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Scenic

Tamborine Mountain, Canungra, Tamborine, Beechmont, Beaudesert, Cedar Creek, Boyland

JOHN VANCE MEMORIAL DAY AT CLUB TAMBORINE

The inaugural John Vance Memorial Day was held at Club Tamborine to honour the man who was a member of the Club for 22 years, was president of both Blind Bowlers Queensland and Australian Blind Bowlers Association, and who worked tirelessly to help raise funds for Queensland Guide Dogs. Friends and supporters of the late Dr Vance celebrated his life with a morning tea and participation in several games of mixed fours. Story Page 3.



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MOVE TO THE GOLD COAST THE CASE FOR AND AGAINST

It was an election promise that I made that Tamborine Mountain would get the opportunity to express its views and vote on moving into the Gold Coast City Council local government area. Over the last 12 months I have listened to what locals are saying. I represent all mountain residents and you know my personal views. I have always said I will abide by the result of any quantitative process to determine the will of the majority.

My election win was substantive on preferences, but the primary vote was split four ways. This process that we are embarking on, and starts with the case FOR AND AGAINST, is the beginning of the lead up to a **household plebiscite**. Voluntary experts have been involved in planning for this vote, and will be certifying the process to ensure probity and statistical accuracy.

After the case 'for and against' is concluded, more information will be announced.

The case for:

1. SCENIC RIM REGIONAL COUNCIL RATES EXCESSIVELY HIGH. Gold Coast has exceptionally low uniform residential rates and separate charges which would mean slashing Tamborine Mountain's rates to affordable levels - as much as up to 50%. The average General Rate and Separate Charge Infrastructure ranks fifth highest of any community in Queensland according to the State's comparative statistics. Our rate contribution does not reflect our share of capital expenditure over the last 13 years of Scenic Rim Regional Council, and our amenity and liveability are on a declining trajectory. It is a structural problem with no solution.

2. NO OVERDEVELOPMENT POSSIBLE WITH GCCC AND THE STATE'S REGIONAL PLAN AND GROWTH STRATEGIES.

There is no reason for the GCCC to overdevelop Tamborine Mountain. You only have to look at Guanaba, Springbrook, the Mudgeeraba Valley, Currumbin Valley, Numinbah Valley, Mt Nathan, Lower Beechmont and Advancetown to name a few rural areas in GCCC where there are no high rises, and the rural vista has been protected. Even if GCCC wanted to overdevelop Tamborine Mountain, this would be against the State's SEQ Regional Plan and impossible to achieve. The State would not allow it and with no reticulated water and sewerage it is a fanciful and emotive argument with little substance. Why would it not have done so in those other areas already? The truth is that 95% of high rise is built one block back from the coastline. The single high rise closest to Tamborine Mountain is at Royal Pines Golf Course east of Carrara.

- 3. \$1.7 BILLION BUDGET. Gold Coast has a \$1.7 billion operating budget and \$575 million annual capital budget. Scenic Rim Council lacks financial capacity (approximately \$80 million budget) and the willingness to invest and renew Tamborine Mountain's infrastructure to a high standard. Yet Tamborine Mountain with 8100 people is the largest population centre in the region, compared to Beaudesert with a population of 6500. Scenic Rim Council has announced upward of \$35 million of capital works in the town of Beaudesert this year so far and this again is where the bulk of money is being spent, and potentially more is yet to be announced.
- 4. COMMUNITY OF INTEREST WITH GCCC. Tamborine Mountain's community of Interest is not with Beaudesert; it is with Gold Coast because we travel for hospitals, shopping, recreation, beaches, higher education, swimming, sport, and service trades etc. This is one of the key criteria the State will consider in determining whether we go to Gold Coast City Council or not. The GCCC recognises this. This was the reason the locality of Karana Downs, formerly of Ipswich, moved to the Brisbane City Council local government area.
- 5. **REGULAR BUS SERVICES TO GCCC.** Gold Coast City Council can integrate Tamborine Mountain into its transport network. Regular bus services to Helensvale and beyond would end the social isolation of those who do not have access to cars, including the young and elderly.

(To be continued)

I trust this is all food for thought. Could we do much better for much less in GCCC?



Should you wish to discuss anything with me the following are my contact details: Mobile: 0401 306 659 Email: swanyusa@gmail.com

These are my own personal views & I do not puport to speak on behalf of Council. Decisions of Council are made only by majority vote.



JOHN VANCE MEMORIAL DAY

The inaugural John Vance Memorial Day at Club Tamborine was cancelled in 2020 due to the coronavirus pandemic and narrowly missed being cancelled again this year because of the most recent lockdown in Brisbane.

However, on March 28, the late Dr Vance was finally honoured at the delayed event that was created in his memory and to help raise funds for Queensland Guide Dogs.

Dr Vance and his wife Dawn moved to Tamborine Mountain in 1996 just prior to his retiring because of his sight issues. It was also at this time that he joined the Tamborine Mountain Bowls Club, as he was already playing with Blind Bowlers.

Dr Vance was the president of Blind Bowlers Queensland and then became the president of Australian Blind Bowlers Association, taking the team to England in 2013 for a 10-nation competition in which Australia came second. It was clear that he touched many lives both in the bowling community and in the Tamborine Mountain local community with his kindness, generosity, and determination to leave behind a legacy.

He was an active member of Club Tamborine for 22 years. Barry Chatel was John's bowling director for two-and-ahalf years and in that time, he competed in two national championships with him as well as numerous other events.

John was an active member of the Guide Dogs community for 23 years and an incredible advocate for the blind and low vision community. He was elected as a Guide Dogs Board Director in August 2008 and was also the Chair of the Client Services Liaison Committee and a member of the Volunteer Peer Support Program. He passionately advocated on issues such as disability parking access for Queenslanders and accessibility issues on the Queensland Rail network.

He also assisted in the training of staff to ensure they could best help people with low or no vision. He was recognised for his enormous ongoing contribution by being awarded an Order of Australia Medal (OAM) in 2014 for services to the blind and vision impaired.

In November 2011, John was matched with Guide Dog *Vogue* who became his steadfast and loyal companion. The CEO of Queensland Guide Dogs who attended the Memorial Day, delighted everyone by bringing along the wonderful *Vogue*. In a touching moment, *Vogue* made a direct path towards Mrs Vance, something that brought tears to most of the onlookers.



Mrs Dawn Vance and Dr John Vance's faithful guide dog Vogue

The following sponsors donated prizes for the day: Club Tamborine, Mt Tamborine Vineyard and Winery, SParms, Lawn Bowls Sunscreen – Sunblessed Sunscreen, Queensland Guide Dogs, Thoroughbred Fix and Lance Cordingley Lawyers.

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ENCORE FOR MONIQUE'S LIFE DRAWING EVENING



Following the sell-out inaugural life drawing evening conducted by Tamborine Mountain artist Monique Quarantini at the Centre for Regenerative Arts, a second event has now been arranged to cater for growing local enthusiasm and interest.

Monique was delighted with the response of all those who attended the March 17 evening - a mix of established and novice artists who came together and enjoyed an inspiring time of fun and high energy.

By providing tips and techniques along with individual tuition, Monique was able to help them find new ways of viewing the live model and their own work. With the model changing positions often and demonstrating short and long poses, participants were inspired to try new things, to push the boundaries and practise new techniques.

"It was wonderful to see people moving around the room and trying out different perspectives to bring their creativity to life," said Monique.

Everyone loved the atmosphere of connecting, sharing their work and ideas, and observing the works created by others. The opportunity to have a coffee, glass of wine and some food made for a social as well as an educational evening.

Monique and the team from Making Good Alliance transformed the Centre for Regenerative Arts into an intimate, relaxed and cosy space for those attending to explore their own self-expression. Monique's beautiful pottery, her personal drawings, the arrangement of beautiful lighting and candles, lamp shades created by Sandy Baillie, and music added to the ambience. Even the rain couldn't dampen the mood.

Overall, it was a very special evening. If you would like to explore your creativity, are an established artist or just want to have some fun, book now for the next event on April 21. For more information and how to book, visit **www.makinggoodalliance.com.au/mga-events** or phone 0438 152 976.



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Council Notices

HELP US PLAN FOR THE FUTURE

Be part of planning for the future of the region through For more information visit the first Scenic Rim Growth Management Strategy. Visit Council's Have Your Say web page to find out more about the growth management strategy and complete

the survey online. cenicrim.gld.gov.au/have-your-say

COMMUNITY DISASTER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Council is calling for Community Disaster Volunteers to fill new roles to improve on-the-ground communications and local leadership before, during and after a disaster event.

Applications close mid-May 2021. Download a Fact Sheet and Volunteer Application Form from Council's website scenicrim.qld.gov.au

VIRTUAL REALITY EXPERIENCE

To celebrate Youth Week, Scenic Rim kids can enjoy a free half-hour virtual reality experience. Tamborine Mountain | Wed 7 April 9am - 1pm Boonah Cultural Centre | Tues 13 April 9am - 1pm The Centre Beaudesert | Wed 14 April 9am - 1pm

Places are limited, so bookings are essential. Visit www.whatsonscenicrim.com

LIBRARIES

scenicrim.qld.gov.au/libraries

SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES NAME THE GAME

A morning of quick thinking and hilarious games. Book through the Library catalogue Events page on Council's website

Boonah | Monday 12 April | 10am - 11am Beaudesert | Thursday 14 April | 10am - 11am

METAMORPHOSIS ACTIVITY PACKS

Scenic Rim Libraries are celebrating the change of seasons through poetry and art. The Metamorphosis Kit includes Haiku instructions, origami paper and material for children aged 8+ to create a collage.

STORYTIME IN THE PARK OUTREACH

	CANUNGRA	14 April	
а	RATHDOWNEY	19 April	
	BEAUDESERT	20 April	
	TAMBORINE VILLAGE	27 April	

STORYTIME SESSIONS

Bookings are essential. Space and number limits apply. BEAUDESERT Monday 9.30am | Wednesday 9.30am BOONAH Monday 9.30am | 10.30am

TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN Monday 9.15am | Storytime for children 2-5 yrs Friday 9.15am | Baby Rhyme Time 2 yrs and under

QUEENSLAND MUSEUM KITS

Suitable for home-schooled students, educators and families, these kits are available for loan from local libraries. Contact your local library for information.

Council correspondence should be addressed to: Jon Gibbons, Chief Executive Officer, PO Box 25 | 82 Brisbane Street, Beaudesert QLD 4285 | Telephone 07 5540 5111

AM CONCERT

LIVE ON STAGE

Tickets Adults \$16; Groups of 10+ \$12.50 p/p DARREN COGGAN'S CAMPFIRE Friday 30 April | 11am | The Centre Beaudesert

PM CONCERTS

Tickets Adults \$34; Conc \$29; Groups of 8+ \$29 p/p CHAMELEON

Friday 23 April 7.30pm Vonda Youngman Community Centre A TASTE OF IRELAND

Tuesday 4 May7pmBoonah Cultural CentreTickets\$44.90 - \$89.90. Groups of 10+ \$49.90 pp

ON EXHIBITION

ARTISTS' JOURNEYS 6 April - 21 May | The Centre Beaudesert

Exhibition Opening: Saturday 10 April | 10.30am | Bookings essential Gallery hours: Tues-Fri 10am - 4pm | Sat 10am - 2pm

FRIDAY FLICKS Boonah Cultural Centre Tickets \$10 or Conc \$7.50 Pre-purchased essential Friday 23 April Hope Gap (M) | 10am | 1pm | 7pm

ARTS DINNER - LIVE AND ONLINE

Celebrating Arts Outside - Streamed online Tuesday 20 April 6.30pm Enquiries phone 5540 5050 or register at www.artsdinners.com



LIVE + ONLINE AT THE CENTRES For more information or bookings phone 5540 5050 or liveatthecentre.com.au

SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

BACK TO BASICS COOKING CLASS WITH SAM Wednesday 7 April | Boonah Cultural Centre

Friday 9 April | The Centre Beaudesert Monday 12 April | Vonda Youngman Centre

MAKING MONSTERS POTTERY WORKSHOP WITH NICCI

Thursday 8 April

The Centre Beaudesert | Vonda Youngman Centre Thursday 15 April | Boonah Cultural Centre

LIGHTS! CAMERA! ACTION! **GOAT TRACK THEATRE WORKSHOP** Wednesday 14 April | Vonda Youngman Centre

KIDS FLICKS

Boonah Cultural Centre | The Centre Beaudesert 6 - 16 April | 10am | 1pm

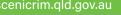
- Cats & Dogs 3: Paws Unite (G)
- Flying The Nest (G)
- Dora & The Lost City Of Gold (PG) Storm Boy (PG)
- Dragon Rider (PG)

Check the website liveatthecentre.com.au for session times.



6 - SCENIC NEWS VOL. 1573 - 8 April 2021

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AGENTS: $\star \star \star \star \star$ Elizabeth Stirling 0400 449 978



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QLD's rental crisis

Rental vacancy rates are at record lows across Brisbane, the Gold Coast and the Sunshine Coast. Houses to rent are most scarce in lifestyle destinations on the Gold and Sunshine coasts and affordable suburbs around Brisbane's east and north.

Suburbtrends.com director Kent Lardner said the drop in vacancy rates in many parts of southeast Queensland was astounding. "We've got a rental crisis," Mr Lardner said. "Many of these regions have no vacancy rates — zero.

He said areas where vacancy rates had fallen to 1 per cent or lower could see a 5 per cent to 20 per cent growth in rents.

Real Estate Institute of Queensland CEO Antonia Mercorella said the lack of rental availability was putting unsustainable pressure on the housing sector. "We're seeing an unprecedented level of diminishing rental availability that's placing significant pressure on our state's housing sector — so much so that it's unsustainable and why urgent action is required to better support both increased and ongoing property investor activity in the Queensland property market and the contributions they make to the state economy," Ms Mercorella said

Example of QLD REGIONS WITH TIGHTEST RENTAL VACANCY RATES FOR HOUSES

- Beaudesert Logan-Beaudesert 0.4%
- Gold Coast Hinterland Gold Coast 0.9%
- Mudgeeraba-Tallebudgera Gold Coast 0.0%
- Nerang Gold Coast 0.2%
- Ormeau-Oxenford Gold Coast 0.3%
- Robina Gold Coast 0.4%

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TAMBORINE POLICE NEWS

HOP TO IT...

Brrrrrrr, it feels like a little local freeze is on the way, so it's a good time for everyone in the community to be vigilant with safety around heating, fires and fire safety.

Do you have current and operating smoke detector alarms installed? Do you have an exit plan from your dwelling should the need arrive? QFES (Queensland Fire) website has fantastic information and resources which I highly recommend you read to keep you and your family safe.

By the time you read this the Easter Bunny will have visited, and likely chocolate overload has happened (maybe even for some oldies!). If you are looking for opportunities to burn the sugar, take advantage of the walkways, forests and parks we have here.

I'd ask a simple favour - that in your travels you keep an eye out for one another; kids will likely be everywhere on bikes, trikes and mucking around; people are walking dogs (or cats, yes, I have seen it!) and some people just get caught up in their own world sometimes which is totally acceptable. So, enjoy life and take care whatever obstacle may pop up.

Overall, most have been abiding by the rules up here of late; be it traffic, Covid or criminal in nature. We are generous up here with educating everyone, but some people just don't get it, or are just plain belligerent and indignant. Oh well, financial incentives or a trip to court will be used in those situations by me and the crew. You can't say you weren't warned!

Take care on the roads – we will continue to campaign around road safety.

As always, report matters that might seem suspicious, your information is just a phone call away and may help save someone's life or protect their property; you never know.

Sgt Mark Shields OIC North Tamborine Police

SUNCORP (

Retail Agency

North Tamborine Shopping Centre 15 Main St, Tamborine Mountain QLD 4272 9am – 4pm Monday to Thursday 9am – 4.30pm Friday (07) 5545 4814





JON KRAUSE MP

State Member for Scenic Rim

KEEP SUPPORTING THE LOCALS, WHERE YOU CAN

Lockdowns, uncertainty, cancelled bookings and orders, last minute changes to plans – these are all things that have had an impact in one way or another on business confidence across our region and the nation recently. Knowing who you are dealing with in these times can be very reassuring, and so what a time to give the locals in business a go.

Government at all levels needs to make it easier for these businesses to grow. In Parliament recently I spoke about how State planning laws and council planning schemes under those laws can be too hard for small businesses – especially those just starting out – to get their head around (let alone the costs!). There is a huge untapped opportunity to create jobs that is being stifled. Let's unleash the potential.

AMBULANCE COVERAGE IN THE REGION

Over several years, I've raised concerns about the Queensland Ambulance Service's dynamic deployment system (DDS) and its practical effect on local coverage in the Beaudesert, Canungra and Tamborine Mountain districts – and I did so again in Parliament in late March. While I'm sure it is designed with the best of intentions, this system's practical impact on our communities can be that local crews may sometimes be drawn away from the area for extended periods – especially if they are deployed elsewhere after completing a task from our district (e.g., assigned to assist a patient on the Gold Coast after delivering a Mountain resident to the Gold Coast University Hospital).

In urban areas, where it doesn't take too long for an ambulance to drive across localities to meet a call, this system probably works fine. In our area, it means sometimes people in need might need to wait for an ambulance from the Gold Coast, or Logan, to drive into the area if local crews are otherwise deployed. I have tried numerous times to have this system changed, so that our local crews are not deployed under the DDS – so they can return to their areas to ensure maximum coverage for locals. It's still a work-in-progress. Once again, I thank the Rotarians of Tamborine Mountain for raising this issue with the Government.

TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN SHOW

At the time of writing this column, the Tamborine Mountain Show is still going ahead and will be an exciting event for those in the local community and for the visitors it attracts from around the region. The Tamborine Mountain Show was cancelled last year due to COVID-19. However, I look forward to seeing many of you at the Tamborine Mountain Show on Saturday 17 April. If you can make it, come along to support local producers and businesses.

CONGRATULATORY LETTERS

Do you know someone with a significant birthday or anniversary coming up? I'd love to write them a letter to celebrate their milestone. Depending on the occasion, you can also receive a letter from Federal Member, Scott Buchholz MP, the Premier of Queensland, Governor of Queensland, Prime Minister of Australia, Governor-General, or Her Majesty the Queen. For more information or to request a congratulatory letter, please contact my office on 1800 813 960 or email **scenicrim@parliament. qld.gov.au**

If you have an issue that you think should be fixed, I encourage you to contact my office, toll-free on 1800 813 960, so I can lobby on your behalf in Brisbane.



SCOTT BUCHHOLZ Federal Member for Wright FLOODING

While it was great to see rain falling across the region, we did see some flash flooding which impacted people across the Scenic Rim and elsewhere. This left many communities temporarily isolated, with damaged roads, causeways and embankments and in limited cases, damage to private property. It was tragic to hear of the devastating loss of life and my thoughts are with all those who knew David Hornman, particularly his family and friends.

We saw the issue with flooding once again at Eagle Heights Road (Curtis Falls) on Tamborine Mountain and I know this is an ongoing concern that has been raised on a number of occasions. I look forward to the Scenic Rim Council and the Department of Transport and Main Roads looking into this issue and finding a solution for local businesses.

The Federal and State Governments acted quickly to ensure support is available to the impacted local council areas, including the Scenic Rim, for their counter disaster operations and the restoration of essential public assets.

POWERING COMMUNITIES PROGRAM

The Australian Government has opened the Powering Communities Program. Through this program community organisations across our region can apply for a share of \$10.2 million for local energy saving projects that will lower power bills and help reduce Australia's emissions.

The program will fund up to 12 projects worth a total of \$67,700 and I urge all local community groups to express interest, through my office.

To give you an idea on how the grant may be used, eligible organisations could:

- upgrade equipment to reduce energy consumption
- undertake energy management activities and assessments, such as energy systems assessments and feasibility studies
- invest in energy monitoring and management systems
- invest in on-site renewable energy and solar-connected batteries.

More information at www.energy.gov.au/governmentpriorities/energy-programs/powering-communities-program

STRONGER SOCIAL SECURITY SAFETY NET

The rate of working age payments will be permanently boosted following the historic passage of the Strengthening Income Support package through Parliament in March. The package will increase the base rate for about 1.9 million working age payment recipients by \$50 per fortnight, including about 1.1 million JobSeeker Payment recipients, at a cost of \$9 billion across the forward estimates.

This is the biggest year-on-year increase to the rate of unemployment support since 1986. Importantly though, with jobs returning and the economy recovering, we're supporting Australians into work, with the bolstered \$150 per fortnight income free area. That means more income support recipients, with limited working hours, can keep more of what they earn through work. Jobs are returning and the number of unemployed persons for every job vacancy has since fallen below prelockdown levels to 4.2 unemployed persons per vacancy.

During the pandemic, the Morrison Government has paid out more than \$20 billion in temporary support.



Letters to the Editor

Readers are reminded that letters to the editor must show full name of writer for publication.

POSTPONEMENT OF CELEBRATION OF PAM GIFFARD'S LIFE

Much-loved Pam Giffard was quietly sent on her way by a small group of immediate family. The well-known intention was to follow up with a get-together of friends and extended family on April 10 which was a couple of days before her 90th birthday.

Preparations were well advanced, but the upsurge of COVID-19 caused a rethink. Some family could not have attended but the main reason was the possibility of infection spreading in an emotional crowd. That was too awful to contemplate. Therefore, we have postponed the party to celebrate Pam's life to a time when the world is in better shape.

Knowing Pam, she would certainly have approved.

Phil Giffard

COUNCIL'S IDENTITY CONFUSION IN NORTH TAMBORINE'S MAIN ST

Identity confusion – Shopping Centre or Tourism Food, Art and Nature Hub?

I refer to the recent announcement of the opening of North Stores. Congratulations on the innovative approach to getting such a project off the ground.

In 2019 Council approved a "shopping centre" of $<400m^2$ on the site of 46-48 Main Street. The public did not get to have their say as the application was deemed to be "code" rather than "impact" assessable, given how it was presented.

Under the Tamborine Mountain Zone of the Beaudesert Shire Planning Scheme 2007, "Development in the Business Precinct is typically commercial in character and caters to the convenience shopping needs of the local catchment, by providing limited access to comparison retail and specialty shopping. Development within this Precinct also provides for limited access to lower order professional offices and businesses". So far so good. Throw in a couple of retail tenancies and some "possible" health professional offices and your application is good to go.

But then along comes the possibility of having your "shopping centre" funded via a State Government Grant under its Growing Tourism Infrastructure Fund and the possibilities are endless! Let's do a quick "Minor Change" application to Council and make significant changes to the plans already approved – it's only a "Minor Change" so won't need to bother the councillors with a pesky vote. Gone are the "possible" health professional offices, miraculously replaced with a 134m2 "workshop/event space". There is also another new building, a deck, and the toilets and water tank have been relocated, as has the market garden providing the produce for the "garden to plate" experience – it is to be on the site of the biocycle wastewater system.

The "shopping centre" complete with compressed gravel carparking has morphed into a tourism venue – it must have – it was awarded a \$990,000 grant.

How do the other local food venue owners feel about this? They have built their businesses from scratch, survived (or not) through the trials of COVID-19 and done it tough.

Can Council please explain how this came to pass? And what level of support did Council provide for the grant application (if any)?

Amanda Hay

HAVE YOUR SAY ON SCENIC RIM'S RECREATION FACILITIES

Have you had Your Say on Scenic Rim's Sporting, Camping and Recreation Facilities?

These are important topics, and it is good to see that Scenic Rim Council is consulting with the community. However, it is a shame that yet another consultant has to be used. I am sure that council officers have the expertise to conduct these surveys.

My other disappointment is that Council did not include in the survey how these facilities will be run or managed. This question is integral to the whole topic. Take for example the Tamborine Mountain Sports Centre. This is an excellent centre which encompasses a number of activities: sporting, bridge, scouts, Landcare and hang gliding, but where does the operational funding come from?

Not from the council, and the centre is struggling. Volunteers do an excellent job in keeping the centre running but they need operational funds, and this should come from the council. The survey should be consulting the community on this aspect.

I look forward to hearing the results of the survey from the council and what their future plans are.

Nigel Waistell





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SHARP COMMENT

An open Letter to Cr Jeff McConnell

Dear Jeff,

I note with curiosity your councillor comments in the *Scenic News* edition, dated 25 March 2021.

Your first concern is what you term as "the vitriolic nature of anti-council posts on Facebook" and why one would become a councillor. You go on to discuss the popularity of decisions, helping people and making a difference. You also add that you always look at the long-term strategic impact of all decisions.

You state further that a councillor should be free from personal conflict and that you will not be opposing contentious issues the Mayor supports just to go against him because you do not like him and to score political points.

I can only suggest the people of the region expect nothing less with regards to personal conflict or political point scoring. However, I ask you this, are the "contentious issues" being addressed with proper knowledge and integrity? Knowledge is two-fold in terms of the information being provided by the bureaucracy and the councillors possessing the knowledge of its constituency's thoughts on the contentious issue at hand i.e., knowing how to read public opinion. Without the proper knowledge, how could anyone possibly hope to make a decision with any integrity? One could not.

The increase in "constituency temperature" right across this region by way of Facebook, local journalists, commentators, community leaders, and petitions is due to a total misalignment with people's values and principles versus Council's "clarity of process".

You highlight that the Scenic Rim is too small to have an opposition party like Brisbane and the Gold Coast. I would like to point out that while Brisbane City Council is political party based and currently governed by an LNP majority, the Gold Coast City Council is not. You will find that the elected Gold Coast members mostly, if not all, fly under an independent banner and there is no political party governing this municipality.

While on the subject of party politics, could you advise why during the 2020 State Election Campaign the Scenic Rim Regional Council gave an exclusive full council briefing to One Nation Candidate, Paul Henselin and Paul's party leader, Pauline Hanson? I was made aware of this by Paul during the campaign and while consulting other candidates discovered the same opportunity was not afforded to either the LNP candidate, Jon Krause; ALP candidate, Luz Stanton; UAP candidate, Bradley Fowler; IMOP candidate, Deborah Husbands and QG candidate, Pietro Agnoletto?

While I do not begrudge Paul and One Nation for this opportunity, I find this secret, exclusive meeting conducted by an independent council to be of the most extraordinary behaviour in the worst possible way and totally unaligned with the values and principles of the people of this region. Please explain? Jeff, you go on to advise there are no secret meetings in council yet in the same breath there is a "confidential" workshop. Could your workshop be defined as a "meeting" of councillors and officers?

In these "workshops" are not council business matters discussed and proposals formulated?

If you do not engage with the constituents with regard to these "workshops" and secure their knowledge, how do councillors and bureaucrats alike make the appropriate proposals with any integrity?

Do you agree or disagree that democracy is best served by meetings conducted in public, not behind closed doors?

Jeff, you went on to state that confidential workshops were the standard practice before amalgamation. This I can assure you is complete bunkum and can advise that the "committee system" was in place in the first term of Scenic Rim Regional Council post amalgamation of Beaudesert and Boonah Shires.

These various committees covering finance, planning, operations, community service, waste etc were made up of councillors and officers formulating policy and proposals that were put forward at the next full council ordinary meeting. Additionally, it was made law by the State Government of Queensland circa 1988 that all committee meetings were made open to the public and media for scrutiny. If you wish to refer back to the annual reports of both Beaudesert and Boonah Shires you will find these committees represented.

Lastly, you claim decisions are only made in Ordinary Meetings. This has already been proved to be completely false with regard to decisions relating to:

- Water for Warrill Project
- COVID-19 relief package announced while Council was meant to be in caretaker mode.
- Cancellation of Eat Local Week 2019
- Scenic Rim Farm Box
- Cancellation of the Helen Street Pig and Calf Saleyard Lease.

These are simply a handful of instances that immediately come to mind.

I wonder how many changes to the SRRC budget have occurred that have not been brought before an ordinary meeting in open session and are required to by Queensland Government legislation and regulations?

What would it take to find out? A full independent audit and investigation?

If I am in anyway, shape or form incorrect, please do advise me, along with the exact details and evidence.

In closing Jeff, please consider that maybe Council is not all knowing and use the next three years left in this term to fight for your people, understand their needs and put those needs back on the council agenda for deliberation in an open public and knowledge-led forum.

STATE GRANT WILL FUND PROJECT SECOND STAGE

Under its Growing Tourism Infrastructure Fund, the State Government has granted \$990,000 in funding for Stage Two of the North Stores development on Tamborine Mountain, which will include a cooking school, event space, café and providore shop showcasing the Scenic Rim's local produce.

Scenic Rim Mayor Greg Christensen said it was exciting news, not just for the proponents, but for the whole Scenic Rim.

Fund recipient Brenda Fawdon said she and her business partner, Sonja Drexler, were thrilled to receive the Growing Tourism Infrastructure Fund grant for stage two of their North Stores food tourism development in Main Street, North Tamborine.

"We are so excited to receive the grant and extremely grateful to the Queensland Government for this opportunity," she said.

"Sonja and I have spent the past couple of years championing local

produce, which we have sourced directly from Scenic Rim and local growers on a weekly basis and sold at the Gold Coast Farmers' Markets.

"Sonja, who is also the talented designer of the North Stores building, and I are literally building on and cementing our connection with the region in bricks and mortar.

'We are committed to growing our business focusing on the Scenic Rim and supporting the fabulous local producers and products of our region.

"As well as dropping by for a coffee or to pick up a picnic box, visitors will soon be able to attend a workshop or event in the purpose-built space."

Cr Christensen said the council was pleased to advocate for the project and welcomed the new operation to the Scenic Rim's existing array of tourism and food experiences.

"The new venture aligns perfectly with the aims of the Scenic



Rim Tourism Strategy and the Scenic Rim Regional Prosperity Strategy, and will provide another great option for our visitors, while creating jobs for our local people," he said.

He said council officers are working with the proponents to ensure the project complies with all council regulations.



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TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN DENTAL

EAGLE HEIGHTS SHOPPING VILLAGE (above FOODWORKS) 14/17 SOUTHPORT AVE, EAGLE HEIGHTS



Mitch Gregory is one of the co-owners of Firehaus in Brisbane, servicing from Byron Bay to the Sunshine Coast and out west to Toowoomba. The company is young, but between staff and contractors has over 60 years' experience servicing the fireplace industry. When Mitch moved to Queensland in 2003, he lived at the bottom of Tamborine Mountain (in Coomera) and spent a lot of time venturing up to the cafés and restaurants. He also spent six years living in Jimboomba, loves the lifestyle that comes with living on a rural property and looks forward to warming many homes over the coming winter.

What inspired you to start your business, and what do you have planned in 2021?

My inspiration to open Firehaus was driven by seeing a gap in the market in both Brisbane and the Gold Coast; other fireplace companies were not offering a complete design, supply and installation service.

2021 will see us open our second fireplace showroom where we will have the single largest working display of gas, wood, electric and bioethanol fireplaces by mid year.

How did COVID-19 affect you and your business in 2020?

As unfortunate as Covid-19 was for many other industries throughout Queensland and Australia during 2020 and even into 2021, our business did see the benefits of closed international borders, as a lot of consumers were spending their money on home renovations and adding warmth to their homes with fireplaces.

What did you do before opening your business?

Prior to opening Firehaus I was working for another locally-owned fireplace company where I learned the tools of the trade, and took what I had learnt and put that into my own business, but also adding a few points of difference.

How would you describe your business?

Our business model is a high energy business, extremely customer-focused on the things that matter the most and bringing forward some of the best quality brands in Australia and from around the world. We have a goal of being the biggest and best in Brisbane and the Gold Coast.

What is it about your business that you love? What makes your business stand out from other, similar businesses? Is it a business that gives you satisfaction?

Our people, who are passionate about finding the right solution for every 14 – SCENIC NEWS VOL. 1573 – 8 April 2021



individual customer. Our people are what make us stand out from other businesses, and the satisfaction we receive is when customers ring, text, send us pictures and tag us on social media to let us know how happy they are with their fireplaces.

What challenges have you had in business over this period of time?

Being the new player in the market has had its challenges. However, we have taken them head-on to ensure we stay grounded and achieve our end result of being the biggest and best.

If you were not doing this what would your ideal job be?

Growing up, I spent a lot of time in landscaping and horticulture. I would find it extremely relaxing and therapeutic sitting on a ride-on lawn mower and mowing a golf course. There is nothing more satisfying than looking at the lawns after they have been freshly trimmed.

Interesting facts about yourself?

At the age of 17, I had my first professional soccer contract in Western Australia, but an unfortunate accident with a chainsaw abruptly brought the curtain down on that.

What do you do for fun?

I am a family man, and spend as much time with my wife, daughters and family and when I am not working. I do, however, love the new Australian tradition of smoking meat and entertaining people with some pulled pork and brisket.

Do you take holidays and if so, is there a favourite destination or activity?

Over the last five years I have travelled a lot to the USA, and by far my favourite destination has to be New York; I was lucky enough to get engaged in New York in 2018 and then later in 2019 got married under the Brooklyn Bridge in New York.

Final thoughts?

We appreciate the opportunity to showcase Firehaus in this short profile, but would really like to say "thank you" to the readers of the *Scenic News* for their continued support of Firehaus over the last 18 months, and look forward to heating many, many more homes.

CRICKET WASHOUT BUT GAME GOES ON



It's the Tamborine Mountain under 12 cricket team and if they don't look all that happy it's because they have just learned their semi-final match has been cancelled due to wet weather.

On a brighter note, Tamborine Mountain Bushrats Cricket Club will be hosting a round robin event on the Chris Wills Oval at the Sport and Recreation Centre, Long Road, this Saturday and Sunday.

On Saturday at 9.30am Victoria's Boonies Bushwackers will play the Queensland Cricketers Club, and at 1pm Tamborine Mountain Bushrats will take on Lucky Stars Australia Transplant Cricket Inc.

On Sunday, the semi-finals and final will be played from 9.30am. These games are played regularly for the Lucky Stars-Chris Wills Cup.

They help raise awareness of the importance of organ and tissue donation around Australia. All the players representing the Transplant team have received donations of this kind. The team also includes ambassadors Andrew Robinson who is a former Brisbane Heat T20 representative and Nathan Reardon who has represented Australia and Brisbane Heat at a T20 level.

The matches at the weekend are being played in a T20 format with some revised rules.

Chris Wills was a transplant recipient, a Tamborine Mountain local and an enthusiastic player and supporter for Tamborine Mountain Bush Rats. Chris sadly passed away in 2009 but he remains strong in the hearts and minds of the members and players of the Bush Rats.

CLUB TAMBORINE THEMED DINNER

The Club Tamborine Themed Dinner which was reported as an event to be held on Saturday 10 April will actually be held on Saturday 17 April.

Theme for this event is 'Round the World' and will feature cuisine from various countries across the globe, including USA, Asia, Europe and Australia.

The menu for the event, scheduled to begin at 6pm, can be viewed on Club Tamborine's website at **www.clubtamborine.com.au** (under What's On/ News & More).

Alternatively, you can call in at the Club and check it out.



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EUROPE

Pork Knuckle & Lamb Coq au Vin, served with Dolmades, Sauerkraut & Couscous

D E S S E R T: add dessert to your meal for only \$8 Belgian Waffles with Maple Syrup, Chocolate Sauce & Cream





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NEONATAL JAUNDICE

If you've had a baby before, there's a chance you have photos in the first week of baby's life that are black and white or with select filters because suddenly your baby has started to look a little 'tanned'. Neonatal jaundice is very common and happens to 60 per cent of babies born at term, and there are times it is of concern, and times it is not.

When babies are born, they start to break down some of their red blood cells and haemaglobin. The byproduct of this is unconjugated bilirubin which builds up in the blood. This is often then deposited into the fatty tissue of the baby and causes them to look yellow on their skin and eyes. It is eliminated through urine and stool.

Is this a problem? Sometimes, yes. Many babies will develop jaundice day three to five, which is caused by normal newborn physiology. This does not necessarily cause a problem, unless the levels of jaundice get too high which can put the baby at risk of severe hyperbilirubinaemia and can lead to kernicterus, a very rare, severe type of brain damage. If a baby develops jaundice in the first 24 hours of life, their risk of severe hyperbilirubinaemia is much higher and requires immediate treatment.

Who are the babies most at risk of developing jaundice? Although it is important to know the risk factors, these can often be quite broad, so it is important for all parents to have an awareness of jaundice so they can keep an eye out for warning signs and concerns. Some of the risk factors include babies of mums whose blood type is rhesus negative, babies with blood group O, premature babies or those with an infection, or those with bruising to their heads from an instrumental delivery.

What are the signs and symptoms of severe

hyperbilirubinaemia? Many babies develop jaundice, but it is only of concern if it becomes severe. Some of the clinical ways we assess this is through the baby's behaviour. A clinically well baby will have good tone and movement, wake for feeds and feed well. We also monitor how much milk the baby gets, and ensure they are passing enough urine (4 x wet nappies in 24hr period by day 3) and opening bowels with changes in stool colour. If there are any concerns a light or blood test may be performed.

What can you do to avoid it or help if your baby gets jaundice? Bilirubin is excreted in the urine and stools of babies, so babies need to have adequate feeding by breast or bottle, and they also need exposure to natural light in order to break down the bilirubin.

What do we do if we find a baby needs treatment? If you feel that your baby is lethargic, difficult to rouse, has poor tone, poor output and isn't feeding, they need to be assessed in Emergency at hospital by a neonatal doctor. They will perform a blood test to see how much bilirubin is in the baby's blood, and if it is high the baby may be put on UV light therapy to help to break down the bilirubin.

Where can I get more information? Speak to your midwife, neonatal doctor or GP, or visit the Raising Children website on jaundice https://raisingchildren.net.au/newborns/health-daily-care/health-concerns/jaundice-in-newborns

(Bree Lowing is a Registered Midwife and provides bulkbilled in-home antenatal and postnatal services through The Mountain Midwife **www.themountainmidwife.com.au**) **16** – SCENIC NEWS VOL. 1573 – 8 April 2021

Relationships



Ubuntu is a Zulu word meaning "I am, because we are". Desmond Tutu states in his book *No Future Without Forgiveness*, that ubuntu sees our humanity as being part of a greater

whole. It is not a case of "I think, therefore I am" but rather "I am human because I belong, I participate, I share". A person with ubuntu is open, affirming and available to others.



An African aid worker reported

that attempts to teach local children competitive games hopelessly failed. When it came to a running race that included a prize for the winner, the children linked arms and skipped across the finish line together. They did not grasp the concept of competition because it was not ingrained in their culture. In their community they grow up conditioned to an ubuntu system where all things are shared, including success and happiness.

Barak Obama made a speech at Nelson Mandela's memorial service. He said that ubuntu is a word that captures Mandela's greatest gift: his recognition that we are all bound together in ways that are invisible to the eye; that there is a oneness to humanity; that we achieve ourselves by sharing ourselves with others and caring for those around us.

Imagine a world where the spirit of ubuntu was widespread, crossing every ethnic boundary. Is it possible that poverty could be eliminated? In 1987 Bob Hawke famously made a bold declaration that by 1990 no Australian child would live in poverty. It was an unattainable dream because poverty cannot be eliminated solely by political parties. What needs to change is the ethics, beliefs and behaviour of the general population.

According to the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organisation, the world produces 1.5 times enough food for everyone on the planet, and world food production is increasing at a greater rate than world population growth. Why then do we have a hunger problem? It is estimated that 30 to 40 per cent of food is wasted.

In affluent societies, imperfect produce is discarded and left to rot. Infrastructure and safe storage is inadequate in developing countries; getting food to those who need it is often hampered by war and conflict. These issues could be addressed if the world came together as a united community, much like the African children who crossed the finish line together.

Global issues aside, we make a difference in our world by helping those around us. What often prevents us from doing that is fear. Fear that our resources are limited and that by sharing possessions, time, energy and skills, we will have insufficient left for ourselves. An ancient proverb states "One person gives freely yet gains even more; another withholds but comes to poverty." Our willingness to share results in a boomerang of generosity.

You might think that you are just one person and your influence is minimal. Get inspired by acquainting yourself with the biographies of world changers. Like Nelson Mandela, you can create a ripple effect that spreads the spirit of ubuntu far and wide.

Linda Gray linda@relationshipsanctuary.com.au 0401 517 243



with Nadia O'Carroll

IMMUNITY

Living organisms are beset by threats throughout their lives, externally from microbial pathogens such as bacteria, parasites and viruses as well as potentially damaging toxins; internally from threatening malfunctions such as cancer.

The complex network of organs, cells, enzymes, chemicals and processes which organisms use to protect their body from these external and internal threats is described as the immune system.

The immune system has two components:

Innate immunity is a first line of defence; it is general and not specific to any pathogen, has no memory and does not confer any long-lasting immunity to the host. Innate immunity includes physical barriers, mucus, biochemicals, inflammation and fever responses. It is found in all classes of plant and animal life.

Adaptive immunity provides a specific response to a pathogen. The initial exposure to the pathogen creates an effector response which eliminates or neutralises the pathogen. Subsequent exposure to the same invading pathogen will trigger a memory response which quickly recognises the pathogen and rapidly deploys a strong immune response to eliminate it. This response is found in vertebrates.

Not all external microbes are threats; in fact, certain bacteria create a micro biota which interacts with the immune system and help balance and protect the host.

The immune system itself can create vulnerability and damage due to low or over activity; these conditions are known as autoimmune disorders. The immune system can also produce an allergic response to harmless microbes such as pollen or certain foods when it launches an immune response to an incorrectly identified threat.

Pathogens also change and may slip through the immune system's memory response. A specific virus reproduces versions of itself; it can produce a replica virus that is different from the original because of genetic change through reassorting, recombining and mutating genomes.

Historically, it was observed that survivors of certain plagues were unlikely to have a recurrence, and this provided an insight into acquired immunity although



the mechanism of disease were unknown. Homeopathic practices of deliberate inoculation of diseased material can be traced back hundreds of years. English doctor Edward Jenner observed that milkmaids who previously had caught cowpox did not catch smallpox. He created the first vaccine when he used cowpox injections to confer immunity against smallpox - the term vaccine was derived from the Latin word for cow "vacca". On May 14, 1796, Jenner took fluid from a cowpox blister and scratched it into the skin of James Phipps, an eight-yearold boy. A single blister rose up on the spot, but James soon recovered. On July 1, Jenner inoculated the boy again, this time with smallpox matter, and no disease developed. The vaccine was a success.

Modern vaccines have eliminated and reduced many global deadly diseases such as smallpox, polio, tetanus and diphtheria as well as previously common potentially serious childhood diseases such as measles, rubella, pertussis and chickenpox.



The Iditarod is the longest dog sled race in the world; it is held in Alaska every year over a gruelling 1510 km. They battle blizzards, freezing temperatures and moose on the trail.



The team consists of 14 dogs and they finish the race in 8 to 14 days with only one mandatory 24-hour stop and two eight-hour stops; the musher has a choice where he or she stops.

There has been a ramping up of drug testing for the dogs after many tested positive for endurance drugs and the rest periods have been cut short by some competitors. The largest number of race entrants was in 2000 with 82 dog teams. Prize money is a luring \$50,000 and a new Dodge pick-up truck for the winner, with lesser amounts for place getters. The race has become so competitive that special musher pants have been designed so there is minimal stopping for toilet breaks. Carrying a gun is also allowed to shoot moose if they become threatening.

The number of young, otherwise healthy dogs that die from the race is becoming a concern. In 2019 a winning dog, just five-years-old, died from pneumonia and there has been a loss of national sponsors amid doping scandals and protests by animal rights activists with some shocking footage. The Iditarod rule book includes a list of dog deaths as acceptable.

Dog sledding and tourism has become very popular in Canada, Sweden, Finland, Iceland, Greenland, Siberia, Patagonia, Japan and China. PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) has exposed how many of these businesses keep their dogs in between seasons - the dogs' world extends no further than the 6ft tether or chain; no exercise, company, play or mental stimulation.

Slow dog runners are doomed, and a US sled dog kennel came under fire when it was revealed by PACFA (Pet Animal Care Facilities Act) that a number of dogs were shot in the head and buried. If you are planning a dog sledding adventure at least look into their kennels; even better, do not support the exploitation of these dogs.

Pan Brandis Dip. Canine Prac.

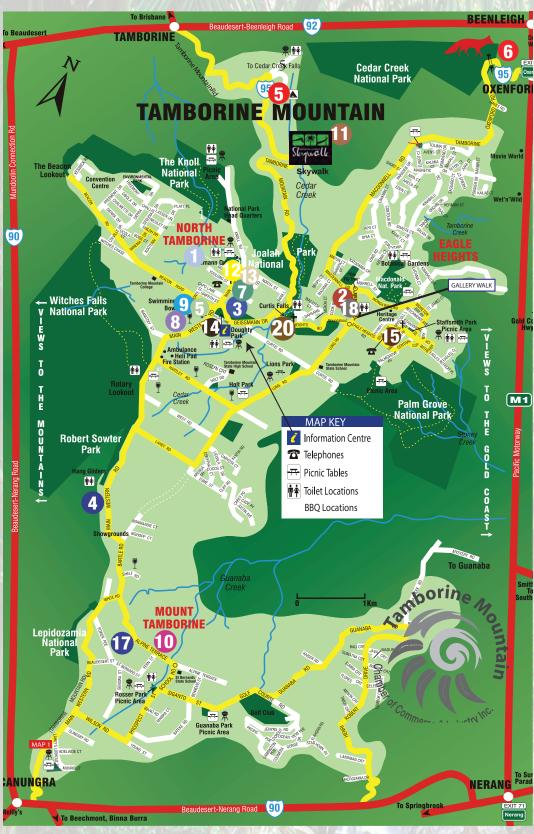
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INTEREST RISING FOR CAR SHOW

The countdown to the inaugural Tamborine Mountain Rotary Car Show has started and already an impressive list of entries is being pre-registered by the club.

The Car Show on May 2 will have several different categories on display: Antique, Vintage, Classic, Custom and Muscle Cars, as well as Bikes.

It promises to be an exciting event that has the potential to grow into one of the most popular automobile attractions in South-East Queensland, especially given that it is an autumn event and is being held at one of the most pleasant times during the year.

Now is the time for anyone interested in displaying their vehicle at the show to register.

The Car Show will be held at the Tamborine Mountain Sport and Recreation Centre on Long Road which has asphalt hard stands for most of the display cars. The grounds will open at 6.30am for display cars and bikes. There will also be market stall holders present, as well as food and coffee vans that will be set up prior to public access from 8am. The Car Show is expected to wrap up around 2pm following award presentations at 1pm. Rotary wants all types of cars displayed, so if you have one that fits one of the following categories you are welcome to pre-register for a spot at the car show.

VINTAGE CAR: Generally, cars that are considered Vintage were manufactured between the years of 1919 and 1930, and the car should



be maintained in a way that keeps it true to the original manufacturer specifications.

ANTIQUE CAR: Generally, in most cases it is a car that's over 45 years old and the car should be maintained in a way that keeps it true to the original manufacturer specifications.

CLASSIC CAR: A car must be at least 20 years old, but not more than 45 years old to generally be considered a classic car. It should again have been repaired and maintained in a way that keeps it true to its



original design and specifications.

MUSCLE CAR: This classification covers factory performance cars from the early 1960s through to around 2000. These can be Australian, USA and European manufactured cars.

CUSTOM/HOT ROD: Typically speaking, a car that is considered a Custom or Hot Rod car could fit any of the above categories as far as date of manufacture is concerned, but it has been highly modified or had a powerful engine installed. It could also have improved brakes, body modifications and newer suspension design, as well as custom wheels installed. Hot Rods fit this category but are open wheeled type cars.

Are you wanting to secure a display car park in the Car Show? If so, please complete a pre-registration form now to secure a Display Car space. This can be accessed via the QR Code on the display car pre-registration flyer. If you are a bit concerned about the longrange weather forecast, you then have to 23 April (approximately one week prior to the event) to lock your booking in through the booking site (Eventbrite). This booking information is included in the pre-registration process. Display car spaces cannot be guaranteed if the booking process is made after the due date. No cars will be accepted on the day without prior arrangement, as planning for the event is important to ensure the event runs smoothly.

Rotary as a charity intends to direct funds raised from this event directly back into the community supporting schools and youth development, sports clubs, and other community groups.

For additional information, contact Dave Power on 0419 743 275 or email tamborinemountainsatellite@ coomerariverrotary.org.au

This event is being sponsored by Eagle Heights Mountain Resort Tamborine Mountain.

A SUPER REVAMP FOR MY COUNTRY ESCAPE

After undergoing an extensive \$250,000 refurbishment, popular Scenic Rim fashion and homewares boutique, My Country Escape, has been officially re-opened in Canungra.

A magnet for local and out-of-town shoppers, as well as a growing number of tourists, the stunningly refurbished boutique was jam-packed for the reopening. Built in 1957, the building is one of Canungra's oldest commercial shopfronts and has hosted a variety of businesses in the last six decades.

Celebrating in style with champagne, canapés, and giveaways, My Country Escape was re-opened with an official ribbon-cutting that included past and present owners, and a VIP guest list of local councillors, brand representatives and business owners.

Owner Michelle Roper-Dennis said the refurbishment was something that she had envisioned for many years.

"It was important to us to maintain the character, ambience and history of the building while also giving it a fresh, modern feel. The team at Hobbs have done outstanding work and we are so proud to share the new My Country Escape with the local community and wider Scenic Rim region," said Michelle.

"We're honoured to have given the oldgirl a facelift so she can stand proudly for many more decades to come.

"Shopping locally and buying from the bush is something we've always advocated for – and it's because of the unwavering support of our wonderful locals and surrounding visitors from Scenic Rim, the Gold Coast and Brisbane that we've been able to brave the last year and pull off this dream renovation project. We absolutely cannot thank everyone enough," she said.

My Country Escape stocks a variety of fashion lines, homewares, luxury beauty products, unique gifts and designer jewellery.

Open from 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday, and 9am to 3pm on weekends, it is also home to one of the Scenic Rim's outstanding florists, Lydia's Garden.



Cheers! Councillor Virginia West joins Michelle Roper-Dennis in a celebratory champagne.

Below left: It was smiles all round as the ribbon was cut to officially re-launch the stunningly refurbished My Country Escape in Canungra. In a nice touch, owners Michelle Roper-Dennis and husband Steve were joined by previous owners of the building, Geoff and Ruth Baldwin, and Sylvian Cameron.

Below right: Florist Samantha Dusting will continue to operate her popular Lydia's Garden from within the refurbished My Country Escape.



Among the many out-of-towners who attended the grand re-opening were Julie Sixsmith, Vicki Thompson and Lesley Light.





SCENIC NEWS VOL. 1573 - 8 April 2021 - 21

one small place on earth



Brisbane Tube Spider

Brisbane Tube Spider – Arbanitis longipes, MacDonald National Park.



Instead of a door, the burrow entrance often has a flanged collar formed by leaves, of which this is an excellent example, with the spider bigger and more fully emerged as it waits to pounce, than I have ever seen. It has a body length of up to 20mm. According to the Queensland Government website, its burrow is up to 20cm long, although **arachne.org** cites a depth of 40cm. The species occurs in coastal south-eastern Queensland and just over the New South Wales border.

Peter Kuttner



Mount Tamborine (Fern Street) was on the ABC with 771mm of rain for March. Looking back over the records this was, indeed, a significant amount.

Not since May 1996, when Fern Street got 1178mm, have we had as much in a month. In that rainfall event over a metre of rain fell in the first seven days. On this occasion 556mm was recorded in four days. This March opened with good rain from a coastal trough. On the 8th and 9th, a front brought good rain and a thunderstorm. On the 14th a trough developed a cloud mass with associated upper atmosphere instability which brought more than 50mm. On the 21st an upper atmosphere trough brought rain and another thunderstorm, and this then coalesced with a deep coastal trough to produce the heavy rainfall event ending on the 23rd. Thankfully most of the rain over the month was not too heavy and didn't cause much damage but will have recharged the aquifers.

The map shows considerable variability in rainfall amounts over Tamborine Mountain. This occurred mainly in the major event.

Mike Russell 5545 3601 travelling places

With something for everyone...



TRAVELLING PLACES By Gina Storey

Why is it that every winter for as long as I can remember it rains – not only that, but most families also seem to arrange camping holidays. I have been thinking about driving holidays and exploring our wide-open country. Here are few suggestions.



Fly down to Sydney and pick up a car to explore the South Coast – start in Kiama famous for its blow holes and unspoilt beaches. Spend a couple of nights in Batemans Bay soaking up the seaside vibe and perhaps indulge in a few deliciously fresh oysters. Drive through beautiful forests and quaint towns to Merimbula, where lakes and ocean are separated by white sand fringed with bushland. Head back up the coast to Wollongong for a night where you can discover the bustling food scene, walk forest tracks, or enjoy the stunning beaches. A package including return flights from the Gold Coast to Sydney, seven days' car hire and six nights' 4* accommodation all from \$1029 per person twin share.

Add on a few extra days with five days' more car hire. Head out to Dubbo for two nights at the Zoofari Lodge with dinner and breakfast included daily. Enjoy two days' admission to the Taronga Western Plains zoo. Join an afternoon or evening safari plus a morning safari tour at sunrise. Head back across the Blue Mountains and stop for two nights including full breakfast. Enjoy a half day 4WD tour including lunch exploring rocks to rainforest with wine tasting. This four-night 4* Wildlife Glamping and Mountain Viewing journey for \$1399 per person twin share.

Or fly to Sydney and pick up a car for eight days and wander back up to Queensland. Stay two nights in the Hunter Valley where you can enjoy wine tasting and sampling local produce. Head up the coast to stop for a night in Port Stephens – perhaps take a harbour cruise in search of bottlenose dolphins that often play in these waters. Enjoy a couple of nights in Coffs Harbour exploring the broad sandy beaches, walk the rainforest tracks, enjoy the beachside restaurants in town, hire a bike a cycle the coastal boardwalk or take a canoe adventure along the coast.

Coming closer to home enjoy a couple of nights in Byron Bay – walk up to Australia's most easterly tip at the lighthouse, learn to surf or walk along the beautiful arc of the main beach, indulge in great food at local restaurants or potter around the nearby villages of Bangalow or Yamba. This eight-day holiday including a flight to Sydney, car hire and seven nights 4* accommodation, all from \$1175 per person twin share.

All prices are an indication of cost – when you book it may be less or more depending upon availability. All itineraries are flexible and are designed to give you inspiration to head off and explore.

Call Travelling Places 07 55451600 or email travel@travellingplaces.com.au

THE FAMOUS HOT CROSS BUN PUZZLE



This familiar nursery rhyme conceals a riddle:

Hot cross buns, hot cross buns, One a penny, two a penny, Hot cross buns. If you have no daughters Give them to your sons! Two a penny, three a penny, Hot cross buns. I had as many daughters As I had sons. So I gave them seven pennies To buy their hot cross buns.

In other words, hot cross buns come in three kinds: those sold at one a penny, two a penny and three a penny. There are as many boys as girls. The children spend exactly seven pennies on buns.

The puzzle is asking that **if every child gets the same number and kinds of buns, how many buns, and of what kinds, does each child receive?** (Assume that the buns remain whole.)

2. A STUDY IN EGGS

How many eggs can you put in a 6x6 crate such that no row, column, or diagonal has more than two eggs in it? The first two have already been placed, in opposing corners, as shown above. Can you draw me their positions?

Hint: the answer is more than 10 (including the two already in the crate). *Answers on Friday at scenicnews.com.au*

Sam Loyd was the US's preeminent puzzle 'entrepreneur': in the late 19th century he invented, adapted, illustrated and popularised a huge number of puzzles, which appeared in many newspapers, magazines, advertisements and books. He was perhaps the first person to realise that you could make a living from writing mathematical puzzles.

Rachel Sherrard-Smith 02.10.1938 to 29.03.2021



Rachel Sherrard-Smith has passed away peacefully, aged 82.

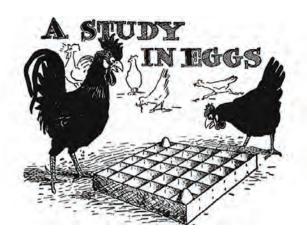
Dearly beloved and devoted wife of John.

Adored mother of David, Mark, John and Jackie. Much loved mother-in-law, grandmother and great grandmother.

Family and friends are respectfully invited to attend Rachel's funeral service to be held at

St George's Anglican Church, 2 Dapsang Dr, Tamborine Mountain on Saturday 10th of April 2021 commencing at 2:30pm

The family requests donations to Neuroscience Research Australia (NeuRA) in lieu of flowers, and we express the utmost gratitude to all the staff at Roslyn Lodge.





What we do to others, we do to ourselves

We are back from yoga retreat and went almost straight into the extended effect of the three-day Greater Brisbane lockdown.

What a week! And all this happening just before the Easter weekend.

The yoga retreat was wonderful - a chance to reflect and take stock of our lives, a chance to have fun and relax with like-minded people, and an opportunity to go into silence. For in silence we learn.

And one of the lessons we took away from our yoga retreat was the idea that the best way you can help others is by working on yourself. This is not a new concept and is the foundation of many spiritual traditions: by investing in your self-development, your spiritual growth and your good health, you'll have lots of time and energy and compassion to help others.

In Buddhism this is sometimes referred to as "lighting up your corner of the world". It refers to the way you can inspire those you meet by the example you set and how this is more powerful than anything else you can do to help others. And unlike the Western focus on personal achievement and material gain, it really means awakening to your true nature and finding true peace within.

A large part of our yoga retreat consisted of breathwork (pranayama). We used the breathwork to manipulate energy around our bodies, to wake up sluggish parts of our bodies and to dip into the silence between the breaths (kumbhaka). According to the yogis the sacred space (kumbhaka) is the space between the in-breath and out-breath. The space between breaths is said to be where we enter back into our natural state, where "I" falls away and we exist as "one" with the world around us. We all share the same breath.

Another concept we explored on yoga retreat was the idea of interconnectedness and our interdependent worlds. We are all woven together deeply, like one great big tapestry. This is even more obvious as we connect to people from distant lands via the internet; truly we are now just a global village. As Chief Seattle stated in 1854:

Humankind has not woven the web of life. We are but one thread within it. Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves. All things are bound together. All things connect.

Easter, one of the most sacred of the Christian traditions celebrating the resurrection of Christ, gives all of us a chance to take stock of the year behind, the year ahead and what we would like to change. A chance to resurrect the kind of life we wish to lead: a life filled with love, forgiveness, gratitude and this growing awareness of our interconnectedness. What we do to others and to Mother Earth, we do to ourselves.

Margot Wagner Yoga Under the Bodhi Tree

(Find and like articles similar to this on my Facebook Page: Yoga Under the Bodhi Tree) TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY CARE ASSOCIATION ARE YOU FIT TO DRIVE?

As we age many aspects of our health and well-being alter over time. If you still drive, it would be good to consider if you are truly fit to drive. Even on a temporary basis following an illness, it may be safer to allow someone else to take the wheel and chauffeur you to your medical appointments or grocery shopping.

If you have a permanent or long-term medical condition, you could talk to your doctor about your concerns, and the impact your medical condition could have on your ability to drive safely. Health professionals are qualified to check if you are medically fit to drive. If required, they will provide you with a medical certificate reporting on your fitness to drive.

This certificate will either state that you are fit to drive, or that you are able to drive under certain conditions. You must inform Queensland Transport if you have a medical condition that could affect your ability to drive safely. Failure to report medical conditions can be dangerous on the road, and the penalties are high.

Some common conditions that may affect your ability to drive safely include:

- diabetes
- epilepsy
- heart disease and stroke
- arthritis and joint problems
- eye and hearing problems
- sleep disorders
- dementia and Alzheimer's disease
- depression and other mental health problems
- lung disease
- injuries and disabilities.

This is not a complete list, so it would be wise to consult with your health professional. At the same time, ask whether any medications you are taking for your conditions could affect your ability to drive safely. Many medications have side effects that can affect your responses putting you, other road users and pedestrian traffic at risk.

TMCCA provides transport services for clients to go to their medical appointments and for reasons of individual social support. If you need more information feel welcome to call us on 5545 4968.



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MINESTRONE

With all this rain, I've been feeling like eating hearty soups. It's a wonderful feeling to sit at the table with a big bowl of steaming soup, a nice glass of red wine, the smell of freshly toasted bread still lingering in the air, and the pitter patter of rain softly falling on the tin roof.

This is one of those recipes you can make and let it sit in the fridge for a few days to develop the flavours. It's an excellent dinner and can be reheated in a matter of minutes, or why not pour some into a flask and take it to work with you for a hearty, healthy lunch. There is no real set recipe for minestrone when it comes to the vegetables. You can just use whatever you have in the fridge. I also mix up the beans, I love butter beans, but red kidney or borlotti beans are also wonderful. Add some Gaucho mix to this soup for a nice herb kick to really tie the ingredients in together.

As a teenager I would often spend rainy days at school in the library during breaks because books have a magical ability to transport you to other worlds. I would spend hours looking at the paintings of the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle superhero namesakes of Michelangelo, Raphael, Leonardo and Donatello and my favourite the Primavera by Botticelli. I would touch the pages and imagine what it must be like to see them in the flesh.

Fast forward eight years and I'm standing in line at the Piazza Della Signoria for the Uffizi Gallery in the historic centre of Firenze. I look up at the severed head of Medusa freshly cut by Perseus and shake my head in amazement at the realism of the bronze sculpture. Once through the doors I head straight to the painting that I have come here to see, the Primavera. As I reach the third floor, I turn into a small



dimly lit room and I see it. There are about 20 people all vying for a position; I muscle my way through (something you learn quickly in Italy).

With my nose 3cm from the masterpiece, I can smell the age of it, and as I look closely, I can make out each brushstroke and I'm transfixed. I imagine Botticelli's hand dipping the paintbrush into the paint and masterfully stroking the canvas. What a gift. I'm blown away that I can see and smell the original painting that was in my school library all those years ago. As I move on and take in the rest of the art, I'm amazed that a kid from a blue-collar working-class family can end up here, feasting his eyes and spirit with the art of the masters. Indeed, dreams can come true.

INGREDIENTS

- 3 cloves of garlic
- 1 red onion
- 2 carrots
- 2 sticks of celery
- 1 zucchini
- 1 small leek
- 1 large potato
- 1 x 400g tin of butter beans
- 4 rashers bacon
- olive oil
- 2 tbs Gaucho mix
- 1 fresh bay leaf
- 2 x 400g tins of chopped tomatoes
- 1 litre of organic vegetable stock
- 1 large handful of seasonal greens such as silverbeet, kale, or beetroot leaves
- 100g shell pasta
- 1/2 a bunch of fresh basil,
- Parmesan cheese

METHOD

- 1. Peel and finely chop the garlic and onion. Trim and chop the carrots, celery and zucchini into 2cm chunks, then chuck the vegetables to a large bowl.
- 2. Cut the ends off the leek, quarter it lengthways, wash it under running water, then cut into 1cm slices. Add to the bowl.
- 3. Peel then 1cm dice the potato. Drain the butter beans.
- 4. Finely slice the bacon.



- Heat 2 tablespoons of oil in a large saucepan over a medium heat. Add the bacon and fry gently for 2 minutes, until crispy-ish.
- Add the garlic, onion, carrots, celery, courgette, leek, and Gaucho and cook slowly for about 15 minutes or until the vegetables have softened, stirring occasionally.
- 7. Add the potato, butter beans and chopped tomatoes, then whack in the vegetable stock. Stir well, cover with a lid and bring everything slowly to the boil, then simmer for about 30 minutes or until the potato is cooked through.
- 8. Remove and discard any tough stalk bits from the greens, then roughly chop.
- 9. Make sure potato is cooked by piercing with a knife.
- 10. Add the greens and pasta to the pan and cook for a further 10 minutes or until the pasta is al dente.
- 11. Add a touch more stock or water to loosen up, if needed.
- 12. Roughly chop the basil leaves and stir through. Season with sea salt and cracked black pepper.
- 13. Serve with grated Parmesan alongside a slice of toasted or fresh bread and a glass of Chianti.

FINDING LOST WAGES - IT IS SUPER SIMPLE



The Australian Tax Office (ATO) has estimated that around \$55 million in hard earned wages of local residents is waiting to be claimed, in the form of lost and unclaimed superannuation.

Federal Member for Wright, Scott Buchholz, said local workers may have lost or unclaimed super if they have changed their name, moved home or jobs or even simply forgotten to update their details with their super fund.

"When we talk about lost superannuation, we're referring to those accounts that have become inactive, with no payments or where superannuation funds are unable to contact the fund member and account holder.

"By law, the fund is required to transfer certain accounts to the ATO, which then becomes 'unclaimed super money'.

"The upside to the ATO taking on that inactive balance, is unlike super funds, the ATO does not charge fees, and thanks to reforms passed by the Morrison Government, proactively consolidates any unclaimed super into an eligible, active super account where possible.

"But we know that this money is far better off in the accumulating accounts of workers. Already our reforms have seen \$7 billion sent back to workers," Mr Buchholz said.

According to ATO data, there is approximately \$55 million in unclaimed super across the electorate of Wright, money that workers may not even know they are missing.

Mr Buchholz said workers could claim any lost super by logging into MyGov and checking for lost super with the ATO, in just a few simple clicks.

A total of \$13.8 billion is waiting to be claimed, in the form of lost and unclaimed superannuation.

The Government's Protecting Your Super reforms have resulted in the ATO proactively reuniting more Australians with their lost and unclaimed super. Since November 2019 almost 3.3 million accounts worth almost \$4.3 billion have been

proactively reunited and paid out to their rightful owners.

Further information about lost and unclaimed superannuation is available on the ATO website at www.ato.gov.au/About-ATO/ Research-and-statistics/In-detail/Super-statistics/Superaccounts-data/Lost-and-unclaimed-super-by-postcode/



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- 1. Sulphur dioxide causes which particular problem for the environment?
- 2. Which class of animals can live both in and out of water?
- 3. Which branch of science is concerned with the study of all living things?
- 4. To which order of insects do butterflies and moths belong?
- 5. What is the term for the highest order of mammals?
- 6. Silkworms prefer to eat the leaves of which bush?
- 7. What was the title of Charles Darwin's book regarding his theory of evolution?
- 8. Dian Fossey studied what kind of animal in Rwanda?
- 9. Of which kind of fruit is mirabelle a variety?
- 10. What is the main constituent of glass?
- 11. What does a pyrophobe fear?
- 12. What is the largest living thing yet discovered on the planet?
- 13. What is the fruit of the blackthorn tree?
- 14. Where would you find a red thread worm?

ANSWERS PAGE 29

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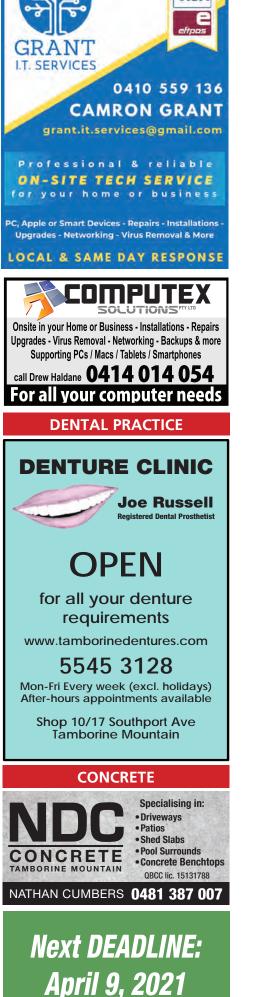
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13. Sloe 14. On a seashore

12. A honey mushroom, over

3 miles long (in Oregon)



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NEW ART PRIZE FOR WORK OF ANY KIND

A new national competition for paintings of any subject has been launched offering \$45,000 in prize money.

The National Capital Art Prize has been set up to support and encourage Australian artists, many of whom have had less opportunity to showcase their works in the last 12 months due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Director and Founder of the National Capital Art Prize, Mr Bob Stephens, said the new annual prize had been established to promote culturally diverse artistic endeavours and provide a forum where art could be viewed, studied, critiqued and sold.

"The inaugural 2021 National Capital Art Prize welcomes both established and emerging artists to submit pieces on any theme or genre.

"We particularly did not want to put restrictions on the artists and are encouraging entrants to paint whatever they like," he said.

The prize will be the only art competition in Australia which allows entrants to paint any vision, such as portrait, landscape or abstract, and use any medium including oil, acrylic, watercolour, mixed media, or pencil. Each artist can enter up to four different paintings in any combination of the four main categories which include Open, First Nations Prize for Indigenous and Torres Strait Islander artists, Landscape and Student.

Finalists will also have the chance to win the People's Choice Award voted by the public, and in 2021 there will also be an Art Scholarship offered in partnership with the Australian National University (ANU).

"Entrants only need to be Australian citizens or permanent residents of Australia, and over 18 years of age, so we really do welcome all entries," Mr Stephens said.

"We are very much looking forward to what the 2021 competition will bring," he added.

Entries opened on March 30 and close on July 1. Finalists will be announced on August 2 and displayed in a public exhibition in Canberra from September 18.

All finalists' works will be available for sale, giving the artists a strong commercial opportunity.

Further details are available at www.nationalcapitalartprize. com.au

LIONS HELP CANCER FUND RAISING



Tamborine Mountain Lions Club members at Vonda Youngman Community Centre with snacks for drivers in the Box Motoring Rally which was held to raise funds in support of cancer research.

Money raised by sponsorship of the rally went to Cancer Council projects, including the development and testing of new anti-cancer drugs and therapies.

More than 50 participants stopped for morning tea on their drive between the Gold Coast and Bunjurgen, near Boonah. They enjoyed tea, coffee or soft drinks, together with a range of sweet and savoury snacks. For more details of the rallies, check out their website **www.boxraliies.com.**

BOONAH WRITERS' FESTIVAL IS UNIQUE



Boonah Writers' Festival 2021 to be held at Boonah Cultural Centre on the weekend of May 1 and 2 is a writers' festival unique in Australia.

Unique in that it is carefully planned to enable participants to attend each and every workshop without having to select the most appealing, and unique in that the fee is all encompassing and includes all meals and coffee breaks, as well as the six workshops to be conducted by six leaders in their respective fields.

It also provides the opportunity to meet each presenter in an informal chat during the program breaks and at the gala dinner on the Saturday night.

One of this year's presenters is Colin Handley who will conduct his workshop Writing for Action on the opening day of the festival.

It will include some of the more important skills relating to film fighting and general action, including the theory of stunts, stunt tumbling, fight skills, camera work and acting, all of which will create a realistic fight scene on film and in books.

Handley is a veteran of film and television, has performed stunts and acted in many films and television shows in Australia, England and USA. He has trained with Chuck Norris, and worked with Arnold Schwarzenegger, Jean-Claude Van Damme, Sylvester Stallone, David Hasselhoff, Bruce Willis and Johnny Depp.

Other presenters include;

- Ann Earle Introduction to Scrivener: A Better Way to Organise Your Writing
- Madeline Dale Finding Your Poem
- Virginia Miranda Flash Fiction
- Edwina Shaw Building a Career as a Writer
- Vicki Bennett Writing a Children's Book

Included in the festival cost is all food and refreshments for the two days, including dinner Saturday night with guest speaker Sam Cutler promoting his book, "You Can't Always Get What You Want: My Life with the Rolling Stones, the Grateful Dead and other Wonderful Reprobates."

Bookings are available on www.boonahwritersfestival.org.au.

For further information, contact writersfestival@boonahculturalfoundation. org.au, or Diana on 0411 433 474.

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