



Scenic

# News

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



## BIG INTEREST IN LITTLE BEES

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Australia's tiny, stingless native bees play an invaluable role as pollinators of natural plant communities and increasingly of agricultural crops. Their honey has been described as "unique" and "exquisite" and a growing number of residents are discovering the joys of having a hive in their garden or even on their veranda. This interest has been recognised by Scenic Rim Regional Council which last week sponsored a free workshop titled *Our Native Pollinators* for interested participants. The workshop, which was conducted by Sydney-based Mexican PhD student, Francisco Garcia Bulle Bueno, had originally been set down for last year but had to be postponed due to COVID-19. Francisco (left) is shown here demonstrating how to split a hive and propagate a new one.

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# MOVE TO THE GOLD COAST THE CASE FOR AND AGAINST

## TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN FORMING ITS OWN COUNCIL IS NOT AN ALTERNATIVE

I understand that there is a view that Tamborine Mountain could form its own Council instead of joining with Gold Coast.

I haven't advocated, or even considered this an option, as it is unlikely to happen.

Reasons being:

- Politically it would never be entertained by any State Government. It would be an unsustainable proposition that could not be applied across Queensland.
- A Council of just 8000 people and an area of 28 square kilometres would not have the economies of scale which would mean rates would be higher, or services lower, or both.
- It would not satisfy any criteria set by the Government to make councils stronger and more sustainable. Duplication of resources needed to comply with legislative requirements contained in Queensland legislation alone would consume a large part of the budget, like the cost of having new councillors and a mayor, and the duplication of administration, hundreds of plans and new local laws and policy. We would need to do hundreds of new plans such as town planning schemes, financial plans, community plans, waste and environmental plans. We would have to recruit staff, purchase new cars, trucks, earthmoving plant etc, and purchase and install new computer systems. Where would the new council administration building go? All this is not easy to achieve or afford.
- Having worked in the industry for 40 years, from a labourer to a CEO and everything in between, I can assure everyone unequivocally it's not an option. I have worked on amalgamations recently in NSW as well as Queensland's last round, when Scenic Rim was formed, and it is not plausible from any viewpoint that a place like Tamborine Mountain would succeed in such a proposal, especially when straddled by a super council, where we have our strongest connection.

A vote in the Household Plebiscite to not go to GCCC because of the hope of a second option of forming a Tamborine Council would be a vote to stay in Scenic Rim, with all the issues I've talked about and double the rates.

## TRANSPORT IS NOW CRITICAL FOR THE HEALTH OF OUR COMMUNITY

It is acknowledged that transport is essentially a State Government function. However, the question that needs to be asked is: if the Mountain had a strong advocate with the State for this service would we be more successful?

What would the future look like for our community if we can achieve this with Gold Coast City Council?

- As the population ages we will have access to specialised health care. Many in our aging sector will not have to sell up and move closer to these services against their wishes.
- Our teenage children will have reliable, safe, and affordable access to Helensvale Station and the light rail, and they can get to anywhere within the Gold Coast TransLink network and beyond.
- For those who cannot afford to have a car or families that have just one car, the isolation many feel can end, impacting positively on their social, mental and financial health.

Simply put: All the benefits of accessing services and exercising choice of where to shop, where to belong, or tapping into special interests in sport, recreation, or education etc that are presently denied to the younger and disadvantaged in our community and is impacting on their lifestyle and liveability.

## ENVIRONMENT AND COMPLIANCE

Having lived on Tamborine Mountain for 35 years, and having worked in both councils, my view is the substantial size, strength and resources of the compliance functions of GCCC would mean far better outcomes for Tamborine Mountain.

Make the change possible by voting in the Household Plebiscite to move to Gold Coast City Council where we belong.

**Change is needed.**

**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:**

**Derek Swanborough: 0401 306 659**

**Email: swanyusa@gmail.com**

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

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# SRRC ANNUAL PRESCRIBED BURN PROGRAM STARTING

**Scenic Rim Regional Council is expecting to start its annual prescribed burn program on Council bushland reserves this week.**

Mayor Greg Christensen said the burns would reduce fuel loads within Council reserves with the overall aim of mitigating bushfire risks for nearby residents.

"After heavy seasonal rains, grass and weeds are growing, which means we will have a bigger fuel load next fire season," he said.

"Using fire helps to reduce that fuel load, maintain the health of our ecosystem and importantly reduce the impact from fires on our communities.

"With more than 200 bushland reserves, parks and lands in the region, it's important our program focuses on key areas that pose the highest risk.

"We work closely with Queensland Fire and Emergency Services and local

Rural Fire Brigades to reduce fuel loads within targeted reserves.

"With so many different landholders across the community, it's an important reminder to private landholders to slash long grass, clean gutters and remove flammable items and rubbish from around the property."

Cr Christensen said the fuel reduction burns were just one part of Council's annual works schedule to mitigate bushfire risk.

"We undertake weed control, slashing, mulching and allow livestock grazing to reduce the grass levels," he said.

"We also upgrade and build fire trails, which allow access for emergency fire fighting vehicles to access reserves in both a response situation, as well as for mitigation activities."

The first burn for the season is scheduled at the Waste Transfer Station on Tamborine Mountain. However,



Cr Christensen said pinpointing a time had its challenges.

"While we are anticipating the burn taking place this week, this depends on weather conditions and the availability of the Rural Fire Service volunteers to manage the burns," he said.

"All neighbouring properties will be notified at least 24 hours prior to the burn."

The proposed reserves scheduled for prescribed burns this season are:

Property name	Property address	Locality
(Water Tank Site) Walker Drive Reserve	200-204 Walker Drive	Kooralbyn
Base of Mt Kooralbyn Reserve	Stephens Place	Kooralbyn
Guanaba Reserve	575 Henri Robert Drive	Tamborine Mountain
King Coolum Reserve	Panicum Close	Veresdale Scrub
Hospital Hill Reserve	Down Street	Boonah
Aratula Reserve	Lake Moogerah Road, Mount Edwards	Aratula
Stegman Reserve	Beaudesert-Beenleigh Road	Birnam
Sequoia Drive Reserve	54 Sequoia Drive	Tamborine Mountain
Tamborine Mountain Reserve	337-413 Main Western Road	Tamborine Mountain
Waste Transfer Station - Tamborine Mountain	137 Knoll Road	Tamborine Mountain

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# Get ready for 26 May's Lunar eclipse: a photo sequence

On the 26th we will be able to see a full lunar eclipse (unless clouds are in the way). You don't need a telescope or advanced camera to take photos of it. With a bit of preparation, you will be able to create some stunning results.

In this article we step up the required skills level a bit, for a good reason: to make some stunning photos. In all cases it will require post processing: a job done at home, afterwards, to add many photos in one picture.

In this picture from [www.MrEclipse.com](http://www.MrEclipse.com) a series of exposures are shot during the eclipse and saved as separate image files. These are later stacked and combined into one image using a photo editing program like DeepSkyStacker (good news: it is free).

It is essential that the camera and tripod remain absolutely rigid and do not move throughout the eclipse.

Make the first exposure as the partial eclipse begins and then shoot additional exposures every five to 10 minutes, with fixed intervals. A remote control can do the job for you. Since the Moon's brightness varies during the eclipse, you also need to change the exposures as the eclipse proceeds. You can adjust the shutter speeds visually (on your screen) or - if you like to do it even better - use a diagram like this one: [www.mreclipse.com/LEphoto/image/LE-Exposure1w.GIF](http://www.mreclipse.com/LEphoto/image/LE-Exposure1w.GIF).

Another option is to combine in a program like Adobe Photoshop or Coreldraw several photos to one sort of overall picture of the entire event. Here are two examples of the same source. In this case though, it would be good using a telephoto lens to take the picture.

How that can be done will be the topic of the last article in this series.

### Watch the eclipse together

The Wednesday 26 May 2021 lunar eclipse will take place between 6.47pm and 11.49pm. The full eclipse will be visible between 9.11pm and 9.25pm.

**Stephen Thrum**  
(Head Education TM Universe)



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**Jon KRAUSE MP**  
Member for **Scenic Rim**

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## BRIDGE CLUB SUCCESS

Tamborine Mountain Bridge Club had great success recently in two major events.

The Queensland State Novice Pairs were held at the Sunnybank Bridge Club, and Dianne Hiles and Richard Booth won the event. First prize was an automatic entry into the Australian National Championships due to be held in Perth from 11 to 22 July.

Also happening on the same weekend was the Barrier Reef Congress in Mackay and Mary Simon and Kevin Hamilton-Reen placed third in the restricted pairs and sixth in the under 300 master points with Chris Mayfield and David Earnshaw from the Redlands Bridge club.

A very good result for the Mountain.

*Top right: Dianne and Richard, Right: Kevin and Mary*



## FEEDBACK IS SOUGHT ON SMART REGION STRATEGY

Community members can now provide feedback on the Scenic Rim's first Smart Region Strategy.

Mayor Greg Christensen said the draft Smart Region Strategy focussed on the future, leveraging technology, innovation and data to build resilience and a sustainable future.

"The strategy will support the region's businesses and community to embrace the changing global digital trends," he said.

"Having a clear plan will help advance our economy, attract investment, build prosperity and improve our communities' lives and lifestyles.

"However, the strategy will only be successful if the goals and direction are shared, so it's important that feedback is captured.

"The draft strategy was developed following consultation with sections of local businesses and internal stakeholders, and we are now encouraging the broader community to provide their feedback."

The Smart Region Strategy is outlined in Council's 2020-2021 Operational Plan and is an action within the Scenic Rim Regional Prosperity Strategy 2020-2025. The development of the draft has been made possible by funding from the Australian Government through the Building Better Regions Fund.

The draft Smart Region Strategy is available on the **Have Your Say** page of Council's website; hard copies can be accessed at Council Customer Service and Administration Centres.

Community members have until Friday 21 May to provide feedback on the strategy.

For more information on the strategy and how to provide feedback, visit [www.scenicrim.qld.gov.au/have-your-say](http://www.scenicrim.qld.gov.au/have-your-say)

## DINOSAURS ARE BACK

Local author Rose Siva has continued her serious obsession with Australian dinosaurs with the publication of her latest book *DINO BONE*.

Taking the opportunity to escape across the border between COVID lockdowns, she explored the district, and the experience of the recent catastrophic bushfires fuelled ideas for the plot.

The result, *DINO BONE*, published in April 2021, is her fifth book in the series featuring the adventures of her teenage heroes Josh and Kat, and of course dinosaurs. Previous books *Dinosaurs Fight to Survive*, *Dinosaurs and Dragons*, *DINOTHAW* and *DINOPAL* are all great reads for middle/upper primary age children.

Rose's books are available at Under the Greenwood Tree on Tamborine Mountain and Canungra Books and Art in Canungra. Follow Rose at [www.rosesiva.com](http://www.rosesiva.com), on Facebook at Dino Books for Kids and on YouTube at DINO CHAT.

*Rose Siva and Terry the Triceratops.*





Property of the week

**SALE** 🛏️ 3 🚿 2 🚗 2 ✂️ 2,474 m<sup>2</sup>

**Unique in many ways \$730,000**

**10 Platt Place, Tamborine Mountain**

- Private, located on the edge of Knoll Road National Park
- Great layout with good use of space
- Large undercover entertainment deck
- Close to TM College, shops, professional businesses

**AGENTS:**

Linda Hogan  
0414 300 558



Property of the week

**SALE** 🛏️ 4 🚿 2 🚗 2 ✂️ 5 acres

**Acreage with loads of potential \$649,000 +**

**28-42 Simmental Drive, Tamborine**

- Separate living spaces, dual access, bitumen driveway
- Large covered rear outdoor area & full length front veranda
- 2 car carport on slab & 2 bay shed with concrete floor
- Some T.L.C will turn this house into your home

**AGENTS:**

Mark Inwood 0407 292 036  
Debra Opie 0409 210 362



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- 10 - 10.45 28-42 Simmental Drive
- 10.30 - 11.15 20 Ben Nevis
- 11 - 11.30 63-65 Sierra Drive
- 11 - 11.45 25-55 Simmental Drive
- 12 - 12.45 28 Central Avenue
- 1 - 1.30 37 Coleman Square



**SOLD**

**Review ★★★★★**

Team Mark and Deb have an excellent knowledge of the Tamborine Mtn area. Their advice was on point, professionalism reassuring & their attention to detail throughout the sales process was of the highest standard.

**AGENTS:**

Mark Inwood 0407 292 036  
Debra Opie 0409 210 362



**SALE** 🛏️ 3 🚿 2 🚗 2 ✂️ 830m<sup>2</sup>

**285-287 Macdonnell Road, Tamborine Mtn**

- Charming, quality build, functional layout
- Formal lounge and dining room
- Separate open-plan family living room
- Large covered deck plus veranda
- Easy access off the Mountain

**\$729,000+**

**AGENTS:**

Barry Chick  
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**SALE** 🛏️ 6 🚿 3 🚗 8 ✂️ 49 acres

**71-141 Tremayne Road, Tamborine**

- Large Western Red Cedar L-shaped home
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**SALE** 🛏️ - 🚿 - 🚗 - ✂️ 2,137m<sup>2</sup>

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**RENTAL** 🛏️ 6 🚿 2 🚗 1 ✂️

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- We have no available rentals on the Mountain at present
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**AGENTS:**

Kylie Edwards 0428 654 000  
Amy Orr 0474 315 000



**SOLD** 🛏️ 3 🚿 2 🚗 2 ✂️ 2023m<sup>2</sup>

**Lot 2 / 75 Guanaba Road**

All smiles here!  
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**AGENTS:**

Michael Kratze 0424 591 012  
Diane Pihl 0424 653 316



**Happy Mother's Day Hamper Winner from the TM Show**



**Congratulations**

Congratulations to Ali Harris who won our Mother's Day Hamper from the Tamborine Mountain Show.

The show was a wonderful day this year.

Well done to the organisers for putting it together in such a short period of time, it was uncertain if the show could go on due to COVID outbreaks. But it did and even though the weather was not kind, it was fun.

We are always happy to assist this event with sponsorship, and look forward to 2022.

Hope Mother's Day was a lovely day.





# URBAN UTILITIES REDUCES WATER BILLS IN SCENIC RIM

Urban Utilities will reduce its component of the average\* residential water and sewerage bill in Scenic Rim by 9.6 per cent or \$25.25 per quarter from October 1 this year.

This is separate to the State Bulk Water Charge which is set and controlled by the Queensland Government.

Urban Utilities spokesperson, Michelle Cull, said Urban Utilities was reducing residential bills in Scenic Rim as part of making prices more consistent across its five service regions.

“We’re making several important changes to our prices and tariffs next financial year to make them more consistent across our service region and easier for customers to understand.

“Prices are changing by different amounts in our five local council regions – some areas will see a decrease and others will see an increase.

“Since we were formed, we’ve been making gradual changes to our prices and tariffs to be more consistent, and this is a significant step to achieve that.”

The 2021/22 prices and tariffs come into effect on October 1.

Ms Cull said Urban Utilities was also introducing a simpler, more efficient meter reading and billing schedule.



“By shortening the time between when a customer’s meter is read and their bill arrives, our new simpler bills will make it easier to track household water usage,” she said.

“It will also help customers detect concealed underground leaks earlier, to save water and avoid an unexpected bill if a leak goes undiscovered for long periods.”

Customers are encouraged to contact Urban Utilities if they have questions about the changes.

“If any residents or businesses are having trouble paying their bills, we also urge them to get in touch with us as soon as possible so we can help,” Ms Cull said.

Prices for 2021/22 are available at [urbanutilities.com.au/prices](https://urbanutilities.com.au/prices)

Note: \*The average residential water and sewerage bill is based on a water usage of 150kl per year. The State Bulk Water Charge for 2021/22 has not been announced by the Queensland Government. This charge is passed directly through to customers on their bills.

More information on the State Bulk Water Charge can be found on the Queensland Government website <https://bit.ly/2rGnNcP>



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## TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN COLLEGE (K-12)

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**JON KRAUSE MP**

State Member for Scenic Rim

## STATE REGULATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND COUNCILLOR CONDUCT RULES

In recent times I have become increasingly concerned about State laws and policies that, while having laudable intentions that sound terrific in theory, have the effect of making it harder for local councillors to effectively stand up for residents. They make councillors more accountable to *the Council* than to the voters who elect their representatives. Rules about what councillors can and can't do that are difficult to navigate, along with more intrusion by State planning policies, can certainly lead to the conclusion that local governments are progressively becoming more 'under the thumb' of the State – or even just another arm of State bureaucracy.

I have written in these pages previously about the fact that former Councillor Nigel Waistell was considered to have committed misconduct for the simple act of forwarding an internal email to a resident. Never mind he was doing his job, answering a legitimate, uncontroversial query. He apparently breached the council's "acceptable requests" policy, and under State law such a breach is deemed misconduct. Both elements of this system are wrong. Nigel was just doing his job, and to make this misconduct makes a mockery of the term.

What is worse is that more than 12 months after the last election, at which Mr Waistell was not a candidate, the Councillor Conduct Tribunal still wants to send this matter to trial in the Tribunal. It is in the "public interest", it has found. Thousands of dollars of taxpayers and ratepayers' money has been wasted on a process that has, as its origin, the forwarding of an email, and a council policy that makes that a breach of policy. In my view, the "public interest" here lies with allowing councillors to represent residents in just the way Nigel did and I will be calling on the Government again to fix the Councillor Conduct Tribunal laws that keep this malarkey going on.

### SMALL BUSINESS MONTH

This month we are celebrating small businesses across Scenic Rim and across the whole of Queensland. There are also some grant programs opening this month to help our small businesses continue to recover, grow and thrive following setbacks from bushfires, floods and COVID-19.

The Business Growth Fund Program opened on 11 May 2021 and businesses may be eligible for a single up-front payment up to \$50,000. The program provides funding for small and medium-sized businesses experiencing high-growth to buy specialised equipment to unlock growth potential, increase production, expand your workforce and maximise economic returns.

Funding is awarded through a competitive assessment process with three stages, details of which can be reviewed at [www.business.qld.gov.au](http://www.business.qld.gov.au). This grant closes when funding is exhausted.

### CONGRATULATORY LETTERS

Do you know someone who has a significant birthday or anniversary coming up? I'd love to write them a letter to celebrate their milestone. Depending on the occasion, they 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: (07) 5515 1100 or email [scenicrim@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto: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. Quick question? SMS 0401 63 44 88.**



**SCOTT BUCHHOLZ**

Federal Member for Wright

## BUDGET 2021-22

All Australians have endured a long and arduous 12 months. Some have had it more difficult than others. One year ago, our nation was in lockdown and the pandemic had made its way to our shores. The Morrison Government's priority was clear: protect lives and livelihoods.

The challenge for us as a nation as the pandemic hit, was to rise together or fall as many. Like all difficult challenges we have faced as a nation, Australians chose to rise together. We looked after neighbours, we supported local businesses, we stayed home when asked, we kept our distance and we worked together.

Twelve months ago, we were staring into the economic abyss:

- 1.3 million Australians had been stood down or had lost their jobs
- The Treasury feared the unemployment rate could reach 15 per cent with more than two million out of work.

However, Australia was confronting the economic shockwaves of COVID-19 from a position of economic strength. With an unemployment rate of 5.1 per cent, workforce participation was close to a record high and welfare dependency at a 30-year low.

Through prudent budget management, respecting the value of taxpayers' funds, the Government returned the Budget to balance for the first time in 11 years.

The forecast was for Budget surpluses. By international standards, our debt was low.

This enabled your Government to deliver the economic firepower during the pandemic, to protect lives and livelihoods and place our economy on the road to recovery.

Now, the pandemic is still with us – we've worked hard here in Australia to suppress the virus and return to some normality. But look beyond our borders and we can see the devastating impacts and the threat that looms.

Despite this and beyond any expectation, Australia has now not only returned to pre-COVID level of employment - but also surpassed it.

We've delivered the building blocks to the other side of the first recession in nearly 30 years: investing in better infrastructure, providing income and tax relief, easing the flow of credit, supporting jobs and putting skills at the centre of our jobs plan.

Of course, it would be naïve to ignore the significant yet temporary, targeted, and proportionate mechanisms such as JobKeeper and the Coronavirus supplement.

These measures ensured people remained connected to the workforce, businesses in business, and families were looked after.

But there are also the legacy projects as a result of targeted stimulus; the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure fund is building better parks, sporting assets, footpaths and services right here in our community.

The infrastructure is making our roads safer, more flood resilient and busting congestion.

There is more work to do. Budget 2021-22 will be the guiding document to ensure Australia sticks to our National Economic Recovery Plan.

As the Treasurer, Josh Frydenberg said, "We know that the job is not complete. We need to stick to the plan."



# Letters to the Editor

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

## WHAT'S IN A (BOTANIC GARDENS) NAME?

**I read with interest Amanda Hay's Letter to the Editor entitled "Public Question Time Questions for Council".**

While her concerns are directed at Council, points 2 and 3 touch on the activities of the Botanic Gardens volunteers.

Point 2 is most important as it contains two elements that the Gardens volunteers have disputed with Council. Both are in a Council "confidential" document that was a briefing to Councillors in August 2020 regarding the Management Agreement with the Gardens organisation. That section was the subject to a Right to Information application by Cr Swanborough.

First, contrary to the document, the Botanic Gardens team has never delivered a Strategic Management Plan to Council. We were challenged in late 2019 to provide Council with long-term plans for the Gardens. In February 2020, a delegation of three Gardens members including me had a meeting with senior executives of Council, chaired by Mayor Christensen. The purpose was to deliver a document entitled "Our Vision". During a wide-ranging discussion, I asked the Council executives about the processes for renaming the Gardens. In a brief discussion, all three of the Gardens representatives are adamant in our recall that no specific potential name was discussed. It was not that specific a discussion and was conceptual in nature.

The Gardens team was asked to expand on the Vision document to prepare a five-year strategic management plan. We had begun work on it when COVID-19 struck and diverted our attention somewhat.

Which goes to Point 3. As the name "Scenic Rim Botanic Gardens Tamborine Mountain" was not discussed during the debate among volunteers, there have been no discussions/negotiations with Council regarding the name. After the meeting with Council, we began a comprehensive discussion among the volunteers about the idea of changing the name to embrace the wider Scenic Rim community. That discussion spread over some time during our morning tea get-togethers at the Gardens. We collectively decided to put a motion to our Annual General Meeting in August of last year to change the name to retain the words Tamborine Mountain while adding significant reference to

Scenic Rim. The motion was carried unanimously. With the name decided, I wrote to the CEO of Scenic Rim Regional Council on September 4 to inform him of our decision to name the Gardens as Tamborine Mountain Regional Botanic Gardens in the Scenic Rim.

We encourage all residents of the Scenic Rim to have your say during the community consultation process and to strongly support your Botanic Gardens volunteers.

**Denby Browning  
President, Tamborine Mountain  
Botanic Gardens Inc**

## PICNIC REAL FOOD BAR SAYS THANKS

**We'd like to say a wholehearted thank you to the local community for their amazing support since we opened Picnic Real Food Bar, only six weeks ago. We've been overwhelmed by the kind words and thoughtful gifts, and happy to see customers return again and again. It's delightful to see so many familiar smiling faces drop by, and a real joy to get to know others in the community – once strangers, now new friends.**

We'd like everyone to know we've listened to their feedback and we're introducing more gluten-free options. It takes time to get everything right and we're grateful to those who've let us know their needs.

A big thank you, too, to the other local businesses. We're a small community and it's great to see just how welcoming people have been, to know we're working alongside one another to bring our best to the mountain.

We'd also like to encourage locals who grow their own citrus, rhubarb, leafy greens and avocados to bring them in and barter or come and talk to us about their surplus garden goodness. It's important to us to use as much locally grown, spray-free produce as we can.

All of our menu is available eat-in, takeaway or take-home. We'll be introducing picnic boxes over the coming weeks, once our Picnic website is up and running, so picnickers can pre-order boxes online.

Thanks again for your support. It means so much to us.

**Brenda Fawdon and Sonja Drexler  
Picnic Real Food Bar at North Stores**

## THINGS GOT DONE

**With regard to the recent Letter to the Editor from Vanessa Bull stating**

**her achievements while she was the councillor for Tamborine Mountain. I am very sure she gave a lot more back to the community than was listed.**

And all with a minimum of fuss. Things got done. Thank you, Vanessa.

**Tonia Epstein**

## NOT FEELING THE LOVE

**SRRC's agenda for the Ordinary Meeting held 11 May 2021 contains a couple of gems. Council states that "the intent that gets us out of bed in the morning" is "to be loved by our community". Who writes this stuff? The Mayor reiterates this in his Message in the Customer Experience Strategy 2021-2023, 26-page document Agenda of Ordinary Meeting - 11 May 2021 (infocouncil.biz):**

"Council will strive to be loved by our community ... and we want our customers to feel assured..."

The CEO's Message on the following page was somewhat more restrained.

The Strategy content is rather nauseating and is in complete contrast to what customers are currently experiencing.

Council is so keen to judge how much it is "loved" that it has deferred the Customer Satisfaction Survey, and the \$10K funds have been re-allocated.

The "journey" continues ... and no "clarity" in sight. There being eight current court cases against Council, I'm not feeling the love.

**Amanda Hay**

## GIFFARD'S PART IN TM FOOTPATH DEVELOPMENT

**Vanessa Bull certainly achieved a lot during her 11 years as councillor. However, there is a little more to the story of the footpath development for which she claims major credit. As it happened, I got the footpath building program started in my three-year term.**

Built were the one along Beacon Road, from Gallery Walk to the State School, and completion of the link from Main Western Road to Eagle Heights Road. The latter including that very successful bridge.

I also got the push going for the Long Road extension and left \$300,000 in

*Continued page 12*



## TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN MEDICAL PRACTICE

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Dr Marije Dalebout  
Dr Jardin Taha  
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Accredited by



# \$60.5 MILLION HOTA GALLERY NOW OPEN

The largest public gallery outside a capital city in Australia, the new \$60.5 million HOTA Gallery, opened on the Gold Coast at the weekend.

Celebrating artists from across Australia and the world, HOTA Gallery presents world premiere international exhibitions, Australian exclusives and new commissions, and is home to the \$32 million City Collection,

“The new Gallery will challenge everything people thought they knew about arts and culture on the Gold Coast. It’s bold, unapologetic and completely unbound by tradition,” said HOTA CEO Criena Gehrke.

The Gallery’s inaugural program launches with the major exhibition *SOLID GOLD: Artists from Paradise*. Commissioned by the Gallery, 19 emerging and established Australian artists and collectives, each with a personal connection to the Gold Coast region, have created new works exploring the relationship between people and place, and the human impact on the natural world, as well as the urban environment and beauty of the landscape.

Artists including Hiromi Tango, Michael Candy, Abbey McCulloch, Samuel Leighton-Dore, Elliot Bastianon, C.J. Anderson and Lisa Sorbie Martin have created indoor and outdoor works ranging from large-scale sculptures, ceramics, paintings, and photography to immersive video and installations, that are presented throughout the Gallery and the surrounding HOTA parklands.

Acclaimed Queensland Waanyi artist Judy Watson and Sri Lankan-born, Sydney-based artist Ramesh Mario Nithiyendran also present two major outdoor artworks commissioned by the Gallery.

Alongside the premiere exhibitions and new commissions, HOTA Gallery also



presents works from the \$32 million City Collection. Consisting of more than 4400 artworks, the collection includes one of the largest collections of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art in regional Australia.

The Children’s Gallery is an immersive space filled with interactive art and hands-on making activities, inspired by the themes found in the first two major exhibitions, *Solid Gold* and *Lyrical Landscapes*.

The Design Collective Markets have also curated a selection of Gold Coast and Queensland makers and retailers for a pop-up market, selling a selection of boutique wares, and will be accompanied by food outlets and local brews.

Information on the 2021 exhibition program can be found at [www.hota.com.au](http://www.hota.com.au), with further details and programming to be announced in late 2021.

The Gallery is open to the public and free to visit from 10am, but bookings are required.



## Letters to the Editor

Continued from page 11

reserve for initial costs. That was quite a significant sum in those days. That was about 24 years ago, and it is a pity so little has happened.

I always regard one of my more successful achievements was ultimately bringing into public ownership the western escarpment edge, at least from the Polish Place to Witches Falls National Park to which it formed a natural extension. This is the only area in South East Queensland offering the broad western views with the luxury of easy access. I was also deeply involved in the development of the hang glider launch site which has now become such a popular facility. I have believed for some time that there

should be one or two more along the edge. I have hesitated to support a pedestrian path along the edge unless it makes provision for the picnic and outlook need.

Then there was the 1997 DCP which set the pattern for the present form of Tamborine Mountain development. It occupied all my three years but wasn’t quite finished in my term. I was delighted when Vanessa was able to pilot it through to gazettal early in her term. Then the most recent couple of councils failed to defend that philosophy.

**Phil Giffard**

# SHARP COMMENT

TOM SHARP



## REXIT IS NOT BREXIT

**In 2020 Derek Swanborough made a bid for Councillor Division 1 in the Scenic Rim Local Government Election. The platform on which he ran was: “We’ve had years of promises and nothing changes. I offer a real solution. I call it REXIT (Ratepayers Exit to GCCC). I am optimistic that with demonstrated majority support it can be done. Enough is Enough.”**

Derek won the election with a 31.3 per cent primary vote and after preferences with 56.5 per cent of the total vote, edging out Sally Williams on 45.5 per cent.

Derek is now delivering on that election promise by testing the waters via a “household plebiscite” and a for and against campaign, the results of which, if he has a majority, will be presented to The Local Government Minister, Steven Miles, for deliberation.

For the purposes of honesty and transparency I wish to declare that I am opposed to “REXIT” but equally respect that it is a matter for the people of Tamborine Mountain to decide.

In making your decision, I would like to offer some thoughts for your consideration.

Coining the BREXIT acronym in to REXIT was a clever one and highly emotive by design. Yet there is no real link between the two and the key case for BREXIT actually runs in opposition to REXIT.

Derek’s REXIT is a play on rates in that by going to the Gold Coast you would be better off in terms of rates paid versus service provided. In fact, you would be better off by 50 per cent for the same or better service. A very compelling argument on the face of it.

Yet BREXIT’s primary argument was to take back control of the UK’s destiny and determine how their money would be spent by their own representatives versus the “faceless bureaucrats” of Brussels that the people of the UK did not elect.

In no way, shape or form are you restoring the power of your destiny by voting “yes” to REXIT. Under the GCCC, your elected representation, no matter how good, will be diluted and as Derek himself stated there is no guarantee that your elected representative will come from your own people.

Tambourine Divisional Board (Tambourine Shire Council from 1903) was formed in 1890 and the area, a narrow strip, ran from Cedar Creek in the north all the way to the NSW border, taking in what is now known as Lamington National Park (the eastern side) in the south, along with everything in between including Canungra.

In 1949 Tamborine Shire Council was forced into amalgamation with Beaudesert Shire Council and the western part of Waterford Shire Council. This forced amalgamation was not wanted by the people. Yet it worked, and why did it work? Because at the top of the elected representatives’ agenda was unification of the people, along with a pledge supported by every member of that elected council to ensure that every division within the amalgamated area received works and service funding in line with the rate contribution made.

This is something that was never recognised by the SRRC elected representatives. Thirteen years later, you can see that the council agenda is all about the brand and its unification, along with renaming everything in its wake and re-writing history, and not recognising the region and its people with their incredible achievements in the shaping of this place.

My point is that Tamborine Mountain flourished under the governance of outstanding representation and in some instances exceptional on any stage: men and women such as Barney Geissmann, Edwin Franklin, Douglas Fraser, Vonda Youngman, Vanessa Bull OAM, Harold Jennings, Sydney Curtis, Herbert Curtis and David Law, just to name a few. Men and woman who laid the foundations of what you see around you today.

These people were leaders in their community, moved with the times and more often than not were visionaries. What did not change about them was their values and principles. They lived, worked with, listened to and understood the people they represented.

Around the mid-1990s it was proposed by the State Government of the day to legislate paying councillors a salary. At that time councillors were paid somewhere in the order of \$100 per meeting and expenses such as fuel to and from meetings. A Shire Chairman was paid a ‘staple’, given the full-time status of the role.

Albert Shire Chairman, Bill Laver, advocated strongly against this suggestion at the time, offering: “the day you start paying councillors you will destroy the virtues of representation and just simply watch what comes out of the woodwork looking for a dollar.”

In no way am I suggesting your current representative needs the job. In fact, I believe his virtues are well intact. But I am confident that there has been a deterioration in representation across the whole State since the introduction of paying councillors a salary, making it that much more difficult for constituents to find quality representation for which to vote.

The whole region needs quality representation and while it starts with the candidates nominated, it needs more than ever greater scrutiny and engagement by you the voter to ensure the best possible outcome for our people. That engagement should not only extend to community interaction with your neighbour but interaction with people and voters alike across the region. We are all in the same boat together.

As I continually move through the region meeting old friends and new people for the first time, I consistently run into the same view that “this is the worst council on record”. I ask the question: Has there been a good one since the 2008 amalgamation?

Derek puts forward a strong case “for” with a great many points, whereby the GCCC can provide better roads, water security, tourist promotion, compliance, environmental protection, support for the social fabric and so on. However, there is no reason presented why the SRRC cannot do the same.

Let me highlight five simple actions by Council that highlights the waste and inefficiency:

- \$1.5 million purchase of flood plain on the banks of the Logan – 2020/21 budget, paid for via debt funding – yet we have seen no independent valuation, no business case, and no engineering report. Given it is flood plain, this would be the first thing to look at.
- \$1 million for 1km of footpath – 2020/21 Budget – my estimates suggest a cost of \$200,000.
- \$5 million to connect the proposed new Beaudesert Library to the Council Administrative Building.

*continued on page 18*

# PLANT EXTRAVAGANZA ON NATIONAL GARDENS DAY

The volunteers at Tamborine Mountain Regional Botanic Gardens are preparing a fantastic plant sale during the National Botanic Gardens Day on Sunday 30 May.

The team is looking forward to a record attendance at the event in the 11 hectare site on Forsythia Drive, with a wide range of plants propagated directly from the Gardens collection.

Plants will be available for as little as \$5 and card payment will be available.

All funds raised from the plant sales and other events on the day go directly to maintaining and improving the Gardens.

The event, from 8am until 2pm, will also include a sausage sizzle, coffee van and special activities for children in the Sooty Owl Creekside Trail.

Tamborine Mountain Botanic Gardens Inc President Denby Browning said: "We hope that our community far and wide will join us in this special celebration. We are joining more than 100 botanic gardens across the country for this event."



For details of Botanic Gardens Day, visit [tmbotanicgardens.org.au](http://tmbotanicgardens.org.au) or the Gardens Facebook page.

*Photo: A wide variety of plants will be available for sale on BGANZ Day.*



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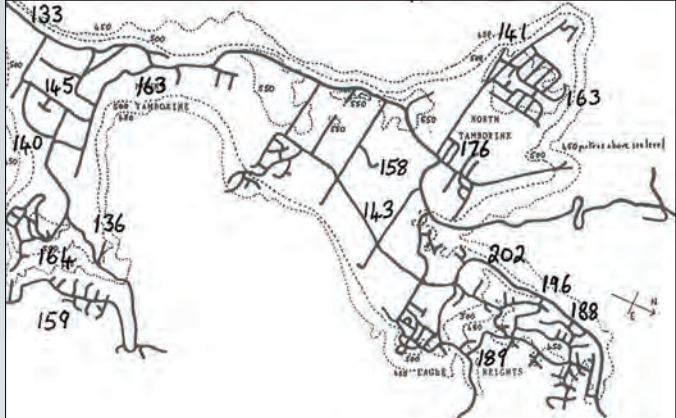


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[www.eagleheightsdental.com.au](http://www.eagleheightsdental.com.au)

## Tamborine Mountain Rainfall

### April 2021



This April would have been a dry month except for one outstanding rainfall event. Late on the 3rd an upper atmosphere low, together with convergence from the east, brought rain recorded on the 4th.

By this time the low had coalesced with a developing trough just off the coast. This brought good rain for the next three days and the creeks ran after the wet March. The only other rain of any significance was recorded from a trough on the 18th.

Fern Street recorded 145.4mm for the month which is more than the expected (82mm) and a little more than the average (130mm) for April. The chart shows higher rainfalls over Eagle Heights compared with the rest of the Mountain.

**Mike Russell**  
5545 3601

# Physio Talk with David Cvelbar



**By day three of life, my son was opening his eyes and looking around the little hospital room that we were in. The blinds were drawn shut but there was a sliver of light getting through that he seemed to be fascinated by.**

At first, we found it pretty funny. After all, our son was fascinated for 30 minutes straight by a gap between the blind and the windowsill. But then our amusement turned to amazement. Our son has discovered light.

These little photon particles were travelling all the way from the sun, 150 million kilometres away to land on his brand-new retinas at the back of his eyes. These were then being sent to the back of his brain to be processed FOR THE VERY FIRST TIME! WOW!

He was discovering light. He was discovering small bits of the world around him that we don't think twice about. And it had him enthralled.

A baby's perception and vision continue to develop rapidly from birth. Superlatives do not do justice to the magnificence of their rapidly growing brains.

From conception to birth, there are on average 250,000 new nerve cells being produced every single minute. And at birth there will be more than 100 billion of these cells all together ... that is as many nerves cells as there are stars in the milky way.

But it doesn't stop at birth; things have only just started.

Over the next three months the brain will increase by one per cent in size per day before decelerating. By the time my son is two-years-old, the size of his brain will likely be only 20 per cent smaller than yours (assuming you are a fully grown adult and have a brain).

A child's brain is adapting at a phenomenal rate. It grows new nerves, and each nerve forms up to 15,000 connections with

neighboring nerves. The brain forms strong pathways for signals to travel through and will rapidly change and rebuild as the child gets older.

A lot of what we do as physios is aimed at changing and adapting the neural wiring in the brain. The brain will continue to rapidly change, and up until your very last breath. This is called neuroplasticity.

When someone comes in with an injury/pain, we may need to help the brain to rewire and learn a new way to process information in the brain and a new way to move that is better on the injured body part.

Examples would include teaching someone how to move their shoulder, core or even how to walk correctly again.

One brain wiring problem we see with netballers is ankle and knee injuries due to never being taught how to run, jump and land correctly. Because they haven't learned how to move properly, their brain may design an unsafe way to do the movement. This will eventually lead to an injury. I am sure most netball teams have a team-member with knee pain or an ankle sprain currently!

What needs to happen is a matter of neuroplasticity. The brain has to learn a new way to move that is safer and more efficient. We are big neuroplasticity nerds at Physique!

It is one thing to know about neuroplasticity, and it is another thing to know how to harness it for your benefit. It is one of our greatest delights running people through neuroplasticity exercises for injuries and conditions that need it.

So please don't hesitate to reach out if you need the help!

**PS if you want to read a fascinating book on neuroplasticity, I cannot recommend Norman Doidge's *The Brain That Changes Itself* highly enough.**



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"Loved the atmosphere and the service was very warm and friendly. The food was beyond great and we would love to come back every night if we could. Fantastic." Brad.C - The Fork

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		4		3	9	2		7
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8				4				
					5			
6							3	8
			4		6			2
	4				2		5	
			7		3			
		9				6	1	

Sudoku - Medium



# SHARP COMMENT

TOM SHARP

continued from page 13

For what purpose? This is part of the Beaudesert Town Re-vitalisation Project and as yet we the people have not gotten to the bottom of why Council is joining the two buildings together. Is the whole project a front for a grand refurbishment of the Taj Mahal? Is this going to cost the ratepayer many millions of dollars, all for a luxurious office space for the top bureaucrats and Mayor? If my memory is correct, the previous Mayor spent huge sums of ratepayers' money on a new swanky office and adjoining ensuite. Deja vu?

- \$75,000 for Gallery Walk Business Case Report, plus \$150,000 via a grant courtesy the taxpayer. This will be the third such report in the last 20 years and still no action. Would giving the \$225,000 to the businesses in Gallery Walk see a better result?
- Beechmont-Canungra Road (Tucker Lane section) road re-build. Two chains wide and two kilometres long of absolute environmental destruction and waste in cutting down pristine forest and habitat. The SRRC continually boasts about its "one million trees initiative" but how much destruction is offset by a wasteful highway on a regional council road?

Extrapolate that waste and inefficiency across the dozens of programs this council addresses in its endless reports, and you start to form a picture of the amount of utter waste and inefficiency there is for a council that now takes in around \$70 million per year in revenue.

In addition, there are some 300 administration staff and an unknown number of consultants.

If this council was in anyway transparent, they would open the books for you and me to take a look.

Unfortunately, under this council that will never happen.

Under the right governance and leadership this could all stop.

We are a regional council, yet this council tells us that we have to pay higher rates than the likes of Brisbane or Gold Coast due to lack of population and larger size of area.

That is absolute rubbish and if this council ever tried to stop acting as though it is a metropolitan municipality and actually worked out what a regional council was, they would find they can actually provide regional services for a cheaper rate than their city counterparts.

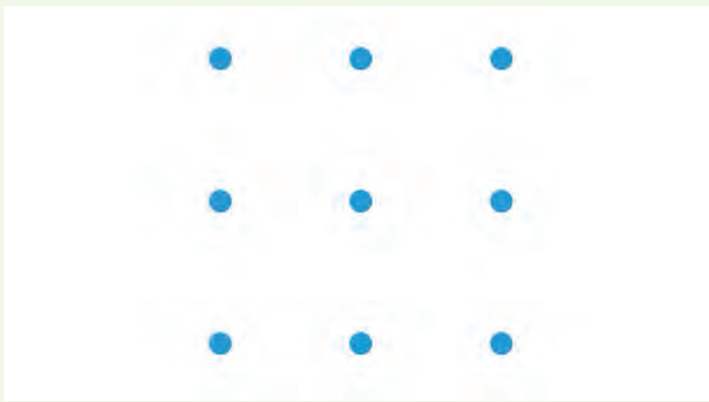
This is not a case of GCCC versus SRRC; this is a case of good governance versus bad.

The way to fix it is not to run away to another jurisdiction but stay and fight. Unite with the people of this region, find good candidates prepared to stand up and restore rightful governance and representation of the people to this region.

While the next local government election is still three years away, we have to work together and challenge our current councillors to represent our needs, and in three years' time "take back our council" and forge our destiny with the representation to which we are entitled, in line with our values and principles.

## 1) The nine dots

Join the dots using four straight lines without your pen ever leaving the paper.



## 2) Bunting 101

A football pitch is 100 metres long. A piece of bunting 101 metres long is tied to the base of the two corner flags along one side of the pitch. When the bunting is lifted at the middle of the pitch, will the players be able to?

- Barely get their fingers underneath
- Crawl under
- Get under if they crouch
- Comfortably walk under

[note: the bunting is non-elastic, and is raised until it is taut.]

## 3. A dog of a puzzle

Goldie has just had four puppies, but her sister Princess has had five. However it's not the litter size that their owners care about, it's the premium that they get for female puppies. What's the chance that Princess has had more female puppies than Goldie?

3	4	6	1	3	8	5	4	9	2	7	9
4	2	8	8	2	4	3	9	3	6	7	9
9	5	9	2	7	5	6	1	2	6	8	4
2	5	7	2	5	6	9	8	6	4	1	3
8	3	8	4	3	8	9	7	1	4	5	6
6	9	6	1	9	6	3	2	5	1	7	3
1	6	1	3	6	1	5	4	7	3	4	8
5	6	4	1	3	9	2	6	8	9	3	7
7	8	7	2	8	7	8	9	5	2	9	6
4	5	4	5	9	4	8	2	3	1	7	5

Puzzles ©Alex Bellos (The Guardian)  
Answers at scenicnews.com.au on Friday

# Relationships



## AVOIDANCE

This week we continue with our DRAIN series, looking at common things which drain our relationships.

Maybe you can relate to this scenario: you have a task weighing on your mind, you allocate time to do it and instead of getting stuck into it, something more interesting grabs your attention. An hour later, the task remains untouched. It's called avoidance



and it happens because we perceive a situation to be difficult, unpleasant, challenging – and the path of distraction or escapism seems an easier option. In the end we make it harder for ourselves through our avoidance.

In the context of relationships, avoidance can become an ingrained pattern that goes unnoticed but does serious damage to a relationship. None of us enjoys feeling bad, nor do we enjoy being in the company of those who are in a bad mood. For example, your partner is quiet, snappy, and giving off signals of “not happy, Jan”. How do you respond? One response is to try and change their mood with an attempt at humour; this is rarely successful. We can attempt to engage them in conversation about a random topic, but that seldom works.

A common response is to retreat to our comfort zone – detach ourselves from the situation with a distracting activity such as internet, television or a favoured past-time. Rather than working on the problem, we busy ourselves trying to feel good. We avoid the possibility of a difficult confrontation. Unfortunately, the comfort zone is not that comfortable. The more you live in it, the more you feel stuck and the more distance grows between you and your partner. The comfort zone becomes the stagnant zone where relationships fail to thrive.

If you want your relationship to grow and thrive, you will need to be prepared to enter into challenging situations and make room for the difficult feelings they bring. No person likes unpleasant feelings, but research shows that avoiding them leaves us at greater risk of depression, anxiety, stress, addiction and a wide variety of other health issues. So, avoidance is not only damaging to our relationships but it's damaging to our personal health.

The antidote to avoidance is to have some coping strategies that will support you in riding out the emotional wave of unpleasant feelings. Notice your self-talk when under pressure. What do you notice? If our internal dialogue is condemnatory, we will be much more prone to avoid any hint of confrontation. Anxiety is behind most avoidant behaviour. Ask yourself questions like: What am I most afraid of? If you are not in the habit of it, regular self-reflection is the way we grow ourselves up. By being willing to confront our hidden parts of self, we do the opposite of avoidance. We learn more about ourselves and we are better equipped for interactions with others.

Next time you are tempted to retreat to your comfort zone, initiate a reconciliatory conversation and you might be surprised at what eventuates.

Linda Gray  
linda@relationshipsanctuary.com.au  
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## TRAVELLING PLACES By Gina Storey

In recent years I have arranged for both Arno King and Ross McKinnon to visit the Tamborine Mountain on garden club days, and they have been warmly welcomed. They shared stories of their love of all things botanical on trips worldwide as they guide a small group of people on unique journeys visiting exquisite gardens and accessing behind the scenes private properties. Several of you have joined these trips designed by APT company Botanica.



A few years ago, I joined Teena Crawford on a trip around the British Isles. I am not a fanatical gardener nor a botanist. However, these itineraries are crafted to suit a broad range of travellers. Provided you have a love of history, art, music and culture, an interest in the world around you and a desire to explore a bit off the beaten track, you are sure to enjoy a journey with Botanica.

Just released is Botanica's 2021 and 2022 Australia and New Zealand travel program. These small group journeys generally have around 15 to 20 like-minded travellers; there is usually a mixture of couples, friends and solo travellers. Botanica use quality hotels and include most meals and lots of interesting activities on your trip. Join their trip exploring Norfolk Island.

The rich history of convict and Pitcairn settlers; discover what is behind the hedges and visit produce farms. Or perhaps you have always longed to visit Lord Howe – it is certainly high on my wish list. This small, most southerly island of the Great Barrier Reef offers you the opportunity to snorkel in pristine waters; take a glass bottom boat trip across the marine rich bay; discover remote coves and beaches; learn about the unique flora and fauna of this subtropical island.

There are trips based around spring flowers or autumn colours. Take in the Canberra Floriade or the Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers. Head south to Victoria and the Melbourne Flower Show, the hidden sanctuaries of private gardens, explore regional areas and the wildflowers of the Southern highlands. Head to Western Australia in the spring to witness the sea of wildflowers from north of Perth to the Margaret River. Join a unique small ship expedition exploring the art and landscape of the Great Australia Bight. Visit Kangaroo Island, Maggie Beers Farm shop, the Murray River, wine growing districts and historic gardens in South Australia. Tasmania is a gardener's paradise with fabulous produce, historic homes, small villages and rugged areas like Bruny Island to explore.

New Zealand's spring flowers come slightly later than ours and Botanica are offering a couple of different itineraries which combine visits to private gardens, historic homes and the Taranaki Garden Festival. October and November is a lovely time to witness the dormant winter gardens spring into life – the colours are beautiful and New Zealanders will be delighted to see us return to their beautiful country.

If you are interested in exploring the less trodden road, in accessing behind-the-scenes gardens, in exploring the history and culture of your destination, then Botanica World Discoveries may well be the trip you have been looking for. With the recent changes to the travel industry Travelling Places is delighted to have been appointed as one of only 20 travel agencies in Australia to represent Botanica.

Further information phone 5545 1600, or email [travel@travellingplaces.com.au](mailto:travel@travellingplaces.com.au)

# WINE CHAT

with Witches Falls Winery

## What is Orange Wine?

Imagine it's a Friday night and you're driving home from work after a



stressful week. You feel the weight of your worries lift from your shoulders as the weekend stretches out gloriously before you.

Some friends have organised an outing at that swish new restaurant around the corner. When the waiter asks you what you'd like to drink, you say 'surprise me,' in a moment of uncharacteristic playfulness. Eyebrow raised, he contemplates whether you're game for something out of left field, and moments later emerges with a glass containing what looks like cloudy fruit juice. But it's something quite different – something unlike anything you've tasted before: orange wine.

It's not the colour most of us associate with our favourite wines. Conventional wisdom tells us that wines fall into three distinct and separate categories: red, white, and rosé. Orange wine, sometimes referred to as skin-contact wine or amber wine, is a new style that has skyrocketed in popularity over the last few years, but its origins aren't as recent as we've been led to believe. In fact, amber wines have been produced for thousands of years.

The technique was first practised in Georgia, and is also common in Slovenia, Croatia, and Northern Italy. Despite this, it has remained largely on the fringes of mainstream winemaking and public consciousness. It's not just the colour that's raising eyebrows. The techniques used to make orange wine are unconventional, blurring the line between white and red. Long story short, orange wine is made with white grapes, but in a manner traditionally associated with making reds. But what does that mean exactly?

When we're talking about wine and colour, it's important to mention that all grape juice is white. Even when you bite into a red-skinned grape, you'll notice the flesh is pale. Dark pigments in grape skins stain the juice, while simultaneously enhancing flavour and texture. For deep reds, skins are left to ferment with the juice for weeks or even months before being removed.

For rosé, the window of skin contact is much shorter (usually only several hours) in order to create that pleasant peachy hue.

Traditionally, white wine skips skin contact all together, leaving only the juice to ferment into wine. Contrastingly, orange wine is created by steeping the juice and skins of white grapes together – much like you would when making red wine. The end result is a white wine with a rich orange tone, full body, and a generous, textural mouthfeel. The palate is often complex and layered – sometimes floral or nutty, and commonly rich in lush stone fruit flavours such as dried apricot or stewed peaches. In a word: yummy.

Although divisive among wine lovers and critics alike, there's no doubt this exciting style is here for the long haul and is bound to shake up the Australian wine landscape. So, maybe next time the waiter asks you what you'd like to drink, skip your usual choice and say, 'surprise me' instead!

**Cheers and stay hydrated,  
Alexandra Douglas and the Witches Falls Team**



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# food for thought

with **DYLAN GITTOES**

## Eggplant and chickpea curry

**This is one of those dishes that meets most dietary requirements as it is gluten free, dairy free, nut free and vegan. That doesn't mean it skimps on flavour, though it will, like all curries, develop more in flavour in the fridge - this dish will impress even the most critical of diners.**

You will not miss the meat as the eggplant creates a melt in the mouth richness and the chickpeas add a wonderful texture. This dish also freezes very well, up to six months in fact.

The first time I had this dish was in Nepal. In something they call a thali, basically an assortment of a few different vegetable curries and sauces with pickles and rice all placed on an ingeniously designed plate that has grooves pressed into it, so all the food doesn't meld into one.

We had to cross over the border into Nepal from the Indian side, and as we got off the bus, we began to slowly weave our way through the mayhem that is an Indian border crossing. All along the side of the jam-packed road sat vendors selling every kind of trinket, cloth and hardware imaginable and dotted in between these savvy entrepreneurs were food vendors. No western person in their right mind would even think to buy something to eat, that is unless you were on the verge of starvation because huge black flies swarmed all over the food and the customers didn't seem to mind it.

Every now and then the vendor would wave a branch and the flies would rise into the air in a swarm and simply move on to the next offering. I saw one vendor pick out the dead flies in the sauce and flick them on to the street without a care as to who saw.

After about 10 minutes we reached a small office; we came to a small bespeckled man who sat behind an old desk piled high with papers; he wore a bright orange turban wrapped expertly on his head and had a small beedi cigar expertly pursed in his lips underneath a walrus like moustache. "Passports please," he said in a softly spoken tone. His eyes suddenly lit up when he flicked through my passport; he extinguished the cigar and looked at me with deep brown eyes and said, "You will need a visa sir." "Excuse me?" I replied. I was confused as I had already received my

visa and it sat plastered there in my passport for all to see.

"Isn't that my visa?" I replied as I pointed to the passport. "Ahhh yes, this if for an airport entry sir. Because you are Australian you will need an overland visa." "Oh OK, how much is it?" "50 US sir." Now I know why his beady little eyes lit up, I say to myself; but I also know trying to barter with an official in India is like pulling teeth; it only ends in pain for me and the dentist kind of likes it. So, I pull out the crisp \$50 US note from the money bag that is hidden underneath my shirt and hand it over.

He holds it up to the light and a large grin now spreads across his face like the cat that got the cream. He reached into a small draw in the desk and pulled out a stamp, inked it up and with a thud on my passport, I now had permission to enter Nepal.

"Where is the border crossing?" I asked. "Simply walk out that door and you are in Nepal sir. Enjoy your stay. Namaste," he said as he placed his two palms together like I was taught to pray. "Namaste," I say in return. I bend down to pick up my backpack and take the first steps of my journey into the land of mind-boggling mountains and valleys like nowhere else on earth.

**Prep time 25 mins**  
**Cook time 45 mins**  
**Serves 4**

### INGREDIENTS

- 5 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 brown onion diced
- 3 cloves garlic minced
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1 teaspoon curry powder
- 1/2 teaspoon ground turmeric
- 1/4 teaspoon garam masala
- 1 tbs salt,
- 1 medium eggplant, cut into 2cm cubes
- 3 cups of ripe Roma tomatoes, cut into 2cm cubes
- 1 can chickpeas, drained and rinsed



- 2 cups vegetable broth (stock cubes are fine)
- 1/2 cup loosely packed, chopped coriander

### INSTRUCTIONS

- To prepare the curry, heat the olive oil in a large pot over medium heat.
- Fry off the eggplant until soft about 8 mins; remove and reserve in a bowl.
- Return pot on medium heat, add the onion. Cook until fragrant; add the garlic. Continue cooking the garlic for 1 to 2 minutes, or until it's very fragrant. Stir in the cumin, curry, turmeric, garam masala, and salt, as well as a few tablespoons of water, to help mix everything together and create a kind of slurry.
- Add the eggplant, tomatoes, chickpeas, and broth. Bring the mixture to a boil and reduce it to a simmer.
- Cover and cook for 15 minutes. Uncover the curry and cook it for another 15 to 20 minutes, or until the liquid has reduced and the eggplant is melt-in-your-mouth soft. Check the mixture and adjust seasonings to taste.
- Divide the curry into bowls and serve over a cooked whole grain rice or with flatbread.

# hooked on books



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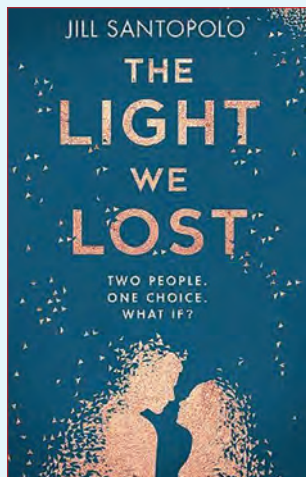
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- Neil Gaiman

## Our Book Choice: *The Light We Lost*



by Jill Santopolo

**He was the first person to inspire her, to move her, to truly understand her.  
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Lucy is faced with a life-altering choice. But before she can make her decision, she  
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meaning in each other. But then Gabe becomes a photojournalist assigned to the  
Middle East and Lucy pursues a career in New York. What follows is a thirteen-year  
journey of dreams, desires, jealousies, betrayals, and, ultimately, of love. Was it fate  
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Lucy and Gabe continents apart, but never out of each other's hearts.

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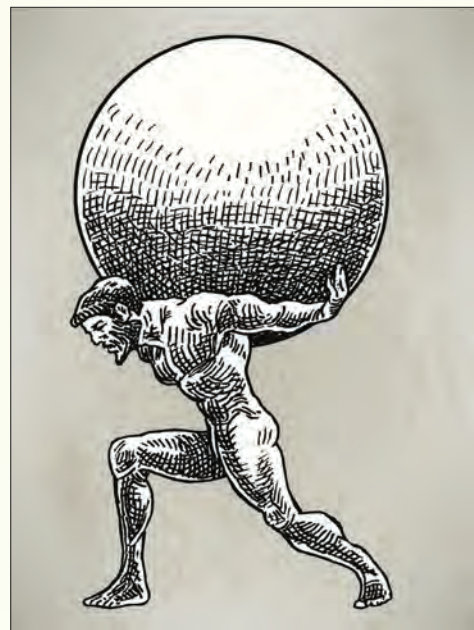


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# TRIVIA

*The Stuff of Myth*



1. According to Egyptian mythology, of what was Nut the goddess?
2. Prince Rama was a figure from the writings in which language?
3. Which serpent-headed creature was slain by Perseus?
4. Whom did Perseus rescue from a sea-monster and then marry?
5. Who killed his father and married his mother, Jocasta?
6. Which creatures tried to lure Odysseus and his men onto the rocks with their bewitching singing?
7. Which of the Titans holds up the Earth?
8. In the Odyssey, who was the King of Troy?
9. Volkh, who had an ability to assume any form, is a figure from the mythology of which people?
10. How many heads did the Hydra have?
11. Which mythical animal has a lion's body and the head and wings of an eagle?
12. In Greek mythology, who was the god of the north wind?

Answers page 25

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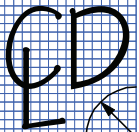
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## Answers to TRIVIA from page 23

1. The sky
2. Sanskrit
3. Medusa
4. Andromeda
5. Oedipus
6. The Sirens
7. Atlas
8. Priam
9. Slavic
10. Nine
11. Griffin
12. Boreas

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# REGULAR MOUNTAIN ACTIVITIES

**BADMINTON** Social players, all levels. Mon 6.30pm to 8.30pm at the Vonda Youngman Community Centre (except Public Holidays).

**BOOK READERS GROUP** meets once a month, new members welcome. Enquiries at TM library.

**BOTANIC GARDENS** Forsythia Dr, Eagle Hts - Volunteers' working bee every Thurs morning 8-12. 0409 263 666

**CHRONIC FATIGUE FIBROMYALGIA** Support Group meets monthly Ph 5545 3134.

**FILM CLUB AT THE ZAMIA.** Meets every third Sunday at 5.30pm for 6pm screening. Only \$10 annual fee to join which gives automatic membership to the Tamborine Mt Little Theatre group. All movies are free with membership. Films shown range from the classics to foreign and Australian made. Cabaret seating and the old sling back chairs make it a great evening of entertainment where you can bring along your own refreshments or a take away to enjoy during the film.

**FRIENDS OF TAMBORINE NATIONAL PARK :** meet on the first Saturday of the month (except Jan.) To find out where we will be working contact Len on 3355 7288 or 0428 335 572.

**FRIENDS OF TM LIBRARY** Quarterly booksales held, other volunteering opportunities available. Contact the library for further information 5540 5473.

**JOHN DICKSON CONSERVATION PARK:** working bees 1st Monday & 3rd Monday of each month. 8am. Ph: Elizabeth Russell 5545 3601.

**MARTIAL ARTS:** Kyokushin Karate and Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu. Bully Busters, Self Defence, Discipline. Tamborine Mountain Showgrounds Tues & Friday 5.00pm and Saturday 9.30am Contact Cameron: 0433 633 775

**MEDITATION:** Tuesdays 7pm – New Thought, New Life Centre 5545 3700.

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**MOVIES ON THE MOUNTAIN:** Regular screenings of latest releases at the Zamia Theatre. Ph 5545 3517.

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**ROTARY ON TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN** meets every Wednesday night at 6.30pm for 7.00pm start at the Eagle Heights Hotel. New members and visitors welcome. For information, call David on 0419 743 275

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## **TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY CARE**

**ASSOCIATION:** Service Provider for first - level aged care. Transport to medical appointments, Domestic Assistance, Home Maintenance, Social Support Individual & Group, Podiatry and Computer classes. Open: Mon – Fri 8:30 am – 4:30 pm. Volunteers welcome. Contact – 5545 4968 Address: 42, Southport Avenue, Tamborine Mountain, Qld.

**TAMBORINE SUSTAINABLE GARDENERS SOC (TSGS),** a group of enthusiastic gardeners, meets on the last Saturday of each month. Mrs Sue Morris 5545 0102.

**TANGO CLASSES:** Every Friday evening at the Zamia Theatre. Beginners class 7.00-8.00pm; advanced class 8.00-9.00pm. Cost is \$30 per couple or \$20 pp. Inquiries call Ron at 0432 559 924.

**TM ARTS COLLECTIVE:** Meetings are usually held at 7.00 pm on the first Wednesday of the month at a designated location (call 5545 0043 for details). We always welcome visitors and enquiries from new artists and artisans. We stand for a stronger arts community on the Mountain, and continue to lobby for a local community

gallery and arts hub. The Collective benefits from our association with the Brisbane Visual Arts Community (BVAC) and members participate in Brisbane and local arts events.

**TM BOWLS CLUB** – Friday social 1pm winter & 2pm summer; Sunday Scroungers 10.00am-12.00 noon; barefoot bowls & otherwise by arrangement. Competitions for members as notified. Free coaching, new members always welcome. Enquiries: 5545 1308.

**TM BRIDGE CLUB** meets each Monday at 5.45pm, Wednesday at 1.15pm, Thursday at 12.45pm and in an Assisted Play session on Friday at 12.45pm for those wishing to learn more in a social environment at the Tamborine Mountain Sports Complex, 400 Long Road.

**TM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE:** 2nd Wed. of month. Phone 5545 0944 Email: info@tamborinemountainchamber.com.au

**TM COMMUNITY KINDERGARTEN ASSOC** meets 2nd Wednesday of the month at the kindergarten 23 Coleman Square, North Tamborine at 7.15pm.

**TM CREATIVE ARTS: Schedule of Activities MONDAY** 9.00am-12.00 noon Patchwork, Quilting, Mahjong. 1.00pm-4.00pm Painting (Tutor fee) 1.15pm-4.15pm Creative Writing (1st,3rd,5th Monday of Month) 6.00pm-9.00pm Mens' Group 7.00pm-9.00pm Sculpture & Pottery **TUESDAY** 9.00am-12.00 noon General Craft, Sculpture & Pottery 9.30am-12.30pm Life Drawing (Model fee) **WEDNESDAY** 9.00am-12.00 noon General Craft, Bridge – 12.30pm - 4.30pm, Sculpture & Pottery, Spinning & Weaving, Embroidery (1st Wed of Month), Machine Sewing (last Wed of Month). **THURSDAY** 9.00am-12.00 noon Sculpture & Pottery, Botanical Drawing 9.00am-1.00pm Weaving (1st & 5th Thursday of month) 1.00pm-4.00pm Wearable Art, (Felting Dyeing etc) **FRIDAY** 9.00am-12.00 noon Wood Artisans, Sculpture & Pottery, 1.00pm-4.00pm Mahjong **SATURDAY** 1.00pm-4.00pm Yarners

**TM CROQUET CLUB:** Monday and Thursday mornings 8.30 on our green at Club Tamborine. Free coaching, new members always welcome to join us. Ph: Heidi 0488 440 296

**TM FAMILY HISTORY GROUP** Meetings held 1st Sunday each month (excl. January) at TM Historical Soc, Wongawallan Rd, Eagle Heights, 3–5 pm approx. Please contact Sharon on 0401 830 358

**TM GARDEN CLUB:** Vonda Youngman Community Centre, Main Street, North Tamborine. Feb - Nov, 2nd Tuesday 9.30. BYO morning tea. Enjoy: Guest speaker, plant sales, borrowing library books, raffle, plant problem solving and meeting fellow gardeners. New members and visitors most welcome. email: tamborinemtg@gmail.com mobile: 0417 623 023

**TM GOLF CLUB** is open 7 days a week for golf. Ladies play on Tuesdays, Veterans play on Wednesdays and the main competition is on Saturday. Happy hour social event on Friday evenings from 5 pm. Coaching is available by Andrew Revie the club professional. Contact 5545 1788. Happy golfing!

**TM HISTORICAL SOCIETY** – Member working bee & morning tea every Tuesday mornings. New members always welcome. Please contact Phil Paley 5545 4962 or Muriel Shephard 5545 0481 for further details.

**TM LANDCARE:** Volunteering opportunities: Forest Regeneration Work: Judith Roland - 0429 808 206 for details; Helping at the Piccabeen Bookshop - 0403 783 757 during office hours

**TMLETS:** Join at Community Exchange System www.ces.org.za . Enq. 5545 3776.

**TM LIONS CLUB** Admin meeting held on the 2nd Tuesday and dinner meeting on the 4th Tuesday of the month. For more information please phone 5545 2120 or visit website tamborinemountain.qld. lions.org.au/

**TM LITTLE THEATRE:** Meetings held 1st Tuesday of month at 7.30pm at the Zamia Theatre. Regular plays, play readings & social events, movie club events. New members welcome. Cath Buckley President 5545 2236.

**TM LOCAL PRODUCERS ASSOC.** sell local produce every Sunday at the TM Showgrounds from 7am - 12noon Phone 5545 1527.

**TM MASONIC LODGE:** Meets first Thursday each month, except December. Masonic Centre, 10 Knoll Road, North Tamborine. Contact 3273 3313.

**TM MEN'S SHED:** Our workshop at 88 Beacon Rd (behind the tennis courts) is open each Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm. New members welcome. To find out more, drop in for morning tea and a chat or call our President on 5606 8367 or check out our web page at www.tmmensshed.com

**TM NATURAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION:** Birdwatchers – For further information call 5545 0995. Bushwalkers walk on 2nd & 4th Saturday of month. For further information call 5545 0140 or 0419 314 442. www.naturalhistory.org.au.

**TM NETBALL CLUB.** Contact Tracey 0438 575 662.

**TM ORCHESTRA** rehearses from 7pm to 9 pm every Wednesday during school term time. The venue is St George's Anglican Church, Dapsang Drive. New players always welcome. For more information, phone Tricia on 0415 487 581. Check us out on our website www.tamborinemountainorchestra.com; or find us on Facebook.

**TM PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH** 34 Main St, North Tamborine www.tmpcq.org.au Sunday Morning Service 9am (including kids church) and Evening Service 5pm (including kids church). Playgroup: Tuesdays 9.30am for 0-5 years. Youth Group: Fridays 4-6 pm for Years 7 – 12. Enquiries: dave.mugridge@tmpcq.org.au | www.tmpcq.org.au

**BARGAIN CENTRE:** Tuesday to Saturday opens 8am – 12 noon (rear of the Presbyterian Church).

**TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN COMBINED PROBUS CLUB:** Join our new social club for retirees and semi-retired and enjoy some fun, fellowship and friendship at Club Tamborine, 6-12 Beacon Road, North Tamborine from 9.30am on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. Contact Lyndal Drennan (President) on 0450 907 670

**TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN PROBUS CLUB INC (MEN'S CLUB):** Join like-minded retired and semi-retired men for fun activities at Vonda Youngman Community Centre, 2-4 Knoll Road, North Tamborine on 3rd Wednesday of the month at 10am. Contact Harvey Ruglen on 0490 066 385 for details of next meeting.

**TM PROGRESS ASSOCIATION:** 1st Tuesday in month. 7.30pm Heritage Centre Wongawallan Rd

**TM RSL** Sub Branch meets at the RSL rooms underneath the Bowls Club; details are available by phoning 5545 2030.

**TM RUGBY:** Training Monday and Thursday 3.45pm- 5pm at TMSA, Long Road. Please call John Knight 0400 554 555 or Adam Clarke 0413 214 066 – Facebook: Tamborine Mountain Rugby

**TM TENNIS CLUB:** Social tennis from 6.30pm Wed and 3.00pm Sun. Doubles comp from 6.30pm Mon. Ladies from 8.00am Fri. 88 Beacon Rd North Tamborine. Contact Henry Rich on 0477 775 671 or 5545 3547

**TM WRITERS GROUP:** Meets every 1st & 3rd Mon of month, 1.30–3.30pm at Creative Arts Centre, Eagle Heights. Call Patricia on 5545 3403 for details.

**UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE (U3A).** An association for retirees and those preparing for retirement. Learn, teach, socialise. For more info call Delle on 0413 084 571 or access our website www.u3atamborinemountain.com

**YOGA:** For beginners to advanced students: Hatha, Tantra and Nada Yoga: Tues and Sat 9.30 am and Fri 8am at the Zamia. Margot Wagner 0428 137 391

**ZUMBA GOLD:** Zumba Gold: dance fitness classes for deconditioned participants and active older adults. Mondays and Thursdays 9.30am at the Zamia. Petra Hunter 0414 505 014 – TamborineMountainZumba@gmail.com

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