# 1618 – 17 March 2022 • Established 1958 THE PAPER TO READ, KEEP AND SHARE Scenic

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

### FOR WILLSY, LEAH **AND ALL OTHER** CRICKETING HEROES

Twilight Sedation Teeth Whitening

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The Tamborine Mountain Bushrats, The Queensland Cricketers Club, The Boonies Sparkles side from Bendigo and the Lucky Stars Transplant Cricket team will battle it out with much fun and frivolity for the Chris Wills Trophy and the Leah Barker Cup. This year, they are playing from 9 am till 3 pm on the 2nd and 3rd of April and would love to see some community support and involvement. Story page 3. Photo: The Bushrats vs The Lucky Stars Transplant team, pictured at the Chris Wills Oval in 2018.



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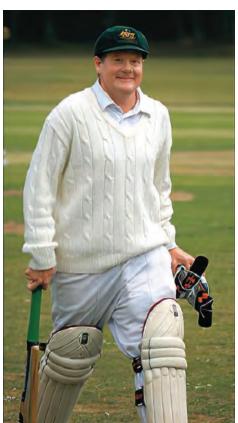
ProfessionalsTamborineMountain.com.au 10 - 12 Main Street, North Tamborine 4272



# IN HONOUR OF CHRIS WILLS AND LEAH BARKER

I remember getting the phone call. "Whitey" (my mate Shannon White) came up as a missed call on my mobile. We had played for the Bushrats 3rd grade side the day before and I assumed, as my captain, he was wanting to have a chat about the game. I immediately rang him back and he answered with a teary "Mate." Choking back tears and his voice heavy with emotion, he said "Willsy is gone." "What? Nah, that's not right," I replied. "Willsy can't die. He's invincible."

You see, Chris Wills was born with cystic fibrosis. A disease which effects your mucosal linings and eventually causes



your lungs to shut down. I first met him when he was 40. In my career as a physio I had treated many people with CF, but I had never met anyone older than their early 20s. He fascinated me. "Belly," he would say with a deadly serious face whenever I asked him about it, "They can't kill me mate." He loved life, he loved his wife and he loved cricket.

Eventually, his lung problems caught up with him and he struggled to breathe. He got another second chance though. He was fortunate enough to receive a double heart and lung transplant, and got back to playing cricket. The joy and gratitude

both he and his wife, Anita, demonstrated towards the donors and their families was something that touched me forever. I had always been keen to donate my organs if anything happened to me, but after seeing the joy that organ donation brought to our community, I made sure I signed up to the national register, and made sure all my family knew my wishes.

And there he was then, back on the cricket field playing for the Bushrats. He was one of the most passionate men I have ever met. And he was incredibly passionate about the Tamborine Mountain Cricket Club. Willsy died playing for our over 40s team the day after I had unintentionally run him out for a duck. He was pissed at me too. But he showed me love in his own

Chris Wills way. As a result, the next day he was determined to bat as long as he could for our over 40s side. And he did. He made a 50 (retired). He walked off the field happy and content, sat down and passed away. "They" had eventually caught up with him, and this time there was no way out. We were devastated. Everyone. The whole mountain.

Leah Barker was at the game that Chris died at. She was there as the wife of one our long term Bushrats, Glenn. She immediately decided to sign up to the organ donation registry herself. Glenn's wife, Leah Barker passed away two and a half years ago, and following her wishes, her family made sure her organs and tissues were donated. As a result, many lives were impacted and saved. When the Lucky Stars Transplant Cricket team heard of all this, the Chris Wills and Leah Barker



Cricket weekend was born. Each year, four sides come to the Mountain to play at the Chris Wills Oval to raise funds for fuel vouchers for families with kids in hospital, and also to raise awareness of the impact and importance of organ donation.

The four teams are: the Tamborine Mountain Bushrats, The Queensland Cricketers Club, The Boonies Sparkles side from Bendigo and the Lucky Stars Transplant Cricket team. They battle it out with much fun and frivolity for the Chris Wills Trophy and the Leah Barker Cup. This year, they are playing from 9 am till 3 pm on the 2nd and 3rd of April and would love to see some community support and involvement.

"These events changed Anita Wills' and my life forever," explains Glenn Barker. "But what we can take from this, is the impact Chris Wills has made in the Tamborine Mountain community, the awareness he brought to organ donation, and the many lives Leah has saved by being a donor."

So, make sure you take the time to come down to Long Road, give the teams some support and enjoy a very pleasant day of watching average cricket at one of the most beautiful sports grounds in the world. But, even more importantly, please, make sure you talk with your family today and discuss the importance of organ donation, and look to sign up to the organ donation register if you feel that this is of importance to you.

**Neil Bell** 

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### A BLAST FROM THE PAST!

Past Tamborine Mountain College student visits Mrs Melbourne - 20 years later!

Jared Henningsen (pictured at right, with Mrs Melbourne) was the College Captain in 2002. He now lives in America, and was visiting Australia for a family wedding.

He just had to come by the College and say hello to Mrs Melbourne!

It was a joy for both of them. Jared couldn't believe the changes and the growth of the college. Back in 2002, Mrs Melbourne was his English Teacher and it was her first year as Principal. Jared went on to University of Qld, gaining a Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor of Arts. He went into Marketing and



Promotions in radio in Australia for Austereo, Grant Broadcasters and the Australian Radio Network. Moving to America saw his success with CBS Radio as Director of Integrated Marketing, until he launched into a new direction as Vice President of Event Operations at Ice Castles.



Ice Castles is a Utah-based company that creates acre-sized, all-ice castles at venues across the United States. Fantastic structures that become wonderful venues for Valentine's Day and weddings. Of course, he only actually works in the winter (when the ice doesn't melt!) and the rest of the year he enjoys life by his lake-front property.

What a success story for Jared and the College!



# TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN BRIDGE CLUB RESULTS

Mon 7th N/S Alex Hood - Ashley Anderssen

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Sheena Pollock



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#### **BLISTER OR LONGCORN BEETLE?**



Blister or Longcorn Beetle - JOALAH NATIONAL PARK

I have just finished re-editing my photos from 2014 to 2018, to update my Image Library for the Queensland Museum. I believe this is my last night-time photograph, taken early in January 2018, although I also have video frames of the beetle. It puzzled the expert who sent the video frame to a colleague who specialises in *Cerambycidae* (Longicorn Beetles). He suggested it might belong to the family *Meloidae* (Blister Beetles). Cardinal beetles have a bright red carapace, but not the red on the upper legs. One species of Australian soldier beetle has a red carapace and some red on its legs, but is not a match. In any case, soldier and cardinal beetles belong to separate families, both different to longicorn and blister beetle families. I estimate the body length of this spectacular beetle to be about 4-5 cm.

**Peter Kuttner** 

**SCENIC RIM** 

REGIONAL COUNCIL

# Council Notices

#### **CURRENT TENDERS**

Council is calling for tenders for the following services. For further information and tender documentation download, please go to www.vendorpanel.com.au

Only electronic submissions uploaded to VendorPanel will be considered. Submissions made after the closing time will not be accepted.

Tenders close 2pm on Wednesday, 6 April 2022.

VP292086 Cleaning of Council Premises 2022-2024

VP292091 Cleaning of Public Toilets and Park Facilities 2022-2024

VP292092 Supply of On-Call Plumbing Services 2022-2024

VP292099 Supply of Security Services 2022-2024

#### **COMMUNITY CONSULTATION**

DRAFT SCENIC RIM GROWTH MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2041
Council is seeking community feedback on the draft Scenic Rim Growth
Management Strategy 2041, which has been prepared to manage the
future growth needs of the Scenic Rim region. The consultation has been
extended to Sunday 27 March 2022 at letstalk.scenicrim.qld.gov.au

#### FREE MOVIES IN THE PARK

Join us for a free, fun night out for the family from 6.30pm as we screen Tom & Jerry (G) at the following locations:

Sat 19 Mar | 6.30pm | Boonah, Coronation Park

**Sat 26 Mar** 6.30pm Beaudesert, Jubilee Park

Sat 2 April | 6.30pm |
Tamborine Mountain, Showgrounds

Along with the free movie, we will have fruit and giveaways and local clubs will be selling food and drinks.



#### **LIBRARIES**

Visit scenicrim.qld.gov.au/libraries

#### **BOONAH LIBRARY**

Storytime | Monday 10am | Friday 10am

Boonah Book Club | First Thursday of month | 12 noon U3A Book Club | First Wednesday of month | 4pm

Book Lover Book Club | Last Tuesday of the month | 3.30pm Cover to Cover Book Club | Last Tuesday of the month | 2pm

#### EAUDESERT

**Book Club** | Last Thursday of the month | 10am

Storytime on the deck | Tuesday 9.30am | Wednesday 9.30am

#### CANUNGRA LIBRARY

 $\textbf{New Book Club} \hspace{0.1cm} | \hspace{0.1cm} \textbf{First Wednesday of the month} \hspace{0.1cm} | \hspace{0.1cm} \textbf{2.15pm}$ 

#### TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN LIBRARY

Wednesday Edition Book Club | Third Wednesday | 2pm Last Thursday Book Club | Last Thursday of the month | 2pm Storytime | Baby Rhyme Time 2-5 year olds | Monday 9.15am Babies to two-year-olds | Friday 9.15am

#### OUTREACH - STORYTIME IN THE PARK

Kalbar | Thursday 17 March | 9.30am

Tamborine Village | Tuesday 22 March | 9.30am

Beechmont | Thursday 7 April | 9.30am

Beaudesert Unyah Jarjun Mununjali | Tuesday 19 April | 10am

Rathdowney | Wednesday 20 April | 9.30am Beaudesert | Thursday 14 April | 10am

**Canungra** | Wednesday 11 May | 9.30am

#### DIGITAL DAYS

Beaudesert, Boonah, Canungra and Tamborine Mountain libraries offer 30-minute tech help sessions covering basic assistance and troubleshooting. Bookings essential. COVID-safe restrictions apply.

#### JP SERVIC

The JP service has recommenced at participating libraries. Please contact your local branch for more details.

### LIVE AT THE CENTRES

Phone 07 5540 5050 or visit liveatthecentre.com.au

#### ON EXHIBITION

#### **LEGACY**

Until 26 March | The Centre Beaudesert | Free entry

Features *LIVING WATER: In Search of Equilibrium* by Annique Goldenberg and *Home is Where One Starts From* by Karen Stone.



#### **ON STAGE**

### BLOOM SINGS THE STEVIE NICKS, CAROLE KING AND LINDA RONSTADT SONGBOOK

Friday 25 March | 7.30pm | Boonah Cultural Centre **Tickets** Adults \$34, Conc. \$29, Groups of 8+ \$29 per person

#### FRIDAY FLICKS

Boonah Cultural Centre | 10am | 1pm | 7pm Tickets \$10 | Conc \$7.50 **Friday 18 March** | No Man of God (MA) | 110 mins Starring Elijah Wood, Luke Kirby and Aleksa Palladino.

#### WORKSHOPS

#### ARTS DINNER 2022: GET CONNECTED

Wednesday 30 March The Centre Beaudesert 5.30pm for 6.00pm FREE but registration required (includes two-course meal)

#### WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

#### AT THE CULTURAL CENTRES

Check out the What's On page at www.liveatthecentre.com.au

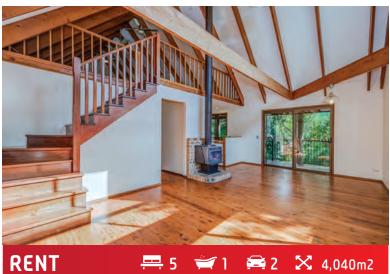
Council correspondence should be addressed to: Jon Gibbons, Chief Executive Officer, PO Box 25 | 82 Brisbane Street, Beaudesert QLD 4285 | Telephone 07 5540 5111



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#### **AGENTS:**

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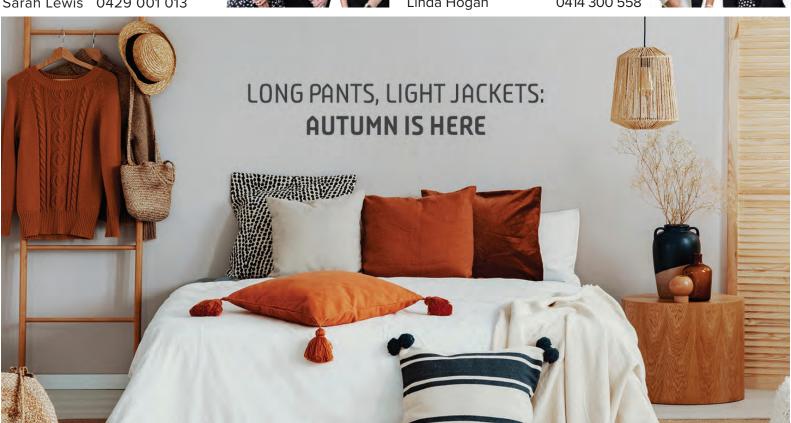
#### 58-62 Myall Terrace, Chambers Flat

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## **Ness, Nell and Cassidy**

"From early youth, I pretended to play the piano in the car, inspired by the piano rock. Going to Tamborine Mountain was always the best day out", says Venessa Moore, when editor Jaap Vogel interviewed her and her business partner Jenelle Bruggy, on the Saturday Ness & Nells Nook opened.

"Last year, I returned with my husband Graham and our two kids from four years living and working in Abu Dhabi. It was a good life over there, but when work in the entertainment industry dried up because of Covid, we had to go back to Australia. I decided to start a coffee shop with my long term friend Nell."

"I've gone through a very different path in life, because my husband Darren died four years ago from motor neurone disease", says Nell. "I'm looking after my two children, but the time is right to start Ness & Nells Nook now. We focus on the locals, not really on tourists. Currently we are serving St. Ali coffee and Origin Tea, as well as cakes, muffins and platters. We are open during the day, for six or seven days a week."

Ness's daughter Cassidy has been a familiar face on Tamborine Mountain's Gallery Walk for two years and is also involved in the business: "We have established a special meeting room next door, for groups and individuals to rent. Reiki, tarot, painting, yoga and other activities and



workshops can be done there. We hope that it will be a service that the community likes. "

"Starting in Eagle Heights is a very conscious decision, because we like the town and the community here. An official opening was scheduled for Tuesday 15th March. The universe has bought us here for good reasons. We invite locals with open arms."

Ness & Nells Nook, Shop 3, 21-23 Southport Avenue

#### **CEDAR CREEK ESTATE'S "WIN A 2022 WINERY WEDDING"**



At right: first prize winners Raelee and Will – winners of the Cedar Creek Estate Winery Wedding Package for up to 50 guests

At left: Regan and Mary Jane - who won a \$1000 voucher to be spent at Palazzo Versace, Gold Coast

# Pre-Winter Deals

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### JON KRAUSE MP

**State Member for Scenic Rim** 

# SCHOOL LEADERS ON THE MOUNTAIN

Now that the new school year is well underway, I have had the pleasure of attending student leadership ceremonies around the Scenic Rim and on Tamborine Mountain. The leadership responsibilities accepted by students teach them vital skills that will help them to gain confidence as they prepare for the next steps in their lives. It has been a pleasure meeting students, teachers and parents at leadership ceremonies, and I wish all student leaders the best and encourage them to take full advantage of the opportunities made available by the fantastic local schools on Tamborine Mountain. It's always amazing to see the personal growth that comes from just a year of leadership at school for our Year 6s!

**KEEP SUPPORTING THE LOCALS, WHERE YOU CAN.** The past two years have been tough on everyone — especially small businesses. Lockdowns, uncertainty, cancelled bookings and orders, last minute changes to plans — these are all things that have had an impact in one way or another on business confidence across our region and the nation recently. Knowing who you are dealing with in these times can be very reassuring, and so what a time to give the locals in business a go.

Speaking of locals, congratulations to the local Rugby League supporters who have brought the game back to Tamborine Mountain after a hiatus of quite a few years. I dropped into the showgrounds a couple of weeks ago while the field was being marked and heard how things were progressing and a bit of the backstory to the return of footy this year. Now that we have seen the first game, I wish the club all the best.

#### **TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN SHOW**

This weekend is the Tamborine Mountain Show, and after a few years of the celebrations being disrupted due to COVID-19 it's great to see that the show is running again this year. The Pavilion Exhibitions are back, so check out the Cooking, Sweets and Preserves, and Home Brew Sections. If you're free, I encourage you to head to the show on Saturday and see the best of what Tamborine Mountain has to offer.

#### **QUEENSLAND PARLIAMENT**

Queensland Parliament was on this week, and we have another sitting at the end of March 2022. We then don't sit until May. Unlike the Federal Parliament, Queensland's Parliament does not sit that often – only about 13-14 weeks a year – which limits the opportunities for non-Government MPs to review and question the Government. This week saw very brief committee scrutiny of a law to further extend the Government's and Chief Health Officer's powers in relation to COVID-19. I have asked the Government to provide to Parliament – through the committee – expert advice upon which these powers are sought. This question was met with a blank refusal. This does nothing to increase public confidence in government. This shroud of secrecy must end.

If I can be of assistance for a state government matter you're concerned about, do not hesitate to contact me by phone (toll-free) 1800 813 960, by email scenicrim@parliament.qld.gov.au or by mail at PO Box 656 Beaudesert QLD 4285.





#### **SCOTT BUCHHOLZ**

**Federal Member for Wright** 

# NATIONAL FLOOD DAMAGE ASSISTANCE

With national flood damage assessments only recently started, there are already more than 2800 buildings deemed uninhabitable in Queensland and New South Wales, while almost 6000 homes have been assessed as damaged.

I want to thank all those assisting with the clean-up, especially the volunteers who work so tirelessly to support their local communities.

The Australian Government Disaster Recovery Payment (AGDRP) and the Disaster Recovery Allowance (DRA) are part of a suite of supports agreed to by the Commonwealth and the states to support relief and recovery.

Generally, state administered payments are to assist in the immediate relief phase, while AGDRP is available during the recovery phase and provides \$1000 per adult and \$400 per child.

Up to last weekend, Services Australia had paid more than \$665 million in Australian Government Disaster Recovery payments and Disaster Recovery allowances to those in urgent need in Queensland and New South Wales.

The jointly funded Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) have provided an initial \$558 million in financial support for flood affected Queensland small businesses, farmers, not-for profit organisations and sporting and community clubs.

DRFA assistance has been activated in 22 local government areas in Queensland, including Scenic Rim and Gold Coast.

#### **AUSTRALIAN SUPPORT TO UKRAINE**

Australia will provide significant additional military assistance and emergency humanitarian support to help the people of Ukraine following the brutal invasion by Russia.

Australia stands in solidarity with our friends and partners in supporting Ukraine and condemning Russia utterly for its unprovoked and unjustified attack on its neighbour.

Australia will provide around \$70 million in military assistance to support the defence of Ukraine, including missiles and weapons. We will also provide a range of non-lethal military equipment and medical supplies in response to a specific request from the Ukrainian Government.

Our contributions will complement actions taken by partners such as the United Kingdom, the United States, Canada, the European Union and other European nations.

Australia will also commit immediate humanitarian assistance of an initial \$35 million to help meet the urgent needs of the Ukrainian people. This assistance will deliver lifesaving services and supplies, including the provision of shelter, food, medical care and water.

#### **DEFENCE FORCE EXPANSION**

The Morrison Government has just announced the largest expansion of our Australian Defence Force during peacetime. The highest priority of our government is to keep Australia safe and secure; that's why we will increase Defence's permanent workforce to over 100,000 by 2040.

We are investing in our people and the capability they need to keep Australians safe.



# Letters to the Editor

### STRIVING FOR BALANCE

I entirely agree with Cr Swanborough's concern about the design of the relocated library being imposed with zero community or Councillor consultation. Also, the very important aspect of parking seems to have been overlooked, even though the associated parking area is already heavily used. With the expansion of the library to become a major centre for community activities, this could be a major problem. This brings to mind a very significant related aspect.

Tamborine Mountain is predominantly a residential locality but with significant tourism activity. Both residents and tourists are attracted by the ambience of the area but, with most residents not directly involved in tourism, the reasons for the attractiveness differ.

Communities in such a situation are not unusual, and they share a common problem. As the tourism grows, it can become increasingly difficult for the resident community to maintain the fundamental character and coherence which makes Tamborine Mountain what it is for residents.

In one respect, Tamborine Mountain has been extremely fortunate. We have a separation between the resident facilities centred on Main Street and the tourism centred on Gallery Walk. The significance was recognised in the Development Control Plan (DCP) gazetted in 1997 after a four-year incubation period involving the Council and State Government, with a massive input from the community. I quote: 'It is intended that the Village Centre in this (North Tamborine) Village Area continues as the main service centre for the residents of Tamborine Mountain.' There were also severe limitations on the establishment of tourist facilities. Greater opportunities for tourism development were seen in the Eagle Heights Village area (Gallery Walk etc).

I suspect this formal separation does not still exist and councils have tended to welcome tourism into Main Street. An extreme example was the Council Administration under the present Mayor being deeply involved in the State Government Grant of \$990,000 towards the North Stores tourism development at the northern end of Main Street. This was done without any participation of the community or Councillors. Also, there was no Impact Assessment normally obligatory under the Planning Scheme. It is consistent that the Council is a member of the local Chamber of Commerce, but does not engage with other community organisations which have different priorities.

How does all this relate to parking for the upgraded library? The situation should not be aggravated by encouraging tourism in Main Street. As for local businesses, surely seven day a week custom from residents is better than two days a week from visitors.

**Phil Giffard** 



#### **BREATHWORK CLASS** Sat 2nd and 23rd April 9am till 11am

Conscious breathwork is a self-healing technique that helps people to access the full potential of the respiratory system for better physical, emotional, mental well-being. Learn and feel the power of breathing with guided exercises that are

backed by science and research. Breathwork is a mind-body practice that can directly ease or facilitate positive changes for experiences like: Lack of – Focus, Anxiety, Stress, Sleep issues, Grief and Emotional suppression.

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# VARRO CLARKE

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Lawyers

6 - 8 Main Street **Tamborine Mountain Queensland 4272** clarke@varroclarke.com.au

#### **Partners**

Varro Clarke Margaret Steen

Consultant Stephen Train

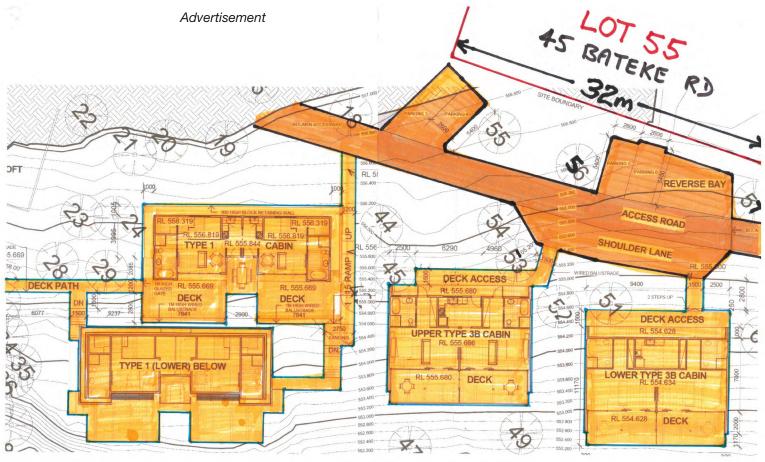
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# NOTHING TO SEE HERE! (SAYS PLANNING DEPARTMENT)

But neighbours will see and hear it every day. Is this rural living at Tamborine Mountain?



Part of the 'Nature-based' tourism development at 36 Young Street will start directly on the boundary of 45 Bateke Road – with 250m<sup>2</sup> of tarred area (including 6 carparks and a reversing area) followed by densely packed cabins, creating a virtually unbroken 60m building line visible 3.5m-4.5m above the 1.8m fence. In a recent visit by Councillors, it was likened to being forced to look into the back of a cheap motel – instead of the natural beauty we enjoy now.

The Planning Scheme is to 'protect the regionally significant natural landscape' through 'very low intensity, small scale' developments that 'do not detract from the amenity and privacy of adjoining premises'.

Planners state the development is neither small scale nor low intensity and that there will be environmental impacts but, paradoxically, recommend Councillors' approval citing the 'remote' location (10mins from IGA and 2 mins from St Bernard's Hotel!) and claiming that neighbours will see very little of it. 60m of toilet windows and A/C condensers with 6 carparks on my back fence, Mr Planner, is **not** very little! Planners summarised neighbours' concerns as negligible – suggesting a fence or a hedge as a 'reasonable and acceptable' solution.

Yvette Turner 45 Bateke Rd





The extent of clearing already undertaken by the developer is apparent in the above photos (before/left and after/right), as is land erosion in the area at bottom centre of the photo at right (main building, cliff side).

# CABINS AT 36 YOUNG STREET - HOW DID COUNCIL GET IT SO WRONG?

Much has been in the local news lately about this proposed development application that Planners had recommended for Council approval, and which is being fiercely opposed by all the local residents (200 objections against, 2 in support).

- How Council Planners had failed to check on the Landslide Hazard status of the property.
- How cabins would have been sited within or overlying the High Landslide Hazard zone.
- How the High Landslide Hazard Overlay Code excludes Nature-Based Tourism.
- How the Defence Land Buffer Area Code would exclude one cabin nearest Young Street.
- How occupancy rates were understated to misrepresent traffic and waste water impacts.
- How Planners claimed the site was remote to mitigate the loss of amenity for residents.
- How Planners allowed many relaxations and discretions to Planning Scheme requirements.

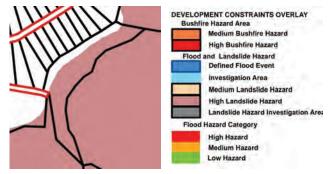
But one has to ask: How did this obviously flawed DA get this far and with such deeply imbedded support from Council?

It may all come down to the Council Planners and their focus on service to the developer, while overlooking the primary concept of **Duty of Care** to the safety of the general public!

In this instance, it could all trace back to their failure to fully consider the reasonable risk impacts on a building, **positioned on the escarpment**, when the B&B and Tourist Function rooms were initially approved.

All that was required was a quick look at the relevant Development Constraints Overlay map, such as the one below, which was found on the Council website. There are other specific overlay maps as well, all of which would be readily accessible to Council Planning Officers.

The overlay of the site clearly shows a narrow strip of land at the top of the property that borders the **High Landslide Hazard area.** 



This observation (if made) would have warranted a more detailed examination of the layout of the site, particularly in relation to the position of the existing residence.

Had a detailed inspection been made over the site, the Council officers should have realised that the High Landslide Hazard zone was in the order of 20 to 25 metres from the western boundary, and that the existing building, and particularly the section containing the proposed 40 person Function Room, was overlying the High Landslide Hazard area.

This observation (if made) should have impacted the overall assessment for that approval, based on a **Duty of Care** to the protection of people from the risk of a landslide hazard. But in the event it was approved as a Minor Change and without any public consultation, as a result of an adequate risk assessment NOT being conducted in the first instance.

And so the scene was set for the major expanded development proposal for 36 Young Street, the **10 tourist** 

### cabins in 6 buildings to complement the 40 person Function Room!

What has transpired since has been error upon error, because it appears that all involved in this development may have **ASSUMED** that the assessment relating to any potential Landslide Hazard had already been covered by previous Council approvals!

The developers advocate had the correct information in documentation presented to Council, that the land was zoned as A2t and D3t, (where D3t is the High Landslide Hazard), but then ignored the D3t component and **ASSUMED** that the "fairly flat" sloping land at the top of the block was all Medium risk and **suitable for the development.** 

So there we have a recipe for a **potential landslide DISASTER! Something that the Planning Scheme is supposed to protect the public from!** 

Had the responsible Council Planning Officers conducted the simple check, such as viewing the Hazards Overlay (images at left) at this time, the whole ensuing drama could have been avoided, and the real constraints to the further development of this parcel of land fully recognised.

However, as this did not occur, the keen developers, with strong support from Council and the Planning Officers, have stormed ahead as if there were no obstacles at all to the developing Shangri-La on the hillside. The developers have looked out over the glittering scenery and dreamed of profits and pots of gold, but failed to look down at the slope below and fully consider the risks! Much the same as the Planning Officers before and after them!

The real impacts of this "dream" on the adjoining neighbours and the community have been of no interest or consequence to the developers and their backers in Council, it would appear.

However the neighbourhood is a tight-knit community, and certainly no pushover, and residents are prepared to fight long and hard to maintain their amenity and the local environment.

The residents through their own efforts have managed to identify the critical flaws underlying this development, and intend to pursue these to the fullest extent. We do not expect any special treatment such as the developer has been afforded, but we do **DEMAND** that the Planning Scheme be enforced as documented and presented to the general public.

Fortunately, a number of the Scenic Rim Councillors have been astute enough to see through the veil of misinformation, errors, and omissions provided in the documentation from the developer and the recommendations by the Planning Officers, and residents are really appreciative of their efforts in facilitating a site visit by all of the Councillors to assess the full impacts of the proposed development on their homes, lifestyles, and amenity.

The site visit was conducted on 7th March, and judging by the reaction from some of the Councillors, they may now realise that this site is NOT remote, that the significant impacts of this proposed development are NOT low intensity, and certainly are NOT acceptable.

And they are certainly now aware of the High Landslide Hazard area and how close it is to the property boundary, and the extent of the Defence Land Buffer Area near the Young Street entrance, details ominously missing from any previously submitted planning documentation.

The vote on this development application was scheduled to occur the following day at the Council meeting on 8th March, however interestingly, the developer has requested a "stop" on the current period of decision making, and this has been postponed until a date yet to be set.



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# ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL... AND SMALLER STILL

Imagine sitting down to consume four foot-long Subs at a single sitting. That's what I watched a tiny, hungry micro-bat do recently – except they were mealworms. But proportionally to these thumb-sized wee creatures, one mealworm definitely equates to a Sub. 'A micro-bat of that size can eat ten mealworms in a sitting, four was actually just a small snack', according to wildlife carer Robin Rowland.

Robin recently introduced me to her two endearing houseguests with infectious enthusiasm and a one-hour crash course in micro-bat lifestyle and biology. Found trapped in a house in a dehydrated condition, the two micro-bats were rescued when someone called either Wildcare or Bats Queensland. They were vet-checked at Currumbin Wildlife Hospital, then released for rehabilitation to Robin. Her hobby's a busman's holiday for Robin, as her day job is at



the glow-worm caves at Cedar Creek Estate Vineyard and Winery on Hartley Road.

Unable to have a large cage where she lives (which would enable her to care for much larger flying foxes), Robin makes do with a tiny mesh fabric home for her little charges, housed in a spare wardrobe. 'I'm not giving them names; they're quite well and they'll be released soon,' said Robin of the large-eared, beady-eyed little critters. I can't begin to imagine the size of a baby micro-bat, but Robin at times also cares for these as well, feeding them at regular intervals, much like a human baby.



In her home country of the US, trained zoologist and wildlife enthusiast Robin couldn't care for bats as they are a sink for rabies infections. In Australia, which is rabies free, bats have the potential to carry a cousin to rabies, *Australian Bat Lyssavirus*. Anyone who cares for them must be vaccinated. Hence if you find one, don't touch it.

These tiny little guys play a huge part in local ecology, but sadly, many are on the Threatened Species list. Loss of trees destroys their habitat. Like other creatures, they nest in hollows or even under the bark of more mature

specimens. I was surprised to learn there are up to ten species on and around Tamborine Mountain, and 60 species in Australia.

Increasingly, humans see themselves as citizens of the planet with a responsibility towards non-human creatures. As good stewards of a rapidly changing planet, supporting Wildcare and sister organisations helps other species flourish – and makes up for some of the damage we as humans do to their habitats.



Those tasty mealworms (and food and equipment for other, much larger animals) are bought with funds raised by the Lions Club of Tamborine Mountain. On behalf of Lions, local business Tamborine Mountain Rainforest Skywalk sells small torches, which are very popular and thus provide hundreds of dollars a year for food for animals in care. Also, local snake-catcher Vanessa Bull and her colleagues accept donations when they rid a premises of pythons and other snakes, and that money also goes to feed rescued wildlife. A recent donation from the Tamborine Mountain Natural History Society was very welcome.

If you find a wild creature apparently sick or injured, keep it safe and quiet while you ring Wildcare (07) 5527 2444 or, in the case of bats and micro-bats, BatsQLD (0447 222 889).

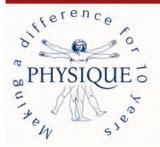
If there's no answer, please leave message or call RSPCA 1300 264 625. The hotlines are staffed by volunteers and

if it's a very busy day, they might not answer immediately – be patient! Leave a message and they'll ring you back. Save the numbers in your phone contacts, right now. And if you want to join Lions to help support this and other fine local, national and international initiatives, ring Lion Vanessa Bull (0412 649 301). If she's not out catching a venomous snake, she'll tell you all about Lions.

From tawny frogmouths to blue-tongued skinks, koalas to kookaburras, many creatures get a new lease of life thanks to Robin and her colleagues, and the support of the Lions Club of Tamborine Mountain.







## ONE THING, THEN ANOTHER

Whoever keeps doing all of these rain dances better stop quick smart – I think we've all just about had enough of the terrible flooding rain for this year. I have been asking people around the clinic whether they've seen anything like our recent deluge and the

answer has generally been a resounding "absolutely not". My heart breaks for the poor people of Northern New South Wales who've only just finished cleaning up last year's floods only to start all over again – this time significantly worse.

The torrent of water that has come from above is something that couldn't really be planned for by the residents – the sheer speed at which waters rose was too much for any of the infrastructure or homes to handle. Given this, it comes as no surprise that the damage bill is heading into the billions of dollars. It's totally unfair for all of those poor people, and I can only hope they get the help required to get their lives back on track.

The damage caused by a sudden, dramatic increase in water is not dissimilar to what can happen in our bodies when something dramatically changes in a short period of time. If you'll indulge me for a moment, I'm going to use my good friend Jane Doe as an example. Jane Doe has woken up one morning and decided that she is going to pressure clean the outside of her house. Jane thinks to herself that it's probably a good idea to start small and work her way around the house over a couple of days. However, Jane is like all of us, and once she starts, she can't stop. Jane gets the whole house done in a day – the cathartic and soothing feeling of cleaning year's worth of dirt and grime got her to the finish line.

Jane decides that she is going to reward herself after a long, hard day of pressure cleaning with a Chardonnay. Not just any Chardonnay though, a top shelf Chardonnay (the house is looking absolutely fantastic). Jane immediately realises her mistake when she is unable to lift her arm high enough to reach the top shelf Chardonnay, as her shoulder is incredibly painful and weak. Uh-oh.

Jane kickstarted a sequence of events in her shoulder the minute she picked up her pressure cleaner. Jane's muscles started firing, heart rate and blood pressure increased, nervous system turned to attack mode, her brain flicked a switch, and she was ready to annihilate every last speck of dirt she could see.

Unfortunately, her brain

overtook the rest of her body, ignoring the little twangs, aches and steadily growing fatigue in her body. Jane was too focused on unleashing a one-woman tirade on her house, she forgot that she hasn't done a full day's manual labour in, well, ever.

Jane's shoulder is now suffering from inflammation, pain and



with Hayden Buckman

severe lack of top shelf Chardonnay. We can all handle a little bit of increased load on our body, some people can handle a heck of a lot of load. Most of us, however, do not tolerate being exposed to a dramatic increase in what we're used to. Much like my backyard cannot handle a dramatic increase in water.

But alas, we can always prepare ourselves, plan the day, improve our exercise tolerance and don't let our stubborn brains get the better of us. If you've succumbed to your inner instinct to "just get the job done" and are now paying for it – don't hesitate to give us a call at Physique so we can help you (and empathise with you, because we've all done it).





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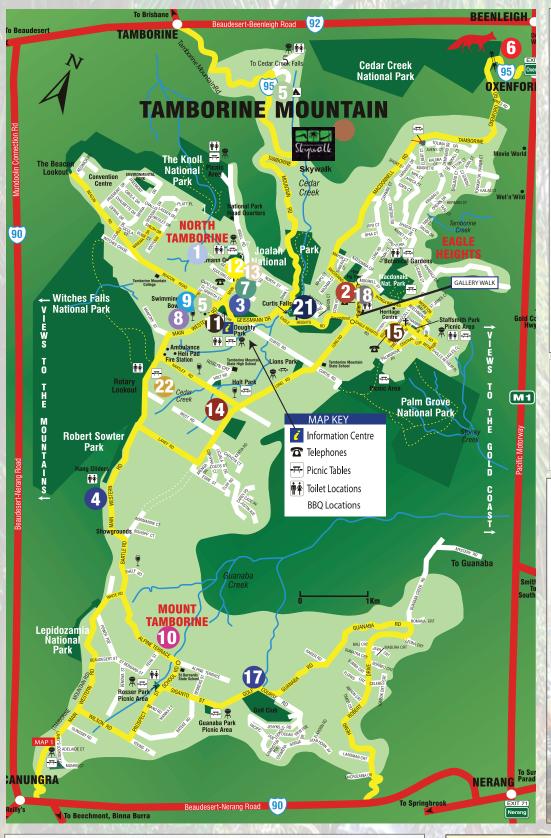
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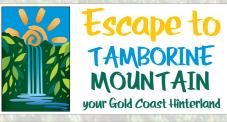
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# KARMA YOGA – GIVING BACK

A frightening and horrible couple of weeks for so many people as the floods

of February/March 2022 dominated the east coast of Australia. As always in these extreme situations, there are stories of such generosity and courage and stories of bureaucratic fumbling that have shocked even the most calm yoga student. Refusing to allow people of pro-choice status to help fill sandbags and clean other people's houses or indeed rescue those stranded victims, is beyond belief. Pointless bureaucracy and one-sided media frenzied reporting always results in lunacy. However, the courage of ordinary people who helped each other, rescuing humans, pets and livestock in the middle of the night, using tinnies and jet skis and anything else they could, restores faith. So, a big thank you to all the unsung, unmentioned and unnoticed Australians, for without them the tragedy of these floods would have been far greater.

We've been busy too, in our small yoga community. So many wonderful people have donated linen, blankets, non-perishable foodstuffs, water, baby nappies and formula to those who have lost everything. Delivered to the communities in the Tweed Shire and Northern NSW. This is Karma Yoga, the practice of giving back to the communities of which we are a part. One of the great vulnerabilities of humanity has always been the failure to recognise that we live in a reciprocal environment. So many don't give and take, they often just take. Acknowledging the reciprocity of our world and indeed our very existence, leads us directly to this idea of giving back. No, we may not get what we give, but in giving, we keep the whole system running.

In Karma yoga, the practice of generosity is largely entwined with the mind. Far more important than the gift being given is the intention and state of mind when giving. If we give something away, even if it's valuable, with resentment or disdain, karmically the gift is useless. But if you give the gift with benevolent intention, even if it's just leftovers, the gift is priceless. The interdependence of all things, combined with an awareness of those less fortunate, inspires compassion.

The best way to put the Law of Giving Back into operation is to make a decision that any time you come into contact with anyone, you will give them something. It doesn't have to be a material item. It could be a smile, a compliment, or a prayer. The gifts of caring, attention, affection, appreciation and love are some of the most precious and effortless gifts you can give. So, we are practicing karma yoga over the next two weeks. In class we will be asking for a small donation to the charity Rural Aid (www.ruralaid.org.au). Helping rebuild the lives of our farmers and their livestock, so badly affected by these floods.

#### Margot Wagner Yoga Under the Bodhi Tree

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

# Relationships



# **REFLECTION**

In our busy world we rarely make opportunity for self-reflection. It's a common misconception that reflection is an activity reserved for a retreat setting where you sit cross legged on a straw mat for hours. Self-reflection is a daily necessity if we are to keep our relationships healthy and grow as individuals. If we fail to reflect on why we do what we do, we will be doomed to rigidly repeating our pattern of behaviours.

A non-reflective stance keeps us locked into our own perspective. Non-reflective thinking is very black and white. It often takes the form of blame - "I'm right, you're wrong. If you would change, my life would be much



easier." There is little consideration as to how I might be part of the problem. This stance easily slips into a victim mode, where I feel I have no control over my situation.

Empathy is a form of reflection that brings awareness and insight into what might be happening for the other person. Empathy alone, however, will not move my position. I may understand why the person did what they did, while continuing to hold a position of blame. My position does not allow me to see my contribution to the problem.

Relational reflection occurs when we broaden our perspective and see that this problem is not necessarily the fault of one person, but is a dilemma occurring in the space between us. We move from projecting, blaming, and seeing the problem located in another, to seeing that we co-create the problem. From this stance, reflective dialogue is possible; we think about and talk about the issue together. We share responsibility for the solution.

We can broaden our perspective even further by reflecting on the various systems that affect our behaviours. These include our family history, culture, politics, dominant narratives and beliefs. We can ask ourselves "What patterns and themes in my greater environment have an impact on my choices, my relationships and my life? What assumptions and expectations has society conditioned in me?" The big picture perspective helps us to make connections between our personal and relational issues and the contexts that influence us.

Reflection not only involves 'zooming out' but also involves 'zooming in'. Self-transcendent reflection means I look introspectively and consider my part in creating the problem. My perspective turns internal in order to identify patterns and themes that contribute to the way I engage in life and relationships. Questions to ask include "What is my contribution to this? Can I see patterns in my life whereby I often end up here? How does my way of thinking result in this kind of situation? What strategies have I developed that negatively impact how I respond to others?"

Socrates taught that an unreflective life was not worth living. Through honest examination, we can use reflection to convert our knowledge and information into wisdom; wisdom that guides us toward an improved version of ourselves. Thanks for the tip, Socrates!

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

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### travelling places

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### TRAVELLING PLACES with Gina

I was out for tapas on Friday night with friends at local venue on the mountain, Aerie – what a buzzy place that is. Delicious tapas and a good selection from boutique distilleries and wineries. If you haven't been, do yourself a favour and head over. The weekend was 'birthday weekend' – all families have different traditions, and this is one of ours, with birthdays two days apart my children have always celebrated together. We are all foodies so you can imagine...

First off was The Green in James Street (Brisbane) for brunch — an industrial site that has been transformed by imagination and plants. Dinner found us at Southside in Fish Lane — one of several restaurants in the area; Southside specialised in elegant Asian fusion. Sunday morning was brunch at the Calile in James Street. Needless to say, I have returned to the Mountain for a few days of boiled eggs and toast!

Food is one of the great joys of travel, giving you a chance to interact with locals and to pick up on the feel of the region you are travelling through. A friend was asking me how we always found such wonderful places in new destinations, and I guess the answer is research. We always search online and pre-book, and we also always talk to locals – it is hard to beat a good hotel concierge.

Talking about this, triggers so many fabulous memories. The extraordinary Central in Lima which we had to book 3 months in advance – this Michelin-starred restaurant reflects Peru's regions in local cuisine, exquisitely. La Cave de L'ange Gardien in Beaune, a medieval provincial centre in Burgundy, where the restaurant is established in the arched tunnels below the walled ramparts of the town. The Cow in Queenstown, which is as much fun now for pizza and pasta as it was when I was a student. Ristorante La Cappannina

on the edge of the Roman ruins at Aquileia, northeast of Venice. Or Osteria Oggi in central Adelaide, whose understated entrance leads to a sun-filled courtyard.

The list goes on, and will no doubt continue. It can make a difference to how you feel about a place if you stop for a wonderful coffee, or the inviting looking place you stop at simply serves up something slightly better than Nescafé. Yes, when travelling we even look up coffee shops! Wouldn't you be disappointed to find out that you had



missed the world's most famous Persian love cake by ten metres!?

We also take cooking courses — one with Luke Nguyen in Ho Chi Minh was memorable. Also, the game cooking course in a manor house near Cambridge. The locals were amused at my reaction to the crabs they served for lunch on a small island off the coast of Malaysia...

Thank goodness I love to walk... it helps to balance the fabulous foodie trips we take. What's your passion when you travel?

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# FOOD FOR THOUGHT

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### **CHOCOLATE MUD CAKE**

This is the Queen of all cakes with its velvety smooth, rich chocolate topping and fudgy centre, it really is a showstopper. It's seen in every good café, but learn to do this well at home and when guests drop over for a cup of tea simply ask "would you like a piece of homemade mud cake?" Then serve it to your guest with a dollop of whipped cream and watch as their eyes light up and their jaws drop when you place it down.

This little beauty is quite versatile and can be used as a birthday cake, engagement cake or as a wedding cake. I also use it as a base when I make a chocolate mousse cake.

You don't need any fancy bench top mixers for this recipe, as you can mix up the cake batter in just one bowl, as long as it's heat-proof. The chef's secret to a dense and fudgy cake is to bake it low and slow. This cake is baked at 150°C for about 1 hr and 30 minutes. This cake keeps very well refrigerated for easily a week in an airtight container. It usually gets snaffled up way before the, though!

**Did you know?** This cake was originally called the Mississippi mud cake because it has its origins in the American deep south, its name is derived because it is baked to resemble the mud along the banks of the Mississippi River.

This was the first cake I ever made at home as an apprentice chef. I got the recipe from work but made an error when scaling it down from a batch of 40 cakes, and instead of 2 eggs, I used 20! It was more of a sweet omelette than a cake. My siblings and I still ate it though.

Chef Dylan tip: Use castor sugar as this finer form of sugar will dissolve more rapidly into the cake batter and give you a fudgier cake with a tight crumb. Baking powder is not baking soda. Check that your baking powder is not out of date, or else your cake has a greater chance of collapsing.

Cake batters can split because the cold ingredients cause the butter to separate from the chocolate. If you add your eggs and milk cold from the fridge all at one time it will cool the butter down, and cause it to separate from the chocolate. To fix this use room temperature eggs and milk, and stir the batter as you add in each egg, and slowly stream in the milk while stirring. This is really just a chef thing, as the cake will still turn out perfectly fine even if the batter has separated at one stage during the

making process. Although it does slightly affect the overall texture of the cake once baked.

This is a really easy recipe and a fun one to do with little people as anyone who had a parent that baked when they were a child will remember how good it was to get to lick all the batter off the wooden spoon. I certainly did. Get some scales and have a go at this you will be delighted at how good it tastes.

#### Serves 8/10 Cook time 1 hr and 30 mins Prep time 15 mins

#### **Ingredients**

- 250 g unsalted butter, roughly chopped
- 200 g dark chocolate block, roughly chopped
- 240 g caster sugar
- 220 g brown sugar, lightly packed
- 1 tsp (3 g) instant coffee granules, optional
- 375 ml milk
- 3 large eggs approx. 55 g
- 1 tbsp vanilla essence
- 225 q plain flour
- 50 g unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1 tbsp baking powder
- 1 tsp sea salt flakes

#### For the Chocolate Ganache

- 50 mL thickened cream
- 50 mL milk
- 200 g dark chocolate block, finely chopped

#### Method

#### For the Mud Cake

- Preheat the oven to 150°C
- Grease and line a 20 cm round cake tin. The cake rises very high when baking, so make sure that the baking paper rises at least 6 cm above the top of the tin
- Put chopped butter and chocolate in a large heat-proof bowl. Microwave for 1 minute on high power. Stir well. Microwave for another 30 seconds. Stir until the chocolate is completely smooth and melted. Microwave in further 10 second bursts, if needed, to completely melt the chocolate.
- 4. In the same bowl now add sugars and



- instant coffee granules. Stir well. Add milk, eggs and vanilla. Stir until well combined.
- Sift in the flour, cocoa powder, baking powder and salt. Stir until the batter is well combined.
- 6. Pour into the prepared tin. Bake for 1 hr 20 mins to 1 hr 30 mins or until a skewer inserted in the middle of the cake comes out with only a few moist crumbs clinging to it. Avoid opening the oven door during cooking or have the kids running around as the vibration can make the cake sink in the middle.
- Allow to cool for 20 minutes in the tin before transferring to a wire rack to cool completely.

#### For the Ganache

- Stir together milk and cream in a small heat-proof jug. Microwave for 1 minute on high power or until it just begins to bubble (but is not boiling over).
- Place the finely chopped chocolate in a separate small bowl. Pour the hot cream and milk mix over the chocolate and allow to stand for 5 minutes. Stir together until smooth and well combined. If the chocolate doesn't melt completely pour back into jug and microwave the ganache in 10 sec bursts until smooth and creamy
- 3. Get the restaurant look by using a large, serrated bread knife to level out the top of the cake so it is completely flat.
- 4. Pour the ganache over the top of the cooled cake, using the back of a spoon to spread it evenly over the sides of the cake. Refrigerate for 2 hours or until ganache is firm and matte.
- 5. Slice up and enjoy! I find that this cake tastes even more fudgy and rich on the second day.

# hooked on books

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In the end, we'll all become stories.

Margaret Atwood

#### TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN LIBRARY NEWS by Friends of Tamborine Mountain Library



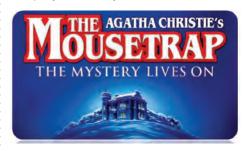


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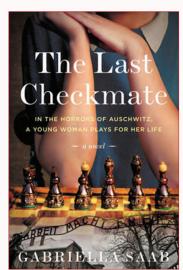
# Interesting Facts About Bookish Things

 'The Mouse Trap' by Agatha Christie is the longest-running play in history.



- All of the roles in Shakespeare's plays were originally acted by men and boys. In England at that time, it wasn't proper for females to appear on stage.
- 3. 'Dreamt' is the only English word that ends in the letters 'mt'.
- The original story from Tales of 1001 Arabian Nights begins, 'Aladdin was a little Chinese bov.'.
- John Milton used 8,000 different words in his poem 'Paradise Lost.'.
- 6. Silent and Listen are spelt with the same letters.

#### Our Book Choice: The Last Checkmate by Gabriella Saab



Readers of Heather Morris's *The Tattooist of Auschwitz* and watchers of *The Queen's Gambit* won't want to miss this amazing debut set during World War II. A young Polish resistance worker, imprisoned in Auschwitz as a political prisoner, plays chess in exchange for her life, and in doing so fights to bring the man who destroyed her family to justice.

Maria Florkowska is many things: daughter, avid chess player, and, as a member of the Polish underground resistance in Nazi-occupied Warsaw, a young woman brave beyond her years. Captured by the Gestapo, she is imprisoned in Auschwitz, but while her family is sent to their deaths, she is spared. Realizing her ability to play chess, the sadistic camp deputy, Karl Fritzsch, decides to use her as a chess opponent to entertain the camp guards. However, once he tires of exploiting her skills, he has every intention of killing her.

Befriended by a Catholic priest, Maria attempts to overcome her grief, vows to avenge the murder of her family, and plays for her life. For four grueling years, her strategy is simple: Live. Fight. Survive. By cleverly provoking Fritzsch's volatile nature in front of his superiors, Maria intends to orchestrate his downfall. Only then will she have a chance to evade the fate awaiting her and see him punished for his wickedness. As she carries out her plan and the war nears its end, she challenges her former nemesis to one final game, certain to end in life or death, in failure or justice. If Maria can bear to face Fritzsch—and her past—one last time.

Genre: Historical Fiction, War > World War ii

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# **TRIVIA**

Mixed Bag



- 1. Which Swiss town holds a yearly TV festival?
- Called Kerkyra by the Greeks, by what name is this island known in Englishspeaking countries?
- 3. What new career did astronaut John Glenn take up in 1974?
- 4. Who was blinded by Lady Godiva?
- 5. To which country does Christmas Island belong?
- 6. The Collegiate Church of St Peter, in London, is better known as what?
- 7. Which colony was handed back by Portugal to China in 1999?
- 8. What is the term for a unit of thermal insulation as applied to fabrics?
- Which city in India lends its name to a style of riding breeches?
- 10. In military terms, what does SAS stand for?
- 11. Who wrote The Guns of Navarone and Where Eagles Dare?
- 12. For what hillside feature is Cerne Abbas famous?
- 13. 'Fe' is the chemical symbol for which metal?
- 14. Who was elected president of France, following Charles de Gaulle's resignation in 1969?
- 15. Which one-time US presidential contender's wife is called Tipper?
- 16. Strasbourg, home of the European Parliament, is located in which country?

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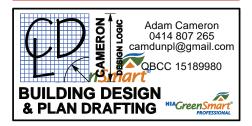
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### Answers to TRIVIA - trom page 23

- 1 Montreux, 2 Corfu, 3 Elected senator for Ohio,
- 4 Peeping Tom, 5 Australia, 6 Westminster Abbey, 7 Macau,
- 8 Tog, 9 Jodhpur, 10 Special Air Service, 11 Alistair Maclean,
- 12 Carved giant, 13 Iron, 14 Georges Pompidou, 15 Al Gore,
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# FAY'S AWARD IN COOMERA VALLEY ROTARY CLUB COMMUNITY SERVICES 2021 - 2022

Fay Schulz of Tamborine Mountain was recently awarded the Community Services award by Coomera Valley Rotary Club. This is in recognition of Fay's tireless work supporting Tamborine Mountain Scout Group in her roles as Treasurer and Head Fundraiser.

June 2021 saw the former 100-year-old Scout Den travel in two pieces by truck to its new home in Hartley Road. Since arriving at this location, further building works have been undertaken, including plumbing and electrical, a new roof, gutters and downpipes, and the installation of an external toilet block. Further works still being completed include internal painting and the installation of a new kitchen.

Along with finalising our plans, Fay has also applied for every funding grant possible, at both Federal and State Government levels, and local Council levels. As a Group, we have been successful in a number of these grant applications, resulting in our Scout Group having its own home again.



Some final works are needed to complete the den and then we will have our grand opening.

Huge thanks to Fay and all our community supporters for making this possible!

Hilary Gallagher Tamborine Mountain Scout/Venturer Leader



### THE RAIN BRINGS THEM ALL OUT

After rain the bandy-bandys appear. (pictured at right) So you might have seen them in recent weeks. Driving home at night, two weeks ago, after a good downpour, I saw a bandy bandy crossing Kinabalu Drive. It was there to find food, which is quite a challenge given its strict diet. Anyway, it's one of those snakes that's very easy to spot: the distinct black and white bands are unique (and much more pronounced than on a Stephen's banded snake).

Bandy-bandys are a rare sighting, even for snake catchers. These nocturnal, burrowing snakes, are found beneath the soil surface, under stumps, rocks and logs. They only emerge at night, after rain. Why? Because they need food.

Interestingly enough, the bandy bandy is on a unique diet of: blind snakes. The Mountain is home to three species of blind snakes, all answering to the near-unpronounceable name of *Ramphotyphlops*. These small snakes live underground and only appear after rain... so that's why we see bandy-bandys emerge at the same time.

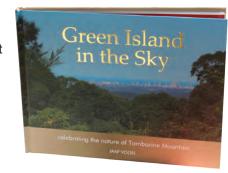




Bandy-bandys are weakly poisonous, but harmless to humans. The poison is not very potent. The docile nature

of the snake and its small mouth size make bites extremely rare. For humans that is.... not for the poor, blind Ramphotyphlops. (below left)

Hundreds of other plants and species can all be found in Jaap's book "Green Island in the Sky", for sale now at



www.greenislandinthesky.com.au for \$24.95, or at the Visitor Information Centre and post offices.

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