



Scenic

News

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

Celebrating 64 years
of unbroken publication...
www.scenicnews.com.au



BUSHRATS PRESENTATION DAY CAPS A MAGNIFICENT YEAR

Held on a glorious spring morning at the Showgrounds on Saturday 9th September, the TM Bushrats Presentation Day witnessed a strong turnout of both young and old, and community spirit in abundance. Pictured above are the senior Grand Final victors. More photos on pages 14, 16 and 23.

Open Gardens

Springtime

ON THE MOUNTAIN

Friday Sept 29
& Saturday Sept 30

10 am to 4pm

Tickets online
(or scan the QR code below)

5 private gardens, dotted across this gardener's paradise in the renowned Scenic Rim, just 45 minutes from the Gold Coast.

For more information, visit
www.tamborinemountaingardenclub.org.au





Property of the week

SALE 🛏️ 5 🚿 1 🚗 5 ✂️ 2 ha

2107 Beaudesert Beenleigh Rd, Tamborine \$1,300,000 + Acreage, central to town

- Solidly built with that rural rustic charm
- Open plan living areas with woodburner fire and air-conditioning
- Double garage with office + 3-bay shed with day shelters
- Potable bore, dam, paddocks, chook pen and fruit trees
- Choose this home and live the serene rural lifestyle

AGENTS:

Linda Hogan
0414 300 558



Property of the week

SALE 🛏️ 4 🚿 2 🚗 2 ✂️ 2.5 acres

23-31 Power Pde, Tamborine Mountain \$1,700,000
Call the Mountain home

- Traditional character home, beautifully presented
- With 2.5 acres of great land, the kids and pets will love it
- Fully fenced, arena, paddocks, quality bore, several sheds
- 2-bay garage plus workshop, circular driveway
- Picturesque rural street, private and quiet

AGENTS:

Linda Hogan
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OPEN HOME Sat 16th

10.30 - 11 35 Paradise Drive
12 - 12.30 2107 Beaudesert Beenleigh Rd
12.15 - 1 10 Tabor Avenue
1.30 - 2 29 Regal Drive, Tamborine
2.30 - 3 172 Tremayne Rd, Tamborine

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Sarah Lewis
0429 001 013



SALE 🛏️ 4 🚿 2 🚗 6 ✂️ 10 acres

117-133 Sundown Court, Tamborine

- Room for horses or small farm animals
- Homestead positioned to capture views
- Open plan, formal dining, family room
- Spring fed dam, deep potable bore
- Separate garage/workshop

\$1,350,000

AGENTS:

Linda Hogan
0414 300 558



SALE 🛏️ 4 🚿 2 🚗 2 ✂️ 1,434m²

29 Regal Drive, Canungra

- Modern 3 year old home with unobstructed views of the ranges
- 2 living areas, hybrid flooring, modern kitchen
- Large covered deck leading down to terraced back yard with bush outlook,

\$949,000

AGENTS:

Linda Hogan
0414 300 558



SALE 🛏️ - 🚿 - 🚗 - ✂️ 2.12 ha

4 Chianina Court, Tamborine

- Tucked away in a quiet corner of Tamborine Village, level site where previous house was
- Some cleanup may be required but the real potential is what you decide to build on this great 5+ acres of natural bushland

\$495,000

AGENTS:

Barry Chick
0418 876 191



ProfessionalsTamborine.com.au

2205 Beaudesert-Beenleigh Rd, Tamborine 4270

ProfessionalsTamborineMountain.com.au

10 - 12 Main Street, North Tamborine 4272



SPRINGTIME ON THE MOUNTAIN – OPEN GARDENS FESTIVAL

We all know that gardening has many benefits, and many of us enjoy these but usually only get to share them with family and friends.

For a gardener, there is nothing more rewarding than showing off your garden for many to enjoy and admire.

And this is where the *Springtime on the Mountain, Open Gardens Festival* can do this.

We are thrilled to have five beautiful gardens open to the public.

All gardens uniquely shine. There are acreage gardens and house gardens. Flowers, trees, shrubs, sculptures, ponds, veggie patches and more are in these gardens.

The gardens are on Macdonnell Road, Sequoia Drive, Adelaide Court and two on Beacon Road.

There will be plant sales at all gardens, and music throughout the event at some of the gardens.

The Botanic Gardens will have a plant sale and sausage sizzle and the Landcare site is open, with picnic tables to use.

The festival is on Friday 29 and Saturday 30 September, from 10am to 4pm.

Tickets are \$20 online at tamborinemountaingardenclub.org.au (or scan the QR code on this page) or \$5 at each gate (correct change requested).

Dependent children are free, and certified assistance dogs are welcome.

Brochures will be available at the Tourist Information Centre, the Botanic Gardens and at each open garden.

Mark this in your diary so you can come along and see our mountain shine.



Ross from the 'Belicia' garden on Beacon Road



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TAMBORINE MTN BRIDGE CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

It was a long day on Thursday, 7th September, when 28 members of the Tamborine Mountain Bridge Club gathered to compete for the Pairs Championships. Those with over 100 masterpoints were playing to win the Cup and those with under 100 points competed for the Plate. A total of 52 boards were played, starting at 10.15 and finishing at 4.30.



Brother and sister team, John Youngman and Julie Guthrie (*pictured at right*) were the Cup winners. It was only the second time they had played together – must be something in the blood! Alex Hood and Andrew Davidson (*pictured above*), another fairly new partnership, were the Plate winners. Congratulations to the winners and to all competitors for making it an interesting and friendly competition.

If you are interested in learning bridge, please contact Sheila Irvine-Brown on **0407 451 973**.



Ian MacAllan

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COUNCIL CALLS FOR A SHOUT-OUT FOR COMMUNITY'S QUIET ACHIEVERS

Council is calling for community members to give a shout-out to the region's quiet achievers with nominations now open for the 2024 Scenic Rim Australia Day Awards.

Celebrating the contribution of grassroots groups and community champions across the Scenic Rim, the awards will be presented in four categories recognising those who make a positive difference to the lives of others.

Scenic Rim Mayor Greg Christensen said Council's awards provided an opportunity to shine a spotlight on community members of all ages who often work quietly behind the scenes without any thought of recognition.

"These are individuals who are the heart and soul of our region and who give so much of their time as volunteers in our community," he said.

"Now's the time to repay that in a small way by taking the time to recognise someone special.

"We all know someone - whether a friend, family member, work colleague or community leader - who helps to make the Scenic Rim such a wonderful place to live and enjoy family life so let's recognise their efforts with an awards nomination."

Nominations for the 2024 Scenic Rim Australia Day Awards are open from Monday 11 September to Monday 13 November in four categories:

- Community Event of the Year Award, for the individual, group or organisation which has staged the most outstanding community event in the Scenic Rim region during 2023.
- Citizen of the Year Award (16-30), for an exceptional young person who is accomplishing great things in all walks of life and making an outstanding contribution to the Scenic Rim community. Nominees must be between 16 and 30 years of age as at 26 January 2024.
- Citizen of the Year Award (31-65), for someone who has been an inspirational role model to the Scenic Rim community over a number of years. Nominees must be between 31 and 65 years of age as at 26 January 2024.
- Citizen of the Year Award (65+ years), for an inspirational role model, whose example encourages others and contributes to creating a friendly, caring and engaged community. This person



will have demonstrated extraordinary commitment to the local community over a number of years and had a positive impact on a wide range of people in the Scenic Rim. Nominees must be 65 years or older as at 26 January 2024.

A special Mayor's Award, recognising outstanding overall achievement, will be presented to an individual chosen from the nominees across all categories.

The Scenic Rim's Community, Arts and Culture Portfolio Councillor Michael Enright also called on community members to get behind the Australia Day awards program.

"It's important for us to acknowledge those who play key roles in the life of our region and help to create our strong sense of community," he said.

"Events of recent years including bushfires, floods and the COVID-19 pandemic have highlighted the importance of community organisations and the strength of character of their volunteers.

"Our Australia Day Awards are one way to say 'thank you' to those whose contribution to our communities throughout the year - and often over many years - makes a difference."

For further information on the 2023 Scenic Rim Australia Day Awards, or to nominate an individual or event, visit Council's website scenicrim.qld.gov.au/grants-funding-awards/australia-day-awards/1

INTERNATIONAL 'TALK LIKE A PIRATE' DAY COMES TO TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN

At last, internationally celebrated 'Talk Like A Pirate' Day is coming to Tamborine Mountain.

The Poxo Mountain Pirates will be leading a raucous singalong of shanties and pirate songs both adults and children will enjoy. Here's a chance to dress up in your best pirate garb, bellow along to some rollicking sea shanties, and practice shouting "Avast!" "Yarr" and "Aye, me hearty!"

The Poxo Mountain Pirates consist of Cap'n Hogwash, First Mate Winter Greybeard, Sweet Sea-Seanna, Ruthless Ruthie, Hornswaggle Longblade, and The Dread Pirate Penelope.*

(Pirate-speak version)

"Aaarrrrrr! 'Tis "Talk Like a Pirate Day" real soon like and we be fixin' t' entertain ye wit' a hearty singalong o' pirate tunes 'n shanties.

We be playin' - ye be singin'. Got that? Loud and raucous-like ye hear - no mute scallywags or ye be walkin' the plank!"

*Peter Pinata, Ron Chown, Ros Earwicker, Suzie Taylor, Matt David and Jeanette Ball

- talklikeapirate.com/wordpress/everything-else/pirate-songs
- facebook.com/InternationalTalkLikeAPirateDay



Details: Two singalong shows:

- **From 12 noon Thursday 21 September** at The Treehouse, 142 Long Rd Tamborine Mountain (Gallery Walk)
- **And from 12.30 Saturday 23 September** at The Monkey Tree Bar and Restaurant, 106 Long Rd, Eagle Heights (Gallery Walk)

Contact: Jeanette Ball 0402 411 773
jeanette@colourmefabulous.com.au

(Note: traditionally TLAPD - 19 September - is celebrated on any day in the third week of September)

Proposed Development

Make a submission from

14 SEPTEMBER 2023 TO 6 OCTOBER 2023

ANIMAL KEEPING (BREEDING KENNEL – 20 DOGS AND BOARDING KENNEL – 10 DOGS)

Where: 1-9 Donald Court, Tamborine

On: Lot 51 on RP185808

Approval sought: Development permit for Material Change of Use

Application ref: MCU23/090

You may obtain a copy of the application and make a submission to:

Scenic Rim Regional Council
PO Box 25, Beaudesert QLD 4285
mail@scenicrim.qld.gov.au
(07) 5540 5111
www.scenicrim.qld.gov.au

Please note – All submissions made in relation to the development application are publicly viewable on the Scenic Rim Regional Council “DAP Online” accessed through link: scenicrim.qld.gov.au/daponline. The Councils reference for public notification and viewing through PD Online is: MCU23/090

Public notification requirements are in accordance with the *Planning Act 2016*



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one small place on earth

GYMEA LILY

DORYANTHES EXCELSA – garden, Eagle Heights

This striking plant, photographed at the end of last month, is native to the New South Wales central coast. The only other plant in the genus *D. palmeri*, the Giant Spear Lily, is native to this part of the world, an example of which I filmed, just round the corner, fourteen years ago. The stalk of the gyMEA lily can grow to a height of up to 6 metres, that of the giant spear lily attains a similar length, but is weighed down by the profuse growth of its flowers. The leaves are huge, up to three metres long, compared to the one metre length of those of the gyMEA lily.



Peter Kuttner

TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN BRIDGE CLUB RESULTS

MONDAY (4-SEP-23)

NS 1. 57.92% PETER ZAREMBA - WENDY CHRISTIE

NS 2. 55.00% DAVID DONALDSON - HEIKE EDRICH

NS 3. 54.58% VESNA MCCATHIE - EDDIE HEINEMEYER

EW 1. 57.14% SHEILA IRVINE-BROWN - SHEENA POLLOCK

EW 2. 54.29% CHRISTINE YOUNGMAN - JULIE GUTHRIE

EW 3. 50.00% BETTY BULL - RICHARD BULL

WEDNESDAY (6-SEP-23)

1. 62.50% KAREN SCOTT - SUE STEVENS

2. 60.12% LINDY WILLIAMS - EDDIE HEINEMEYER

3. 55.95% JENNY STRACHAN - LAWRENCE BEUTEL

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP (7-SEP-23)

OPEN CUP 57.05% JOHN YOUNGMAN - JULIE GUTHRIE

NOVICE PLATE 52.72% ALEX HOOD - ANDREW DAVIDSON

*Beginners Welcome - Contact Sheila 0407 451 973.
Sessions Mon, Wed, Thu at TM Bridge Club Sports Ground
400 Long Road. tmbridgeclub.org.au*

TOM SHARP FOR MAYOR 2024 – LET'S TALK, IT'S YOUR COUNCIL

Restore Authority to the Elected Councillors

Dear Reader,

The Problem:

- The Council has a delegations register, with 501 pages of delegations to the CEO and Council Officers, allowing them to make decisions independently of the council.
- You can inspect this delegation register online on the Council's Website.
- It also has financial delegations that give the CEO power to spend any amount of money and make financial decisions on anything in the Council's 100 million dollar plus budget, or even the Council's 10-year Financial Plan. This delegation can be used to negotiate staff wage increases without referencing Councillors. Or even to appoint new staff or consultants.
- The delegations register of 501 pages was presented to Councillors on an Ordinary Meeting agenda with 5 business days' notice, and adopted. The register refers to sections of legislation, but offers little insight into what the delegations mean, or their purpose. The Councillors were invited to ask questions, and the officers explained there was nothing to be afraid of, they had to be adopted ASAP or business may be impacted; just trust us, we don't have time to explain them all. Councillors adopted them without understanding the implications.
- So, one implication adopted was that the CEO could determine all planning applications, without reference to Councillors.
- Council therefore did not need a Town Planning Committee.
- Councillors have the ability to set the ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE, i.e. the level of key personnel that is fixed and can't be changed unless the Councillors decide. The present Council has rolled over and agreed to an organisational structure that has just 5 persons. This gives the CEO the power to appoint staff and positions as he sees fit, and to set salaries and benefits, like cars and training, conferences, superannuation etc., without reference to elected Councillors.
- The SRRC has decided to do away with a Council resolution to have several committees, including a Town Planning Committee, and to reduce the number of Council Ordinary Meetings to just one per month. The implications are less transparency, and more decision-making without the watchful eye of the media or ratepayers.
- Councillors continually are threatened with OIA complaints when anything that is said in private, public or in a Council meeting makes offence, especially if a Councillor is calling out poor performance or is critical of a Council decision. The complaints can be politically motivated, are anonymous, often come from the Mayor or CEO, and are used to intimidate and silence dissenting views. It all relates to the existing TOXIC culture set by its leaders.
- Councillors are gagged in Scenic Rim by bureaucrats and the Mayor, by policies on confidentiality of information. Councillors have senselessly agreed to this, possibly due to extreme pressure from bureaucrats, and based on flawed reasoning.

The Solution:

- Review Council policies on the confidentiality of information so that only information that is legislated in the *Local Government Act* is confidential, allowing Councillors to freely discuss issues with their constituents.
- Examine the delegations register closely and review all delegations.
- Introduce Council Committees open to the public where Councillors make decisions, not the bureaucrats.
- Make the CEO responsible for the organisation's culture and use the level of OIA unfounded and dismissed complaints made by him or by his staff to indicate a poor culture.
- Reduce the executive management team to reflect the organisation's size and make it more responsive and in keeping with management best practices, saving hundreds of thousands of dollars annually.
- Discontinue the practice of the CEO and/or Mayor populating Council officers not relevant to the matter at hand at formal and informal meetings to drown out the voice of elected councillors in formal and informal meetings,
- Review the Council standing orders to enable free flow of discussion in Council formal and informal meetings.
- Introduce question time without notice in Council meetings.
- Stream the audio and video of the Council's informal and formal meetings to the public on YouTube.
- Promote more team building and open communication between the public, elected councillors, and members of the public.
- Look at more modern reward and recognition practices within the organisation.
- Ensure that those in leadership positions are qualified, that dealings with staff are fair and reasonable and that they can lead by example, but hold subordinate staff to high performance.
- Introduce training for all staff on respect for elected councillors.
- Introduce Councillor reporting in Council meetings on matters of concern in their division, without notice.
- Introduce General Business into Council Meetings.
- Introduce a policy that provides for all agenda items to show that there has been consultation with Councillors prior to matters being referred to Council meetings for decision-making.
- Take away the power of the CEO to appoint consultants.
- Ensure that budgets relating to all Council functions are made available to the public, and reported on in the operational plan.

The solution takes into account the exception where such a delegation is required under the *Local Government Act*.

May I suggest you ask candidates in the upcoming elections where they stand on this policy.

Get in touch – Send me an email or call me, and let's talk about politics. contact@tomsharp.com.au

Authorised by Tom Sharp – 424 Binna Burra Road, Beechmont 4211



KARA CHRISTENSEN

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76-82 MAIN WESTERN ROAD,
TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN

 5  3  3  496m²*^  3acres*



SOLD \$2,280,000

40-46 BEACON ROAD,
TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN

 2  2  6  547m²*^  4acres*

*approximate ^gross floor area



KARA CHRISTENSEN
0411 372 231
kara@kollosche.com.au





JON KRAUSE MP

State Member for Scenic Rim

TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN WATER

It's dry. Recent rainfall has been very light on. While local water carriers do their best, when tanks dry up, there is a lot of demand for their services, and this blows out delivery times. Ordering early and keeping an eye on tank levels in these times can help avoid the difficulties of tanks at home running dry. I understand that these times also elevate concerns held about extraction of water by off-Mountain users and bottlers. This extraction is lawful under current regulations, but several years ago following significant community representations the State Government placed a moratorium on new bores on the Mountain (with limited exceptions – not including new bores for local water carriers to serve locals).

This move likely feeds into a review of the Gold Coast region water plan (one of the plans that set out the “rules” for how water carriers operate and access water from – the other is the Scenic Rim planning scheme) that is currently in its early stages and scheduled to finish in 2026. This review has the potential to change the rules around water extraction. The water plan for Tamborine Mountain must recognise it is essential for all households and businesses on the Mountain. It should recognise the concerns about continuing deliveries off the Mountain, while locals endure significant delays in receiving water deliveries. Likewise, in my view the local planning scheme should recognise the need for local water carriers to access local water to serve the Mountain.

LID LIFTED ON THIN (AND THINNING) BLUE LINE

Revelations that Queensland Police numbers have dropped to their lowest levels in more than a decade will send shivers down the spine of Queenslanders. In 2020, the Premier promised to deliver an additional 1450 police officers by 2025. While Queensland communities are under siege from hardcore youth criminals, police numbers continue to fall, leaving stations without the ability to respond to serious crime.

Labor's weak laws and broken promises on police are directly responsible for the Queensland Youth Crime Crisis. The LNP has put solutions on the table to start tackling this crisis by creating consequences for actions, unshackling the judiciary by removing detention as a last resort and delivering gold standard early intervention. Queensland deserves better when it comes to community safety from their Government.

SCENIC RIM ELECTORATE OFFICE

You can contact me by phone, toll-free, on **1800 813 960**, or email scenicrim@parliament.qld.gov.au, so I can lobby on your behalf in Brisbane. In an electorate as large as the Scenic Rim, there are lots of issues and I appreciate your feedback that helps me do my job as well as possible.

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Member for **Scenic Rim**

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SCOTT BUCHHOLZ

Federal Member for Wright

'BIN THE BILL' LABOR'S MISINFORMATION LAW WILL SUPPRESS YOUR FREE SPEECH

Federal Member for Wright, Scott Buchholz MP, encourages all to sign the current petition against the Albanese Government's plans to impose a new Misinformation law.

“Labor is seeking to introduce legislation which we believe would have serious impacts on the free speech of everyday Australians.

“Already we are seeing lawyers lining up to warn about the perils of putting the Government in charge of what you can say online.” he said.

Under Labor's plans, authorised content by the Albanese Government can't be misinformation, but criticisms of the Albanese Government by ordinary Australians **can** be misinformation.

Sweeping powers would also allow the regulator to require any Australian to appear before them to answer questions about misinformation or disinformation.

“This is a very bad bill. The Government should rip it up. Freedom of speech is fundamental to our democracy, and the Coalition will always fight for it.

“People who sign up at the site will be kept up to date on developments on our campaign on this issue,” Mr Buchholz said.

“Our primary message is that Australians have a right to freedom of speech – and this bad law must be stopped. We want everyday Australians to be able to voice their opposition to the Bill, because it's their free speech that is under threat.

“Join our campaign against Labor's Misinformation law – sign up to www.binthebill.au to have your voice heard, and to stay up to date on our Coalition's action to fight Labor's attack on free speech.”

HAVE YOUR SAY! PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY INTO INSURERS' RESPONSES TO 2022 MAJOR FLOODS CLAIMS



Federal Member for Wright, Scott Buchholz, is encouraging those affected by recent major floods to submit a response into the Parliamentary inquiry into insurance claims.

The inquiry follows the unprecedented level of claims resulting from certain flood events across Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, and Tasmania in 2022

“The floods of 2022, like any major natural disaster, caused a huge amount of financial, and emotional stress on businesses and residents across Wright who were all too familiar with flood, storm and drought.

“Local business owners and community groups who live in



Letters to the Editor

Please limit letters to 200 words. Publication is at the discretion of the editor and subject to space availability.

THE FUTURE OF OUR COUNCIL

I have been reading on the Tamborine Mountain Community Facebook page that people are asking why our rates are so high compared to the Gold Coast. The reason is quite simple. Our Council has grand ideas but not the rates base to pay for them like the Gold Coast. Our Council needs to recognise that we are a small Council, and therefore our expenditure needs to recognise our size and ability to pay.

During the Community Consultation on the budget, I urged Council to limit expenditure so that the rates rise would be reasonable. My urgings were ignored, and all Councillors voted for the rates rise.

What is the solution?

Quite simply, we need a new Mayor who recognises the issues facing this Council and the region. Not one of the current elected members meets this criterion.

What are the issues? My top 5 issues are:

1. The budget needs to be transparent and published. Currently, only the Capital budget is published. Most of your rates go to the Operational budget, but this is kept secret.
2. There needs to be a review of all programs to see where expenditure can be cut or delayed so that the pressure on rates is decreased.
3. The gag on Councillors reporting what is being discussed needs to be lifted. Therefore, the Councillor/Executive Briefing needs to be made an open meeting in so far as the agenda is published, and Councillors are free to inform their community of what is being discussed.
4. Council meetings need to have frank and full discussion before a motion is put to the vote. The concept of questions of 'clarification only' needs to be buried.
5. A Communication standard needs to be reintroduced and enforced. When I was a Councillor, it was 10 business working days. That was dropped without any consultation. Too often we hear that people are not being responded to.

What can you do?

Take an interest in who is putting their name forward for election, go to their meetings and ask questions.

So far, Tom Sharp is the only outsider to declare his intention. Ask him questions.

Nigel Waistell
Cr Div 1
2012 to 2020

my electorate of Wright, are as a result of continuous disasters such as floods and the COVID-19 pandemic, at risk of being refused Public Liability insurance, or are faced with prices astronomically high that aren't affordable.

"As a result, the Coalition Governments, House Standing Committee on Economics, would like to know more about the experiences of those affected by the floods when dealing with their insurers," Mr Buchholz said.

Deputy Chair of the House Standing Committee on Economics, Garth Hamilton said the data generated from responses to the survey will help inform the committee's understanding of insurer's conduct and the future regulatory framework.

"How insurers have responded to the floods and the impact on individuals, families and affected communities will help inform insurer preparedness for future flood events. Any data or comments published will be general and reported anonymously," Mr Hamilton said.

The Committee Secretariat is hosting an online survey to assist with engaging constituents on their insurance experiences. You can complete the survey at www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/House/Economics/FloodInsuranceInquiry

If you have any questions about this survey or the committee's inquiry, please contact the Committee Secretariat on floodinsurance.reps@aph.gov.au or (02) 6277 4707.

VARRO CLARKE & Co LAWYERS

Est. Brisbane 1974
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TRAVELLING PLACES

with Gina

To say that travel has rebounded in 2023 is a bit of an understatement. It would seem that every airplane departing Australia is fully booked – to just about anywhere in the world. Forward bookings indicate that 2024 will follow with high-capacity sales.

There is much discussion about the level of airfares and what we are all paying. Until such time that the frequency of flights increases, it would seem that the earlier you book, the better the airfare. This is particularly relevant for busy travel periods and also your destination. If you have plans to travel anywhere at Christmas time, expect to pay top dollar – the whole world goes on holiday, so book early. Having said that, we just booked a return flight to Italy in November for under \$2000 on a good airline with great connections... the benefit of travelling in low season.



If you are planning a trip overseas in 2024, I would recommend that you research now, and book in your flights. Generally, if you are booking a holiday the airlines want full payment within a few days of booking, however most accommodation, cruises, car hire and sightseeing we can book and deposit, and the balance is due closer to your departure date. Be careful with cheap airfares: several airlines are introducing 'basic' fares which may not include luggage, you may not be able to change and they are probably non-refundable. Flights can be booked up to 11 months prior, and we recommend that you book your return to Australia at the same time to ensure the best fare; on the whole international return flights are cheaper than two one-way fares.

Several of the cruise and touring companies are offering great deals for travel in 2024. Book and deposit now for travel in 2024 and you can make great savings. Locally, companies APT and Scenic are offering river cruises with free flights to Europe, other companies are offering good discounts.

What are the most popular destinations? Europe is hugely popular with travel from April to October; I always suggest skipping July and August when the whole of the northern hemisphere is on holiday and the weather can be scorching. The odd thing about heat waves in Europe is that many hotels, hire cars and restaurants just aren't geared up for it, air conditioning isn't standard and the idea of refrigerated drinks isn't common!

South America is also popular, especially Antarctica. This wonderful destination is varied, exciting and addictive. My first trip was to Buenos Aires and Patagonia about 15 years ago and I have returned time and again to discover more of this diverse region of the world.

The Arctic and Northern Europe are also on the bucket list. Northern lights in the winter months and 24hr daylight in the summer months – these delightful countries are less busy with lower populations, and very welcoming.

Japan seems to be on everyone's list and understandably. Just remember Japan is not like South East Asia: the price tag is high and not everyone speaks English. Guided tours and cruises are a great way to discover the islands and mainland, and we are finding more people exploring further, or even taking escorted wilderness walks.

Egypt is also a really popular destination – if it appeals to you, please get in touch. I am planning a small group to Jordan and Egypt in late October and November 2024!

Buying Now

Mike & Nate Cornish will be travelling to the Scenic Rim and Ipswich areas for **5 days only from Monday, 18th September, to Friday, 22nd September**. We want to buy your unwanted items listed below. Please visit us at one of the venues shown on the back for an on the spot appraisal.

If you live outside the area, have too many items to bring in or would like a home visit, **phone Nate on 0426 820 646 NOW** to arrange a time.

These events are often compared to the 'Antiques Roadshow' on TV, but without the long queues. **Don't miss this opportunity!**

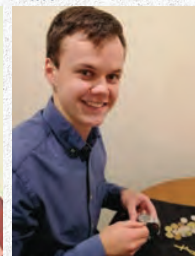
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Mike



Nate



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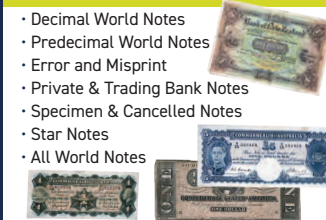
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18TH SEPT

The Club Beaudesert
(Function Room)
10:00am - 1:30pm
23-25 William St,
Beaudesert

Home Visits
1:30pm - 6:00pm
Phone 0426 820 646
For a Home Visit

TAMBORINE
TUESDAY
19TH SEPT

Club Tamborine
(Main Club Area)
10:00am - 1:00pm
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Tamborine Mountain

Home Visits
1:00pm - 6:00pm
Phone 0426 820 646
For a Home Visit

JIMBOOMBA
WEDNESDAY
20TH SEPT

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St, Jimboomba

Home Visits
1:30pm - 6:00pm
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For a Home Visit

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THURSDAY
21ST SEPT

North Ipswich Bowls
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10:00am - 1:30pm
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22ND SEPT

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The Tamborine Mountain Bushrats' Mick Shutte Award for Club Person of the Year 2023 went to Rebecca Leitner, here receiving the award from Alick Kilsby at last Saturday's Presentation Day held at the TM Showgrounds.

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Councillor's Comment



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. Please note my comments are written several days prior to the printing of this paper.

The “water issue”: It may seem that a simple solution to what is potentially going to be an issue for residents reliant on tank water in coming months would be for Council to approve extraction from new locations purely for local supply. Council is aware of the supply issues. For those who recall the many and lengthy Planning and Environment Court appeals relating to Power Pde, there can be unintended consequences to what starts out as a well-intentioned application and approval. The legal costs footed by Council (read ratepayers) were horrendous.

The Alpine Terrace footpath and handrail: Total cost to date: \$746,893. There remains \$41,648 in the budget for minor adjustments and landscaping between the footpath and the road. Unfortunately, there is no magic wand to fix the unsightliness of the handrail, although I have made some simple suggestions which would reduce its spartan and confronting appearance. I have had more contacts and comments in relation to this than any other matter.

Out and About: State Government Shaping SEQ in-person consultation session conducted in a talk to a planner format on 7 Sept. 2023. This was an opportunity for residents (and Councillors) to have one-on-one discussions with a planner re-shaping the future growth of South East Qld: “As Qld continues to grow, the Qld Govt is updating the plan in response to our growing and changing region to enhance our communities in a sustainable way”. I raised the issues of State Government-driven population growth without the provision of necessary infrastructure to support such growth including public transport, jobs, inland rail, a permanent solution to Canungra’s water supply issues, no restrictions on new housing being used as other than dwellings (e.g. Air B’n’Bs), the impact of visitor numbers on Tamborine Mountain and the lack of rental properties which impacts on the ability to attract and retain workers in the region. Growth for growth’s sake will – in my opinion – lead to increased social issues. Read further and have your say at www.qld.gov.au/shapingseq – submissions close 20 September.

Congratulations to the Tamborine Mountain Scout Group on the official opening of its Heritage Den on 10 September 2023, which has been many years in the making. The building has been relocated and repurposed, providing a permanent home for local scouts. Historical photos and youth member achievements were on display and the building has been named *The Fay Schulz Building*, in honour of one of many tireless volunteers. Cr Jeff McConnell (Division 2), former Crs Vanessa Bull and Nigel Waistell and I were thrilled to attend the opening, and it was good to see the site enhancements made in collaboration with Landcare.

Tamborine Mountain College held its Arts Fest on 9 September which featured drama and music showcase performances, art displays and workshops and a great musical “*Winnie the Pooh*” (performed by primary students and which was two semesters in the making!). So good to see engaged teachers and students and also that artistic abilities are nurtured and developed... and ‘thank you’ to Archie for being our enthusiastic guide on the day!

Topics of concern raised recently: parking/safety issues outside businesses caused by lack of on-site parking, Council’s pump-out of public toilet facilities, building envelopes, use of private certifiers and the fact that works signed off by them are not publicly visible on Council’s website, Shelf Road issues, stolen and damaged rubbish bins, Air B’n’Bs (noise, parking) and an increase in barking dog complaints. When investigated, it is often found that the dogs are unregistered.

Tourist accommodation: Council has recently released a fact sheet which provides information for those contemplating tourist accommodation development options: [Community Advice Templates re Scenic Rim Planning Scheme 2020](#)

Another day, another OIA complaint: misconduct this time. Good to see that my (what I thought were private and confidential) phone conversations are the subject of such a degree of scrutiny.

Please note: I do not give permission for any calls made either to or from my Council-provided phone to be recorded.

“Do No Harm”

Amanda Hay
Division 1

Scott BUCHHOLZ MP
Federal Member for **Wright**

Working for Wright

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- ☎ 07 5541 0150
- ✉ scott.buchholz.mp@aph.gov.au
- 🌐 scottbuchholz.com.au
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Authorised by S. Buchholz, Liberal National Party of Queensland, 21 William Street, Beaudesert QLD 4285.

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SUPER BLUE MOON IN FOCUS

Like it had been scripted for high drama, the heavy cloud, rain and hail all magically cleared in time to reveal the rare Super Blue Moon in all its glory.

It rose majestically into the sky above the 100 plus crowd that had gathered at The Cauldron to witness the spectacle, to the strains of *Blue Moon* sung by TMU Assoc. President and singer Deborah Sykes.

The Super Blue Moon phenomenon, which won't return again until 2037, could be seen quite clearly with the naked eye, but there were a number of telescopes set up to help bring this spectacle into sharper focus.

From the delicious BBQ, to information about analemmas, the strong turnout literally ate it all up! We were proud to work with great local produce from the Eagle Heights Bakery, Eagle Heights Butcher, Foodworks, and Joseph the Greengrocer in Main Street.

Graham Violett's presentation on what an analemma is, and how they work, was excellent, and it was fascinating to learn more about these ancient sundials.

Huge thanks to local musician Dane Sharp (*pictured at right*) who gave up his time to provide entertainment, as did Guy & Bernie, with acoustic support during the evening.

We must also thank the team at The Cauldron for allowing us to use their venue, and of course everyone who came along on the night to support this wonderful community project. With your patronage, the Tamborine Mountain Universe will continue to Aim for the Stars.

If you would like to become involved, please visit www.tamborinemountainuniverseinc.com.au



Explore the project and find links to Membership applications and upcoming events.

As for the star of the show, thank you for shining so brightly on us all. For the keen moon watchers, remember that while it won't be another Blue Moon, there will be a fourth Supermoon this season, with the last one appearing on 29 September.

Happy skygazing!

The Tamborine Mountain Universe Events Committee

Photos courtesy of Bjorn Schmal Film and Media – www.bjornschmal.com



TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN BUSHRATS PRESENTATION DAY



FORMER COUNCILLOR COMMENTS

These are my personal opinions. I am happy to share them with ratepayers and residents to keep our community informed on local political issues and to assist in forming their views on these matters in the interests of the democratic process and to consider how you might vote in the Local Government elections just six months away and the state election later in 2024.

Life after the Council

It's been over five months since I was forced to resign from representing you when it became implausible to continue because of the time spent dealing with the barrage of unsubstantiated complaints coming from Senior Council Management, some elected Councillors, and the Mayor, who disliked me calling out what I allege as maladministration and dishonesty in the organisational culture, and keeping you informed as an experienced local government practitioner and politician. Remember the 75 complaints against me, when most were dismissed by the OIA regulator, with no validation, and the others likely decided for personal political reasons. I now have more time to provide critical insights into how the Council, which costs you a lot of money in rates, is performing.

Tom Sharp announces his run for Mayor

I was pleased to read that Tom Sharp will run for Mayor in the next election. Tom ticks all the boxes to be a good mayor for the region. He is intelligent, considered, has the right attitude and values, and comes from a lot of local government experience in his family history. His grandfather and father have served the region well over many decades in the former much larger Beaudesert Shire.

Tamborine Mountain and other areas in the Scenic Rim need to catch up in many amenity areas

I've enjoyed the last six months and have been fortunate to have travelled thousands of kilometres by land, sea, and air in Queensland and NSW, and visited many smaller towns and cities. One thing that has stood out like a sore thumb is how lacking Tamborine Mountain (Queensland's top tourism Town) is in bikeways and pedestrian pathways compared to towns and Councils of less than half our size. Our council has been shortsighted and failed us terribly. We have a massive opportunity to benefit tourists and locals with signature walkways that capture our escarpment views. The return on investment would generate more economic and local value than, say, the Council's proposed largest-ever Beaudesert investment of over 25 million dollars in a library that's larger than many of Woolworths' largest city stores (yes, and even provides toilets for the general users, would you believe!) and surrounding parkland (I call it "Southbank in Beaudesert").

Council Budget

Well, it's rates time again, and I was dismayed that such a lousy budget could be adopted, with an over 7%-plus average increase. I'll have more to say about this in coming columns. We have some inflation now, but that's not the point. If you can't spend last year's money and the year before and often the year before that, and the unspent cash keeps accumulating, it is unethical and wrong to keep the hand out to ratepayers for more. When you recently had up to 70 unfilled staff positions, and their answer is to create and fund more staff positions, our Council and its leadership have a real problem. Cash keeps piling up as they support new staff yearly and fund the same staff quotas. And guess what? Any surplus is not likely to be spent and can find its way into funding consultants under delegated authority to the CEO, without the Councillors knowing.

Rates comparison to Gold Coast City Council.

No doubt households are feeling the pain of having just paid their Council rates. Please look at the attached graphic: it compares my Scenic Rim rates to those of the Gold Coast City Council.

Over 12 months, I would have an additional \$1,792.56 to spend on my family, ease the cost-of-living pressures, or inject into the local economy.

I know your property may differ in size from mine; many are less than 5000 square metres, and others larger. Let's be very generous and say the average owner-occupied household would save \$1200 annually if in Gold Coast City Council. Approximately 3400 dwellings in our postcode would mean an extra, likely, 4.6 million dollars in your pocket and the local economy annually. Now, that's actual economic development.

Gold Coast option not forgotten

A robust household plebiscite survey showed that 65% of residents on Tamborine Mountain thought we should be in the Gold Coast City Council because that's where our community of interest is.

Let's talk to all the political parties before the next state Government elections and get their responses on the record. It's time to address the issues, including our inequitable and dysfunctional Council. Your views, as do the merits of this proposal, need to be considered. The current state government minister dismissed it arbitrarily. That's not good enough: we must remember it at the ballot box early next year.

Alternatively, a transformational change at the next local government elections in six months may be the next best thing, and provide more professionalism and certainty for our town and the whole region.

See the rates comparison workings that follow.

Derek Swanborough Former Councillor



Comparison of Annual Rates - Scenic Rim to Gold Coast 2023/24

All data sourced from budget documents of both Councils - Residential valuation at my property

Gold Coast City Council		Gold Coast City Council		ANNUAL	ANNUAL	
Separate Rates	Amount	General Rate	Valuation	Rate	Total	All Total
Fixed Rates per property		Valuation		Cents in \$		
Open Space Pres/Koala	\$58.50	Cat 1A				
Recreational Space	\$29.00	Owner Occupied	\$565,000	0.0030562	\$1,726.75	
City Transport Improvement.	\$190.00					
Volunteer Fire Brigade.	\$2.00					
Recycling	\$10.80	Less Discount 10%			\$172.68	
Wheelie Bins and Tip use etc'	\$322.84					
	\$613.14				\$1,554.08	\$2,167.22
Scenic Rim Council		Scenic Rim Council				
Separate Rates		General Rate				
Fixed Rates per property		Valuation Cat 1				
Community Infrastructure	\$550.00		\$565,000	0.005436	\$3,071.34	
Wheelie Bins and Tip use as applicable	\$492.00					
		Less Discount 5%			\$153.57	
Totals	\$1,042.00				\$2,917.77	\$3,959.77
Difference between GCCC and SRRC rates, charges and wheelie bin service.						\$1,792.56
Excludes State Government Emergency Mangt Levy'						
Percentage greater than GCCC rates						82.71%

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18



SCOUT DEN RELOCATION SIGNALS A NEW ERA FOR MOUNTAIN SCOUTING

Sunday, 10 September 2023 saw the official opening of the newly relocated Heritage Den at Hartley Road.

Proceedings started at 4pm with the Scenic Rim Town Cryer, Lord Sydney Norman bringing all to order with the ringing of his bell.

District Commissioner Steve Marshall gave a short speech, then Leader in Charge Woody (Stuart McConaghy) took over.

The building has been named ‘The Fay Schulz Building’ in honour of all the hard work Fay put into the building. She applied for 38 Grants – successful in 28 over the last 4 years, and dealt with builders, tradesmen, Council applications and approvals, Scout Head approvals and TMSA approvals. A band played long after dark and everyone enjoyed the cake, afternoon tea and sausage sizzle.

History of the building – now over 100 years old.

In the early 1920’s “Darena” Holiday Flats were built on land that is now the North Tamborine Police Station and the Vonda Youngman Community Centre. The Bland sisters owned these flats in the early days. There was a Building at the front of the site where the owners lived and ran the Flats from. This building is now the Scout Den, relocated from the rear of the skatepark and Community Centre in 1980 and now to Hartley Road at the rear of the Sports Association, and part of TMSA since 2021.

Darena Holiday Flats were later renamed “Sunny Mount” Flats. There was a bauxite mine on Geissmann Oval. In the late 1970’s the mine closed down and the flats all disappeared; whether they were pulled down or trucked off site is unsure. The State Government and Beaudesert Shire Council acquired the site, constructing a Police Station

and Community Centre, and the Sporting Oval, all very much needed on Tamborine Mountain at that time.

The Scout Den is one of the last remaining buildings pertaining to the huge accommodation industry on Tamborine Mountain in the early days of Mountain history.

History of Scouts on the Mountain

The first Scout Group on the Mountain was formed in 1933. One of the first Scout Dens was a hollow tree on Geissmann Street. The Group ran for several years until the leaders were called to war in 1941. On 6 February 1939, sub 2 of Andrew Wilson’s land was purchased by local schoolteacher Reginald Bartlett, and donated to the Scouts in memory of his daughter Isobel.

Scouts started again in 1962 and by then, there was a small shed on the land at Geissmann Street in which to meet. The Leaders, Derek and Robin Lawton, were transferred away from the area in 1966, and again the Scout Group came to a halt.

The 1980s saw the Group re-ignited once more by locals who saw the need. Among these was Dennis Drysdale, who became the first warranted Leader at that time. After a few years of meeting in various places, including a cream shed and then the Guide Hall on Yuulong Road, the Council offered the Scout Group a space at Geissmann Oval and a building on Main Street that was marked for demolition. It was moved to Geissmann Oval. More local residents got behind the Scouting movement by forming a parent’s committee and others by training to become Leaders. Scouts thrived until 2004 when the Group closed once again.

After several years of seeking local interest, especially by Paul Lyons, a previous Tamborine Mountain Scout Leader, the Scout Group on the Mountain was re-formed on the 2nd of June 2016. Since that time, it has grown into a massive group of over 85 members.



Photos: bottom left: From left: The oldest youth member – Oscar White, youngest member – Henry Anderson, Treasurer Fay Schulz and Leader in Charge, Stuart McConaghy; top: Crs Jeff McConnell and Amanda Hay with Scouts Treasurer Fay Schulz; the assembled crowd for the ceremony; Fay with some of the girl members; above: the Den, and at left, the plaque honouring the efforts of Fay in making the relocation of the Den a reality.



clark+granger

MY TAKE ON THE LATEST GARDEN TRENDS

By Jez Clark
Principal - Clark+Granger

Stay ahead of the game with the latest landscape design trends

I'm just going to say it. Terracotta! Yes, terracotta has made a comeback. For too long, it has hidden away in the shadows of the 80's and dared not show its face in public. We have ripped it up and thrown it out. But now, its dusty warm shades are set to be big in both house and garden design trends. Pink has been with us for quite a while, and the lust for terracotta is just a natural progression of this trend.

watering or incorporating hardscaping elements, such as gravel or mulch, to reduce the need for regular weeding.

We are looking to reconnect to nature more, and the garden is the obvious place to do this. There is a real shift from the more formal garden styles we have seen, such as the Hamptons Movement, and a desire for more natural settings where plants can sprawl and self-seed.



To the above, we can certainly add the Kitchen Garden. I think every one of my clients is looking to grow their own produce in some form or another. This is all part of the desire to reconnect to nature and to have a productive garden with produce-to-plate benefits.

If we take of this and amalgamating these trends, I see the emergence of a new, stylised cottage garden. Traditionally, the cottage garden comprised a delightful mixture of colourful flowers, a vegetable plot, a herb garden, and perhaps some chickens on a rough patch of grass – all great for biodiversity and insect life. The 21st-century cottage garden does all this and more, increasing biodiversity by introducing different planting zones, from a nutrient-poor gravel area to mixed beds, from a mini-meadow to a compost-rich vegetable plot. Productive, colourful, and uplifting, this type of garden works as well for insects and wildlife as it does for you.

Terracotta and its close cousin brick, can be very evocative, reminding us of the Mediterranean, another hot trend. 'Going Greek' may be replacing 'Going Hamptons' as we shift to a more organic Mediterranean style with less structured plantings. Dusty, sandy neutral tones create a feel-good, summery palette, while natural pigments inspire harmonious earth tones. The colour terracotta instils a sense of relaxation and traditional handmade craft.

So, there you have it. Terracotta is back, sustainability is in, and the cottage garden is making a grand return – a horticultural renaissance for the ages! Get ready to embrace the warm, earthy tones of terracotta and watch your garden go wild with eco-friendliness.

Visit Clark+Granger at www.cplusg.com.au or phone 0456 111 120 to find out more.

This leads me to one of the biggest trends in landscape design for 2023: a focus on sustainability. With more and more people becoming aware of the impact of human activity on the environment, there is a growing interest in creating outdoor spaces that are not only beautiful but also eco-friendly. There is a growing shift away from the manicured toward the wild and naturalistic styles. Going native saves water, increases our natural biodiversity, attracts native birds, and helps to connect us to the natural world.

Historically, hard landscaping, evergreens, and shrubs have provided a backbone for more fluid plantings of perennials and annuals, but the modern urban backyard embraces a more organic flow of drifts of plants, self-seeded surprises with ground cover planting to minimise maintenance.

Going native can also help reduce maintenance, and using plants that are drought-resistant and require minimal



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Screen printing beginner classes have started, join one now for access to the freestyle screen printing workshops.

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TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN LIBRARY NEWS

by Friends of Tamborine Mountain Library

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OUR STAFF BOOK CHOICE: *The Butterfly Collector* by Tea Cooper



1868 Morpeth: Theodora Breckenridge, still in mourning after the loss of her parents and brother at sea, is more interested in working quietly on her art at the family's country estate than she is finding a husband in Sydney society, even if her elder sister Florence has other ideas. Theodora seeks to emulate prestigious nature illustrators, the Scott sisters, who lived nearby, so she cannot believe her luck when she discovers a butterfly never before sighted in Australia.

With the help of Clarrie, her maid, and her beautiful illustrations, she is poised to make a natural science discovery that will put her name on the map. Then Clarrie's new-born son goes missing and everything changes. 1922 Sydney: When would-be correspondent Verity Binks is sent an anonymous parcel containing a spectacular butterfly costume and an invitation to the Sydney Artists Masquerade Ball on the same day she loses her job at The Arrow, she is both baffled and determined to go. Her late grandfather Sid, an esteemed newspaperman, would expect no less of her. At the ball, she lands a juicy commission to write the history of the Treadwell Foundation - an institution that supports disgraced young women and their babies. But as she begins to dig, her investigation quickly leads her to an increasingly dark and complex mystery, a mystery fifty years in the making. Can she solve it? And will anyone believe her if she does?

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

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

TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN BUSHRATS PRESENTATION DAY

Held on a glorious spring morning at the Showgrounds on Saturday 9th September, the Bushrats Presentation Day saw a strong turnout and community spirit in abundance. One of the highlights was Anton and Kirsty Laurich presenting the Matt Laurich Award to the member of each junior team best exemplifying the Bushrat spirit throughout the season. (photos 2 and 3)



EXERCISE – WHAT'S IT GOOD FOR? IT'S GOOD FOR EVERYTHING!



There are countless benefits to exercising at any age – these are some of the top five benefits for the older community:

1. Prevent Disease

All movement, even light exercise like walking, can be powerful at preventing disease. Physical activity can help prevent many common diseases, such as heart disease and diabetes. Exercise also improves blood and oxygen circulation, having a positive impact on the immune system.

2. Improved Mental Health

There is a long list of mental health benefits from exercise, from improved sleep to the release of endorphins (the "feel good" hormone). Exercise can act as a stress reliever and leave you feeling happy and satisfied. Exercising with a friend or in a group setting can also provide added mental health benefits from being social. There have also been links between exercise and improving sleep, which is especially important for older adults who can suffer from insomnia and disrupted sleep patterns.

3. Decreased risks of falls

Maintaining independence is vital for many older adults, however many are also at a higher risk of falls, which can be potentially disastrous for maintaining independence. Exercise improves strength and flexibility, which can help improve balance and coordination, reducing the risk of falls. Older adults can take much longer to recover from falls, so helping to prevent and avoid falls in the first place is critical.

4. Social Engagement

Joining a group fitness class can make exercise fun and create a social event. Maintaining social ties is important, to feel a sense of purpose and avoid feelings of loneliness or depression. Finding an exercise you love that you can do with others helps also prevent exercise from feeling like a chore, so you are more inclined to keep commitments to continue attending.

5. Improved Cognitive Function

Regular exercise can have a very positive effect on cognitive function, especially if fine-motor skills are fine-tuned and regularly incorporated. Improving cognitive function can have countless benefits, no matter at what age you start exercise.

Regular movement and exercise is great to incorporate into your regular routine. The benefits for any age are outstanding, and there is lots of research to show regular exercise can prevent disease, lower the risk of falls, improve mental health and well-being, strengthen social ties and improve cognitive function. If you are looking for a great place to start for motivation you can join a Main Fitness personal trainer lead class every Thursday morning, 9am at Tamborine Mountain Community Care – 5545 4968.

Geoff Marshall



TUNING INTO YOUR INTUITION

We've been doing a yoga breathwork fusion intensive

the last couple of weeks. Breathwork targets different parts of the body and brain and I often ask my students to pay attention, in the days following the class, to their dreams, their feelings and their lives and to see what comes up. It's a yogic thing, paying attention to our intuition and our feelings and not dismissing them as trivial or not important. This intuition, which many people call living from the heart, applies to people, words, media and situations. When you consult your heart, ask the questions: Does it feel good or wrong? And if wrong, why? What feels off?

We are all equipped with an intuition that is potent, trustworthy, and impeccably attuned to truth and our true path. It's a really honest way to live and it's how our ancestors survived for thousands of years. It's only in the last 100 years or so we learned to trust the "experts" and have forgotten to trust ourselves. It's also an indication of societal demise. In childhood, you needed a primary someone to invest in you to give you the confidence and self-esteem to trust yourself. If you never got that and childhood was stressed, hurried, dominated by "experts," medicated and schooling was a production line, then this instinct would not come naturally.

So how do we grow this intuition and start to live from our hearts? Spending time in silence is a great start. Once you slow the chatter in your head you'll be surprised on how much you actually know. Practice using all five senses, in every situation – doing this can raise your sensitivity to your sixth sense. Pay attention to your dreams - when you are sleeping, your cognitive mind rests and this opens space for the subconscious mind to signal you in dreams.

Get creative – this also quiets the cognitive mind and allows your intuition to speak up. Test your hunches – write them down and check them later to see how often you were right. Consult your body. When something feels dodgy, how does your body respond? Does it feel light or heavy? Do you feel sick in your gut or headache-y? It could just be the result of the stress response, but it could also be your intuition ringing loud and clear.

Get into nature – nature is the ultimate truth. Pay attention to the rhythm of the seasons and how nature responds instinctively. Align with your values – learn what it feels like to behave in alignment with your values and you'll start to sense your intuition more clearly. Because when you're betraying your values, you'll learn what intuition doesn't feel like. And come and join us in Yoga class. You'll never ignore your body or your intuition again!

Margot Wagner
Yoga Under the Bodhi Tree

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

Relationships



THE GIFT OF SELF

A man made an appointment with his GP because he was concerned something was seriously wrong with his health. He explained to the doctor that his whole body was in pain. "When I touch my head, it hurts; when I touch my stomach it hurts; when I touch my arm it hurts; when I touch my leg it hurts." Immediately the GP diagnosed the problem "I know what your issue is. You've got a broken finger!"

Okay, I admit this story is not true, however, it illustrates a not uncommon scenario in relationships. Make a connection with someone, and after a while a conflict occurs. We form an opinion that the person has issues. We connect with someone else and further down the track, an offence happens. We decide to avoid that person from then on, because they've got baggage. And so, the story continues... without realising that the source of the hurt is not the other person but it's coming from within us.



When we bump against each other, we often expose the hurting parts of us that we didn't know were there. Our connections with one another are opportunities to discover more about ourselves. Relationships grow us. Without relationships we would not have the opportunity nor the motivation to grow and mature. Why would we need to mature if we were an isolated soul with no connections?

What do we bring to relationships? I remember the first time I had to pass a university practical counselling exam. Being observed counselling a client (an actor) who had a random issue was nerve wracking. I was very aware of being assessed but during the course of the conversation, I managed to put that aside and focus on the person in front of me. I didn't perform all the counselling techniques and strategies correctly, however, the feedback I received from my assessor was that I did the most important thing. I brought the gift of myself. At the time I didn't fully appreciate what she meant by that (who else would I bring?) but over the years I've come to realise how important it is to give the gift of myself to others. Give to someone the gift of being fully present. Here I am, you have my full attention. I want to be here with you. I want to know and understand you. I want to be truly authentic with you so you can know and understand me. That's true connection. That's giving the gift of your self.

If we don't have a healthy self to offer, we tend to shrink back from genuine connection. Think of relationships as an environment that provides opportunity to shine a light on parts of us that require attention. Harbouring hurts or feelings of unworthiness leak out in how we relate to others. Notice if you have any reactive behaviours. That's a signal that you need to take stock of your wellbeing. Only then will you be able to give your best self to others.

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

Physio Talk



with Jess Stinson

GREAT EXPECTATIONS

I am pleased to announce the safe arrival of our twins, who are now 7 weeks old. Finn Thomas and Harriet Grace Buckman were born on the 21st of July - two very different but very healthy and happy babies.

One of the most common questions I have been asked since their birth is, is it different to what you expected?

You are warned about the fatigue, the lack of time and the worry. You are also told how special it is, that you have never felt love quite like it and that you will marvel at new lives. Even with all the passed-on foresight I was never going to be completely prepared for wide awake babies at 3am, or two babies simultaneously crying. I was also not prepared for the profound joy that their individual personalities bring, the amazement at the small developments like smiles and coos and the simple awe of their existence.

It is very common to encounter concerns about not meeting expectations when I see women in the clinic post-natally. From early on in pregnancy, even before, the timeline of '6-week recovery' is bounced around and well known. The reason why, I am not sure. Perhaps because it is a time of rapid development of the babies as they transition out of the newborn phase, maybe because it is commonly a time for check-ins and checkups with health professionals or maybe it is because of social media and the posting of 'bounce back' photos. Whatever the reason, there is sometimes a misconception that by 6 weeks, a woman should be all good to go, she should be feeling well, lost any pregnancy weight gain, no longer concerned about her pelvic floor and jumping back into exercise.

The reality is that this is not always the case. Yes, some women with minimal birth complications both physical and psychological are able to return to exercise and reality seamlessly by 6 weeks. However, more commonly we are just not ready yet. The transition back into exercise should be gradual, measured and individual. It depends on many factors including type of birth, if there

are other kids running around, birth injury, how the baby is going and importantly, what the woman actually wants to return to. Pregnancy and childbirth is a massive accomplishment, one that we need to gently allow the body to recover from.

Aside from the physiological perspective recovery also takes concentrated time, this can be very difficult to find in the early days. Something I am more aware of than ever.

For me personally, I am gently returning to movement and exercise. I have definitely not been doing pelvic floor or core exercises every day. Instead, I am just trying to gently move my body, get outside for some fresh air and go for gentle walks. What we know is that recovery takes at least 6 months and more realistically 12 months to return to a 'pre-pregnancy' state of strength and endurance. Hopefully one day these will be the commonly cited timeframes when discussing recovery from pregnancy and childbirth.

As always it is important to approach this time individually, something as women's health physios we love to assist with. Make sure to get in contact with Bec, myself or Jacqui if you need guidance and support around this time, if you have passed the '6-week timeframe' it is not too late!



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10 Years Of Making A Difference



THANK YOU!

Hello, *Scenic News* Readers – this is a very exciting edition for me because it marks the first anniversary of the editor asking me to contribute to the Health and Wellness columns for this incredible community publication.

It was a year ago when I won multiple awards in the **Ausmumpreneur Awards** and a finalist for many other categories. When the editor was incredibly supportive, and shared that news and my achievement with you all, I was shocked and grateful.

Thank you to Andrew for shining a light on my success, thanks to you readers for flipping the page and reading what I have put together, to the businesses including Edge Hairdressing for supporting me and the readers who have become customers. Thank you. Those two words might be said frequently but know that it is sent with an abundance of gratitude and a big smile.

And here we are, a year later and all those incredible moments have become memories. Since then, I have furthered my efforts in developing our farm and living off-grid. And continue to research new Australian natives to support our health and well-being.

And in the last year, like many people, I've had some pretty tough moments. Loss, doubting my abilities, trying to parent, be a wife,



BEAUTY & WELLNESS



with *Rebecca Mander*

be a friend, be a business owner, be a community contributor, be a functioning human – gosh it's been a challenge. And what you can take away from that is that for every moment I experience, I consider how I can embrace them and serve you.

Take for example the Box Breathing column: I was having panic attacks – it was affecting many aspects of my life. But I reached out, spoke up and got support. And shared it here.

My family suffers respiratory issues – I researched and shared what has worked for us and the simple home remedies that might support you. And shared them here.

Every column I produce is with gratitude and with intention.

And with that said, I'd love to hear from you – what's your biggest moment – high or low from the last 365 days? If you're willing to share, I would love to hear about it. Feel free to contact the editor or reach me direct on Instagram and DM the @naturallycos page.

I take being a columnist and contributor seriously, and I'm genuinely honoured that I have that opportunity to connect with you.

Before I leave you for this edition, I will say that when you experience moments of success (whatever that looks like for you), embrace and enjoy it. Don't rush though it to the next thing. Bask in the beauty of that joy. It won't last forever but remembering that feeling and holding onto it is utterly divine.

As always, spread kindness like it's jam on toast.

Rebecca – Naturally COS




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TRIVIA

ROCKS IN YOUR HEAD



1. Which rock is commonly known as "liquid rock" in its molten state?
2. What mineral is the primary component of drywall or plasterboard?
3. Which type of rock is created by the cooling and solidification of magma or lava?
4. Which rock type is formed by the deposition and subsequent cementation of mineral and organic particles?
5. What is the hardest mineral known to man?
6. Which mineral is frequently used in making pencils?
7. Which type of rock is created by heat and pressure applied to existing rocks?
8. What is the common name for the mineral beryl when it's green and transparent?
9. Which rock floats on water due to its porous nature?
10. Which mineral is also known as 'fool's gold'?
11. In which type of rock would you commonly find fossils?
12. What mineral is known for its ability to scratch glass and has a rainbow-like luster?
13. What is the primary mineral found in granite?
14. Which rock is commonly used in making statues and buildings due to its soft nature when freshly cut?
15. Which mineral is the primary source of lead?
16. Which rock forms at the bottom of oceans and lakes from the accumulation of silt and other fine particles?

Answers p35

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7. Metamorphic rock
8. Emerald (above)
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