



Scenic

News

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

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MOVE TO THE GOLD COAST, SAYS HOUSEHOLD PLEBISCITE

It's just down there! Councillor Derek Swanborough points to the Gold Coast following the release of a household plebiscite which showed that 65 per cent of Tamborine Mountain residents who participated in the plebiscite voted in favour of leaving Scenic Rim and becoming part of the Gold Coast. Story Page 3.



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Property of the week

SALE 🛏️ 3 🛁 2 🚗 2 ✂️ 1,000m²

Complete with a white picket fence \$689,000+

50 Kinabalu Drive, Tamborine Mountain

- Walk to the Botanic Gardens, enjoy the native birdlife
- Spacious master with twin basins in ensuite and walk-in robe
- Additional living space downstairs, great office/retreat
- Wheelchair access, concreted workshop under

AGENTS:

Mark Inwood 0407 292 036
Debra Opie 0409 210 362



As seen from the LH side at the back

Property of the week

SALE 🛏️ - 🛁 - 🚗 - ✂️ 1,098m²

Vacant Land now a rarity \$299,000+

10 Foraker Drive, Tamborine Mountain

- Owners change of plans could be your windfall
- Start your build process knowing you are part of a great community
- Gentle slope, cleared and ready to go
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AGENTS:

Linda Hogan
0414 300 558



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- 10 - 10.30 37 Benowa Street
- 11 - 11.30 50 Kinabalu Drive
- 11 - 11.30 5-7 Platt Place
- 12 - 12.30 2-8 Roslyn Court

World Emoji Day - 17 July

Do you have an emoji that you use and just can't live without?



SOLD

Review: Buyer 19 Myers Street

Debra was absolutely fantastic with open honesty. There was no beating around the bush. We found her knowledge impeccable & her customer service was exceptional. Debra made the whole sales transition so smooth & simple. We highly recommend Debra to anybody buying or selling. Thank you very much.



AGENTS: Team Mark & Deb
00407 292 036 0409 210 362



SALE 🛏️ 5 🛁 3 🚗 4 ✂️ 4.37 ha

1620 Tamborine Oxenford Rd, Tamborine Mt

- Amazing views, 2 cottages on one block
- Could provide you with an income
- 2 large separate sheds, great workshops
- Will require notice to inspect as 1 cottage is tenanted

\$850,000 +

AGENTS:

Michael Kratzke 0434 718 162
Diane Pihl 0424 653 316



SALE 🛏️ 13 🛁 8 🚗 12 ✂️ 218 acres

208-368 Clutha Creek Road, Tamborine

- 3 Quality built family homes all with room to spread your wings and have the rural lifestyle you may have dreamt of
- Each home has own entrance, one property has cattle infrastructure in place

\$6,000,000

AGENTS:

Michael Kratzke 0434 718 162
Diane Pihl 0424 653 316



SALE 🛏️ 5 🛁 5 🚗 7 ✂️ 2,188m²

5-7 Platt Place, Tamborine Mountain

- Every room has a different ambiance
- Nth facing lounge room with fireplace
- Run as a BnB or accommodate the family
- Taste of Tuscany in the courtyard with travertine stone floor and handcrafted railings

\$1,600,000

AGENTS:

Linda Hogan
0414 300 558



ProfessionalsTamborine.com.au

2205 Beaudesert-Beenleigh Rd, Tamborine 4270

ProfessionalsTamborineMountain.com.au

10 - 12 Main Street, North Tamborine 4272



PLEBISCITE SAYS: LET'S MOVE

It's the issue that has vexed and divided the Tamborine Mountain community for many years now – look west and continue to be part of the detached, sprawling Scenic Rim region – look east and dream of being part of Gold Coast City as its natural Hinterland, the green behind the gold.

The opposing views on the issue have in the main been debated passionately and sincerely.

However, regardless of whether individuals want to stay or leave, the reality is that there is a commonly held dissatisfaction – even resentment – about the way in which Scenic Rim Council administers Tamborine Mountain.

Excessively high rates, poor roads, inferior community services, general lack of consultation, and a perceived dictatorial council and executive are just some of the elements that come into the mix.

In a bid to bring some clarity to the debate, Division 1 Councillor, Derek Swanborough, at his own expense, initiated a household plebiscite, with the results showing a strong preference for Tamborine Mountain to leave Scenic Rim and join the City of Gold Coast.

The plebiscite shows that 65 per cent of residents in postcode 4272 voted in favour of moving to join Gold Coast City Council, with 35 per cent wishing to remain with Scenic Rim Council.

The level of participation in the survey was 51.2 per cent of all households as defined by Australia Post.

Cr Swanborough described the result as a “super majority” outcome.

He said he would now prepare a detailed report that would provide quantitative data to the Minister for Local Government, Steven Miles, to support a request to consider a boundary change.

Scenic Rim councillors have been provided with a copy of the plebiscite results.

“It will now be up to the CEO to address the report and take the matter to Council for

debate,” said Cr Swanborough.

“Council can't have a position on this until such time as it does go to a vote of the council.”

The household plebiscite follows the 2019 Tamborine Mountain Blueprint Survey which indicated a majority of Mountain residents had more affiliation or community of interest with the Gold Coast than the Scenic Rim.

Gold Coast Mayor, Tom Tate, said the people of Tamborine Mountain had clearly spoken in favour of becoming Gold Coasters.

“This is ultimately a decision for the State Government so we await the State's response with interest, but should the boundaries be redrawn we will provide a typical Gold Coast welcome to the good people of Tamborine Mountain,” he said.

“Our council would only formally discuss the plebiscite once the State Government had made its decision ... so the ball is very much in the hands of the State.”

Scenic Rim Mayor, Greg Christensen said: “Council acknowledges the results from the recent private 'plebiscite' asking Tamborine Mountain households to indicate their preference for Tamborine Mountain to belong in either Scenic Rim Regional Council or City of Gold Coast have now been made public.

“It's important to note the private 'plebiscite' survey to date has not been a formal government process and was not checked against the electoral roll or conducted in accordance with s268A of the *Local Government Act*. Under the Act, only the Minister may propose a change to boundaries for a local government area.

“Council understands the next step proposed by the survey proponent is to present this to the Minister for Local Government. This may then mean a proper legislative process could then take place via the independent Local Government Change Commission to assess the proposal and consider if the change:

- is in the public's interest



Steven Miles

- is consistent with the *Local Government Act*, and
- has regard to other important matters such as communities of interest, town planning considerations and providing for a sufficient resource base.

“To date Council has not received any formal notification through the appropriate processes, and would willingly participate in a boundary change process if directed by the Minister for Local Government. Council's obligation is to represent the interests of the whole of the Scenic Rim.”

A significant consideration for the State Government would be the continued viability of the Scenic Rim Council if it were to lose the Mountain's 8000 plus residents.

If Government sanctions a future move to the Gold Coast, it will represent the biggest shake-up to its boundaries since the 2008 electoral boundary redistribution resulted in Beenleigh and Eagleby moving from Gold Coast to Logan Council.

For further comment on the plebiscite, see Cr Swanborough's column, Page 8; and State Member for Scenic Rim, Jon Krause's column on Page 10.

Full results and executive summary on the front page of scenicnews.com.au.



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BASKETBALL GREAT INSPIRES CAMP



One of the all-time greats of Australian basketball, Cal Bruton, was an honoured guest at the Tamborine Mountain Wolves two-day training camp held on the Mountain at the weekend. He is pictured with (from left) Adam Chanter (Wolves President), Emily Clift (club award winner), Liam McKenzie (club award winner), and Jon Krause (Member for Scenic Rim).

American-born Cal has been an integral part of the national basketball scene since its inception in 1979, both as a player and coach. His many on court achievements include representing Australia as a player, NBL Head Coach and NBL championship winning player.

He became a naturalised Australian in 1983 and played for the Australian men's national basketball team in 1986.

Cal was joined by son C.J. Bruton (current Brisbane Bullets assistant coach) for the weekend camp which saw more than 100 locals turning out each day to develop their skills and share in stories about their basketball heroes.

The camp ended with a presentation of the club's inaugural season awards, which was preceded by a delicious afternoon tea.

2 SCENIC RIM LOCATIONS ADD TO FIRE ANT ZONES

Two Scenic Rim locations have been added to the State's fire ant biosecurity zones following several fire ant nests being found in Coulson and Tarome.

If you live or work in these areas, you must not move materials that can carry fire ants unless they meet the requirements outlined in the Biosecurity Regulation 2016.

Soil, hay, mulch, animal manure, quarry products, turf and potted plants are all high-risk for carrying fire ants.

Fire ant biosecurity zones are one of the measures the National Fire Ant Eradication Program uses to reduce the chance of fire ants being spread in high-risk materials.

It regularly reviews and amends the fire ant biosecurity zones as needed to manage the risk of fire ants being spread.

For more information on the fire ant biosecurity zones, visit fireants.org.au or call 13 25 23.

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COUNCIL NOMINATES 2022 EKKA SHOW DAY

Scenic Rim Regional Council has nominated Monday 8 August as its public holiday for the 2022 Royal Queensland Show, known affectionately as the Ekka.

Mayor Greg Christensen said the nomination would now be provided to the Office of Industrial Relations for approval.

"Each year local governments are requested to nominate special and show holidays for the following year in line with the requirements of the Holidays Act 1983," he said.



"Today's nomination means we will put this date forward in writing and wait for approval from the Queensland Government.

"It's also a good time to remind our community that the Scenic Rim region will mark this year's Royal Queensland Show with a public holiday on Monday 9 August 2021.

"Traditionally, Scenic Rim has celebrated the Royal Queensland Show on the Monday of the Ekka Week to avoid holding the holiday on the same day as Brisbane residents' People's Day which is always on the Wednesday.

"This provides economic benefits for businesses that remain open for Brisbane visitors who may choose to visit the Scenic Rim on their gazetted holiday.

"Later this year we will undertake consultation using the *Have Your Say* feature on our website to gauge community feedback for Royal Queensland Show Day holidays for the Scenic Rim region from 2023 and beyond."

CAMELLIA SALE AT BOTANIC GARDENS

The camellias in the Botanic Gardens are in full bloom, ready for a celebration one-day plant sale on Saturday 31 July in conjunction with the Tamborine Mountain Garden Club's Camellia and Magnolia Festival.

The sale will be held at the Potty Potters' propagation pavilion at the southern end of the gardens. Signs have been placed along the road to point the way. The sale will begin at 9am and close at midday, unless sold out earlier.


Vehicles will be available to help people with large purchases take their plants to the car park, and to assist less abled purchasers.

The Potty Potters have prepared a magnificent display of camellia varieties, as well as a range of bare-rooted plants.


Tickets to the Garden Club's Camellia and Magnolia Festival will not be available at the Botanic Gardens, but online only.

The gardens sale will be conducted under a Covid-safe plan which means all visitors must maintain social distancing and take advice and direction from gardens volunteers. While card payment is the preferred option, cash will be accepted.

Entry to the Botanic Gardens is free and visitors can enjoy a sausage sizzle and a hot coffee. Visitors are most welcome to bring a picnic.



Council Notices



COUNCIL GRANTS

COMMUNITY GRANTS
Applications opened for Council's Community Grants (Minor and Major) on Thursday 1 July 2021, closing 5pm on Friday 30 July 2021.

ENVIRONMENTAL GRANTS
Applications opened for Council's Environmental Grants on Thursday 1 July 2021, closing 5pm on Friday 13 August 2021.

For further information on the funding opportunities available through the grants program, visit Council's website www.scenicrim.qld.gov.au/grants-funding-awards.

LIBRARIES

Visit scenicrim.qld.gov.au/libraries

STORYTIME IN THE PARK OUTREACH

CANUNGRA	14 July
KALBAR	15 July
RATHDOWNEY	21 July
PEAK CROSSING	26 July
TAMBORINE VILLAGE	27 July

STORYTIME SESSIONS
Bookings are essential. Space and number limits apply.

BEAUDESERT Monday 9.30am | Wednesday 9.30am
BOONAH Monday 10am | Friday 10am
TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN Monday 9.15am | For children 2-5 yrs
Friday 9.15am | Baby Rhyme Time 0-2 yrs

DIGITAL DAYS
BOONAH | TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN
Tech help sessions are being held at Boonah and Tamborine Mountain libraries.
Bookings are required, contact the library for more information.
Digital Days is starting soon at **Canungra** in the park, sessions held on Mondays. Call 5543 5791 for more details.


BUSY FINGERS
TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN | Tuesdays 1pm-3pm
If you want to learn to knit, or knit with a group, join our 'Busy Fingers'. Bookings required.

YOUTH BOOK CLUB
BEAUDESERT | Tuesdays from 4pm
Ages 12-15

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For more information or bookings phone 5540 5050 or liveatthecentre.com.au

AM CONCERTS
Music for the soul - Jodie-Joy in concert
Friday 23 July | 11am
The Centre Beaudesert
Adults or children \$16; Groups 10+ \$12.50



ON EXHIBITION
WOVEN - *Hanging by a Thread* and *Scenic Seniors: Life Stories 21 July To 27 August*
Exhibition opening Saturday 24 July | 10.30am | The Centre Beaudesert
Free entry but bookings required
Features *Hanging by a Thread* by artist Therese Flynn-Clarke and poet Sally MacKinnon and *Scenic Seniors: Life Stories* by Centacare
BASi Just Art
Annual members' exhibition continues until 6 August
Saturday 24 July | 10.30am | Free entry
Boonah Regional Gallery

FRIDAY FLICKS
Boonah Cultural Centre | 10am | 1pm | 7pm
Tickets \$10 or Conc \$7.50 Pre-purchased essential
16 July The Courier (M)
23 July Never Too Late (M)
6 August Blackbird (M)




WORKSHOPS AND TALKS
Scenic Rim Writers Book Launch
- Mystery, Murder & Mayhem
Saturday 7 August | 10am | The Centre Beaudesert
Celebrate this latest publication and meet the writers of the tales of the Scenic Rim
Createplace Life Writing Retreat
Two day writing workshops and activities celebrating strengths and survival
13-14 August | Vonda Youngman Community Centre

PM CONCERTS
Ross Noble
2021 Comeback Special (16+)
Saturday 24 July | 8pm | The Centre Beaudesert
Tickets Adults \$54.90, Groups 10+ \$49.90

It Takes A lot Not To End Up Dead!
with NiNaK Productions
Saturday 14 August | 2pm
The Centre Beaudesert
Tickets Adults \$34, Conc. \$29, Groups 8+ \$29

We Will Rise with Topology
Saturday 21 August | 7.30pm
Boonah Cultural Centre
Tickets Adults \$34, Conc. \$29, Groups 8+ \$29

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




scenicrim.qld.gov.au

REJUVENATE YOUR SOUL

Nicky Payne is the owner operator of 'The Haven Healing Centre & Day Spa', a beautiful healing and wellness centre which has recently opened on Eagle Heights Road, Tamborine Mountain.

After retiring at the end of 2020, having spent many years in a hardworking, stressful career, Nicky understood how important it was when she was busy, to find the time to relax and unwind during her working week. She would visit her 'Haven,' a little day spa in a small country town in northern NSW, where she took time out for herself to focus on self-healing, relaxing and clearing her mind, body and soul.

Nicky says "I felt like my soul had been rejuvenated every time I left that beautiful place. I left feeling relaxed, calm and refreshed and ready to face yet another stressful week."

When the NSW borders were closed last year, Nicky could no longer visit her 'Haven,' so after retiring last December, she set about finding the perfect property on Tamborine Mountain, in order to set up her own little 'Haven'.

The Haven Healing Centre & Day Spa can only be described as a place of total relaxation, peace, tranquillity and serenity. It is a beautiful sacred space, created especially for those wanting to relax, unwind and clear their minds whilst focussing on healing themselves by rejuvenating their body and soul.

The centre is located a very short walking distance to Gallery Walk, and as soon as you walk through the door, you are engulfed in a warm, relaxing and comforting energy.

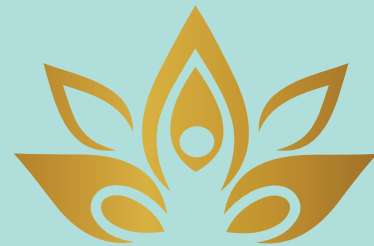
The 1 hour Spa Package is a hit with the locals. At just \$40 per person, it includes access to the Himalayan Salt Room, the Infrared Sauna and two amazing Hydrotherapy Magnesium Spas, which are both heated to 40 degrees.

On Wednesday and Saturday mornings, The Haven offers a 4 hour Rejuvenation Spa Package. It's great value for money and is becoming increasingly popular, as it's only available for up to a maximum of six people at a time. Bookings are essential, as spaces fill up quickly.

For just \$150 the morning commences with 1 hour of Yin Yoga, followed by a healing meditation, Indian Head Massage, Flower Foot Soak and unlimited access to the Salt Therapy Room, Infrared Sauna and Hydrotherapy Spas, finishing off your morning of total relaxation, with a shared fresh fruit and cheese platter, warm herbal teas and fresh filtered water.

The Haven also offers gift vouchers, relaxation massage (by appointment) and in coming weeks will be introducing the 'Rainforest Bliss package', for \$99 which will include a relaxing facial, face mask and massage, using one of the Mountain's finest organic skin care range, called Sacred Blends.

For more information, or to book online, please visit www.havendayspa.com.au or give Nicky a call on 0401 522 074.



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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, legislative authority or under authority delegated by Council.

Councillor's Comment



DEREK SWANBOROUGH
DIVISION 1

HOUSEHOLD PLEBISCITE

The results are in and 65 per cent of Tamborine Mountain residents would prefer to be in the Gold Coast City Council area.

There is a detailed 10-page PDF report available on scenicnews.com.au explaining the whole plebiscite process and results which has been sent to various government stakeholders. The result is statistically conclusive, with a 99 per cent degree of statistical confidence based on the 51 per cent of the population sample casting a vote.

Thank you to the Mountain for participating and making your views known and thank you to everyone who volunteered expert advice and assistance in making this happen, including those mentioned in the report itself and many others who have not been mentioned.

It was important to me and everyone that the majority view be known, in order to carry on with the process knowing that I have the sanction of the majority. The community engagement necessary on this matter is mostly concluded

now and work will begin on the preparation of a report that provides quantitative data to the Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Steven Miles, to support a request to consider a boundary change. This process is likely to take many months of research, identifying and collating data and proving that the Mountain's Community of interest is more with the Gold Coast than with the Scenic Rim. No request will be made without this supporting evidence to make a strong case.

COUNCIL BUDGET

My next column will deal with the Scenic Rim Council budget and the capital works and new initiatives that will benefit the Mountain.

Whilst I didn't vote for the budget, based on the impact to Tamborine Mountain of 3 per cent rates rise, I was successful in 4 votes to 3 in moving an amendment motion to adopt the 2021-22 Operational Plan, to release inter alia, the costs of new administrative initiatives within 14 days. I did this because they weren't fully disclosed in the budget documents and were almost equivalent to a large percentage of the rate increase above the Local Government Cost index of 1.45 per cent.

Last week the initiatives were released with a supporting media release from the mayor, hailing it as a "great commitment to be more open and transparent with our community".

I want to say that Councillors McInnes, McConnell, Chalk and myself supported the amendment and the rest of the council and executive staff fought hard to defeat it. I wish that the "epiphany" of commitment to transparency somehow extended to "all the Council" because of the majority vote to adopt the Operational Plan, but sadly, this was not reflected in the debate that occurred at this Special Meeting on 24 June on the amendment within that motion to release the new initiatives.

Contact details

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Email: derek.s@scenicrim.qld.gov.au

Derek Swanborough

Councillor. Division 1

Scott BUCHHOLZ MP
Federal Member for **Wright**

Working for Wright

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TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN

POLICE NEWS

ROAD MATTERS – PLEASE BE MINDFUL

Giddyay... I hope everybody is safe and well. The kids are back at school by the time you read this, which may be a relief for some.

IT Has been cold and a little wet of late. Unfortunately, the wet roads up here generally bring a little mayhem and anybody who was travelling up Tamborine Mountain Road from Tamborine in recent weeks would have seen the carnage with vehicles upside down in paddocks and over the edge of embankments. We all know how much traffic travels on these roads on a weekend. The majority of people manage to stay on the roads, so what happens to the rest? I can provide a simple explanation in some instances: we have young and inexperienced drivers making errors. This is a concern, and our young drivers need to be mindful particularly when the road is wet. An error can cost you your life. In other instances – can be blunt? – these drivers can't drive, are boofheads with no respect for their vehicles or other road users, and are just negligent. A case in point is a recent incident where the car's tyres were bald (down to the wire) and the vehicle crashed on a straight bit of road; I will leave it to you to determine what may have happened. The driver in this instance was fined, the car was written off and the driver was lucky to escape major injury. The message here: be mindful of others, ensure your vehicle is roadworthy and drive to the conditions.

LOITERING IS NO-GO

We have had some recent reports of suspect vehicles and persons loitering near businesses and homes. If this is occurring at 2 in the morning you'd best have a satisfactory explanation, or you will be dealt with. This type of behaviour creates fear and won't be tolerated. If you see any suspicious behaviour, persons or vehicles, whip your phone out, get some snaps or attempt to get registration numbers. We have a lot of solved incidents from members of the public providing this type of evidence. Remember we are a community: it is each and everyone's responsibility to look out for each other – that is how good communities work. The local police on the Mountain take pride in the community and we are always on alert for criminal activity and poor behaviour, regardless of whether we are on duty or not. We have families here on the Mountain, and have a genuine attachment to our

Mountain division. However, we are limited in numbers and can't work 24/7, so assistance from you guys is appreciated.

FOUND:

There has been a chainsaw located by Police on the side of the road on Tamborine Mountain, after likely falling from a moving vehicle. If you are missing a chainsaw and can nominate the make and model you may be in luck. Lastly there is a current ongoing National Gun Amnesty. This allows people to relinquish unregistered firearms, it is preferable that these weapons are surrendered to licensed and approved gun dealers. These dealers are listed on local area websites.

With our community in mind, look out for your neighbours, be a little more tolerant, show some love to family and be grateful for what you have.

Sr Constable Steve Hargreaves
North Tamborine Police

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JON KRAUSE MP

State Member for Scenic Rim

POSTAL PLEBISCITE ON LOCAL BOUNDARY CHANGE

I have recently met with officials from the Minister for Local Government's office to discuss the process of how proposed changes to local government boundaries may be enacted.

Relevant legislation provides that the formal process – conducted by the Change Commissioner – will only start IF the Minister for Local Government refers the proposal to the Commissioner.

Advice provided to me in May 2021, and in previous years as well, was that the Minister will only make such a referral if (1) there is a general indication of support from the impacted area, (2) both impacted Councils pass resolutions supporting a referral, and (3) financial analysis shows both the 'receiving' council and 'giving' council will be financially viable after the proposed change.

The Change Commissioner would then look (again) at the financial viability question, whether the proposed change is in the 'public interest', and conduct a formal referendum on the proposal after these issues have been looked at by the Commissioner.

As your State MP, I represent the entire Scenic Rim Regional Council area – and so need to consider these matters with a view to their impact on all residents in the SRRC area (as any person in my position would have to).

Even read conservatively, the recent postal plebiscite shows a significant level of support for the proposal among residents. I will be seeking to meet the Minister again to request that the Minister ensure that the Government makes available financial information the State holds to consider the financial viability question.

Often it looks like councillors are required to serve the council, not the residents. Without commenting specifically on the performance of the council (that is up to councillors to do), these issues, and others (like the vast and diverse nature of the Scenic Rim Council area), no doubt affect the sentiment that people have towards their council.

The objective for everyone should be a council that best serves ratepayers and provides efficient, value-for-money services (lower rates come into this). Achieving this is a responsibility of council leadership, together with State regulation of councils.

I will continue to argue for changes at the State level that support this objective, and a system that enables all local representatives to speak up loudly on behalf of their communities.

SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT NEED IN FUTURE LOCKDOWNS

There is still a lot of uncertainty, cancelled bookings and orders, and last-minute changes to plans – all things that have had an impact in one way or another on small business confidence across our region and the nation recently.

During uncertain times, small business owners need confidence. This is what concerned and struggling small business owners are telling me when they talk to me.

That is why I and my LNP colleagues have been urging the Labor Government to adopt a lockdown support package for businesses ahead of any further lockdowns, as well as short term stimulus measures for the sectors that have been the hardest hit.

Small businesses make up 42 per cent of our Queensland economy and yet Queensland remains the only state without a dedicated package for small and family businesses. The ideas and the amounts vary, but at least other states are showing this vital sector they matter.

What's needed in the future for small businesses is a clear understanding of the need for a safety net in the event of a future lockdown which includes:

- Lump Lockdown Payments: payments for small businesses to cover loss of income due to lockdowns
- Deep Cleaning Cover: a rebate covering deep cleaning fees if a business is identified as a COVID-19 exposure venue, and
- Event Cancellation Rebates: to cover financial losses if events are cancelled due to a lockdown.

What Queensland family businesses really need is an urgent shot in the arm to help cashflow now and a guarantee the State Government has their backs in the event of future lockdowns.



SCOTT BUCHHOLZ

Federal Member for Wright

VACCINE ROLLOUT IS RAMPING UP

COVID-19 vaccinations are increasing, with almost one million Australians now being vaccinated every seven days. Last week saw the two highest days on record for number of doses administered.

Almost nine million doses have been administered at time of publication.

GREATER ACCESS TO PFIZER VACCINE

Australians will get access to Pfizer vaccines sooner, as Minister Greg Hunt, the Secretary of the Department of Health, Professor Brendan Murphy, and Head of Operation COVID Shield, Lieutenant General Frewen, have worked to ensure a large number of doses will be brought forward.

From 19 July, Australia's Pfizer supply will increase to approximately one million doses per week. This is compared to an average of 300,000 to 350,000 per week in May and June. Australia's vaccine delivery program is ramping up.

We also have 1300 extra GPs coming online this month specifically to deliver the Pfizer vaccines.

ROYAL COMMISSION INTO SUICIDE

The Australian Government has formally established a Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide following approval by the Governor-General.

The Royal Commission will inquire into systemic issues and common themes related to defence and veteran suicide, including the possible contribution of pre-service, service, transition, separation and post-service issues, and other matters believed by the Royal Commission to be relevant to its inquiry.

The Royal Commission will be able to inquire into any previous death by suicide, including suspected suicide. It will be conducted independently of Government, including the Departments of Defence and Veterans' Affairs. In making recommendations on systemic issues, the Royal Commission will be informed by the individual experiences of defence members, veterans and their families and support networks.

SUPPORTING INNOVATIVE MEDICAL MANUFACTURERS

The Morrison Government is investing more than \$36 million in innovative medical product manufacturing projects to help keep Australians safe from COVID-19 and reduce our reliance on overseas suppliers of vital medications.

The funding – to be shared by five Australian companies – includes \$3 million to help Perth-based Avicena Systems scale up manufacturing of its Sentinel COVID-19 screening system, which can be used to rapidly test more than 90,000 people every day. The system can be deployed at border checkpoints and airports, providing results within 35 minutes of a sample being collected, which is enough time to prevent an infectious person from boarding a flight.

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Letters to the Editor

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

DESIRE IS TO LEAVE SCENIC RIM COUNCIL

The Tamborine Mountain residents have thrown their support behind a plebiscite to realign the boundaries with Gold Coast City Council.

This action was not so much a desire to leave Scenic Rim region and join the Gold Coast, but a desire to leave Scenic Rim Regional Council.

Our councillors are elected to represent the community. They are not expected to become an independent corporation with unlimited funds to spend at will, to suit their personal ambitions.

If this plebiscite does nothing else it will open a conversation with State Government about the failings of SRRC to respond to the needs of their constituents, not only in Division 1 but all those, across the region, who want to leave too.

Julie Wilkinson

AN ALTERNATIVE TAKE ON PLEBISCITE RESULTS

There is, of course, a different and much more straight forward and commonsense way of interpreting the results of this non-compulsory survey.

It can be stated very simply. Only a small minority, 33 per cent of the Mountain households, voted to move to the Gold Coast (993 out of 3015).

The reverse is even clearer. When given the very good and full opportunity to express their opinion on whether to move to the Gold Coast or to remain where we are, a clear majority of 67 per cent of residents (2022 out of 3015) chose not to support the change, for many reasons including abstentions, lack of informed discussion etc.

This result shows that the Mountain community as whole wants to retain the separate, unique identity of the Mountain and protect our special lifestyle as it is, into the future.

Most importantly, this clear majority to not move obviously gives the "indicative" result that the survey sought to achieve. It will be quoted as widely as possible whenever it is needed to protect that separate identity.

Of course, there is a lot of work to be done by our current and future representatives on the SRRC regarding the many serious issues and Community needs which were raised in this process.

Anyway, Councillor Swanborough, thank you very much for giving the residents the chance to have their say, as promised. It was a very valuable

exercise despite all its problems and shortcomings.

Now let that be the end of the matter and we can all move on.

Richard Pratt

STOP THE POT(HOLES)

Dear fellow Mountain residents,

As most of you are aware, there is an overwhelming opinion that our council maintained roads are in a terrible state, and littered with potholes. In an attempt to document the number of potholes currently on the Mountain, I went for a drive this week, to record and locate all of them to submit to SRRC for review. Unfortunately there were many more than I had anticipated. To assist with the reporting of all our potholes, I ask for the community to assist, and to use their phone with the online form in the link below to capture and submit any potholes that are of concern to you.

tinyurl.com/stopthepot - photos are optional (only take photos if it is safe to do so).

The form will be active until 5pm Friday 23 July. All submissions will be compiled into a spreadsheet, mapped, then passed onto SRRC for assessment.

Happy pothole hunting,

S. Painter

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

On the local scale there are serious problems that we have to sort out. But there is a potential world changer that hasn't had the attention it deserves.

At almost all levels in our complex society, we have become dependent on computer chips – from humble domestic appliances to cars, heavy industry and military systems, plus the management to keep it all working. With demand escalating, there is already a scarcity.

The majority of the world's chips, particularly high-end ones, are made in Taiwan. Despite spending billions over the years, China still lags.

China has long made claims to Taiwan and takeover would give it a potent weapon to disrupt the workings of

the Western world.

Due to the above, a Chinese move to annex Taiwan could not be disregarded as a simple historic border dispute, and the consequences of pushback could be far reaching.

Phil Giffard

WHERE HAVE ALL THE MEMORIES GONE?

It's been very upsetting for a number of residents who placed their mementos of dearly departed ones to the far right of the hang-gliders' hill site.

Many of these mementos have been there since 2011 – possibly earlier.

Someone has gone and removed plaques, stones, flowers, and even cut a stainless steel plaque from a tree! Literally removed all the memories that have quietly accumulated there over the years, and which provided a space for many to sit in memory of loved ones.

Council has been approached: they say it wasn't them. Walt, the president of Hang Gliders Canungra has been asked, and was horrified to hear that this had happened.

The club, which leases the land, had placed a timber bench – which Council has removed, and which is currently sitting in the council yard in Beaudesert – waiting for the club to collect and apply for a permit to put a bench on the land which they already lease!

It's been heartbreaking for those who have had their items removed and possibly destroyed – who would do this?

(Name supplied)



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TOURIST DEVELOPMENT BID IN RESIDENTIAL AREA



Buying a house is one of the biggest investments a person makes. Where one chooses to buy on Tamborine Mountain depends on its Planning Scheme. It tells people what can be developed where. This provides some certainty for people in choosing where they want to live.

If there were no guidelines such as the Planning Scheme, then it would be open slather and you would never know what you might have next door. This could lead to properties being devalued.

There is a development application for a tourist facility proposed for a residential site on Main Western Road. This contravenes the intent of the Planning Scheme. Set amongst residences, it has serious potential to damage the amenity of those who have chosen to live nearby.

An estimated over 90 per cent of residents have arrived for a particular lifestyle. This is seen as relaxed, environmental and semi-rural. It is definitely not urban and nothing like the Gold Coast. However, despite not having reticulated water and having just a basic infrastructure, permitting regular breaches of the Planning Scheme such as this is exactly where we are heading.

For anyone wishing to lodge a submission, a pro forma is published here. Space is added for your comments. Completed forms may be dropped off at the library; closing date is 29 July.

**J. Lockey
President
Tamborine Mountain Progress Association.**



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The Assessment Manager,
Development Assessment Unit,
Scenic Rim Regional Council,
P.O. Box 25, Beaudesert, Qld. 4285

Dear Sir,

MCU21/054 - Nature-based Tourism – Manager’s Residence, Reception and Lounge area, Eight Onsens within one Building and Five Tourist Cabins – 713-735 Main Western Road, Tamborine Mountain

The Scenic Rim Regional Council should reject the above application for the following reasons:

The proposed development contravenes the intent of the Planning Scheme.

This is a Rural Residential A precinct, not a business district and such precedents should not be set in private residential areas. The size of this proposed development negates the peace and quiet of this area that residents have chosen to live in.

There will be a significant **loss of amenity to surrounding residences.**

Traffic and parking:

- Residences will be impacted by – a required car park, dropping off facilities, turning area.
- Plus movement of employed staff – laundry, food preparation, cleaning, deliveries, rubbish removal, water deliveries, maintenance.

Water and sewage.

- Lots of water and sewage pumping creating unwanted noise for neighbours.

Outdoor lighting around and between cabins.

- This is also a disturbance to the wildlife which abounds on the western escarpment.

Fire risk due to stream of visitors.

- The western escarpment is at high fire risk due to abundant fuel along the heavily treed rim.

The proposed development is within **Koala Priority, Core Koala Habitat & the Koala Habitat Protection Area** and should not be permitted.

Earlier residents at this site have been refused development permission beyond a residence as this is a declared high risk landslip area.

Hot tubs and villas are not nature based tourism. Further, this isn’t an Onsen. Onsen water is geothermally heated and rises to the surface bubbling hot and must contain at least one of the 19 designated chemical elements that come out of the ground. <https://www.insidejapantours.com/blog/2015/02/17/japanese-etiquette-101-how-to-onsen/>

This is already on the Mountain – <https://yumeji.com.au/>

This development application does not establish a town planning and community need for the proposal sufficient to warrant an approval.

Further comments

Name

Signature

Address

Date

This submission can be handed in at the library, North Tamborine – closing date – 29th July, 2021



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EXHIBITION

Wayne Singleton

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PRINTMAKER EXPLORING THE DELIGHTS OF NATURE

COVID-19 restrictions created the perfect opportunity for Brisbane master printmaker Wayne Singleton to bunker down and create works drawing on nature for his latest exhibition.

His exhibition of hand coloured relief block prints (linocuts) will be on show from 16 July until 8 August at Under the Greenwood Tree, 92 Main Western Road, Tamborine Mountain.

Wayne was recently named as a finalist for the coveted Lethbridge Landscape Prize and will display at InkMasters' international InkFest 2021 being held in Cairns in June and July.

Some may remember him from his successful exhibition at Under the Greenwood Tree in 2019, or from his years as an art and



technology teacher and exhibiting artist. He has undertaken art residencies and conducted workshops at secondary schools across Brisbane, as well as at Impress Printmakers Studio and Community Arts organisations in regional Queensland.

His work - which has been exhibited since the 1980s - can be found in national and international private and corporate collections.

"I'm an introvert by nature, so the COVID-19 restrictions provided me with the luxury of uninterrupted time in my studio where I thrive," said Wayne. "My inspiration over the last two years has come from forests on private properties in the Scenic Rim and the Sunshine Coast hinterland."

"I guess I would call myself a nemophilist – someone who is a haunter of woods, who loves the beauty and solitude of the forest.

"I am fascinated by the light, the intertwining of shapes and colours. I don't attempt to copy nature. Instead, I represent an idea of the life of the place I'm depicting.

"Many of the prints in this exhibition explore my fascination with the rainforest – it appears to be a stable enduring ecosystem, but that's because of our relatively short human lifespan," he said.

Wayne Singleton produces original prints rather than commercially produced fine art (giclee) prints. Each is printed on a hand press from a block (printing plate) cut from his own drawing.

"An original print is an identifiable original as there are subtle variations between each print in the edition – a bit like brothers and sisters," he said.

The exhibition at Under the Greenwood Tree will feature framed artworks on the walls, as well as a selection of unframed works.

Photo at left: Wayne Singleton – the artist at work

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THE YOGA DETOX

I was part of a discussion with a very interesting group of yoga teachers, and the topic of detoxing came up.

One yoga teacher, who also happens to be a Chinese acupuncturist mentioned the poor success rate of many of

the popular detoxes around today. Now in yoga, detoxing is something we like to do in spring when the energy of the earth is rising. And most practitioners of yoga build an annual detox into their lifestyle. But what was interesting for me was his comment that if the physical detox, in whatever form: fresh raw organic foods for a couple of days, juices, herbs, fasts etc., was not accompanied by a metaphysical detox (mental, emotional and spiritual) the detox will have limited success.

So the physical fruits of a detox are things like: Enhancing your immune system. Think of it as lightening the load the body has to deal with so it can focus on more important work – like warding off infections. Improving your skin quality and tone. The skin is our largest organ of elimination and if our other pathways of eliminating waste and toxins (liver, bowels, kidneys and lungs) are blocked up or full of waste waiting for removal, then it will naturally come out through the skin and affect your skin quality. Relieving irritating digestive symptoms - detoxing gives your gut a break and allowing it time to reduce the irritation and inflammation and work optimally. Conquering cravings – often a detox will clear the mind and clear the cravings. And a better night's sleep – when the body is cleansed it doesn't have to work as hard during the night and you sleep better.

But what many don't talk about is the mental and emotional stuff that often surfaces in a detox. Often we are so distracted by the physical symptoms of the detox, we ignore the mental stuff that comes up. So to work with your physical detox and enhance a long term change in health consider paying attention to those thoughts and feelings. Write them down, reflect on what you can deal with and perhaps release and forgive. Embrace stillness - meditation restores mental balance and when your physical tissues are throwing off toxins, meditation will give you clarity.

Reduce mind clutter by reducing physical clutter. Your desk, wardrobe, office – declutter the unnecessary to enhance that feeling of lightness and energy. Go outside in nature: do yoga, move, sweat, and breathe. This will bring you into a visceral experience of the magic of this life. Seek something sacred - turn to joy. At our essence, we are spiritual beings who share a human experience. As you detox the physical body remember that you are more. You are expansive consciousness. So allow your newfound physical lightness to match your metaphysical freedom.

Margot Wagner
Yoga Under the Bodhi Tree

(Find and like articles similar to this on my Facebook Page: Yoga Under the Bodhi Tree)

Relationships



THE VALUE OF FEEDBACK

Those of you with pets possibly know the frustrations of administering medication, especially when your pet is fussy. We currently have this challenge with a very particular toy poodle, Ellie, who can detect any hint of a crushed pill from five metres!

After much trial and error, I have discovered an effective strategy, involving her favourite sliced meat. She approaches the first offered titbit



with extreme suspicion. She refuses to take it from my hand so it has to be dropped on the floor for her careful examination. The second one is cautiously taken from my hand and rolled around the mouth, sometimes spat out and then eaten. The third offering is gingerly accepted. By the fourth, she is convinced that I have no ulterior motives and down the hatch it goes - complete with the hidden tablet!

What am I doing in this process? By giving Ellie meat she enjoys, I am slowly building her trust to the point that she swallows something unpleasant but good for her without any drama. Sometimes in relationships, we may need to give each other a pill that is hard to swallow. It might be feedback from what we observe of the person's behaviour. We all have blindspots, and the only way we become aware of these is by hearing concerned feedback from someone we trust. However, this process can become messy when the feedback is given out of frustration. We approach the person with our big fat pill in hand and try ramming it down their throat. Like Ellie, they will be quick to spit it out and run a mile. Building trust requires that we demonstrate our good intentions toward the other person. In relationships where this is evident, feedback is more likely to be well-received.

If you feel that a person you care about would benefit from hearing feedback, try serving it on an 'appreciation sandwich'. This means beginning the conversation by acknowledging something that they are doing well. When it comes to feedback, frame it in a way that describes what you are noticing. Then, invite them to respond. "I'm wondering what's happening for you in that moment?" ... or "Is this something that you're struggling with?" ... or "is there something I can do to help you with this?" If the person doesn't want to engage in a conversation about it, that's okay. It doesn't mean that they have necessarily rejected your feedback. They may just need some time to process and reflect on it. Ensure you end the conversation with something positive you appreciate in them.

We all need to receive feedback at times, it's how we grow. Sometimes it can seem like a distasteful pill that we don't want to swallow. Sometimes it's inaccurate and we don't need to swallow it. However, rather than total rejection, be willing to listen and determine what feedback is relevant to you. The right pill, delivered in a trust building manner, results in a healthier you!

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

Doreen Wendt-Weir is a local author, well-loved speaker and occasional TV personality. She has just written her latest book, Gardening in Your Nineties

Tell us a little about your life

I have been writing all of my life. I was first published in the *Australian Women's Mirror* when I was in my twenties, with a story about hitchhiking in Italy. It had three illustrations, and I received my first exciting cheque!

I had already written two books about Logan Village when I commenced a Bachelor of Arts course at Griffith University, majoring in Creative Writing and Indigenous Studies. While completing my BA Honours degree, I was encouraged to research the sex lives of older people. This led to my best seller *Sex in your Seventies*, the book that changed my life.

How has COVID-19 affected your life?

I was born in 1928, so COVID-19 meant that I keep to myself largely.

I am a keen vegetable gardener, so I decided, to fill my time well, to write another book on gardening. I realised that I thought a lot about my life while gardening, so the tale became a memoir. Because it was a true story, the intertwining love story was a necessity, and *Gardening in your Nineties*, the sequel to *Sex in your Seventies* became a reality.

I have had a chequered career. I was born on a dairy farm on the Logan River. The war interrupted my studies at the Brisbane Girls Grammar School, and I became part of the war effort in 1944 when I was manpowered to work for the US Army in their large post office in Brisbane. When the war ended, I was lost. I always wanted to be a journalist, but a BA was required in those days, and I did not have the Senior pass (grade 12) that was needed to gain entry to university. Adult education had not been heard of, so I went nursing, a decision I have never regretted.

After four years General Training in Grafton, I completed an Obstetrics course in Sydney. A friend and I then embarked for England where we completed our District Midwifery in Boston, Lincolnshire. We rode around on our bicycles, delivering babies in all sorts of conditions, just like the TV show *Call the Midwives*.

How would you best describe what you do?

I am really a raconteur, an entertainer. With my writing, I can inform folk, hold their interest, entertain them. I cannot



Doreen Wendt-Weir

stand anything boring, so I must always be interesting... or say nothing.

What are your main challenges?

Marketing my books is a challenge. But I seem to be good at it. I have my own website sexinyourseventies.com and have done a lot of guest speaking, entertaining folk and promoting my book(s) at the same time. One thing leads to another, and I have never had the need to advertise. An ABC radio interview (that won an Australia-wide competition) led to a television career that only ended with the advent of COVID-19.

Any particularly funny moments in your career?

The funniest thing to occur was when I was interviewed by Larry Emdur on The Morning Show, Channel 7. It was all about my book of course, *Sex in your Seventies*, and I was recounting the story of an interviewee who had cured her husband of his sexual problem with 'quickies'. Larry and Kylie both thought I meant Quickeze, the indigestion remedy, and the next day went to great lengths to explain to viewers that it was useless thinking this little tablet would cure the dreaded malady!

I am to be envied in a way, I think, as I am finding fulfilment in my gardening and writing, and what goes with both!

I am now 93 years old, and despite a recent setback, live an interesting life. I have good friends, lovely family, a warm bed and good tucker. I count my blessings and only aspire to a simple life.

What do you do to relax?

I like to play (the card game) 500 and I love doing crosswords, both of which keep my brain active. We all need a laugh and I try to find the 'funny side.' I am never nasty. I love 'doing lunch on the verandah,' and adore good conversation.

Do you like to travel or go on holidays?

I have done a lot of travelling in my day, and now am content to visit family in distant towns, or have a day at the beach. The last time I visited the latter, I could not get up off the sand, and was helped by a lifesaver who had noticed my plight! I gave him my best smile and thanks.

I try to be interested and interesting. I love people and their stories. I have found that the most unlikely person has a story to tell. I once heard Sir John Gielgud speak, giving advice about life. He said to beware of the pitfall of becoming 'a caricature of oneself' as one grew older. Wise words, and worth thinking about. I consider I was once a victim myself, but Sir John's words made me aware of my condition, and I now take care that I do not exaggerate any traits, good or bad, that I might possess.

Final thoughts?

A wise uncle long ago sent me this verse:

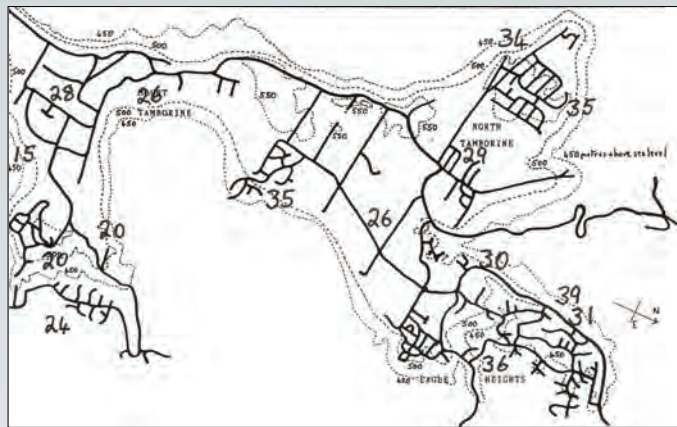
I shall pass this way but once;

Any good that I can do, or any kindness that I can show, let me do it now.

Let me not defer nor neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again.

Tamborine Mountain Rainfall

June 2021



A trough brought rain recorded on the 4th. Then cold fronts caused light rain on the 9th and 15th. The latter was quite vigorous and produced lightning and thunder as the cold air swept in under the warmer moister air. Lightning strike caused a small fire on Lamington. A slow moving trough from the west gave us a wet spell for 5 days from the 23rd but falls were quite light. It left the Mountain thoroughly wet however. Another trough brought rain recorded on the last day of the month. All this would seem to indicate a wet June but, in fact, the total at Fern St. of 28.2mm was well below the expected of 50.2mm and average of 97.7mm.

The map shows a bit more rain in the north of the Mountain than in the south.

Mike Russell – 5545 3601

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TRAVELLING PLACES By Gina Storey

British Airways today sent through a summer schedule – it was amazing to see how much the UK is opening up to other parts of Europe. How exciting that would be! The US is also well on its way to opening up. When will it happen here? Unfortunately, my crystal ball has gone foggy, however saying that it would seem that more people are getting a wriggle on to be vaccinated and there was welcome news this morning that the Pfizer vaccine importation is being brought forward to help with the roll out.



That said, until the majority of us are vaccinated I think the international borders will stay closed to keep us safe. One report I read was discussing that once the vaccine had been rolled out and everyone has had the opportunity to receive the jab, and had made their personal decision to have it or not, the borders will open. As it should be in a democracy, it is a personal preference to be vaccinated – provided it is not a risk to others around you.

Do you ever wonder what is happening to the great cruise ships of the world? There are a few companies that have operated throughout the pandemic – mainly the smaller expedition vessels. French company Ponant have continued to take holiday makers on wonderful journeys calling in at remote and interesting ports and meeting the locals in many areas of the world. Several more cruise ships (including some of the larger ones) are starting to operate in Europe, the Caribbean and Alaska in coming weeks.

Local company Scenic Tours has just announced that their 6-star luxury *Scenic Eclipse* has been deployed to the Red Sea for five months and will be visiting ports in Jordan, Egypt, and other Middle Eastern ports with access to ancient wonders and history and culture. “Saudi Arabia will be one of the hottest tourist destinations in coming years and we’re very glad our guests will get to experience it in six-star comfort on board *Scenic Eclipse*,” said Glen Moroney, Founder and Chairman of Scenic Group.

Scenic Group had planned to operate its 114-suite super yacht in Australia’s Kimberley region on a series of one-way departures between Broome and Darwin from mid-June to August this year. That plan was, however, foiled due to Australian regulatory approval uncertainty for vessels carrying more than 100 guests. It’s understood many of those six departures were near capacity.

Scenic Eclipse is equipped with helicopters, a six-guest submarine, and – now in warm waters – offer guests the option of Tiwal sailboats, stand-up paddle boards, inflatable kayaks, large inflatable trampolines, wake boarding and water skiing.

Coral Expeditions, also Australian owned has been operating since the beginning of the year offering fabulous small ship soft adventure expeditions around Australian waters. *Coral Adventurer* and *Coral Discoverer* have recently been joined by the newly launched *Coral Geographer* – she will be sailing the Kimberley, Tasmania, Cape York, the Great Australian Bight and areas close to home. Many of these sailings have been fully booked for months however with the border issues there have been cabins become available – so yesterday some cabins on 17th July from Cairns to Darwin suddenly became available.

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT

with Chef Dylan Gittoes

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CHICKEN AND MUSHROOM RISOTTO

If you ask the average person if they have ever tried to make risotto at home the usual answer is no. If you probe a little more and ask why they usually say that it's too complicated. I'm here to dispel that myth! It's easy just fry some aromatics, add rice, wine, stock and stir then all you have to do is get creative with the fillings. Once you make it, you will see what I mean. Also people are always impressed with risotto at a dinner party or long lunch as it's usually reserved for restaurant menus.

Chef Dylan's risotto tips:

- **Don't skip heating the stock**, it helps it to absorb into the rice.
- **Don't over stir your risotto during the cooking process.** It doesn't need constant stirring a good rule of thumb is to give it a stir every minute or so. Let it cook and do its thing
- **When finishing** with the butter and cheese, now is the time to mix vigorously. This stirring method creates the perfect consistency for risotto.

Did you know? At the end of the 14th century, Cistercian monks began to grow rice round Vercelli in Piedmont, and in a letter written in 1475 then Duke of Milan, Galeazzo Maria Sforza, describes the abundant rice fields round his city, the capital of Lombardy. Piedmont and Lombardy remain Italy's main rice-growing regions to this day.

As usual when it comes to these matters there are many conflicting opinions on the historical journey of this magical rice. It was first introduced to Italy and Spain by the Moors during the Middle Ages.

The humidity and climate of the Mediterranean was quickly realised to be perfect for growing shorter-grained rices, and enormous profits were made by those selling rice in Genoa, Venice and the surrounds.

The popularity of rice grew throughout Italy, though primarily among the wealthy owing to the still-exorbitant prices of the product.

Once the outside world discovered the phenomenal quality of the Italian product, the money poured in and the availability of the short-grains spread, making the rice far more widely accessible.

It was in Milan that the rice met its delicious and now famous destiny. Milan had been under Spanish rule for almost two centuries (which is why you see the similar evolution of paella in Spain), and rice had become a staple during their rule. Slow-cooking also dominated the culinary landscape of the region, with Osso Bucco a long-held favourite.

The slow-cooking principles were also combined with the local rice, whilst emphasising the rich flavours, and spices (particularly saffron) for which the area was known, to create '*Risotto alla Milanese*'.

Served by itself, or as an accompaniment to Osso Bucco and other dishes, risotto was discovered to be an excellent way of using the shorter-grained rice, the starchy component of the dry grain mixing with the stock to create a thick, creamy sauce.

Even now the dish is still built around the same core components: rice, stock (usually chicken), onions, butter, wine, and parmesan

Ingredients

- 120g butter divided in half
- 2 tbs oil
- 1 large onion, finely chopped
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 thyme sprigs, leaves removed
- 30g dried porcini mushrooms
- 250g chestnut mushrooms, sliced
- 250g risotto rice
- 125 ml white wine
- 1000ml hot chicken stock
- 200g cooked chicken, chopped into chunks
- 50g grated Parmesan, plus extra to serve
- Few leaves parsley, finely chopped
- 4 slices of sourdough bread

Instructions

- Soak the Porcini mushrooms in 2-3 cups of boiled water for 20 minutes, then remove the mushrooms from the water with a



slotted spoon and reserve 2 cups of the liquid.

- Heat the oil in a large saucepan and add 1/2 of the butter and melt then add garlic and cook until fragrant: one minute should do. Add the chestnut mushrooms and season with salt. Sauté the mushrooms until they are soft. Add the porcini mushrooms and cook for another minute. Remove the mushrooms from the pan, and set aside.
- If needed add another tablespoon of oil to the pan. Add the onion and cook until soft.
- Add the rice and stir to coat. Cook the rice for 2 to 3 minutes, stirring frequently to toast. Add the wine to cover the surface of the rice and stir frequently until it has completely absorbed. Add the reserved mushroom liquid and then add the stock until it has just covered the top of the rice. Stir frequently and allow the stock to be absorbed into the rice. Repeat this process three more times or until you run out of stock. Check for seasoning, you probably will need to add salt.
- When the stock has absorbed into the rice and the rice is cooked but still *al dente* (about 35/40 mins), remove the pot from the heat. Mix in the mushrooms and chicken, then add the other half of the butter add cheese and mix vigorously until well combined. This method creates the perfect consistency for risotto. The rice should not be able to hold its shape and it will look very creamy. Serve immediately, garnished with grated cheese, parsley and toasted sourdough.

GENDER OPTIONS



In most species, whether an individual is male or female is determined by their chromosomes, their sex remains the same for life and male and female are required to reproduce offspring, however this is not absolute, and other patterns, although more uncommon, also occur.

Environmental factors can play a role in sex determination in some insects and reptiles. In turtles, egg incubation temperatures determine sex, higher temperatures produce females, recent research of sea turtles indicates that warmer conditions caused by climate change have dramatically increased the female to male ratio population. In bearded dragons, high temperature reverses gender in the egg and transforms genetically male individuals into functioning females, however these sex reversed females still resemble males in their morphology and behaviour virtually creating a third sex in the species.

Sequential hermaphrodites can change gender in response to environment, social structure, age and development, it occurs in many fish species. Individuals which are born male and transform to female are called protandrous; for example, Clown Fish have a structured society consisting of a breeding pair and small non-breeding males, if the female dies her male partner transforms into a female and the largest non breeding male transforms into her male partner. Individuals who are born female and transform to male are called protogynous, for example if a male Bluehead Wrasse dies, the largest female in his territory will transform into a male. Some fish species transform from female to male after successful reproduction or as they grow or age. Some species can change sex back and forth.

Gynandromorphs are individuals that have both genetically male and female tissues and display simultaneous male and female traits. It is believed to be quite rare and occurs in insects, spiders, crustaceans and birds. Gynandromorphs may be mosaic or bilateral. Bilateral gynandromorphs have a striking appearance with one half male and one half female.

Parthenogenesis is a reproductive strategy that facilitates a female reproducing without male fertilisation. This strategy occurs in species of plants, invertebrates, fish, sharks, reptiles including Komodo Dragons and birds. The mother's chromosomes divide and split, then pair with a copy of itself, producing a baby which only has maternal DNA but is not an identical clone. Some species are capable of switching between sexual and asexual reproduction by choice. A species of hybrid whiptail lizard is now entirely female, with each generation reproducing by parthenogenesis.



Councillor's Comment

VIRGINIA WEST
DIVISION 3

FAREWELL GLADS GIRLS

What a pleasure it was to attend the final concert of Beaudesert's legendary Glads Girls as they hang up their singing voices after 60 years of entertaining our community.

The concert was very special for all who attended and they have certainly left a lasting legacy. Thank you all Glads Girls.

COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL GRANTS

Council's Minor (up to \$5,000) and Major (up to \$20,000) Community grants are now open until Friday 30 July for community groups. If you need to talk your application over with a Council officer, please contact Lacey on 5540 5111, who will be delighted to assist you.

Environmental Grants are also open for groups and individuals to assist them in managing our native plants and wildlife and maintaining a healthy ecosystem. Scenic Rim is one of the most bio-diverse areas in Australia, and these partnerships are valuable to maintain our spectacular scenery and natural assets. Closing date for Environment Grants is Friday 13 August.

AGRICULTURAL SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Council has received some Drought Recovery funding to assist and support farmers who may have particular skills but no formal qualification to operate off-farm, or who may require a ticket to drive a forklift, bobcat, heavy vehicle or other such machinery. This program is designed to support and add extra benefits for farmers and producers who may at times need to seek off-farm employment. If you are interested, contact amanda.anderson@dgt.org.au. The service provider is DGT Employment and Training.

BUDGET 2021-2022

Council recently adopted the 2021-2022 Budget, and as in previous years, the budget preparation is always challenging, as Council juggles the legislative responsibilities of maintaining and replacing aged infrastructure and the expectations of a rapidly growing community. Revenue sources are limited, with a modest Financial Assistance Grant from the Australian Government, available grant funding from various sources and of course from rates. I am happy to further discuss any aspects of this Budget with residents and I believe there will be some community sessions arranged.

SCENIC RIM EAT LOCAL WEEK

We all managed to celebrate more than 80 events in a wonderful week before the lock down began again. A number of postponed events are being rescheduled, so keep an eye out for these, and I do encourage everyone to continue to buy delicious produce from our local producers.

CONTACT ME

I am always available to talk with residents on phone 5540 5403 or 0407 630 052 or via email virginia.w@scenicrim.qld.gov.au.

I am at the Canungra Library on the second Saturday of the month from 9am till 11am to talk with residents.

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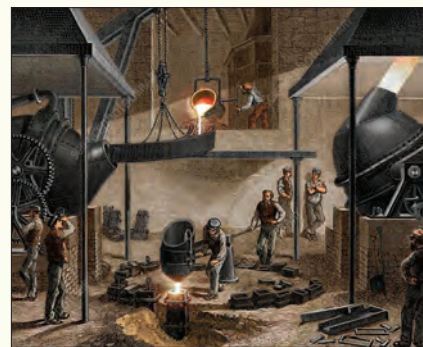


Yoga Under the Bodhi Tree – LIVE

YOGA CLASSES: Mon 9.30am Moriarty CC, Canungra. **Tues 9.30am, Fri 8am and Sat 9.30am** Zamia Theatre, Main St, Tamborine Mountain. **Wed 6pm** Creative Arts Centre, Wongawallan Rd, Tamborine Mountain. **ONLINE YOGA CLASSES:** **Tues 6pm, Wed 9.30am, Sat 7.00am.** For Online Classes text or email me: Margot **0428 137 391** or yogaunderthebodhitree@outlook.com. I will send you an email with a link. Very simple, very low tech. Come and join us! Hatha, Nada and Tantra Yoga. Contact: Margot Y.A (Australia) 0428 137 391. Transform your Life with Yoga.

TRIVIA

Mixed Bag



1. In which US state is Las Vegas?
2. The Bessemer process is used in the making of which product?
3. In which English county is Piltown, site of 'Piltown Man', the remains of a prehistoric man which were subsequently found to be faked?
4. Who was Yogi Bear's best friend?
5. Where in Scotland are the original Highland Games held?
6. What is the name for the making and fitting of artificial limbs?
7. What nationality was the famous tenor, John McCormack?
8. Who wrote A Town Like Alice?
9. In which cathedral was Thomas a Becket assassinated?
10. What kind of animal is the gharial, or gavial?
11. What is a baldric?
12. What was the legendary vessel from which Jesus drank at the Last Supper?
13. Which metal is derived from sphalerite?
14. In Russia, what is the approximate equivalent of the British SAS?
15. Which comedy actor plays TV's Alan Partridge?
16. Which colour is at the top end, ie long wavelength, of the visible light spectrum?

ANSWERS PAGE 25

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Answers to TRIVIA from page 23

1. Nevada
2. Steel
3. East Susses
4. Boo-Boo
5. Braemar
6. Prosthetics
7. Irish
8. Neville Shute
9. Canterbury
10. A crocodile, native to India
11. A belt or sash, worn by a warrior
12. The Holy Grail
13. Zinc
14. Spetznaz
15. Steve Coogan
16. Red

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BUSHFIRE FUNDING GRANTS AVAILABLE

Guidelines for the \$280 million Black Summer Bushfire Recovery grants program, which will provide funding direct to communities to help in their ongoing recovery following the 2019-20 bushfires, are now available.

Federal Member for Wright, Scott Buchholz, said funding from the program would deliver projects to boost community recovery and build more resilient, cohesive regions into the future.

"That is why we are providing funding through a program that is locally led, locally understood and locally implemented by local people," Mr Buchholz said.

"The program has been designed to be simple and flexible, so recovering communities can develop local projects that work for their specific region and need."

Grants can range from \$20,000 to \$10 million and are open to community organisations, businesses and councils in local government areas that were disaster-declared as a result of the 2019-20 bushfires. Applications open on 22 July and close on 2 September.

Workshops to assist applicants with the grant process will be available in person and online from mid-July.

The Black Summer Bushfire Grants program is part of the National Bushfire Recovery Fund. The National Recovery and Resilience Agency administers the grants. For more information and workshop details visit recovery.gov.au/black-summer-grants.

Guidelines and the preview application form are available from the Business Grants Hub at <https://business.gov.au/bsbr>

VIC NEEDS VOLUNTEERS



The Visitor Information Centre in Doughty Park

Volunteering on Tamborine Mountain can be rewarding and stimulating and, for the team at the Visitor Information Centre (VIC), a great way to meet and chat with people from all walks of life.

Now the volunteers need more residents to join their number.

Most volunteers are happy to work for a couple of days each month and are provided with full training and mentoring as they learn the ropes and settle in.

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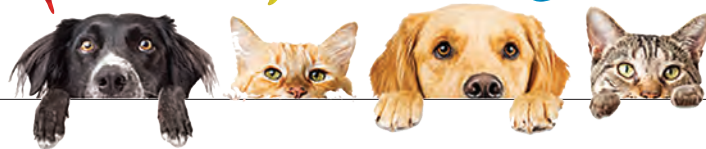
You will also be compensated for your cost of time. The Tamborine Mountain Chamber of Commerce and Inc provides a small fee to cover travel and lunch costs each day you volunteer.

Information Centre manager Caroline Jackson said: "Your day is taken up with answering questions from our visitors, assisting with brochures and recommending activities across the Mountain. Many of our volunteers have learned new details about the Mountain for themselves as they advise visitors."

The Information Centre is a Covid-safe environment with visitors asked to sign in with a QR code.

For more information about volunteering, please contact Caroline on 0413 600 116 or email treasurer@tamborinemtnc.org.au.

Pet of the Week



Douglas - a First Timer at Weekend Markets



Story & photo: Christey Johansson

Douglas the 15 month-old macaw, was definitely one of the most unusual market stall holders I've seen. He and his human Janet Macdonald are inseparable. They both work at GU Motors, Burleigh Heads until 2pm weekdays and then they book bind handmade journals for their business 'The Paper Moon Project', which they sell online and at weekend markets.

Although Douglas is a Blue and Gold macaw, native to South and Central America, he is quite 'the local'... born in Gilston, he enjoys local life, going to cafés, markets and shopping with his human parents and dog brothers. He loves camping at Fairy Reserve: "He is considered a real local at Brunswick Heads too," laughs Janet. "When you have a friend like Douglas, you know you are going to be stopped by people, and we are prepared for this: it's no trouble. It is easy to make someone's day a little nicer."

Douglas was born on the 9th April, which is a date very special to Janet. She shared a story with us about how she came to be Douglas' mum. She had read a Facebook post about a lost macaw pet in her area. Afterwards, she woke up one day and thought: "I want to get a macaw" – much to her own surprise, as she had never owned birds before. Janet's friend knew a local aviary, so she visited that weekend with her husband. Janet immediately fell in love with Douglas, who was then only four weeks old. "It was love at first sight and I knew this was significant. I couldn't believe it when they shared with us that he had the same birthday as my mum". There was no hesitation in starting the bonding process with the new family member.

Janet visited twice a week and Douglas was the smallest of the nest. "When he was learning to perch, he'd pretend he couldn't, and would fall off when I was there. I was worried until I found out he actually just wanted to be cuddled and patted, and not sit on his own on a perch. As soon as he came home, this became more apparent, and he grew to be even more snuggly. He is a big pile of pudding and full of love."

"Keeping a macaw is not a light decision to make." Janet had to learn a lot before Douglas came home with her from the family-owned and operated 'Perky Parrots' at Gilston. She went to work learning all about macaws' diet and behaviours, and with an expected lifespan of approximately 50 years, macaws are truly a friend for life. They are known for their cheeky spirit and friendly nature, and Douglas is no exception. "He loves lying on his back and getting his tummy rubbed, and will get inside your shirt for a snuggle. He is very chatty, and can open the fridge and drawers in the kitchen. He pulls out the cutlery. And when we are laughing, he laughs with us, just like humans do."

Douglas also has two dog friends: Bension, a 7 year-old blue heeler cross, and Ranji, a French Bulldog, who works as a companion dog at Gold Coast Airport in the 'Ambassapaw' program. "Bension has made it his job to take care of Douglas, and from the first minute he wakes up until bedtime he is there for him. At 7 every night, he walks Douglas to his bed and afterwards goes to sleep himself," Janet relates lovingly. "They all get on so well and love each other." What a family! Janet and Douglas can be seen at our local monthly markets at the Showground.



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