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Scenic

# News

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

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## CHRISTMAS STORM PRESENTS A STERN TEST OF COMMUNITY



A set of powerful thunderstorms – which some weather experts described as a tornado – swept in from the west on Christmas night, leaving a trail of destruction up to four kilometres wide across the Gold Coast hinterland, with Helensvale, Oxenford, Upper Coomera, Cedar Grove, Jimboomba, Tamborine Mountain and Tamborine sustaining most of the most damage. Many on the mountain were without power and water for up to two weeks – some services in the area are still to be restored. Photo: Division 1 Councillor Amanda Hay and Member for Scenic Rim Jon Krause surveying some of the damage. Story and pictures page 3

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Property of the week

**SALE** 3 2 3 7.89 ha

**83 Bateke Road, Tamborine Mtn \$2,000,000 Offers**

Hidden away from the outside world

- Large living areas, covered balcony plus patio with GC views
- Separate studio, cathedral ceilings, toilet, kitchenette, own water tank and septic, full length deck
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**A big thank you**  
When your world is turned upside down, life can feel difficult and with the recent events on the Mountain, and the devastation that has occurred it can be hard to see the light at the end of the tunnel.... But when you live in a community like Tamborine Mountain, you are never alone. There has been an overwhelming amount of support, help, and good ole fashion neighbourly commaradarie to get things up and running again. Well done all!  
Energex, electricians, tree specialists and clean up crews, what you have achieved in a short period of time has been remarkable, thank you for your effort and dedication to getting the job done.



**SALE** 4 2 4 4,005m<sup>2</sup>

**17-21 Romana Court, Tamborine Mtn**

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**SALE** 3 1 - 1,012m<sup>2</sup>

**156 Long Road, Tamborine Mountain**

- Located in the heart of town
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# 2023 A CHRISTMAS TO REMEMBER - A COMMUNITY COMES TOGETHER

**Starting at Flagstone or Cedar Vale (near Jimboomba) before 9pm and lasting for something over 30 minutes, what is now thought to be a variety of tornado-like activity swept through from the west, blasting Tamborine, Tamborine Mountain, Upper Coomera, Oxenford, Helensvale through to Paradise Point – the damage pointing to evidence of wind gusts at anything up to 200 kilometres per hour. Sadly, a life was lost at Helensvale, but given the ferocity of the storm, it is possibly miraculous that personal injuries were not more extensive.**

Property damage, on the other hand, will take some time to fully assess, but Minister for Fire and Disaster Recovery Nikki Boyd said more than 3,200 structures – including public infrastructure like roads and bridges – had been damaged by the storms, including nearly 1,000 homes and businesses across the Gold Coast, Logan and Scenic Rim, with 145 severely damaged houses and 10 destroyed houses.

The Queensland Reconstruction Authority said Helensvale, Oxenford, Upper Coomera, Cedar Grove, Jimboomba, Tamborine Mountain and Tamborine were the suburbs with the most damage. State Emergency Service volunteers had received more than 5,600 calls for assistance shortly after Christmas, and the Australian Defence Force was called in to help with clean-up. Energex stated that 100 power poles and more than 50 kilometres of power lines were brought down and had to be replaced – on many parts of Tamborine Mountain, the electricity grid was essentially damaged beyond repair and will have to be completely rebuilt; some 20 kilometres of power lines were destroyed.

An extraordinary community effort followed – with groups and individuals knuckling down to making sure people were provided with at least the basics – generators were possibly the most sought after essential item, to allow access to a few basic functions such as getting water and keeping food cold.



Local representatives Councillors Amanda Hay and Jeff McConnell, State Member Jon Krause (who was instrumental in helping to arrange the generator powering the Eagle Heights shopping precinct as well as spending many hours with shovel and chainsaw) definitely earned the respect of the community with their hands-on involvement at a trying time for all.

We will attempt to feature stories from the past few weeks in our next edition – for now, perhaps some images will best convey the scope of the destructive effects of the storm, and the community's robust response. It's a credit to all that under some extremely trying circumstances, tempers were (largely) kept in check, and the overwhelming spirit on display was that of selflessness and cooperation.

If you have any stories from the storm and its aftermath, we would be happy to hear from you - please send an email to [info@scenicnews.com.au](mailto:info@scenicnews.com.au).

*Below: Jon Krause and Alick Kilsby on sandbag duty, and Mr Krause with Michael Ashley of Eagle Hts FoodWorks.*





## U3A OPEN DAY

Don't miss this annual event where you will be able to join a fantastic group of like-minded people, learn a new skill, broaden your knowledge or just enjoy the excellent social events we have.

- **When:** Friday 2nd February, 2024
- **Time:** 11.30 AM to 1.30 PM
- **Where:** Zamia Theatre

*Join us and have some fun!*

## TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN BRIDGE CLUB RESULTS

**THURSDAY (11-JAN-24)**

**NS 1. 62.08% GAYLE DONALDSON -  
DAVID DONALDSON**

**NS 2. 58.92% JENNY STRACHAN - EDDIE  
HEINEMEYER**

**NS 3. 53.08% HEIKE EDRICH - CAROLE COOKE**

**EW 1. 61.43% WENDY CHRISTIE -  
CHERYL FINLAYSON**

**EW 2. 60.57% SHEILA IRVINE-BROWN -  
MAX IRVINE-BROWN**

**EW 3. 59.50% MARIAN GIBBONS -  
SHEENA POLLOCK**

*Beginners Welcome - Contact Sheila 0407 451 973.  
Sessions Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu at TM Bridge Club  
Sports Ground, 400 Long Rd. [tmbridgeclub.org.au](http://tmbridgeclub.org.au)*



one small place on earth

## LOG CABIN CASE MOTH

*Psychidae species* – picket fence, Driscoll Lane.



Dwelling on the intriguing subject of animal builders, I have trawled through my images and found many examples of their work. I am keen to develop a series to reveal its variety and ingenuity, starting with the 11-storey precision construction of the log cabin case moth, which I photographed in April 2016. It is only about 1 cm high. Case moths spend most of their time in a silk-lined mobile home, to which they attach a variety of material and from which, only males emerge. The Saunders' case moth is the most recognizable species and can be found on the mountain. Its twig-covered bag may grow to more than 120 mm and can be seen attached to garden fences, hanging from trees, or crawling on the ground.

My heart goes out to those who have lost their homes or suffered property damage, in the most traumatic start to a year in the nearly 37 years I have lived on the mountain.

**Peter Kuttner**



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**Editor/Production: Andrew Nagy**

**0432 827 537**

**[info@scenicnews.com.au](mailto:info@scenicnews.com.au)**

**[editor@scenicnews.com.au](mailto:editor@scenicnews.com.au)**

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# ST GEORGE'S BAKE SALE HELP TOWARDS EMERGENCY RELIEF



The ladies at St George's Anglican Church will be baking up a SWEET storm just in time for the Saturday before Valentine's Day.

Get a cake for your sweetheart (or for yourself) February 11 from 8:00am. Some plants and jams will be available as well.

All proceeds from the cake sale go into our emergency relief fund.



The original date for the Community BBQ was revised when a torrential 500mm worth of rain came down in 24 hours, but the Tamborine Mtn Bushrats put on a fantastic event on the following Saturday, even though many were still caught up in securing their damaged property, and despite delays in having power reconnected. Alicke Kilsby (above) was a force of nature in his involvement – not just the BBQ event, but hands-on arranging the provision and filling of sandbags for those affected by the overwhelming rain. (photo: Gary Stubbs)

**Scott BUCHHOLZ MP**  
Federal Member for **Wright**

*Working for Wright*

- 21 William Street, Beaudesert QLD 4285
- 07 5541 0150
- scott.buchholz.mp@aph.gov.au
- scottbuchholz.com.au
- SBuchholzMP

Authorised by S. Buchholz, Liberal National Party of Queensland, 21 William Street, Beaudesert QLD 4285.



## TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN UNIVERSE INC. NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Tamborine Mountain Universe Inc (TMU Inc), also known as "Friends of TMU", shall be holding an Annual General Meeting

(AGM) on Saturday, 3 February 2024 at 4:00pm, at the TM Bridge Club clubhouse at the Sports Association Complex, 400 Long Rd, Tamborine Mountain QLD 4272. This meeting is open to all current members of TMU Inc (for TMU Inc business) and the general public.

The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

1. President's welcome and housekeeping
2. President's report
3. Treasurer's report and TMU Inc 2023 financial statement – for acceptance
4. Election of members to the Management Board for the 2024 year
5. General business
6. Update on TMU Inc projects – Sundial, Sun viewing
7. Presentation on new astronomy developments worldwide and possible TMU involvement

The current members of the Management Board will be standing down at the AGM and nominations are called for all positions on the Management Board for a one-year term. Eligible positions will be President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, plus 6 members without portfolio. Candidates need to be current members of the TMU Inc and the current Management Board members may stand for re-election.

Nominations need to be in writing, and signed, by an existing member of TMU Inc and signed in acceptance by the candidate. A nomination form will be sent to all current TMU Inc members for use, alternatively a written nomination may be submitted including the name and contact details of both the candidate and the person making the nomination, signed by both parties.

**Nominations can be submitted to the TMU Inc secretary by email to grahamviolett100@gmail.com.**

A list of accepted nominations will be provided at the AGM. Nominations may be accepted from the floor if there are insufficient nominations prior to the AGM, and provided that the candidate is present and confirms acceptance of nomination.

The meeting will close after informative presentations on the TMU Inc projects and worldwide astronomy progress.



07 5545 2522



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Community recovery

# Do you need assistance after recent weather events?

If you've been directly impacted by recent severe weather you can find financial assistance, Community Recovery Hub locations and other support services at [qld.gov.au/disasterhelp](http://qld.gov.au/disasterhelp)

**On the website you can also:**

- ✓ check your eligibility for assistance before applying for grants
- ✓ find out what information you need to complete an online grant application
- ✓ understand the next steps in the application process.

If you are unable to get online, you can call the Community Recovery Hotline on **1800 173 349** or visit a Community Recovery Hub.

Financial support is jointly funded by the Queensland and Australian Governments under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.



Australian Government



Queensland Government

Authorised by the Queensland Government, William St, Brisbane.

# INNER WHEEL HELPS OUT



Inner Wheel Australia and Inner Wheel Club of Gold Coast North teamed up with Eagle Heights FoodWorks at the weekend to provide sorely needed help for members of the storm-hit Tamborine Mountain community.

Inner Wheel gift vouchers worth a total of \$3500 – distributed by Beaucare at Vonda Youngman Community Centre – can be redeemed by recipients at Foodworks.

Inner Wheel Australia donated thirty \$100 vouchers and Inner Wheel Club of Gold Coast North donated ten \$50 vouchers.

Prior to providing the gift vouchers to Beaucare for distribution, the two Inner Wheel groups presented Foodworks owners Brenda and Michael Ashley with cheques for \$3500 to cover the voucher purchases.

Above, from left: Brenda Ashley, Barbara Hudson (Inner Wheel Australia), Jeanette Williams (Inner Wheel Club of Gold Coast North) and Michael Ashley.

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

*Fighting for our fair share*

07 5515 1100  JonKrauseMP

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

*Grand Chameleon*

5545 0365



**2024**

**What's Happening**

Every Thursday to Monday

**Café open 8am to 3pm** featuring great value food, full table service and regular live music on Saturdays and Sundays from quality local performers. Monday night dining from 4.30 to 8.30pm.

28th January Sunday

**8am to 12 noon** - Free and Live AUSTRALIAN music with Duane, Lady Vee, Lyric, Arianna, The Bellettes & The Offcuts, all around the grounds. Grab a BBQ snag from the BBQ or sit down for all day dining in our café. **12 noon to 3pm Australian Music Show with local musicians coming together for ONE show – The Grand Cobbers. Enjoy everything Australian, the menu, the show, a beer and a laugh – \$20 cover charge applies.**



11th February Sunday

**Fab-Feb-Jazz Afternoon.** The fabulous Kenny James Quartet featuring leading Jazz musicians, Maestro of music Jose McLaughlin on guitar & vocals, Trumpet virtuoso Peter Uppman, who also sings, and of course Kenny James himself on drums.

14th February Wednesday

**Valentine's Day** is very special. Book early, with two sittings, Lunch from 11.30 to 3.30 and Dinner from 5.30 to 8.30. Exceptional food and live music featuring love songs. Maybe a slow dance to spark a little romance.

16th February Friday

**Fine Dining Fridays** begin. Our exceptional menu offering quality and value for money, full table service with intimate live music. For a limited time, enjoy our complimentary pickup and return bus service – on the Mountain FREE, and \$20pp for Canungra, Tamborine Village and surrounding areas (where possible). Bookings Required.



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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.*



**What a way to end one year and start another!** I hope we never experience another Christmas and New Year like the one we have just endured. There are still people in our community who have not had power restored and who are unaware of the Commonwealth and State grants and other assistance available at this time. I ask that each and every resident take the time to check on their immediate neighbours if you have not already done so. Some residents may need transport to the community recovery hub at the Vonda Youngman Ctr to lodge grant applications. Thankyou to the Council staff who have worked tirelessly to provide an efficient service which improved over time. I will be nominating one stand-out staff member for an award – she knows who she is.

**Out and About:** The days since Christmas night are just a blur. I feel Councillors were under-utilised (if not indeed hindered by the lack of communication from the mayor – disappointingly, I have not had one phone call or email nor acknowledgement at the community briefings at the library) and we have learnt that community-led plans will need to be made to ensure we hit the ground running when the next disaster occurs. Thankyou to Scott Buchholz MP and Jon Krause MP who did manage to find the time to be in regular contact with me and who recognise the importance of local knowledge. Some people simply do not need a media crew presence to quietly get on with what needs doing. Areas where deficiencies were identified locally by me include:

- Lack of a co-ordinated approach to immediate checks on vulnerable people for example those reliant on electricity, CPAPs, medication which requires refrigeration etc. Local carers selflessly took it upon themselves to initiate checks on Boxing Day.
- No power effectively means no telecommunications/Wi-Fi/ internet thus announcements on Facebook could not be seen by the majority of residents. We need a more “old school” method of communication such as street captains willing to check on the local residents in their vicinity and report to a central location.
- The advent of a cashless society would further impact locals as without power there is no EFTPOS, no internet banking and also no teller machines.
- A delayed house-to-house check on all properties to check for injured/trapped/vulnerable residents.
- Residents’ lack of knowledge re generator maintenance. Many of the generators owned by locals were inoperable due to lack of regular attention, incorrect storage etc. There needs to be a local education campaign.
- Lack of awareness re what a lack of power means if you have a biocycle system.
- A lack of food waste disposal points once it was evident power would not be reconnected in the short term.

## The Good News:

- Community spirit – so many people have volunteered over the past 3 weeks and many have found the experience draining but rewarding, so much so that they have stated that they will continue to volunteer in the local community.
- Free community BBQ and food/supplies bank on 6th January – organised by the Bushrats. attended by an estimated 500+ people who appreciated a day out and some diversionary activities for the kids. Thankyou to all who volunteered goods, services or their time.
- Generator loan scheme local initiative – we will need to

formalise this assistance for the next disaster. Thankyou to Ange and Farid for all your efforts.

- Phenomenal response by Energex. The crews over-achieved in my opinion – I was expecting to be without power for weeks, given the extent of the damage to the poles and lines.
- SES and chainsaw-wielding volunteers cleared much of the debris on roads to provide single lane access on Boxing Day. Without this immediate response, checks on the occupants of severely damaged properties may have taken days rather than hours.
- Ongoing assistance from Disaster Relief Australia, a veteran-led disaster relief non-profit organisation - a highly organised team of volunteers which unites the skills and experience of military veterans (Australian and NZ) with first responders and civilian volunteers to aid disaster recovery operations around the world. We have had two teams of 60-80 personnel on the Mountain so far and their assistance has been invaluable. Our local chainsaw volunteer crew have been participating.
- State Govt support for small business – in addition to a presence at the hub, staff have been visiting as many businesses as possible to ensure that those affected by loss of power, trade, perishable foods and property damage are aware of the wide range of assistance available. Visit: [qsbcc.qld.gov.au/get-help](http://qsbcc.qld.gov.au/get-help). Our local Chamber of Commerce provided local knowledge and assistance – thankyou Anne.

**How to access grants:** Visit: [Eligibility for state grants and how to apply | Community support | Queensland Government \(www.qld.gov.au\)](#) You can also apply at the hub Monday-Saturday 9.00am to 4.00pm.



## SRRC First Ordinary Meeting of 2024:

24 January. This is the final meeting prior to entering caretaker mode prior to the election on 16 March. Councils cannot make major policy decisions during the election ‘caretaker’ period near the end of their council term that could bind future elected councils. They also cannot use Council communications such as newsletters to help the campaigns of current councillors standing for re-election. Councillors are also prohibited from making decisions about the appointment, remuneration or termination of the CEO so we should have some stability until the election results are announced.

**Court:** I have been “permitted to go at large without bail on the condition that I appear and surrender into the custody of the Magistrates Court on 16 Feb 2024.” This relates to my OIA matter and hearing dates will be set on that date. Who knew that sending an email to Council as a ratepayer in November 2022 in which I “expressed displeasure” could lead to a likely 3-day hearing and the need for a highly experienced barrister?

**For emergencies** (such as a tree over the road), which require Council support, please call 5540 5111. This line is monitored 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

**“The best indicator of future behaviour is past behaviour”**

I can be contacted on **0448 376 650** or via e-mail at [amanda.h@scenicrim.qld.gov.au](mailto:amanda.h@scenicrim.qld.gov.au)

**Cr Amanda Hay  
Division 1**



# COMMUNITY BBQ A HIT WITH RECOVERING MOUNTAIN RESIDENTS



Photos: Gary Stubbs

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF CANDIDACY 2024 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTION – 16 MARCH 2024 **AMANDA HAY**

your **local, self-funded** and **independent** candidate

**I formally announce that I will be a candidate for Scenic Rim Regional Council – Councillor, Division 1 in the upcoming election. I have advised the Electoral Commission of Qld of my intention to nominate.**

After much soul-searching, following what could only be described as a frustrating initial term as a Councillor since my election in the by-election in April 2023, I have decided, with the support of my partner Stuart, to gird my loins and seek re-election in the hope that the next term cannot be as difficult and challenging as the current term.

I have determined that the most important personal attribute any Councillor must have is the ability to work with others whilst recognising that there is no “I” in “Team” and that everyone is entitled to their contribution and opinion. I have that ability, however it has been mightily tested over the past nine months.

Hopefully, the next term of Council, regardless of who is elected, will not be marred by personality issues nor the need for the appointment of a State Government Advisor (at ratepayers’ expense) who was appointed – and then extended – to assist Council and Councillors in relation to governance areas, including conflicts of interest, inappropriate conduct matters and meeting procedure.

**I can be contacted on 0493 145 315 or via email at: [frangipani1956@msn.com](mailto:frangipani1956@msn.com)**

Authorised by: Amanda Hay, 13-15 Chalmette Dr Tamborine Mountain QLD 4272



# COUNCIL TRIALS PUBLIC EXCHANGE POINTS TO BOOST CONTAINER RECYCLING

Scenic Rim Regional Council has partnered with Container Exchange to launch a new pilot project aimed at boosting container recycling in the region.

Since 2018, Scenic Rim residents have recycled more than 38,500,000 drink containers generated from their homes and community groups through the Queensland Government's Containers for Change initiative.

However, due to a lack of drink container bins in public places, millions of recyclable containers are still going to waste across Queensland each year.

Scenic Rim Mayor Greg Christensen said Council's new project would aim to address this challenge through the installation of Containers for Change baskets on eight public bins across the region.



"Instead of disposing of an empty eligible container in a bin destined for landfill, residents and visitors can now place it in a Containers for Change basket," he said.

"The container can then be collected by another community member and returned to a nearby Containers for Change facility for the 10-cent refund, benefiting both the environment and the community."

Cr Christensen said Containers for Change baskets had been successfully trialled in other parts of Australia.

"We are excited to do our bit to continue the war on waste and help reduce unnecessary waste to landfill, while providing safe collection points for committed recyclers."

Container Exchange CEO Natalie Roach said more than 7.5 billion containers have been returned for recycling since Containers for Change began in November 2018.

"Queenslanders have embraced Containers for Change, but we know each year millions of recyclable containers are still going to waste across Queensland," Ms Roach said.

"Everyone one of those containers ending up in waste bins not only has an environmental impact but is also hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of 10-cent refunds ending up in landfill."

"A key driver of containers going to landfill is a lack of container collection bins in public spaces, which is why we are so excited to partner with Scenic Rim Regional Council for this trial."

"We want locals to share in the benefits of Containers for Change and add to the more than \$750 million in refunds paid out to individuals, households and community groups since the scheme began."

Eligible drink containers can be returned for 10-cent refunds at Containers for Change locations in Beaudesert, Canungra, Tamborine Mountain, and Boonah.

For more information, visit [www.containersforchange.com.au/qld](http://www.containersforchange.com.au/qld)

*Photo: Scenic Rim Mayor Cr Greg Christensen tries out one of Council and Container Exchange's new Containers for Change baskets.*



## Letters to the Editor

# TAMBORINE MOUNTAIN FACES ECONOMIC CHALLENGES POST- DISASTER: A CALL FOR COUNCIL SUPPORT

Tamborine Mountain finds itself in the throes of economic uncertainty following the recent Christmas Day storm and subsequent flooding event. These natural calamities add to the hardships already endured due to the lingering effects of COVID-19 and subsequent rising inflation. Amongst the residents, there is a prevailing question: What measures will the Scenic Rim Council take to support those affected?

I firmly believe that the Council holds the power to implement critical measures to aid the impacted community. One potential avenue is the passage of a rate relief resolution, allowing for relief packages to be provided directly to affected residents. Additionally, exploring options such as requesting the State Government to cover the rate bills for businesses and the Council subsidising residents, which would offer substantial relief. Plus mobilising the Council's workforce to aid in clearing individual properties and verges expediting the recovery process. Assist with tourism grants to help market and promote the region, without prejudice.

Rather than adopting a stance that pushes tourists away, the focus should be on embracing them and fostering a welcoming atmosphere. Reflecting on personal experiences, during a visit to Fiji after COVID, the hospitality staff expressed heartfelt gratitude for visitors, acknowledging the vital role they played in sustaining their livelihoods.

Similarly, Tamborine Mountain needs visitors to feel welcomed, encouraging them to spend a day exploring or opt for overnight stays, thereby supporting local accommodations and businesses. It is crucial to encourage locals to patronise local establishments, bolstering the resilience of the community. Businesses reliant on tourism, such as hotels, motels, tour operators, restaurants, wineries, distilleries, Gallery Walk, and Main Street shops etc., are integral components of the local economy and need collective support.

Encouraging community engagement and local spending will be pivotal in revitalizing the area's economy. By creating an inclusive and inviting environment, Tamborine Mountain can attract visitors, leading to increased spending and a much-needed boost for local businesses. A longer focus is to create sustainable tourism opportunities.

The Scenic Rim Council has an opportunity to lead in implementing supportive measures and fostering an environment conducive to recovery. Proactive efforts and collaborative action will be instrumental in restoring stability to our affected community and supporting our local economy. The council

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

must promote and use local trades and businesses and stop giving work to external ones.

In summary, concerted efforts aimed at offering relief to affected residents, embracing tourism, and promoting local commerce will play a crucial role in Tamborine Mountain's recovery journey.

**Alison Rip**

## THANKS TO ALL...

**Mountainous thanks to all those who got our community up and running after that memorable storm. Whether it be the hugely professional ENERGEX and SES from all over at one end of the scale, to a neighbour checking on next door, they all deserved huge credit and showed our Mountain at best. Due to limited physical resources, I was on the receiving end, so many, many thanks.**

It is probably now common knowledge that what hit us was so rare that it seems not to have a name in Australian meteorology. Known as a 'derecho' in the U.S. it is rare even there but can be extremely damaging. One in 2020 caused damage over \$US11 billion, far more than an tornado. Rather than being a rotating system like a cyclone or a tornado, they are linear, characterised by extremely unstable atmospheric conditions which produce a line of intense, long lived thunderstorm wind events. Ours seems to have put icing on the cake with embedded tornadoes sweeping away everything in their path. We were lucky on the plateau to have largely missed those.

Almost all of us have grown up with reliable and affordable electricity as a foundation for our way of life. It was part of the natural order of things. When a storm shows this is not to be necessarily true, there can be lasting mental impacts.

However, we might have to become accustomed to blackouts if the Government continues to pursue its target of 82% renewable within 6 years. The nonsense is that there is no sign of a coherent plan even to replace the present generating capacity as that is run down. As for the cost of delivered power from the renewables, with storage, backup, grid upgrade and subsidies all part of real cost...?

**Phil Giffard**

## WONDERFUL SUPPORT FOR MILLIE



**A large and generous community gathering turned out on December 17 for the fundraising event hosted by Tamborine Mountain's El Burro cantina in support of 23-year-old Millie Ingram in her fight against a rare form of cancer.**

By the end of the day a total of \$21,875 had been raised.

"With all our hearts we thank you. What a wonderful community we live in," said Millie's parents, Belinda and Andy Ingram.

All funds raised will go towards sending Millie to where groundbreaking treatments are available.

Food and drinks at the fundraising event were donated by El Burro, while other local small businesses and individuals donated raffle and auction prizes.

**Gary Stubbs**

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# COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS CELEBRATED IN AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS NOMINATIONS

Individuals, schools and community groups have answered Council's call to nominate the region's quiet achievers and unsung heroes for the 2024 Scenic Rim Australia Day Awards.

Some 26 nominations have been received, recognising the contribution of individuals and community events that are vital threads in the fabric of the Scenic Rim community, and judging is underway for the awards to be presented in conjunction with a citizenship ceremony on Friday 26 January.

Scenic Rim Mayor Greg Christensen congratulated all the nominees whose contribution to the community makes a difference in the lives of many.

"Council is grateful to everyone who has taken the time to nominate the individuals and community groups whose members give so much of their time in the service of others," he said.

"Many of the nominees have worked year-round over many decades, often in challenging circumstances, to make a positive contribution to our Scenic Rim way of life."

The awards will be presented in the categories of Citizen of the Year (16 to 30 years), Citizen of the Year (31 to 65 years), Citizen of the Year (65+ years) and Community Event of the Year.

"Everyone who has been nominated should be proud of the part they play in our community," Mayor Christensen said.

"Their example of service to others should inspire us all to give back, whether through local service organisations or sporting groups, or simply by being ready to lend a helping hand to others in need.

"I am very much looking forward to the awards presentation and to once again presenting the Mayor's Award to the most outstanding nominee from among the Citizen of the Year categories."

The 2024 Scenic Rim Australia Day Awards nominees are as follows:

#### Citizen of the Year (16-30 Years)

##### Matilda Bedford

Boonah State High School's Community School Captain of 2024, Matilda has helped build connections between the school and wider community. She has volunteered for local organisations including the Boonah Show Society and the Junior Show Society of which she is Secretary. Matilda has also been involved with the local Pony Club, as a coach of Fassifern Gymnastics, and has been involved with the Winter Harvest Festival as well as Queensland-based organisations such as Queensland Barrel Racing, Dogs Queensland, and the Quarter Horse Association.

##### Ruben Cadena

Ruben Cadena is regarded as an inspirational role model for Boonah State High School students and is the school's Academic Captain for 2024. A STEM ambassador, Ruben is also a drummer with the school's rock band and has contributed to local church and youth groups. Ruben was given the opportunity to study at Griffith University as a primary school student and is regarded by his school community as a young man who displays motivation and insight beyond his years.

##### Maddison Kimber

A competitive horse rider, Maddison is an eight-times Junior Barrel Racing Champion and has represented Australia internationally. In 2022 she was crowned Warwick Rodeo Princess

Congeniality. She also shows Australian Terriers and Irish Glen of Imaal Terriers and has achieved Best of Breed awards for both, most recently at the 2023 Ekka. Maddison is a sports prefect at Boonah State High School where she is regarded as someone who is always graceful in the face of a challenge.

##### Kokoda Mullaney

Kokoda competed in the Boonah Lions Youth of the Year competition, winning the Public Speaking and Overall Winner awards, and received a Finalist Award in the Kalbar competition. Boonah State High School's Captain of Culture, she is a keen public speaker who inspires other students. She is member of the school's rock band, playing a key role in recent musicals and, as a member of the local community, has volunteered at the Sunflower Festival.

##### Lillee Ploetz

A Boonah State High School prefect, Lillee is aiming towards a career in nursing and is a qualified Personal Care Worker who regularly assists at the Taroom Aged Care home. In addition to her work with the elderly, she is heavily involved in her school's extra-curricular activities including the Junior Show Society and Cattle Club. Lillee also plays touch football, for which she received three consecutive Most Valuable Player awards, and has participated in all school swimming and sports carnivals since Year 7.

##### Charlotte Stubbs

Charlotte was nominated as a quiet achiever who works tirelessly for the community and those around her. Tamborine Mountain College's School Captain in 2016, Charlotte won the Lions Youth of the Year Award and represented Australia in the United Kingdom at the 2017 Lions International Youth Camp. While studying law at Griffith University, Charlotte was a representative of the Law Students' Association and began volunteering at the My Community Legal free legal service where she continues to volunteer. Charlotte regularly assists at St George's Anglican Church's Sunday School and with church fundraisers.

#### Citizen of the Year (31-65 Years)

##### Justin Kummerow

Justin has dedicated six years of voluntary service to the Beaudesert Kingfishers, actively participating in committee roles and maintaining the grounds year-round. His leadership, vision, and commitment are evident through active participation in organisational aspects, league meetings, and securing community funding through grant applications, demonstrating a genuine dedication to the club as his second family. Despite juggling a full-time job as a school principal and family responsibilities, Justin's caring and proactive attitude has a lasting impact, fostering a sense of community and learning among the club's members.

##### Peter Rewko

Peter, a 30-year Australian Army veteran, has dedicated the last 23 years to the Scenic Rim. A practical environmentalist, Peter initiated projects like the Big Battery Rescue and Lids for Kids, fostering a social network of environmentally conscious individuals in and around Beaudesert. His commitment to community extends to his role as an auxiliary firefighter and his establishment of the Scenic Rim Veterans Group, showcasing his consistent leadership, resilience, and positive impact.

## Amy Livings

Amy transformed a local traveling coffee stop into a community hub, fostering a family-like atmosphere where people can gather and socialise. Despite personal challenges, she consistently delivers exceptional customer service with a smile at events, demonstrating resilience and dedication. Amy's unwavering commitment to maintaining high standards, her ability to overcome personal struggles, and her active support for community events make her deserving of recognition.

## Daniel McNamara

Daniel, a dedicated teacher in the Scenic Rim, has positively influenced countless students and is an integral member of the Beaudesert Theatre Group (BAMS), participating in numerous musical performances. His unwavering integrity and genuine passion for teaching make him a respected figure in the community, where he serves as a mentor and role model for both the youth and seasoned members of BAMS. Daniel possesses an exceptional commitment to education and the arts and consistently goes above and beyond to inspire and enrich the local cultural scene.

## Elizabeth Hills

Elizabeth is a dedicated wildlife rescuer, environmental leader, and advocate for suicide prevention, having walked 6,000km across Australia to promote mental health. Her deep commitment to community is evident in her involvement with the Wild Mountains Trust, Boonah Landcare, Kooralbyn Community Garden, and her volunteer work for the Lifeline suicide prevention hotline. Despite being originally from New Zealand, Elizabeth has made the Scenic Rim her home and over the past decade, has actively engaged with the community, inspiring students through the 'Kids of the Earth' program, and demonstrating a profound care for both nature and people.

## Elliott Platz

A former student of Boonah State High School, Elliott has made a significant contribution to the school since graduating through his dedicated volunteer work. This includes mentoring senior hospitality students, organising a gala dinner - including securing donations from local suppliers - and fostering positive connections between the school and the community. Elliott's patient and calm demeanour, along with his ability to empower students and build community support, has left a lasting and positive impact on the school.

## Ian Taylor

Ian has been an integral part of the Canungra community for over 25 years, serving 15 years as a Canungra auxiliary firefighter, holding the position of treasurer at Canungra RSL, and actively participating in ANZAC Day parades as an ex-serviceman and Navy veteran. Recently, he has dedicated significant time and effort to establish the Canungra Menshed where he serves as president, helping community members in need and organising first aid workshops. Despite facing health challenges including heart failure diagnosed at age 20, Ian remains an inspiration, embodying hard work, honesty, and generosity.

## Shane Murphy

Shane, a 25-year Australian Army veteran, played a key role in establishing the Scenic Rim Regional Cadets Inc., which aims to build character and community spirit in local youths. As a dedicated leader, Shane instils pride, honour, and a passion for community service among the cadets, serving as a role model and offering guidance. His commitment to inclusivity has contributed to the unit's significant growth and through his vision and strength of character, he has created a thriving not-for-profit youth organisation, impacting the lives of many.

## Lisa Green

Lisa demonstrates an unwavering commitment to the safety and rehoming of vulnerable dogs and animals, investing personal resources, time, and effort to prevent abandonment and homelessness. Her altruistic passion and selfless sacrifices showcase a true sense of compassion, making her a community superhero who prioritises the well-being of animals and people. Despite facing challenges and negativity in the animal rescue charity community, Lisa's bravery and resilience shine through, reflecting her motivation to provide a safe and happy life for even the most vulnerable animals.

## Citizen of the Year (65+ Years)

### Effie Anderson

Effie grew up on Tamborine Mountain and has contributed to her community over many decades through organisations including the Lions Club, Community Care, Show Society, Zamia Theatre and the Historical Society. In 1948, after winning 10 shillings in a competition to name what is now the Zamia Theatre, Effie gave her prizemoney to her mother and has continued to give to others ever since. Having been teased as a child for being 'coloured', Effie became a teacher, inspiring students in schools in Queensland with high Indigenous populations to see education as a way to overcome poverty, and was in Darwin when Cyclone Tracy ravaged the city in 1974.

### Pam Hargrave

A pioneer of the Scenic Rim's tourism industry, Pam has spent much of her life working tirelessly to promote the region and was appointed to the Tourism Queensland board by Premier Anna Bligh. She is also actively involved with local community groups such as the Barney View Church and Rathdowney Memorial Ground. Her hands-on community commitment is shown in her willingness to serve in the canteen on local market days and her project management of the recent significant upgrades to the memorial grounds.

### Paul Krahn

While not a Scenic Rim resident, Paul's focus during the past 12 years has been Tamborine Village and surrounding areas. At 87 years of age he is the most active member of the Tamborine Village Lions Club. A club member since 2011, he has served as Vice President once and President seven times, a position he currently occupies. Paul continues to contribute to projects, for example attending at 4.30am to set up for the Lions monthly markets and towing barbecue trailers to various fund-raising events.

### Tom Moore

As a volunteer, Tom Moore has entertained audiences around Beaudesert for many years and has often stepped in to assist when other performers have been unavailable. His singing and guitar playing has been enjoyed by audiences at the Wongaburra Home for the Aged, Beaucare, Centre Care, Blue Care, Senior Citizens and Whiddon Star. He has also entertained the Nashos and Legacy Ladies and has brought joy to many through his music and willingness to share his talents, receiving nothing in return except perhaps morning tea or lunch.

### Wayne Reiser

For the past 35 years, Wayne has volunteered his time to the Canungra Sports and Recreational Reserve Grounds, overseeing many projects and works that have benefited the Canungra Show and Rodeo. He was also at the forefront of establishing the popular camping site at the grounds which generates tourism and revenue for the township. Wayne has been an advocate for grants applications that have funded defibrillators for the local ambulance station and sports grounds, a new fire truck for the Rural Fire Brigade and

computers for Canungra State School.

## Charmaine Standfield

Since Charmaine started a 'Women's Shed' in Harrisville more than 10 years ago as a place for women to meet and socialise, the group has grown to more than 30 members and is still going strong. With new housing developments in town, the Women's Shed is a place for newcomers to make new friends and learn about the local area. Charmaine sources guest speakers for the group, organises excursions and projects such as knitting beanies for premature babies or for seafarers seeking support from the Mission to Seafarers organisation. She is known as someone always ready to lend a listening ear or helping hand.

## Community Event of the Year

### 2023 Gold Coast Junior Rugby League Grand Final - Beaudesert and District Junior Rugby League

The grand final event, which saw Gold Coast rugby clubs hosted within the region for the first time in several years, attracted over 2,000 people. The event organisers received many compliments about the town's community spirit and local rugby talent, which left a lasting impression on Gold Coast Rugby League. Many local businesses decorated their buildings in club colours, which demonstrates how this event brought Beaudesert together to support its local talent.

### Christmas in the Village - Tamborine Village Lions Club

This annual event has brought the community together since 2010 and serves as a way for the Lions to give back to the community that supports the club throughout the year. The event features Christmas carols, twilight markets, and even a visit from Santa on a fire truck. As a non-profit organization, the Lions engage in various community activities, including monthly markets, fundraising, and support for local and international projects, fostering a strong sense of community spirit in Tamborine Village.

### Harrisville Eat Street - Fassifern Bombers (Hayes Oval)

The inaugural Harrisville Eat Street attracted thousands of attendees to the otherwise quiet town, many of whom were first-time visitors from outside of the region. With a positive, family-focused atmosphere, the event not only garnered regional acclaim but also strengthened the bond among Fassifern Bombers' committee members, fostering a sense of community pride after its remarkable success.

### Bushrats Grand Final - Mount Tamborine Bushrats Football Club

This grand final brought together a large crowd who witnessed the sportsmanship of the club and Bushrats' team on full display. It fostered ongoing community enthusiasm for the Bushrats and contributed to the junior club's growth in popularity and size. The event's atmosphere was family-friendly, fun-filled, and reflective of a strong community spirit, promoting a healthy and inclusive outlet for all ages and abilities.

### Tamborine Mountain Show 2023 - Tamborine Mountain Show AH & I Society

The show serves as a mutual support system where the community and various groups assist each other through fundraising, activities, and collaborative efforts. Regarded by the local community as the region's premier show, the event fosters a sense of fun and togetherness, and is particularly enjoyed by children. The show society actively engages with other groups, providing donations for their assistance and offering prizes sourced from local businesses for competitions, creating a positive and supportive environment that brings the community together.

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## SCHOOL HOLIDAY EVENTS

### Articulated Claws

Wednesday 17 January 10am  
Challenge yourself to build an articulated claw using cardboard, straws and string.

### Reading Hour

Wednesday 17 January 4pm  
Chill out on our comfy cushions and listen to a story read aloud.  
Bookings required for both events

## SCHOOL HOLIDAYS KNITTING AND SEWING



### Knitting For Kids

Tuesday 16 January 1-3pm  
Join our knitting group these holidays and learn from the experts!

### Sewing For Kids

Thursday 18 January 2-4pm  
Drop into our fun sewing sessions for beginning and experienced young sewers.  
Bookings required for both events

## COMPOST IN A BOTTLE



### Tuesday 16 January 3:30pm

Learn about composting and worm farming with this fun activity.

Bookings required

## READING DRAGONS



## JPS AT THE LIBRARY



Due the recent natural disasters, there will be no JP service at the library until further notice.

Ask at the circulation desk for how to find a JP in the community.

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

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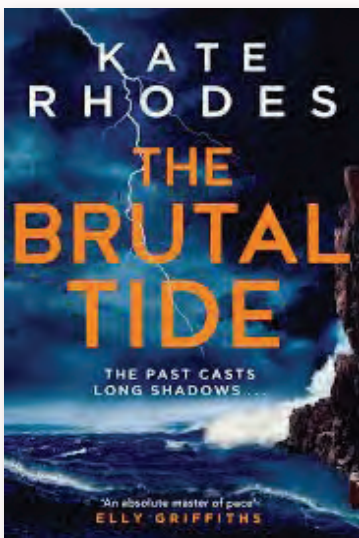
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## OUR STAFF BOOK CHOICE: *The Brutal Tide* by Kate Rhodes



### THE ISLES OF SCILLY MYSTERIES #6

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DI Ben Kitto made many enemies in his time working as an undercover officer for the Met police, none more ruthless and calculating than gang leader Craig Travis.

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#### WAITING FOR . . .

With Kitto busy investigating the discovery of a body on the islands and distracted by the imminent arrival of his first child, his defences are down. He has so much to lose. And Travis will stop at nothing to take it all from him.

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



# Physio Talk



with Rebecca Bell

## PIECING THINGS TOGETHER AGAIN

**I have always been a Realist; or as my teenage daughter likes to describe it – a Hopeful Realist. I like to see the good in life, people and situations, but I also understand that good things don't and won't always happen.**

Perhaps part of the reason why this is the case is because of growing up in North Queensland, where every summer it was commonplace to know you were at the whim of something a lot bigger than you: the weather. Cyclones, or at least torrential downpours and flooding, were almost annual, and I can still remember as a child the anxiety of many nights not being able to sleep in the fear that things may be very different if you were unlucky enough to be in its path. It took me well into my adult life to be comfortable with storms after moving away from the tropics. For that reason, I am very thankful I was away for our recent tornado and can understand the reactions it has generated in the community.

Usually, the week between Christmas and New Year is slightly disorienting anyway, leaving you wondering what day, time, date or even year it is. But I think it would be fair to say that things were somewhat more disorientating this season! There was a big blur between Christmas and whenever semi-normal life with power began again. The over-arching feeling seems to be that there was really no chance to prepare for the intensity of what came our way. The unexpected often has a way of making you think a little differently or more deeply; perhaps considering the people in your life, the support you have, things you may need help with or want to change, or perhaps it may just give you some appreciation of the things you have in your normal everyday life. Sometimes, it can be the final straw in an already full life.

Over the last couple of weeks, chatting to our patients about the recent events, everyone is expressing similar things. Although, they are grateful, as things could have been a lot worse, the feeling of shock, fatigue and overwhelm are now starting to rise as they take stock of what has

happened. Everyone deals with things in a different way, so whether you initially needed to get away from the scene, helped only one person or helped the whole village – well done for moving through that time.

I hope you can now give yourself permission to rest a little in between the ongoing things that have to get done. This is important both emotionally and physically, especially as the two often influence each other. Try to allow yourself to experience those things that give you some joy in life and bring down the levels of anxiety. Maybe its going for a drive, watching a movie, listening to or playing music. Whatever resonates with you. So many people in the community have started to offer some beautiful activities and connection avenues to help with the healing process.

At Physique it's been nice to give people some hands-on relief and allow them to chat about their experience; to give their aching bodies a little relief from the extra work they have put in. No doubt it will take time to heal, for both the people and the landscape. The memories will remain but hopefully the pain will subside.



Physique Health

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# A DOG'S BREED DOESN'T DETERMINE CHARACTER TRAITS

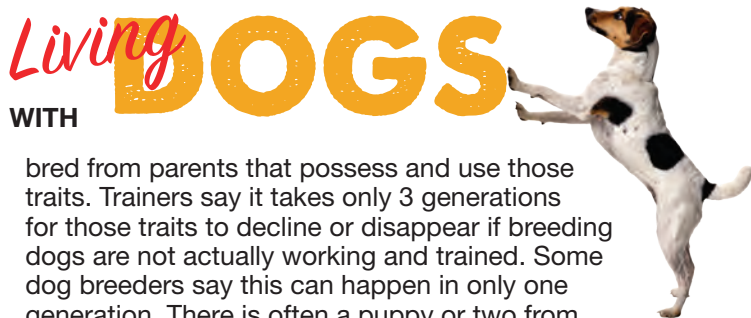
Science challenges the popular idea that breeds have specific reliable behaviours. Almost none of the behaviours we associate with dog breeds are hard-wired. Apart from a few ancient traits, environmental factors seem to play a much larger role than pedigree. When it comes to physical traits such as size, coat, erect or floppy ears, genes rule. At least 80% of a dog's appearance can be tied to its DNA.

If looking for a dog with a specific personality, you need not shop for a pedigree, behaviour in dogs is very complicated, but if you are looking for a dog with distinct physical features that is another story.

Signature traits: border collies love to herd-up other animals, greyhounds love to chase and German shepherds love to protect. Traits like these are highly heritable, but only when



An Anatolian shepherd dog with goats in Turkey.



bred from parents that possess and use those traits. Trainers say it takes only 3 generations for those traits to decline or disappear if breeding dogs are not actually working and trained. Some dog breeders say this can happen in only one generation. There is often a puppy or two from good working stock that does not show potential or sufficient working ability.

This is why the Police, Customs, Military, hunting, sport and some farmers, have their own specific dog breeding programs. A dog or bitch with pronounced or proven qualities and traits that is required for breeding may cost many thousands of dollars and be imported or exported. It is a similar breeding program for guide dogs for the blind, they need dogs with special qualities. Fortunately, some rescue dogs are suitable to be trained and used as therapy dogs, others show promise for searching and scenting out scat and other scents.

Behaviours that do not have a strong genetic component and are just individual include playfulness with other dogs, howling or vocalisations, being shy or wary of strangers, resource guarding, circling before lying down, scratching the ground after toileting and many more unique and quirky behaviours various dogs do.

A worrying trend are the few secretive clubs and breeders of dogs that have the genetics and are trained to fight one another and attack humans. These are the clubs and breeders that need to be infiltrated, busted and shut down. One of them boasts at having well over 6,000 members.

**Pam Brandis**  
Dip. Canine Prac.

  
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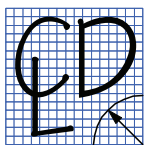
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**CHRISTMAS NIGHT 2023 – The aftermath and ongoing community efforts**

*PHOTOS: top - the scale of damage shown clearly from this aerial (Gary Stubbs) overlooking Macdonnell Rd, and some of the community recovery efforts below; above and left (photos Linda Galbraith). At right, State Member Jon Krause with a donation of a generator to the Tamborine Mtn Bushrats, accepted by Alick Kilsby.*