

CooloolaCoastToday



Unit prices soar
PAGE 10



A berry good cause
PAGE 11

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Pool price hike concern

Local swimmers at the Tin Can Bay pool were distressed this week to discover a huge increase in season ticket prices for the 2021/2022 year.

Last year the season ticket cost \$137 but this week when Pamela Delaney and friends went to buy their tickets, the price had risen to \$205.

"We are happy to pay a normal CPI increase which is about 3.8 per cent but this is an increase of 60 per cent," Pamela said.

"I've worked in pools for 40 years and this needs to be sorted."

STORY PAGE 2

Principal is staying

Wonderful news this week for the Rainbow Beach community with confirmation acting Principal Steve Bennett has now been given permanent placement at the Rainbow Beach school.

Steve has been acting Principal since January 2020 and now has the 'gig' permanently. "We are really enjoying being part of a small school when everyone is in partnership to get the best outcome for the kids."

STORY PAGE 2



Kylie and Scott renewed their wedding vows at Rainbow Beach.

Their perfect day

Kylie and Scott renewed their vows on 11 September at Rainbow Beach and picked the perfect day to celebrate with family and close friends.

STORY PAGE 13

Dingo row flares

By Arthur Gorrie

A new book by Sydney academic Rowena Lennox has shone fresh light on 30 years of controversy over the management of Fraser Island's iconic dingoes - and the Cooloola Coast's important links to the issue.

Sometimes controversial Rainbow Beach

photographer and dingo advocate Jennifer Parkhurst receives extensive airing of animal welfare and environmental concerns, along with the very different views of her island ranger counterpart Linda Behrendorff.

The two women, once friends, now sit at opposite ends of a generation-long debate, one which greatly intensified with the death in

2001 of 10-year-old Clinton Gage.

The boy died after a dingo attack, which government representatives claim prompted a "new understanding" and new management principles, even though legislation for the "new" strategy, involving mostly pre-existing policies, had already been introduced to parliament before the attack.

Conservationists say the management strategy since 2001 is largely unchanged and may have contributed to the tragedy.

They claim food stress from a no-feeding edict and pack structure instability from lethal control were more likely causes.

STORY PAGE 5

RAINBOW BEACH HORSE RIDES

The awards speak for themselves

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As long as we mean it

Changing the name of the World Heritage parts of Fraser Island to the island's original name, K'Gari (meaning Paradise), is a welcome step towards returning that original name to the whole island.

With Aboriginal place names now frequently in official use, we may wonder why it took so long. "K'Gari" was the rough Eden and earthly paradise many still remember from the 1980s and 1990s, a place where people and wildlife enjoyed the benefits of an effortless and easy going island attitude, one that incorporated many elements of Aboriginal culture.

The name "Fraser" is, in contrast, taken from a shipwreck victim who did not seem to like Aboriginal people and whose rescue is said by some to have historic connection to their virtual eradication.

The paradise of K'Gari included some noted and fascinating interactions between people and wildlife. The dolphin feeding which survives at Norman Point, Tin Can Bay, is the remnant of a close and businesslike relationship in which dolphins herded fish into the first people's nets, in return for an easily caught commission in the shallows, sometimes, as historian Elaine Brown has recorded, "being fed from the hand or the point of a spear." Similarly there is considerable evidence of a deal with the island's dingoes, helping the humans run down prey and benefiting from access to the safely human-killed prey. One can only imagine how popular and moving such spectacles would be, if island visitors were allowed to watch or even participate in some recreation of these genuine Aboriginal customs.

- Arthur Gorrie



Principal of Rainbow Beach State School Steve Bennett is now here to stay.

Steve's now here to stay

By Lee McCarthy

Wonderful news this week for the Rainbow Beach community with confirmation acting principal Steve Bennett has now been given permanent placement at the Rainbow Beach school.

Steve has been acting principal since January 2020 and now has the 'gig' permanently.

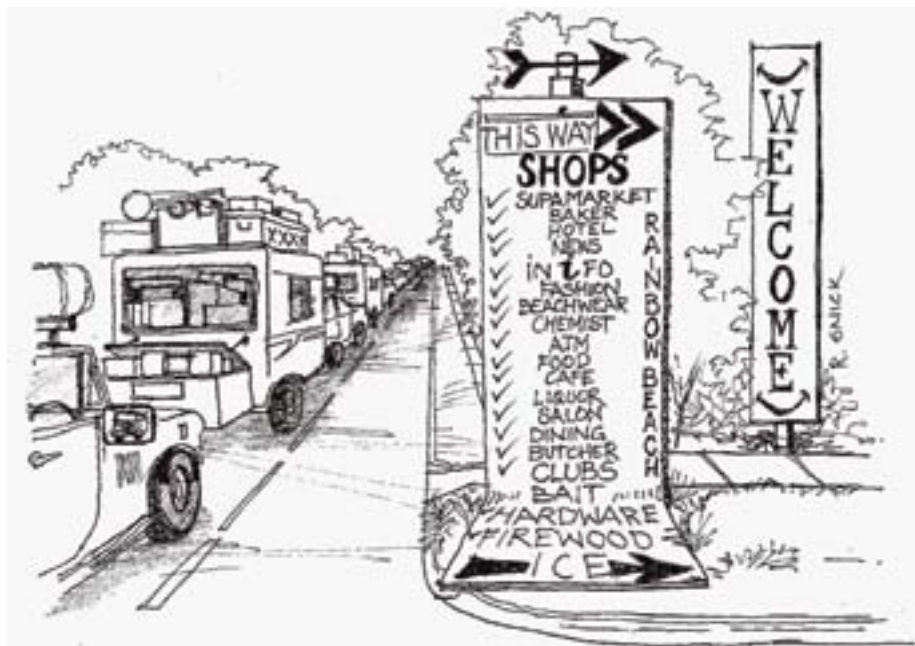
"Dreams do come true," he said. "I taught

here several years ago and left with the dream we would get back some day. The stars aligned and we feel blessed to be part of the community and a place to raise our children here."

Steve lived in Rainbow Beach with wife Simone and children Sonny and Libby when he was a teacher at the school in 2012 and 2013.

"We are really enjoying being part of a small school when everyone is in partnership to get the best outcome for the kids."

CARTOON



Timber cash

There are a myriad of grants available at present, some people are having wins while others find the criteria too challenging.

Responsible Wood has just launched the second year of its Community Grants Program, which is open to community groups with projects based on connection with HQ Plantations forests throughout Queensland.

The aim of the program is to support local communities to develop, design and implement small community-based projects in their local area in conjunction with HQ Plantations, a Responsible Wood certified forestry company.

Community Grants are awarded for collaborative, community-based projects, activities or events that connect communities to certified forests and forest growers.

The key benefits of this program are supporting our communities to better access and enjoy their local sustainably managed and certified forests, and providing an opportunity to build community connection through planning, completing and benefiting from community projects.

Funding between \$2000 and \$15,000 is available per project.

Experienced forester and external relations manager Megan Graham will administer the community grant program. Megan said she's excited to see what ideas will be proposed in this round of funding.

Organisations that might have suitable projects could include Men's Shed, recreation clubs or environmental groups among others. However, the scope for the community projects is broad and Megan encourages communities to think about their needs and develop a project idea and apply by 31 October.

For more information, visit Responsible Wood's Community Grants web page and direct enquiries to communitygrants@responsiblewood.org.au.

The key dates include:

- 30 October applications close
- 15 November applicants will be notified of their application status
- 15 November projects are developed and completed by 30 May 2022



HQ Plantation at Toolara Forestry on Tin Can Bay Road

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Some unhappy swimmers

By Lee McCarthy

Local swimmers at the Tin Can Bay pool were distressed this week to discover a huge increase in season ticket prices for the 2021/2022 year.

Last year the season ticket cost \$137 but this week when Pamela Delaney and friends went to buy their tickets, the price had risen to \$205.

"We are happy to pay a normal CPI increase which is about 3.8 per cent but this is an increase of 60 per cent," Pamela said.

"I've worked in pools for 40 years and this needs to be sorted."

"We have a group of older people in Tin Can Bay who need to exercise for their physical health. No one can absorb this increase in one

hit, especially pensioners. They can't budget for this."

A staff member at the Tin Can Bay pool told Pamela and the other locals trying to buy a season pass to "ring Council or Belgravia as she doesn't have anything to do with prices."

Pamela said: "I understand costs need to be increased but this is not acceptable. The daily rate has gone up which we accept but

the season pass increase is just not fair. None of us can afford to pay that at the beginning of the season and people should be able to swim."

"A few ladies have tried to pay the price that is on the website which is the 2019/2020 price but have been rejected."

Council has been approached for comment.

Community keeps connected: UHF for Double Island

By Lee McCarthy

A new UHF repeater will help keep Double Island Point visitors and Rainbow Beach locals in touch with vital services and improve communication on the popular stretch of beach.

Federal Wide Bay MP Llew O'Brien announced the successful grant this week, saying: "New cabling, antennas and a repeater will be installed, and old solar panels will be replaced, with assistance from a \$15,000 Stronger Communities Program grant to the Double Island Point UHF Committee."

"This provides a much-needed communication channel in the Double Island Point area, so people can still access weather updates, beach conditions, tidal alerts and emergency information even if they are in an area where their mobile telephone does not receive reception.

"This is particularly important during emergency situations whether they are natural disasters like bushfires, accidents with boats off the shore, or four-wheel drives that use the beach, as it will allow contact with emergency services and first responders."

Mr O'Brien commended Double Island Point UHF Committee president Benjamin Bulat for his hard work and dedication in improving safety for the Cooloola Coast community.

"The Double Island Point UHF Committee has raised several thousand dollars from local community members and businesses to purchase the necessary equipment, and I am delighted to support their work with this federal funding through the Stronger Communities Programme," he said.

"This is a project that I have strongly supported, I have met with the community about this issue, and I have also discussed the matter with State Member for Gympie Tony Perrett, and we will work together for improved communications and improved public safety in our coastal communities."

President Benny Bulat said: "The service will be available on channel 7 and 37 and it is important people on this frequency don't use it for chat. It is to provide service to the community and emergency services."

"The service is available on UHF channel 7 if your duplex button is turned on. This frequency is to provide a service to the community and emergency services and politely ask the community and visitors to switch to an-



Rob Gough and President Benny Bulat from the Double Island Point UHF Committee receiving congratulations from Federal Member for Wide Bay and Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives Llew O'Brien for the successful grant of \$15,000 for the purchase of a repeater, antennas and electrical equipment.

other channel for general convoy chit-chat.

"The repeater also utilizes channel 37 to operate correctly and we would politely ask that in this region people do not use channel 37.

"It is the only means of communication between Teewah and Rainbow Beach and being twenty to thirty years old it was falling into a state of disrepair.

"We are basically doing a complete refurbishment and it will provide our community with the means to communicate in emergencies which we don't have at present.

"The community have used the UHF Channel 7 since the 1980s when people like Sam Mitchell, Bart Klekker, Glen Wiggins, Dean and Wayne Hayes were on the committee.

"We've had some really good feedback

from the community and the individual bodies and departments have all welcomed the idea. National Parks and Col Lawnton have been especially helpful liaising with us to get it working again.

"The Police, Lifesavers, Parks, Coastguard and all emergency services have applauded the work and said it will provide invaluable and necessary communication service for the community."

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Recognition for ‘paradise’

By Arthur Gorrie

The World Heritage Area on Fraser Island, along with surrounding waters and parts of the nearby mainland, has been renamed K’gari - the original Butchulla people’s name for the island.

The move was celebrated at a ceremony with Butchulla representatives and Elders on K’gari yesterday.

The name change was formally adopted at the recent 44th session of the World Heritage Committee and is a major milestone in a long running campaign by the region’s traditional owners, according to a news release from the office of Environment Minister Meaghan Scanlon.

Butchulla Aboriginal Corporation Chairperson Jade Gould said her people welcomed the name change.

“The Butchulla people have been campaigning for years to change the name,” she said.

“The name Fraser Island is a tribute to Eliza Fraser—a woman whose narrative directly lead to the massacre and dispossession of the Butchulla people.

“A word meaning paradise in Butchulla language is a much more fitting name for such an iconic place.”

Minister Scanlon said the formal adoption of “K’gari (Fraser Island)” for the World Heritage Area was a big milestone and reason to celebrate.

“K’gari, the surrounding waters and parts of the mainland are home for the Butchulla people who have long asked for K’gari’s name to be repatriated,” Minister Scanlon said.

“The name change recognises and honours the Butchulla peoples and their traditions, their culture and their ongoing connection to Country.

“It continues the Palaszczuk Government’s



The jetty at Kingfisher Bay, where management welcomed the name change of much of the island to its Aboriginal name, K’Gari, meaning “Paradise.”

commitment to reconciliation and healing; to building, strengthening and reframing our relationships with First Nations peoples.”

Minister Scanlon said that this builds on the name change of the Island’s national park to K’gari (Fraser Island) section of the Great Sandy

National Park, which was declared in 2017.

“That was the first step in the process. I look forward to working with the Butchulla people, stakeholders and the community to progress the necessary steps now for the formal renaming of the entire island to K’gari.

“The government recognises Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island heritage and cultures, which represent an enduring and ongoing connection to Country for over 60 000 years,” Ms Scanlon said.

Member for Hervey Bay Adrian Tantari said the naming was a significant milestone for the community, and was an important acknowledgment of Butchulla history and connection to Country.

“This is a significant step for all involved. With so many people rekindling their love of the island as domestic tourism increases, I hope they can appreciate what K’gari means – paradise,” Mr Tantari said.

“This is a place with such a rich history of Indigenous culture, one that we should definitely acknowledge.

“Our community has acknowledged the name K’gari for quite some time now, and I can’t wait for visitors to do the same.”

Kate Doolan from the Butchulla Native Title Aboriginal Corporation welcomed the change and paid tribute to “those souls who long advocated for such a meaningful change over such a lengthy period of time.

“BNTAC also looks forward to a positive future relationship with the State of Queensland,” she said.

Kingfisher Bay Resort Group General Manager David Hay said the name change was timely and necessary.

“With the support of the Butchulla people, we have been calling the island K’gari for some time now,” Mr Hay said.

“There has never been a truer word spoken — K’gari really is paradise.”

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Author Rowena Lennox and the dingo she named Bold.



Picture: JENNIFER PARKHURST
Lennox with Jennifer Parkhurst on the ferry to Fraser Island and K’Gari.

New light on dingo row

By Arthur Gorrie

A new book by Sydney academic Rowena Lennox has shone fresh light on 30 years of controversy over the management of Fraser Island’s iconic dingoes - and the Cooloolo Coast’s important links to the issue.

Sometimes controversial Rainbow Beach photographer and dingo advocate Jennifer Parkhurst receives extensive airing of animal welfare and environmental concerns, along with the very different views of her island ranger counterpart Linda Behrendorff.

The two women, once friends, now sit at opposite ends of a generation-long debate, one which greatly intensified with the death in 2001 of 10-year-old Clinton Gage.

The boy died after a dingo attack, which government representatives claim prompted a “new understanding” and new management principles, even though legislation for the “new” strategy, involving mostly pre-existing policies, had already been introduced to parliament before the attack.

Conservationists say the management strategy since 2001 is largely unchanged and may have contributed to the tragedy.

They claim food stress from a no-feeding edict and pack structure instability from lethal control were more likely causes.

Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service backers say feeding promotes dingo-human interactions by causing the dingoes to “lose their fear of humans” and lethal control eliminates problem dingoes without ill effects.

The two views are irreconcilable, but are brought together in the book, *Dingo Bold - the Life and Death of K’Gari Dingoes*.

The book, published by Sydney University Press, brands the prosecution of Ms Parkhurst (for feeding dingoes and following them for photographs) as “heavy-handed,” resulting as it did in a total \$40,000 fine and a suspended jail sentence.

It quotes senior ranger Colin Lawton, part of the prosecution team, telling the ABC’s Australian Story program, “Dogs of War” that, “We were seeing (Parkhurst) walking out of the bush with five or six dingoes at her heel. You know that’s not normal.”

Ms Parkhurst says she videoed dingoes dying of starvation but towards the end of her time on the island, allowed an ex-boyfriend to persuade her to feed some, shortly before informing on her and becoming the main prosecution witness.

The author says Ms Behrendorff was regarded as “one of the better rangers,” even by

“people critical of the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service.”

Lennox rejects electric shock collar aversive conditioning experiments, once conducted on the island, as cruel and ineffective.

A review conducted by the Ecosure environmental consultancy, led to a report, largely written by dingo consultant Ben Allen, who argues killing dingoes does not affect native wildlife (or) dingo home-range size or location.

“Some of his research is supported by the Invasive Animals Cooperative Research Centre, (a Commonwealth funded organisation),” Lennox notes, “set up to to kill ‘invasive’ animals (a category that includes dingoes).”

The book focuses on a relatively brief but intense interaction between Lennox and a dingo she named Bold, later killed as a problem animal for a level of alleged aggression and “dominance testing” which Lennox sees as playfulness, comparable to the enthusiasm of football fans, also playing their own “dominance testing” game.

As Lennox notes, the Allens in 2016 “became notorious for their plan to eradicate 300 goats on Pelorus Island, by releasing dingoes to kill and eat them.”

The dingoes were injected with time-release 1080 poison in case they could not be found and shot after eliminating the goats.

Then Environment Minister Steve Miles intervened and ordered Hinchinbrook Shire Council to remove the dingoes because, he said, they posed a threat to a vulnerable species.

But the dingoes could not be found, a consequence apparently not foreseen by Mr Miles’ department when it approved the experiment.

On Fraser Island, Dr Allen has claimed that culling up to 10 per cent of the island’s dingoes “is highly unlikely to have adverse effects.”

Dealing with the question of human habitation, Lennox quotes Aboriginal ranger and Butchulla man Finn Dwyer saying they were “very important to the Butchulla people.”

“They were our companions back in the olden days,” he said, but added that some were camp dogs and others were more wild and distant.

But it was the prosecution of Jennifer Parkhurst that “intrigued and scared me,” Lennox writes.

“She claimed that she fed a pack of dingoes because they were going to die of starvation.

“Her photographs reveal non-captive dingoes in their most intimate moments: a preg-

nant mother prepares her den for the birth of her pups, adults regurgitate food for pups, dingoes play and hunt and look fierce and re-

lax. Other books and resources about dingoes come nowhere close to this level of involvement,” she said.

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Vale Nellie Jean Greaney

By John Greaney

JEAN GREANEY

28 November 1919 - 6 September 2021

Mum was born in Broken Hill on the 28th November 1919. Her parents were Vincent (Dick) and Ellen Bushell – our Nana and Pop. The story she told me was that Nana wanted to call her Jean, but Pop had wet her head a little bit too successfully and when he went to the Registry Office he called her Nellie Jean Bushell. Nana never forgave him, and so mum was always called Jean. That's 101 years and 10 months ago. That's a long time, and she achieved so much in that time and guided and touched so many people and had a lot of people who called her a friend.

While in Broken Hill a sister was born, Veronica, and tragically she passed away in 1922 aged 14 months. This was when Nana and Pop decided to return to their hometown of Gympie. Mum could still recall the trip from Broken Hill through Adelaide to Gympie on a steam train at 3 years of age. Back in Gympie, Aunt Joy and Uncle Bill were born and they eventually settled in the house at 9 Station Road that would be her childhood home. She remained in Gympie for the rest of her life.

She attended the Convent School here at St. Patrick's and attended this Church for her whole life, so it is fitting that we have this service here today.

After school she became a seamstress, and this is something that would be a constant in her life. Making and fixing clothes for her family and friends. It was a special talent she had and she was very good at it and she loved it.

She met our father, Bernard, and they spent their courtship raising funds to build the 3 story Christian Brothers College building which is still an integral part of the college today. They married on 5th July 1944 here in this Church while Dad was still in the Army after serving in the Pacific during the war. After a short pe-



Rest In Peace Nellie Jean Greaney

riod of living in half a house on Channon St. they built the family home at 65 Lawrence St. at a cost of 1200 pounds. Mum said that Dad worked really hard to pay it off as soon as possible, something that proved a very good thing as he passed away in 1965 leaving her with 7 children. Anne, Vincent, Michael, Patricia, Mary, John and Bernard. All went to either the Convent or the Christian Brothers.

There was not much pension in those days, so there wasn't a lot of luxuries. Not that you would know. We wanted for nothing and we always knew where home was and the fridge and pantry were always full, and meals were always waiting whenever we got home.

Even though busy with her own life she found time each Monday to go to the Church

and do the sewing and mending for the Priest's and Brother's. She did this for a long time which led to her joining the Catholic Women's League, serving on the Committee for several years with a couple of terms as President. This was a great social and spiritual outlet for her and she made many lifetime friends during these years.

During the 1970's her parents came to live with us in Lawrence St and she cared for them for several years, with great love and never a complaint until they passed away. This was a wonderful act of kindness and sacrifice on her part and shows the great love and respect she had for them.

If you were to ask her for the greatest achievement of her life she would always say her family. 7 Children, 20 Grandchildren, 42 Great Grand Children and 1 Great Great Grandchild, and It's not finished yet. She delighted in telling me with great enthusiasm about any new arrival, and I lost count of the times I heard her say "John it's the most beautiful baby you have ever seen". They all were, according to her. She knew all their birthdays and special events in their life, their children and their children's children, what they were up to and who their friends were. To them all and many more she was simply Grandma. She took great interest in their achievements. I don't know how she kept track of it all. Her house was adorned with photos and memories of her family.

She could always find time to look after children. My girls have fond memories of sandwiches thick with butter and smothered in vegemite or peanut butter, always white bread. Cup cakes and sponge cakes covered in icing or cream and an ever present cup of sweet milky tea. One piece of cake or a single cup cake was never enough, and some to take home as well.

The most difficult time of her life was during May 2012 when we had to sell the house

in Lawrence St. and she moved into the Nursing Home where she would spend the later part of her life. Her declining health and failing eyesight made it impossible for her to live by herself any longer, but she was well cared for there. It broke her heart to move out of her home, and until her death she told me she just wanted to go home.

There are several people and organisations which have contributed to her life and well being and I would like to acknowledge some of them and apologise if I miss anyone.

Legacy – A wonderful organisation that stepped in when my Father passed away and provided some of the things that Mum couldn't afford. It was a great comfort to her to know someone was looking out for her.

St. Patrick's Parish – Her faith was a huge part of her life. Her Nephew Tommy who drove her to Mass for several years, the volunteers and Priests that visited her while she was in the home and gave her Communion, and at the last moments of her life on earth Father Dom attended to her with great respect, something that I know was a great comfort to her and to us as well.

The Staff and Volunteers of the Nursing Home – Gympie Views. The last week of her life in particular was very difficult for us and we thank you for the respect and compassion you showed as you attended to her needs.

Special mention has to be made of her Grand daughters Kelly and Rachel who really did a lot of the hard work. Particularly during the final years. You made my life a lot easier and you should be proud of your unselfish efforts.

This is just a snapshot of a life well lived and I could talk for a couple of hours and not cover it all. To use a line from an author I don't know – "during life you need someone to love you and someone to miss you when your gone". I think Grandma had both those things well and truly covered.

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Just talk to your doctor

By Lee McCarthy

Counsellor Suzanne Norman has one important piece of advice for anyone struggling with anxiety, depression, family issues or addiction and that is, talk to your doctor.

Suzanne has been a counsellor on the Cooloola Coast since 2016, and said with people being cut off from seeing their families because of Covid-19, especially for special occasions or visiting elderley parents or attending funerals, definitely adds to people's overall depression and anxiety.

But she said the most pressing issues in this region were not due to Covid but were issues related to relationships, domestic violence and addictions, anxiety and depression, loneliness and grief.

"People experiencing these issues are coming to me through their GP. Most don't reach out independently, but the GPs are referring them on when they present with chronic pain or depression or anxiety initially, so they are getting the help they need," she said.

Suzanne now has a consulting room at the Cooloola Coast General Practice (CCGP) in both Tin Can Bay and Cooloola Cove.

The Cooloola Coast General Practice, which has clinics in Rainbow Beach, Cooloola Cove and Tin Can Bay, offers a seven day service which is a remarkable turnaround from just twelve months ago when the health service on the Cooloola Coast was extremely poor.

"I have a two week wait list at the moment for people with mild to moderate mental health issues, but I am also a support person for patients with more extreme mental health issues. The wait time to see a Psychologist in Gympie can be up to three months, so I provide interim support to these patients while they are waiting."

She said the region desperately needs a



Counsellor Suzanne Norman from Cooloola Counselling says the coast needs more help with mental health service

psychologist and although CCGP have been recruiting, they haven't had anyone respond and urges anyone with the credentials to apply.

"A lot of people can't travel outside the region, even to Gympie, so we need more psychological services based here for people to access locally," she said.

"There is only so much funding to go around. My counselling services are funded by the Primary Health Network (PHN) which uses The Stepped Care Model of Mental Health Support, focusing on linking the patient to the right level of support that they need, from Stream 1 to Stream 5.

"I work in 'Stream 1' so I provide short term, lower intensity support for mild to moderate mental health issues. Under Stream 1 a patient can access six free sessions (which are conducted either face to face, by phone or by video link), with the possibility of a further four sessions being approved if your GP supports that need (maximum of 10 sessions).

"This is not really enough for some of the issues some people are dealing with, so I try to talk to the client and the doctor and see where they can get further help.

"The Gympie & District Women's Health Centre also offer support in our region and there is a drug and alcohol counsellor who visits the coast.

"Addiction is a huge problem. A lot of the people I see are on a disability support pension and are in so much pain due to a work accident or back breaking work with machinery and they become addicted to opiods and find it difficult to break the cycle.

"One other issue we are starting to see a lot of is estranged adult children which she said is a widespread and a shockingly prominent issue. This is leading to a lot of anxiety with parents seeking help through their GP. She said it inhibits intergenerational influence which is important for the social connection of families."

Suzanne said she just feels very blessed to be able to help. She said most people just need to be heard.

You can get in touch with Suzanne via Cooloola Counselling Services on 0406 304296 or cooloolacounselling@gmail.com

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Focus on Aboriginal health

By Lee McCarthy

The North Coast Aboriginal Corporation for Community Health (NCACCH) held a series of community consultation sessions this month seeking feedback for their new Aboriginal Medical Service (AMS) delivery.

Sessions were held in Gympie, Tin Can Bay, Kilkivan and Gunalda outlining plans for the Aboriginal Medical Centre currently being fitted out at 31 Excelsior Road, Gympie.

The centre will be available to all people who identify as Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander and their families (including non-Indigenous partners, children, the whole family unit) The Aboriginal Medical Service will provide holistic approach and will be a 'one stop shop' for patients offering comprehensive free health checks and medical services.

The money for the building fit out was raised by a successful grant and directors hope to have the centre finished by mid to late October and with a soft opening later this year and an official launch opening in February 2022.

Chairperson and director of NCACCH Helen Felstead said it was proud of the facility and the work being done to help Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders get the medical help they need in our region.

"Prior to now, all patients had to travel to the Sunshine Coast for specialist health care. This is an extension to what we have, nothing will change, it's just a better service and it's local. The hospital will still have services as with other practices, we are just making it easier and providing patients with choices."

Project manager and practice manager Tess Symes said: "In the AMS we will be able to address more common issues like smoking cessation, chronic disease management, mental health specialists and diabetes support, and all in a culturally safe space for our patients".

"We don't want our patients to leave their existing medical practitioner but sometimes



One of the AMS consultation sessions held at Wes Mitchell Park in Tin Can Bay with Healthworker Josie Cox, Chairperson and Director Helen Felstead, Indigenous Health Project Officer Justine Law, Indigenous Outreach Worker Brad Hore, Project Manager and Practice Manager Tessa Symes and Director Paula Wootton.

it might be weeks before they can get an appointment, so they can visit us and one of our staff will be able to see them.

"The centre is fully bulk billed, and we can upload a patient's medical history from another clinic and our goal is to ensure our patients' medical needs are being met. It's all about access to services.

"It has been our vision to provide this service to the community. We are not replacing other services in the area; we are improving

them. We will have a telehub for patients who need to contact outside consultants and staff can support and offer that service.

"We have listened to feedback and surveys and from that we will have a children's play area, USB ports for charging phones, the beds will be larger, there will be change tables in the men's and the women's toilets which are also large enough for disabled access.

"As this is a free-standing building, we have good disability access with 11 car parks and an

ambulance parking bay. The service will operate five days a week from 8.30am to 4.30pm.

The AMS will offer GP's, Allied Health professionals, visiting specialists, Clinical Nurse, Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander Health Worker/s all in a combined space to meet the community needs.

For further information contact NCACCH Sunshine Coast on 07 5346 9800 or <https://ncacch.org.au>.



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‘Hot’ unit prices soaring

By Lee McCarthy

The Queensland real estate industry is on fire and the Cooloola Coast is also enjoying the highs with another huge price reached for a unit this month.

The three-bedroom, two-bathroom unit at 3-5 Ocean View Parade, Rainbow Beach listed for \$1.3 million by Dee White of Cooloola Coast Realty sold within 48 hours.

The property owned by Phill Horne and Darryl Gauld is now unconditional and will settle in a few days' time.

Phill and Darryl purchased the property in June 2016 for \$730k and it has been their dream retreat when they could escape from their Sydney apartment and work commitments.

Both have a long history with the region, with Darryl being an ex-Maryborough student who spent his favourite holidays in Rainbow Beach and as a pilot, Phil has flown over the area dozens of times since 1987 when he first came to Australia from South Africa.

"I would fly up to Noosa for work and then fly over the manta rays, turtles and sharks and land in Orchid Beach and camp there or at Waddy Point."

They said: "The town had always been in our sights, but we spent the past thirty years living and working in Sydney."

They were both building careers, making money, studying for degrees, travelling overseas, and living in an apartment in inner Sydney.

"We never even owned a car for 25 years. And when we did buy one to live in Rainbow Beach, we bought a 14-year-old Hilux 2WD Ute. We didn't want to waste money on anything that depreciates so quickly. It was a practical car.

"We only looked at the one unit in Rainbow Beach in 2016 and we went to Rodney Gray who was so proactive and thought about us and just knew what we were thinking. Of course, we had been scouring the market, so we knew prices in the area.

"All we ever wanted was a roof over our head and food on the table. We didn't buy this unit to make money, you know. In essence the unit has nearly doubled in value, and we don't need a million-dollar roof over our heads, so it was time to sell.

"When we first looked at the unit, we stayed at Debbie's Place for the night and didn't want to walk on the carpet because it was so spotless! We had a lovely cappuccino at Jilarty's and met owners Jay and Leonie and had a white chocolate and raspberry muffin and we couldn't believe the changes in the town.

"The unit wasn't actually for sale, but Rodney was determined, and he contacted the owners and said he had a buyer and they agreed to sell.

Darryl said: "After coffee, Phill said we'd better go and catch our plane and I said, well, can we at least checkout the Esplanade?" That's when we discovered Ocean View Parade."

"We leave with mixed feelings, because when you leave your home you leave the town.

"Dee White contacted us and asked if we would be prepared to sell. We thought if we are



Darryl Gauld and Phill Horne in their unit which sold after 48 hours on the market in Rainbow Beach

going to be kicked out of another home, this is the price we want. 48 hours later three sets of people looked at the unit and then one group made an offer which we accepted."

Both men have impressive careers. Phill was working as a technology information systems consultant, and Darryl was working in education and head of a University Campus in Sydney.

Darryl's background is education. He completed his HSC at the Police Academy in Oxley, and received his Bachelor of Education from Kelvin Grove in the early 1980's. He completed a graduate diploma in computing, then a master's in education, a graduate diploma in languages (Japanese) an MBA in education and then a Doctorate in Business. Darryl also has been awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia "For services to education, and to social justice and human rights".

Phill completed his undergraduate in Science and Mathematics and Computer Science and then his master's in project management and is a lecturer in Project Management at the

University of Sydney.

"We have bought a three-bedroom unit in Scarborough. Again, we needed close access to an airport and this unit has five airports in close proximity. Maroochydore, Caboolture, Redcliffe and the Domestic and International terminals in Brisbane."

Again, they found a wonderful agent in Karen who was very committed and suggested this unit, which again was not for sale, but she called it a 'happy' building. They fell in love with the unit and the owners agreed to sell.

It is predominantly north facing with the three bedrooms and lounge facing north and a wonderful precinct of shops underneath with half a dozen cafes. It is very similar to Rainbow but has lots of bike tracks and trees and the unit overlooks the park. We can see east to Moreton Bay and North to Bribie Island and South to the Brisbane skyline and glasshouse mountains.

Phill said they would like to see a cinema in Rainbow in the next decade and said the pool needs to be better supported by Council and:

"we need more "FA Fridays. Rainbow needs a dedicated cycle track and more seating outside so you can connect with your neighbours."

Darryl said: "Come to Rainbow, you may leave but you'll be a million in front with memories and friends. Of course, the town needs some sort of subsidized accommodation for staff. Look at the way we used to live; teachers used to board. Businesses need to find a way to house staff like Bonnie and Andii are doing with their units."

When I asked if there were any parting words Phill said: "We painted the rainbow stairs. We are coming back to paint the pedestrian crossings!"

Darryl said: "If someone wants to improve the stairs, light them up at night with solar, it would be money well spent. It's such a small space and if you go jogging at night you won't have to worry about stepping on a frog."

"We wish everyone the very best of luck and good health and hope to meet such good people in our next adventure."

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Jessica Haring listened the BreastScreen message to get a mammogram when you reach 50.

A survivor

Jessica was diagnosed with breast cancer at 51, six years ago. Her diagnosis was Ductal carcinoma in situ (DCIS). DCIS is a non-invasive breast cancer which starts inside the milk ducts, carcinoma refers to any cancer that begins in the skin or other tissues (including breast tissue) that cover or line the internal organs, and in situ means "in its original place."

Jessica said: "It was found during my first ever mammogram and I thought I'd better go because I'm 50 now."

"There was no lump, no pain but I listened to the message. I went to a private clinic on the Sunshine Coast where they conducted a mammogram and ultrasound and the sonographer seemed to be concerned about one particular area."

"I said, are you seeing something, is there an anomaly? He reassured me and said he just thinks it's a good idea to do a biopsy. I found I was getting really emotional. This is really happening."

"He did the biopsy and I had to wait a week for the results. He rang and said there is something there and referred me to a specialist at a private hospital."

"She explained the diagnosis of DCIS and explained they had caught it very early and it hadn't left the duct or it would have been a different story."

"They had to perform the surgery under anaesthetic three times to make sure they had it all and then I had three months of radiation at Nambour. I had it five days a week and drove down every day from Cooloola Cove for treatment. I now have annual ultrasounds"

"It was a really busy time in my life and I didn't really have the time to get the initial mammogram but because of the 'Over 50 message', I went."

"I had no breast cancer in the family and I still believe the cancer was due to my stressful lifestyle."

Jessica said our health should revolve around 'prevention is better than cure' and is grateful she listened to the Breast Cancer and Cancer Council messages which is part of what the money raised is used for.

Eating for the cure

By Lee McCarthy

Last year Annette Bailey wasn't sure if she would be able to pull off another Pink Ribbon event during the early months of Covid-19.

She did, and the event at Cooloola Berries was such a success she is again hosting this year's fundraiser on Saturday 9 October from 2 to 4pm to raise money for the Cancer Council.

Supported by the team at Cooloola Berries, the cost for a luscious pancake and beverage is only \$10 and you can buy grazing platters, strawberry wine or a cold glass of Prosecco while you are there.

The money raised from the event will go to the Cancer Council to raise awareness about breast and gynaecological cancers, as well as raise funds for prevention programs, support services and vital cancer research.

There is a prize for the most creative so go mad with pink and show everyone up this year. If you would like to book, contact Annette on 0417 864 080 or email annj-14@hotmail.com

Annette has been active in raising money for cancer for many years after losing both her parents to cancer and expressed her gratitude to Cooloola Berries for their generosity in holding the event at their business again this year.



Right
Organiser Annette Bailey with Sophia Bailey and Indianna Schulz at Cooloola Berries at the successful 2020 event.

Many are touched by cancer scourge

Our thoughts go out to Amanda Schier, who lost her mother to cancer last week. It is a tragic story and one of terrible sadness for Amanda, her partner Benny Bulat and the family and we extend our condolences to all who know the family.

Amanda also has a friend Kim who is 33 and is now having her third round of chemotherapy in Brisbane for Breast Cancer.

She only discovered the cancer a few months ago. She found a lump in one breast and went to her GP who said she was too young to go to BreastScreen Qld as they don't offer breast screening for women under 40 if there are symptoms.

She went to a private clinic and had a lumpectomy which is a surgery to remove cancerous breast tissue along with a rim of normal tissue surrounding it, called a surgical margin.

The margins were fine but they checked the lymph nodes and the cancer had spread. She elected to have the chemotherapy treatment to be safe and she will have a total of four rounds of chemotherapy and then a twelve week course of radiation.

Amanda said: "She is struggling as she is from New Zealand and lives in Brisbane by herself and with Covid her mother wasn't able to come over from New Zealand to be with her."



Amanda Schier shaved her head and dyed it to support her friend who is undergoing treatment for Breast Cancer.

"Kim is a Geologist and is a fly-in-fly out worker so the difficult and unexpected effects of the diagnosis was the loneliness she is suffering and the lack of purpose as she is not able

to absorb herself in her work. She is now coming to Rainbow to help in Amanda and Benny's business and they are supporting each other during this tough time."

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Transformational collection

By Lee McCarthy

Rubbish is a major problem on K’gari and it always has been, says Hana Robinson from K’gari Fraser Island Adventures, who recently hosted an epic K’gari clean up.

It was carried out from 3-13 September 2021. In 11 days, with 60 local volunteers, they cleaned over 125kms of beach and removed four tonnes of rubbish.

From the four tonnes of rubbish collected, they found 19,855 lids of plastic bottles, 1,035 plastic bags, 807 fishing items, 107 shoes, 4,235 rope scraps and much more.

The company now has funding to carry out four clean ups per year from 2022.

Hana said: “This marks the beginning of a new chapter for local commitment to the environment, where the local community and the private sector join forces to protect nature and promote true sustainability.”

“The clean ups previously were only held once a year, but we have now obtained funding from ZeroCo to hold the events four times a year which is an opportunity we are very excited about.”

Hana and her team will also be providing low cost transport for anyone who wants to join the Clean Up Double Island event on 16-17 October but doesn’t have a 4WD.

She said: “We are always happy to support local cleanups and know it is so difficult logistically to get up to Double Island Point to help. We have been working with Surfrider who run that clean up for about seven years now and have always offered transport at a really cheap rate for people who don’t have the logistical means to get up there”.

“This was actually how our mission started. We met up with Ocean Crusaders at one of their clean ups at Double Island and I have a lot of time for the whole team at Surfrider. They really great people doing a great job and we then organised one for K’gari.

“Ocean Crusaders were also running guided tours like K’gari Fraser Island Adventures but they decided they had to stop that to work full time cleaning up and protecting waterways and rivers all over Australia.”

As part of their passion for giving back to nature and helping to protect our oceans, flora and fauna, and of course, our beloved K’gari, K’gari Fraser Island Adventures have been hosting beach clean-ups on the island for four years now. After the absolute success of the previous beach clean-ups, K’gari Fraser Island Adventures have become known for “talking a whole lot of rubbish”, as have their litter picking partners, Ocean Crusaders.

The partnership between K’gari Fraser Island Adventures and Ocean Crusaders has led to both now partnering with ZeroCo, who have committed to buying 1 tonne of HDPE plastic from K’gari clean-ups to make their Forever Bottles (home-cleaning and self-care products), helping the community close the loop and repurpose the plastic removed from the island. A world 1st!

According to Hana, there is something called a longshore drift which is the reason



K’gari clean up hosted by K’Gari Fraser Island Adventures

K’gari exists in the first place and which also is the reason rubbish is now landing on the beach. These days, more than just catching sand that travels up the east coast of Australia, K’gari also catches all the rubbish that washes out from the river systems.

About 80 per cent of all rubbish found on the island washes up from the ocean and about 20% is discarded by thoughtless visitors. It is also a common misconception that the rubbish found is foreign rubbish. But, in fact, almost all of it is from Australian consumers.

It’s not surprising that the global pandemic has impacted people’s choices significantly and the way we live and travel has changed. People want life changing experiences that inspire them and make them feel good. They also want to help important causes. K’gari Fraser Island Adventures believe that their beach clean-ups and immersive tours are exactly what visitors are looking for and aligns beautifully with Queensland’s tourism future . #voluntourism is here!

Everyone is welcome to join the clean ups, from experts and people really committed to the environment, to curious locals or internationals that want to participate during their visit to the Coast’s spectacular region.

In a nutshell, volunteers take long walks along the beach collecting plastic, learn about the importance of the island’s biodiversity and enjoy amazing conversations with likeminded people.

K’gari beach clean-ups are all about living by the first law that K’gari Traditional Owners have instilled through sharing their respectful culture with Hana and Mark (owners and



Sorting through the four tonnes of rubbish collected during the K’gari clean up

founders of K’gari Fraser Island Adventures).

What is good for the land must come first and they could not agree more. They are honoured to work with the Butchulla community in bringing people to country to help clean up the beach and instil respect for the land and culture in them during their stay on the island.

Hana said: “Of course, there is always time to explore K’gari and some of its best spots and we are passionate about making this a fun and rewarding weekend. Meals, transport and beachfront accommodation are included”.

“Sponsoring beach clean-ups on K’gari gets brands recognised for all their awesomeness! It not only feels good but also exposes brands to the local community and gives brands unbeatable street cred.

“Organisations that are associated with the protection of the environment and actually helping to remove plastic from the beaches, cleaning the oceans and preserving the wildlife are always going to be respected by consumers. All donations are tax deductible and there are plenty of ways to help keep making these amazing events happen!

Big effort needed: Help us Clean Up Double Island

By Lee McCarthy

Join the Sunshine Coast Surfrider Foundation at the annual Clean Up Double Island camping weekend on the 15 -17 October.

Foundation president Steve James, or ‘Jamesy’, said “Clean Up Double Island was one of South East Queensland’s biggest beach clean up efforts, removing up to two tonnes of rubbish from the Cooloola Recreational Park of the Great Sandy National Park.

“It started 10 years ago with a group of people who loved to camp up there and were sick of seeing the mess and said we will go and pick this up,” he said.

“So we got a permit to operate clean-up events from Teewah Beach up to Double Island Point and pre Covid we had 350 volunteers and collected 2-5 tons of rubbish.

“It just shows what’s left behind. You can pick up 1000 micro pieces which only fill one container so it does fluctuate.



Join in the fun of Clean Up Double Island this October by registering on Eventbrite

“We get permission from both the Noosa and Gympie councils and have permits to run the clean up twice a year but we had to cancel the last one due to Covid-19. But, touch wood, all systems go for 15-17 October.

“We are all volunteers, we all have day

jobs, kids and families and it is just our way to do our little bit for our environment. There are eighteen branches of Surfrider in twenty countries around the world and we are the local branch.

“We are primarily dedicated to the protection of oceans, waves and beaches.”

Jamesy said it is a family friendly free event, and all vehicle and camping permits will be provided to registrants, thanks to the generous support from the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Services.

“Let us know you want to join us by registering at Eventbrite/Clean Up Double Island.

“The park has 4x4 access only but registrants without 4x4 vehicles can organise 4x4 taxi service for the weekend with Drop Bear Adventures. Contact Hannah - 0487 333 606 or hello@kgarifraserisland.com.au to secure a spot today.

“To limit our impact to the beach and campgrounds please carpool and share resources where possible.”

For enquiries please email sunshine-coast@surfrider.org.au or find them on Facebook: Clean Up Double Island



"It is a privilege to have a family" said Kylie and Scott pictured with Jasper Benstead, Neona Ladner, Flynn Ladner, Kylie and Scott Ladner, Josie Ladner and Hamish Watson.



Love at Rainbow Beach for Kylie and Scotts vow renewal ceremony

'We feel so lucky': Couple

By Lee McCarthy

Renewing your wedding vows after 25 years these days is a huge achievement when you are raising a family and it is a credit to couples who have managed the reach this milestone.

Kylie and Scott renewed their vows on 11 September at Rainbow Beach and picked the

perfect day to celebrate with family and close friends.

They met at a barbecue in 1990 in Tin Can Bay and became friends and then fell in love working and having many amazing adventures together.

Kylie said: "One of our special memories is when we discovered we were about to start a

family and a whole new adventure started. We have three gorgeous children now, Josie, Flynn and Neona".

"They are the most amazing part of our life and to become a family is a wonderful, amazing privilege and the love for, and from your kids cannot be described in words."

Both Scott and Kylie agreed being patient,

working towards the same goals and loving each other were most important to the longevity of their marriage.

"We wanted to share our 25th anniversary with our kids and family and friends. We feel so lucky to have this beautiful life and wanted to celebrate it."

Keep dogs leashed... and do pick up their doo doos

School holidays are in full swing and it's great to see families out and about enjoying what the Cooloola Coast has to offer. With numerous playgrounds to swing, climb and slide in, kilometres of pathways to navigate, skate parks to roll around, bush tracks to explore, sand to sculpt and water to splash in, there's endless fun to be had! There's also Family Fun and Holiday Fun at the library so check out the Gympie Regional Council website for the program schedule.

With all the extra activity in public places I remind everyone that dogs are to remain on leash at all times while in the community unless at a designated dog-off-leash park. This also includes the beach areas that allow dogs so please take note of the signs. Unfortunately, there are currently no designated off-leash areas on the Cooloola Coast however if you would like to see Council invest in a dog-off-leash area on the coast, shoot Council an email on council@gympie.qld.gov.au

Another issue that is often brought to my attention is, 'if a doggy does a doo doo while out and about but no-one sees it, then did it really come from that dog?' The answer

COUNCIL UPDATE

with **CR JESS MILNE**



is yes, and it is the walker's responsibility to pick it up and dispose of it correctly so take advantage of the bag dispensers, so you always have one handy.

While on the topic of removing nasties from the environment, the biannual Bitou Bash has been on again in the Rainbow Beach and Inskip areas. GRC Lands Protection worked with Biosecurity Queensland, Qld National Parks and HQ Plantations in the hunt for Bitou Bush (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera* subsp. *Rotundata*.) This highly invasive weed from South America can dominate coastal dunes as plants can produce up to 50 000 seed per year that remain viable for up to two years and can be dispersed distances by

ingestion and disposal from birds and even foxes. Seeds can flower just six months from germination making this weed very aggressive.

The Bitou Bush eradication project has been running for over 30 years and efforts are paying off. During the five-day Bitou Bash, bushes are identified then the location is marked via GPS and the plants treated. Bitou can be either found growing on the ground or climbing other vegetation and have a little daisy like yellow flower that can occur year-round with a very distinct white cobweb on new leaf growth. If you see Bitou Bush growing on, or around coastal dunes then please report the location to Biosecurity Qld on 13 25 23 immediately.

We're coming into fire season, are you prepared? Go to www.qfes.qld.gov.au/bushfires for more information. Council has been conducting fire mitigation by fuel load reduction vegetation management and investigation of fire breaks to schedule works at various locations. Other coastal works have included pressure cleaning of covered areas at the Cooloola Coast Cemetery, Tin Can Bay Library and

Castaways Park in Tin Can Bay. Wes Mitchell Skate Park has had some maintenance done to improve safety and ride quality with extensive crack repairs over the entire structure.

I have recently had the pleasure of a couple of tours, one being the Gympie Waste Water Treatment Plant. While a much larger scale than the coastal plants, it was impressive to see the process of what goes in being transformed into water again. It was also a great reminder of the '3 P' rule of what to only put in a toilet. The last P is for paper, and you can probably guess the first two.

The other tour was with the 35 Water Transport Squadron from Townsville. They were in Rainbow Beach on an exercise to qualify marine and cargo specialists on watercraft in surf conditions in preparation for the high-risk weather season. I was given a rundown of the training elements and a short beach run on a LARC-V (Lighter Amphibious Resupply Cargo 5 Tonne.) There's no doubt that training with Double Island Point as a backdrop was enjoyable and I reckon that there are a few personnel that now have Rainbow Beach as a destination for their R & R time.

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Never too late to board

By Lee McCarthy

Many people reach their fifties and sixties and wish they had learned to surf when they were younger and fitter and now feel they are too old.

That couldn't be further from the truth, says Rainbow Beach Learn to Surf co-owner Sarah Booth who has been operating on the main beach for four years,

"It's never too late. You can always start no matter what your age. You only have to be young at heart. I am pretty sure surfing finds the people who are twenty years old inside, no matter their actual age.

"It's really important these days to have a hobby and something just for you. By taking up surfing as a hobby, it means you can do something that is healthy and gets you excited. Surfing provides a great combo of time out, mental strength and physical fitness.

"We have just launched our surf rehab for older surfers who either can't surf any more due to physical restrictions or have pain surfing and it's called Salty Dogs Surf Rehab.

"There are a lot of physical issues in this age group that stop them surfing but they are the ones who have always used surfing to keep them mentally and physically agile. We just want to keep those guys in the water and keep them happy and well. This program will help with movement skills, rehab exercises, mental health skills and also some surf training skills."

Sarah said they offer one-off or weekly programs for surfers and want people of all ages to take up this sport as a hobby even if they have



Tim and Deb from Brisbane celebrating Tim's 46th birthday learning to surf with instructor Dean Marshall from Rainbow Beach Learn to Surf

never surfed before.

Rainbow Beach Learn to Surf is a privately owned and operated local business with one simple goal: 'To share our love of surfing with everyone and provide a safe and accessible

way for visitors and locals, kids, teens, adults and seniors to try out surfing here at Rainbow Beach'.

Your lesson includes equipment hire, surf board or boogie boards. They also sell high

quality learner boards as well as rashies if you prefer.

Book on 0435 934 087 for Salty Dogs Surf Rehabilitation or surf lessons. Website www.rainbowbeachlearntosurf.com

Actively seeking to join Little Athletics

By Lee McCarthy

The temperature is heating up and that means many junior sports are back and parents and children can again enjoy the social and physical interaction sport creates.

Cooloolo Coast Little Athletics official sign on was held last week, but the club said: "you can just hop, step and jump on down to the Tin Can Bay School oval at 2:30pm any Saturday during the term to meet the team and find out more!"

Little Athletics is suited to children from five to 16 years of age. It is based on track & field events which are specially modified to suit the ages and abilities of children. A wide range of running, jumping, throwing and walking events is included.

"Little Athletics offers young people activities and skills that will stand them in good stead for their sporting future," the club says.

"The philosophy of the Little Athletics movement is summed up in the slogan: "Little Athletics for family, fun and fitness."

You can also email ccla2014@outlook.com or call 0411 218 254 for further information on the Cooloolo Coast Little Athletics.



Join Jackie Bate and meet new friends at Cooloolo Coast Little Athletics at the Tin Can Bay School oval at 2:30pm any Saturday during the term



Anjelica Geurts with her 4 silver medals (100m, 200m, high jump and long jump) from the Gympie Athletics Spring Carnival on the 11th Sept. Cooloolo Coast Little Athletics offers intensive training for competition for interested athletes.



Dion Wu enjoying the sporting shooters at Tin Can Bay SSAA

Why not give it a shot?

By Lee McCarthy

Did you know the Cooloolo Coast is lucky enough to have a branch of the Sporting Shooters Association of Australia (SSAA) in Tin Can Bay?

While not a 'mainstream' sporting pursuit, shooting clubs are popular and the SSAA claims to be Queensland's largest and pre-eminent shooting organisation and the state's peak body for the sport.

The word shooting, is a generic term covering all facets of firearms-related sport and there are a number of disciplines covering air-rifles to handguns to old military rifles to long-range target rifles and even cannons.

If you are over the age of 11yrs and are interested in the sport of air rifle and air pistol shooting, then the SSAA Tin Can Bay Branch is inviting you to a Junior Come and Try Day on the 29 September at 3pm.

There are limited spaces, so to book a place or find out more about registration requirements, email cooloolacoastyap@gmail.com or call 0411 218 254.



Pictures: SHANE ZAHNER



Rugby challenge kudos

By Lee McCarthy

Coach and principal Steve Bennett took his Rainbow Beach School team to compete in the Broncos Rugby League Challenge at Albert Park, Gympie last week.

While Victory College took home the shield, Coach Bennett said it was a great event and they were pleased they had the chance to compete.

He said: “The kids all played really well and we were so happy with their sportsmanship.”

“They played six games and some of those kids had never played before but managed to score some tries.”

“The team spirit was awesome. We were one of the smallest teams there but held our own and even in the games we lost, we didn’t lose by much.”

He said all players played extremely well and enjoyed the day. Congratulations to all teams who entered the competition.



Fishing Cooloola Coast

Club lands council cash

The Tin Can Bay Fishing Club is thrilled to be a recipient of the latest round of organisational grants from the Gympie Regional Council.

President Jim George said: "The grant is for \$1598 and the package includes a computer, printer and upskilling on the QuickBooks accounting system which will help our treasurer keep aligned with the requirements of our auditor."

"We are thrilled and our thanks to the Mayor, Cr Glen Hartwig and the council for supporting us on this project."

"The mayor will be delivering the grant to us this week, and we are happy to be able to thank him and council personally for the help they have given us."

Jim said the club is highly respected by Gympie Regional Council, the Queensland

Government through MP Tony Perrett and the Federal Government through Member for Wide Bay and Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives Llew O'Brien.

"Llew and Tony have been huge supporters of the club we are grateful for the help they have provided to the club over a lot of years. We invite them all regularly to come and meet with the members."

"We are very appreciative and thankful as we are a not-for-profit group, and this helps our committee, members and not-for-profit groups."

Our AGM is coming up on 20 October at the Tin Can Bay fishing clubhouse, at 33 Dolphin Avenue, at 3pm and everyone is welcome. It's time for me to go to the spelling paddock and I'll assist in the background if I'm needed."

Jim served as a rescue crewman and skipper and was the Commander of the QF17 Coastguard Flotilla so can offer sound information on crossing the Wide Bay Bar.

Training workshops are held each Sunday from 10am at the clubhouse and all members are invited to go along and improve their skills, increase their understanding about navigation and enjoy a BBQ lunch.

Jim said: "We want to encourage new people to town so they can meet familiar faces, and we can welcome them and assist them with any information about the area, bait, the bar, lures and rigs and locations. We hold the social events regularly so people can make friends and be part of the team and the community. We have 142 members, and they like to come along and learn, meet our guest speakers and experienced fishers."



Junior Mentor Steve Bennett with some of the keen members of the Rainbow Beach Amateur anglers Club



Ollie, Libby, Sonny, Thomas, Casey with Junior Mentor Steve Bennett who said it was another way for the kids to appreciate the wonderful environment we live in

Hooked on change: Our new sustainable fishers

By Lee McCarthy

The Rainbow Beach Amateur Anglers met for a school holiday Juniors Clinic last Saturday at Inskip Point.

While the sun was shining and the weather was perfect, it was also the first day of the Spring school holidays and hundreds of

4-Wheel-Drives headed to Fraser Island. Despite three barges operating a lot of the members couldn't get to the clinic.

According to owner and a major supporter of the clinic, Gardiners Fisheries Drew Gardiner said: "Junior Mentor Steve Bennett, had a fantastic morning as he walked and talked

this group of next gen fishos into a life-long addiction. Covering everything from bait collection and bait presentation, to finding fishable water, these kids have sustainable fishing all sorted".

"Our new Alvey Reels Australian kids' combos got a fantastic workout, and it was

smiles all-round. If the day wasn't already great enough, our Juniors had a fantastic opportunity to speak with an amazing crew from Fisheries Queensland. Their knowledge and input left many of our Junior's considering a career path that will help preserve our pristine fishery."



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Maximum of 2 photos per entry. Photos will be printed in A4size Landscape and need to be a minimum 300dpi 3,508 pixels x 2,480 pixels

For each of the 12 entries chosen to be used in the calendar there will be a \$50.00 value prize. Entries need to be in by 15 September.

Free Community Service Announcements - contact the 91.5FM Office and let them know what you are doing.

Not-for-profit organisation sustained by donations, memberships, sales from the 91five Op Shop located at 131 Mary Street and business sponsorship.

☎ 5482 1769 ✉ 91.5fmOffice@gmail.com

Fishing

Cooloola Coast

On the chew in Tin Can Bay

By Chris Rippon

G'day Crew!!

What a start to the holidays we have seen, and the weather sure played the game for the first few days and no lockdowns!

The caravan parks are fully booked out as is the rest of the accommodation in Tin Can Bay and you can feel the buzz in the air.

Even as I look out my window just now, a family are making their way down to the beach with an inflatable dinghy and armed with a handful of fishing rods.

So what's been on the chew the last couple of weeks? The bread-and-butter species have definitely been keeping the fishos busy with some great catches of whiting, flathead and bream. Fresh yabbies and beach worm have been doing it for most whiting fishos. As we lead up to the full moon, we have been hearing of lots of good fish being landed, with some good sizes, 38-40cm models making an appearance as the moon builds.

Flathead have still been fishing well and are a great target for the family to go and chase on our expansive sand flats, be it in a boat or on foot. Try to time a walk along the foreshore with the last few hours of the runout tide and you are sure to catch a feed.

Using baits or lures, flathead generally aren't too fussy when they are hungry. You also stand a good chance of catching some great bycatch while doing so. Bream, golden trevally, tailor and whiting will also be hunting the edges as the tide drops away.

Squid are still around in good numbers with lots of reports of people catching 20 or so in quick succession. Remember that getting your squid jig down deep seems to be the key in The Bay. Running a paternoster rig seems to be the most popular rig when targeting the tasty critters.

Up the straights we have had a few schools of longtail and mac tuna showing up. They are great fun to chase and if you bag a longtail they make for some great sashimi. I personally prefer to target them with a fly rod, and I tend to use a 10wt rod & 20lb tippet with a floating line & an intermediate 15/20' head. But a 20/30lb spin outfit with an array of different lures will definitely do the job and allow you to cast a lot further.

There have also been a few spanish being caught up around Inskip Point, along with the odd rogue yellow tail king fish and some great size queenfish and 20kg GTs. If you want a bit more info on these, pop in the shop for a yarn.

Don't forget that with the holidays come an increase in traffic on the roads & our waterways, so being a little more patient at the ramp and having your launching & retrieving process down to a tee can help speed things



Tom Rivers with an awesome capture of a King Fish in The Bay.

Pictures: GREAT SANDY STRAITS SPORTS FISHING

up. If you see someone having a bit of an issue, maybe offer them some help because we all know a busy boat ramp can sometimes be a bit of a stressful place to be when things aren't quite going right. You never know, you might

even make a new fishing buddy. It's also a good time to give all your safety gear a quick once over to make sure it's all functional, compliant and in date.

Well, that's me done for this week Crew.



Melinda and daughter Charlotte having a ball and catching a feed of whiting



Marquise Chapman with a 62cm flathead he caught while out on the kayak

Stay safe and get out on the water!!

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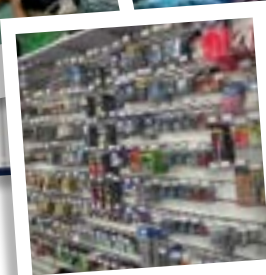
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Get Nipper ready now

By Lee McCarthy

Nippers braved the chilly waters of the Rainbow Beach pool last weekend ready for sign on for the 2020/2021 Nippers season. The season starts on the first weekend in October and runs every Sunday from 8:30-10:30 with children and parents asked to be on the beach by 8:15 to sign on and be ready for an 8:30 start. For more information contact surf@rainbowbeachsurf.com.au



Amanda Schier with daughter Lelaina and Nippers Coordinator Kelly Smith at the Nippers sign on day



Teil and Jordan Gough with Keira and Merissa Paulden at the Rainbow Beach Nippers swimming try outs

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