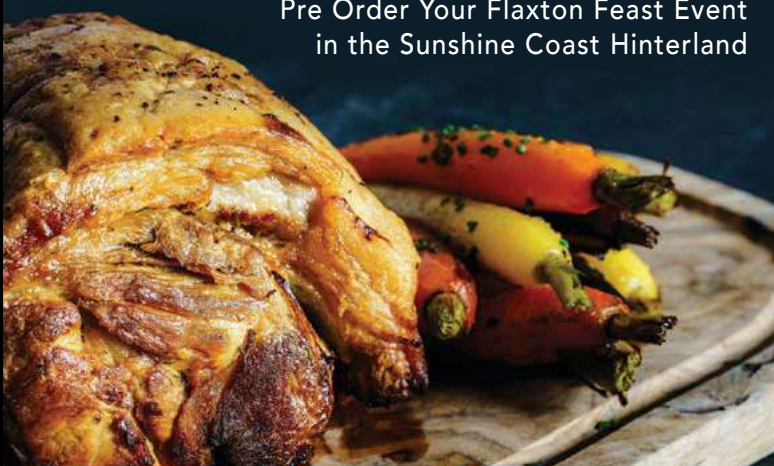
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## Mapleton Choir's Mozart to Mercury

THE Mapleton Choir is set to enchant audiences with a diverse range of musical pieces, from the classical compositions of Mozart to the iconic tunes of Freddie Mercury. Their upcoming concert, "Making Music from Mozart to Mercury," will be held at Kureelapa Hall on Saturday, June 1st, and Sunday, June 2nd, starting at 2:30 pm each day.

Tickets are available for \$20 when purchased in advance or \$25 at the door. For those interested in securing their seats early, tickets can be pre-purchased by calling 0407 156 708 or by speaking to any choir member. This musical journey promises to be an unforgettable experience, showcasing the versatile talents of the Mapleton Choir.

## Now Showing at Majestic Cinemas

HERE'S what's showing now at Majestic Cinemas in Nambour. Bob Marley One Love; The Nut Farm; Riceboy Sleeps (foreign film); Just a Farmer and from March 21 Ghostbuster Frozen Empire; Kung Fu Panda 4 and Wicked Little Letters.

Flickerfest (Short film festival) returns on March 22nd at 7pm with the Best of International short films and on March 23rd at 7pm with the Best of Australian shorts. Tickets on sale now! For more information on session times please visit [www.majesticcinemas.com.au](http://www.majesticcinemas.com.au) or phone 5441 2954.

## Montville Growers and Makers Market

MONTVILLE'S heritage-listed Village Hall is a focal point for the community and for the Montville Growers and Makers Market on the second Saturday morning or every month.

The market boasts a delicious, wholesome pancake breakfast and delicious treats to the dedicated market goer. 30+ stalls including Bernard and his freshly baked organic sourdoughs, Kim and Lindsay with their sweet Montville Bananas as well as a range of local producers and craftspeople will be standing ready to fill your empty baskets.

## Woombye Bowls rolls out six-week business comp

THE Woombye Bowls Club is set to launch its much-anticipated Corporate Bowls League, offering a blend of networking and team-building opportunities every Wednesday night from April 3rd to May 8th, 2024.

"It's more than just a game; it's a chance to connect with fellow businesses and have a bit of friendly competition," said Allan Sandercock, spokesperson for the club. The six-week league starts at 6pm with two games of eight ends each night. Teams can join with a \$50 fee, and players are welcomed with weekly prizes and refreshments. "Come for the bowls, stay for the bonds you'll build," said Allan. For registration details, reach out to Allan on 0411 961 454 or the club directly.

## Cold Chisel Tribute Night at Palmwoods Hotel

EXPERIENCE the legendary music of Cold Chisel and Jimmy Barnes at the Palmwoods Hotel on April 13, 8.30pm. "Forever Now - The Very Best of Cold Chisel!" promises an evening of iconic tunes and dancing. Reserve your dinner table for a complete night out at [linktr.ee/palmwoodshotel](http://linktr.ee/palmwoodshotel).

## Maleny Film Festival

THE Maleny Community Centre at 23 Maple Street welcomes cinephiles from March 22-24 for the Maleny Film Festival. The event kicks off with a 5.30pm launch party, followed by screenings of 'Mon Crime', 'Scrapper', 'Fallen Leaves', and 'Next Goal Wins'. Visit [maleny-filmsociety.au/maleny-film-festival/](http://maleny-filmsociety.au/maleny-film-festival/) for the full program and ticket information.

## Hinterland Blues AGM

THE Hinterland Blues community is invited to participate in the Annual General Meeting on March 24 at 3pm, with the location to be announced. The meeting will cover essential topics, including the past year's financial and management reports and the election of new committee members. For more information, reach out to Jessica Popple at [info@hinterland-blues.com](mailto:info@hinterland-blues.com).



## Nambour Chapel to host evening of music with Phil Spence and Nicola Jean

IGNITE Christian Church and Aussie Grown Radio are thrilled to present the next Live @ The Chapel Nambour event, showcasing the talents of local artists Phil Spence and Nicola Jean, on Saturday, 6 April 2024. The evening promises an intimate musical experience from 6pm to 8pm at 29 Short Street, Nambour.

Veteran rocker Phil Spence will headline, performing tracks from his new album 'Revolution', including his latest single "The Passion" and the much-loved songs "So Loud" and "Revolution". Phil's music, inspired by the Jesus revolution of the 70s, promises to be a nostalgic trip for many.

Opening for Phil is the emerging talent, Nicola Jean, known for her exceptional guitar skills and heartfelt songwriting. With a powder-blue acoustic guitar in hand, Nicola is set to captivate the audience as one of the Sunshine Coast's bright musical prospects.

Admission is free, with donations welcomed to support the artists. Attendees can also enjoy drinks and nibbles available for purchase. For more information, visit the event's Facebook page or contact Hank David at hank@aussiegrownradio.com.

## Art Collectives Easter Art Expo at Coolum

THE Coolum Art Collective will present its Easter Art Expo for 2024 at the Coolum Civic Centre from Friday 29 March to Monday 1 April.

Due to public demand and popularity, our expo will now run over four days permanently.

This popular event will feature a diverse range of art and crafts by some of the Sunshine Coast's leading artists and artisans.

All original artworks by 20 artists are offered for sale, comprising both traditional and modern styles including oils, watercolours, acrylic, mixed media and pastel works.

Entry is free, with the opportunity to purchase quality artwork and artisan items.

Visitors can also vote for their favourite artwork in the "People's Choice award".

Diarise now as it is a great event for all ages.



From left, artists Jodi Casey, Finn Cossar, Tina Cooper & Amanda Stuart are excited to welcome the 15th Sculpture on the Edge at Flaxton Gardens. Photo: Peter Wallis for The Comms People.

## Call for entries as sculpture event edges into 15th year

ARTS Connect Inc has announced the 15th annual Sculpture on the Edge event will take place from 22 November to 1 December at Flaxton Gardens in the Sunshine Coast Hinterland. Entries are now open to sculptors with an opportunity to be part of the competition and 10-day exhibition.

Sculptors are encouraged to submit details of their work online to be selected for the exhibition and participate in the competition that takes place on the first day of the event. Each sculpture will be judged by an expert panel for visual impact and interest as well as quality.

The winners are announced on day two with a total cash prize pool of \$22,000 up for grabs. There will be Sculpture on the Edge 2024 prize categories for Sculptor of the Year; Highly Commended Sculptor; Local Sculptor; Upcycle Sculptor; Encouragement Award; Sculptor's Choice and the popular People's Choice.

All sculptors selected to exhibit will have

their sculptures on display, and available for purchase, for the entirety of the event.

This year's theme "A Creative Feast" will encourage art lovers both locally and from interstate to visit Flaxton Gardens where they can feast on art, food and the views across the entire Coast from the edge of the Blackall Range. "The event is a highlight in the arts calendar as we profile and support sculptors by providing them with a platform to showcase and exhibit their work. We hope to see a record number of sculptors enter," said Debbie Weaver, Event Coordinator.

Last year's event saw over 5,000 people attend to view and purchase 192 sculptures. In addition to the competition and exhibition, the Sculpture on the Edge line-up will include a series of workshops as well as an opening and closing function with networking opportunities for sculptors and art lovers alike.

Sculptors have until 31 August 2024 to enter.



Bri Lee. Image: Saskia Wilson.

## Outspoken presents Bri Lee in conversation

BRI Lee is something of a phenomenon. The author of three non-fiction works, each of which has very publicly stirred up the murky waters of the commentariat, she has now written a novel, entitled *The Work*.

Outspoken is delighted to have been able to persuade Bri to come to Maleny to discuss her novel, and to talk around her many other projects. These include, but are not confined to: lecturing in Media Law at Sydney University, where she's doing a PhD into how Australia's defamation laws stifle free speech; working as a guide on small group tours - the present one is to Egypt; and doing weekend writing workshops.

Our introducing author will be Carly-Jay Metcalfe. Carly-Jay recently published the stunningly frank and darkly funny memoir *Breath*, about living, dying and trying to breathe. Beejay Silcox writes: "The only thing more remarkable than Carly-Jay Metcalfe's story is the way she tells it. *Breath* captures the privileges and pains of living in our transitory bodies. The absurdities. The cruelties. The bone-deep joys. This book is a love letter to the sublime human mess. An invitation to pay attention to every precious lungful."

• Outspoken presents Bri Lee in conversation at Maleny Community Centre on Friday April 12. Tickets \$27.50 and \$19 for students [www.outspokenmaleny.com](http://www.outspokenmaleny.com)

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From Farm animals to wildlife encounters

# Hop on over to the Plaza for Easter fun in Nambour

**Business Writeup** Nambour Plaza

GET ready for an egg-stra special 2024 Easter celebration at Nambour Plaza.

This Easter Saturday, the Easter bunny and his helper will be making a special appearance, spreading joy and Easter eggs around Nambour Plaza between 10am to 2pm.

"It will be the perfect opportunity to come along with the kids for a bunny hug and photo opportunity," said Centre Manager, Michelle Lees.

"On week 2 of the holidays, Nambour Plaza is bringing you a bunch of fun things to do that you won't want to miss," she said.

"On Monday April 8, you can get up close and personal with adorable farm animals and make some furry friends while you shop. The little ones in particular, really love this.

"Then, bring your bestie and unleash your creativity making Friendship bracelets, pendants and beading from Tuesday the 9th through to Thursday the 11th," she said.

If you are feeling adventurous, you won't want to miss the Wildlife HQ Zoo visiting on Friday the 12th.

"You will get an opportunity to handle fascinating reptiles and see some amazing wildlife," Michelle said.

With 28 specialty stores and plenty of undercover parking, you can get everything you need under one roof.

"Most people know we have Big W and Woolworths, but we also have fashion favourites such as Jay Jays, Suzanne Grae, Strandbags, Prouds Jewellers, and Vanilla Cove," she said.

"There are plenty of gift options at Nextra



**Centre Manager Michelle Lees and a cuddly Easter friend at Urban Hen, Nambour Plaza.**

and the Freechoice Tobacconist, and Urban Hen is bursting with stunning gifts and decor for Easter.

"Health and beauty services include Priceline Pharmacy, Specsavers, Health Beat health food store, Alison's Uppercuts, Real Health Massage, Top Aussie Nails and A1 Beauty Hub. Phone, IT and travel services are all available at the Plaza as well."

When it comes to food, you are spoiled for choice, with Cafe Bella, The Coolabah Tree, Donut King, Health Beat, Master Sushi, Sunshine Kebabs, SG Bakery and Liquor Legends providing a range of options for everyone.

"Join us this Easter," Michelle said. "Bring your family and friends for a super week filled with holiday activities and shopping fun. Nambour Plaza is the place where locals love to shop."

• Nambour Plaza is at 18 Ann Street, Nambour.

## Genealogy Sunshine Coast Beginner's Classes

IF you have been wondering how to do your family history research, then come along to our Beginner's Classes for 3 sessions on Wednesdays April 17 and 24 and May 1 from 9.30am to 3.30pm. There will be lectures in the morning with hands-on follow-up in the afternoon. \$15 per full day for members and \$25 non-members. Morning and afternoon tea provided and lunch can be purchased. There are limited spaces so please book early. Or we can add you to our waiting list in case of cancellations.

We are also holding an Open Day on Saturday 27th April and another one on Saturday 24th August during Family History month. Also there will be a stand at the Nambour Garden Expo from July 4-7. Volunteers would be most welcome. We also hold workshops on the 4th Saturday of each month so check our website for more.



**From left: First-string critic Birdboot (Phil Hunt) stares it out with Stand-in critic Moon (Andrew Robjohns).**

## The Real Inspector Hound comes to Maleny

THE weekend after Easter (Fri-Sun April 5-7) marks what is probably the first production of a Tom Stoppard play in Maleny, in the Playhouse Maleny Showgrounds.

The opening weekend of The Real Inspector Hound, the Absurdist comedy murder mystery which entertains while it puzzles, has a strong local cast. Stoppard has been a leading British playwright over a 60-year career, completing dozens of successful plays. This comedy, ghosting a copy of an Agatha Christie mystery, takes a potshot at the London critics who kept The Mousetrap alive while neglecting young upandcoming playwrights- such as Stoppard!

Prepare to be intrigued, mystified and entertained. Prepare for a confusion of bodies; for a game of Bridge with sexual undertones; for romance between characters with names such as Lady Cynthia Muldoon, Simon Gascoyne, Felicity Cunningham - and pompous critics with the anonymous titles of Birdboot and Moon.

Both spout language with the confidence of Noel Coward and George Bernard Shaw but are trapped in their own witty acerbity.

Go to [trybooking.com/COUS](http://trybooking.com/COUS) Tickets \$25/\$20 concessions for a season of weekends 5-21 April. Cash sales only at MAD Gallery, Maple Street Maleny. Times are Friday-Saturday at 7pm, and Sunday at 2pm.

Maleny Players Presents

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## Palmwoods cancer survivor to star in TV series 'Ageless'

PALMWOODS local, Sharon Lagden, a breast cancer survivor, is proving that age is no barrier to adventure. Featured in the new Australian TV series "Ageless," Sharon is tackling life head-on, with skydiving off her bucket list and appearing on the show to share her zest for life.

The series, airing on Nine Network starting March 23, produced by GemLife, showcases 11 individuals defying age-related stereotypes. Sharon stars in episode four, "Taking a Leap," on April 20, 2024.

Sharon said after surviving breast cancer and depression, she didn't want to let her age or anything else be a barrier to what she wanted to achieve.

"Having a cancer diagnosis, coming out of that and then getting depression makes you want to do things that make you feel alive," said



**Sharon and Kevin Lagden at the Premiere.**

Mrs Lagden.

"That's why creating my bucket list, taking the leap to skydive, and embracing new opportunities such as joining the Ageless series have been important to me.

"You should never let your age hold you back from living life to the very fullest. I hope my journey inspires others to realise that age is merely a label. Don't allow it, or fear, to hold you back from pursuing what you want."

• Catch "Ageless" each Saturday from March 23 to May 11 on Channel 9. Sharon stars in the April 20 episode.

## Dynamic Interpretation of an Old Favourite Play

MANY theatre goers have enjoyed a performance of the wedding reception farce Dimboola produced by their local theatre group. It's playwright Jack Hibberd's best-known work, but not his best work.

Hibberd fans would argue that title belongs to A Stretch of the Imagination, a product of the Australian New Wave theatre scene of the 1970s. This one-man tour-de-force sweeps across our landscape and history through the fevered monologues of its protagonist, Monk O'Neill.

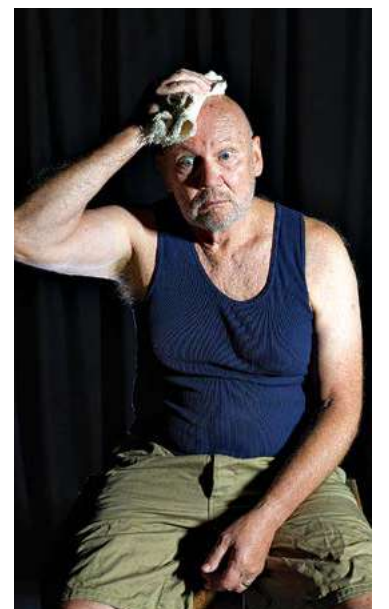
Played by experienced stage and TV actor James Patrick Reed, Monk is on a downhill slide and hanging on by a thread. It takes us through a

day of his life in a stream of consciousness clever monologue, full of word-play.

This play is gleefully outrageous and laugh-out-loud comic, but also tragic. It contains adult themes and coarse language.

A Stretch of the Imagination has been reimaged by Director Anne Grant and will play at the Black Box theatre in Nambour for four performances, starting on Friday March 22.

• For bookings go to [trybooking.com/events/landing/1164039](http://trybooking.com/events/landing/1164039)



**James Patrick Reed ably portrays Monk O'Neill in this one-man show. (Image by Greals)**

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# EASTER eggstravaganza!

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Petting Zoo  
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**Tuesday 9th till  
Thursday 11th April**  
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pendants and more)  
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**Friday 12th April Wildlife HQ Zoo** 11am - 1pm

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FESTURI is known for bringing community-centric multicultural music festivals to life.

## Surfing and culture combine for Festuri festival

MOFFAT Beach Park is set to host an extraordinary event that marries the thrill of surfing with the exuberance of multicultural festivities. From March 28 to 31, 2024, the golden sands of Caloundra will witness the 50th anniversary of the Pa and Ma Bendall Memorial Surf Competition, this time in a colourful partnership with the FESTURI Multicultural Music and Dance Festival.

The collaboration is a weekend of surfing prowess and cultural vibrancy, offering something special for surf enthusiasts and culture aficionados alike.

This year's surf competition, a staple in the Sunshine Coast's sporting calendar, embarks on a new journey with FESTURI, enriching the traditional surf contest with a tapestry of global music, dance, interactive workshops, and a kaleidoscope of international cuisines. Beyond the waves, workshops, world music and dance, there will also be a dedicated kids' festival.

The Surf comp starts March 28 7am.

Festuri festival starts March 30 12pm-9pm and continues March 31 from 12-4pm.

Artistic Director Dominique B. Cisse said the

event was a fusion of surf heritage and cultural diversity, aimed at fostering community bonds.

"This unique blend of activities not only celebrates the competition's storied history but also introduces a new era of communal celebration, drawing families, locals, and visitors into a harmonious gathering," he said.

"For the first time in its illustrious history, the competition will feature musical entertainment, responding to community desire for a more enriching and inclusive experience," said President Toria Mason.

Toria said FESTURI was known for bringing community-centric multicultural music festivals to life.

"Along with DC Productions, we've curated a lineup featuring local and regional multicultural talents, adding a global flavour to the local surf scene. It promises to bridge the worlds of surf tradition and multicultural celebration, uniting the community in a symphony of waves and rhythms."

• For detailed event information visit the official websites and social media pages of FESTURI and Wind an Sea Boardriders. Go to festuri.org.au.



Savills Marketing Manager Rebekah Radov with Eliza McBain (blue ears) and Jacci Kelly pink ears.

## Celebrate Easter with family, food and festivities!

Business Writeup Buderim Marketplace

AS Easter is fast approaching, you can get ready with everything you need for Easter celebrations and the school holidays at Buderim Marketplace.

"It is such a convenient centre for your holiday shopping and to spend time with your family," said Savills Marketing Manager Rebekah Radov.

"You can stock up with Easter treats and traditional favourites such as chocolates and Hot Cross buns at Woolworths and Bakers Delight, and pick up quirky gifts and Easter decorations at Nextra or the Pharmacy gift shop," she said.

"For a more lasting gift, Buderim Jewellers has a gorgeous selection to suit all tastes and

budgets."

Hop in on Easter Saturday from 10am to 2pm when the Easter bunny will be there for meet and greets, photo moments, warm hugs and of course to give out some chocolate eggs, as well as stacks of fun and games to be had with the Hot 91 FM Street crew.

There are plenty of options for easy dining, from great coffee at Mint, to tasty Asian flavours, pizza, and delicious breakfasts, snacks and lunches from Taste This.

Whether you're a kid or just a kid at heart, there's something for everyone to enjoy this Easter at Buderim Marketplace.

"Parking is free for 3 hours, so grab your friends and family, put on your bunny ears, and join us in celebrating the season of new beginnings and chocolate eggs galore," Rebekah said.

"This Easter - make it one to remember at Buderim Marketplace where it's not just about shopping - it's about having a good time too!"

• Buderim Marketplace 67 Burnett St, Buderim.

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a multicultural celebration  
25th Anniversary

1974 2024  
**PA & MA BENDALL**  
MEMORIAL SURFING CONTEST  
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## The Surf and Sea Multicultural Festival

In collaboration with Pa and Ma Bendall Memorial Surf Competition

Sat 30th March ( 12pm-9pm ) to Sun 31st March (12pm-4pm)

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# What's On Day by Day in the Hinterland

Local Events and Entertainment coming up. Preference given to local events of widespread interest. All care taken but please check details with organisers. Send details to [editor@sunshinevalleygazette.com.au](mailto:editor@sunshinevalleygazette.com.au).

## MARCH

- March 21: Nambour State College Principal's Tours at 4:30pm. Explore facilities and meet staff. For more info on the Pinnacle Program, call Emma and Talitha at 07 5450 4111.
- March 22: Australian Classic Theatre presents "A Stretch of the Imagination" at Black Box theatre, Nambour, starting at 7pm. Tickets at <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1164039>
- March 22-24: Weekend of canine fun with Sunshine Coast Kennel Club Dog Shows at Beerwah Sportsground. Free entry. Contact Helen at 0434 344 230.
- March 22-24: Maleny Film Festival launches with a variety of screenings at the Maleny Community Centre. Details at [malenyfilmsociety.au/maleny-film-festival/](http://malenyfilmsociety.au/maleny-film-festival/).
- March 23: Yandina Five '0' Trail Run at Terella Brewing. Races include 50km, 36km, 21km, and 12km. More info at [events.sunshine-coast.qld.gov.au](http://events.sunshine-coast.qld.gov.au).
- March 23 (7pm) and March 24 (2.30pm): Montville Murder Mystery: Enjoy a rollicking mystery in Montville. Fundraiser for the hall.
- March 23: "Oh - apostrophe" art exhibition by Bernard O'Scanaill opens at Maleny Art Direct at 4pm. For more info, visit [www.malenyartdirect.com.au](http://www.malenyartdirect.com.au).
- March 23: Nambour Crushers Rugby League Club season launch with trial games at Crusher Park. RSVP required. Contact: 0407 712 206.
- March 24: Nambour Rummagers Market relocates to Sunshine Coast Council/Nambour Library Forecourt from 9am-12pm. Free entry. For stall bookings, contact Nambour Rummagers Market on Facebook.
- March 23-24: Queensland Weightlifting Association School Age Championships at Sunshine Coast Weightlifting Club, Nambour. Details on [scwc.com.au](http://scwc.com.au).
- March 23-24: Flickerfest at Majestic Cinemas, Nambour. Showcasing international

and Australian short films. Tickets at [flickerfest.com.au/tour/nambour/](http://flickerfest.com.au/tour/nambour/).

- March 24: Nambour Rummagers Market debuts at Eddie De Vere Building's forecourt, Currie Street, from 9am. Browse plants, vintage, and handmade items.
- March 27: Launch of Australia's first Zog Trail at The Ginger Factory, Yandina. A family adventure. Details at [gingerfactory.com.au/zog-trail](http://gingerfactory.com.au/zog-trail).
- March 28-31: Festuri Surf and Multicultural Music Festival at Moffat Beach Park, Caloundra. Surf competition starts March 28. Festival info at [festuri.org.au](http://festuri.org.au).
- March 28: Easter reflection at Sanctuary Park Nambour Church of Christ from 6pm-8pm. More details at 5441 2833.
- March 29: Good Friday
- March 31: Easter Sunday

## APRIL

- April Various Dates: Nambour Bowls Club Business Challenge in April, Wednesdays 6-7pm. Register at 0477 111 110.
- April 3-May 8: Woombye Bowls Corporate League, Wednesday nights. Register at 0411 961 454.
- April 5-7: "The Real Inspector Hound" at Playhouse Maleny Showgrounds. Tickets at [trybooking.com/COUS](http://trybooking.com/COUS).
- April 6: Live @ The Chapel Nambour with Phil Spence and Nicola Jean, 29 Short Street, from 6pm. Free entry. Details on Facebook.
- April 7: Indoor All-Weather Market: Dance, Art Etc, Nambour, 9am-2pm. Visit Rummager's Market, Thursday Town Square Market, Friday Night Markets.
- April 8-12: Easter activities at Nambour Plaza, starting with farm animals on April 8. Wildlife encounters on April 12. Location: 18 Ann Street, Nambour.
- April 12: Outspoken presents Bri Lee in conversation at Maleny Community Centre. Tickets at [outspokenmaleny.com](http://outspokenmaleny.com).
- April 13: Cinema on the Rooftop at Cooroy Library, 6-8pm. Bring a blanket and enjoy "Puss in Boots: The Last Wish". Admission by donation.
- April 13: Cold Chisel Tribute Night at Palmwoods Hotel, 8.30pm. Booking at [linktr.ee/palmwoodshotel](http://linktr.ee/palmwoodshotel).
- April 13: Book Fair and mini market, 8am to 12noon, Mapleton Library & Community Centre.
- April 14: Maroochy River Country Music Club concert, A.C.M.A. Hall of Fame, Yandina, 12 noon. Info: 0458 671 568.

# Nambour's strongest kids are ready to snatch gold

SUNSHINE Coast Weightlifting Club in Nambour is hosting the 2024 Queensland Weightlifting Association School Age Championships the weekend of March 23-24.

Sixty school aged children, as young as 7 years old, are preparing to chalk up a win in the event (previously known as All-Schools). Girl power will prevail, as they outnumber boys in this competition.

Some of these young athletes have their dreams set on the 2024 Olympics. "I am really excited to see the kids in action on the weekend and enjoy themselves in the competition," said coach Dale Donaghue. Sunshine Coast Weightlifting Club (SCWC), established in 1970, is Queensland's longest established club.

Located in an unassuming shed behind the Nambour Showgrounds, the club trains athletes of all ages, genders and abilities. The shed would go unnoticed if it wasn't for the relentless sound of heavy weights clanking.

Competitors will be travelling from the Gold Coast to the Fraser Coast and everywhere between. Eight of the little lifters call SCWC home.

For many athletes, it is their first opportunity to compete outside of their own club. They will be sharing the platform with experienced lifters such as Chloe Saliba and Levi Deans who represented Australia in international competitions.

Chloe is the 2023 Commonwealth champion



Levi Deans



Chloe Saliba

and a medallist in the 2024 Oceania Championship. Levi Deans has been training with the Sunshine Coast Weightlifting Club since he was 10 years old.

Levi is legally blind and says "I like the sport so much because of my vision impairment has no effect on it."

The future generation of lifters is made up of 5 girls and 3 boys in the Under-13 age category.

Three of which are under the age of 10. The youngest being Jax Daniels at 7 years old.

The event is run by Queensland Weightlifting Association as an Australian Weightlifting Federation recognized event.

Olympic style weightlifting consists of two lifts, the snatch and the clean & Jerk, both of which the lifter must have the weight over their head. Competitors have three attempts at each lift.



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