

The Tawny

FROGMOUTH

January 2024





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G'day Beaches

Happy New Year! Be smart, save up enacting all those silly resolutions until February, January's party time.

Huge thank you to DJ Williams, former editor of MAD Magazine, unleashing his inner Christmas Beetle to fashion 2024's opening Tawny cover. Fantastic work Community Bank Freshwater and Manly Rotary, donating a specially designed \$100,000 bus to Manly's Adolescent and Young Adult Hospice.

Fresh from winning "Stars of the Beaches" dance competition, Councillor Sarah Grattan becomes Lifeline Northern Beaches' new CEO. Michael West unveils the un-prestigious list of 2023's Top 40 Tax Dodgers. And Green Scope's Sam Burton shows that sky's the limit when you've got a cool roof.

On the back of December's revelation that The Duke did not bring surfing to Australia, we've set a 2024 challenge, Operation Tipperary, to have a Tommy Walker upside down surfing statue at Manly by Christmas Eve, and properly honour our homegrown first surfer.

Liam



The Tawny Frogmouth

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CIRCULATION

50,000 copies delivered monthly
47,500 to letterboxes from
Manly to Avalon;
2,500 to local businesses
Spit Bridge to Summer Bay

PEFC CERTIFIED

The Tawny Frogmouth uses paper from sustainably managed forests.

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Acknowledgement of Country

The Tawny Frogmouth acknowledges the Traditional Custodians, the Gayamaygal and Garigal and their Country on which we Tawnies nest today.

By these words we show our respect to all Aboriginal people. We acknowledge Elders past, present and emerging and the spirits and ancestors of the Clans that lived in this area.



Zali Steggall OAM MP
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR WARRINGAH



Support local this holiday season.

My team and I wish you a safe and relaxing summer break. I hope you enjoy spending time with family and friends and please remember to continue to support local businesses during the festive season.

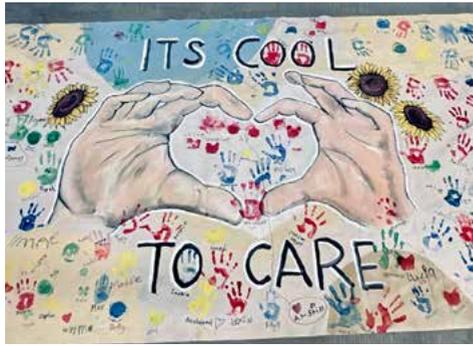
Best wishes

Zali

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Authorised by Zali Steggall MP, 2/17-19 Sydney Rd, Manly NSW 2095



The Elanora Heights community Christmas card

Peninsula Wash Up

It's cool to care

The Elanora Heights Christmas Markets, which took place on Sunday 26 November, may go down as one of the biggest and best community events of the year. Themed “it’s cool to care”, 4,000 residents made their way to Kalang Road, transforming the main drag into a humming Noel gathering akin to something you’d expect in Munich, Prague or Zagreb. Featuring over 80 local business stalls, awesome entertainment, and a giant artwork for residents to sign their hands in paint, the community spirit was on full display. MWP Community Care was the “Charity of Choice” for the event, with Chloe Feris, MWP’s Head of Operations saying, “MWP got the chance to introduce our services to our community and hear from residents about what services older Australians living in the area desire. We could not be prouder to work in and live amongst such a caring, happy, friendly and generous community.”

The Great Bucketty’s Wall of Tawny

It’s been over three years and 35 cover artworks in the making, but the time has come to properly pay homage to the bevy of Tawny Frogmouth cover artists, and to display their artworks in the best way we know how, with a Great Bucketty’s Wall of Tawny. From early January, through to the end of February, the (great) wall between the Bucketty’s stage and dunnies, a crucial thoroughfare with exceptional visibility, will be adorned with the December 2020 through to January 2024 Tawny cover artworks. Be sure to check it out, try to determine which is your favourite, and see if maybe you’ve got the talent and the gumption to create your own Tawny cover some day.

Get ready to rock

It’s on again, the **Ocean Rockpool Tour**, the annual charity event to swim for fifteen minutes at each of the 14 Northern Beaches rockpools in one day. Kicking off at Palm Beach, the pilgrimage ventures 32kms south to Shelly Beach for the final stop at Cabbage Tree’s rockpool. This event has quickly become a fan favourite, raising a whopping \$35,000 in 2023! Taking place **January 13/14**, sign up at oceanrockpooltour.com and help raise funds for local charities. It’s fine to drive between pools, but remember, you can always walk the route too, just as **Vince Bird** and **Driss Chikhaoui** did in 2023. Their blisters have almost healed.

Sing for Joy

A 2024 initiative to support those living with dementia, their family and allies, “Sing for Joy” is a dementia friendly community choir launching in Seaforth on 13 February at 10:30am at Seaforth Baptist Church, 31 Frenchs Forest Rd, Seaforth. As organiser Sharon Stoddard explains, “Singing is a wonderful way to find comfort and build connections, that’s what our choir is all about.” If you have friends or family or know members of the community living with dementia, and you’d like to meet weekly to sing some familiar songs and have a cuppa, please call **Sharon** on **0402 190 946**

Roll up! Roll up!

Tickets are now on sale for Glen Street Theatre’s exciting 2024 Season program. Performances cover a suite of genres for all generations with a fresh, all-star line-up featuring live music, comedy, drama, and film screenings, as well as family shows, dance, and musical storytelling. Highlights include the West End and Broadway classic and longest running play of all-time, **Agatha Christie’s The Mousetrap!** As well as family treasures **The Gruffalo** and **Dog Man the Musical**. Big names in Australian music **Kate Miller-Heidke** and **Prinnie Stevens** will take the stage, and top live music tributes to Fleetwood Mac, The Beatles, ABBA, and more, as well as plenty of dance with **The Tap Pack** and the return of the popular **Taste of Ireland**. Follow Mayor Sue Heins’ leadership, “I hope to see you all at Glen Street Theatre for an absolutely terrific 2024 season!” For the full line-up and to secure your bookings, visit glenstreet.com.au or call **9470 5913**.

Words: **Liam Carroll**

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www.becentre.org.au is a for-purpose children's mental health organisation, helping kids on the Northern Beaches since 2009.

This Program has been made possible by funding from Sydney North Health Network, through the NSW Ministry of Health.



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Letters to The Tawny

NBH oncology ward

My partner has just lost her battle with terminal cancer. I would like to thank Dr Toni Pearson and her dedicated team of nurses from the oncology ward at Northern Beaches Hospital for making my partner's terrible journey bearable. Their compassion and kindness were second to none. I would also like to thank the team at ward 6C and surgeon Dr Stuart Pincott and the doctors and nurses at Mona Vale Hospital's palliative care. You are all amazing people, and I cannot thank you enough.

Bill Burrows

Top Gun

Pelicans are the masters of flight and adept at spotting talent flying by at Mach 1. Hence, I am compelled to codename our Council 'TOP GUN' the best of the best. Here with a Christmas recap of the exploits of Iceman, Maverick and Goose. Supreme leader, and email shy, Iceman went to guns sending me a bill for \$10,000 calling it an Environmental levy. Apparently, I committed the sin of building a new house. He then ejected and parachuted to a new council. Goose was easily manipulated by his cyclist puppet masters, banning reverse parking on the Manly beachfront before broadening his horizons to destroy Oliver Street in Freshwater with cycle ways. Cowabunga! This minority group has some pull. Maverick then joined the Dogfight, saving wingman Iceman

by painting 3D crossings and installing concrete booby traps along the Manly beachfront. The offending traps cost thousands to install, did thousands in damage, and cost thousands to remove. Bingo!

As the dogfight spirals out of control, the lycra-clad cyclists zoom down the footpath at Mach 1, sadly without the reflexes of a Mig Pilot, closer to that of a cream bun, while kids, dogs, and pedestrians seek to pursue some fun in the sun. What could possibly go wrong? In summary, Dear Ratepayer, shut up, pay up and we will continue to soar like eagles at your expense, while surrounded by turkeys and manipulated by our puppet masters. Merry Christmas!

Percy Protest Pelican

December 2023 Edition

Liam, Congratulations again on another spectacular edition of The Tawny Frogmouth. I read it thoroughly each month, however this edition was exceptional. Thank you and have a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.

Helen Phokos

Who can you trust?

To every Northern Beachean, how long will we continue to accept these booster ads and politicians peddling their foreign donors' snake oil? Why weren't adverse reactions of all options reported by our media corporations in a timely manner? Why is AI now programmed to say a man can give birth to a baby? Can you trust Google or any news or AI to inform you or your children without an ulterior motive being programmed within? Who can you trust anymore? All I know is that if we keep cash in circulation, then it will stop a lot of the rumoured agendas

in their tracks. No rush to go cashless, and we won't get anything positive back from the banks or supermarkets if we go cashless.

G. Fawkes

Prime real estate

Dear Tawny, I've just arrived back in Manly after a year abroad swanning about the Mediterranean islands, and while it's fantastic to be home, a very safe distance from current calamities, I'm keen to know, is anyone talking about the recent occupation of homeless on the benches of Manly beach? I have no issues at all with them spending the nights there, and really, there should of course be a more permanent solution in a perfect world, but leaving mattresses and blankets there during the day when they disappear off is a bit much. It reminds me of the German and Dutch tourists at Mallorca pools who leave their towels there at 5am and take prime real estate only to disappear for the morning, leaving me four rows back from the pool with a view of the carpark.

Ed, Eastern Hill Manly

Re: Mystify Me (Oct '23)

In the October Tawny, your "Mystify Me" correspondent could not see the point of trying to reduce our CO2 emissions, as Australia contributes only 1.1% of global emissions, and here on the Northern Beaches we are only 1% of Australia's 26,473,100 (or so) population. That got me thinking. As I'm only one of nearly 26.5 million people, I might start dropping my rubbish wherever I feel like it. What difference will it make as I'm such a minute part of our total? In fact, if all 263,000 on the Northern Beaches just



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Colormaker Industries sustainably manufactures and sells a high-quality range of eco-friendly interior and exterior house paints to trades and the public from their paint shop in Brookvale.

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dumped our rubbish in the sea, we could save the Council a fortune in waste collection fees and reduce all of our rates significantly. The sea is huge, what difference could it possibly make?

However, on a per capita basis Australia is one of the highest emitters in the world. If you add up the 90 or so countries that contribute less than 1% of CO2 emissions, you get to a third of the global total. Perhaps that's why every area, every State, and every country needs to do their bit.

Alan Marel, North Curl Curl

Global Warming: 200 year anniversary

How long has the idea of global warming been around? 200 years! In 1824 Joseph Fourier, a French mathematician and physicist, wrote that he thought the temperature of the earth was a result of the insulating effect of the atmosphere. (The Analytical Theory of Heat). In 1856, American scientist Eunice Foote exposed some sealed glass cylinders, containing a thermometer, and filled with various gases to sunlight. She wrote: "The highest effect of the sun's rays I have found to be in carbonic acid gas (ie CO2)." In 1859, Irish scientist John Tyndale performed accurate measurements of the absorbance of infra-red by various gases such as carbon dioxide and air containing water vapour. He wrote: "Thus the atmosphere admits of the entrance of the solar heat; but checks its exit, and the result is a tendency to accumulate heat at the surface of the planet." In 1896, Swedish scientist (and eventual Nobel prize winner) Svante Arrhenius published his rule that "if the quantity of carbonic acid increases in geomet-

ric progression, the augmentation of the temperature will increase nearly in arithmetic progression", which when expressed as a formula forecasts the rise in temperature of the atmosphere for a given rise in CO2 concentration, a formula still used today.

The work on global warming is two centuries old, yet it is sad how long it is still taking for some people to accept it. Quite simply, the earth's temperature is only stable if the planet gets rid of exactly as much energy as the sun delivers. It does so by radiating long wave infra-red out to space, now being interfered with by the CO2 concentration, rising thanks to combustion of fossil fuels. Before the industrial revolution it was about 280 ppm (parts per million). It is now well over 400ppm and increasing. Of course, some global warming is essential to a good life on earth. No CO2 would mean an earth with average temperature about -20C. The CO2 level was about 200ppm during the ice ages. Too much CO2 however is very dangerous.

Nick Sharp, Curl Curl

Becoming Unravalled

G'day Liam! Well, it appears my absence from the last couple of Tawnies has caused a stir with people asking me why I hadn't kept up the onslaught of common sense and facts on the Climitites. So, here we go... It appears in Europe for myriad reasons the general populace and governments of some countries are realising that this wind and solar experiment is fast wrecking economies, especially Germany's, and costing way above what was predicted to be "CHEAP" & "RELIABLE" clean energy. Germany, as I have mentioned,

are moving a great deal of their manufacturing or at least the owners of these companies are moving to far cheaper energy countries i.e. China and Tunisia. BMW is one that has already moved its Mini Cooper car production to China with more car manufacturing under the BMW flag to follow. Manufacturing across the board in Germany is on the move out of the country. Sweden, home of "Princess Thunberg", under a Green Socialist (leaning) Government, has announced they are going nuclear!! Yes, up to 10 new nuclear electricity generating plants are being or about to be built. UK has already made the same commitment for up to 10 nuclear plants to be built. It's clean with no carbon footprint. I'm sorry if that's putting you Climitites in the foetal position but reality has struck.

Meanwhile in Australia, thanks to you Climitites, vast tracts of some of our richest and most productive farming land is to be lost in NW Victoria and NW NSW with transmission lines to completely destroy or inhibit the activities on these farms. Production of wheat, barley, sheep, potatoes, to mention a few, will be severely affected. But what do you Climitites care, the vast majority of you live in the city and anyway, you get your food from the supermarkets not farms - according to Green's Senator Sarah Hanson Young.

Last but not least, back to the UK and Europe where manufacturers and owners of wind turbines that are placed along the ocean coastline are asking for greater increased subsidies as the turbine component of these wind turbines are in the shaft above water line and are being severely degraded by salt air in a very short time. Thus,

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increased maintenance costs. Wait a minute, don't forget they are cheaper, according to Climitites.

In this wonderful country we should have a blanket ban on any wind turbines being placed anywhere along our magnificent coastline and I mean anywhere. That's enough for now Liam. Happy New Year, Tawny.

Mark (Robbo) Roberts

Hell's Angels sequel?

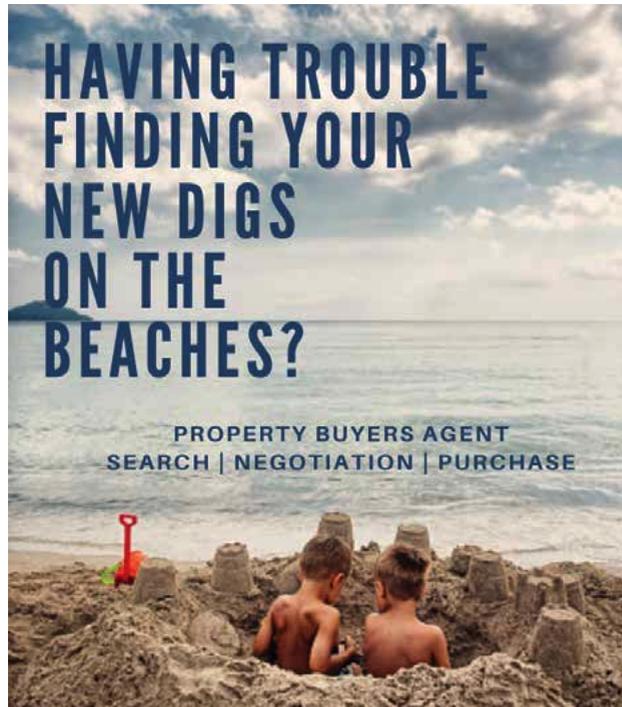
In the 1960s, Hunter S Thompson rode right on into the lives, hearts and fists of the infamous gang of outlaw motorcycle lovers, the Hell's Angels, crafting one of the finest yarns in literary history. Well, dear Frog, I believe this summer it's time you surreptitiously slid your feathered journalistic tendrils into the Northern Beaches' e-bike clans of unrepentant

disdain for pedestrian safety, civilised society and the utter joke which is Council and/or local law enforcement. I'm unsure this group yet bears a formal name, but it appears conditions of entry into our community's outlaw e-bike faction comprise having extremely wealthy parents who'll happily buy you a fat-tired, battery-powered machine worth several thousand dollars, to be permanently adorned in as few clothes as possible and never, I repeat never, to wear a helmet – or should you be so profoundly stupid as to have a helmet at all, to strap it dangling to your handlebars well beyond reach of protecting your clearly

undeveloped cerebral regions – and to always be texting, gramming, tiktoking or some such unmissable dross while flying full throttle down the Corso at perilous risk to wise elders, adorable toddlers, and anyone brave enough to brace the great outdoors. Under no circumstances are you encouraged to even pretend to look where you're going. That would be sacrilege. I await your updates with great excitement, indoors, safe, as far from e-bike jeopardy as I can, and upon reading your report, am certain to better understand these e-lunatics who've taken complete control of our streets.

Lance Armstrong, Underground

The Tawny Frogmouth invites the people of the Beaches to send in letters to mail@thetawnyfrogmouth.com.au



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Community

Operation Tipperary...

The mission possible to secure a Manly statue for Australia's first surfer, Tommy "Looney" Walker

Leading up to the publication of the December 2023 Tawny Frogmouth, contributing scribbler Alan Fawcett had reservations that revealing the truth - that Duke Kahanamoku did not in fact bring surfing to Australia - would bring about a backlash. "The very idea that The Duke introduced surfing to Australia is so engrained in surfing history mate," Alan told me. "People, I don't know, they might not want to hear the truth. What are we getting ourselves in to here?"

People never want to hear the truth. Why should they? The truth is usually awful, true. But Alan had spent countless hours researching the facts of Australia's patriotic little surfing history secret. And the risk of a little backlash? Please, it gets me up in the morning! Press print. Let's rock.

Rather than backlash, there's been wide-spread stoke for the recognition of Tommy Walker's pioneering wave-riding or, as it was known in 1909 - 5 years before The Duke arrived - "shooting". And no one was more excited than North Steyne's Ray Moran. "Liam, I read your article son, and boy, that photo you have of Tommy upside down has brought back some memories. Do you mind popping round to my house? I've got some things you may be interested in."

A story in itself, Ray was the first man to surf Angourie Point in 1959! Soon after he even asked the Yamba Urban Area Committee to build a proper road into Angourie, the 6km walk made no easier when lumbering a hefty 1959 surfboard under the arm, only to be told, "Angourie is the arsehole of the world, and it will never be anything."

Jump ahead to 1988, and CJ "Snowy" McAlister, perhaps the second most famous figure in Australian surfing after the Duke, sought out Ray to give him photos of Tommy Walker's surfing exploits prior to the Duke's arrival, as well as letters explaining Tommy's achievements. These recall how, leading up to World War I, Tommy would work at Harwood Sugar Mill on the Clarence River, a short distance to Yamba, explaining the many photos of Tommy wowing crowds in Yamba from 1911-



Ray Moran with his Tommy Walker scrapbook

13, precisely as he did in Manly, his signature upside down stance while whistling the Tipperary proving unbeatable showmanship.

What now? How to properly honour an incredible Aussie's legacy? Alan and I believe there's room on this peninsula for two surfing legend's statues, and have called in the big guns, the artists Gillie and Marc, cited as "the most successful and prolific creators of public art in New York's History" by the New York Times.

Gillie and Marc's "Statues for Legends" program is "on a mission to give visibility to unique narratives that shape our sense of cultural identity, and that may otherwise go unheard or be forgotten." They agree Tommy Walker's story well and truly meets the Legends brief, and we have set ourselves an ambitious target to have an upside-down surfing Tommy "Looney" Walker statue, replete with whistling Tipperary facial expressions, to find a home overlooking Queenscliff by Christmas Eve 2024, to poetically mark 110 years since The Duke didn't bring surfing to Australia.

To bring Operation Tipperary to fruition, The Tawny will need everyone's help at council, state, and federal levels of government, Manly Chamber, Tourism NSW and Australia, and everyone possible, to get on board, secure approvals, attract funding, create an epic tourist destination, and set the records straight. The statue will be interactive, meaning you'll be able to stand on board alongside Tommy, maybe upside down and whistling the Tipperary if so inclined! Exciting times ahead.

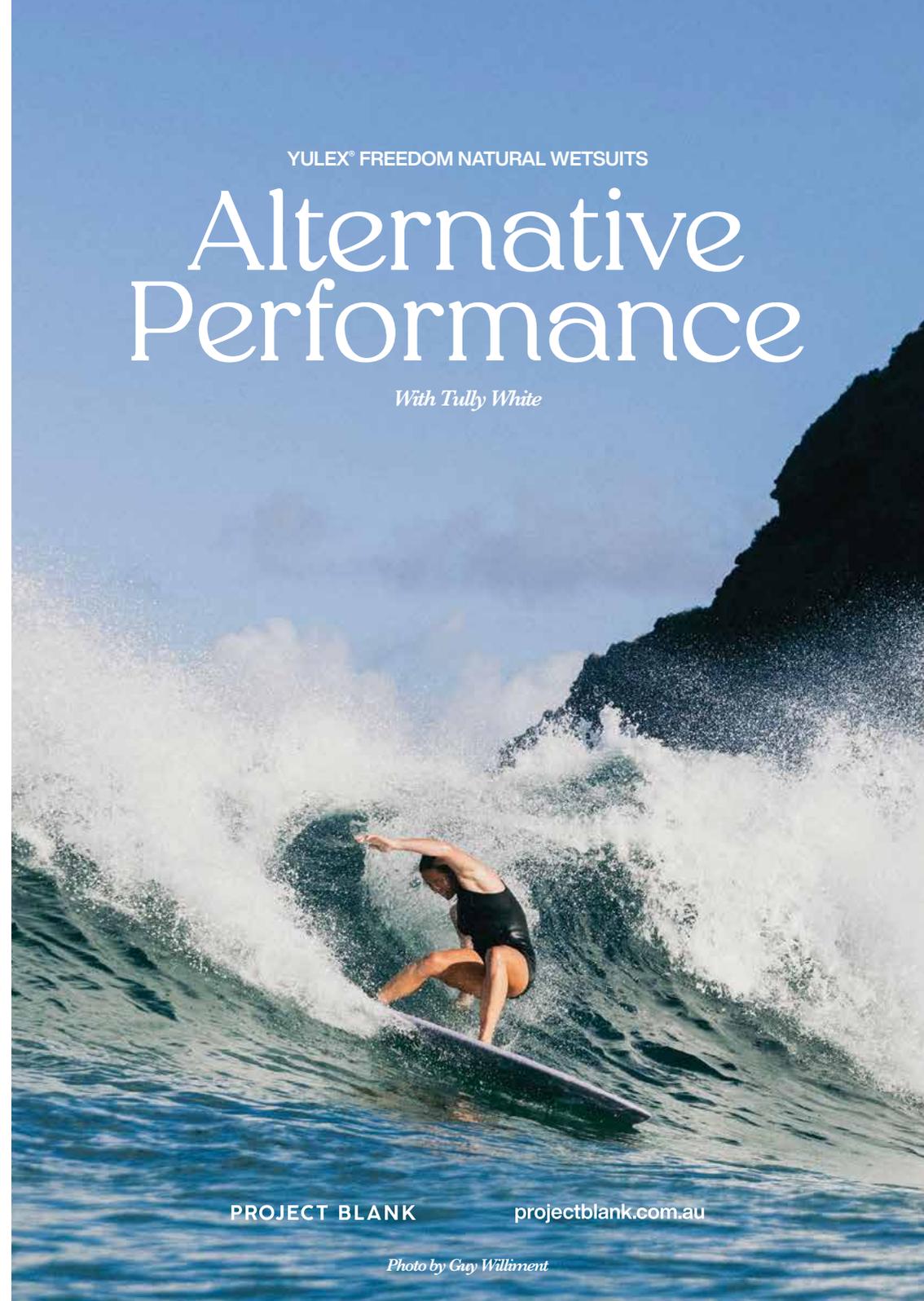
Check out Gillie and Marc's incredible public artworks online at gillieandmarc.com and on socials @gillieandmarcart

Words: **Liam Carroll**

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Photo by Guy Williment



The specially designed bus for AYAH is a huge win

James Griffin MP

Generosity delivers for the Hospice

A few Tawnies ago, I shared how well the **Adolescent and Young Adult Hospice (AYAH)** on the old Manly Hospital site is going and put a call out for organisations that wanted to help support the service as it continues to grow. **Community Bank Freshwater Bendigo Bank** and **Manly Rotary** got in touch and have dug deep for the Hospice!

Part of the magic of the Hospice is the respite that it provides to family and carers of people with life limiting illness. Caring for a loved one who has complex needs can be incredibly distressing and tiring. Staying at the Hospice not only provides Hospital level 24-hour care, but as we all know, Manly, Freshwater, Curl Curl (to name a few), are beautiful areas to explore and enjoy when you need to relax.

However, when you are travelling from far away and don't

have an easy means of getting around, especially if you need to travel with a wheelchair, it can be a challenge. So, the Hospice identified the need for a specially designed bus. The bus can transport clients and families staying at the Hospice, meaning they can get around our town and truly enjoy a week or so of deserved respite. However, a bus doesn't come cheap, particularly when it needs to be converted to become wheelchair friendly.

Step in Community Bank Freshwater and Manly Rotary. The two organisations have donated \$50,000 each to purchase a bus for the Hospice! It was a Christmas present from Manly Rotary, and a way for Community Bank Freshwater to celebrate their own 21st birthday.

I'd like to express my sincerest gratitude to Trevor, Julie, Simone and the team at

Community Bank Freshwater and Susie, Ken, Ted and the team at Manly Rotary for generously purchasing the \$100,000 bus. They heard the call for help, and decided to do something, and in only a matter of weeks got the job done. The true embodiment of community.

The \$19.5 million Hospice is a state-of-the-art facility, it is the only one of its kind in the country, and something we can all be proud of. In many respects it is a continuation of the proud history of healthcare that has been provided on the old Manly Hospital site.

It is worthwhile remembering that the Hospice welcomes people who are experiencing the toughest of times, from right across NSW. I believe it is Manly's way of sharing our beautiful location and generosity with the rest of the state.

A huge thanks to the nurses and team that run the Hospice, as the care they provide is world-class.

Throughout 2024, there will be opportunities big and small for individuals and groups to help support the work of the Hospice and I look forward to sharing that with you. Again, a huge thank you to Community Bank Freshwater and Manly Rotary.

In other news, I have continued to lobby the Government and ensure the funding that was committed to demolishing the old Aquarium site to create open public space is retained and the project proceeds. I have been advised by the Minister herself, that demolition should commence in the first half of 2024.

Wishing all of you a Happy New Year!

Words: **James Griffin MP**

Authorised by James Griffin MP. Funded using Parliamentary Entitlements.

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Lifeline Northern Beaches' new CEO

The Tawny recently chatted with **Sarah Grattan**, councillor, economist, mother, award winning dancer, and the newly appointed CEO of Lifeline Northern Beaches



Sarah Grattan centre with Lifeline volunteers

Who is Sarah Grattan? Many readers may know me as their local (independent) Northern Beaches Council Manly Ward Councillor, but for the last six years my day job has been in not-for-profit leadership. I'm an economist at heart, interested in governance, risk, strategy and finances. Perhaps more interestingly, my husband and I parent three delightful young women, I recently was a winner of the "Stars of the Beaches" dance competition (my genre was disco), and I love helping with the costume creation for my girl's school musicals!

What brought you to Lifeline Northern Beaches? This organisation is very much about locals supporting locals, and this role brings together my leadership skills in the not-for-profit sector, together with my deep love of community – a perfect match. Our purpose is to create connection with people in crisis and empower individuals and communities to be safe from suicide. What a powerful way to make a difference!

What most surprised you when starting in the role? I didn't know a lot about our work beyond the telephone crisis support – but Lifeline Northern Beaches provides so much more. We provide low cost (\$30) Counselling and free Financial Counselling. We have an amazing team of qualified and registered counsellors, mostly volunteers, who give their time to support members of our community and work on wellbeing and crisis prevention.

We have over 780 Volunteers! These won-

derful people support LLNB as crisis support workers in our call centre, providing counselling or training services, working in our retail stores and warehouse, at the book depot, at book fairs and at events. We are so privileged that so many in our community donate their time, their goods, their skills and their assets to Lifeline. Our work is predominately funded by our retail network, book fairs, events, and our fundraising partners who generously sponsor a call centre seat. We really rely on the support of our community to provide us with the resources to continue our work. It's about locals supporting locals.

What would you say to someone struggling and looking for support? There can be moments in life where things get really tough and sometimes, we can't see a way through. It can be daunting to ask for support, but it's moments like these where Lifeline is always available to listen without judgement and to help find hope. **Call 13 11 14 or text 0477 13 11 14** anytime. You can also make an enquiry to access our local counselling service by emailing counselling@lifelinenb.org.au

How can people support Lifeline Northern Beaches? We rely on the support of our community to be able to provide local crisis support and suicide prevention services, and are predominantly funded through retail, book fairs and donations – so anything that you can do to help enables Lifeline to provide what can be a life-changing impact in someone's life.

You can support Lifeline Northern Beaches by:

- 1. Getting involved.** Volunteer to be a Crisis Supporter or in our retail stores or our book fairs and events.
- 2. Giving unwanted items.** Make a donation to our Lifeline Shops from Neutral Bay to Mona Vale, or to our book fairs.
- 3. Donating.** Visit www.lifelinenb.org.au or call our giving team on **9949 5522**
- 4. Fundraising** through a local event. In the new year there are several events that you can join to fundraise for Lifeline Northern Beaches, such as the **Ocean Rockpool Swim** on 13 and 14 January, the **Cole Classic** on 4 February, and the **Sun Run** on 3 February. Check out the full list at lifelinenb.org.au/fundraise

Education

Community Bank Freshwater Bendigo Bank's Tertiary Scholarships Program

A little over a decade ago, to mark Community Bank Freshwater's 10th anniversary with something able to make ongoing, positive impact for residents, the Bank gave birth to their **Tertiary Scholarships Program**. Now in its 11th year, the program has provided \$387,000 to 87 students, with a further 9 being announced between September 2023 and February 2024.

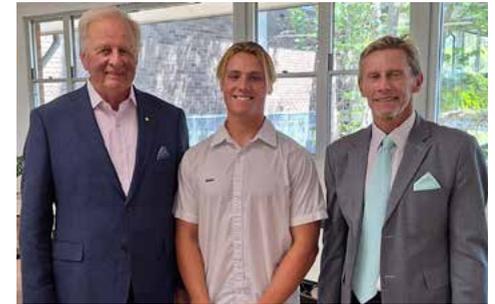
"Nothing of this nature or magnitude existed on the Northern Beaches," explains Peter Harley, the Tertiary Scholarships Director. "Most scholarships exist within the universities themselves, and none of them are local."

The program provides \$2,000 to nine students, one from each of the local high schools: St Luke's Grammar School, St Augustine's College, St Paul's Catholic School, Stella Maris College, and the five arms of Northern Beaches Secondary College Campus: Balgowlah Boys, Cromer, Mackellar Girls, Manly Selective and Freshwater Senior.

"The selection of the scholarship recipient is determined by their school," says Peter. "The teachers, principal, the school communities, they know the students the best. We leave the decision in their hands, though we do have three criteria."

Firstly, **The Bridges Principle:** The scholarship winner must reside within the holy trinity of Spit Bridge to Roseville Bridge to the Narrabeen Bridges. Apologies north Northern Beaches but, in this case, the world does revolve around a strict Freshwater radius. Second, **Academic Criteria:** this doesn't refer to the highest achieving students academically, but for all-rounders displaying talents and aptitude across a broad range of disciplines. Most importantly, **Community Involvement:** this criterion ensures the scholarships go to students who've displayed a clear community mindset in their approach to daily life.

Beyond the nine \$2,000 scholarships, there's one \$15,000(!) scholarship winner. On the Monday of University O-week, 5 February 2024, each of the nine students, and their school principal, and parents will attend a ceremony along with James Griffin, Manly MP at one of the local SLSC's for the announcement of the Ken Ward Memorial Scholarship 2024 Student of the Year winner. The pressure for this occasion is



Bally Boys Tertiary Scholar Will Ashton, with Principal Paul Sheather and Community Bank Freshwater Tertiary Scholarships Director Peter Harley

not on the students – for once! – but on their principal, as it is their task to step forward to present the credentials of their school leaver for ultimate honours of receiving the \$15,000 scholarship, as decided by an independent panel and an educational adjudicator.

Piper Harrison was one such winner, superstar ironwoman who, at 21, has already had a crack at local politics! "My Uni and training commitments leave little time for work, meaning I only have the capacity to work casually as a learn to swim teacher," says Piper. "The scholarship has meant I can study my dream degree with less concern about the financial burden of it, given my limited time to work long hours. I will be forever grateful for the generosity of Community Bank Freshwater."

Manly MP James Griffin is a big supporter of the program too. "My sincerest thanks to the wonderful team at Community Bank Freshwater for their continued support of our amazing young people through their scholarship program. I know from speaking to past recipients, it makes a huge impact!"

More on Community Bank Freshwater's scholarships harbordfinancialservices.com.au/programs.html

Visit the branch at **9-15 Lawrence Street, Freshwater**, follow **@communitybankfreshwater** on socials, and call **9939 6744** for all community banking information.

Words: **Liam Carroll**

A Century of Vigilance and Service

To celebrate 100 years of Queenscliff SLSC, Brian Dolly has spent the past four years reviewing 100 annual reports, 30,000 photos, and every known tale, creating Queenscliff's centenary book, commemorating the people integral to the club's history and future.

My family and seven-year-old me arrived in Queenscliff for the 1974/75 season. Indeed, it was thanks to the Manly Fisho's, sadly now deceased, that Dad found out about the club, meeting some Queenscliff members there who spoke highly of the set up. And what a great set up, the only club with both Saturday nippers and swimming club on the same day.

Fifty years later, it's hard to explain the precise genesis for wanting to create Queenscliff's 100 Year Book. It seems once Grant 'Chippa' Spradbrow and I had finished scanning the 2018/19 annual report, all of a sudden, it's December 2023 and the book has magically come to life, but a huge amount of work from so many club members has taken place over the past four years.

We are blessed that we have all of the 100 annual reports as well as boxes and boxes of documents that survived three clubhouses and vigorous annual clean outs. We started with a collection of photo scans, the 75th Anniversary book, folders full of annual reports and documents, a century of photo technology and 30,000 photos, starting with black and white prints in cardboard albums, then slides, colour prints, CD's DVD's, USB's, hard drives, and online libraries.

The job was also to figure out how to edit and present all this information in the most engaging way. We didn't want a book of lists and a stack of photos of athletes with medals around their neck. We set out to capture the spirit of a typical day at the club in any time over the past century. A special thanks to section leaders and club stalwarts who provided text covering their area of expertise and met with me to select the final photos for the book and to name the people in them. This took far longer than imagined but was well worth the time.

This book is but a snapshot of the thousands of Queenscliff SLSC member from the 1923-24 season to the end of 2022-23, the 100th season. To summarise the archived material into a century of people, lifesaving, sporting results,



Surf Boat "Akubra" on a wave in the 1920s

teams, trucks, clubhouses, equipment, triumph and tragedy is a task that will look different every time it is attempted, but there is one key takeaway; the surf here can be brutal, with long lists of tragedies that have happened and longer lists of tragedies prevented by lifesaver members. Those 3800 bronze medallions and the patrol hours they put in are the core of the club.

While many people helped with the project, two people should be personally acknowledged: **David Piper** - who remembers everyone and everything and reviewed the proofs multiple times, and **Grant 'Chippa' Spradbrow**. He was involved from beginning to end, including scanning, editing, photo selection, and the general feel of the book.

Thank you to everyone who allowed me to present your history.

Pop into Queenscliff Surf Life Saving Club to purchase your copy of the "100 Year Book: A Century of Vigilance and Service", or head online to www.queensie.com where you can also find all information, history, important updates, and become a member.

Words: **Brian Dolly**

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The Top 40 Tax Dodgers of 2023

Fossil fuel giants and other foreign multinationals are again the biggest tax dodgers in Australia. **Callum Foote** and **Michael West** unveil the un-prestigious *Michael West Media* Top 40 Tax Dodgers awards.

Once again, fossil fuels multinationals are the biggest culprits in tax dodging in Australia, indeed across the multinationals sector in general, and once again, coming home with the gong for 2023 is US oil and gas major Exxon.

In November, the Australian Tax Office released its ninth annual corporate tax transparency report. The sample size – now 9 years of data – is more than enough to illustrate the failures of the corporate tax system, the indefinite ‘banking’ of tax losses and the mass ‘offshoring’ of profits via debt, IP and service payments to foreign associates. EY, Deloitte, PwC and KPMG are the auditors and tax advisers to the vast majority of multinationals and the orchestrators of tax schemes.

The ATO report contains the revenues (total income), profits (taxable income) and tax payable by any corporate entity with a total income of at least \$100 million. From this data, MWM applies a simple formula to find the biggest tax dodgers. As in previous years, mining, fossil fuel and transport companies have taken the top spots.

The methodology has been tweaked slightly from previous years, but it is largely the same, designed to show which companies are most aggressive in paying little or no tax on their profits (taxable income), as well as deliberately wiping out their profits in Australia by “offshoring it” to low tax jurisdictions. If you don’t make a profit in Australia, you don’t pay tax in Australia.

Exxon still leads the way

We were expecting US oil and gas giant Exxon to be near the \$100B revenue mark this year without paying a cent in tax. We were close. Exxon recorded sales of \$97.9B yet maintained its unblemished record of paying not a single cent of tax, while globally reporting a profit of \$56B – pity they couldn’t manage to turn a profit in Australia. Oh well, always next year. In fact, the ATO figures are a year old and company releases show ExxonMobil Australia, perhaps shamed by its war profiteering and the sheer scale of its tax avoidance in Australia, has finally begun to pay

income tax in Australia.

Toll Holdings, the Australian subsidiary of Japanese transportation, warehousing and logistics company, finished in the runner up spot as previous silver medallist Lendlease actually paid \$66 million to the ATO, its highest-ever contribution. While Toll’s tax payments, \$92m, blow the rest of the Top 40 out of the water, the group’s ability to reduce the percentage of their revenue which is translated into profit to less than 1% earns them the number 2 on our 2023 leaderboard.

The Hope Downs Marketing Company, a joint venture between Gina Rinehart’s Hancock Prospecting group and Rio Tinto, which runs four large open pit mines in the Pilbara, landed in the number 3 spot. Although it should be said that this is a “pass-through” vehicle and Rinehart’s Hancock Prospecting and Rio are two of the biggest taxpayers in Australia along with Andrew Forrest’s Fortescue and the Big Four banks (and only eclipsed by BHP, which paid a monte last year). This is on-trend as Australian multinationals enjoy less scope to avoid paying income tax in this country and the Big Four banks are domestic operations largely.

How do they do it?

Simple, they make their profits elsewhere, siphoning out the cash from their Australian businesses in company loans from entities overseas, in IP and service payments, in returns of capital, and by generally adding as many costs as they can to their Australian entities from their overseas entities.

The schism between the corporate rich and the working poor has never been so deep. On the average teacher’s salary, for instance, at \$85,000 a year as a PAYG taxpayer, you can expect to pay 23.3% tax on your income or \$19,792. That’s \$19,792 more than Exxon paid on its staggering sales of \$97.9bn from exporting oil and gas.

The average Australian can’t set up hundreds of foreign companies to sell things to themselves

in other countries, things like loans. We only have one rule, pay tax at the designated rate on your Australian income. No loopholes, and no dubious expenses to offshore profits to a tax haven.

We have Virgin Australia coming in at number four again, with \$42B in revenue, less than a million in profit and nothing in tax. Qantas too pays very little tax except in rare years of super profits when it has expended its tax losses. Yet it has recorded enough taxable income to stay off the MWM Top 40 due to methodology – although earning far more at the top line than Virgin.

Qantas posted a \$9.3B revenue and zero profit for 2022 but having paid \$270M in tax over the last nine years doesn’t make the Top 40 cut.

Then comes gas producer Santos, which has made \$36B since the ATO began its corporate tax transparency register in 2014 paying just \$3.1M in tax, the same as last year, despite its \$5b in revenue. To be fair, they have racked up billions in bona fide losses from the LNG debacle. BG, or British Gas, makes its appearance in the top 10 jumping up from number 13 last year, with a \$31B revenue over the reporting period and no profit made. This is owned by oil major Shell. Coal companies Yancoal and Peabody make the charts again.

Top 40 Methodology

We have aggregated the corporate tax transparency data provided by the ATO to show total income, taxable income and tax payable for the largest companies operating in Australia. From this, we have selected companies that have managed to produce taxable income (pre-tax profit) that is less than 1% of their total income.

Words: **Callum Foote & Michael West**, Michael West Media



Name	Total Income	Tax payable \$
Exxonmobil Australia Pty Ltd	97,875,399,715	-
Toll Holdings Limited	48,645,484,836	92,128,506
Hope Downs Marketing Company Pty Ltd	44,745,510,297	2,556,816
Virgin Australia Holdings Limited	42,878,167,659	-
Santos Limited	36,627,099,909	3,147,975
Amcort Limited	36,143,592,472	-
Vodafone Hutchison Australia Pty Ltd	35,405,627,946	-
BG International (Australia) Pty Ltd	31,368,784,661	-
Yancoal Australia Limited	31,301,166,196	-
Peabody Australia Holdco Pty Ltd	29,204,870,432	-
Ford Motor Company Of Australia Ltd	27,628,514,971	-
Fletcher Building (Australia) Pty Ltd	25,898,519,362	5,703,073
Pomi Pty Limited	23,391,906,754	890,908
Swiss Re Australia Ltd	22,674,436,425	27,346,012
Travellex Australia Holdings Pty Ltd	22,616,589,205	19,561,745
NBN Co Limited	21,571,063,426	-
Puma Energy (Australia) Holdings Pty Ltd	20,775,739,496	-
Rta Holdco Australia 1 Pty Ltd	19,865,003,659	-
Ingram Micro Holdings (Australia) Pty Ltd	18,673,093,722	15,150,437
Spotless Group Holdings Limited	17,908,314,496	6,748,534
Erm Power Limited	17,676,430,073	44,474,439
New Zealand Milk (Australasia) Pty Ltd	17,363,280,827	-
Stockland Corporation Ltd	17,301,683,939	-
Elders Ltd	16,947,108,876	36,101
Bpnh Pty Limited	16,591,788,085	-
Hewlett Packard South Pacific Pty Ltd	14,336,271,487	28,796,002
International Power (Australia) Holdings Pty Ltd	14,253,674,925	-
Hannover Life Re Of Australasia Ltd	14,239,467,206	-
Wilmar Australia Holdings Pty Ltd	14,058,788,172	-
Munich Holdings Of Australasia Pty Ltd	13,782,410,733	-



Sophie's campaign to stop junk food marketing to kids heats up

Meeting with celebrity chef Jamie Oliver to discuss my Healthy Kids Private Members Bill was a real highlight for me in my campaign to stop our kids being preyed upon and bombarded with advertisements for fatty, salty and sugary foods. His work as a healthy food advocate, especially food marketed to children has inspired me.

Most people know Jamie as the TV chef with the endearing Essex accent. I was lucky enough to meet him in November, just before his appearance at the Opera House, where he entertained audiences with a rollicking account of his journey to global foodie and advocate for home-cooked healthy food.

For decades, Jamie has championed the cause of improving children's food habits and protecting them from harmful junk food advertising for decades in the UK. His **AdEnough** campaign had a simple message: we must make it easier for children to make better, healthier food choices.

In 2018 he ran a grassroots action, where parents and children were asked to post a picture of themselves covering their eyes. Jamie reckons that's the only way that kids can avoid being bombarded with advertising for all sorts of products that damage their health, from burgers to fried food to sugary drinks.

It was hugely successful. He's managed to convince London Transport to stop displaying ads for unhealthy food on all London Transport. The UK government has also agreed to stop the advertising of foods high in fat, sugar and salt until after 9pm and a ban on "buy one get one free" deals on junk food.

It's now time that kids in Australia receive the same protection. Our children are constantly targeted by advertisements for unhealthy, cheap, and easily accessible junk food. Jamie and his team conducted research to show that digital billboards in London literally changed once kids were in school from unhealthy food to other products.

He says that makers of junk food literally "hunt children" by targeting them at school bus-stops, online and on TV.

As a former GP and a mother of three teens, I am deeply concerned about the rising rate of childhood obesity in Australia. One quarter of all children and two-thirds of adults are above the



The only way to avoid seeing junk food ads

healthy weight range. Obesity and diabetes have become societal problems requiring a societal response. That's why I moved my bill in June.

It calls for a ban on television and radio advertising of unhealthy foods between 6am and 9.30pm including subscription and streaming services. I am now exploring with technology experts how to implement a total ban online so that children are not targeted when they are using social media. It is possible. It just takes will by the government.

Health minister Mark Butler has now commissioned a study by the University of Wollongong on the feasibility of banning such advertising. I am hopeful he and the government share my concerns about this important health issue.

I will continue to push the Government on this issue and advocate for the restriction on junk food companies targeting children both on television and online. If 40 other countries around the world can do it, including the UK, Mexico, Chile and Norway, then so can Australia.

Keep up to date with Dr Sophie Scamps MP's initiatives at sophiescamps.com.au

Learn more about Jamie Oliver's #AdEnough campaign to stop junk food marketing to kids at www.jamieoliver.com

Words: **Dr. Sophie Scamps**, Independent MP for Mackellar

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Introducing an extraordinary fusion

G.J. Gardner Homes Sydney North unveils the Bluewater with a Palm Springs Facade

In a bold departure from the ordinary, G.J. Gardner Homes Sydney North is pushing the boundaries of architectural innovation with their upcoming display home, the Bluewater with a Palm Springs facade.

Under construction are two homes, each sitting across large blocks in this coveted cul-de-sac position. The front house is being constructed to the brief of “a mid-century marvel” and is designed to showcase excellence in architecture

with stunning curves and textural elements. This home exhibits a Palm Springs aesthetic, exuding a sense of style that is both modern and timeless. Meanwhile, the rear home embraces a contemporary Hamptons beach house vibe, creating a perfect blend of elegance and relaxation. Together, these two homes will add a touch of allure and luxury to the local architectural landscape, offering two uniquely customised homes that both perfectly suit the context of their northern beaches neighbourhood.

Embracing mid-century charm with a contemporary twist

The brainchild of the acclaimed G.J. Gardner architects, The Bluewater draws inspiration from the resurgence of mid-century modern style. Owner Horst Lueckl, reflecting on their multi-award-winning Freshwater display home, expressed a desire to present something even more bold and revolutionary to the neighbourhood. “The Bluewater with a Palm Springs facade reflects our commitment to staying at the forefront of design trends,” he shared.

Playful, purposeful, and artistic design choices

Every aspect of The Bluewater is a deliberate choice, with design elements that are both playful and purposeful. The eloquent pink kitchen, intricate coloured tiles, and a revival of glass bricks create a captivating interplay of light, texture, and architectural innovation. Mr Lueckl emphasises, “We saw this as an opportunity to showcase cutting-edge products and designs.” Working renders offer a sneak peek into the vibrant, purposeful spaces that await visitors.

To navigate the intricate waters of style and experimentation, G.J. Gardner Homes Sydney North has enlisted the expertise of Dani Dean from The Make Haus. A visionary in the field, Dani Dean’s discerning eye and perspective play a pivotal role in curating a space that not only embraces innovation but also radiates sophistication. Mr Lueckl notes, “The collaboration between G.J. Gardner Homes and The Make Haus has breathed life into a space that is both bold and purposeful. This home expertly balances on the fine line between opulence and style and is destined to be a showstopper.”

A masterpiece in the making

The Bluewater promises more than just a visual spectacle; it invites visitors on an educational and immersive journey. G.J. Gardner Homes Sydney North envisions The Bluewater as a showcase of cutting-edge products and applications, creating a display home experience like never before. “A visit to our display home is a journey through a world of colour, texture, and cutting-edge products and applications that have not likely been used in a G.J. Gardner Home before,” Mr Lueckl states.

Built on a foundation of community support, G.J. Gardner Homes Sydney North acknowledges the contributions of local suppliers and businesses. Mr Lueckl emphasises, “This unique project would not be possible without the collaboration and dedication of our skilled local trade base and trusted network of suppliers.”

Anticipation is building for the grand unveiling of The Bluewater, with G.J. Gardner Homes Sydney North aiming for an open date in June 2024. As the construction progresses, witness the future of architectural excellence as The Bluewater with a Palm Springs facade prepares to redefine the concept of a display home.





DJ Williams with his pet Corroboree Frog (actual size)

Cover Artist

DJ Williams

A man who is continually sketching and painting, pursuing his muse, DJ Williams is a publishing legend having been Editor and Creative Director of Australian MAD magazine for many years. The Northern Beaches have always been home and a great inspiration for his art.

How long have you lived on the Northern Beaches? My entire life. I was conceived and born in Seaforth and have never moved too far away. Why would I?

What's your favourite beach? I like Clontarf. It has memories of my youth, and a dog area which is cool.

What's the best thing about the Northern Beaches? Great question. You can take a place for granted when you're tied up with work and bringing up a family. I find when I travel overseas and return home you understand exactly why this is such a great place to live. The Northern Beaches coastline is fantastic; laid back but also buzzing with ideas and energy.

Describe one of your fondest memories of life on the Beaches? Zinc on the nose as kid, KFC surfboards, sunburn, and peeling skin. Then in my teens and 20s, going to the Manly Vale and Antler Hotels to see bands like INXS, Icehouse (Flowers), The Angels, Jimmy and the Boys, and heaps of others. Good times.

If you had to live anywhere else in the world, where would that second-best place to live be? In an Italian coastal village with a donkey for transport.

What inspired your cover art? For me growing up, Christmas beetles were a massive part of childhood. The numbers of beetles seem to be dwindling over the decades. I say, "Bring Back the Beetle!" These two guys are relaxing during a summer break at the beach before being captured by youngsters. Remember kids – have a look but always let them go.

What inspires your art in general? I don't really know where it comes from, and if I think about it too much it may ruin my creative process. Let's just say it happens, without too much trouble and I'm always looking for something new.

How would you describe your art? My art comes from many places and it's difficult to describe. Maybe optimistic dystopian with hints of absurdity and realism.

Which artists or other inspiring people, dead or alive, would you most like to have dinner with? Everyone says Frida Kahlo and David Bowie because they have fascinating histories – so them – and maybe Gordon Ramsay who is a great chef and could cook for us and swear.

How did you discover you had a gift for art? When I was very young, I read a lot of comics and copied those at first. Then I was given a paint-by-numbers picture of a horse and that was that. A seed was planted.

Did you study art? Not officially however I did architectural studies and graphic design. I have always been interested in various art styles including cartooning, which led me to working at Australian MAD magazine for over 30 years.

What else are you working on? I'm currently working on some paintings for exhibitions, local and interstate. Watch this space. I'm also creating murals for people who want to add value to their big walls.

What's your favourite thing about what you do? I can do it solitary while listening to loud music.

What do you see, or would like to see, in the future of the Beaches art scene? More local exhibitions and more local artists collaborating. There's a lot of talent here. I would also like to see an art school/college based here in the Northern Beaches.

What advice do you have for young or aspiring artists? Enjoy art, but always have a back-up plan.

Follow @monkeybox66 on Instagram to keep up to speed with DJ Williams' latest goodies.

Interview: **Liam Carroll**



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Sky's the limit when you've got a cool roof

In 2011, fresh from completing his studies in Environmental Science, Sam Burton was sitting in the surf in between sets, looking back at dry land, wondering how on earth he was going to apply his studies towards making the world a greener place, and perhaps even more importantly, how he was going to make a living.

He probably didn't know it then, but the sight of all those brown roofs basking in the harsh Aussie sunshine must have started searing in his mind, tailor made for absorbing heat rather than reflecting it, rendering suburban homes far warmer than they need be, driving up energy costs and air-conditioner-dependency.

"Environmental science is an awesome degree," says Sam. "But the harsh reality of leaving university and finding employment in that field, it can be very challenging."

In partnership with his good mate Kieran Regan and with advice and assistance from his older brother Tom, Sam founded Green Scope, focused on exploring sustainability endeavours before quickly realising the potential that enhanced roofing technology could have for the environment, while also being a commercial success.

It was actually Sam's brother Tom who first cottoned on to cool roof technology. "Sam and I have always been very mindful of our carbon footprint, and wanting to be smart in how we operate and have a positive impact," says Tom. "It was a podcast originally that alerted me to the impact of urban heat islands, of a roof's ability to drastically reduce energy costs associated with air-conditioning of a home, as well as reduce overall temperatures of a neighbourhood."

While solar panels on rooftops have received a lot of attention for their ability to generate electricity, the cool roofs are able to reduce your energy bills by 42% thanks chiefly to decreased consumption, with indoor temperatures up to 4 degrees cooler diminishing the need for air-conditioning.

The cool roofs have also been shown to reduce outdoor temperatures in the surrounding vicinity by up to 2.5 degrees, an essential asset in the fight against urban heat islands. This problem has become so severe that in areas of Sydney local councils enforce all new building applications to use light colour cool roofs, attempting to curb the creation of unnecessary heat from



Sam points out where the business idea started

darker coloured, older technology roofs.

"Growing the business to an awesome team of 6 and looking to further expand, being able to view the Beaches from all manner of superb rooftop vantage points every working day, and having a positive impact towards overall lower energy consumption, I'm really pleased I made the decision to go down this path," says Sam.

If you've got a leaky roof that you've been meaning to replace for a while, or your power bills have become so extortionate that it's no longer a laughing matter, it's forcing you to change your entire home budget, or you just want to be cool as ice, perhaps the time is right to give Sam a call at Green Scope. The team work quickly too, so the imminent summer of El Nino heatwaves and minimal rainfall can become all the more bearable with a cool roof up top.

GET IN TOUCH

Call Sam on **0406 154 608** or head to greenscopeco.com.au to find out more.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

If you're an experienced roofer looking to work with a great Green Scope team, or a cool, green-minded individual that likes working outdoors and looking for a new opportunity, Green Scope would love to hear from you. Email admin@greenscopeco.com.au

Words: **Liam Carroll**

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Each month we print 50,000 full colour magazines, with 47,500 delivered directly to residential letterboxes, and 2,500 placed in highly frequented public places from Manly to Palm Beach.

Contact Liam to find out how you can showcase your business, service, or initiative, and fully engage with the Tawny Frogmouth's Northern Beaches community.

0414 556 038 | liam@thetawnyfrogmouth.com.au

January 2024 Tide Chart

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1 0034 1.26 0601 0.67 1225 1.62 1910 0.51	2 0118 1.27 0648 0.71 1305 1.54 1948 0.54	3 0206 1.29 0742 0.75 1349 1.45 2030 0.57	4 0258 1.32 0844 0.78 1441 1.36 2115 0.59	5 0351 1.38 0955 0.78 1542 1.28 2202 0.60	6 0445 1.45 1109 0.74 1650 1.23 2252 0.61	7 0535 1.53 1216 0.66 1757 1.22 2342 0.60
8 0625 1.63 1314 0.56 1857 1.24	9 0031 0.58 0713 1.74 1403 0.44 1951 1.28	10 0121 0.54 0800 1.85 1451 0.34 2042 1.33	11 0211 0.50 0849 1.94 1538 0.25 2130 1.37	12 0301 0.45 0938 2.01 1624 0.20 2220 1.40	13 0353 0.42 1027 2.04 1712 0.18 2310 1.43	14 0445 0.41 1116 2.01 1759 0.19
15 0000 1.46 0540 0.43 1206 1.93 1845 0.24	16 0052 1.48 0637 0.48 1257 1.79 1932 0.32	17 0146 1.50 0739 0.54 1350 1.62 2021 0.40	18 0243 1.53 0847 0.60 1450 1.45 2111 0.49	19 0343 1.56 1004 0.63 1559 1.30 2204 0.56	20 0444 1.60 1127 0.62 1715 1.21 2300 0.61	21 0545 1.65 1242 0.56 1829 1.19 2359 0.62
22 0642 1.70 1342 0.50 1930 1.21	23 0053 0.62 0733 1.74 1429 0.45 2019 1.24	24 0142 0.60 0819 1.77 1509 0.41 2100 1.28	25 0226 0.57 0900 1.79 1545 0.39 2138 1.31	26 0306 0.55 0938 1.79 1618 0.39 2213 1.33	27 0344 0.54 1014 1.78 1650 0.40 2246 1.34	28 0420 0.54 1047 1.75 1721 0.41 2321 1.35
29 0458 0.56 1120 1.69 1751 0.44 2356 1.37	30 0537 0.59 1154 1.62 1821 0.47	31 0033 1.38 0619 0.64 1229 1.53 1853 0.51				

- New moon
- First Quarter
- Full Moon
- Last Quarter

INFO: BUREAU OF METEOROLOGY/TIDAL CENTRE PHOTO: NICK THOMPSON





Where profits meet the sea

Local Business

Profit First

Imagine having a business that was always profitable no matter what the season

As we wind up 2023, a lot of us will be reflecting on the year we have had and what we have achieved. It has been a challenging year for many, especially in small business. With the price of materials going up faster than ever, and the constant compliance and mounting paperwork to be done, it's surprising so many of us are still ready to go another round. Thankfully, there is a better way.

The business sector in Australia is dominated by small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), with 97% classed as small business (0-19 employees). Sadly, approximately 20% of new businesses fail within their first year and 60% don't make it to 5 years.

A huge challenge for small businesses is cash flow and money stress. Many small business owners have heard of Profit First, but don't know much about what it is, or how it works. Not only a cash management system, Profit First is also a behavioural system that will challenge your current thought process.

Traditionally, the Profit formula is Sales – Expenses = Profits. With this formula Sales comes first, then Expenses are paid out, and whatever's left is your Profits. But imagine if you prioritised your Profits first. Imagine if you paid yourself what you are worth for running your business and realised that if you're not paying yourself what you're worth, and taking a

profit, then you only have the equivalent of an underpaid job.

Sitting down and mapping out your goals and your "Why" with a Profit First professional may be the most enlightening moment you have in your business. After all, we go into business for a clear reason but often get stuck there and lose sight of our initial mission. The daily grind of the business keeps us stuck. Dreams and hopes drift to the back burner before financial year end arrives and, yet again, we're back at the accountant's office asking, where are the profits? Where is the cash?

When you are running your business under the Profit First methodology, you are intentionally making cash flow decisions that build your Profits and minimise expenses. You intentionally put money aside, into various accounts, just like the old envelope system. When BAS time comes around, you can then draw from that account and pay it on time, without having the stress and worry of not having the money available because someone doesn't pay you an invoice on time.

Many business owners are working so hard that they haven't even had time to thoroughly go through their books and review their financial situation. I often find business owners are increasing their sales at a rapid rate, and increasing their expenses in the same, or higher, proportion, resulting in less profits and higher sales. Parkinson's Law creeps in, and the more we earn, the more we spend.

Many people have money blockages that we can work with through the Profit First system, breaking down old beliefs and thought patterns that may not serve you well today, or cause stress in your business. The first step in implementing Profit First is to do an assessment on your business. Once you know your Current Allocation Percentages (CAPs), you can map out where you want to be and work towards your Target Allocation Percentages (TAPs). You can do this by yourself or with a Profit First professional to guide you.

To learn more about **Profit First** or if you are interested in exploring solutions to your business's cash flow and money management issues, contact **Linda Hughes** of **First Accounts** on **0411 920 927**.

Download a free chapter of the **Profit First** book at firstaccounts.com.au then add this to your summer reading list and make 2024 your best year yet!

Words: **Linda Hughes**, Director of First Accounts

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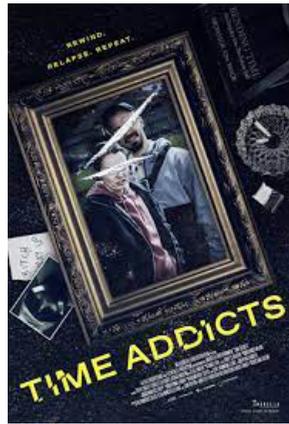
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This new Aussie release is a concise, contained and super-charged grimy sci-fi action-thriller

Film Review

Time Addicts

There has been no shortage of time travel films. Back to the Future, Looper, Tenet, Groundhog Day. The tangled, dizzying web of plot threads, timelines and characters make our heads spin in the most delicious and satisfying of ways. It's a hypothetical situation that is always so fun to see played out on screen. But I bet you have never seen a time travel movie quite like the new Aussie release: **Time Addicts**.

Two bickering drug users are given a mission by their dealer to pay an outstanding debt. All they have to do is go through the bathroom window of an old boarded up house, not wake the owner, and retrieve a bag of crystal meth. Sounds easy right?

Well Johnny (**Charles Grounds**), the hilarious quasi-elloquent partner of Denise (**Freya Tingley**) ignores the advice of drug dealer Kane (**Joshua Morton**) and tries the supply, setting off a story so perfectly convoluted that it is truly a pleasure to untangle the knots as you go along.

Every performance in the film requires so much of the actors negotiating multiple versions of themselves, and every version of these characters feels so authentic and distinct. There are deep emotions, betrayals, longings and fears each character possesses and carries with them no matter what time they are in, anchoring the audience in what could have been a confusing story.

This is, in part, thanks to the sharp witty dialogue that can simultaneously propel the movie forward or slow it down to give the audience a break and a laugh. Writer and director Sam Odlum and his team skilfully balance authentic banter, heartbreaking emotion and high-stake scenes to create an intense and cathartic experience. There could be a book with all the ridiculous things that Johnny spouts from his mouth, my favourite being when Johnny takes a moment to question the emotional intelligence of a character in an extremely volatile situation. Yet somehow the film still lands its more serious moments.

Time Addicts is a concise, contained and super-charged grimy sci-fi action-thriller

that feels fresh, fun and surprisingly emotional. The choice to keep the film in the same house, while it may have kept the budget low, allowed for a surprisingly well-crafted film. The production design of the house in all of the different time periods is very impressive, and the sleek cinematography further added to the intense mood and tone of the film.

What a joy and privilege it was to get a sneak peek of this film, and I am so stoked that Aussie films like this are being made, supported and shown in theatres. We need more creators to share their unique, vibrant and powerful stories - so go support his film! Buy a ticket, share the trailer with your mates, or even easier: get them to read this review in their own copy of the Tawny!

Time Addicts is in select local cinemas now, go check it out! Support Aussie cinema, as well as leading lady, Manly actress Freya Tingley. Follow @freyatingley on Instagram for all updates.

Words: **Chris Roberts**

PHOTO: UMBRELLA ENTERTAINMENT

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Bloody Tree Huggers

After years of being largely ignored and disparaged, are environmentalists finally being heard?

You'd think the need to breathe clean air and drink unpolluted water would make everyone a raving "greenie", but environmental campaigners are still often portrayed as basket weaving, hippie, nut jobs (especially by News Ltd).

Irritating "eco-freaks" aren't a recent phenomenon though. Back In 450BC, Greek philosopher Zeno wrote that "the goal of life is to live in agreement with nature", a philosophy that Rupert Murdoch and some serial Tawny Frogmouth Letter Writers still seem slow to embrace. With a respectful middle finger politely raised to their detractors, the world's first green-oriented political party was formed right here in Australia, in 1972. And there are now "Green" parties in over 90 countries of the world.

Bob Brown, who led the successful campaign to stop the Franklin Dam in Tasmania, became the first national leader of the Australian Greens. His recently released movie *The Giants* is inspiring a new generation of activists. Meanwhile, the Bob Brown Foundation is currently striving to prevent mining in the Apple Isle's majestic Tarkine rainforest. A sensitivity to nature isn't always benign though. Hitler's horrific Third Reich also embraced the protection of woodlands and conserving whales!

Behind the scenes, big business spends big bickies undermining environmental action, especially on climate change. InfluenceMap (influencemap.org), an organisation which tracks lobbying in this sector, found that the companies which exert the greatest control over our government's climate policy all come from the coal, oil and gas sector. The most highly involved, Santos Ltd, recently received approval to drill 850 gas wells in NSW's beautiful Pilliga Forest. Australia's "Minerals Council" is ranked amongst the world's top 10 most obstructive climate lobbyists (two of their former senior staff were even given key roles in former prime minister Scott Morrison's office!)

Is it any coincidence that, according to the Australia Institute, our government provided \$11.3 billion in fossil fuel subsidies in 2022 whilst only receiving \$2.6 billion back in tax revenue?



Time to end logging industry subsidies

Australia's big banks, despite their declared zero carbon targets, remain relatively mute on climate policy, probably because they have loaned over \$13 billion to the fossil fuel sector in the last two years.

The latest IPCC (Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change) Report revealed that atmospheric CO2 levels continue to rise, Antarctica is losing ice mass at a rate of 150 billion tonnes a year and northern hemisphere permafrost is thawing rapidly. Alarmingly, global wildlife populations declined by 69% between 1970 and 2018. Over 10 million football fields worth of forest have been cut down in the Amazon during the last decade - no wonder Brazil has such a good soccer team!

But getting back to "tree huggers". This modern-day insult is actually derived from the bravery of the Bishnoi women in India who clung to trees in 1730 in an attempt to stop them from being felled. 363 people were cruelly killed in the process, but their philosophy of non-violent direct action has since been replicated around the world. Ironically, the NSW government recently enacted harsh new laws to target peaceful environmental protest, especially bizarre considering the Labor party itself was founded on civil disobedience.

A notorious frog once said, "It's not easy being green". Kermit probably didn't realise how bad things could get if we're not.

Words: **Malcolm Fisher**



Fun fact, Australia's first surfer Tommy Walker once lived in these huts.



Secret Spaces Hidden Places

Historic huts with priceless views on the Spit to Manly walk

Along one of Sydney's most iconic walks, the Spit to Manly, are historic relics with million-dollar views - hidden in plain sight.

These rustic odes to decades past are easily missed if you don't take a minute to admire the ocean from Dobroyd Head, the highest point on the trail. But look hard enough, and you'll see a spattering of seven fishermen huts tucked into the eastern end of Crater Cove.

These huts, constructed from corrugated iron, stone and wood were built as early as 1923, originally used by fishermen, and then later as residential houses, particularly during the Great Depression period. As more huts were built, as late as the 1960s, it was also reported the homes were used by artists and others who loved the view, despite the lack of running water.

The huts were occupied as late as the 1980s, until the area was declared a National

Park and the National Parks and Wildlife Services (NPWS) served eviction notices to residents giving them 28 days to move out of the premises.

On a rare sighting, the door of one of the huts was open and I was able to take a peek inside to see a glimpse of the past. It was as if time stopped after the eviction, as the huts remained intricately decorated with bottles and buoys and even tea towels, bowls and mugs were laid out inside.

The precarious location of the huts, perched on the seaside cliffs mean they are exposed to the elements and as such, become more dilapidated every year. Yet designated NPWS caretakers have been looking after the huts since the 1990s and despite discouraging visitors (there is no signage to get to the huts), they are fairly well maintained albeit some local support lobbying for greater historic care.

While the Spit to Manly is scenic enough, this offshoot adventure is an interesting piece of Sydney heritage, worth keeping your eye out for - whether you peer down from Dobroyd or detour off the main path. Just remember to be respectful to the people preserving it and stay safe on the unofficial trails.

Did you know...

On Getty Images, you can find a picture of Simon Flynn, one of the last reported residents of the buildings, who lived there for 19 years until he was served an eviction notice by the NPWS, according to a report by Andrew Taylor for Fairfax Media. While the residents did challenge the eviction notice and try to argue ownership of the land, the High Court upheld the decision.

Have a great spot you think should be featured?
Email us at mail@thetawnyfrogmouth.com.au

Words: **Rebecca Burton**

PHOTO: REBECCA BURTON

Foundations of Love

Maintaining a love house that's built to last a lifetime

Just like the variety of houses built, so too are romantic relationships. Some will be able to weather the storms, others will slowly fall apart, and a few will get their rooves ripped off from wild winds. Houses and relationships alike will require strong foundational work and ongoing maintenance to stand the test of time.

For a moment, consider all the bits and bobs that your house needs over the years. There's a paint job here, new fence there, bathroom reno, small crack in the ceiling and an annoying leaky tap. When was the last time you took inventory and action of your relational world to improve your overall quality of life?

Firstly, let's talk about the foundation. Just as a house needs a robust base to endure earthquakes and storms, a relationship relies on a foundation of trust, respect, and open communication. These values underpin the structural integrity of the relationship to make sure it can withstand cracks and instability.

Then we have general maintenance. If you don't work on your house for 10 years, it would be easy to feel overwhelmed by the to do list if you ever wanted to get going. Regular check-ins, heartfelt conversations, and shared experiences are the equivalent of routine house inspections. You want to be fixing as you go. Identifying and addressing issues early prevents them from escalating into more significant problems.

Now we move into the plumbing. Think of communication as the plumbing system of your relationship. Just as pipes carry water to various parts of the house, effective communication allows emotions, thoughts, and concerns to flow freely between partners. Clogs and leaks in the communication pipeline can lead to misunderstandings and resentment, much like a plumbing issue can result in water damage. Make sure there are no blocks, no gunk building up and channels. This also prevents unexpected emotional outbursts and flooding.

Resolving conflicts in a relationship is just like fixing a leaky roof. You can ignore it, but the problem won't go away. In fact, it will only cause more damage in the long run. The carpet will become damp, mould with start to grow, it



Remember elbow grease and a reliable drill

will become smelly and potentially hazardous. Justifying a leak in the ceiling because "it's always been that way" is an immature and avoidant method of dealing with the issue. Perhaps you don't have the skills to repair it yourself. You can always reach out to a professional to get the help you need and improve your situation before it does further damage.

Just as the sun dulls the paint on your house, monotony and routine can dull the intimacy in your love lives. Spruce up your relationship with date nights, shared adventures, and spontaneous moments of joy as they act as the relationship's paintbrush, adding color and vitality. At any stage you can decide to renovate, build up, change, or re-organize things. Creating shared goals, doing personal development, starting a new hobby or travel are examples of ways you can keep your relationship dynamic.

Maintaining a relationship is a lot like maintaining a house. Both require a solid foundation, routine maintenance, effective communication, conflict resolution, and periodic rejuvenation. By investing time, effort, and care into your relationship, you can build a resilient connection that can weather the storms of life. Just like a house, a well-maintained relationship is a place where both partners can find comfort, security, and unwavering support. The new year is the perfect time to inventory what we want to get done and plan for the year to come. So, when was the last time you did a bit of love house renos?

Words: **Scout Smith-O'Leary**

Scout is a Relationship Therapist providing counselling to couples & individuals. Based in Manly. Telehealth available. Visit thelovescout.com or call **0410 030 463** for more info or to book a session.

PHOTO: THAYRAN-MELO - UNSPLASH

The Body Clock

Buried deep in the body far below the chatter and haste is a clock. It beats time for as long as we do, short and lingering, following its own withheld schedule. Its increments are uneven, carved of bone and trailing ivy around an archway whose threshold grants entry to secret chambers.

The map room is first, and vast. Charts of our geography and outer reaches, the hidden crevasses that we will navigate and the rivers we must cross. There are no signs or bridges marked, only milestones oriented to catch the light. A trail winds across it like a sigil, whose final form defines our living but not our breaths.

Beyond is an ancient library whose musty pages and curios speak from other times. Lives and loves won and lost, promises broken and vows made, simple pleasures tucked inside worn sleeves waiting patiently for rediscovery. Courage beats a soft drum in the corner, steady even when the different drummer isn't. Faith hangs garlands from the high ceiling without looking down. Hope keeps the keys to the hidden door at the back of the room. Light slips under its boundary like an invitation.

At the end of the year the noise begins far beyond the gates. We move as one outside our lives and peer long out to the horizon. Some years slumping on the bench, great griefs barely holding us to the threshold. Some years mute and wondering, bewildered by this life. Leaving the ones we call by name leaning far out over the soft worn stones with shining eyes.

The faintest sliver of a moon sweeps us towards the dark unknown. The hopeful set golden intentions and press them to their breast. The foolish cast long lists gorging unapproved demands on life. The world wags its fingers and chases its tail as the sun and moon play with tides, and time.

Silence waits content on the worn stones, watches the light play with the wind. Listens to the whispers stir blood and marrow. Nods finally to the timekeeper and slowly rises from her seat.

Words: **Kerrie Basha**

Kerrie is a writer and reader who publishes under the moniker **Bohomofu**. Her first book **Morsel** is out now and available at www.bohomofu.com



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World leaders in happiness all smiles at the Finnish line

Wine Under 20

Happy New Year?

2023 was a bit sh*t. Perhaps not as bad as 2020, 2021 and 2022, but definitely not one of the best. Nonetheless, we've been busy wishing each other Merry Christmases and Happy New Years for the last few weeks so it got me thinking, what is the secret to happiness on a global scale? Are some countries happier than others, and if so, why?

It turns out the happiest nation on earth is...drum roll please: Finland! Followed by Denmark and Iceland. The Vikings always knew how to have a good time. Daylight deprivation isn't so depressing after all. Israel was fourth – the survey was conducted earlier in the year. At the other end of the scale, we have Afghanistan last, then Lebanon, but both have become happier since 2022.

You'd think Australia is a pretty happy place, overall, well, we ranked 12th. Bloody New Zealand got in ahead of us at 10. The US? America's Declaration of Independence declares the rights of "Life,

liberty and the pursuit of happiness." It was a commendable and ambitious aim. But they aren't doing too well, ranking 15th. But independence did improve things as the UK, at 19, are clearly less happy.

Money doesn't buy you happiness, but it would seem to have an impact. **Health** is important, while **Freedom** is mystifying; its biggest proponents, the French and Americans not even in the top 10, ranking 34th and 15th respectively. No freedom fries for them this Christmas. Australia ranks 6th.

What about the opposite of Freedom? The **Punitivity Ratio**. If a nation hands down prison sentences to a high proportion of those found guilty, or gives long sentences to those given custody, then it has a high punitivity ratio. Bottom of the list, meaning the least punitive, is Finland, followed by Denmark, with Iceland 5th. The USA unsurprisingly basks in unparalleled punitivity, gold medal punishers.

GINI measures income distribution, or equality. Past Communist countries tend to do well. **Tax Shift** is interesting, referring to how much tax is redistributed from the wealthy to the populace. Leading the charge were the Czechs, with Denmark in 5th place.

Then we come to **Poverty Rates**, which I declare the winner of the happiness secret project. Look at the OECD poverty rates – the percentage of the population living below the poverty line – and, with the lowest percentage, you find the Czechs 1st narrowly ahead of Finland and Denmark.

When combining Poverty Rates with Punitivity Ratios and Tax Shifts, a strong global path to happiness emerges. Or maybe it's all about being nestled in or as close as possible to Scandinavia? I had hoped it was something far more basic, like the price of beer, but I suppose that's just what ales me.

I believe that we on the Northern Beaches have more reasons than most to be happy. But apparently the true source of happiness comes from giving. Like the old Chinese proverb says: "If you want happiness for an hour, take a nap. If you want happiness for a day, go fishing. If you want happiness for a year, inherit a fortune. If you want happiness for a lifetime, help somebody."

So, New Year's resolution? The pursuit of other people's happiness.

Words: **Ben Welsh**

Ben is the creator and author of **Wine under 20, Life over 50**, dedicated to finding decent wine under \$20 a bottle, while knowing any search is inevitably also about the searcher, so that's the life over 50 bit. Read more at www.wineunder20lifeover50.com



Glen Street, Ella Kennedy's home theatre

Art & Culture

Ella's 2023 in Review

In early 2023, Ella Kennedy won the first Tawny Frogmouth Glen Street Theatre Junior Reviewer role, going on to write rave reviews for **360 All Stars**, **Possum Magic**, **The Twits**, and **Are We There Yet?** A stellar debut to her storytelling career, but who is this bubbly 12-year-old?

"My mum first took me to NIDA when I was three, and my grandmother would take me to live shows in the city," says Ella. "I love live performances and have always wanted to be an actor."

Ella's passion is matched by a studious attention to detail. "Before I watched the first show I was asked to review, I went to get my theatre notebook, it's critical." On these pages, Ella perfected her bullet point notetaking, meaning the task of completing her eventual Tawny write ups was "kind of easy."

"There's lots of entertainment on social media and 'screens', but that's not the same, you don't hear the speakers, the boots on the floor, you can't see and engage with the actors, you don't get the same experience, and you don't have the feeling as you walk out of a theatre, buzzing, thinking woaah, that was such a good show."

As for the best theatre snacks? "I like the Glen Street Theatre cookies. They're tasty, but you can also eat them quiet as a mouse so as not to interrupt the performance." And, most importantly, what makes for a great story? "It's all about the characters. You have to become friends with your characters, get to know them. Even in *The Twits* where they can be mean, they're so funny, so silly. Everyone in the theatre was laughing the whole time. It was amazing."

Thank you for a fantastic 2023 of theatre reviews Ella.

Words: **Liam Carroll**

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- Overwhelm - Pain - Anxiety - Trauma - Grief-

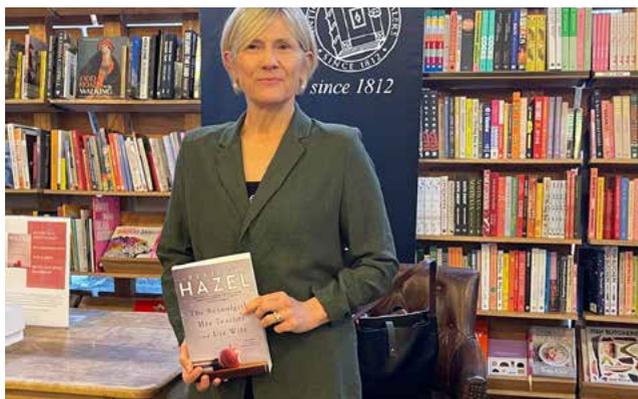
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Rebecca Hazel's book is a shocking story of murder on the Northern Beaches

Tawny's Bathtub Bookclub

When life is stranger than fiction

Rebecca Hazel author of *The Schoolgirl*, *Her Teacher* and *His Wife* details the horror story of what happened on our beautiful Northern Beaches just over 40 years ago. That this book ever came to reality is an absolute triumph of Hazel's determination in the face of almost insurmountable adversity.

The book details with meticulous care the story of Chris Dawson's despicable criminal behaviour. Chris was one of Australia's most notorious killers who lived, and loved, in plain sight for more than 40 years. The ripple effect of his actions go beyond his loving wife, Lynette, who he abused and killed, the school student he groomed, controlled, abused and married, and the harm he caused the children of his first marriage and the child of his second. Then there's the impact on family, friends and work colleagues. It is a story of violence and trauma experienced first-hand and vicariously. Reading this book made me angry, frustrated, sad, confused and ashamed of

the endless mistakes made by those responsible for administering justice.

Hazel didn't go looking for the story. She was neither a writer nor an investigative journalist. She was a mother living in Manly and a lawyer working in a women's refuge where she met the schoolgirl Chris Dawson had groomed. Referred to as JC in the book, JC spoke to Hazel about the abuse Chris Dawson had inflicted on her and how it had impacted her life. This conversation began 25 years after Lynette had disappeared.

Hazel felt a responsibility to honour Lynette and JC. She has certainly done that and much more. This book is a must read, especially for anyone who wants to understand what coercive control looks and feels like and where it can lead.

Where to buy

Berkelouw Bookshop in Balgowlah hosted the author talk that introduced me to this book – support them, shop local.



Perfect Pitch

Ben Welsh, the author of *The Pitch*, comes from big time advertising land here and regionally. Getting your message across succinctly and memorably is what great advertising does. Ben has applied this skill to his book. The central character is Dan Atkins, Creative Director of an advertising agency, pitching to government on a climate change campaign. The ultimate decision-maker on the campaign is the Prime Minister and he's a climate change denier, as was Dan at the start. It's clear the writer knows a thing or fifteen about the bullshit of advertising and how governments make decisions on advertising campaigns. Legislation making truth in political advertising law can't happen fast enough. Dan feels like a compilation of the best and worst the author has seen in advertising creatives during his long career. Dan's attitudes and antics make you laugh and cringe in almost equal measure. There is love, lust, drugs, deadlines and much more in this fast-paced, well written little book.

Where to buy

Haven't seen it locally but Dymocks has it as does Amazon.

Words: **Paige Turner**

A Little Advice

Salary Negotiations 101

Q. My New Year's resolution is to work on my finances, starting with negotiating my salary. Any advice on how to approach this?

A. How refreshing to see a New Year's Resolution that isn't weight-loss related. With interest rates the way they are, this feels like a very practical goal. Tawny readers, take note!

The first thing I suggest is to hop on Instagram and follow [@melbrowne.money](#) and [@francescooknz](#). They are specifically targeted towards helping women with their finances, but the information is relevant to all genders.

As I am no expert in this area, I have taken the liberty to do some crowd sourcing on your behalf, to find out what has worked for others:

- 1. Speak HR's language.** Go in prepared with evidence of the value you are adding to the company and why you deserve a salary increase based on these numbers.
- 2. Go in higher than what you actually want.** They will always try to negotiate you down.
- 3. Negotiate.** When a salary increase isn't possible, that doesn't mean there aren't other areas you can negotiate. You could negotiate a shorter work week, a parking space or company vehicle, and other perks such as a food stipend or gym membership. Approach it as a collaboration.

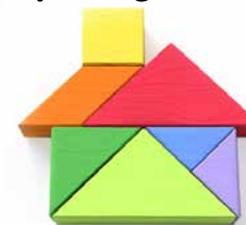
If none of this is helpful, here is a recent conversation I had with my 4 year old that led me to believe we all start out as fierce negotiators, but society slowly turns us into 'yes' (wo)men.

4yr old: Can I have a cookie?
 Me: Cookies aren't on the menu right now.
 4yr old: Just one?
 Me: No, and that's final.
 4yr old: Two?
 Me: No.
 4yr old: Three?
 Me: You can have one, and that's all.
 4yr old: OK, just one.

Words: Candace Little

Candace is an award-winning screenwriter and copywriter who works with CEO's and industry leaders to elevate their social profiles. Find out more on IG [@candacelittlewriter](#) or visit [candacelittlewriter.com](#)

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Subject Fairlight paradise
Photographer Abigail Wilson



Subject Holy Moly
Photographer Collaroy Postie



Subject Tawny family tree, Allambie
Photographer Anna Marquis & Ann Castle



Subject Lost kookaburra on Dangar Island
Photographer John Falconer



Subject Reflective seagulls at Freshwater
Photographer David Hazelden



Subject Scotland Island transport
Photographer Stephen B



Subject Long Reef boardwalk
Photographer Greg Jennings



Subject Curl Curl Lagoon galah
Photographer Felipe Illanes



Subject Red eye feast
Photographer Suzanne Jensen-Lewis



Subject Manly carport born swallows
Photographer Raymonda Dijkwel



1. What is the name of the street in Davidson that is home to a spectacular Christmas lights display every year?
2. What is the name of the waterside restaurant at Shelly Beach?
3. The 199 bus route starts in Manly and finishes in which Northern Beaches suburb?
4. In which Northern Beaches suburb would you find the Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club?
5. The Manly Aquatic Centre is named after which legendary Australian swimmer?
6. If an Olympic sized swimming pool is 50m long, how long is the swimming pool at the World Short Course championships?
7. Chance & Community Chess cards are associated with which game?
8. Which Aussie actor is known as Wolverine?
9. Caterpillars turn into which winged creatures?
10. Tom Selleck played which iconic character in a 1980's TV show?
11. Indiana Jones was petrified of which creature?
12. What nickname starting with "S" did 1920's Australian gangster, Joseph Leslie Taylor go by?
13. George Street & Pitt Street are to Sydney, as Bourke Street & Collins Street are to which Australian state capital city?
14. The Carpal bone is the medical term for which part of the body?
15. Kylie Minogue's love interest whilst she was on Neighbours was Jason Who?
16. Which 5 letter word starting with B – is an Australian slang term for "Man"?
17. Former Australian cricketer and commentator Bill Lawry famously has a love for which type of birds?
18. What was former Soviet leader Stalin's first name?
19. What is the primary ingredient in the Middle Eastern dish falafel?
20. What is the highest Australia has ever finished on the medal Tally at the Summer Olympics?

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Sudoku Medium difficulty

		1	7	3				6
	8		5				9	2
			2					
	6						7	4
		9				1		
3	7							5
				3				
7	9				5			3
4				7	8	2		

RUMOUR HAS IT

Federal LNP's achilles heel aka Lisa Wilkinson's bff has recently taken up residence on the Beaches

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Star Signs

by Krystal Bawl

Capricorn Dec 22 - Jan 20

Forget the past, it's gone and best forgotten. Just hope that your family, friends, and NSW Police can do likewise.

Aquarius Jan 21 - Feb 19

A welcome surprise is coming. Don't do anything rash until you know for sure it involves a robust inheritance.

Pisces Feb 20 - Mar 20

Thanks to your prolific selfie posting, your secret life is not so secret sweetheart. Never knew you were so flexible.

Aries Mar 21 - Apr 19

You love ham, turkey and shellfish more than anyone. Why on earth did you go to a vegan's for Christmas lunch?

Taurus Apr 20 - May 21

Your dedication to saving money by living like a hermit is admirable, but face it, you'll have to shell out eventually.

Gemini May 22 - Jun 21

Still waiting for that miracle? Nothing to fear, it already arrived but you're sitting so pretty you haven't even noticed.

Cancer Jun 22 - Jul 22

You're free to live the life you want, but wanting a life of luxury does require far more substantial earning capacities.

Leo Jul 23 - Aug 22

You're young but have already experienced life to the full. That's what happens when you refuse to leave the Beaches.

Virgo Aug 23 - Sep 23

You're an incurable romantic and considering the heartbreak you've endured; you deserve medical compensation.

Libra Sep 24 - Oct 23

Say goodbye to life as you knew it, and hello to life as you don't know it. Confused? Ah well, that's just life.

Scorpio Oct 24 - Nov 22

Turn nothing into something, imagination into reality, ideas into creations, and 2024 into only a mild debacle.

Sagittarius Nov 23 - Dec 21

There are such things as stupid questions. Time to befriend people who ask less of them. You've answered enough.

Tivia Answers

1. Borgnis 2. The Boat House 3. Palm Beach 4. Newport 5. Andrew 'Boy' Charlton 6. 25m 7. Monopoly 8. Hugh Jackman 9. Butterfly & moth 10. Thomas Magnum - Magnum PI 11. Snakes 12. Squizzy 13. Melbourne 14. Wrist 15. Donovan 16. Blake 17. Pigeon 18. Joseph 19. Chickpeas 20. 3rd (1956 Melbourne Olympics)

4	1	3	9	7	8	2	6	5
7	9	6	4	2	5	8	3	1
8	2	5	6	1	3	7	4	9
3	7	2	1	9	4	6	5	8
5	4	9	8	6	7	1	2	3
1	6	8	3	5	2	9	7	4
9	3	4	2	8	6	5	1	7
6	8	7	5	4	1	3	9	2
2	5	1	7	3	9	4	8	6

Sudoku Solution

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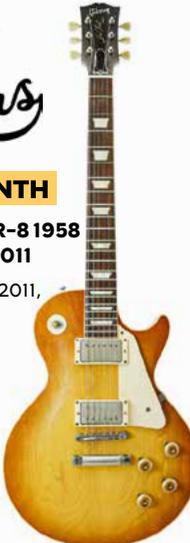
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