



# News

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

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## CANUNGRA PUTS ON A SPRINGTIME SHOW



*Canungra's DJ Smith Memorial Park last week greeted spring with a superb display. Just across from the park in Kidston Street, Canungra Books and Art will be hosting a book launch with Nick Sinclair and his vintage Austin Seven on Sunday 19 September from 11am to 12.30pm. Story page 20.*

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**AGENTS:**

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0418 876 191



Property of the week

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Michael Kratzke 0434 718 162  
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**September is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month**

[www.facebook.com/childhoodcancerawareness](http://www.facebook.com/childhoodcancerawareness)



**Review: Sellers - 28 Central Avenue**

First class sales lady nothing is too much for her, she goes the extra mile to follow up her professional services. I would recommend her to anyone wanting to buy or sell. Her knowledge of the Mountain is excellent, as she has lived here for over twenty years.

★★★★★

**AGENTS:**

Elizabeth Stirling 0400 449 978



**SALE** 3 beds 1 bath 1 car 835m<sup>2</sup>

21 Edith Street, Kingston

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**AGENTS:**

Linda Hogan  
04414 300 558



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**\$1,049,000+**

**AGENTS:**

Michael Kratzke 0434 718 162  
Diane Pihl 0424 653 316



# SHARP COMMENT

TOM SHARP

## CR MCINNES TRAPS SRRRC MAYOR

There is an old saying, 'If you live long enough, you will get to see it all'. Well, we 'heard it all' at the SRRRC Ordinary Meeting on 7 September, sinking this council to an all time low and scraping the bottom of the barrel, leaving the council bereft of any credibility whatsoever.

At the heart of the matter was Item 11.1, The Reappointment of the Chief Executive Officer, to be decided in closed session.

Long before arriving at item 11.1 the matter reared its head at the start of the meeting under Item 5 Declarations of Prescribed or Declarable Conflict of Interest by Members.

What appeared to be a "calculated strategy" by the Mayor was launched whereby he began a long iteration suggesting both Councillors Duncan McInnes and Derek Swanborough had a conflict of interest in relation to item 11.1, and that a motion was to be put before Council to ascertain their conflicts and have them excluded from the closed session, given his suspicions.

The evidence he provided was that Cr McInnes had a daughter working at the Scenic Rim Council and in the case of Cr Swanborough he was biased

against the CEO, Jon Gibbons, quoting from a number of articles written by Cr Swanborough in his bi-weekly *Scenic News* column.

It was clear the strategy was to ensure either Cr McInnes or Cr Swanborough or both were eliminated from the vote, enabling the Mayor to secure enough votes to reappoint the CEO or if necessary, use his casting vote to guarantee locking in Gibbons for reappointment, given he has the undying support of both Deputy Mayor Michael Enright and Cr Virginia West. I cannot recall either one ever voting other than with the Mayor, with possibly one exception, in the last one-and-a-half years, and keep in mind that the Deputy Mayor was only elected by the Mayor's casting vote, making him beholden to the Mayor in the eyes of the public.

After the initial shock of being blindsided, both Councillors McInnes and Swanborough unloaded with a series of questions that had the Mayor and council officers two-stepping. They were ably assisted by Cr McConnell.

First came the absolute dismissal of the suggestion Cr McInnes had a conflict of interest with a resounding unanimous decision, with even the Mayor voting against his own suspicion.

Then came the coup de grace with the Mayor unrelenting in terms of Cr Swanborough's supposed bias against the Mayor. While Cr Swanborough acquitted himself extremely well in pointing out "he never played the man but always played the ball", it was Cr McInnes who stole the day.

Cr McInnes knowingly put a question to the General Manager, asking "if and I think it is a very big if, that Cr Swanborough has a declarable conflict of interest does that mean that anyone who has praised the CEO has a conflict of interest and should absent themselves from the discussion also?"

At this point the Mayor took the bait and cut in on the GM responding, stating, "Councillor, if anybody's wanting to raise such a matter based on public commentary outside of the normal requirements of their role then you should have brought that forward as a proper concern, but can we deal with the matter before us now and then if you feel you have a matter to bring forward based on public commentary."

Cr McInnes wittingly landed the catch of the day.

Cr McConnell sought an answer from the GM, and it was in turn confirmed that, yes, a conflict could be perceived

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# COUNCIL DECIDES: TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN BOTANIC GARDENS

**In response to community feedback, Scenic Rim Regional Council has decided that three lots of council-owned land on Forsythia Drive will be formally named the Tamborine Mountain Botanic Gardens.**

Scenic Rim Mayor Greg Christensen thanked the 469 community members who responded to the public survey in April and May and said the decision was based firmly on the outcomes of public consultation which showed overwhelming support for the name.

"The Tamborine Mountain Botanic Gardens was established in 1983 by volunteers in consultation with the then Beaudesert Shire Council and that name has been used colloquially since.

"In 2020, the incorporated volunteer association responsible for managing the Gardens changed membership and leadership; and the new association, the Tamborine Mountain Botanic Gardens Inc, voted at their AGM to change the name of the Gardens to the Tamborine Mountain Regional Botanic Gardens in the Scenic Rim.

"In September 2020, Council was notified of the association's desire to change the name of the Gardens and in November 2020 an e-petition with 250 signatures was tabled with Council, opposing the proposed name change.

"As per its policy, Council consulted with the community and have now reached a decision on the formal name of the council-owned land, while acknowledging that the operational name chosen by the association may differ.

"Officers will notify the association of the outcome of the community consultation and Council's decision on the naming of the land."

Cr Christensen said Council provided more than \$60,000 annually to financially support the Gardens and labour for certain maintenance activities. However, it was the volunteers who were doing all the hard work to care for hectares of exotic and native flora including the Japanese garden and tropical rainforest walk and being there to open the doors for residents and visitors every day.

## VANDALISM AT LIONS PARK

**Much community and council effort over the years has gone into creating the beautiful Lions Park, near the Tamborine Mountain State School and the Goodstart Early Learning Centre.**

The Lions Club of Tamborine Mountain has done much to maintain the park. Recent revegetation has been carried out by Scenic Rim Regional Council and Tamborine Mountain Landcare, via community volunteers. A beautiful creative, nature-based playground was built in 2018 as a Lions project.

The park is well used through the week and at weekends as there are barbecues, shelters and picnic tables. Some say it's the prettiest recreational park on the Mountain.

Lions Club and community members are disappointed that a large natural rock placed there recently as a memorial to deceased Lions members has been



vandalised, and on more than one occasion. Names have been scratched into the rock face and a memorial plaque attached to the rock has been damaged by a hammer or screwdriver.

The matter has been reported to police and the Lions Club plans to install a surveillance camera. In the meantime, if anyone sees further vandalism being inflicted, please report the incident to the police immediately.

*Photo: Lions Club President Roger Baker inspects the vandalised rock*

## CHURCH CONCERT WILL AID EMERGENCY RELIEF

**There'll be something for all music lovers in the afternoon concert to be held at St George's Anglican Church, Tamborine Mountain, on Saturday 18 September.**

The fundraiser for the church's Emergency Relief Fund will feature piano, flute and accordion solos, as well as solo voice and duet performances by students and members of the congregation.

Sway to a rendition of the traditional folksong *Scarborough Fair*, hum along to classics such as *Moon River* and *That's Amore* and hop to the *Soup and Nuts Boogie*.

This lively program, which includes an afternoon tea, is all for the price of a voluntary donation. It commences at 2.30 pm at the church, 2 Dapsang Drive, Tamborine Mountain.

# SHARP COMMENT

TOM SHARP

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if there was a bias the other way. Cr McConnell then moved a motion suggesting Cr Swanborough had no declarable conflict of interest, and the motion was upheld with only the Mayor voting against the motion.

All five councillors opposed the Mayor's torrid suspicion that Cr Swanborough had a conflict and, of course, so they should.

Then came the closed session and emerging from this the Mayor declared that item 11.1 had not been resolved and that it would be deferred to a future meeting and that the Mayor would negotiate with the CEO an extended timeline for Council's notification for its intent to reappoint the CEO or otherwise.

Following the Ordinary Meeting, a Special Meeting was called for Tuesday 14 September to address the unresolved issue of reappointing the CEO.

What transpired in closed session that led to the matter being unresolved?

Given the clear attempt by the Mayor to guarantee the reappointment of the CEO - and this cloud will now forever hang over the CEO - does this not make his position untenable?

Given the questionable performance of the CEO over the last three years - and one only needs to reflect on Council's track record over budget delivery, pig and calf yards, Boonah trees, rate increases above and beyond, legal stoushes; just to name a few; why would the Mayor push so hard to have him retained.

What do the councillors now know that led them to leave the situation unresolved in closed session?

If the councillors will not deal with this matter, is it time for the State Government of Queensland to step in?

Cr McConnell pointed out that the SRRC was now on a "slippery slope".

Could this be better described as a 30,000ft free fall without a parachute?

# COUNCIL'S FUN ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS OVER HOLIDAYS

Scenic Rim Regional Council will deliver more than 40 free and low-cost activities for kids of all ages during the school holidays.

Families will be able to head to their local library and participate in more than 22 free activities which will include story and rhyme time, author talks and craft workshops, Lego building sessions, games and even the chance to make their own frog habitat to take home.

Council's cultural and community centres will also be a hive of activity, where kids can learn a new skill or passion.

There will be cooking classes for budding young chefs to learn new recipes, theatre workshops for aspiring actors to test their drama skills, and watercolour workshops for creative kids to learn new techniques, as well as drumming and rhythm workshops for youngsters who love music.

Council's popular Kids' Flicks will also be returning, with a number of Hollywood blockbusters being shown on the big screen. Families can go to the Boonah Cultural Centre, The Centre Beaudesert, and Zamia Theatre in Tamborine Mountain to watch special screenings of *Dream Builders*, *Maya the Bee 3*, *Raya and the Last Dragon*, *Spirit Untamed* and *Tom and Jerry*.

The full calendar of the spring school holiday program is available on Council's website [www.scenicrim.qld.gov.au/our-community/for-residents/annual-events](http://www.scenicrim.qld.gov.au/our-community/for-residents/annual-events), with information also available on [www.whatsonscenicrim.com](http://www.whatsonscenicrim.com) and [www.liveatthecentre.com](http://www.liveatthecentre.com)



## SPRING HEALTH

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## Mealybug Ladybird Larva



**Mealybug Ladybird Larva** – *Cryptolaemus montrouzieri*, roadside, Eagle Heights.

The expert considered the image a close match for the mealybug ladybird larva. The ladybird is endemic in Queensland and New South Wales and has been introduced to various parts of the world, including southern Europe, parts of Africa and the USA and New Zealand, to control mealybugs. The larvae are covered in a waxy substance, which makes them resemble their mealybug prey, hence the white colour. Larvae can grow to 14-15mm, whereas the ladybird is up to 6mm long. I overdid the zoom in the first photos and returned for a second try. The larva was crawling on a metal railing which is just over 100 feet long.

Peter Kuttner

*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.*

## NAMING OF TAMBOR

**Council has resolved to adopt the official place name for the Botanic Gardens as Tamborine Mountain Botanic Gardens, following overwhelming support for this after public consultation.**

The operational name adopted by the leases being The Tamborine Mountain Regional Botanical Gardens in the Scenic Rim will also remain to be used by them whilst they have the management rights, and they choose to retain it. It seems that both names will now exist under the Council decision.

The Botanic Gardens Committee recently appealed to Mountain residents to respect the longer name they chose, and I guess it now means that the official long standing place name needs also to be similarly respected.

As a consequence of this decision, there are still some issues with Council policy on place naming that need to be ironed out with respect to just how this type of arrangement will work in practice. A policy review is likely should it prove problematic.

### COUNCIL TO CONSIDER REAPPOINTMENT OF THE CEO

This matter popped onto the Ordinary Meeting Agenda for last Tuesday with the heading "Reappointment of the Chief Executive Officer" with a recommendation it be considered in the confidential section.

The Ordinary Meeting on Tuesday 7 September (it's the first 60 minutes of the meeting) makes interesting listening. I thought I had seen most things in local government but was given a big surprise when at the beginning of the meeting, when we were asked to declare any conflicts of interest, the Mayor exercised his right to challenge myself and Councillor McInnes with detailed allegations supporting his suspicion that we had a conflict of interest in relation to the appointment of the CEO. What that meant



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# Councillor's Comment

DEREK SWANBOROUGH  
DIVISION 1



## INE MOUNTAIN BOTANIC GARDENS

in practice, was, if he succeeded in his suspicion and after a vote on the matter one of these councillors was knocked out of the vote, and the vote was a likely three for and three against, he could use his casting vote (i.e., he could have two votes) to decide the matter his way.

So, what was the Mayor's suspicion?

Well, firstly he believed that the fact Cr McInnes had a daughter working in administration at the Council, represented a conflict. He attempted to say why, but it didn't convince a single councillor or himself when, put to the vote, it failed unanimously (Cr McInnes withdrew from voting).

Then came my turn, and Mayor Christensen, referring to lengthy prepared notes, reeled off times I had been critical of Council performance and many different comments I had made about the secrecy culture of the organisation etc which I had said, "Starts at the top". He said that meant the CEO, and I reminded him it also included himself as the Mayor. Because of this, he said I was biased against the CEO and therefore it was a conflict of interest, and I should therefore not participate in the discussion or voting.

It was then discussed at some length, and I advised why that could not possibly be a conflict, because all councillors are responsible to the community for the council's performance and are allowed to be critical of it. To prove how wrong this was, Cr McInnes asked councillors the obvious question: Was everyone who had ever said anything positive about the CEO also going to declare a conflict of Interest? When put to the vote, no one agreed with the Mayor, and it was voted down, also by five votes to his one (I withdrew from voting).

### THE "LAW MADE ME DO IT" DEFENCE

The new Local Government legislation which requires all

sorts of "DOB IN" provisions (that means councillors or executive staff must do in other councillors if they think they have a conflict of interest or have broken a code of conduct) is being misused at Scenic Rim and probably in many other councils, and it's costing taxpayers millions of dollars in feeding a new Office of the Independent Assessor (OIA) bureaucracy that is growing and consuming resources at a staggering rate.

It is one thing to hide behind the legislation that says councillors are obliged to go through this process if they suspect a conflict of interest, but when the reasons put forward are so farfetched the greatest casualty is personal credibility.

It is also similarly the case with OIA complaints, when I often hear lamentations from possible complainants of "The LAW made me do it (make a complaint) so I can't be held responsible". Well, it seems that the OIA are sympathetic with this complainant's defence and farfetched complaints are mostly dismissed, but, very rarely, from my own experience, are ridiculous complaints deemed frivolous and vexatious and so they are perpetuated. When the complainants can do this in total secrecy, there is little accountability. I understand it's a balancing act to get it right.

The matter of the CEO's appointment has been deferred to a future meeting which will take place on Tuesday 14 September. It is one of the most important decisions Council can make and, based on the previous contract as publicly disclosed, is likely to be within the range of \$1.2 to \$1.6 million over four years.

Mobile: 0436 351 567

Email: [derek.s@scenicrim.qld.gov.au](mailto:derek.s@scenicrim.qld.gov.au)

Derek Swanborough

Councillor Division 1



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## JON KRAUSE MP

State Member for Scenic Rim

### GOVERNMENTS NEED TO WALK THE TALK

**'Unite and Recover' was the slogan the Palaszczuk Government spent millions of taxpayers' dollars promoting in 2020. It formed Labor's key political message before the Queensland election.**

Now it's time to walk the talk. Labor must set out a clear plan to unite Queensland with the rest of Australia, taking into account health and economic advice. And stick to it. I know it's not easy. I'm not calling for the borders to open immediately. What I am hearing from the community is that the uncertainty of events, uncertainty that we may be locked down at a moment's notice, schools shut, businesses ordered to close, and people ordered to isolate from the community is taking its toll – mentally, emotionally and within families - on everyone.

It cannot go on indefinitely. When I was speaking last week with a very senior medical officer in Metro South Health, it was acknowledged at that level that the present uncertainty is unsustainable. In their words, "we can't live like this for the next 10 years". I'd put a significantly shorter timeframe on it than that.

Unfortunately, COVID-19 seems like it is not going away soon, and to unite the nation – all Australians, our economy, families flung across State borders – the Government must put up a plan to deal with this reality, agree upon it with all other Premiers, Chief Ministers, and the PM, and stick to it.

### ROAD WORKS UPDATE ON TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN

#### The Goat Track

**Following extensive damage caused during the heavy rain event in December 2020, the Department of Transport and Main Roads has been working to repair Tamborine Mountain Road, aka 'The Goat Track'.**

Local civil construction company SEE Civil has been appointed to design and construct the restoration project, which will continue until late 2021 (weather and site conditions permitting).

Project day works will include:

- ongoing scaling of upslope and cliff face
- removal of loose debris on upslope and downslope
- rock anchoring
- installation of permanent rock fall controls
- road rehabilitation works to allow the road to reopen
- minor road maintenance works at points along Tamborine Mountain Road towards Canungra.

Night works are also required, and will take place on Monday to Friday between 4pm and 3am. These works are expected to commence on Monday 13 September and continue through to November 2021. While every effort will be made to minimise impacts to residents, some minor disturbance is unavoidable.

You may have noticed that the SEE Civil team has established their site compound in Mango Tree Park, Clagiraba. The compound will remain in place for the duration of the restoration works.

#### Tamborine Mountain Road (Cedar Creek Falls Road to Eagle Heights Road)

The Department of Transport and Main Roads will soon be undertaking slope assessment works on a small section of Tamborine Mountain Road between Cedar Creek Falls Road and Eagle Heights Road on Tamborine Mountain.

These early works are part of the Batter Slope Stabilisation Program to provide ongoing repair to areas damaged by heavy rainfall.

Works will include an ecology assessment in the road reserve in mid-September 2021, over two days between the hours of 10am and 10pm, weather and contractor conditions permitting.

Due to the nature of works, there is a requirement for traffic to be down to one lane. Traffic control will be on site to direct motorists.

Motorists will be kept informed of traffic changes and timing of the works via electronic message signs, traffic alerts and updates on the department's traffic and traveller information website [www.QLDTraffic.qld.gov.au](http://www.QLDTraffic.qld.gov.au)

Residents and businesses may be impacted by noise, and motorists may experience short traffic delays.



## SCOTT BUCHHOLZ

Federal Member for Wright

### VACCINE ROLLOUT CONTINUING

- More than 22 million doses have been administered
- More than 1.84 million Australians are being vaccinated every seven days
- Australia is now vaccinating people at a higher rate than the US and UK ever achieved
- More than 90 per cent of those aged over 70 are protected with a first dose
- More than 83 per cent of all Australians aged over 50 are protected with a first dose
- More than 66 per cent of all Australians aged over 16 are protected with a first dose.

### CELEBRATING OUR AUSTRALIAN PARALYMPIANS



The Morrison Government congratulates our Australian Paralympians after a showcase of unforgettable performances in Tokyo. The Australian team of 179 was the country's largest ever at an overseas Paralympic Games, notching up 80 medals - 21 gold, 29 silver and 30 bronze. For the first time the Government has extended additional financial support to Paralympic Australia ensuring its medal-winning athletes will receive bonus payments in line with the rewards paid to Olympic athletes.

### NEW NATIONAL APPROACH ON SUICIDE PREVENTION

This week on World Suicide Prevention Day, the Morrison Government is recognising this year's theme of 'Creating Hope Through Action' by establishing the Australian National Suicide Prevention Office to lead a national mission to reduce the prevalence and impact of suicide in Australia.

The Government is leading this work through record investment in, and concerted structural reform of, the national approach to suicide prevention. In a first for Australia, the new National Suicide Prevention Office will have the capability to work across all governments and sectors to drive a nationally consistent and integrated approach to reducing suicide rates.

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

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Authorised by J.Krause, 91 Brisbane Street, Beaudesert QLD 4285.



# Letters to the Editor

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

## HYPOCRISY IS ON FULL DISPLAY AT COUNCIL MEETINGS

**Is everyone sleeping so much more soundly now, safe in the knowledge that the reprobate former Cr Waistell has been found guilty of the insidious crime of onforwarding an e-mail and will never run amok again? I know I am.**

Mayor Christensen is attributed (*Beaudesert Times*) as stating that “the outcome should give renewed confidence to community members that the accountability of councillors was a serious matter that should be treated with respect at all times. For me a clear message all councillors need to heed is that good intent does not excuse accountability to proper standards”. So true – just a shame that saying and doing appear to be unrelated when there is a hidden agenda. Time for some inward reflection, perhaps?

Is the hypocrisy displayed during every council meeting causing anyone else indigestion? I need a Bex, a cup of tea and a good lie-down after listening to council meetings online. The Ordinary Meeting of 7 September 2021 was particularly cringeworthy, and the Mayor’s from-the-heart soul searching re- his perception of what constitutes a conflict of interest is an hour of my life I will never get back.

As an exercise in self-immolation, it was an outstanding success. No one, including the Mayor who raised the potential conflict, considered Cr McInness had a conflict simply because his daughter worked at council. However, when Cr Swanborough was firmly in the gun sights, it was a different matter. “Our” mayor was very well prepared and made an impassioned and lengthy chapter and verse explanation of some of Cr Swanborough’s alleged misdeeds re- his *Councillor Comments* column, citing several articles and comments. All divisional councillors voted against the Mayor’s motion, leaving the Mayor the only person to vote in the affirmative. Strange that during virtually every council meeting the Mayor chastises Cr Swanborough for not raising issues well ahead of the meeting but it is perfectly acceptable behaviour for him to attempt to railroad councillors with no prior notice. Double standards, perhaps?

I don’t believe that the attempted emasculation of councillors demonstrates either “good intent” or

“accountability to proper standards”. Whilst it is all very well to take the moral high ground, it certainly doesn’t demonstrate the ethical standards expected of a councillor, let alone a mayor. The reason why there was a need to eliminate two potential voters on the matter of the re-appointment of the CEO warrants further investigation. That matter was deferred, and no wonder.

Time to step down, Mayor, in the interests of a fair go for not only ratepayers but also councillors. Let’s call the behaviour displayed what it is – nothing short of a vendetta.

May I suggest that any consideration of re-appointment of the CEO contain a term not extending beyond the date of the next local government election, as the incoming new mayor should not be saddled with the current one.

Yes, Greg, add this letter to Council’s dossier of my activities – it must be quite thick by now. All I can say is what a bloody good thing that Council can’t lodge complaints with the OIA re- comments made by ratepayers. You can’t gag all of the people, all of the time – as much as you would like to.

Link to the audio of the council meeting – starts at the 5 minute 43 second mark and goes to the 58 minute mark: Scenic Rim Regional Council Ordinary Meeting - 7 September 2021 - YouTube

On the good news front, a number of people have banded together to lodge an appeal against the council decision to approve the “Over 50s Lifestyle Village” at Canungra. Other good news is that there are 44 co-respondents by election who have opted to become parties to the “deemed refusal” court appeal re- the “disability cabins” at 1-11 Eagles Retreat Place.

**Amanda Hay**

## WATER OVERUSE IN SOUTH-EAST Q’LAND

**The proposed new Canungra Retirement Facility which is getting Council approval was thoroughly covered in your issue (No. 1593 of 26 Aug.) This included warnings about water supply. Canungra periodically runs out of water, depending, as it does, on Canungra Creek and associated aquifers as well as house catchment.**

Most of South-East Queensland (not Canungra) depends for its water on the Seqwater grid which links a number of dams. The biggest of these are Wivenhoe Dam and Somerset Dam

*continued page 12*

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## Letters to the Editor

continued from page 11

which overflows into it. Wivenhoe is currently at 43 per cent capacity and the whole grid is at 58 per cent capacity. These are dangerously, and surprisingly, low levels.

Surprising because we have not been experiencing unduly dry years in South-East Queensland - 2019 was certainly drier than normal but in the 20 months since then rainfall has been normal, and the grid must have had normal input and should have maintained a stable level. The fact that the level has declined must therefore be blamed on overuse. Overdevelopment, especially residential development and the population increase which causes it, is clearly responsible.

It is urgent that the State Government acknowledges that we are overusing water in South-East Queensland and in the longer term will run out of it. Where towns and villages, like Canungra, have their own water supplies, overdevelopment will also inevitably deplete their water supplies. A 5000-litre tank per household will not be enough.

Mike Russell

### SRRRC PLAYS TRUMP CARD FOR MOMENT ON HOLT RD WATER

**In 2004, 11 Holt Road, Tamborine Mountain received approval to extract water for local (Tamborine Mountain) use only.**

In 2014, a prospective buyer of 11 Holt Road asked Scenic Rim Council if they could take the extracted water off the Mountain. Council sought legal advice and were advised only if a new application was submitted and approved. The prospective buyer withdrew.

In 2020, there was a new buyer of 11 Holt Road. It was observed that they were taking extracted water off the Mountain and yet there had been no new application and no approval. I submitted a complaint and was told on 26 October that this was a lawful operation.

I contacted Council again seeking a meeting with officers. That meeting occurred on 12 December 2020, and I raised a new complaint that Council had made an unlawful decision in allowing the new owners of 11 Holt Road to take extracted water off the Mountain without an application being approved. I was told on 21 January that the decision would be reviewed. Despite writing to the CEO,

I received no response.

On 2 March, I submitted a complaint to the Ombudsman, and they requested that I give Council more time. I wrote to Council advising them of my complaint again and said that I was giving them more time to respond as requested by the Ombudsman. Council responded that the decision was under review and a response should be provided by the end of April.

As I received no formal response, I again submitted my complaint to the Ombudsman on 28 April. The Ombudsman responded by asking me to give Council yet more time.

On 14 May, I sent Council my complaint again and advised that the Ombudsman had requested that I give Council more time. I received no response so sent the complaint in again on 31 May, but this time escalated it to the General Manager, Debra Howe, as is the requirement under the Ombudsman's process.

As I received no response from Council yet again, on 24 June I sent the complaint again but this time escalating to the top leadership, the Mayor and CEO. On 2 July, I received a response that Council was still actively considering the matter and that they would respond by 23 July. On 22 July, I received a response that Council was considering all possible options available to them. I again responded and reiterated my complaint and gave a deadline of 13 August. On 16 August I was advised that the review was ongoing, but they could not provide a timeline.

I decided that it was time to go back to the Ombudsman. On 9 September, the Ombudsman responded to me and revealed that Council had now played their trump card. The Ombudsman had contacted Council and Council had advised that I had another appeal channel open to me. That appeal channel was that I could submit to Council an Administrative Action Complaint. Not a "complaint" as I had been doing for the last few months but an "Administrative Action Complaint". This has now been done.

So, well done Council. You have won this skirmish and won yourself another 60 days to conduct an internal review of why the other review of the decision was taking so long. I look forward to Council's response.

One question I have though is what did the Mayor and CEO do when they received a copy of the complaint? They obviously did nothing. Do we have the right leadership team?

Nigel Waistell



## IT'S SPRING SO BE CAREFUL IN THE GARDEN

**Spring has sprung – and isn't it wonderful. The weather is warming, the sun is shining and there's even been some welcome rain to fill the tanks up. Seriously, where else would you rather be than Tamborine Mountain during spring?**

I am certainly not a horticulturist, and I wouldn't call myself an avid gardener either, but I do enjoy mowing the lawn, producing beautiful food from our vegetable garden and watching the flowers and trees bloom in the backyard. Jess and I bought our first place late last year at the beginning of summer, so the rapid pace at which the garden begins to grow once spring starts has been an absolute revelation to me.

Prior to our wedding, we had friends and family come to the Mountain for the first time and nobody could believe the beauty of where we live. The green grass, amazing views and lush plant life was enough to ensure they will be back year on year to experience our home. The most amazing thing – this was in the middle of winter after absolutely no rain. If only they were here now to see what happens almost overnight.

Spring though isn't without a few downsides, as with the changing of the season comes the swooping of the magpies, the return of the mosquito and ever-increasing heat (this is bad if like me you are a winter person). The other common problem in spring is the avalanche of gardening injuries we begin to see at Physique – it's honestly like clockwork. A few of the most common things we hear are:

"I noticed some weeds, so I plucked them out; next thing I noticed more across the garden bed and before I knew

it, I had been kneeling down for four hours weeding. My knees and back are killing me."

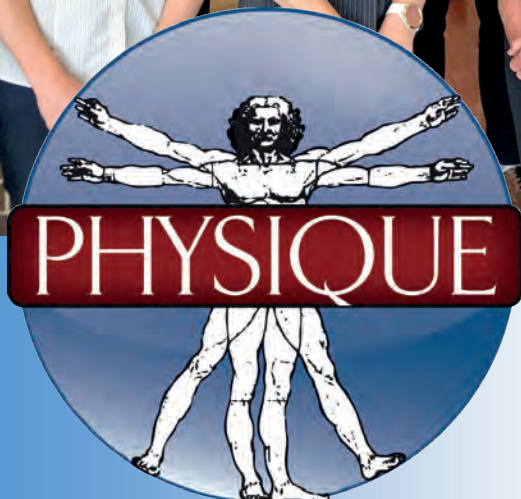
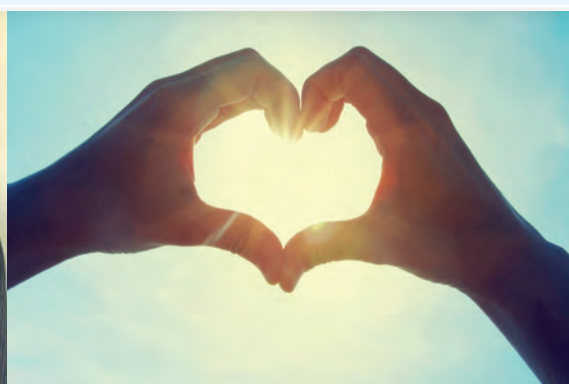
"I just had to move a rock (boulder) from one side of the yard to the other, and I thought it wasn't that heavy but now my shoulders are telling me otherwise ... no, I didn't want to ask for help, it's a simple job."

"Me and my secateurs trimmed all day on the weekend and now I can't seem to use my thumb and wrist anymore. Why do you think that would be?"

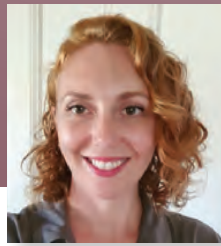
At Physique we all intimately know the realities of maintaining gardens on the Mountain – one of the benefits of having a team full of locals. Here are a few easy ways to avoid hurting yourself in the garden – and as usual the simplest tricks are usually the most effective.

1. Be sensible – the easiest way to avoid injury is simply to take regular breaks, break up tasks and not do the same job repetitively all day. The most common problems that arise from repetitive tasks are conditions such as tennis elbow, rotator cuff pain and lower back pain.
2. Use the right tools for the job – don't try and hack off a tree branch with your small handheld secateurs. Just don't do it. It won't work.
3. Don't push through that niggle if it's not getting better – early and correct advice on how to manage your injury can prevent it from becoming a bigger problem later on.

Enjoy this amazing time of year – we are privileged beyond belief to be able to experience spring up here. Happy gardening!



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## FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDER (FASD)

September is Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) awareness month. September 9 was the International FASD Awareness Day, a day to recognize the importance of not consuming alcohol in pregnancy.

There is a general understanding that alcohol consumption in pregnancy is not recommended, but it is also important to understand why the recommendation is there.

There are many factors, including genetics, that influence how much of an effect alcohol exposure has on a child when they are in the womb. Therefore, there is no known safe level of alcohol consumption in pregnancy. The babies most at risk are those who have had a high exposure to alcohol in pregnancy. However, there are some children who develop FASD as a result of low-level alcohol consumption, or a single binge episode during pregnancy. Because we are all different, there are always going to be individual differences in how we respond to exposure to toxins. In addition, the effect on the baby can also depend on the gestation of pregnancy at the time of consumption. As a result, predicting severity of the effect of exposure to alcohol while in the womb is very difficult.

FASD affects children throughout their lives. It is a permanent and lifelong disability. It affects the brain's ability to think, to learn, to focus, to control behaviour and emotions. This can cause problems for children and as they grow into adults for their whole lives. It is irreversible. It can affect their ability to concentrate at school, which can lead to low self-esteem. There are also associations with developing mental health issues, and substance misuse.

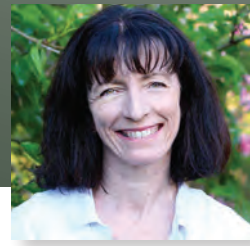
There are many people who become pregnant unexpectedly, but unplanned pregnancy can carry its own risks such as late diagnosis of pregnancy (and so no early screening); not having the opportunity to have had adequate folic acid intake which increases the risk of neural tube defects such as spina bifida; financial and relationship stressors; and also the risk of exposure to alcohol and drugs in early pregnancy stages before you knew you were pregnant.

If you are planning on drinking, ensure that you are not already pregnant and you are taking adequate precautions around contraception. Partners can also help encourage not drinking alcohol when pregnant or trying for a baby by abstaining themselves and supporting an alcohol-free home.

If you are already pregnant and you have consumed alcohol early in your pregnancy this is not to make you feel bad or to shame you. It is to let you know the information that it is safest for your baby to not drink alcohol while pregnant and to stop if you have been. As I said before, it's unknown what level of consumption will affect each individual baby, so I cannot say I'm sure it is fine, but I can say that awareness is power and by knowing this information you can share with others, consider this in future decision making, and look out for signs if you have concerns as your child develops.

If you want more information this can be found at [www.nofasd.org.au](http://www.nofasd.org.au) or [www.fasdhub.org.au](http://www.fasdhub.org.au).

*Bree Lowing is a Registered Midwife and provides bulk-billed in-home antenatal and postnatal services through The Mountain Midwife [www.themountainmidwife.com.au](http://www.themountainmidwife.com.au); 0491 750 795.*



## THE TRAUMA RESPONSE

The recent twentieth anniversary of the tragic event of 9/11 received much attention last week. I watched a documentary about a small group of survivors from the upper levels of the South Tower. Their stories were horrific but at the same time remarkable. Each story of survival was miraculous.

Stanley Praitnath worked on the 81st floor of the South Tower. When the North Tower was hit Stanley evacuated his office. He made it to the turnstiles in the ground lobby and was directed to return to his office as it was considered to be



more dangerous out on the street. As Stanley sat back at his desk, he noticed a low flying plane headed for his building.

He made a hasty decision to get under his desk - a decision that saved his life. He was the sole survivor on level 81 as the plane tore through his office. Trapped in the burning room, he called for help and was heard by Brian Clark who was descending the stairwell. Brian rescued Stanley by breaking a hole in a wall. During the rescue Brian's group decided to change route and ascend to the roof while Brian and the injured Stanley chose to descend. None of Brian's group survived. Brian and Stanley remain close friends, bonded by their life-altering experience. They expressed how grateful they are for each day and how much more they appreciate their loved ones.

Joe Dittmar, who was also high in the South Tower, travels the USA teaching a young generation about the realities of what happened on 9/11. Joe says, "You could feel really bad, or you could feel, 'Thank you God' ". He founded the Always Remember Initiative with the goal to keep alive the memories of the nearly 3000 people who perished on 9/11.

Other survivor stories were just as astonishing yet were recounted with grief, sadness and seeming regret. One man has been plagued with survivor guilt for the past two decades. He spoke of his ongoing challenge with PTSD and depression. Other survivors told how they battled with the question, "why am I here and 3000 people are not?" They said the turning point came when they accepted the not knowing and decided to make their life count.

Responses to a traumatic event are as varied as our unique individuality. Our personal history, particularly the significant period of childhood, plays a role in how we cope with trauma. I have met many couples whose different response to trauma impacts their relationship. Tension can happen when one partner copes by putting it behind them and choosing to focus on the future while the other partner needs time to process the event and heal from its impact. The key is to be understanding of one another's needs.

Recovery is not a matter of strength versus weakness. You can be a healer for someone recovering from trauma through your patient, listening support. If you are grappling with trauma stress don't suffer alone - reach out for help.

**Linda Gray**  
[linda@relationshipsanctuary.com.au](mailto:linda@relationshipsanctuary.com.au)  
0401 517 243

# Q&A

## with the Scenic News

Birchgrove Nursery and Café, located at 38 Alpine Terrace, Tamborine Mountain, is owned and operated by Blake and Michele Taylor. Its extensive and varied range of plants are representative of those to be found in a typical English country garden. Scenic News caught up with them last week in their beautiful business setting.

### What inspired you both to open your business?

We had always wanted to move to Tamborine Mountain as we were long time Canungra residents and always had "hill envy" because the gardens and soil were so beautiful up there. We could not imagine anywhere else better to nurture and grow beautiful plants. We would often come up to visit Alpine Gardens, as it was then known, when our girls were growing up and we would wander through the garden centre. We were always inspired by the beautiful and unusual plants. When the opportunity to purchase this Mountain icon presented itself in 2008, we jumped at the opportunity and it has evolved into what you see today - Birchgrove Nursery and Café.

### What did you do before acquiring this business?

We had previously managed a successful wholesale production nursery, supplying many of the retail garden centres around South-East Queensland, and prior to that we had managed a large retail garden centre on the Gold Coast.

### How would you describe your business?

Birchgrove Nursery has grown and evolved into a multi-faceted one stop garden shop, now incorporating its popular garden café. It is a gardener's shopping paradise - an eclectic mix of old and new - incorporating ingredients and products to suit many garden designs and styles.

### Is it a business that gives you satisfaction?

Having a business that helps people create beauty with beautiful plants, garden art, arches, arbours, giftware and garden furniture is a very rewarding experience for us.

### How extensive is your range of plant, flower and tree products?



Blake and Michele Taylor

Plant collectors can be spoilt with our extensive range of modern and heritage roses, and we have one of South-East Queensland's largest range of deciduous trees, grafted maples, rhododendrons, magnolias and camellias which change seasonally. If you love the look of an English country garden, whether people live on the Mountain or on the Gold Coast, we can help them achieve the garden of their dreams.

### Is there one particular thing that gives you pleasure?

During the course of our workday, we love catching up with our many loyal customers, some of whom we have know for many years and who have become close friends.

### Have you been impacted by the effects of the coronavirus pandemic?

Interestingly, the advent of COVID-19 saw rapid growth and interest in people wanting to improve their surroundings because they were now working and spending so much more time at home. Birchgrove traded right through lockdown, being classified as an essential service, a decision we are assuming was made in the

interests of people's mental health and well-being.

### Any particular highlight that stands out in 2021?

This year has been marked and celebrated by the extension of our 100-year-old renovated and lovingly restored former dairy shed that has added to our gift shop and dining area.

### If you were not doing this, what else would you be doing?

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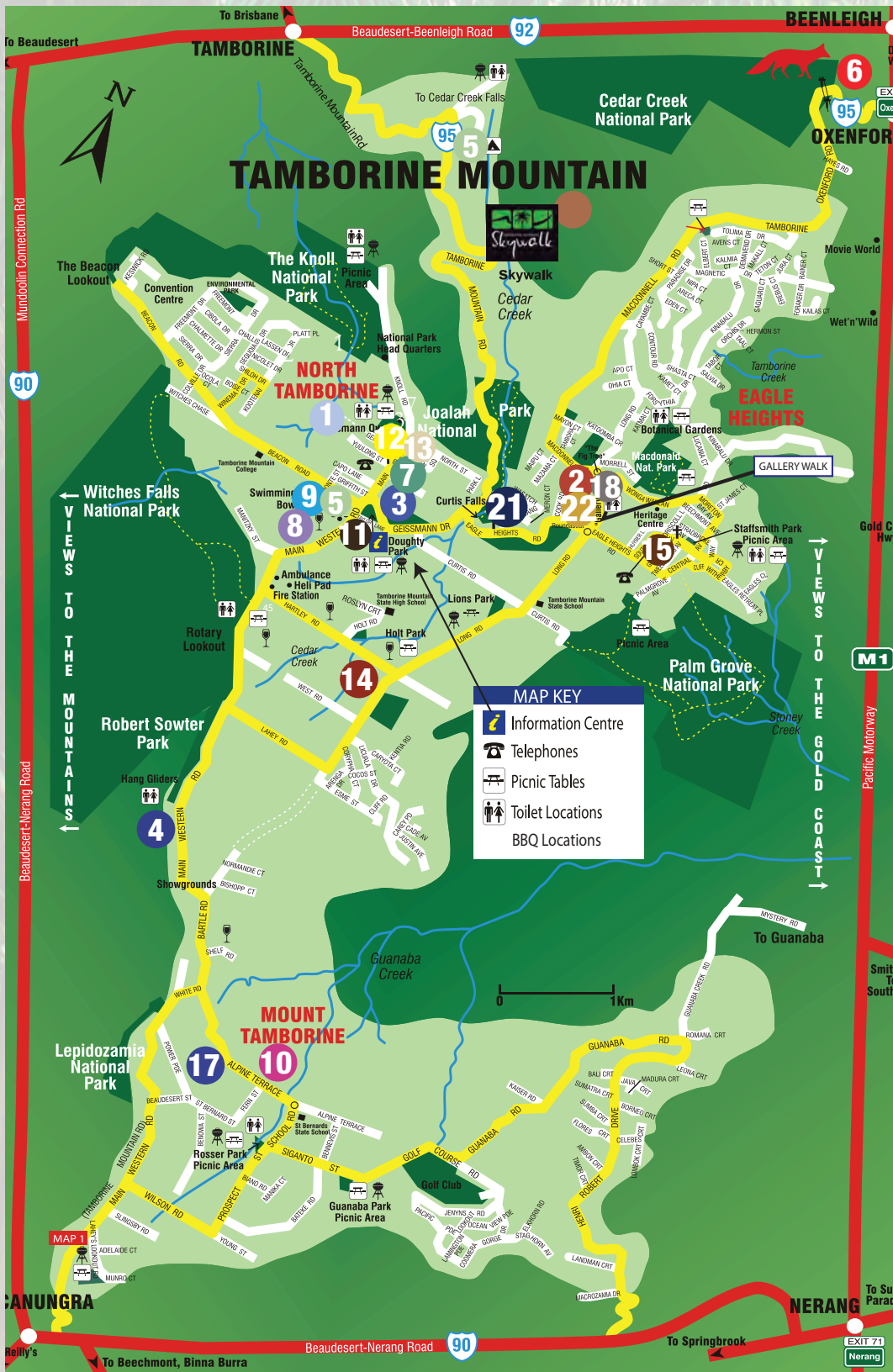


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# DOGS



## HOW MANY DOG BREEDS ARE THERE?

The number of dog breeds recognised by the FCI (International Dog Breeders Association) fluctuates between 390 and 400. The fluctuation results from new breeds being recognised and others being deleted. There are also breeds that receive only temporary recognition. Dogs used to be selected and bred for their usefulness and work abilities, except for toy breeds which were, and are used mostly as companions with their easiness to handle and control because of their small size.



### WHAT HAS CHANGED?

The last century has seen and experienced the advent of "The Show Dog" which could mean the end of the evolutionary road for the species. Human breeding ideals have not been logical or practical in a biological sense. Then there is the explosion of "designer" dogs. Designer and hybrid dog breeds are not recognised by most kennel clubs. However, the American Canine Hybrid Club, ACHC, recognises around 25 mixed breed dogs. The designer breeds are appealing to many people for various reasons; they are appealing to breeders too; often for the wrong reason, like fashion and monetary profit.

### DESIGNER DOGS?

The definition of designer dog is a cross bred dog that has purebred parents. It means you can get any combination of any of the physical and character attributes found in either of the parent dog. The Labradoodle was the first designed dog, originally bred in the 1980s by the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association in Victoria for a blind man with dog fur allergy.

Wally Conron was the breeder, who was later quoted as saying, "I opened a Pandora's Box and released a Frankenstein's monster." This was because the popularity of the Labradoodle was overwhelming. Breeders of designer dogs became very popular. "Many of these breeders were and are unethical, ruthless people that sell these dogs for big bucks," said Wally (<https://www.abc.net.au/science>).

His breeding programme was eventually successful, but not all puppies were suitable for work or had hypoallergic qualities; it is not as simple as mating a Labrador and Poodle. The list of designer dogs today is almost endless. See if you can match the parent breeds of these dogs: Cockapoo, Yorkipoo, Puggle Cavachon, Maltipoo, Peekapoo, Pomstoy, Corgimatian.

**Pam Brandis Dip.  
Canine. Prac.**

# WINE CHAT

with Witches Falls Winery

## CIDER SEASON

"I'm not a cider drinker" is a phrase I hear at least once a day working at Witches Falls. Granted, cider isn't for everyone. Yet I must confess that over the years I have successfully converted several staunch naysayers with careful persuasion and firm assurances that this cider is not your typical cider.

The sequence of events typically unfolds like so: a patron will suspiciously eye a sample before dubiously taking a tiny sip. Within seconds, their eyes light up and a smile sweeps across their face before pronouncing in delighted surprise that it isn't half bad.



Why don't we like cider? Wine is often associated with elegance and fine dining, while beer brings to mind fun, summer, and friends. Cider, on the other hand, has a bit of an image problem. Jane Peyton, the UK's first accredited cider sommelier – or pommelier as she likes to call herself – agrees. From the 1980s "cider was perceived as being uncool; a drink for rustic men ... or as cheap loony juice for teenagers to glug in bus shelters."

Despite its poor image, I believe cider has undergone a long-awaited renaissance in recent years. Don't believe me? I'd encourage you to give it another chance. But first off, let's take a closer look at what cider actually is and how it's made.

Cider has been made since antiquity. Although its exact origin is unknown, there's evidence to suggest it has been produced by the Celts since 3000 BCE. Cider is made using a similar method to traditional wine. Just substitute grapes with apples. The same basic chemical reactions take place.

The natural sugars in apple juice are converted by yeast into ethanol. Because cider apples typically have a lower sugar content than grapes, the alcohol percentage once fermentation is complete tends to be lower (often between 2 to 8 per cent). However, traditional English cider tends to be stronger and drier. A higher alcohol content can be achieved by adding extra fruit juice or sugar between a first and second fermentation. On top of this, many mass-produced ciders contain additional flavourings or syrups in an attempt to boost sweetness while retaining strength. It's not surprising so many shoo away offers of cider with exclamations of "too sweet!" or "too strong!"

But the tide is turning. Cider is more popular now than ever due to an influx of artisanal brews on the market. These craft ciders don't tend to be as sweet or as alcoholic as their traditional counterparts. They're perfect for the poolside in summer: cool, crisp, off-dry and often infused with lively botanicals such as ginger, citrus, or sweet basil.

Tempted? Mark 26 September on your calendar. Spritzzy Sunday – an afternoon dedicated to cider – is just around the corner. We'll be serving up our very own range of 8th Day Hard Apple Ciders to sip alongside live music and street food. Can't wait to see you there!

**Cheers,  
Alexandra Douglas and The Witches Falls Team**

## EVENT 300 FOR PARKRUN

Tamborine Mountain Parkrun has just celebrated its 300th weekly event and it is estimated that since its first run in January 2015 some 2737 people have now participated

None of this would be possible without our many volunteers and the support of the Tamborine Mountain Sports Association which provides the Long Road sports centre cost free.

If you've never been to a parkrun, please come and join us every Saturday morning at 7am at the sports centre.

It's a free, fun, and friendly weekly 5km community event. Walk, jog, run, volunteer, or spectate – it's up to you!

**Bruce Hargraves**

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# FOOD FOR THOUGHT

with Chef Dylan Gittoes

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



## ROGAN JOSH

**As it seems spring has retreated a little and the cooler weather is still hanging around, why not enjoy this Chef Dylan inspired Rogan Josh made from scratch using my Creole\* dry marinade. If you haven't ever made your own curry paste then this is a great one to start with. You will be amazed at the end result and so will the family.**

Now this is not a spicy curry by Indian standards. However, it does have a small amount of warmth on the palate, so by all means if you like it with a bit of kick feel free to add a bird's eye chilli into the garlic and ginger mix.

One of the best Rogan Josh curries I've ever had was in a little town called Shimla high up in the Himalayan foothills. Shimla (formerly Simla City) now the capital of the Himachal Pradesh state, northwestern India at an elevation of some 2169 metres, has breathtaking views of the Himalaya snowcapped peaks on the horizon. **Did you know?** Shimla became India's summer capital in 1864 and also the headquarters of the British Army in India. It gained popularity as a summer retreat of the British Raj because of its cool climate and scenery in comparison to the tortuous, stifling heat in Delhi. Spread over a series of steep hills, Shimla was first only accessible by a gruelling trek of many days on horseback.

The idea of connecting Shimla by rail with the rest of the Indian rail system was first raised by a correspondent to the Delhi Gazette in November 1847; construction of the Kalka-Shimla railway on 2ft narrow-gauge tracks was only begun in 1898 by the privately funded Delhi-Ambala-Kalka Railway Company following the signing of a contract between the company and the Secretary of State. The contract specified that the line would be built without any financial aid or guarantee from the government. The government, however, provided the land free of charge to the company. The Kalka Shimla railway opened in 1903 and is the finest example of narrow-gauge engineering skills, made particularly arduous in mountain terrain and a testimony to the audacity of the British Empire in India.

Standing on the now famous platform in Kalka to embark on the Kalka-Shimla UNESCO World Heritage journey with my parents-in-law and my wife, I take a look around and am reminded of just how incredibly beautiful India can be. We are waiting for the Thomas the Tank Engine-like steam train to arrive; we hear it chug chug chugging before we see it, then as it rounds the bend to my surprise it looks just like a toy. It is bellowing steam out the chimney and I'm delighted, as is Mum who can hardly contain her excitement. The train journey begins and we start to climb, with forests and valleys as far

as the eye can see. 'Chaaaaaaai Chaaaaaaai' I hear as the chai walla calls out in his sing song kind of way; I ask him for a round for all of us. Mum is super excited and is giddy like a little schoolgirl. "This has been a dream of mine," she says to me for the 100th time. I enjoy the view and the sweet, spiced tea.

The train is 112-years-old, and its dark blue leather seats feel hard yet sturdy. As the train trundles along, a sense of gratitude washes over me and I am astonished at my fortune. The route twists and winds from a height of 656 metres at Kalka past the small villages of Dharampur, Solan, Kandaghat, Taradevi, Barog, Salogra, Totu (Jutogh) and Summerhill, to Shimla at an altitude of 2075 metres. The difference in height between the two ends of the line is a whopping 1419 metres. The wondrous thing about this train is that you can open the doors as the train is moving which means you get an absolutely stunning view.

When we arrive at Shimla I feel on top of the world, and it's cold. We are greeted by our driver who informs us we are the only guests at the 100-room hotel as it's off-season. As we pull up to a massive grand old hotel, it has all the hallmarks of the movie *The Shining*, Mum jokes nervously in my ear. "You must be hungry", quips our driver in excellent English. We have a feast awaiting you. "Would you like to eat in the dining hall or shall we bring it to your room?" Indians sure know how to feast and as I bit into the tender goat that was in a rich Rogan Josh sauce, I knew I would have to try and reproduce it. This is the result. Enjoy!

**Prep Time: 20 minutes**

**Cook Time :1 hour**

**Serves 4 to 6**

### INGREDIENTS

Base:

- 1 brown onion diced
- 1 tbs Water

**Garlic and Ginger:**

- 3cm piece ginger, peeled and finely chopped
- 4 garlic cloves, peeled and finely chopped
- 1 tbs Water

**Rogan josh Spice Mix:**

- 1 tsp fennel seeds
- 1 tsp cumin seeds
- 3 tps coriander seeds
- 2 tbs Creole\*

**Lamb:**

- 4 tbs oil
- 1/2 red capsicum
- 1 tbs tomato paste
- 2 tbs canned diced tomatoes or 1 tomato, diced
- 600g lamb shoulder, cut into small bite sized pieces
- 1 1/2 tbs natural yogurt
- Salt to taste



- Chopped coriander or mint leaves, to garnish

### METHOD

**Onion Paste:**

Place onion in a small food processor. Add water and puree to a smooth paste. Transfer onion puree to a small bowl. Set aside.

**Ginger Garlic Paste:**

Place ginger and garlic in the food processor. Add water and puree to a coarse paste. Set aside.

**Rogan Josh Spice Mix:**

Heat a small frying pan over low heat. Add fennel, coriander and cumin seeds. Roast, stirring, for 2 to 3 minutes or until aromatic.

Cool. Place in a spice grinder or mortar and pestle and grind to a coarse powder.

Combine together fennel, coriander, cumin mix and Creole marinade. Set aside.

**Lamb Rogan Josh:**

Heat oil in a large casserole over medium-high heat. Add onion paste. Cook, stirring, for 1-2 minutes or until fragrant.

1. Add ginger garlic paste. Cook, stirring, for 2 minutes or until fragrant.
2. Stir in spice mix. Cook for 1 minute or until aromatic.
3. Add tomato paste and cook stirring for 2 mins add canned tomatoes. Cook, stirring often, for 1 to 2 minutes.
4. Add lamb. Season with salt. Cook, stirring occasionally, for 10 minutes.
5. Stir yogurt into the curry and cover lamb with about 250ml of hot water.
6. Bring to the boil.
7. Reduce heat to low, and simmer, covered and stirring occasionally, for 30 to 40 minutes or until lamb is tender.
8. Garnish with chopped coriander and mint leaves.
9. Serve with buttery naan and basmati rice.

\*Chef Dylan's Gourmet Food Co. Creole marinade



## TRAVELLING PLACES By Gina Storey

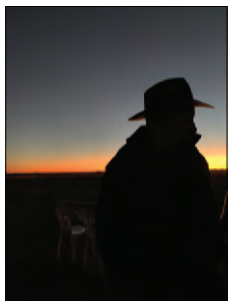
In May a few intrepid travellers joined me on a light aircraft to head to Outback Queensland. It was a wonderful journey and we all thoroughly enjoyed the trip and made new friends along the way. It was so much fun we will be operating the same trip in June 2022.



How exciting it was to be out and about exploring. We flew out of Archerfield airport and headed north-west to Winton, flying over Channel Country and the wide-open spaces of Central Queensland. The locals in Winton were a bit of a hoot, and after a wander through the Waltzing Matilda Museum and down the main street we settled into an excellent pub lunch. We headed out of town to the Age of Dinosaurs; it would be easy to spend an entire day here; this excellent museum brings to life the era of Gondwanaland and the great inland sea.

A short flight back to Longreach – we were met by local character Outback Dan who guided us for a couple of days to experience the Qantas Museum, the Stockman's Hall of Fame, and my favourite experience, a visit to his own property out of town for sundowners followed by dinner in the old shearing shed. We stayed in the delightful glamping tents at Mitchell Grass one night, enjoying a barbecue dinner under the stars.

The one-and-a-half-hour flight north took us from dry Central Queensland to the lush coastal region, following the Great Dividing Range with glimpses of the sea in the distance. Heading west by road we were back in Outback country, dirt roads, scrub, eucalypts, and grazing cattle. Eventually we came across the brow of a hill and stopped; here in front of us was the enormous Mt Mulligan. This monolith is nearly twice the size of Uluru and a sacred site for the local Aboriginal community, known as the birthplace of the rainbow serpent.



Mt Mulligan Lodge was fabulous. Part of the Luxury Lodges of Australia group, this wonderful oasis was our home in the wilderness. The rooms were spacious and comfortable, and I think we could all have stayed a week. Everything was included – excellent farm to table meals were accompanied by fine Australian wines.

Activities were fun. A guided walking tour around the weir lake brought to life the bush tucker and medicine trees. The dawn chorus was a fitting awakening to the red ochre colour of the mighty mountain. Well known for the coal and gold mining of early last century, there was a booming township until tragedy struck and many of the coal miners were killed.

A&K partnered with Travelling Places to take a small group of nine in a private two prop plane to Outback Queensland. Erik our pilot came with us on the entire journey. This five-day experience ended with a stop at Hamilton Island in the Whitsundays for lunch on nearby Dent Island. Fantastic. Join us in June 2022.

Contact Travelling Places on 5545 1600; [travel@travellingplaces.com.au](mailto:travel@travellingplaces.com.au)

## BOOK OUTLINES THE STORY OF THIS SPECIAL LITTLE CAR



**“When you put every other distraction aside, the only vintage car you really need is a hot Austin Seven.”**

This is the opening line to Nick Sinclair's book telling the story of his family's 1929 Austin Seven. The little car joined the Sinclair family in New Zealand as a beaten up run-around used by the teenagers of the family, and went on to remain in the family for 60 years.

The Austin Seven had a very rough time, being used for many family bush and beach adventures in New Zealand. When Nick moved to Australia in 1971 the little car remained in New Zealand until Nick had it shipped to Australia in 1982 where he was living on the Gold Coast at the time. He later decided to embark on the long journey to restore the car to its original condition, with careful attention to every detail.

When Nick and his wife Rosanne moved to Beechmont in 2017, the car came with them and now enjoys the occasional outings in the area and to Austin Seven rallies around South-East Queensland.

Nick recently wrote a wonderful book, *An Austin Seven Odyssey - Tale of a Small Car* to tell the entertaining story of the car from its beginning with the family in New Zealand, and the very Kiwi-style adventures of that time, until its more sedate life in the hills of the Hinterland. It's a charming book for all lovers of vintage cars and a good story. Kiwis will love reminiscing about old times in New Zealand and the particular flavour of New Zealand humour.

Canungra Books and Art will be hosting a book launch with Nick and his car on Sunday 19 September from 11am to 12.30pm. Owner Jan McGregor is inviting book and car lovers to come along and enjoy a chat with Nick and have a look at his lovingly restored little beauty. Nick's book will be available for purchase and signing.

*Photo: Nick Sinclair and his restored Austin Seven*

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0418 792 161



*Local author Doreen Wendt-Weir's new book is finally here... Gardening in your Nineties - Details on page 31.*



## SPRING TO IT ...

Hello to all on the Mountain. I know it's spring because the weeds are out of control, and I've had to start mowing the lawn again!

I also see that the sun is coming out of hibernation and so are the snakes. Just a nice timely reminder for inquisitive minds about to start school holidays; keep an eye out, enjoy their beauty (except for that one in the grass, hmhhh) and utilise the snake catcher network if it's really a concern.

### Motorcycle skills and safety – How to keep it UP-RIGHT



The campaign has started on a joint Queensland Police / Queensland Government Community Road Safety initiative offering a skills and safety course for motorcycle riders. With motorcycle riders overrepresented in crashes to date, this is a great opportunity to attend a course normally valued at \$1000. The cost is \$50 and with that you get a first aid kit, other great incentives and the benefit of a critical skills and safety course. Ring 1300 961 335, as bookings are essential. There is also a QScan available on posters and postcards we have put up around town. The first course is planned for October 2 at Jimboomba.

**We have a nice collection of glasses, keys and other associated items regularly handed in to our office.** If you are missing an item, please drop by the station between 9 and 12 and 1 and 3 on a Monday to Thursday to see if your item is here. I'm not sure how people get around town when I have their car keys?

The team and I are looking forward to some warmer weather and continuing to provide this community with a positive policing experience, you will see us out and about on the roadsides, walking the beat and encouraging everyone to take a little responsibility for themselves and their actions. Remember though we can't please everyone all the time; some people just don't get it!

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

**Sgt Mark Shields**  
North Tamborine Police

**How to keep it UP-RIGHT**

No matter how long you've been on a bike, how much experience you've had and how much you think you know, there's always room to reach that next level.

So join us and other motorcycle safety experts on **upcoming course days.**

For details and to enrol, scan here or phone 1300 961 335.

Open to all riders of all skill levels using roads within the Logan and Scenic Rim areas.

**The course includes:**

- Mentored ride with experienced course facilitators and police officers
- Practical tips to become a better rider including hazard perception, common mistakes and ways to improve skills and manoeuvres
- A 12-month subscription to SMART Rider
- Presentations from a motorcycle police officer, a forensic crash investigator and a paramedic.

**Participants must have:**

- A valid QLD motorcycle licence
- Their own motorcycle to bring on the day.

Visit [myPolice.qld.gov.au/Logan](http://myPolice.qld.gov.au/Logan) for more information

**How to keep it UP-RIGHT**

*This initiative is supported by funding from the Queensland Government's Community Road Safety Grants scheme.*

*Part of Operation Own It – Logan Police putting the spotlight on road safety.*

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# hooked on books

TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN LIBRARY NEWS by Friends of Tamborine Mountain Library

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## INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT BOOKS

### The Longest Novel Ever

The world's longest novel ever written is Remembrance of Things Past by Marcel Proust, or A la recherche du temps perdu in its native tongue (French). The novel is estimated to have 9,609,000 characters.



### The Longest Audiobook Ever

The world's longest audiobook, published in 2008, is almost five days long.



The audiobook consists of lectures from Takaaki Yoshimoto, a philosopher, poet and literary critic. from Japan. The total runtime is 115 hours, 43 minutes.

## SCENIC RIM LIBRARIES WELCOME

Patrons will need to sanitise hands as they enter, and provide their library card number or details (as per government directives).

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Are you keen to improve your digital skills or know someone who is?



Come along or bring a friend to our free workshops each month or book a one-on-one appointment. We'll show you how to troubleshoot your tablet or mobile phone & answer questions you may have about the internet or online safety.

Thursdays between 10am and 12pm  
Book at Tamborine Mountain Library, or call us on 5540 5473

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## OUR EVENTS STORYTIME & SING SONG

Join us for stories & interactive songs and a craft pack to take home. Bookings essential 0 - 5 years. 9:15 - 10:00 Monday



To join this session please phone 5540 5473 or email the library: [library.t@scenicrim.qld.com.au](mailto:library.t@scenicrim.qld.com.au)

### BABY RHYME TIME

A fun interactive session of songs, rhymes, books and movement to foster your child's love of language. Suitable for parents/ caregivers with babies to children under three.



Fridays 9:15 - 10:00

To join this session please phone 5540 5473 or email the library - [library.t@scenicrim.qld.com.au](mailto:library.t@scenicrim.qld.com.au)

### GAMES@4

Join us every Wednesday afternoon at 4pm to reveal the game of the week, then stay and play! We will bring board games to life, unearth old parlour games and battle our way through the weekly challenge. Ages 8+ Wednesdays 4.00-4.45



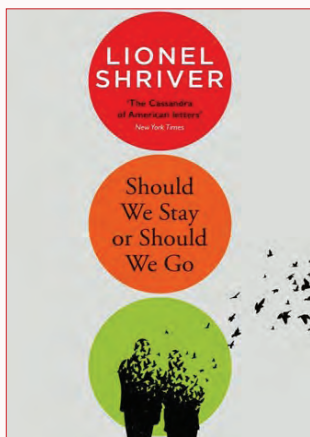
School Holiday Calendar can be accessed on the community events page on our website.



## Our Book Choice: *Should We Stay or Should We Go* by Lionel Shriver

When her father dies, Kay Wilkinson can't cry. Over ten years, Alzheimer's had steadily eroded this erudite man into a paranoid lunatic. Surely one's own father passing should never come as such a relief.

Both medical professionals, Kay and her husband Cyril have seen too many elderly patients in similar states of decay. Although healthy and vital in their early fifties, the couple fears what may lie ahead. Determined to die with dignity, Cyril makes a modest proposal. To spare themselves and their loved ones such a humiliating and protracted decline, they should agree to commit suicide together once they've both turned eighty. When their deal is sealed, the spouses are blithely looking forward to another three decades together. But then they turn eighty.



By turns hilarious and touching, playful and grave, *Should We Stay or Should We Go* portrays twelve parallel universes, each exploring a possible future for Kay and Cyril. Were they to cut life artificially short, what would they miss out on? Something terrific? Or something terrible? Might they end up in a home? A fabulous luxury retirement village, or a Cuckoo's Nest sort of home? Might being demented end up being rather fun? What future for humanity awaits—the end of civilization, or a Valhalla of peace and prosperity? What if cryogenics were really to work? What if scientists finally cure aging?

Both timely and timeless, Lionel Shriver addresses serious themes—the compromises of longevity, the challenge of living a long life and still going out in style—with an uncannily light touch. Weaving in a host of contemporary issues, from Brexit and mass migration to the coronavirus, Shriver has pulled off a rollicking page-turner in which we never have to mourn perished characters, because they'll be alive and kicking in the very next chapter.

Genre: Contemporary Fiction

LIBRARY OPENING TIMES MON-FRI 9AM-5.30PM • SAT 9AM-12PM

Tamborine Mountain Library is proudly operated by Scenic Rim Regional Council.

# CLASSIFIEDS

**Bookshop & Art Gallery** - Under the Greenwood Tree. Open 5 days 10 - 5. Closed Tuesday and Thursday Home deliveries 7 days. Book orders welcomed. 92 Main Western Rd Nth Tamb Ph.0424 586 066 P

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### Yoga Under the Bodhi Tree – LIVE

**YOGA CLASSES:** Mon 9.30am Moriarty CC, Canungra. **Tues 9.30am and Sat 9.00am** Zamia Theatre, Main St, Tamborine Mountain. **Wed 6pm** Creative Arts Centre, Wongawallan Rd, Tamborine Mountain. **ONLINE YOGA CLASSES:** **Tues 6pm, Wed 9.30am, Sat 6.30am.** 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

## 80s & 90s Films



1. Which film from 1982 stars Bob Geldof and is based on the title of a rock album?
2. Which film has its scenario in the 1924 Paris Olympics and starred Ben Cross?
3. Aled Jones sang the theme song for which animated film of 1982?
4. Which film's plot involves an investigation by a journalist of an MP against a background of the deployment of US nuclear weapons in Britain?
5. Who were the two female leads in Room With a View?
6. In which 1985 film does a young Asian man renovate his uncle's launderette?
7. Which 1984 film saw a teenager join a karate club in order to stand up to the local bullies?
8. In which film did Dustin Hoffman play the title role of a man pretending to be a woman in order to get a job on television?
9. Who played the part of Simon Templar in the 1997 film The Saint?
10. Keanu Reeves played Neo in which sci-fi film of 1999?
11. Which film of 1999 starred Brad Pitt, Helena Bonham-Carter and Meatloaf?
12. With a cast including Gabriel Byrne and Kevin Spacey, which film's plot follows on from an explosion on a ship in Long Beach harbour?
13. Which film's plot follows the relationship between a wrongly convicted banker and a murderer and their revenge on a prison warder?
14. The plot of which film revolves around a mining community trying to save its pit and its brass band?
15. Which film with an 'anorak'-sounding title follows the exploits of four Scottish heroin addicts?
16. Which actress wrote the novel Postcards From the Edge, the basis for the 1990 film of the same name?

*Answers on page 26*

# BUSINESS DIRECTORY – WHO TO CALL

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### Answers to TRIVIA from page 23

- 1 Pink Floyd The Wall,
- 2 Chariots of Fire,
- 3 The Snowman, 4 Defence of the Realm, 5 Maggie Smith and Helena Bonham-Carter,
- 6 My Beautiful Laundrette,
- 7 The Karate Kid, 8 Tootsie,
- 9 Val Kilmer, 10 The Matrix,
- 11 Fight Club, 12 The Usual Suspects, 13 The Shawshank Redemption, 14 Brassed Off, 15 Trainspotting, 16 Carrie Fisher.

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# TWO-DAY SALE AT BOTANIC GARDENS



## Are succulents or Clivias on your plant shopping list?

Then head to Tamborine Mountain Botanic Gardens between 9am and 2pm on Friday 24 September and Saturday 25 September because they and much more are on sale at amazing prices at a special two-day plant sale.

The sale is being held in conjunction with the Garden Club's Springtime on the Mountain Festival.

There's a magnificent display of plants for sale, including the succulents, as well as some special Louisiana Irises, Bromeliads, small white Agapanthus, and many more.

There will also be a range of bare rooted plants, including Agapanthus and some Dahlia tubers.

The Sooty Owl Creekside Trail will welcome children with a range of special activities from 10am until 2pm on both days.

The sale will be held at the Potty Potters' propagation pavilion at the southern end of the Gardens.

Vehicles will be available to help people with large purchases take their plants to the car park. They will also be available for less abled purchasers.

The sale will be conducted under a COVID-safe plan, which means all visitors must maintain social distancing and take advice and direction from the 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 juicy sausage sizzle and a hot coffee. Visitors are most welcome to bring a picnic.

Tickets to the Garden Club's festival will not be available at the Botanic Gardens.

*Photo: A brilliant display of clivias in the Botanic Gardens*

## DOREEN RETURNS WITH AN INTRIGUING SEQUEL

**Gardening In Your Nineties - the sequel to Sex In Your Seventies, is now available in print and eBook form.**

A ninety-three year old, who has written the successful book 'Sex in Your Seventies', tells of her efforts, post sex-life, at gardening. As she works away, her thoughts wander to her past long life. She talks of her childhood on the dairy farm on the Logan river, and remembers her many subsequent adventures, which will keep her readers enthralled as they travel this interesting journey with her. Through it all, there is woven a love story that may, or may not be resolved. Full details at [www.sexinyourseventies.com](http://www.sexinyourseventies.com)



# SPRINGTIME GARDEN CREATIVITY EXTENDS TO OTHER ACTIVITIES



**Tamborine Mountain gardeners, Franco and Glenda Westeel don't limit their creativity to the garden.**

While extra busy preparing to open their garden for the coming Springtime on the Mountain Festival, they also create beautiful new tapestries, and projects to incorporate them.

Franco learned the technique and love of this embroidery from his father-in-law 28 years ago, enjoying the quiet rhythm and emerging colour patterns ever since, while creating many decorative pieces. He taught Glenda five years ago, and, with the help of a friend, she now also sources other people's cast off or unfinished tapestries from wherever she can, repurposing them with recycled fabrics to create sturdy work aprons and bags to sell.

Franco wears one of these aprons for gardening, and one in his work shed, building items to incorporate their tapestries and whimsical features to enhance Effigy Gardens.

Glenda and Franco started their garden a little over two years ago, so the energy and time they have found between shift working and their tapestry adventures is admirable. It has developed into a colourful and vigorous collection of edibles, shrubs, annuals and trellised vines.

Along with four other private gardens on the Mountain, they will open for the Springtime on the Mountain Festival on Friday 24 and Saturday 25 September from 10am to 4 pm on both days.

A \$20 ticket, available online at [tamborinemountain-gardenclub.org.au](http://tamborinemountain-gardenclub.org.au) or through [eventbrite.com.au](http://eventbrite.com.au) allows visits to all gardens, with dependent children free.

**Laurel Schneider**

*Photo: Franco and Glenda Westeel in their garden.*



## RENT

Talk to our Property Managers about our Spring Special

- Looking for a rental agency with a skilled team?
- Looking to switch and join a great agency & brand?
- Have an empty property?
- Interested in holiday letting?
- Thinking of purchasing an investment property?

We have no available rental properties and have a surplus of tenants looking for a home!  
Properties wanted in Tamborine Mountain, Tamborine and surrounding areas.

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Debra Opie 0409 210 362



## Meet the team

**Team Monique & Erin**  
Property Professionals  
0429 004 840/ 0427 078 757

monique.clemens@professionalsserendipity.com.au  
erin.mcgee@professionalsserendipity.com.au  
www.ProfessionalsTamborine.com.au

This team is one of our newest. Monique was one of our property managers for many years, and decided she would enjoy a change of career path into sales. Erin came on board and Team Monique & Erin was born.

They have been very successful both in their hometown areas of Tamborine & Beaudesert, as well as further afield such as Burleigh Heads, Salisbury, Jimboomba & Coomera Waters. As you can see, they are successful & happy to travel.

If it is up to date statistics on your area or just a kerbside appraisal, Monique and Erin are willing and keen to help you in your next real estate venture.

If you want a team that is fully devoted to their job and your happiness, putting their clients' satisfaction as their top priority, reaching out to this team is a good idea! With their enthusiasm, great communication and sunny disposition Team Monique & Erin are a dynamite team.



Proactive in their approach to work and always working with the best interests of all parties. Always approachable and very positive to deal with, and any issues were dealt with within really reasonable time frames. Highly recommended...Seller

Not what I was expecting. Monique is a genuine, outgoingly helpful & such a patient person. As a first home buyer I was expecting the buying & negotiating process to be stressful & complicated but Monique made the whole journey easy. Monique took the time to talk me through each step of the way, making it such a positive experience. Thanks Monique & Erin, you're amazing! ...Buyer

