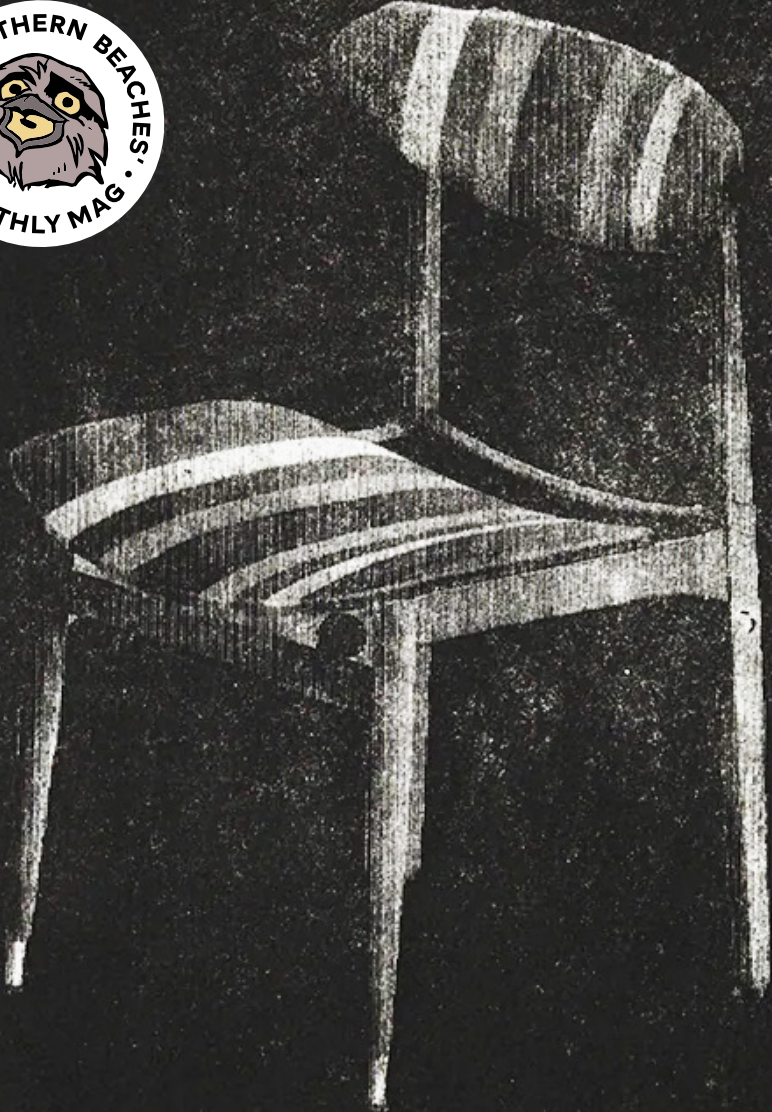


The Tawny

# FROGMOUTH

November 2024



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# G'day Beaches

The mercury's rising, nor'easters are strengthening, and summer holidays are so close you can touch them.

Thank you, Josh 'Coppo' Copland-Nielsen, his cover inviting everyone inside yesteryear's home to sit on their favourite chair. Congratulations Tony Jeckeln, Letter of the Month, highlighting Robbo's debatable contributions. And Joni Bondanza, Photo of the Month winner, capturing a pair of cheeky Avalon cockies. A \$200 voucher at the fully revamped Mona Vale Hotel is all yours!

We welcome aboard the 2024-2028 fifteen Northern Beaches councillors, at the helm of local governance. Manly Ferries set sail to a zero-emissions future. Felons Brewing Co stages a Wharf take-over. Silver Surfers storm Palm Beach. Canopy Keepers prove dead trees can live on. The nation's best male vocal performer Charlie Chech is set to swoon Dee Why RSL, and Michael West ponders, is Ticketek fleecing the holy trinity of Aussie artists, audiences, and tax coffers?

Happy November

*Liam*



## The Tawny Frogmouth

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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.





Tim Flannery searching for climate leadership

## Peninsula Wash Up

### It's Clay Time

This 23/24 November, join in the clay, community and creativity of Australian Ceramics' annual Open Studios event, with 200 studios opening around the nation, including three local potters - Trish McNeil, Elizabeth Cashmore and Lee Pickup - opening their doors at 45 Hay Street, Collaroy, 10am-4pm both days, with a wide selection of ceramics on display, and offering the opportunity to meet the artists and even learn about throwing on the wheel and hand building. Call **0423 206 921** for more details.

### Halloween Spine-Chiller Fundraiser

Fill your cravings of frightfully fun ways to celebrate Halloween, while also supporting local charity Stewart House, thanks to residents at Allambie Heights' The Brick, transforming their home into a bone-chilling Haunted House Exhibition. Enjoy a complimentary drink, join in a marshmallow roast, sink into the horror cinema, consult with a fortune teller, be electrified in the glow room and immerse yourself in this authentic Halloween atmosphere designed to thrill and chill. 31 October to 2 November, 6-10pm each night at The Brick, 14 Pozieres Parade, Allambie Heights. Entry with a \$20 donation. Please note, the exhibition is designed to be scary, discretion is advised. Under 18s must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Get your tickets at [events.humanitix.com/haunted-house-exhibition](https://events.humanitix.com/haunted-house-exhibition)

### A chicken walks into a library...

Congratulations Narelle Scurr! Winning Glen Street Theatre and Tawny's "The Librarian" family pass joke contest giveaway with: A chicken walks into a library and clucks 'book!' So, the

librarian gives her a book. She tucks it under her wing and walks out. Chicken comes back the next day, 'Book book!' The librarian is impressed, hands the chicken two books. She tucks one under each wing and walks out. Chicken comes back a third day, 'Book book Booooook!' The librarian offers three books but is so curious she offers to help the chicken carry the third book. The chicken tucks one under each wing, the librarian carries the third, and they walk out of the library, cross the street and head down to a small pond. The chicken sets the books in front of a frog, who croaks, 'Rrrrrread it, Rrrrrread it.' Thank you, Narelle, and all who entered. Be sure to check out Glen Street Theatre's 2025 line-up, season launching 18 November.

### Narrabeen's inspirational new retirement development

Retirement by Moran create premium retirement living communities in Australia's most iconic neighbourhoods and are proud to soon be adding 'Indigo by Moran' on Ocean Street at Narrabeen. Indigo by Moran will provide quality retirement living with a range of accommodation options including two- and three-bedroom apartments and a selection of penthouses, each with their own secure basement garages. There will be an extensive range of social and wellbeing amenities for the residents to enjoy as part of this inspiring, over 60s community, including a cinema, heated indoor swimming pool, fitness centre, cellar, library and extensive indoor/outdoor entertaining areas. They will be holding an Information Session for all interested parties to share their concepts for the new retirement living development and to give eligible potential residents an opportunity to contribute ideas and preferences for their future home. Register your attendance at [indigobymoran.com.au](https://indigobymoran.com.au)

### Climate Changer's Avalon film screening

Saturday 23 November, you're invited to a special screening of "Climate Changers" at the Performance Space, Barrenjoey High School. The film follows Tim Flannery as he searches for the missing ingredient in our fight against climate change - leadership, charting the different qualities, challenges and triumphs of diverse leaders around the world working to create positive change. Doors open 6pm. Refreshments available. This is a fundraising event for Avalon Community Garden, tickets \$15 each.

Words: **Liam Carroll**

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## Retirement

BY MORAN





## Letters to The Tawny

### LETTER OF THE MONTH

#### Robbo

C'mon Liam, give Robbo a monthly column. Robbo constantly defends his ground and creates debate on climate/nuclear issues. Debate is good! Debate is something that we should all be involved in. Debate debunks myths and brings facts to the table. It creates thought and discussion. But the people who want to contribute to the continuous debate on climate/nuclear issues should supply links or references to support their argument. The national discussion is coming on these subjects and Gawd forbid, we wouldn't want to become a country where the powerful claim some groups eat other group's pets without any facts to back their claim and is accepted as fact... just saying.

**Tony Jeckeln, Fairlight**

#### Questions Without Notice

G'day Liam! The "Climitites" would have us believe that everything or incident that happens in the world is caused by climate change. Yet the records don't support this. Of course, the Climitites will alter or selectively use limited pieces of data to show us that we are wrong and that we are now changing and controlling the course of Mother Nature with our actions or lack thereof. So, here is a series of questions I would like to hear the answers to.

If we had started whatever actions the Climitites wish for - or demand we do - 40 years

ago, would the Black Sunday bushfires in Victoria have been as bad? Would the floods of recent years in the northern NSW have been as catastrophic? Would the production of electric cars helped reduce these events?

If we had stopped all mining 30 years ago, where would we obtain the royalties and taxes that have come from this sector - which isn't subsidised to any great extent, much as Alan Marel would have you believe - to build our infrastructure? Remember the mining sector has contributed hundreds of billions of dollars annually to our economy.

What royalties do we get from renewable wind and solar farms? What are the costs of these renewable projects? Sorry, you won't be able to answer that as all are being built with "TAXPAYER" subsidies and are in commercial confidence. Remember, your great clueless whiz king Chris "Errol Flynn" Bowen refuses to tell you or me.

Ok, you claim that renewables are the future. Name four countries that have gone 100% renewable? What happened to the employment of the ex-coal workers at Sunshot Industries in the Hunter Valley? You know the people Anthony Albanese said would always have employment. Sorry you don't have to answer that question as 35 of them have been made redundant two months after the great fanfare opening. 36 if you include the CEO.

The Climitites claim nuclear is far too expensive. I'm the first to agree. Build costs are expensive, but again, what is the real cost of renewables? Refer to previous paragraph.

You claim nuclear is expensive, yet you don't produce any formal evidence to back

up your claims. Do you use the Rolls Royce modular plants? If so, what size plant? Or is it the Westinghouse International model? Again, what size and capacity output? Or is it the South Korean, Japanese or private USA nuclear plant builders?

There you go Climitites, some homework for next month's edition.

**Mark (Robbo) Roberts**

#### Nuclear Australia?

With a federal election due in the first half of next year, the Coalition is proposing future construction of nuclear power plants in five states. Peter Dutton says that "nuclear power is an idea whose time has come (and) we should have a mature discussion (about adopting it)."

In fact, nuclear power plants have been in existence since Russia built the first one in 1954, and if the Coalition wanted this choice for Australia's future power requirements, it should have refrained from abolishing the Carbon Tax when it was in office in 2014 and started saving that money towards the astronomical cost of nuclear power plants.

Not only would the cost be much higher than the present government's renewables scheme, but it would also take much longer to put in place, and that is time we simply don't have.

In a recent address, António Guterres, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, said: "The truth is ... the world is spewing emissions so fast that by 2030, a far higher temperature rise would be all but guaranteed. Brand new data from leading climate scientists released today show the remaining carbon budget to limit long-term warming to 1.5 degrees is

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now around 200 billion tonnes. That is the maximum amount of carbon dioxide that the earth's atmosphere can take if we are to have a fighting chance of staying within the limit.

"The truth is... we are burning through the budget at reckless speed – spewing out around 40 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide a year. We can all do the math. At this rate, the entire carbon budget will be busted before 2030."

If we are to have a mature discussion about our future power choices, these truths should be at the forefront of consideration.

**Reon Bavinton, Seaforth**

#### Bushfires

Dear Editor, wouldn't it be a good idea if smokers were told to extinguish their cigarettes and vapes when warnings are in place, seeing they are proven micro-fires which have sparked many a huge bushfire with resultant losses?

**Marianne, North Narrabeen**

#### NB Prejudice of Privilege

Dear Liam and the Tawny Frogmouth team, in the past I have enjoyed flicking through the Tawny magazine looking for events of interest. Today I had the day off to actually read the letters and articles. I was saddened and embarrassed to see the prejudice expressed by privileged prejudice from migrant Australians (whether new Australians or arrivals from a few generations ago) against First Nations people. The least we can do is what you do through 'Acknowledgment of Country'. If we are secure in our place in this beautiful part of the world, we will not begrudge some tokens of reparation.

**Regards, Nic**

#### Ella Nora mystery

Hello, my name is Andrew Mclean, and I am asking for Rebecca Burton (author of the Secret Spaces Hidden Places column) and The Tawny Frogmouth to help solve a mystery after reading Rebecca's great article on the Mclean Lookout (unsure if I am related but we are like rabbits) in the September Tawny.

My mum suffered dementia for approximately 25 years, and when I mentioned many times that I was off to Elanora to play golf Mum would just smile and recite how Charles Isherwood in the very early 1800s owned all the land around Elanora, naming it after his wife and daughter, Ella and Nora. The basis of her connection was that Charles Isherwood was a great-great uncle to our family, the Pyes, Mum's maiden name.

Currently, the name Elanora is recited as a First Nations name meaning "By the Sea". However, I have validated this to be false after speaking with local Aboriginals. They recited the meaning as to be nonsense and not part of their language.

I wish to solve this mystery once and all, at the risk of denting current mythology. Can Rebecca help solve this mystery once and for all? Many thanks for your kind assistance.

**Andrew J Mclean**

#### Re: Here we go again (Oct '24)

Replying to Case Ref: ZS316524: Speeding cars and drag racing I feel compelled to respond.

Firstly, I have lived on Woodbine Street, North Balgowlah, for over forty years and never in that time have we ever had drag racing! Yes, we do get the occasional speedster but only occasionally! As for drag racing, the Street isn't wide enough – proof from a few cars recently

having had their side mirrors removed by passing cars when resident cars are parked either side of the road.

Not sure how long you have lived in this area, but we did have speed humps in Woodbine Street years ago, but they were removed. Also, you may not be aware but the "hoons" like to speed over the speed humps. Plus, the Ambulances don't need speed humps hampering them when travelling with a very ill patient to the Hospital!

The speed limit is 50 and most people obey the rule and if you can only complain about four incidences in four years maybe concentrate on the young children riding their e-bikes without signalling when turning into Woodbine Street and not stopping to look when crossing Woodbine Street at the pedestrian crossing and just flying across, often with a mate on the back of the bike!

**S Jenner, North Balgowlah**

#### North Harbour Marina DA

This may be of interest to Tawny readers if they use the Fairlight walk or live on the Northern Beaches.

There is a DA into council (DA2024/1216) that anticipates a significant change being undertaken in North Harbour. The "Plans Marina" document in the DA shows in light green that on the end of the two arms of the new marina there will be "Optional Berths" of 32 meters (105 feet) and 25 meters (82 feet). This is HUGE! A Manly Jet cat is 35 meters. Any yacht more than 24 meters is classified as a "Super Yacht". A 32 m/105-foot yacht, which will be a big diesel power boat, will be 4 stories tall and 120+ tons.

From a visual perspective this will have "a significant adverse environmental impact" on the bay!

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Only four properties (around the corner in Gourlay Avenue and the North Harbour Yacht Club) have been informed of this proposal. Most residents in Fairlight, Balgowlah and Manly who will get to look at and mix with these super yachts are unaware of this DA.

There will be two of these yachts which may, in summer, need to be running generators 24 hours a day. Instant pollution. And from a safety perspective, super yachts do not mix well with kayaks, SUPs, small boats and swimmers. All of whom use the bay.

The proposal also seems to sacrifice 12 moorings to make a "navigation channel". I find it hard to believe the Maritime Authority has just waved all this through. In addition, there is an application for a liquor licence with opening hours till dusk. Again, "a significant adverse

environmental impact" on the bay. All in all, none of this is in keeping with the area.

The "Option" seems to be the plan and should be brought out from the shadows. If the longest yacht were to be 15 meters there would be little reason for the new and expensive "navigation channel." To moor super yachts in this bay would be an eyesore and totally out of keeping with the area. I believe that Manly has a DCP of 18 meters for yachts.

I would appreciate Tawny Frogmouth's support in opposing this proposal and ensuring readers are made aware of it.  
**Kind Regards, Andy Simpkin**

**Re: Sticky Business (Oct '24)**  
In response to "Sticky Business" venting about the nightmare removing the Council parking stickers from last year, we wholeheartedly agree. What a

sticky mess we were left with and fear the new sticker is of the same poor quality and we are not looking forward to this repeat exercise next year. How long will it take the Northern Beaches Council to realise their mistake? We can do better.

**Sandy Reid**



The Tawny Frogmouth invites the people of the Beaches to send in letters to [mail@thetawnyfrogmouth.com.au](mailto:mail@thetawnyfrogmouth.com.au)

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**Local Council**

**Meet your 2024 to 2028 Councillors**

From the moment news first broke in mid-August that the Northern Beaches' Liberal Party aligned candidates would be out of the running for the 14 September local council election - thanks to what can only be described as, excuse my French, un débâcle monumentale - it was clear there'd be many fresh faces amongst the councillors in charge of the nation's scientifically proven greatest LGA for the next four years. And that's precisely what residents have voted for.

Moving from south to north then out to the mountains of Frenchs Forest, here's a rundown of the locals steering our Peninsula from now through to 2028 at the most important level of all, local grassroots.

In the Manly ward: Good for Manly's Candy Bingham and Your Northern Beaches Independent's Sarah Grattan retained their seats, while former Deputy Mayor Georgia Ryburn's position was won by Greens young star Bonnie Harvey.

In the Curl Curl ward: Incumbent Green Kristyn Glanville retained her seat, while Your Northern Beaches Independents picked up two seats, Joline Hackman and Nicholas Beaugard successful, with long-serving Liberal councillor David Walton out of the picture.

In the Narrabeen ward: Your Northern Beaches Independent Ruth Robins retained her seat, while Vincent De Luca proved so popular, Narrabeen voters granting a seat apiece to Vincent and his Party running mate, highly experienced former Deputy Mayor of Warringah Council as well as professional Australian tennis player, Robert Giltinan.

In the Pittwater ward: The Greens' Miranda Korzy retained her seat, while newcomers Sunny Singh, the Liberal Party aligned Narrabeen café owner, and Your Northern Beaches Independent's Rowie Dillon, both proving popular and winning seats.

Finally, in the Frenchs Forest ward: Mayor Sue Heins of Your Northern Beaches Independent's Party won her seat, while Party mate Jody Williams proved successful too, alongside the youngest member of Council, Greens' Ethan Hrnjak, poised to bring his Solarpunk problem solving positivity to Chamber.

After being sworn in, Northern Beaches Council elected Sue Heins as Mayor for a 2-year term until September 2026, with Cr Ruth Robins voted Deputy Mayor for a one-year term. "Being elected Mayor of the area I love once more is a true honour," Cr Heins said.

"I thank my fellow Councillors for their trust in me as we work together to continue the considerable progress made last term and provide the services and infrastructure our community rely on every day.

"I am thrilled our community has elected 9 women out of 15 councillors and that we are welcoming 8 new faces to the table who will bring fresh ideas and perspectives. We have a duty to protect and enhance all that people love about the Northern Beaches and ensure we manage it carefully to support housing, employment, local business and recreational opportunities while prioritising the protection of our local environment and community services."

Words: **Liam Carroll**

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## A major win for Manly Ferries

A four-year grassroots campaign, **Save The Manly Ferries**, has claimed a massive win with NSW Minister for Transport Jo Haylen announcing plans to upgrade the diesel-powered Freshwater ferries to new look-alike zero-emissions ferries within 6 years. In the meantime three of the current Freshwater vessels will be maintained to meet demands.

Minister Haylen confirmed the government is currently exploring proposals from five Australian-based companies to build electric look-alike Freshwater vessels, combining heritage design with cutting-edge technology.

The Save Manly Ferries Alliance, headed by Councillor Candy Bingham of Good For Manly, was formed in 2020 to rally the community and all levels of government to ensure the Freshwater vessels remained a staple of the Manly-to-Circular Quay route. The campaign began when the former NSW Liberal government announced in October 2020 the scrapping of the iconic Freshwater class ferries, in favour of smaller Emerald class ferries.

“This decision was effectively destroying 130 years of Sydney maritime history and the world-famous Manly Ferry in one blow. It was clear to us the Emerald II vessels were simply inadequate for the route,” said Cr Bingham.

Four years of petitions, rallies, public meetings, videos, posters, letterbox distributions and government and opposition advocacy followed. As the months and years rolled on, the new Emerald class vessels continued to be plagued with problems. Built overseas, they were delivered with 80 defects, then they experienced steering problems and eventually the engines had to be replaced in all three vessels. They continued to struggle with the rough swells across Sydney Heads and failed to meet demand during peak times due to their limited capacity and inefficient boarding, often leaving passengers stranded.

“Despite our research showing the historic Freshwater vessels could be converted to zero-emissions technology over time, the issue remained that they would need to go into dry dock at Garden Island every five years for maintenance and certification. The bill for the Queenscliff was \$15m earlier this year when she was brought back into service. This simply wasn't sustainable,” explained Cr Bingham.



Save The Manly Ferries' tireless work set to pay off

In 2021, local resident Andrew Westwood, former Senior Vice President of Def Norske Veritas (DNV) a world leading ship certification and insurance company, came to the rescue. Using industry contacts, he was able to have a concept design prepared, pro bono, for the next generation Freshwater ferries.

The design called for a fully electric vessel, but with the same retro style. It needed to be shorter than previous ferries for servicing at the Balmain dry dock with the rest of Sydney's ferry fleet - a real game changer - and would ensure future ferries could be maintained and certified for a fraction of the cost of their predecessors.

What followed was years of research and government and opposition advocacy by the community group. The first win came in June 2023, the newly elected NSW Labor Government announcing three of the four Freshwater ferries would be saved. This ensured the continued operation of the F1 route from Manly to Circular Quay and came with a \$71m budget commitment to maintain them.

However, the future of the iconic Manly Ferries was secured with Minister Jo Haylen's recent announcement.

“Sydney's iconic double-ended Manly vessels started as steam ships, became the diesel ferries we know and love today, and will soon evolve into modern electric vessels,” said Jo Haylen, NSW Minister for Transport.

The final announcement is expected later this year when the successful company is announced which will build this next generation Manly Ferry, in Australia.

Words: **Liam Carroll**



Colormaker Industries' rooftop powerhouse

## Colormaker celebrates five years clean

In September, Colormaker Industries marked five years since first producing clean electricity from their 100 kW Solar Array, as well as six months since their world first ReVolve® battery started commercial operation. And they've reported some amazing results.

Pre solar, Colormaker bought 73 MWh from the grid and spent \$24k p.a. on electricity. With JUST Solar, it dropped to 20-26 MWh from the grid, \$6k p.a. costs. With a small battery, it dropped to 19-20 kWh and negative power bills. With the BIG battery and 3 EVs (that covered 50,000 km in a year, all powered off the roof) over 6 months, that 19 kWh has come down to 12.1. On current trend it will drop to 5-6 kWh.

When Colormaker started with solar, they were only 65% self-sufficient, sending two thirds of their electricity to the grid. However, over Aug/Sep, they scored 93% self-sufficiency! For every kWh bought, they put more than 14 into the grid! And achieved a negative bill that should extrapolate to -\$1,000 p.a.

A business benefit of pairing Battery with Solar is decreased Demand charges. In 2019, Demand was 44% of their bill, or \$6k p.a. With Solar and the Big Battery, that's come down 90%.

In 5 years of Solar, Colormaker has saved over 740 tonnes of GHGs, sent 440 MWh (enough to power 80 local homes) back to the grid and last week, made the final payment on their CEFC loan. Over those 5 years, Colormaker has invested over \$500,000 in carbon abatement assets. That's yielding a 10% ROI for the business and a 165 tpa carbon turnaround for the environment, baked in every year.

“It's one of the most worthwhile things that we've ever done in business”, says David Stuart, Managing Director, “and certainly one of the most satisfying”.



## Should I stay or should I go?

Deciding to leave a marriage or long term relationship is not a decision anyone takes lightly.

If you're the person making the decision to leave, you've probably been thinking about this for some months, if not longer. Give your partner some time to catch up. Be kind and patient - this is the best way of ensuring a smooth and amicable resolution of all your family law issues down the track.

Here are some tips if you find yourself in the midst of a break-up:

- Get some legal advice about your rights and entitlements, and what is in the best interests of your kids.
- Avoid showing distress to your children, or worse, announcing the separation to them before you and your ex have figured out a way of telling them together.
- Make sure your kids are okay - check in with their school, or engage a child psychologist if you think they'll benefit from speaking to someone neutral.
- Think about seeing a specialist post-separation psychologist together to help you with co-parenting, despite your separation.



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*Fiona Reid is the Managing Director of Reid Family Lawyers, a boutique specialist family law firm with offices in Brookvale and Surry Hills. She is supported by a team of expert family lawyers. The firm has a wealth of experience in all facets of family law including complex property matters, parenting matters, child support and spousal maintenance issues, relocation, de facto and same sex issues surrogacy and adoption.*



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# Is Ticketek fleecing Australian artists and audiences for the Caymans and California?

Few realise when you buy a concert ticket, that money meanders through a raft of furtive Australian entities to Singapore thence California, ultimately to be controlled by unnamed directors in the Cayman Islands. That's Ticketek. Why is this important? Two of the greatest threats posed to Australia's economic future are industry monopolies squeezing consumers and multinational tax avoiders syphoning profits out of Australia. Ticketek is emblematic of both.

On the face of it, Ticketek is a ticket distributor, focusing on live music, sport and concerts in Australia and New Zealand. Much Like Live Nation in the US, Ticketek has a large market dominance when it comes to ticketing, but peel back the layers of this 'Australian company' and we find the assorted entities behind Ticketek have enjoyed a tripling in income growth on the way out of Covid lockdowns, and have been on a shopping spree, extending their empire, buying smaller ticketing companies, venues, shows, catering firms, and promoters.

The company which owns Ticketek is called Amplify Bidco, racking up \$912 million in revenue last year, a staggering leap from \$378 million the year before, but even so, they made no taxable profit. The money they took from Australian concertgoers was ploughed back into the entertainment industry to buy more assets. As you do. If you spend your revenues buying other assets, you can make a loss, and if you make a loss, you don't pay tax. There is nothing inherently wrong with this; it is normal corporate behaviour. The question is, does this foreign domination benefit local artists, venues, Australians?

The American private equity dudes who control the Ticketek maze make themselves hard to track. TICKETEK PTY. LTD is owned by TEG PTY Limited, thence by a veritable babushka doll of corporates from LIVE ENTERTAINMENT INVESTMENTS III PTY LTD, to LIVE ENTERTAINMENT INVESTMENTS II PTY LTD, to LIVE ENTERTAINMENT INVESTMENTS I PTY LTD to LIVE ENTERTAINMENT HOLDINGS PTY LTD to AMPLIFY FINCO PTY LTD to AMPLIFY BIDCO PTY LTD.



Put your hands up in the air...if you're being fleeced

All primary addresses for these businesses are Level 3, 175 Liverpool Street in Sydney but suddenly, we are off to Singapore. The company that owns Amplify Bidco – hence the other seven concoctions – is AMPLIFY PLEDGECO PTE. LTD. Address? 9 Raffles Plaza, Singapore. Being a business in Singapore, it does not have to register with ASIC, but ASIC requires you list your ultimate holding company. And the top entity in the deck of companies, Bidco, is ultimately owned by SILVER LAKE (OFFSHORE) AIV GP V, LTD. Which in summary is an American company owned in the Cayman Islands.

If you expected a company pulling over half a billion dollars to be a significant Australian taxpayer, you were mistaken. According to ATO data, Amplify Bidco has received more in tax benefits and refunds than it's paid. Over the past few years, their tax bill has been a rounding error compared to their income. In 2022, they reported a tax refund of \$20m. They paid \$2.5m tax in 2023 despite revenue of \$912m.

Rival Ticketmaster's parent company, Live Nation, is currently being sued in the US over anti-competitive behaviour. The lawsuit claims Live Nation-Ticketmaster has been strong-arming venues into exclusive contracts, leaving rivals out in the cold and fans with sky-high ticket costs.

Despite its near monopoly, the company has managed to evade regulatory crackdowns while raking in billions. The ACCC might do well to put Ticketek on its watchlist, too.

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

## Community

# Enhancing community mental health services



Dr Scamps will ensure all allocated funds are well spent

As a former GP, mental health has always been a deep concern of mine as it is for many families here on the Northern Beaches. I'm pleased to report that we are making good progress on improving community mental health services for young people thanks to sustained advocacy by your three independent MPs on the Northern Beaches – including your state MP Michael Regan, my fellow federal MP Zali Steggall in Warringah, and myself

You may recall that three years ago the previous state government pledged \$7.5m to provide a four-bed adolescent mental health unit, but this did not go ahead when the Local Area Health District and Northern Beaches Hospital claimed the beds were not required and were underfunded. The good news is we've been fighting for the allocated money to remain in our community and to be spent enhancing community mental health and drug and alcohol services.

So far, we've had funding allocated to an adolescent safe space at Brookvale, and for drug and alcohol services across the Northern Sydney Health District. Money has also been provided to expand the PACER program which is the combined police, ambulance and health professional mental health crisis response team. But there remains \$4.5m still to be spent.

I've been working closely with the NSW government and the community on how best to spend this money to enhance services for adolescents here on the Beaches and I am pushing for a firm plan by the end of the year.

In September I attended a round table at Northern Beaches Hospital with hospital executives and representatives of the Local

Area Health District to fully understand how the hospital is currently dealing with adolescents both in the Emergency Department and during admissions for mental health.

Without a separate adolescent mental health ward, young people must currently be admitted to the Short Stay Unit of the Northern Beaches Hospital. However, it is deemed unsafe for vulnerable young people to be admitted alongside adults. To address this the hospital undertook to explore the feasibility of physical separation options, but the proposed solution currently is to ensure that all young people in this Short Stay Ward have a dedicated nurse with them at all times. Adolescents and teens requiring longer duration of care will be admitted to the specialised Broлга ward in Hornsby.

We also discussed the need for better integration of care for adolescents experiencing mental health crises, including more funding for services to help prevent hospital admissions and to better support people when they leave hospital. This will likely be a focus for the \$4.5m still to be spent.

I have also been working closely with men's mental health groups on the Northern Beaches and held a round table in July with many of the wonderful groups we have in our community. With 75% of those who take their own life being male, it is a critically important issue. Again, collaboration and better communication about the services on offer was a major theme as well as making sure GPs are aware of what's on offer.

We also discussed how to improve health-seeking behaviour among men, who are notoriously reluctant to seek out support. Talking about mental fitness, rather than mental illness is a good place to start.

I'll continue pushing for more comprehensive and better-connected mental health services on the Northern Beaches, including not only the best crisis care but also more support for the promotion of mental fitness and wellbeing.

Keep up to date with Dr Sophie Scamps MP's announcements and initiatives online at [www.sophiescamps.com.au](http://www.sophiescamps.com.au)

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







The Silver Surfers embracing aging, one wave at a time

## Community

# Silver Surfers: Empowering Over 55's on the Northern Beaches

MWP Community Care's newest initiative, Silver Surfers, made a splash at its debut session, held at Kiddie's Corner, Palm Beach.

Despite the less-than-ideal weather, the event saw an incredible turnout, with over 20 enthusiastic participants braving the conditions to take part in this unique health and wellness offering for residents over 55.

An initiative dreamed up by Josh Kirkman from Surfers for Climate and guided by none other than 3 times World Bodyboarding Champion, Ben Player, and owner of the Manly and Palm Beach Surf School, Matt Grainger, the session was a hit! Participants learned about ocean health, built confidence in the surf, and had a fantastic time reconnecting with the beach in a safe and supportive environment.

Chloe Feris, Head of Oper-

ations and Communications at MWP Community Care, said the program was a natural progression to MWP's wellness offering to older Australians.

"As we age, it's common to lose confidence and develop a heightened sense of fear when tackling physical activities, especially those like surfing. Programs like Silver Surfers aim to combat these concerns by providing expert guidance and fostering a sense of community and social connection whilst lasting health benefits and endorphins kick in. 90% of life's problems can be solved if you just add water. You never feel worse after having a swim at the beach!"

The session was followed by a delightful morning tea

catered by Barquette's Feast, giving participants the chance to relax and enjoy some well-earned refreshments. The Silver Surfers program will run regularly throughout summer.

To be the first to know further details, register your interest using the QR Code here.



### Sponsors needed

Sponsorship is required to keep the Silver Surfers program riding the waves! If you are keen to get involved please contact Chloe from MWP Community Care on 9913 3244.

Words: **Liam Carroll**

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Excitement was palpable at the Bellburra Retirement Village launch

### Retirement Living

## Discover the future of retirement living at Bellburra

A new era of luxury retirement living is taking shape on the Northern Beaches. Bellburra, the highly anticipated retirement village by Allambie Heights Village Ltd., is creating quite the buzz, even before construction is complete. This stunning 24-apartment community has captured the attention of locals, especially after its exclusive launch event.

Unveiled at an official launch information session on 11 September 2024 at Forestville RSL, Bellburra promises a lifestyle of elegance, comfort, and convenience. Guests had the first opportunity to see the vision behind this new village, meet the team bringing it to life, and experience the excitement of what Bellburra will soon offer its residents.

The highlight of the launch? A detailed presentation by

Karen Mattingley, Sales Manager, where she introduced attendees to the luxurious amenities and unique features that make Bellburra stand out. Attendees also appreciated the clear and comprehensive breakdown of the financial aspects involved in transitioning to a retirement village community.

Bellburra's thoughtful design includes expansive open-plan living spaces, modern low-maintenance kitchens with ample storage and Miele appliances, and cleverly designed front and rear balconies or courtyards offering dual aspects to capture cross breezes. A number of upper-level apartments boast breathtaking views of the city skyline, offering a tranquil yet vibrant lifestyle.

Guests at the event were

also thrilled by Bellburra's close-knit community feel. The village's intimate size - just 24 apartments - ensures a warm, neighbourly environment. Plus, its location in Allambie Heights means you can enjoy all the perks of retirement while staying close to familiar surroundings, loved ones, and everything the Northern Beaches has to offer.

"We couldn't be more pleased with the response to Bellburra," said Karen Mattingley. "The enthusiasm from the community has been incredible, showing the demand for spacious, thoughtfully designed retirement living apartments. Our 3-bedroom apartments are built with the future in mind, designed to embrace resident's changing needs as they age, allowing residents to age comfortably while maintaining their independence. And most importantly, they can stay connected to the local community they love."

With only 24 exclusive apartments available, interest is already soaring. In just two short weeks since the launch, 25% of the apartments have been secured with deposits. If Bellburra has sparked your curiosity, now is the time to act!

Don't miss your chance to be part of this exciting new community. Contact Karen Mattingley today to schedule your personal appointment and discover the perfect blend of luxury, low-maintenance living, and vibrant community life at Bellburra.

Call **02 9450 0715** or contact [sales@bellburra.com.au](mailto:sales@bellburra.com.au) to talk to the Bellburra team.

Words: **Liam Carroll**

JOIN US ON 13TH NOV



ARTIST IMPRESSION

# Same Beaches setting, brand new chapter...

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You don't have to leave your local neighbourhood for a luxury retirement lifestyle. With 24 spacious 3-bedroom apartments, a tranquil setting, and superior community facilities, Bellburra offers low-maintenance luxury in the heart of the Northern Beaches.

Join us on **Wednesday, November 13th, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**, for our Bellburra information session at Forestville RSL. You can view our new floor plans, hear about the benefits of community living, and learn more about the financials.

**BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL - RSVP BY 6TH NOVEMBER**  
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**Bellburra**





Josh's art pays homage to the Australian suburban home, inside and out

**Cover Artist**

**Joshua 'Coppo' Copland-Nielsen**

Two years after my copper plate etching of the landmark Dee Why home at 151 Pacific Parade, Dee Why, taking the cover of the September 2022 Tawny Frogmouth, I am back with another recent etching completed late last year. With that dearly beloved Dee Why home now sadly being wiped from the landscape, I am glad to have had the opportunity to immortalise it through the process of printmaking as well as on the cover of the Northern Beaches' monthly mag.

In finalising my Master of Fine Arts Degree at the National Art School (NAS) in late 2023, I wanted to give both narrative and personalisation to my work. This pushed me into depicting the domestic space via furniture and mundane objects of the home. Fast forward to the November 2024 cover, I invite you to move from outside on the street and step inside of the house, to imagine a time from yesteryear and focus on those domestic objects we utilise amongst

the home such as furniture, in particular the chair.

For my postgraduate show at NAS, a great amount of my work utilised parts of chairs, parts of building supplies such as gyprock, and more. My work has pushed the boundaries of printmaking, a practice I am so familiar with. For my upcoming exhibition, titled *Convolved*, at the Curl Curl Creative Space between 30 October and 10 November, I pull apart the chair and what the domestic space means to me. There are prints, moulds of domestic objects, paintings, video media work and more.

Inspired by the passing of my mother in 2021 to cancer, my utilisation of the domestic space queries what it means to be a mother, what it means to be a son, and what it means to express grief. It explores the bodily essence and trace left behind on objects such as chairs, whilst depicting some objects that both haunt and comfort my soul.

The title of this exhibition,

*Convolved*, pays homage to the object convoluted foam. A regular material used in cushions, pillows, and mattress toppers. This was a material that gave my mother comfort in her days leading to demise. However, in my research and writing my exegesis for my Master of Fine Art, I realised this object was one that haunted me, that reminded me of the worst days before she died.

I have found it important to come to terms with utilising an object that triggers me so much, hence the title of the show. Objects such as these hold spectral qualities, in both positive and negative forms.

You're invited to Josh's '*Convolved*' exhibition, Wednesday 30 October to Sunday 10 November at the Creative Space, 105 Abbott Rd, North Curl Curl, Wednesday to Sunday, 10am - 4pm, and a Halloween soft launch, 6pm Thursday 31 October.

Words: **Joshua Copland-Nielsen**



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# BROOKVALE ARTS DISTRICT

## ARTS - INDUSTRY - ENTERTAINMENT



Photo: Marnya Rothe

## Designing from Country

Northern Beaches resident, Craig Kerslake is a Wiradjuri architect and managing director of Nguluway DesignInc, a majority Indigenous-owned architectural practice created by the amalgamation of Craig's own practice Nguluway and DesignInc Sydney. The firm provides First Nations cultural knowledge – Designing from Country – to help enrich and inform design thinking for interiors, landscapes, urban design and architecture.

Craig started out as a builder's labourer and was considering whether to become a builder or move into architecture. He had an interest in how buildings affect the way people live and this led him on a path to Environmental Humanities and Architecture. He has worked on a broad range of building projects including schools, hospitals, housing, transport infrastructure, public and civic space and urban design.

Designing with a Country-centric approach is his strategic focus. In particular it is about relationships and connections between people and place. Craig and his team are able to draw on Indigenous heritage, community and knowledge to bring innovative solutions to spatial design and architectural form. The relationship of "Belonging to Country" views no separation between nature and the human world, with Country being everything in our conscious world where people and nature occupy ambiguous lines of separation. Also, where people are responsible custodians who look after each other and the natural world in reciprocal relationships. Designing from Country knowledge originates from this relational concept.

This approach has been recognised by the New South Wales Government and the Office of the Government Architect NSW has been working to include our relationship with Country in the NSW planning system. The Office recently produced "Better Placed – Connecting With Country", a document that provides a guidance framework on how to respond to Country in the planning, design and delivery of built environment projects.

The beautiful beaches, bush and urban areas of the Northern Beaches have much to gain from looking at people and place through a First Nations worldview. With its 15-year Structure Plan approved in November 2023 by Northern Beaches Council, Craig points to Brookvale as an exciting place of opportunity to produce unique Australian architectural expressions where the built form distinctly belongs to place. Its relationship with nature can be rebalanced for the benefit of all, reconnecting Brookvale with the beach and bush. Its role as a meeting place and home for different communities offers potential for more collaborations, new relationships and a greater sense of belonging to place.

Applying an Indigenous cultural lens to the development of the built environment allows Craig to think differently and be able to offer a broader range of design solutions, while at the same time, give back to Country.

Words: Doug Clark



Humble beginnings



A team approach in 2024

## Local Business

### The Cunninghams way

In our property-fixated nation, conversation revolves almost constantly around the real estate market, but mention these three magic words, "real estate agent", and it's hard to imagine adjectives such as honourable, compassionate, trustworthy, and community-focused will be first to fill the airwaves.

However, for every resident of the Northern Beaches and beyond that's had the good fortune of interacting with John Cunningham over his own 47-year real estate career, and the members of the Cunninghams Real Estate team over their 33 years of operations, these are precisely the words you're most likely to hear. This is no fluke or the fortuitous result of some clever marketing. It's the consequence of an engrained commitment towards doing everything possible for the Northern Beaches community, while also providing exceptional real estate service and expertise.

"We believe in building strong connections with our clients, our team, and the wider Northern Beaches community," says Managing Director and Founder, John Cunningham. "We know that the role we play in sales, property management, and leasing is vital, and we take that responsibility seriously. Our commitment is to empower people by providing the best possible advice and helping them make informed decisions about their most valuable assets. We approach each relationship with trust and respect, and we're confident in our ability to achieve the best results. However, this doesn't mean sacrificing decency or kindness."

The Cunninghams commitment to community is evident in the array of local programs, initiatives and endeavours John

and the team contribute to. "It's always been in our DNA to prioritise our clients' interests first and foremost, while also giving back to the community we are fortunate to work in, live in, and be a part of."

Through partnerships with schools, community groups and local charities like LOCALKIND Northern Beaches, Lifeline Northern Beaches, the Lions Club, support of grassroots events such as this year's debut Manly Writers' Festival and the inaugural Cunninghams Manly Surf Festival, marking 60 years since Midget Farrelly and Phyllis O'Donnell won the first ever Mens and Womens World Surfing Titles at Manly in 1964, support of local services and community events is fundamental to the Cunninghams way of life, fostering a culture of kindness and compassion.

These relationships are central to the Cunninghams identity, reflecting their commitment to making a tangible difference in the community. And in times where many are struggling with a cost-of-living crisis, Cunninghams' support of LOCALKIND in particular, whereby a percentage of every sale commission is donated to LOCALKIND, makes a huge difference towards providing support to the most vulnerable in the community.

As John says, "This is hyper-local support at its best with our team 100% behind this mission, and it's an integral part of what it means to be a part of Cunninghams. We're about more than just property. It's about people, trust, and making the Northern Beaches a better place to live."

Learn more about Cunninghams Real Estate at [www.cunninghamsre.com.au](http://www.cunninghamsre.com.au) and follow on socials @cunninghamsre

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](mailto:liam@thetawnyfrogmouth.com.au)

## November 2024 Tide Chart

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				1 0226 0.45 0850 1.67 1514 0.43 2108 1.41	2 0255 0.48 0922 1.71 1551 0.41 2145 1.37	3 0325 0.51 0955 1.73 1630 0.41 2225 1.33
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11 0459 1.36 1040 0.63 1659 1.61 2334 0.35	12 0551 1.50 1147 0.53 1759 1.63	13 0021 0.31 0640 1.65 1249 0.41 1855 1.63	14 0105 0.29 0727 1.79 1348 0.31 1950 1.60	15 0149 0.30 0814 1.91 1445 0.23 2044 1.54	16 0233 0.34 0901 1.98 1539 0.19 2138 1.47	17 0318 0.40 0949 2.00 1633 0.20 2233 1.39
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- New moon
- First Quarter
- Full Moon
- Last Quarter

INFO: BUREAU OF METEOROLOGICAL TIDAL CENTRE PHOTO: AMANDEEP KAUR





Adam Flaskas, Felons founder and director, and Dean Romeo, brand director

### The Tawny Nightjar

## Felons' Manly homecoming

Cast your mind back to April, when news first broke of Artemus Group acquiring the iconic Manly Wharf. A relatively unknown entity to Northern Beaches faithful, Artemus Group are the force behind Brisbane's acclaimed Howard Smith Wharves, the specialists at revitalising iconic waterfront precincts and transforming them into thriving community and cultural hubs.

Artemus have wasted no time in totally revamping Manly Wharf Bar, a treasured venue that had sadly become more den than hub: Enlisting celebrated chef Corey Costelloe, former culinary director of Rockpool Bar and Grill, to design the menu using best-in-class produce; Investing heavily in optimal acoustics so that, unimaginable a year ago, a polite conversation is now possible for those of us not armed with Jimmy Barnes' vocal range; Transforming a bustling cafeteria-chique watering hole with lighting either non-existent or reserved for operating theatres and instead imbuing a wholesome warmth and richness to the overall aesthetic. Artemus have been very busy indeed.

Now comes the latest instalment in the Wharfy reimagining, the Felons Brewing Co. takeover. Felons, a brewery paying homage to the true tale of four felons who, in 1823, set sail from Sydney, heading south, looking for wood of all things, only for a violent southerly gale to blow the convicts out to sea and, over the course of 25 harrowing days, north to Brisbane, shipwrecked on Moreton Island. Channelling this same unbreakable spirit of freedom and adventure, Felons Brewing Co was founded in 2018 by a group of passionate individuals with

a thirst for community, quality craftsmanship and living the good life, now bringing the Felons story full circle, back home to the shores of Sydney and to the taps of Manly Wharf.

"We're excited to unveil Felons' new home at Manly Wharf," said Adam Flaskas, co-founder and director of Artemus Group. "Our vision for Manly Wharf has always been to create a dynamic, community-focused destination that fuses dining and entertainment and raises the bar on hospitality." Paul Henry, co-founder and director of Artemus Group added, "As a Sydney boy, Manly is the gateway to our famous city, and truly special, where the ocean meets the harbour. Felons is a special beer, to be enjoyed with friends and fun times. I am excited and honoured to be involved in the revitalisation of the iconic Manly Wharf and to bring our beloved Felons brewery to its new home in Sydney."

Felons Brewing Co. was established by Adam Flaskas and Paul Henry alongside CEO Luke Fraser; brand director Dean Romeo; and brewery director Tom Champion. Collectively, they bring over 75 years of brewing experience. Felons Manly will showcase a curated selection of their award-winning beers, including Crisp Lager, Galaxy Haze, and Australian Pale Ale, as well as barrel-aged beer, and seasonal and limited-edition brews. Beyond beers, the drinks list will include a mix of refreshing cocktails; Champagne; Australian and International wines; a thoughtful selection of spirits; and non-alcoholic alternatives - all designed to complement the food and harbourside location.

Felons will launch a vibrant new music program, featuring live jazz, soul, and funk bands most nights, along with Sydney's top selectors spinning disco, 80s boogie and Afrocentric grooves. Felons Brewing Co. will also introduce its Lifestyle Club, fostering community connections through initiatives like weekly run clubs and beer yoga sessions; while also hosting local charity events, sustainability workshops, and collaborations with Manly's thriving arts scene.

"Manly couldn't be a better fit for Felons," said Dean Romeo, brand director for Felons. "The lifestyle enjoyed in the Northern Beaches is up there with the best in the world and we're excited to share that. Locals and visitors alike can expect an inclusive space where people from all walks of life can come together, and relax in good company, all while celebrating the magic of beer."

Words: **The Tawny Nightjar**

# FELONS Manly

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## Overcoming tomorrow never comes

Many people struggle to stick to exercise. Scott from VAMOS explains one of the key reasons for this and how you can overcome it.

Temporal Discounting is a common human tendency to prioritize immediate comfort or short-term rewards over long-term rewards and future benefits. Often associated with financial management, it affects decision-making for many things in life, including exercise, making it hard for people to commit and stick to a regular fitness routine, despite fully understanding and desiring its long-term benefit on their health and wellness.

Temporal discounting has a big hand in the Couch vs Exercise war. Doing something to be fit and healthy in the future struggles to beat the lure of immediate couch satisfaction! But here are some strategies you can deploy to help overcome it:

**Set short-term goals:** Set small, achievable goals and milestones, such as completing X workouts this week. Achieving them provides a sense of progress and satisfaction.

**Visualisation:** Vividly visualise the future you with improved mental and physical health.

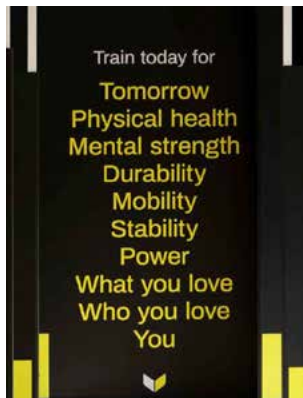
**Make exercise enjoyable:** Choose exercise you like and you make the process itself rewarding.

**Habit stacking:** Pair exercise with an existing habit. For instance, always work out at a set time/day/sequence in your week. This can reduce the mental resistance to getting started and keeping going.

**Track progress:** Seeing tangible progress can provide a sense of accomplishment and keep you motivated.

**Focus on immediate positive effects:** Remind yourself of the instant benefits of exercise, such as increased energy, improved mood and reduced stress levels.

By making the rewards of exercise more immediate, tangible, and enjoyable, these strategies can help overcome the natural tendency to discount the future benefits and ultimately deliver you the short and long-term super-powers of regular exercise.



**Cristina has worked really hard at all these strategies and is now 40% stronger.** "VAMOS means 'Let's go', we don't go alone - and this is the case at VAMOS Strength Training where the support from Scott, Chloe and Darya is fantastic. My husband also trains there and encouraged me to check it out. I was a total beginner, but I liked the fact you get a private space to workout in and there is always a coach around to help. I didn't think I would like it as much as I do but I love the challenge of completing all the workouts each week and the new healthy routine it has brought to my life. I am so much stronger, and it has motivated me to do more cardiovascular exercise too. I am on a mission to be even fitter by my special birthday next year. VAMOS!"



## Life Coach

### Is your life:

- One of ... Being reactive rather than proactive?
- One of ... Monotony and repetitiveness?
- One of ... Lacking in direction?
- One of ... Dreaming and hoping?
- One of ... Being in a rut and not knowing how to escape it?

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Hollow there, priceless Pittwater views

## Environment

# Hollows as homes: Dead trees live on

Claire Lane and Miles Sterrick understand the ecological importance of the trees on their property, situated in an area of remnant endangered Spotted Gum Forest in Avalon. So, when their favourite tree suddenly died, the thought of cutting it down filled them with dread. Thankfully there was another solution.

In October 2023, community environment group **Canopy Keepers** held their spring tree giveaway in Avalon. Among the visitors was Claire, who runs the popular Paradise Yoga studio from the home she shares with husband Miles Sterrick, overlooking Paradise Beach.

Aside from wanting trees to add to her property, Claire sought information about hollows creation - the practice of creating artificial hollows in trees not yet old enough to have formed natural hollows, or in dead but still standing trees.

This is typically achieved in one of four ways:

1. Chainsaw carving of narrow door hollows
2. Mechanical cavity drilling with a tool called a Hollowhog, which allows a large cavity to be drilled through a small entrance hole.
3. Faceplate hollows: a large cavity is created with a chainsaw and a prefabricated faceplate with pre-drilled entrance hole is installed, and
4. The installation of premade nest boxes.

Given it can take 100-150 years for a tree hollow to form naturally, and Beaches old growth trees are being lost at an alarming rate, these practices are vital in the survival of the multitude of species who rely on tree hollows, including 17% of bird species, 42% of mammals and 28% of reptiles.

With Canopy Keepers' help, Claire set out to find a specialist arborist who could carve the hollows, whilst Miles threw himself into the task of building species-targeted nest boxes. After a few dead ends, Claire found arborist Harrison Judd of Arbor Co. Tree Services, who had two important credentials: a passion for habitat creation and the remarkable Hollowhog tool.

Harrison and his team firstly staged the tree of its limbs to make it safe, then created 3 hollows and finally installed Miles' box for two Glider species, all under the watchful eye of Claire and Miles, plus ecologist Jayden Walsh, nature photographer and volunteer for the Powerful Owl Project Andrew Gregory, and environmentalist and bush regenerators Evan and India Turner, all Canopy Keepers members.

Although it will be a waiting game to see just who will take up residence in the newly created 'critter condominium', the benefits are already being felt, including financial. Miles explains, "So we spent X dollars. If we were going to get the tree chopped down and taken away, it was probably going to be double that."

Whilst retaining a dead tree for hollows creation is not always viable, there is no cost to getting a tree assessed. As Claire advises, "Definitely have a think about it before you decide to remove a tree if they can be retained for habitat. It's a lovely thing to do."

For Claire and Miles, their trees are not an impediment to a view, but rather they ARE the view, to be enjoyed and preserved.

**Canopy Keepers** works towards the preservation and regeneration of Pittwater's canopy. Learn more at [canopykeepers.org.au](http://canopykeepers.org.au) and follow [@canopykeepers](https://www.instagram.com/canopykeepers) on socials

Words: **Danielle Bressington**

PHOTO: ANDREW GREGORY (ANDREW.GREGORY.COM.AU)

## Mal's Wild Side

# Has anyone stepped up for koalas yet?

Remember when the sight of burning koalas, during the "Black Summer" bushfires, inspired a wave of global sympathy for our national icon?

Over \$200 million poured in from around the world to assist koalas when those sickening images hit the news in 2020. Wasn't it our moral duty to subsequently care for the creatures that survived? In June 2022, I wrote about the ongoing decline in koala numbers. So how are they travelling now and what about the forests where they live?

The previous state Liberal government did little to offer lasting protection for koalas. But Labor's pre-election promise to create a "Great Koala National Park" (inland from Coffs Harbour) now seems totally duplicitous. Since they came to power, logging in the proposed park's boundaries has actually continued at four times the previous rate! Only 2% is off limits to timber "harvesting". Meanwhile, on a national level, the government has delayed instigating stronger environmental laws and is even considering weakening proposed legislation.

The Australian Koala Foundation (AKF) has long pushed for a "Koala Protection Act" which would conserve all the places where koalas live.

On 1 September they organised a march in Canberra. It was to be a voice for koalas and the myriad of other wildlife impacted by Australia's current obsession with habitat destruction. I boarded a McMaster's coach at 6am from Warringah Mall, with 30 kindred spirits, bound for the nation's capital. We stopped only briefly at Sutton Forest to fill our hungry faces with pie.

On arrival, we joined a seething melange of creative fervour. There was costume fitting, placard making and chant rehearsal aplenty.

I was assigned a "rodent" outfit, which apparently represented the "dark side" of the bureaucracy.

The peaceful march from Kings Park to Parliament House, led by former Green's leader, Bob Brown, was full of colour, passion and urgent messaging - yet the only elected representative there to greet the crowd was Independent Senator, David Pocock and media



Save the Koala protest

coverage was scant.

To her credit, our very own Dr Sophie Scamps (MP for Mackellar) is a strong advocate for environmental protection (with other local MP's, Zali Steggall and Michael Regan also invested in this issue). Her petition to "Save the Aussie Bush" is designed to help stop the ongoing decimation.

She points out that the Albanese Government allows 500,000 hectares to be cleared or logged every single year, mostly for low-value products such as wood chips and tomato stakes. Please sign and share it.

[savetheaussiebush.com/optin1724971599909](http://savetheaussiebush.com/optin1724971599909)

In September, 20 more species were added to our national threatened species list meaning that 2,250 unique Australian plants, animals and ecosystems are now on a sad trajectory towards extinction (including koalas). Just 0.1% of government spending goes towards protecting Australia's unique wildlife and landscapes.

Ending land clearing and logging of native forests would also achieve a reduction of over 14.5 million tonnes in carbon dioxide a year, much more than what's needed to meet Australia's 2030 emissions target.

Every member of the NSW parliament recently received a free copy of David Lindenmayers's new book "The Forest Wars" which exposes the terrible toll of logging, whilst outlining a positive conservation vision. Unfortunately, Labor and the Coalition colluded last month to vote down a federal Greens Bill to end native forest logging - even though taxpayers heavily subsidise this loss-making industry.

Perhaps koalas are just not donating enough to party funds.

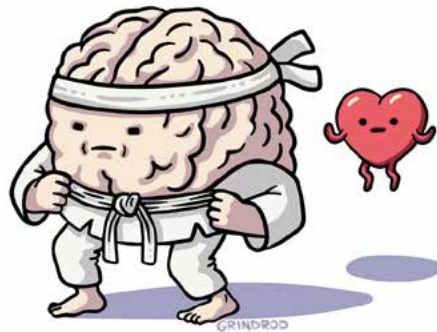
Words: **Mal Fisher**



## Your Brain: The Karate Kid

### How the brain uses defense mechanisms to protect your heart from pain

Imagine your heart and brain as people, in fact, they are siblings. Heart, a sweet and open toddler, is full of love, optimism, and innocence. He's always ready to trust and connect, unaware of the dangers life can bring. His older brother, brain, is a teenager, has seen more of the world, is a bit jaded, skeptical, and protective. Life has already thrown its punches, and brain knows all too well that heart needs guarding. To protect his little brother from getting hurt, brain learned karate - a set of moves designed to defend heart from pain. These moves, known as psychological defense mechanisms, are brain's way of keeping heart from enduring too much emotional distress.



One of brain's go-to moves is **repression**. It's a swift block, where brain pushes painful feelings, memories, or thoughts down. Heart doesn't even get a chance to feel the blow because brain hides the pain so effectively.

Next up is **denial**, brain's classic evasion technique. When a situation is too painful or hard to accept, brain refuses to acknowledge it. He turns a blind eye and tells assertively tells heart "Nothing's wrong here", even though something definitely is. Heart trusts brain because he is young but also intuitively knows brain is not being truthful. Heart may also feel betrayed by brain for keeping secrets from him and keeping him in a fantasy. He may feel silly or stupid when he learns the truth that others around him may have already known.

When brain uses **projection**, he cleverly redirects the uncomfortable emotions onto someone else. Instead of admitting that he feels fear, anger, or sadness, brain accuses others of feeling those emotions. Heart remains protected, but relationships with others can get complicated as pain tossed can hurt others and make them angry.

**Displacement** is another karate move, where brain avoids confronting the real source of pain. Instead, brain lets out the frustration in a safer place. If heart is hurt by a close friend, brain might direct the anger toward something less threatening, like getting annoyed with a stranger or snapping at a loved one.

Then there's rationalization, brain's intellectual block. This move helps brain explain

away painful experiences with seemingly logical reasons. Heart might be hurt, but brain swoops in, telling him it "wasn't a big deal", "it's not that bad" or "it happened for a reason".

Finally, brain, who is also a part-time comedian, **deflects with humour**. Instead of feeling vulnerable, brain will make a joke, as he knows how much heart loves to laugh. The laughter acts like a playful karate flip, diverting attention away from the emotional discomfort. Both rationalization and humour deflection can be soothing, like aloe vera on a sunburn, but it won't address the underlying issue of cancer.

While these defense mechanisms are essential for protecting heart in the moment, they're only meant for short-term use and do not resolve the deeper underlying emotions or issues. The more karate brain does, the harder it becomes to experience peace, love, and belonging. While brain was only ever trying to protect heart, he also needs to trust heart's voice as he provides imperative information about what is best for both siblings. When we honour our emotions instead of deflecting them, we gain the clarity to resolve issues and prevent future heartaches. This is the path to peace and genuine emotional connection, where heart and brain can finally rest in harmony.

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

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

IMAGE: TRISTAN GRINROD



Chech mate, Charlie's crooning is not to be missed



### Music

## Don't miss the 'Legends of Swing' Show at Dee Why RSL

Australia's best male vocal performer, Charlie Chech, will be hitting the Showroom at Dee Why RSL Club on Sunday 8 December.

You do not want to miss seeing this brilliant young vocalist for a memorable afternoon of music and crooning in his newest production 'The Legends of Swing'. Charlie and his jazz quintet will celebrate the best-of-the-best from Frank Sinatra, The Rat Pack, Michael Bubl , Tony Bennett, Bobby Darin and many more!

As a special treat, and in the lead-up to the Festive Season, the 8 December performance will feature some of your favourite Christmas tunes! Bring your family and friends and celebrate the Festive Season in style!

Charlie has received rave reviews for his performances and was crowned Australia's Best Male Vocal Performer at the prestigious ACE (Australian

Club Entertainment) Awards, one of the youngest vocalists ever to win the title. His all-star 5-piece jazz ensemble will be led by Australian music maestros Clive Lendich on guitar and Graham Jesse on saxophone.

As a treat for Dee Why RSL guests, Charlie will be joined on stage by the incredible Northern Beaches vocalist Anna Walding. Co-director of the popular covers band The Q.C. Collective, Anna has a warm, soulful tone and a dynamic stage presence. Charlie and Anna will be performing some beautiful duets together.

Charlie has held several sold-out shows at a variety of prestigious venues, including the renowned Brisbane Jazz

Club; Cardea at Barangaroo; Lazybones; Foundry 616; and Claire's Kitchen. He has also staged four major headline shows at Hornsby RSL Club - as one of the youngest performers the club has featured, an extraordinary feat!

The young crooner has been featured on Studio 10; Top 50 Australian Idol; The Today Show; The 7.30 Report; Sunrise; and 2GB's Ben Fordham program.

Charlie's debut EP 'Checkmate' is available on all streaming platforms and as a CD purchase on his website [www.charliechech.com](http://www.charliechech.com)

As a show exclusive, meet Charlie after the concert for a signed copy of his EP 'Checkmate'!

#### Buy tickets

Visit [charliechech.com/events](http://charliechech.com/events) and [deewhyrsl.com.au/ticketed-shows](http://deewhyrsl.com.au/ticketed-shows)

Follow Charlie on Instagram @charliechech.music and Facebook @CharlieChechSinger

Words: **Liam Carroll**



## Enjoy Sydney's sizzling summer safely with your pets



Life's a beach for man's best friend too

While the warmer months bring beautiful beach days and holiday festivities, pet owners must be aware of seasonal risks to help keep their furry friends safe and healthy.

### Heat stroke/exhaustion

The BOM predicts one of the hottest summers on record, so it's important to realise our four-legged companions can suffer from heatstroke too. Overweight and Brachycephalic breeds (flat faced dogs such as Pugs and French Bulldogs) are at greater risk. Make sure your pets are left in well ventilated, shaded areas, with access to plenty of water, and avoid exercising your pets in the hottest part of the day.

### Signs of heatstroke in your pet may include:

1. Panting or noisy/distressed breathing
2. Restlessness or agitation
3. Red/Hot gums or tongue and drooling
4. Vomiting or diarrhoea
5. Weakness or collapse

If you are concerned your dog is suffering from heatstroke, contact your local vet immediately.

### Paralysis Ticks

These are a significant concern on the Northern Beaches, particularly during spring and summer. These tiny parasites can cause severe illness - even death - in both cats and dogs by releasing toxins that affect the nervous system. Symptoms include weakness in the back legs, difficulty breathing, excessive drooling, and changes in your dog's bark.

Prevention is key. Use a vet-recommended tick preventative product year-round. Regularly

check your pet for ticks, especially after outdoor activities in bushland or coastal areas. Run your fingers through their fur, paying close attention to the head, neck, and underbelly. If you find a tick, remove it immediately and seek veterinary advice, even if your pet seems fine, as symptoms can develop later.

### Beach Safety for Dogs

The Northern Beaches offer many dog-friendly spots for pets to play, swim, and run. However, beach outings come with certain risks. To keep your dog safe while enjoying the coast, follow these guidelines:

**1. Sun Protection:** Dogs can get sunburnt too, especially those with short or light-coloured fur. Apply a pet-safe sunscreen to areas prone to burning, such as the nose, ears, and belly.

**2. Hydration:** Always bring fresh water and a bowl to prevent dehydration. Saltwater is not a substitute for drinking water, and ingesting too much can cause vomiting or diarrhoea.

**3. Hot Sand and Pavements:** The ground can become extremely hot during the day, potentially burning your dog's paw pads. Walk on grassy or shaded paths whenever possible and avoid walking during the hottest part of the day.

**4. Swimming Safety:** Not all dogs are natural swimmers. Monitor your dog in the water and avoid areas with strong currents. After swimming, rinse your dog to remove salt, sand, or any seaweed that could cause skin irritation.

**5. Oyster shells:** Many of our dog-friendly beaches have lots of these super sharp shells which can cause nasty injuries to dog paw pads that often require stitches.

Being proactive and aware of these common summer risks, means that you can ensure your pet enjoys the silly season safely.

Words: **Dr Lewis Hunt**

This content is for informational purposes only. It is not a substitute for professional veterinary advice. If you have any concerns or questions regarding your pet, please contact your vet for advice.



Hold eye contact with the book and the table's yours

### A Little Advice

## To sit or not to sit

**Q. I was recently given child-free privileges and decided to take my book to a café. All the tables were full. Eventually a 4-top became available. I sat down and ordered my breakfast from the QR code. Larger groups began arriving, looking for tables and I couldn't help noticing their resentful stares. Should I have given up my spot and waited for a smaller table? Should I have sat down in the first place? What are the rules?**

**A.** As a mother of two I appreciate the gravity of needing to make the most of your child-free time, social contracts be damned. That said, this is a head scratcher that I'm sure will divide. I can't help but think this is why cafés such as Ruby Lane and Girdlers have a 'wait to be seated' sign. We can't be expected to care about the laws of economics when hungry, we will always choose the option that most benefits us (and if you're not that person, well, good on ya).

If there had been someone waiting to seat you, they would have asked you to wait for a smaller table and not have sat you at a 4-top if it were busy. But you weren't being guided in a seat choice and damn it you just wanted to sit and read your book. You seem like a nice person, so I say you this act will not condemn you to social-etiquette purgatory.

However, should you come upon this situation again, one approach would be to seek out a group of people crowded around a 2-top and offer to switch places. Or get a takeaway and sit in nature if the staring really irks you.

Words: **Candace Little**

Candace is an award-winning screenwriter and content writer. Follow on IG @candacelittlewriter and find out more at [candacelittlewriter.com](http://candacelittlewriter.com)

PHOTO: PAULO FELIPE ASSIS - UNSPLASH



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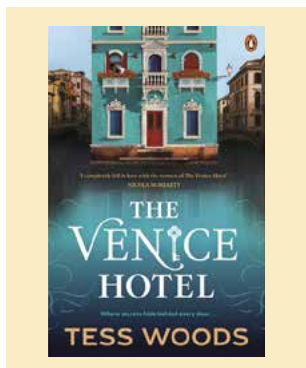
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Get yourself to Venice the easy way

### Tawny's Bathtub Bookclub

## Venice on my mind

Who'd have thought that attending an author talk at Manly Library would get me longing to visit Venice. The Venice Hotel is the cause of my longing. It's a book written by Tess Woods, a former physio-therapist who lives in Western Australia. Tess was down to earth, funny and forthcoming on topics that aren't easy to discuss. She was also incredibly self-deprecating, for example, talking about doing research for the book she said, "by research I mean just being there and talking to people."

From a young age Tess had always dreamed of visiting Venice. It took till her early forties for that to happen and I'm so pleased she did, or she may never have birthed this love letter to Venice.

It's one of those books that grabs you from the first sentence and keeps you enthralled for all 473 pages of this character and place driven story. It raises challenging issues, particularly climate change, in a fresh way. There's romance, intrigue, betrayal, guilt, coercive control, body issues, food, food, food plus Venice!



**The Instrumentalist** by Harriet Alexander is set in 18th century Venice. It's just been published and has already been translated into 17 languages and is set for the big screen.

The book tells the story of Anna Maria della Pietà who was raised in an orphanage where the conditions are shocking but musical ability is valued and Vivaldi teaches music. Anna Maria, his student and a musical prodigy, is believed to have contributed to composing Vivaldi's most famous work "Four Seasons".

Despite the book's rigorous research, it had to be written as fiction because much of the history of the women Harriet Alexander writes about is missing. What's fact is that Anna Maria is real and lived her whole life in Venice where she performed for 60 years and became one of the greatest musicians of the 18th century. You will never listen to Vivaldi the same way after reading this book.

### Shop local

Get your copy at Humphreys or Berkelouw Books (Stockland).

## Rocky the Aussie snowman

UK expat, and Northern Beaches resident, **Paul Carpenter** has called Australia home for 30 years. His nostalgia for snow and making snowmen and his love of telling stories that take children on magical adventures has resulted in **The Adventures of Rocky with Holly & Harry**.

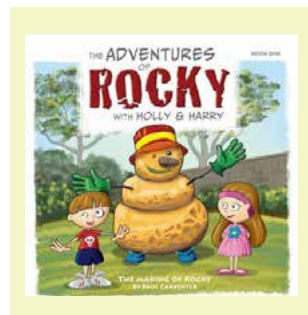
It's more than a charming book for early readers, it's also an activity book with lots of fun puzzles that little people will adore doing and big people will adore watching them enjoy.

This is the first book in a series and it's about the making of Rocky, a snowman made of rocks, but being rock he doesn't melt instead he comes to life and takes Holly and Harry on adventures.

There's even a Tawny Frogmouth in the story!

Rocky is giving Tawny readers a special deal when you buy a Rocky hardcover version you will get a softcover one. Just go to [www.adventuresofrock.com](http://www.adventuresofrock.com) and when you get to the cart add **Tawny Frogmouth** to the "add a note" section and you'll get this special offer.

Ready, set, Rocky!



Words: **Paige Turner**

### Fishing

## What's biting, Clint?

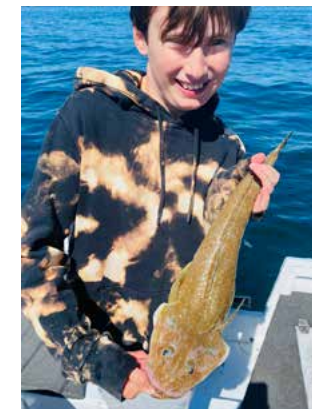
Kingfish are starting to show up in greater numbers along the inshore reefs, which is a great sign for the months ahead. This is mainly due to the huge amount of bait around at the moment, Slimy Mackerel and Yakkas being the two dominant bait fish. Garfish are also starting to show up, Gars are like Mars Bars to hungry Kingfish and other pelagic fish alike, if you can restrain yourself from eating them yourself!

The masses of bait and warmer water off our headlands is the likely reason we've seen a few Long Tail Tuna kicking around over the past month. Look for the birds and bait schools when targeting these fish, downscaling your offering if you don't get a bite

straight away.

The Southern Calamari have been tricky to find in the harbour, which you'd expect this time of year, but the Arrow Squid are around in good numbers. Target them along the drop offs and bridges, preferring smaller jigs. Use a sinker or paternoster rig if fishing anything over 7m of water to get it down.

In great news for our fishery, the flathead are on fire, both inside the harbour and outside in the deeper water. They've awoken from their slumber and are scoffing artificial and fish baits alike. Most are in that 40-50cm range, the perfect eating size, whilst also offering excellent sporting quality on the lighter gear. If targeting those



larger fish over 70cm (catch and release only), I recommend starting in the shallower water and slowly moving out to the deeper drop offs as the sun gets higher. If you can combine the early start and shallow water with a tide change, you'll improve your chances.

Words: **Clint Harwood**

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PHOTO OF THE MONTH



**Subject** Cockies at Avalon  
**Photographer** Joni Bondanza



**Subject** Dee Why stroll  
**Location** Serge Campisi



**Subject** Long Reef Headland  
**Photographer** Billy Macateer



**Subject** Rinse off the week's worries  
**Photographer** Mat Geyer IG@g\_eye\_r\_photography



**Subject** High altitude spread  
**Photographer** Andy Morgan IG@photos.andymorgan



**Subject** Tawny says G'day  
**Photographer** Terence Madden



**Subject** I'm watching you  
**Photographer** Mickaely Morais



**Subject** "Sorry mate - I'm not sharing my toast"  
**Photographer** Dawn Limj



**Subject** Spring Passionfruit flower  
**Photographer** Ruth Fitzpatrick





1. A popular chicken shop at Queenscliff beach is called the Salty WHAT?
2. Jacqui Scruby and Georgia Ryburn recently contested a state by election in which Northern Beaches electorate?
3. Yes or no, does Freshwater Beach have an ocean rockpool?
4. On the B Line buses, the majority of a bus is painted yellow. What colour is the outline of the city painted in?
5. Situated next to Pittwater Road, in what suburb would you find a golf driving range?
6. The Adelaide Strikers play in the national competition of which sport?
7. Which day am I in Love according to the popular song by The Cure?
8. Starting with F, what is another name for Fruit Sugar?
9. St. Patrick is said to have rid Ireland of what creature?
10. On a QWERTY keyboard, is the letter B on the top, middle or bottom line of letters?
11. A violin usually has how many strings?
12. In the book and movie "The Jungle Book", what type of creature is Kaa?
13. In Spanish, "Padre" means which member of the family?
14. What colour was the Methamphetamine in the TV show "Breaking Bad"?
15. In which city is Australia's Reserve Bank Headquarters: Canberra, Melbourne, or Sydney?
16. Which member of the Spice Girls was first to leave the group to pursue a solo career?
17. The Penrith Panthers won the NRL Grand Final vs Melbourne Storm, 14-6. How many tries did Penrith score in the match?
18. The logo for Fed Ex contains a hidden arrow between which 2 letters?
19. Typically, what colour are unroasted coffee beans?
20. Tallinn is the capital of which country?

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## Sudoku Medium difficulty

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

### RUMOUR HAS IT

Unbuilt, off the plan, many years from completion luxe Manly beachfront apartments are being snapped up for north of \$20million.

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## Star Signs by Krystal Bawl

### Scorpio Oct 24 - Nov 22

Rebalancing cosmic love chakras is a real talent. Stop wasting it on yourself, all alone, and apply generously to others.

### Sagittarius Nov 23 - Dec 21

We all know you're single again, loud and proud, but overdoing the sin part of your status is alarming at your age.

### Capricorn Dec 22 - Jan 20

Your solar cycle has gone ballistic, your persuasive powers irresistible. The sun is indeed shining out your derriere.

### Aquarius Jan 21 - Feb 19

The new moon brings new dangers, so keep alert, stay vigilant, and for goodness' sake, change your passwords.

### Pisces Feb 20 - Mar 20

You've been flying by the seat of your pants for so long that your pants are worn out. It's not as breezy as you think.

### Aries Mar 21 - Apr 19

Tiresome twenty, flirty thirty, foxy forty, fearsome fifty and sanguine sixty aren't made up - just you wait.

### Taurus Apr 20 - May 21

Exercise caution on your speculative fiscal instincts. You'll soon have Christmas presents to buy, remember.

### Gemini May 22 - Jun 21

Out with the old and in with the new, it's decluttering time, baby. Give your friends the good stuff though.

### Cancer Jun 22 - Jul 22

You've been running on empty so long, you don't even know you've conked out. Time for an EV. Or at least a nap.

### Leo Jul 23 - Aug 22

You've had enough and want to sail into the sunset. Unlikely and unaffordable. Take a trip on the Manly ferry instead.

### Virgo Aug 23 - Sep 23

Straight talking was your superpower until you were forced to complete your workplace communications course.

### Libra Sep 24 - Oct 23

Continuing on your three C rule, this month is all about P - party, passion and pleasure - the more the better.

**Trivia Answers**

1. Rooster 2. Pittwater 3. Yes 4. Blue  
 5. Warrewood 6. Cricket (BBL) 7. Friday  
 8. Fuctose 9. Snakes 10. Bottom 11. 4 12. Snake  
 13. Father 14. Blue 15. Sydney  
 16. Ginger Spice (Geri Halliwell) 17. 3 18. E & X  
 19. Green 20. Estonia

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

**Sudoku Solution**

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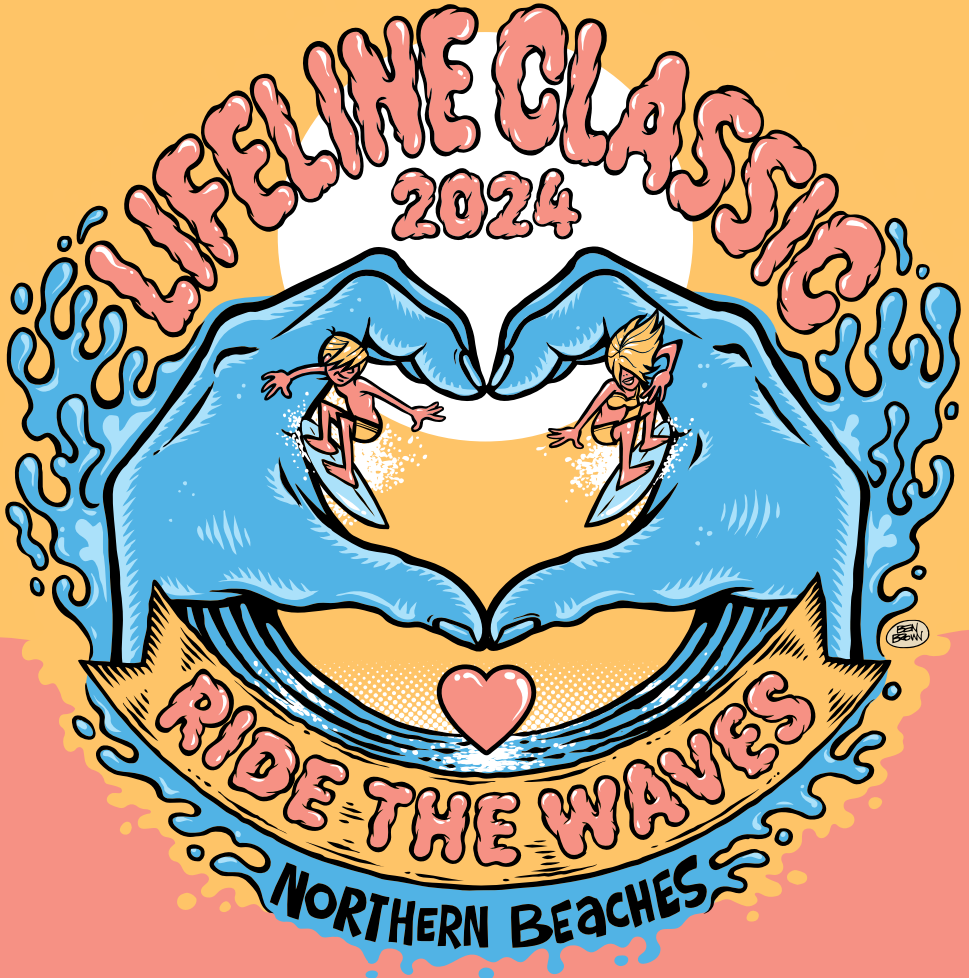
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