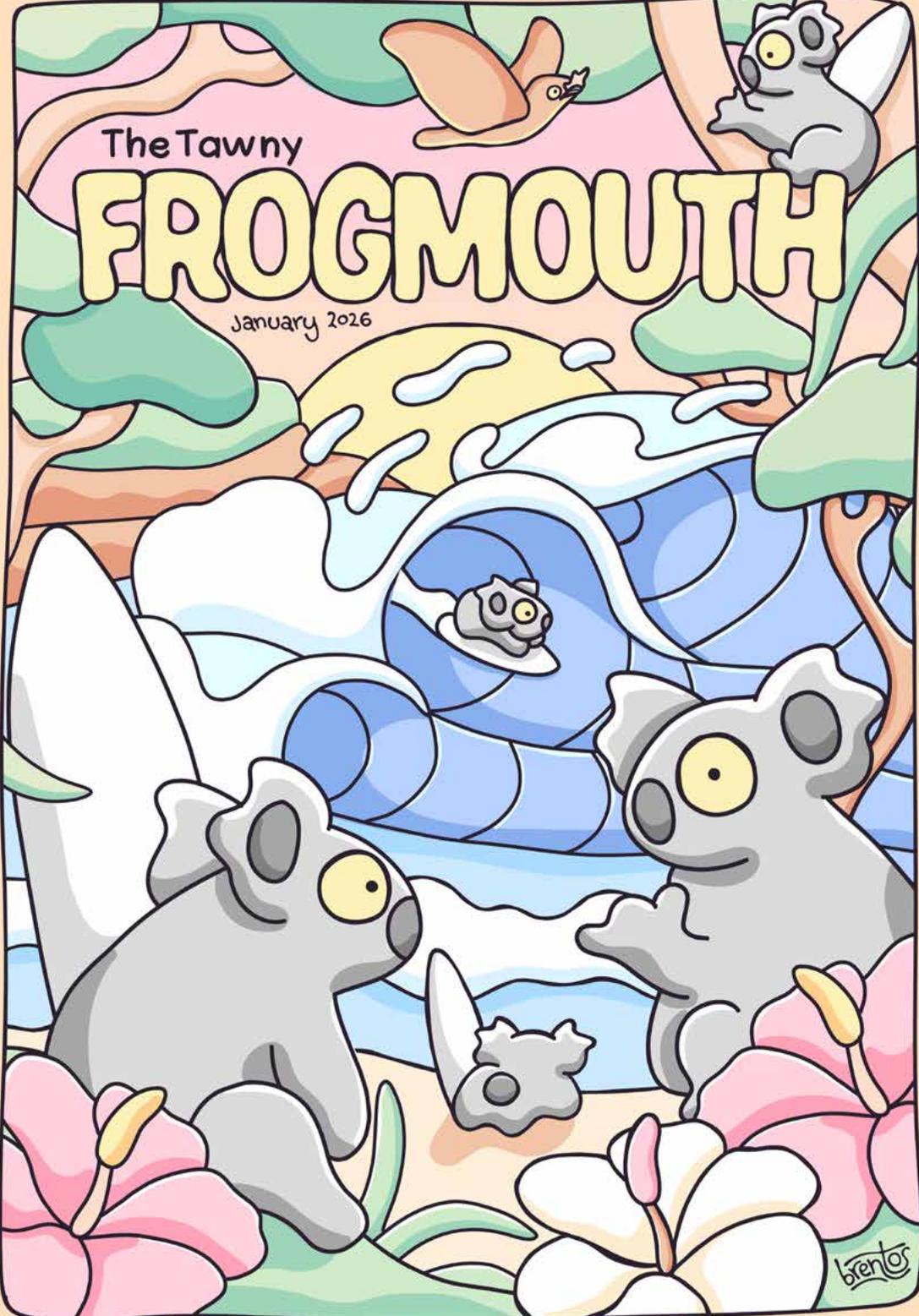


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GET TO KNOW COLORMAKER

While traditional paints and inks have long relied on fossil fuel energy and harmful chemical formulations, Colormaker has taken an alternative path. Six years ago, they installed a 100 kW solar array that powers their entire manufacturing operation and delivery fleet, and commissioned the first ReVolve® solar storage battery, crafted from nine second-life EV batteries, to store excess solar energy for use during peak times. This pioneering system has made Colormaker almost entirely energy self-sufficient. **“There’s a little bit of Australian sunshine in every drop of paint we make”** says Colormaker MD, David Stuart.

Colormaker, who’s been making paint on the Northern Beaches of Sydney for over 66 years, was last month recognised for its sustainability efforts when it was selected as a finalist in the 2025 NSW Sustainability Awards (The Banksia Awards). They were also awarded a Community Recognition Statement by James Griffin MP for this achievement.

CLEANER PRODUCTS, HEALTHIER PLANET

Environmental leadership at Colormaker extends beyond energy. The company has reformulated most of its product lines to remove harmful substances such as plastic microbeads known to pollute waterways and damage aquatic life. Most of their paints and inks are now water-based and low in VOCs, offering safer alternatives for end



▲ Colormaker eco-friendly interior & exterior house paints can be matched to any colour

users and the environment. They also responsibly manage on-site waste by recycling all paper, cardboard, scrap metal and e-waste and treating wastewater to minimise their eco-footprint.

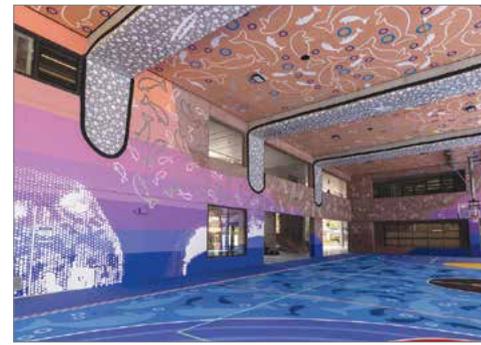
WHAT ARE COLORMAKER’S KEY PRODUCTS?

Colormaker has developed world leading products:

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- **Colormaker** low-VOC interior and exterior paints
- **PERMACRYLIK®** paints for fine art, murals, theatre, TV and film set decoration

Their products are specified by designers and artists for use in landmark projects:

- Bondi Icebergs and URBNSURF wave park in Melbourne are painted with **LUXAPOOL®** swimming pool paints
- THE BLOCK Winner, Shannon Vos, chose low-VOC **ULTRAWASH®** Interior and **SolarColor** exterior house paints to decorate his home



▲ Green Square mural painted in PERMACRYLIK Scenic Paints. ©Abril Felman

- Artist Blak Douglas used **PERMACRYLIK®** to paint the 2022 Archibald Prize winning portrait, *Moby Dickens* and to decorate the recent Green Square Primary School sporting facility.

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So, I went to this place in the back of Brookvale the other day. It's pretty new. I think it's called Chalky's or something.

It's kinda weird, but in a good way. At the front, there's this dog friendly beer garden where people can drink, play darts, and watch the game on the TV, all at the same time. On weekdays they have this crazy happy hour from 3-6pm where they do pints for only \$7.49. There's even a 6% lager on there! Nuts right?

Then when you walk inside, there's these sick pool tables that you rent by the hour, and you can play while watching sports on this freaking massive screen. It's like 14m across or something crazy.

After I'd had enough pool I went to have a slap, but I couldn't find any pokies... So instead I had a chat to my mates and after a few more of those 6%ers, we all chucked in to rent a private karaoke room for an hour. I was as surprised as you, but I'm actually a really good singer.

Then, after that, I was pretty hungry, so I ordered a sirloin steak. Holy cow! It was maybe the best steak I've had this year. Turns out they have this awesome chef that trained in London or something. Never expected that!

Then we polished it off with a dram of Waubs Harbour Kelp Revival, because why the eff not.

Yeah, Chalky's on Charlton Lane is where it was. I think they're open 7 days too.

G'day Beaches

Happy New Year! 2026, it is go time! But not before some serious RnR, sunshine, and saltwater therapy.

Thank you cover artist, Brentos, the pastel punk good vibes lord strikes again with Koalas shredding, Tawnies soaring, and Austarlian nature looking sublime! Congratulations Richard Mason, Letter of the Month winner, the master of keeping it short and sweet! And Will Deer, "One breath, one wave" Photo of the Month, and \$200 is all yours to enjoy at The Mona!

Pam Mackenzie celebrates 50 years of love, learning and legacy at Kid City. Michael Regan has a funding boost for enhanced shark protection. Jacqui Scruby's riding waves of sustainability. And Beaches' artists step into the spotlight on ABC iview.

Meet your councillor, Candy Bingham. Speaking of Which score \$10k! Manly Wharf becomes a Barrel Room live music juggernaut. Raz sets sail for Queensland. The Fairlight Butcher revisits his Egelabra Stud days. Fishing doyen Clint Harwood tackles indecision. Avalon's Margot Bain unleashes the magic of Grandma Gogo. And lots more.

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

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Contents

8	G'day Beaches	34	Community
10	Peninsula Wash Up		Razzle returns to Queensland
12	Letters to the Tawny		
16	Community	35	Meet your Councillors
	Thank you Pam		Candy Bingham: Manly
18	Michael Regan MP	36	Live Music with Lucy
	Summer update		Speaking of Which, Mona's winning Battlers score \$10k
20	Jacqui Scuby MP	38	Local Business
	Pittwater's tradies riding the wave of sustainability		Meat your maker
22	Michael West Media	40	The Love Scout
	Teal Senate ticket - why we can't have nice things		Running back to you
23	Dr Sophie Scamps MP	42	Mal's Wild Side
	Starting 2026 on a high		What shall we call it?
24	Art & Culture	43	Fishing
	Beaches' artists step into the spotlight		What's biting, Clint?
25	South Steyne Medical	44	Tawny's Bookclub
	Get to know Dr. Vivian Chan		On the edge (of your seat)
26	The Tawny Nightjar	45	Art & Culture
	Out with the Aldi, in with the Barrel Room		The magic of Grandma Gogo
28	Cover Artist	46	Local Photos
	Brentos		
29	Silicon Brooky	48	Trivia, Sudoku, Crossword
	Clear renewable focus pays off at the Banksia		Rumour has it...
30	Brookvale Arts District	50	Star Signs
	Boarders Culture Hub		
31	Art & Culture		
	Art, skateboards and clean water: The MOSS Deck Art Show comes to Brookvale		
32	Roll of honour		
33	Tide chart		



16



26



38

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.

Season's Greetings

Thanks Warringah for your support during 2025.

My team and I wish you a safe, relaxing summer break. I hope you enjoy time with family and friends and make the most of everything our beautiful community has to offer.

Zali

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The Electorate Office will be closed between 22 Dec - 2 Jan

Peninsula Wash Up

Ben Zanatta, Aussie Surfing Champ!

Huge congratulations to Australia's new Under 18 Surfing Champion, a star pupil of the Dee Why Surfing Fraternity, **Ben Zanatta!** The nation's groms descended upon the Gong in early December, finals day waves pumping at McCauley's Beach in Thirroul, high scores and outstanding surfing from all. But it was young Ben Zanatta, with his searing backhand attack, hot knife through butter rail work, nerves of steel, and equipped with superb Psillakis surfboards under his feet, who was able to clinch the victory from the country's finest and etch his name in the history books. This performance also earns Ben a spot on the Aussie National Team to compete in the International Surfing Association's Championships in 2026. Follow [@ben_zanatta](#) on socials for all updates



Ben Zanatta victorious at the Gong

It's all happening

Looking to keep the kids (and yourself!) entertained and engaged this summer here on the Beaches? You're in luck, there's heaps on the cook. All through January, Council's **"Kids on the Coast"** programs offer exciting adventures for budding scientists. From HQ at the **Coastal Environment Centre**, Pelican Path, Lake Park Road, North Narrabeen, children explore marine ecosystems, rock platforms and lagoons with expert guides. Bookings are essential (visit [northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au](#)). Australia Day Eve, bring your picnic rug and enjoy a night under the stars at Pittwater Rugby Park for a **FREE Open Air Cinema** night out, heart-warming family comedy Kangaroo on the big screen. Gates open 5.30pm for 6.30pm start. Then it's **Australia Day Pool Parties** galore. 9am to midday at Warringah Aquatic Centre, then 1-4pm at Manly's Boy Charlton, splash it up with pool party inflatables, DJ disco party, glitter tattoo artistry and face painting. Free entry.

New Year's Turning Pointe

'Tis the season to be social, and there's no better way to move, laugh and feel amazing than sharing a **Turning Pointe Pilates** class with a friend. For the months of December and January, bring a friend for FREE to any of the Group Reformer or Group Fitness classes. Move together. Stay motivated. Start 2026 feeling strong. Located in Dee Why Grand. Call **0435 293 748** to book your class, bring your buddy, and enjoy personalised Turning Pointe attention in every session.

Let's play ball

As the Summer of Tennis gets into full swing, you are at serious risk of Tennis Fever. The cure? **Oxford Falls Racquet Club (OFRC)**, the all-ages hub for racquet sports in the heart of Oxford Falls with Tennis, Pickleball and Beach Tennis, school holiday programs, regular classes, competitions, and more. Learn, participate, connect and most importantly – have fun! Get on the Deuce at [ofrclub.au](#) or call **0412 070 121**

Calling all mini wordsmiths!

Glen Street Theatre and The Tawny Frogmouth are searching for our next Junior Theatre Reviewer - a young writer ready to shine. This exciting opportunity, now in its fourth year, invites creative thinkers to dive into the world of theatre, craft clever reviews, and see their words published. It's your chance to write, imagine, observe, and let your unique voice light up the page. If you're aged 8-13 (or know someone who is), tell us - in 25 words or less—why you should be our next reviewer. The chosen young writer will receive a Family Pass (4 tickets) to Mr Snotbottom, SPOT, The Ultimate Magic Show - with Illusionist Jonas Jost and Where is the Green Sheep? Applications close 31 January. Scan the code here or visit the link to submit your mini masterpiece! [bit.ly/JuniorReviewer2026](#)



Words: **Liam Carroll**



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Letters to The Tawny

LETTER OF THE MONTH

Verbosity

Your letters are way too long, still! So: Collaroy Theatre – just words, wishes. Manly Surf club – too big, its purpose? E bikes – just way too verbose. Condamine St – what is she saying? I'm out of words. Just limit them and edit. Simple
Richard Mason, Mona Vale

Re: Save South Steyne

In support of Mark Kelly's letter in the December Tawny, I urge all readers to please have a look at the North Cronulla Surf Life Saving Club project in the Sutherland Shire. It is a major headache and cost for the residents. Modest build for the community is key, as is a good project manager. Happy to help.
Liz (visiting Shire resident)

Community Concern Over Narrabeen SSD Fast-Track

I am writing to highlight ongoing community concerns regarding the State Significant Development (SSD-76220734) proposed for 156 Ocean Street, Narrabeen – the Indigo by Moran development.

Northern Beaches Council recently resolved to write to the NSW Minister for Planning and Public Spaces requesting that the proposal be referred to the Independent Planning Commission. This step is strongly welcomed by many in our community, concerned about the scale of the development, the erosion of local planning controls, and the broader implications of the SSD pathway.

While this is a state planning

matter, the issues at stake extend far beyond Narrabeen. Communities across NSW are increasingly worried about the potential misuse of the SSD process to override established Local Environmental Plans and State Environmental Planning Policies. Ensuring transparency, consistency, and accountability in major development decisions is vital for public confidence.

A parliamentary e-Petition has been established calling for the SSD-76220734 proposal to be fully scrutinised through formal debate in the NSW Parliament. Achieving the required number of signatures would enable these concerns – not only about this development but the SSD process more broadly – to be aired openly and constructively.

Residents who share these concerns can access the petition at: NSW Parliament ePetition – Oppose SSD-76220734

Protecting the character of our local suburbs, safeguarding environmental values, and preserving fair and transparent planning processes are issues that matter to all residents.

A strong community voice is essential to ensure these principles are upheld.

Barry Mayo, Narrabeen

Hospital drop off

This morning I was delivered to the front entrance of our Northern Beaches Hospital at 6am. I noticed a vehicle parked in front. When I was picked up at 12.10pm, after day surgery, this vehicle was still in the same short time drop off/ pick up parking spot. It was carrying a disabled sticker, as was the car behind us. What a crazy anomaly that legally permits this. With one of these stickers, legally or illegally obtained, one can park anywhere indefinitely. What a scam!
Tim

Re: Christmas gifts (Dec '25)

Mal Fisher, true, the ever so friendly Manly Food Coop sells a great range of soaps, cleaning liquids and natural shampoos etc from bulk containers which you can certainly gift to the 'Smellies, but Mal, the MFC is so much more...

Buy your local milk, Australian chocky, grind your own pure peanut butter etc all in your own containers. Just imagine how much time you could save by cycling, bussing, driving to Manly only ONCE every TWO months? BYO and do ALL your dried grocery shopping in just ONE go. Park once, search once, pay once. Spend more time at home. Make no more dreaded plastic garbage.

How nice to know we don't contribute to the massive generation of plastics and the threat of toxic waste incineration. 28 year old Manly Food Coop, community owned, not for profit, has all the groceries you ever needed, and more, in store.

Keelah Lam, Fairlight

Out of whack

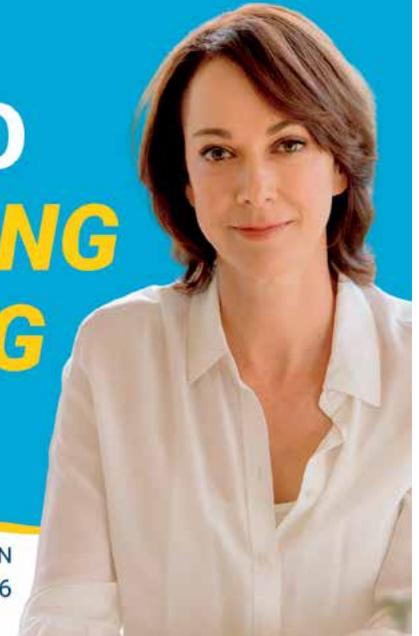
G'day Liam, it looks like I'm getting through to the Climitites. Not one single letter of rejection after my letter in October about "their" nimbyism towards our farmers and graziers. They must agree with me.

Moving on to important developments, did any of you Climitites read the report into the sonar mapping of Geographe Bay, Western Australia. The project covers 12,000sq kms. This is in preparation for an offshore wind farm, the area a major breeding ground and passageway for Southern Right, Blue, Pygmy Right, Humpback Whales and endangered turtles.

The government's own scientists warned that to carry out such sonar mapping could

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and will have a severe effect on whales by sending them deaf, causing calf separation, displacement from feeding areas, disrupt communication. So, with the help of the village idiot, Chris Bowen, went ahead with this operation without any "full" environmental assessment.

Next is this race towards net zero, which has me puzzled, as it has many normal thinking Australians. Fact: USA, Russia, India and China produce around 82% of world emissions, while Australia barely produces 1%. None of the above countries are interested in curbing their output, while we Down Under are spending billions of dollars to supposedly stop the temperature and oceans rising.

Here's where I'm puzzled. Australia is wasting our money on this fanciful endeavour while the others aren't. Does that mean the oceans won't rise around Australia but will rise everywhere else? Seeing as we've chipped in, and the other countries haven't? The same goes for the temperature.

What a very economy-crippling joke to achieve nothing. Can't wait for your answers.

Mark (Robbo) Roberts

Boomers

I am getting quite tired of always being parodied by the youngsters in the area with their "OK Boomer" tag whenever I comment on anything around young people. The youth these days have no idea how tough we had it back in the late 1970s, coming out of university with an unemployment rate of 7% and the fear of a nuclear war coming at any time. I worked hard and was lucky to buy my first place on Pittwater Rd for \$42k. Through my hard work, sacrifice and equity dividends I now have 7 properties in the area and these millenni-

als could learn something from that, especially sacrifice. They can't even peddle a bicycle anymore, relying instead on these dangerous e-bikes! Sincerely,
G Hoggs

Un-Australian & unacceptable

The New Brighton Hotel at Manly is one of three hundred venues under the one company umbrella so you would think that they had the buying power to sell reasonably priced beer - but no.

It costs an arm and a leg to buy a beer at a pub these days - and the New Brighton is no exception. They have this silly rewards system called Pub+ which you sign up for online. It's supposed to reward customers with cheaper prices on drinks. So-called members of Pub+ receive points for drinks they buy but they have to drink an awful lot before they receive any sort of reward - like a miserly \$2 off the next drink or meal. Are they kidding? Do they think we're that stupid?

They have a schooner of beer monthly special for so-called members but there's nothing special about it. Members don't even get to choose their own beer. They get the beer the pub chooses each month.

The pub is now charging \$11 a schooner of beer to members and that's supposed to be the special! It's un-Australian and unacceptable! Australia has become so overpriced on every level. And to think it was once called the lucky country.

I thought could have a few beers at my local to forget about the doom and gloom. I can't even do that anymore.

Jens Ward, Manly

Kindness of strangers

A friend and I had to suddenly pull over in an awkward spot in Manly, her tyre shredded by something, only to be verbally abused by several nasty passing yobbos. Merry Xmas to you too! Next time we'll break down in a more convenient spot. Idiots.

A lovely cyclist from Argentina stopped to help, the only one who did, hero of the hour! While my friend called her husband, who arrived soon after. The two changed the tyre, and we had a smooth ride home, eternally grateful to the kindness of strangers, yet disheartened by the soulless yobbos.

I have neurodivergence and schizophrenia, amongst other mental challenges, struggling not to launch into a panic attack when we broke down, and trusting the universe. Thankfully, it paid off. As they say, "kindness never goes out of style." As for nastiness and cruelty, they were never in.

Titania

Dear Editor,

Let's start this year with the theme of peace, in any way, shape or form, if you please; For instance, write a Nursery Rhyme for tiny tots, then compose one set to music, easy for lots of all ages to learn, so that it can be sung over and over, by you, me: PEACE to everyone!

Books by authors with that theme can be shared, films without blood, guts and murder dared to be contrived by clever pacifists around; And gradually those children will be found, growing up with their offspring LIVING PEACE, Blending all nations, sharing, enjoying, with ease!

Marianne

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Community

Thank you, Pam

In early December, past and current families, even former students from over 40 years ago, gathered at Kid City Kindergarten for a surprise party to celebrate the woman who started it all, Mrs Pam McKenzie, and her remarkable 50 years of love, learning, and local legacy.

"If the measure of a good life is the amount of people you've inspired, Pam McKenzie can rest easy; but rest doesn't come easy to the amazing matriarch of Kid City Kindergarten," said Suzanne Tobin, a previous Kid City parent.

"Childcare wasn't something Pamela ever imagined she would be doing," continued Suzanne. "In fact, it was her husband Bill, who excitedly

came home one evening, 'I have just bought a childcare centre.' 'What? I am a hair-dresser, not a teacher!' replied Pam. 'You take great care of Donna and Monica, so you'll be great at looking after other children too,' was Bill's reasoning." And Bill was right!

Pam embraced the challenge, loving and educating 24 children daily, 7:30am-6:30pm, soon accompanied by a great team. As Pam's initial group graduated to school, their families became concerned about juggling work hours - there was no such thing as Before and After School Care.

So, Pam bought a van, welcoming the kids at 6am, cooking them breakfast, driving them to school a few hours later, then doing the same in the afternoons, picking the kids up, bringing them back for some play, helping with



50 years of love for Pam's Kid City

homework, even cooking dinner as some would stay until after 7pm. Pamela's reasoning, "These children are my family."

Much has changed over the years, but one thing remains constant, Pam's love for the children and her will to maintain Kid City as "A special place where early childhood is filled with fun, learning and LOVE".



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MATT'S TAPS
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A photograph of a plumber wearing a Santa hat and a blue shirt, working on a pipe. He is standing next to a white van with a blue stripe. The background shows a residential area with trees and a fence.

Summer update

My Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment (Bushfire Protection) Bill 2025

In November I was pleased to introduce my Private Members' Bill into parliament. Bushfire risk and re-zoning has been a consistent theme of advocacy for me since becoming an elected representative in 2008. I am particularly interested in bushfire risk in land use decisions because of the Patyegarang (formerly Lizard Rock) planning proposal for a new subdivision on Morgan Road in Belrose.

The NSW Rural Fire Service has consistently opposed the rezoning due to fire risk, but it is still to finally be decided. We have to stop building new homes in areas we know have an unacceptably high bushfire risk - simple as that!

With the government's recent amendments to the Planning Act, including the creation of the Development Coordination Authority, I hold serious concerns about downgrading the role of Rural Fire Service in decision making about future re-zoning proposals. My bill is about safeguarding the role of Rural Fire Service advice in such strategic planning decisions. I look forward to debating my bill when parliament resumes in the New Year.

Northern Beaches Hospital update

As many of you will have heard, the NSW government has reached an agreement to buy back Northern Beaches Hospital (NBH), bringing it back into the public health system. This is a win for the community. Thanks to my Health Services Amendment (Northern Beaches Hospital Deed Termination) Bill 2025, the taxpayers of NSW got it for \$190 million rather than the \$800 million to \$900 million Healthscope's lenders would likely have been entitled to under the original, poorly drafted deed.

With change comes uncertainty and I appreciate some staff and community members are apprehensive. I am fully committed to listening, raising concerns and seeking commitments throughout the transition process. I have already received a commitment from the NSW Health Minister that NBH will remain a Level 5 facility and there will be no reduction in bed numbers. I look forward to receiving further commitments about retention of lifesaving interventional services, such as the catheterisation lab cardiac services.



Michael's "pleased to return NBH to public ownership"

The hospital's future operating model, including the configuration of private services, has not been decided. I want to see the best aspects of the current model maintained, including private services, while the parts that have been squeezed under the privatised model are properly resourced. The Government and NSW Health have committed to meaningfully engage with staff and clinicians to develop the future operating model in the best interests of the community, and I will be making sure that happens.

Collaroy Beach tobacco shop closed

I recently supported passage of the Government's Tobacco Legislation (Closure Orders) Amendment Bill 2025. These new laws give NSW Health and Police the powers to issue closure orders to stores selling commercial quantities of illegal tobacco. The roaring trade in illegal tobacco has driven the explosion in tobacconists in our high streets. This is criminal behaviour in plain sight and is undermining decades of progress in reducing smoking rates.

I am pleased to report that on 13 November closure orders were issued for a shop on Pittwater Road, Collaroy. The order, signed by NSW Chief Health Officer Kerry Chant, declares a reasonable suspicion that the store breached the Public Health (Tobacco) Act. I received numerous complaints about this particular shop and am so glad to see the new laws taking effect. I will continue to follow this case closely.

"Pie in the Sky" plans for Warringah Mall

Scentre Group, owner of Westfield Warringah Mall, have lodged a State Significant Development application seeking approval for a mixed use precinct that would fundamentally reshape Brookvale's landscape. The initial application includes eight mixed use towers, ranging from 12 to 39 storeys, which includes 1,500 apartments, 2,500 car spaces and 6,900 sqm of public open space.

This application is way out of step with the Brookvale Structure Plan (BSP). The BSP is a coherent and rigorous 15 year strategy developed by Northern Beaches Council which envisions a much needed revitalisation while increasing character and public amenity. Scentre Group's proposal is gross overdevelopment and will lead to traffic gridlock. I am calling on the NSW Government to only permit development consistent with the Brookvale Structure Plan.

Funding Boost for Better Shark Protection

I've been working alongside our local surfing community, fellow independent Jacqui Scruby, the NSW Government and the incredibly strong Maria Psillakis and her family, who have turned deep grief into meaningful change.

The \$2.5m SharkSmart boost means more drones, longer coverage and better early detection across our beaches this summer. Our ask here was simple and sensible - spot risks earlier, faster shark alerts and getting people out of the water sooner. This is a real step forward for safer summers on the Northern Beaches and across NSW. Well done to everyone who spoke up and worked to make this happen, especially Maria - your strength is inspirational and will now keep people safer across NSW.

Narrabeen Ambulance Station to be rebuilt

Just prior to the last election, the former government announced the old Narrabeen ambulance station would be relocated to Dee Why. However, following an extensive site search, it has been decided to redevelop the existing station on Pittwater Road.

New station locations are determined using best practice modelling software which maps Triple Zero calls. The existing site was confirmed to optimise response times and meet the community's future emergency health needs.

The new Narrabeen ambulance station will feature internal parking for up to ten emergency ambulance vehicles, logistics and administration spaces, as well as staff amenities. NSW

Ambulance is consulting with staff about temporarily relocating crews to the Mona Vale station. Construction and operational timeframes will be confirmed as the project progresses.

Our local paramedics need the right resources to do their job. This announcement of a brand new station for Narrabeen is a big step in the right direction. I look forward to seeing the new station up and running as soon as possible.

Fairer high school zoning for Brookvale Public School

Currently, Brookvale Public School falls into the high school catchment area for Northern Beaches Secondary College Cromer Campus. The Department of Education has said this will continue, even though nearby Freshwater Senior Campus is transitioning to a comprehensive Year 7-12 high school, and the new Forest High School is opening in Allambie Heights, the suburb right next door.

For reasons of geographic accessibility, community connectedness and equality, I support the ask from the Brookvale P&C - to include Brookvale Public School in the intake area for the new Year 7-12 Freshwater Campus. I recently raised this issue in parliament and will continue to advocate for this outcome.

Progress on Red Hill Bike Jumps

Last May, the popular Red Hill dirt jumps in Oxford Falls were flattened by NSW Crown Lands. The Red Hill dirt jumps have been loved by generations of riders, having been in use for over 25 years. They were destroyed without any warning or consultation. Riders were shocked and disappointed, and so was I!

In June I moved a motion in NSW Parliament calling on NSW Crown Lands to work with local riders and Northern Beaches Council to have the jumps rebuilt and authorised as soon as possible. I have now met with the Minister for Lands and Property, Steve Kamper, and presented the case for the formalisation and management of the Red Hill site by council, working with local mountain biking groups. I am confident this model can work and will keep pushing until we will get a solution.

Enjoy the festive season, spend time with your family and I hope to see you at the cricket!

Words: **Michael Regan MP**, Member for Wakehurst
Please visit my website michaelreganmp.com, sign up for my e-newsletter and follow me on Facebook and Instagram. We love hearing from you, so please engage!

Jacqui Scruby MP

Pittwater's tradies riding the wave of sustainability

I joined *Surfers for Climate* and a great team of Northern Beaches tradies at the URBNSURF for TUBIES (Trade. Up. Building. Innovation. Expo. Sustainability). Australia's premier tradie surf comp and sustainability expo lets tradies swap work boots for wetsuits and learn about new climate and environment-friendly technologies, career paths and upskilling opportunities in sustainable building.

Economic opportunities abound when it comes to home electrification and residential sustainable building. Opting to electrify the home provides energy independence to homeowners, but also means investing in local tradies and local businesses, rather than big business or multinationals.

Earlier this year the NSW Government provided subsidies for home batteries, and – drumroll please – Northern Beaches had the highest uptake, with 402 installations as of April. Demand has grown even higher since, with the Federal Government offering small businesses and homeowners a 30% rebate (roughly \$4k off a standard 11.5–13.5 kWh battery installation) with additional funding for those who join a virtual power plant offered by the state government. The result is a shortage of local installers on the Northern Beaches.

There's a growing effort by state and federal governments to engage, educate and empower tradies to integrate sustainability and electrification into their work and grow their business. When local tradies learn these skills, Pittwater residents benefit from more sustainable homes that are better suited to the environment and cheaper to run.

Out at URBNSURF, between heats, competitors met innovators and suppliers to learn about new sustainable materials, cleaner energy options and low-carbon products. Featured projects included homes built from recycled materials, solar tile technologies and rethought waste, water and energy use, as well as how to manage water on site and in coastal LGAs to minimise impacts to waterways and beach pollution. Each exhibitor showed how small changes on a job site can lead to big environmental gains.

It was great to catch locals, including legendary parasurfer Emma Dieters, local Tafe Legend Peter Purcell, and Daniel Page of Ocean Protect,



Jacqui at TUBIES with Brooky Tafe's Peter Purcell

who implemented stormwater treatment measures to keep our waterways safe.

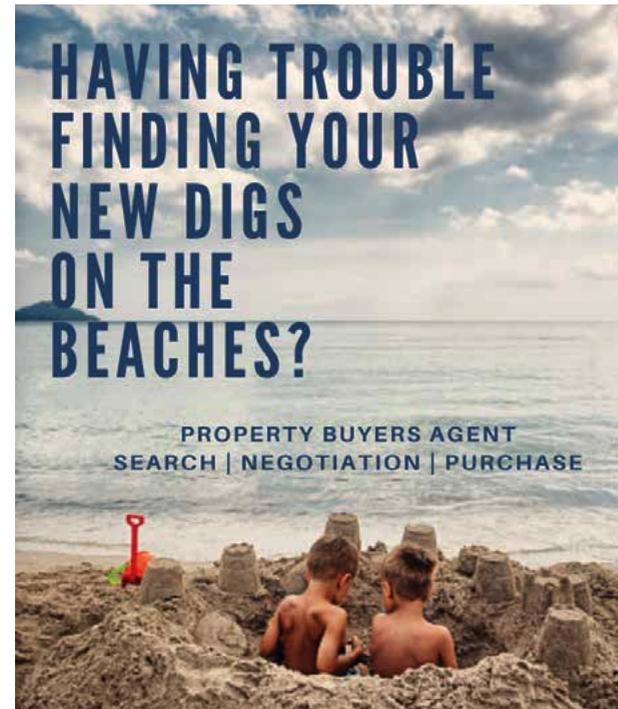
At the event last year, my inaugural podcast as an MP was on 'Ain't That Swell' and it was great to rejoin Jed for another discussion on government policy, sustainable industry trends, the economic growth local tradies can take advantage of, and the benefits of emerging materials like hempconcrete.

If you're keen to explore more sustainable building, there are simple ways to get involved whether you're on the tools or planning a renovation. Every project, big or small, is a chance to build a cleaner, more sustainable future.

Offering sustainable building options isn't just good for the planet, it's good for business. Demand for energy efficient and low-waste design is growing. There are many ways to get involved; from connecting with Surfers for Climate and finding out about the next event, to joining the Green Building Council of Australia to build skills or specialise in sustainable practices.

Planning a renovation or new build? Ask your tradie about sustainable choices and explore the NSW Government rebates and program supporting solar, battery storage and sustainable materials.

Words: **Jacqui Scruby MP**, Member for Pittwater. Visit jacquiscruby.com.au to sign up for Jacqui's e-newsletter or follow Jacqui on Facebook and Instagram @[jacquiscrubyindependent](https://www.instagram.com/jacquiscrubyindependent)



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SAT 31ST JAN	BEN LEE <small>On Tour... Always w/ Special Guests</small>
THUR 12TH FEB	360 W/ PEZ <small>Back N Forth Tour</small>
SAT 21ST FEB	JIM MOGINIE & THE FAMILY DOG
SAT 28TH FEB	ONE OF THESE NIGHTS THE EAGLES EXPERIENCE
SAT 11TH APRIL	NEWTON FAULKNER <small>w/ Special Guests</small>
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Teal Senate ticket – why we can't have nice things

Coverage of the Coalition's road to nowhere has overshadowed an unrequited political desire: a "Teal" Senate ticket.

On the latest Newspoll and Resolve polling, the duopoly parties run second and third. First place goes to the collective "others". Newspoll scored the Coalition receiving 27 per cent of primary votes, Labor 36, and "Others" 37. Within "Others", One Hanson on 10, Greens 13 and the real "other" others, 14.

That 14% understates the support community independents received in the House of Reps in May. Eight Teals won. Of 35 community independent candidates, 22 received more than 14% of the primary vote, 29 reached double digits, more than enough with half-reasonable preference flow to win a Senate seat.

Lagging political sentiment

By the nature of half-Senate elections and six-year terms, Senate membership always lags political sentiment. Now it is particularly out of kilter, but as it catches up, it will become ever more difficult for the duopoly parties to corral. While it's very difficult to see the Coalition returning to government in any election soon, it is impossible to even imagine any single party ever having a Senate majority.

What's missing from the Senate is a rational centrist group to leverage better policy, to "keep the b*st@rds honest" – precisely what polling and the success of community independents show Australians want but are not being offered.

Don't call us Teal

The present Senate numbers are 29 Labor, 27 Coalition, 10 Greens, 4 One Hanson, 3 Senators who deserted the parties they were elected to represent, and 3 others: Jacqui Lambie, Ralph Babet, and David Pocock, very much a community independent. So, just one community independent out of 76.

The problem with a Teal Senate ticket is that it needs to be a political party to be above the line and being a political party is a contradiction of what the community independents represent – independents who are not members of a party, who concentrate on representing the views of their electorate, not Party HQ. The candidates are chosen by their community movements. The



Can the Teals get a Senate seat, where the action's at?

volunteers who do the campaigning know their candidate. There is no state-wide community movement to do the kitchen table policy development and candidate selection.

A party for the Senate?

Could the Teal MPs coalesce to support a Senate party without being members of such a thing? That could be hard. They differ on matters other than climate and integrity. But without the support of the existing community movements, the numbers needed to man polling booths, let alone door knock, are forbidding. It would be ideal if lower house community independent volunteers were prepared to hand out Senate how-to-votes as well. To have a crack at the Senate, every electorate needs to be covered.

The 'sensible centre'

Assuming Labor retains a strong majority in the lower house for at least the next two elections, the cross-bench MPs have limited leverage. The Senate is where leverage can be exercised.

The sensible centre is set to be increasingly craved by much of the electorate while Labor is content to be just a little less Liberal Party than the Liberal Party and the Coalition implodes and turns more One Hanson.

The desire is palpable, but the means aren't there. And that's why we can't have nice things.

Words: **Michael Pascoe**, Michael West Media

Federal Politics

Starting 2026 on a high

As we head into 2026, I'm incredibly proud of what we've achieved together this year and optimistic about the road ahead. In the final months of 2025, **we secured significant wins for our environment, improvements to e-bike safety and long-overdue progress on integrity in politics.** There's still a great deal to do, my team and I are already preparing for a big year in 2026.

One of the major breakthroughs of 2025 was the hard-fought **improvements to Australia's national nature laws.** For 25 years, weak protections have failed to safeguard our unique wildlife and ecosystems. We now have

19 ecosystems on the brink of collapse, lead the world in mammal extinctions, and remain the only developed nation classified as a global deforestation hotspot. In the final sitting week, the Government agreed to meaningful reforms.

Three measures I championed; greater protections for native forests, safeguards for water resources from fracking, and stronger climate considerations were all delivered. It's a moment of hope at a time when nature desperately needs it.

We also saw long-awaited movement on integrity with the release of the **Government's report into "jobs for mates" appointments.** While it's encouraging to see elements of my Ending Jobs for Mates Bill adopted, the reforms fall short. Unless the gold-standard changes in my



Bill are legislated, the culture of cronyism will continue.

On **e-bike safety**, it was encouraging to see federal and state governments take steps toward minimum safety and quality standards – common-sense reforms that will help protect riders and pedestrians.

In 2026, I'll continue driving progress on housing affordability, support for small and local businesses, and tackling plastic pollution. As always, please reach out if there's an issue that matters to you.

Words: **Dr Sophie Scamps MP**

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Image: Senate, Instagram



Northern Beaches' artists step into the spotlight

There is a particular alchemy that occurs when an artist is placed under the glare of studio lights, handed a blank surface, and given four hours to distil another human being into marks. For five Northern Beaches artists - Ben Brown, Jaimee Paul, Jimi May, India Jablonski, and Blair Isobelle - ABC's inaugural Portrait Artist of the Year (PAOTY) became both a crucible and a catalyst.

Each arrived with their own practice, rhythm and rituals, only to discover that the compressed intensity of the show would demand something far more instinctive.

For veteran illustrator Ben Brown, preparation became its own medium. Accustomed to digital tools, Brown returned to analogue methods with the discipline of an athlete: gridding, timing, and rehearsing until speed and accuracy fused. When his sitter, broadcaster Myf Warhurst, took her place, he already had a strategy, yet what shaped the portrait was connection.

"Although she's considered bubbly, I wanted to bring out a thoughtful side," says Ben. Drawing on the aesthetic of Interview Magazine covers, Brown leaned into bold colour and graphic clarity, capturing not just a likeness but an era-spanning homage. Despite the national exposure, he remains disarmingly grounded. "Everyone will have forgotten in six months," he laughs. "You're only as good as your last piece."

Jaimee Paul, known for her soulful animal portraits,

approached the challenge as both technical experiment and artistic expansion. Months of practice, and sessions at Brookvale's Underground Sketch Club, helped her bridge the leap from fur and feathers to all-things-human. Her sitter, Tsehay Hawkins (the Yellow Wiggle), radiated warmth and Jaimee found in the dancer's yellow costume the perfect permission to break from her usual monochrome.

"I loved painting her eyes and hair. She's so striking," Jaimee reflects. What stayed with her wasn't the pressure but the ripple effect: families watching together, students suddenly seeing art as attainable, conversations blossoming in her co-working studio. "It's been a great thing for people who find gallery spaces intimidating," she says.

In the same heat, fellow Northern Beaches artist Jimi May produced a striking portrait of Ken Done AM, recalling his early days painting alongside Jaimee and Blair at Art Focus Gallery & Studio in Brookvale circa 2007/8.

Where Jimi, Jaimee and Ben arrived sharpened by preparation, India Jablonski leaned into unlearning. A meticulous pastel artist renowned for detailed animal work, she intentionally adopted a looser, more expressive hand. The time limit protected her from overworking; the presence of gardener and presenter Costa Georgiadis encouraged sincerity.

"Costa has such a warm presence," she recalls. Their quiet conversation on set -



Jaimee Paul loves to PAOTY

about embroidered trousers, landscape and connection to nature - anchored the portrait in earthiness. "Artists need peers," she reflects. "The show created a community."

Finally, Blair Isobelle, an oil painter who usually works in slow, layered depth, pushed herself toward alla prima immediacy. Her sitter, comedian Matt Okine, surprised her with emotional candour. Beneath the humour she sensed tenderness, particularly when he spoke of his late mother. Blair chose to paint that interiority and the moment he recognised himself in the portrait became her true prize. She hopes the show will open doors not only for her emerging career but also for broader representation: "I want to highlight artists with disabilities."

Together, these five Northern Beaches artists illustrate that portraiture, whether created in solitude or in front of cameras, remains at its core, an act of human exchange. PAOTY simply made that exchange visible.

Stream **Portrait Artist of the Year** on the **ABC iview** app

Words: **Lara Allport**

South Steyne Medical Centre

Get to know Dr. Vivian Chan

For more than two decades, Dr. Vivian Chan (MBBS, FRACGP) has combined deep clinical experience with a warm, family-centred approach to medicine.

A graduate of the University of New South Wales with Honours, Dr. Chan is a Fellow of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners and brings extensive expertise from both emergency medicine and general practice to South Steyne Medical Centre.

Dr. Chan's medical career has taken her from Sydney to Singapore, where she served as Senior Registrar in the emergency department at Mount Elizabeth Hospital. She has also provided medical coverage for major international events

including the ASEAN Games, Youth Olympics and APEC Summit, as well as undertaking overseas medical evacuations.

At South Steyne Medical Centre, Dr. Chan provides comprehensive care for patients of all ages, with particular interests in women's health, travel medicine, chronic disease management, corporate health, wound repair, and iron infusions. She is also an integral member of the SSMC Menopause Clinic, where she supports women through all stages of menopause with evidence-based, compassionate care.

Fluent in Bahasa, Mandarin, Cantonese and Hokkien, Dr. Chan values clear communication and cultural under-



standing in every consultation. Outside of medicine, Dr. Chan enjoys running, playing the piano, exploring the outdoors and travelling with her family - pursuits that mirror her belief in maintaining balance and wellbeing in everyday life.

Dedicated, versatile and approachable, Dr. Vivian Chan embodies the caring, community-focused spirit of South Steyne Medical Centre.

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B A I L E Y N E L S O N

Out with the Aldi, in with the Barrel Room

Seven miles from the city, and a thousand miles from care, Manly Wharf - our iconic gateway welcoming over 9 million tourists a year to the world's greatest peninsula - has been a frenetic hub of mergers, acquisitions, valedictions, constructions, reimagination and Felonisation for the past 20 months, with Artemus Group acquiring the harbourside precinct and resolutely going hell for leather ever since to bring their Manly vision to life.

"Felons Manly has always been about connection between people, community and place," said Adam Flaskas, co-founder and director of Artemus Group, in late November. "This summer, we're excited to contribute to the cultural energy that already makes Manly such a special place, bringing together music, craft and community by the harbour."

What exactly was Adam talking about? While most of the developments around the Wharf's perimeter since April 2024 have been wide open for public viewing (and generous unsolicited servings of salty scrutiny from local expert pundits), no one beyond the Felons inner sanctum could possibly have known what's been brewing deep inside.

All the while, the site previously held by Germany's stoic competitor to the Australian supermarket duopoly was being transitioned Austrian mountainside style to give birth to Felons Barrel Room, Manly Wharf set to be alive not only with the sound of live music, also home to their new brewery: a custom-built, steam-powered, 18.5-hectolitre dry malt extract (DME) brewhouse. Cheers!

Topped off further with the mouth-watering menu, developed by Australian-Vietnamese chef Bao La and Ty Bellingham (Sailor's Thai, Bathers' Pavilion's Betel Leaf), building on the success of Saigon Supper Inn, serving vibrant Vietnamese dishes that pair with Felons' barrel-aged beers, natural wines, signature cocktails and a refined back bar.

"We've entered a new era," says Dean Romeo, brand director of Felons Brewing Co. "The installation of the brewery and the opening of Felons Barrel Room mark a defining moment for Felons. Together, these spaces represent everything we stand for: creating dynamic



Winston Surfshirt get the Barrel Room launch rocking

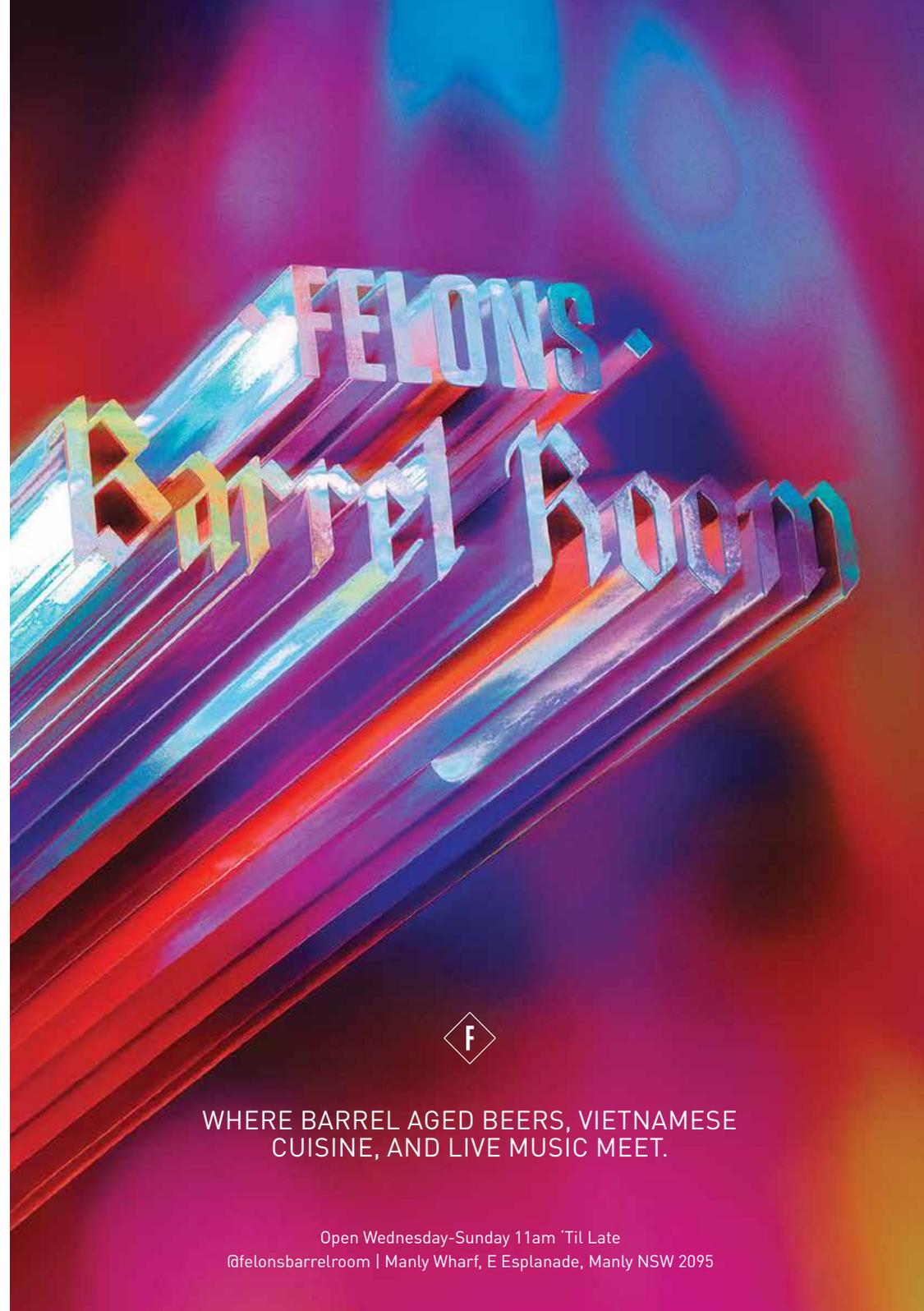
places that celebrate the art of brewing, the joy of connection through a beer poured fresh from the tank, and the creative spirit that runs through the Manly community. With Felons Barrel Room, we're pairing great beer with vibrant Vietnamese food and live music to create a place alive with energy and possibility. It's our way of celebrating Manly, a destination that's as much about people as it is about place."

We're talking: A 700-capacity cultural hub and entertainment venue, featuring a stage, massive screen, bars and seating for more than 300 diners, walls lined French oak barrels to age Felons' beers made on site; A world-class audio and lighting system purpose-built for live performance, Felons Barrel Room to host an ongoing program of live music with a focus on local and emerging talent, as well as themed events, trivia and movie nights, comedy shows, jazz evenings and intimate "piano bar" gigs, the acoustically treated space to deliver an experience unmatched on the Northern Beaches.

The proof is always in the pudding, summer's opening weekend the ultimate testing ground. Friday, 5 December, 6pm, nanoseconds after tools were put down by the army of builders and tradesmen, Adam swung the doors open to mark the full realisation of Felons' harbourside home with a three-day celebration. Headliners included homegrown favourites Winston Surfshirt and legendary Australian band Mental As Anything, with free entry to all performances.

The Barrel Room was heaving. Tawny spies from all walks agreeing at the end of a mammoth weekend of harbourside live music, Felons have created something very special here.

Get to Manly Wharf to experience **Felons Barrel Room** for yourself, and follow **@felonsbarrelroom** for all updates



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Cover Artist

Brentos

From playful puzzles to heartfelt hospital murals, this interview takes us inside Brentos' colourful world.

How did your fresh Mona Pub mural come to life? I received a little DM from Ben, the Mona Pub owner, saying they were opening up a new grassy area and had a couple of blank walls that needed some love. I popped in the next day, saw the walls tucked under the Norfolk Pines, and knew the space could be brighter and more fun. The result was a big surfing-koala mural (like the cover!) that families and the community can enjoy while having lunch or a drink in the new garden area.

Are you creating artworks for Formula 1? Vroom Vroom! Not quite! I applied to design a poster for the VCARBs F1 team and, to my surprise, got an email saying they'd love me to take part. The catch? I had just two days to pull it together. It was a wild sprint, but honestly so fun to try something completely different from my usual briefs.

You're an enigmatic man, was that the inspiration to release your debut Brentos puzzle? Haha! Not exactly. I've just always felt my art would suit a puzzle. I worked with a supplier to design the packaging and materials, then used an artwork from one of my books and added a seek-and-find element to it. It turned out a treat, and I've got loads more artworks ready to go if people love these as much as we hope.

Northern Beaches Hospital Paediatric ward now has a Brentos mural. Was that an emotional and uniquely fulfilling project? It's been a highlight of my career. A few years ago, an amazing nurse named Pippa reached out asking if I'd consider donating some artwork for the ward. She organised the printing and installation, and before long four murals were up throughout the space. A year later she contacted me again to do the entrance, an easy yes. The feedback has been so heartwarming. Parents often message us saying the artwork has helped their kids (and them!) get through their hospital stays. Knowing our work can brighten someone's day during a tough time means a lot. Rumour has it more walls are coming...



Brent, Tash, and creative director, Wally the Wombat

When did you decide to create your third book, "The Big Aussie Animal Bush Bash?" The Bush Bash kind of grew into this beast of a book. It started as a simple concept to showcase different animal collectives. Then I thought, what if each group arrives at a festival? Then, of course, a festival needs stages... and bands... inspired by real artists. Suddenly we had acts like Plume, Wombat Surfshirt, Flipper, and Dope Pademelon & Julia Stone-Curlew (shout-out to our locals!). It took on a whole life of its own and became one of my biggest, most intense book projects to date.

You're widely known now, lots of great projects and collaborations happening, but what remains the most enjoyable part of the process? The past few years, my creative practice has felt like a big experiment and an exercise in seeing if Tash and I can carve out a full-time business and living doing it. After launching another big summer merch collection, art collection and books, we finally feel like we have something pretty solid that we can keep nurturing and growing, whilst also doing our best to give back to our community. So yeah, being able to make a living doing what you love, and have people genuinely appreciate it, is super fulfilling.

Visit brentos.com.au and follow [@artofbrentos](https://www.instagram.com/artofbrentos) on socials for all things Brentos

Interview: **Liam Carroll**



Clear renewable focus pays off at the Banksia

Brookvale's Colormaker Industries was proud to be named a Finalist in the 2025 NSW Sustainability Awards in the SME Sustainable Leadership category.

The Awards are hosted by the Banksia Foundation, whose mission is to be the catalyst of transformative action that drives sustainable innovation, inspires collaboration, and ultimately creates a more sustainable future for the people and environment of NSW.

Addressing Colormaker, the Banksia Foundation stated, "Your work stood out for its impact, clarity, and ambition - exactly the kind of leadership Australia needs right now."

There can be only one winner, and on this occasion, congratulations go to Pablo & Rusty's Coffee Roasters, victorious.

Colormaker's Managing Director David Stuart said, "Colormaker Industries is proud to be named a finalist in the NSW Sustainability Awards, recognising the company's leadership in embedding sustainability across all areas of the business and our connection to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

"Colormaker has demonstrated a strong commitment to environmental, social, and economic sustainability through its paint production powered entirely by 100% renewable energy, eliminating harmful chemicals from our manufacturing and the creation of predominantly eco-friendly paint formulations, and support for both local and international community initiatives."

Follow [@colormaker_industries](https://www.instagram.com/colormaker_industries) on socials and visit colormaker.com.au for more information

Words: **Liam Carroll**

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Boarders Culture Hub

Boarders Skate and Snow in Brookvale has played an integral role in the Northern Beaches skate scene since the late 90s, witnessing all its shifts, its growth, decline and changing trends. Over those years, owners Al and Claire have been front row observers riding those changes in a story of persistence, community and a love for skate and snow culture.

Al explains that setting up and sustaining a shop like Boarders was “never about chasing easy wins.” Instead, “it’s been about building a space that reflects our passions for skateboarding, snowboarding and a community that blends both.”

Over the years Boarders has weathered shifts in youth culture and changes in retail trends as well as the ups and downs of unreliable snow seasons. During that time, what began as a shop has become “much more than a place to buy gear.” The store has turned into a hub for people who love board sports, the skaters, snowboarders and anyone curious about the lifestyle.

Al reflects on how this community shaped the shop as much as the shop might have shaped the community, “Boarders doesn’t just sell boards, it builds relationships, sparks friendships and has helped sustain a subculture.” A culture that might otherwise have faded as broader trends changed around them.

Al and Claire have a shared vision built on their mutual respect for this skate and snow culture. It’s an authenticity and real connection which has helped Boarders survive through those cycles of popularity, downturns and shifting markets. Listening to Al, you get the sense that Boarders isn’t just a business, it’s a labour of love and he seems to relish the daily grind of behind-the-counter chats, stocking gear, working long hours, serving a diverse community and holding on even when times are tough.

These days Boarders is both storefront and social space, a locus for identity, shared passion, and community belonging. The honesty of the place is palpable. For the fans of skate or snow culture and for anyone who appreciates small businesses built from passion, Boarders becomes a story about resilience, about people sticking to what they love, and about community surviving through shifts in popular culture. Boarders definitely isn’t about hype or any conventional notions of success, it’s about opening the door to a home for board lovers, that’s grounded in authenticity, community and decades of shared history.



Words: John Meredith
Photographs: Darian Woods

Art & Culture

Art, skateboards and clean water: The MOSS Deck Art Show Comes to Brookvale

On Saturday 28 February, the Brooky Surf Club - inside the iconic Bennett Surf factory - hosts an exhibition of skateboard art where every sale goes directly towards funding accessible clean water systems in Africa.

The MOSS Deck Art Show, in its tenth year of touring major cities all around the world, rides on a simple model - invite a broad range of artists from the emerging to well-known, give them a blank deck to paint, and setup an exhibition. 100% of every deck sale goes directly to building water infrastructure.

No commissions, no salaries, no overheads. Artists donate their work. Sponsors donate blank decks, the venue, the DJ, food and drinks. Volunteers run the show. The party atmosphere is frenetic and free, the impact is measurable.

Since 2006, MOSS Foundation has built 31 permanent clean water systems in Swaziland - 122 tanks, over 700 taps, 12 schools and 4 orphan care points. The systems serve 12,400 people, reducing disease and infant mortality while freeing girls from daily water collection so they can attend school.

From Old School Skaters to Water Infrastructure Builders

MOSS Founder, Rob Francis’ story starts in 2000 when a group of former pro skaters picked up their boards again. “We realised we had the ability to raise money and didn’t want to waste it on uniforms because skateboarders don’t wear uniforms...right?”

A family friend was volunteering as a doctor in Africa and the Foundation’s first project was a bore well in Swaziland. In 2006, they raised enough money to properly establish their cause and haven’t looked back. 19 years later, MOSS Foundation Africa operates as a not-for-profit with a permanent team building water systems almost continuously.

“We’re plumbers, not colonialists,” explains Rob. “We simply help people build their own water system so they can find their own way out of poverty. We don’t tell them what to wear, who to worship, or how to live their lives.”

Rob started skating in 1975 on chalky wheels with open cone bearings. The first skateboard he was given by a sponsor was a fibreglass



MOSS Deck Art exhibition at Ambush Gallery 2024

Golden Breed board made in the Bennett Surf factory that same year. “How’s that for going full circle?”

No Brief, Just Make Art

The MOSS Deck Art Show’s creative brief? “Be true to your own art...no limitations. Artists can paint, draw, cut the board up, or even set it on fire, which has been done a few times.”

This year’s lineup brings together some of Australia’s most prestigious artists alongside the next wave of bold new talent. Featured artists include: Kathrin Longhurst, three-time Archibald Prize finalist and 2021 Packing Room Prize winner; Ben Brown, iconic local artist known for his distinctive skull-laden work across surf, skate, and punk culture; Kentaro Yoshida, Japanese-Australian illustrator and celebrated muralist, featured at the Art Gallery of NSW; Mulga (Joel Moore), acclaimed street artist, muralist, and author and; Elliott ‘Numskull’ Routledge, one of Australia’s best-known and celebrated muralists for his contemporary, large-scale abstract work.

“People seem to love the 100% to the cause model,” Rob says. “And while it’s really difficult to pull this off, the trust and purity it brings is well worth the massive effort.”

The **MOSS Deck Art Show** opens for one night only on Saturday 28 February at Brooky Surf Club, Harbord Road Brookvale. More details at mosswater.org

Words: **John Meredith, Brookvale Arts District**



The Tawny Frogmouth

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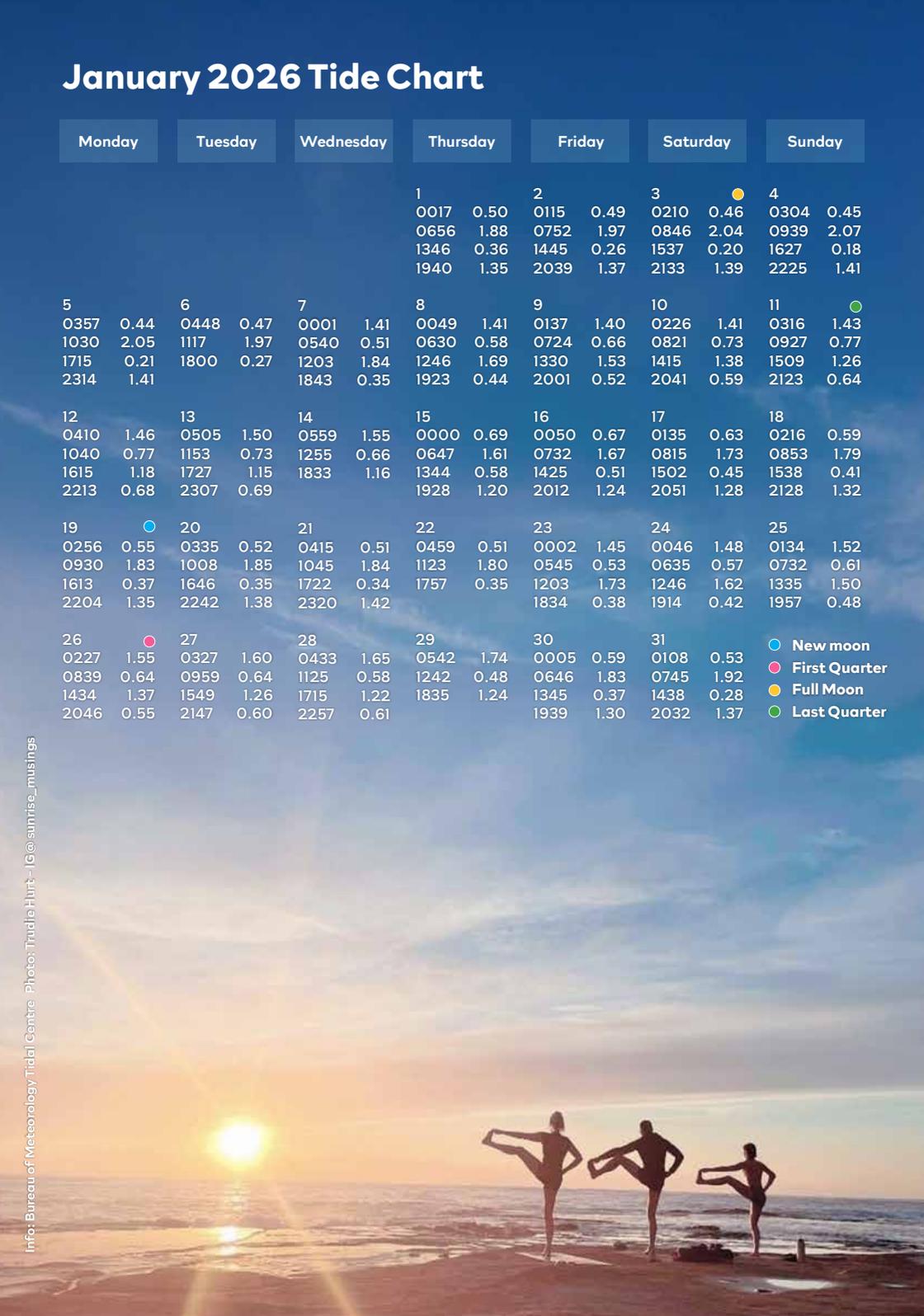
Image: Quyen Hutchinson, IG @mrsfrogmouth

January 2026 Tide Chart

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
			1	2	3	4
			0017 0.50	0115 0.49	0210 0.46	0304 0.45
			0656 1.88	0752 1.97	0846 2.04	0939 2.07
			1346 0.36	1445 0.26	1537 0.20	1627 0.18
			1940 1.35	2039 1.37	2133 1.39	2225 1.41
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
0357 0.44	0448 0.47	0001 1.41	0049 1.41	0137 1.40	0226 1.41	0316 1.43
1030 2.05	1117 1.97	0540 0.51	0630 0.58	0724 0.66	0821 0.73	0927 0.77
1715 0.21	1800 0.27	1203 1.84	1246 1.69	1330 1.53	1415 1.38	1509 1.26
2314 1.41		1843 0.35	1923 0.44	2001 0.52	2041 0.59	2123 0.64
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
0410 1.46	0505 1.50	0559 1.55	0000 0.69	0050 0.67	0135 0.63	0216 0.59
1040 0.77	1153 0.73	1255 0.66	0647 1.61	0732 1.67	0815 1.73	0853 1.79
1615 1.18	1727 1.15	1833 1.16	1344 0.58	1425 0.51	1502 0.45	1538 0.41
2213 0.68	2307 0.69		1928 1.20	2012 1.24	2051 1.28	2128 1.32
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
0256 0.55	0335 0.52	0415 0.51	0459 0.51	0002 1.45	0046 1.48	0134 1.52
0930 1.83	1008 1.85	1045 1.84	1123 1.80	0545 0.53	0635 0.57	0732 0.61
1613 0.37	1646 0.35	1722 0.34	1757 0.35	1203 1.73	1246 1.62	1335 1.50
2204 1.35	2242 1.38	2320 1.42		1834 0.38	1914 0.42	1957 0.48
26	27	28	29	30	31	
0227 1.55	0327 1.60	0433 1.65	0542 1.74	0005 0.59	0108 0.53	
0839 0.64	0959 0.64	1125 0.58	1242 0.48	0646 1.83	0745 1.92	
1434 1.37	1549 1.26	1715 1.22	1835 1.24	1345 0.37	1438 0.28	
2046 0.55	2147 0.60	2257 0.61		1939 1.30	2032 1.37	

- 🌑 New moon
- 🌒 First Quarter
- 🌓 Full Moon
- 🌔 Last Quarter

Info: Bureau of Meteorology Tidal Centre Photo: Tindie Hurt - IG @sunrise_musings





The Peninsula's pre-eminent Razzler Dazzler making it rain dollar bills

Community

Razzle returns to Queensland

If you've been one of the thousands to walk through the hallowed turf of the Steyne Hotel over the past decade and a half, there's every chance you have had a brush with the man they call Razzle Dazzle.

His trivia nights are legendary. The snazzy dressed, silver-tongued MC creates all the questions himself, structured to ensure all punters can have a good crack at answering. Razzle then has the crowd participating in everything, from throwing paper planes to cheering home greyhounds - in races he calls live himself, replacing greyhound names with the trivia teams, his voice box theatrics instilling the rollercoaster of emotions that only a Dapto dog race can manifest - to tie breaker contests from arm wrestles to staring competitions to guessing what age V plates were abandoned to racing to the nearest Kebab shop for selfies with always ebullient Kebab shop owners. A Razzle Dazzle trivia night is an all-in, immersive experience.

Since 2011, Raz has also

hosted the weekly Ping Pong tournament. What was a noughties chaotic mess of backpackers ponging up the joint was transformed into a Thursday night beachfront fixture - players pinging with competitive nous whilst having a beer and a laugh, throwing their paddle in the ring to win a share of the few hundred dollars up for grabs.

His busiest day by far has become Anzac Day. When Harbord Diggers' bowling greens were cleared for Freshie headland retirement living, many in the community were lost as to where to head 'em up and come in spinner... Razzle, with sage counsel from Kevin Costner - if you build it, they will come - creates a field of dreams each April in the jam-packed Steyne beer garden. For 6 hours straight, Raz has the masses for the most part cheering and singing along in what is a truly phenomenal atmosphere.

Meat Raffles, Melbourne Cup and sports lunches, Super Bowl Hot Dog eating competitions, just to name a few,

Raz has been in the thick of it all, hosting and entertaining Manly locals and tourists alike for the past 15 years. But sadly, all good things must come to an end. Razzle aka Matt Rawle has decided to call time on his tenure at not only the Steyne Hotel but the Northern Beaches as a whole, relocating his young family of wife Rebecca and 4 kids to the Gold Coast.

"It's going to be a sad day that's for sure", says Raz, who has lived on the Beaches for the last 25 years. "I've got a million mates here who I'm going to miss dearly. Hopefully they don't lose my number when they come up to the Gody for Toolies!"

Raz has played 300 games for the Manly Wolves AFL side, as reported by Angus Buncle, but also played multiple seasons of League and Union for the Narrabeena Hawks and the Warringah Rats. He knows his way around a Northern Beaches footy field just as well as a local pub.

"I've loved my time on the Beaches, in my opinion the best place in the world to live, which is ironic as I'm choosing to leave it!"

Thankfully not all is lost. Raz has agreed to pack his pennies and head back down the Pacific Highway in April to once again partner up with his co-pilot on 2up day "Big Dan" so once again the patrons at "The Drain" will be whipped up into a frenzy.

We at the Tawny wish Raz and his family all the best as he relocates up north permanently, and we hope those filthy Queenslanders know how lucky they are to have him.

Words: **Liam Carroll**

Meet Your Councillors

Candy Bingham, Manly ward

What's your earliest memory of the Beaches? I was lucky enough to grow up in the area. I particularly remember my sister and me sitting in the rock pools at Little Manly.

Who inspires you? My husband Jeremy. As a lawyer and former Lord Mayor of Sydney he knows Local Government. He's also extremely ethical and always stands by his word.

What motivated you to run for Council? It was 2010 and Manly Council was developing their 2015 Plan for Manly. On paper it looked good but when you got into the detail, not so. Of major concern was the proposal to build a carpark under Manly Oval. We discovered that not only was the carpark at risk of major flooding, but

the historic oval where they had played rugby for over 100 years, would no longer be suitable. I formed "Good For Manly", organised major protests and public meetings, prepared independent reports, got legal advice. The amalgamation saw the Plan scrapped.

And to keep running? When Manly Council was amalgamated, I saw the opportunity to have an independent/community-focused new Council.

What have been the biggest challenges? The growth of social media. It's now impossible to communicate your message without distorted or misleading comments.

What have been your greatest triumphs? Funnily enough, toilets: for East Esplanade



(took 8 years), and Little Manly Point (10 years). I spearheaded the Save the Many Ferry community group resulting in the saving and restoration of the historic Freshwater, Queenscliff and Narrabeen ferries.

What words of wisdom do you live by? I alone can do it, but I can't do it alone
It's Sunday, 10am, where's Candy? Having breakfast at Fusion with my kayak paddling friends.

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Mona's Ben Hanson with a well earned \$10k cheque for Speaking of Which

Live Music with Lucy

Speaking of Which, Mona's winning Battlers score \$10k

Battle of the Bands is a competition we all know and love. It's in movies, musicals and now our local pubs.

This November, the Mona Vale Hotel kicked off its first Battle of the Bands. Organiser and owner Ben Hanson says he wants to "bring back a great live music scene like I was part of in the 90s." But Friday night at the Mona wasn't a step back in time, it was a grapevine into the future of live music on the Beaches. Ben hopes this competition will "encourage young artists to get live music experience ... to nurture and support the bands."

120 bands entered the competition, and just 12 were chosen. I went to see the final 4 battle it out for the coveted prize of \$10k, donated by the Mona Vale Hotel and 4 Pines Brewing Co.

Taking to the stage for the finals were: **Selene & the Strange**, a hypnotising indie synth rock group; **Speaking of Which**, an electric new wave rock band; **Woodhill**, an alternative rock band, inspired by every genre; and **Bangalley**, Sydney's latest Indie Surf-Rock band.

Selene & the Strange were up first, the pressure was on to create the vibe. Luckily, they have an entire song devoted to line dancing, and the locals got stuck in. Although I think I may have grapevined left when I should have been going right. Fortunately, a panel of judges sat discreetly in the corner, watching the bands and not me.

Just like the movies, this \$10k prize money could change a band's future. Lydia, the lead singer of Selene & the Strange

and manager Sam, says the money could help them record their debut album. But what really matters to them was friends and community, giving a shoutout to their band's supporters, "It makes all the difference in how confident you feel."

Ben says the judging criteria is based on "musicianship, technical ability, tightness, originality, song writing," adding that the "crowd response is very important also." Speaking of Which nailed this, with Kye on keyboards and vocals, leaping off stage and dancing through the crowd. Every band connected, filling the room with music and a magnetic vibe that spilled off the stage.

However, as with all Battle of the Bands stories, ultimately one band must win. Stealing the crowd and judges with their captivating stage presence and talented musicianship, Speaking of Which became The Mona's Battle of the Bands champions of 2025. As the oversized cheque was presented, Max the guitarist sealed the deal, backflipping off the stage.

From electrifying guitar solos to the warmth of mellow vocals, the intimate Mona stage has seen it all. The Mona has secured its place in the hearts of emerging artists, a buzzing venue with a constant itch to start up the amps.

This year's Battle of the Bands became not just a competition but a celebration for local live music. But this is not where this movie ends, Ben says it will become "a regular on our calendar moving forward". Make sure you stay tuned for next year.

Words: **Lucy Mitchell**

THE *Mona*



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Jan 25th | Face Painting & Balloon Twisting
Feb 1st | Reptile Show



Fairlight Butcher back at Egelabra Stud, where the goodness begins

Local Business

Meat your maker

“What am I going to do with my life?” Good question, yet strong answers can be hard to find. Luckily for Ryan Watson, now better known as the Fairlight Butcher, he’d just finished high school, was holidaying with his family at the Jewel of the Sapphire Coast, Narooma, and when posing this question around the campfire, a bloke he’d never met said, “If you’re not too sure what’s right for you, why not go be a Jackeroo? My mate’s farm takes on youngsters keen to have a crack. Work out your future on the land.”

Within a week, Ryan was off again, this time out to the Egelabra Merino Stud in Warren, an hour and half northwest of Dubbo, to do his interview for the role of Jackeroo.

“My grandparents had a sheep farm in Gippsland,” says Ryan. “Growing up, I’d take any chance I could to get out to the farm. And for a career, I always thought something along the lines of veterinarian

studies or zookeeping could be a good fit, something with animals. All I knew was I didn’t want to be in an office.”

Ryan’s office-dodging wish was granted. He scored the Jackerooing role, staying for three and half years at Egelabra. “I had no expectations going in, and it was just such an incredible experience. That station owners become like second parents. The work ethic instilled was priceless, and you end up with more feathers in your cap than you could imagine, proficient in welding, excavating, truck driving, butchery, stock handling, whatever needs doing, you do it.”

Ryan earned his Certificate IV in Agriculture, but as fate would have it, having just met his now wife while she was studying nursing, he was put in touch with Andrew Dawes, of Fairlight Butchers and Gourmet Meats acclaim, on the hunt for an apprentice. The rest, they say, is history.

Thanks to his time on the

land, Ryan has seen firsthand the vast difference low stress stock handling, and regenerative farming practices have, feeding through to the higher nutrient rich, restaurant quality end goods.

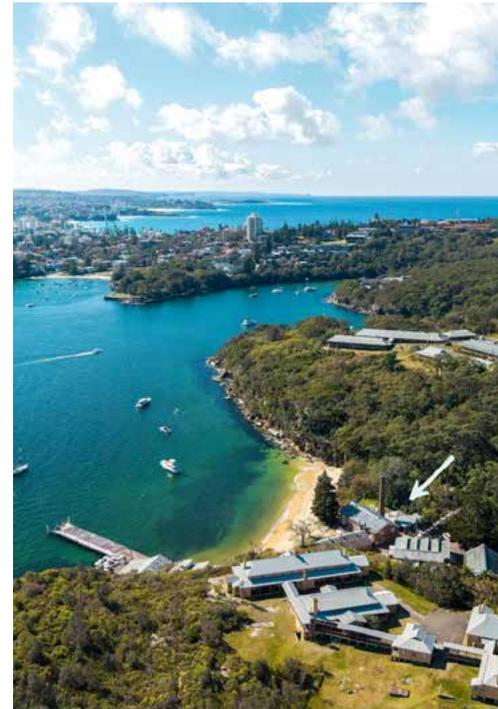
“It’s all about traceability, freshness, buying off the farmer themselves to limit middlemen and knowing precisely where produce is from, how it’s farmed,” says Ryan. “Something at the heart of the Fairlight Butcher is showcasing and sourcing the ethical meat. It’s a way of giving homage to the farmers doing such a great job every day on the land.”

Father of two growing young lads, Hugh and Kendrick, Ryan’s been able to share his love of the land with his family. “As a kid, I remember having that country space as a place to decompress. And to have those open green spaces to enjoy, it’s vital for a child’s overall development,” says Ryan. “Whenever I can, try to get the whole family out bush. It’s like a switch – once you leave the city and come back, you always feel refreshed.”

Whether it’s nature or nurture, his sons love it out at Egelabra as much as their dad. “We were just out there for the Ram auctions, with my son Kendrick all over it, assessing their stocks, bloodlines, fleeces. To see that interest come through, the passion and fire there for farm life, it really melts your heart.”

Words: **Liam Carroll**

Follow [@thefairlightbutcher](#) for updates from the purveyors of gourmet meats and delicious items. If you’re interested in Jackerooing at Egelabra, visit [egelabra.com](#) – a pleasure to ewes since 1879



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Running back to you

Why we never outgrow the need for a safe place to land

Watch a toddler at a playground. They venture out, explore the slide, glance back at their parent. Everything's good, so they keep going. Then something startles them: Another kid grabs their toy; they trip; they get overwhelmed; and they run straight back. Not to just anyone. To their person.

This is the Circle of Security in action. Your parent or primary caregiver serves two essential functions: the safe haven (the place you return to when you're scared, hurt, or overwhelmed for comfort and soothing) and the secure base (the steady presence that gives you the confidence to explore, knowing someone's got your back). When these work well, you internalise a blueprint: "I can handle the world because I have somewhere safe to land. I can take risks because someone believes in me." This is the basis of forming a secure attachment.

Attachment needs are life long, and what happens as we grow, we shift our primary attachment from parent to romantic partner. They now become the person you run to. When you're considering a career change, their belief in you matters. They become both your soft place to fall and your launchpad. This is why finding "your person" feels so monumental. You're not just choosing a companion, you're selecting your nervous system's co-regulator for life.

But here's where it gets complicated. What happens if your partner is no good at co-regulation? What if they don't know how to regulate themselves? A crying child who seeks comfort from an angry parent may be met with more anger if the parent doesn't have enough emotional capacity to soothe themselves. What happens when your partner becomes the source of your distress? Where do you go to regulate? This is why relationship conflicts feel uniquely destabilising compared to external stressors. Your safe haven just became unsafe. Your secure base just became shaky ground.

This is especially true with deeper ruptures like betrayal or infidelity. It's not just about the act. It's the catastrophic loss of safe haven and secure base simultaneously for the partner. The foundation you stood on crumbles. The



Run, hail or shine, we're always seeking a safe haven

person you'd run to for comfort is the one who caused the wound. You're in maximum distress with nowhere safe to land. If you don't have other attachments that can help you soothe and regulate, you can feel completely isolated and abandoned.

So, what do you do when a rupture happens? First, recognise that the pain you feel in the present often carries echoes of pain from your past. This is why learning to secure yourself matters so much. When you can soothe your own nervous system, when you're not completely dependent on your partner for regulation, you build resilience for life's inevitable hardships and relationship challenges.

Then comes the slower work of repair. Brené Brown talks about trust like a marble jar: you fill it one marble at a time through small, consistent actions. Showing up. Being honest. Listening without defensiveness. Making space for hurt. These micro-moments gradually prove to each other: "I'm still your safe haven. I'm still your secure base. You can run to me again."

But here's the crucial difference from childhood: your partner isn't your parent. They're a fallible human doing their best. Holding them to standards of perfection sets everyone up to fail. This is why self-security and emotional maturity matter. We're all still those toddlers needing someone to run back to, but now we're also adults capable of working through rupture, extending grace, and choosing repair.

Words: **Scout Smith-O'Leary**, The Love Scout.

Scout offers relationship counselling for couples, individuals, and families in Manly, Narrabeen & online.

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Image: AI Generated



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Suburban Australia is spoilt with abundant Treehavens

Mal's Wild Side

What on earth shall we call it?

It seems that naming Australian "things" has always been a bit of a lottery.

Housing developments usually reference the trees that grew there before the bulldozers moved in. If you're a town or city you're often called after a UK peer or politician who never even visited the joint (such as Viscount "Sydney"). But what about our wildlife? How did they get their odd monikers?

When the first "settlers" arrived here there was a plethora of weird and wonderful life forms which were unknown to the English language. Several, like magpies, were named after vaguely similar British equivalents. Other names, like koala, were borrowed from indigenous culture - in that case from the Dharuk word "gula". But many are derived from more obtuse sources.

In June's Tawny I wrote about our local brown antechinus (colloquially called the marsupial mouse) which proudly holds the world record for non-stop rooting. But "antechinus" is a pretty curious

thing to call a little Aussie battler. It turns out that it comes from two Greek words "anti" (against) and "ekhinos" meaning "hedgehog". So, antechinus means "not a hedgehog" ... perfectly logical.

Meanwhile, the name echidna also probably comes from the Greek word for hedgehog "ekhinos" which would make far more sense. Although to confuse the matter "echidna" is actually the Greek word for a mythological half-woman, half-snake creature. What is it with hedgehogs anyway? Why can't they just share the hedge?

Meanwhile the platypus's name is also derived from a Greek word - platypous - meaning flat footed. It was formerly known as the "duck-mole" because of its bizarre appearance! There's no agreed term for the plural of platypus so, go ahead...you can use platypus, platypuses and even platypoda with impunity.

Don't worry, the Greeks

don't have a total monopoly on Dinky Di fauna taxonomy. "Bandicoot" is an Indian word for a big Asian rat...don't ask me how our cute little "diggers" got lumbered with the same label! "Cockatoo" sounds Aboriginal, but it originated from a Malay word "kakatuwah".

The name Possum is shortened from Opossum (a much uglier American marsupial) whose name, in turn, is derived from the native American "wapathemwa". And Goanna is also a truncated word, but this time from the Spanish "Iguana".

Rosella parrots derived their name from a more local source. In early colonial days they were often seen at Rose Hill (near Parramatta) so they were called the Rose Hill Parrots, which morphed into Rosehiller and then Rosella.

The word "Penguin" wasn't coined in Australia, but it deserves special mention as it's taken from the Welsh pen gwyn meaning "white head". 18th century sailors referred to them as "arsefeet" which is somewhat less romantic.

Conservationist Steve Irwin's surname (somewhat appropriately) originates from early Scottish words which mean "boar protector".

As for the collective nouns for the following creatures, who knows who came up with them? But you'd think there had to be one or two schooners in the mix: A "lounge" of Blue-Tongue Lizards, a "paddle" of Platypus, a "smack" of Jellyfish, a "bask" of Crocodiles, a "parade" of Echidnas, a "wedge" of Black Swans, a "chattering" of cockatoos, a "waddle" of Penguins. Sadly, there is, as yet, no official collective noun for a group of koalas.

Words: **Mal Fisher**



Billy. Winning

Fishing

What's biting, Clint?

Life is full of tricky decisions and fishing is no different. Every angler knows the sometimes-torturous indecision that comes with planning out their day. Having no plan is unacceptable but pulling the wrong string can sometimes be just as painful. The logical way to approach it is to gather as much information as you can, use your experience and knowledge before making an informed decision.

Recently, I applied this exact method. I spoke to those in the know, analysed the plan and pushed the go button. I was in the right spot at the right time with the right bait. I committed to the plan and put in the hours for a big fat donut. It all went wrong because I wasn't adaptive enough.

In contrast, a few days later, we heard there were big Kings on the inshore reefs using yakkas and Slimey mackerel. We set the plan. The morning of, we spoke to a few fishos already on the spot who told us nothing was happening...

This time we changed tact, catching a few live squid, something we knew the other boats didn't have. We ended up hooking 15 odd Kingfish to 110cm, all on squid baits, much to the envy of the other boats around us.

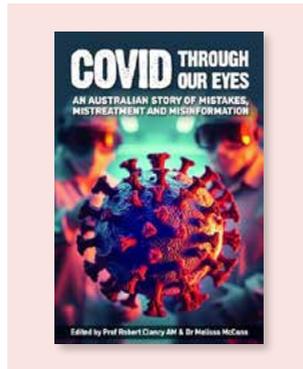
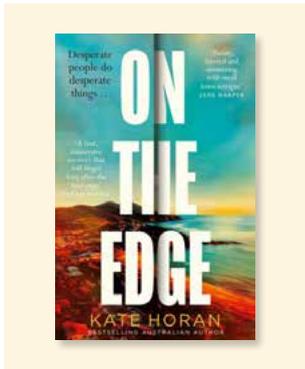
I think every angler needs a plan, without one you're setting yourself up for failure. But when that plan isn't eventuating the way you imagined, you need to put that rigid thinking away and try something different.

Go well Tawnies!

Words: **Clint Harwood IG @aussiecavemanclint**

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Both captivating and equally confronting books by Australians

Paige Turner Reviews

On the edge (of your seat)

Kate Horan is the Northern Beaches' newest writing sensation. Her first novel, *The Inheritance*, was an instant Australian bestseller. Her second novel, *On the Edge*, is about to eclipse that achievement. It's being released on 1 January, so make it your NY resolution to read this beauty.

Horan's ability to develop a layered plot and flesh out characters is up there with the best writers of any genre. Talking of which, it's hard to fit *On the Edge* into a single genre – it's part crime/mystery, thriller/suspense and domestic thriller. The genre it redefines is 'bloody good read'.

Set in a small coastal Australian town called Carrinya, the story revolves around Nel, a city GP, who returns after many years away. Her GP father has died and her family are guiltily her into running his clinic while they sort out the mess left behind by his sudden death.

Returning to Carrinya is traumatising for Nel because 16 years ago her best friend Maddie was found dead and the case was never solved.

The small-town gossip machine that went wild with speculation at the time (Who was responsible for Maddie's death? Was it murder? Was it suicide? Was it misadventure?) goes into overdrive with Nel back in town. One thing the gossips were certain of 16 years ago was that Nel had something to do with Maddie's death because she was the last person to see Maddie alive. Despite this being an unproved hypothesis, the sneering, whispering and other unpleasant behaviours keep intensifying the longer Nel stays.

Nel is fed up and decides she is going to solve the mystery of Maddie's death and clear her name. Nel gets thrown numerous curve balls and the dysfunction, dishonesty and absence of any moral compass displayed by the Carrinya community will probably make your blood boil as mine did.

Where to buy
Shop local, this book will be everywhere.

Remembering COVID

Covid Through Our Eyes is a collection of analyses undertaken by 24 impressively qualified experts in their fields: academic, medical, clinical, legal, political, journalistic, economic, regulatory, pharmacological and sociological.

The common thread throughout the book is that Australia's response to the pandemic was deeply flawed. Allegations of governments and health authorities approving genetic vaccines quickly, discouraging dissent and ignoring alternative treatments come through loud and clear.

The book aims to challenge the dominant public health narrative, arguing that mainstream media, regulators and medical institutions suppressed dissenting voices and concealed harm.

Some will find the work controversial; others will be nodding their heads in agreement as they read this litany of the harm and loss caused by what the experts regard as a seriously misguided response.

Unsurprisingly, the book takes a strongly critical, adversarial stance toward the official COVID-19 response. Given the qualifications of the professionals offering thorough arguments, it's hard not to feel there is much to learn from the mistakes, mistreatment and misinformation that spread as quickly as the virus.

This is a book about corporate greed and foreign interference.

Where to buy
Order directly from the publisher halsteadpress.com.au or Amazon

Words: **Paige Turner**

Art & Culture

The magic of Grandma Gogo

Grandma Gogo didn't begin as a book or a TV character – she arrived in a dream.

Local author Margot Bain describes her as a joyful blend of the grandmothers who shaped her life: her own vibrant role as "Gogo," her nanny who lived to 102, and the grandmother she never met, a kindergarten teacher in the 1930s.

"I wanted to leave a legacy for my grandkids and kids everywhere," Margot says. "A character full of love, positivity, and that special grandparent magic."

The first two books, *Grandma Gogo: The Little Book of Encouragement* and

Grandma Gogo's Alphabet, grew out of everyday moments, helping with washing, celebrating small wins, and capturing the delight only grandkids can spark. Illustrated by artist Hiru, the stories honour the unique connection between grandparents and grandchildren: unconditional, wise, safe, silly, and endlessly supportive.

Much of Gogo's world is inspired by life on the Northern Beaches, where Margot's grandkids roam the outdoors and fuel her imagination daily. "Their environment shaped the stories," she says. "But the values; kindness, courage, imagination, belong everywhere."

What began as a family passion project is now expanding into television. Producer Georgie Lewin, Margot's daughter, is shepherding an extension of the books



to screen, with the project receiving development funding from Screen NSW! And there's even a piece of very special Hollywood talent attached!

Full announcement will be coming soon.

Jump into the magic at grandmagogo.com.au

Words: **Liam Carroll**

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Subject Purple feast
Photographer Suzanne Jensen-Lewis



Subject Crowdsurfing Joely at Good Day Out
Photographer Luke Rozzie - IG@luke.rozzie



Subject We wish you an Airy Christmas
Photographer John McClane



Subject Bluey the Groper at Cabbage Tree Bay
Photographer Lachlan Mills



Subject e-Bikes are for little people
Photographer Benny Hamilton



Subject A very helpful corella
Photographer Jane Page



Subject Lifeline NB Surf Classic
Photographer Caroline Faye - IG @itscaroline_art

RAZZLE DAZZLE Trivia

- Which Manly Sea Eagles player was recently named captain for the 2026 season?
- In which Northern Beaches suburb is there a Hungry Jack's located directly across the road from a McDonald's?
- Which Northern Beaches State MP has their office located in Mona Vale? James Griffin, Michael Regan, or Jacqui Scruby?
- Borgnis Street in Davidson is best known for what tradition?
- After the midnight fireworks on New Year's Eve, what time does the Spit Bridge first open after midnight on 1 January? 12:45am, 1:30am, or 2:15am?
- With which game would you associate names such as Old Kent Road & Park Lane?
- What is the name of the highway that connects Brisbane and Sydney along the east coast?
- The Cherry Blossom is the national flower of which country?
- Which is faster, the official Marathon World Record (2:00:35) or the record for 42.1km run on a treadmill?
- Which is the least frequently used vowel in the English language?
- The third book in the Bridget Jones series is called, "Mad About The WHAT?"
- In 1963, Martin Luther King delivered a speech in Washington DC which has been given which 4 word title?
- If you were eating "Aloo" at an Indian restaurant, what type of vegetable would you be eating?
- In Australian cricket, which actress is a slang term for when a bowler takes 5 wickets?
- Which famous alcoholic drink is made at the St James Gate Brewery?
- Carrots are rich in which Vitamin A, B, C, or D?
- Which Australian State (not Territory) celebrates "Proclamation Day" and NOT Boxing Day on 26 December?
- A Tik Tok trend currently going around is a combination of which 2 consecutive numbers? 2-3, 4-5 or 6-7?
- In which country can the world's highest Post Office be found?
- Also starting with A, what is the name of Apollo Creed's son in the Creed movies?

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Sudoku Medium difficulty

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

RUMOUR HAS IT

The Mounties Group, owner operator of Harbord Diggers and the biggest club owner in the state by gaming machine profit, now own Northern Beaches' Peninsula Living magazine.

THE Summer CROSSWORD

Living and loving the land of the Northern Beaches for over 23 years.



- | | |
|--|--|
| Across | Down |
| 4. Stay between them (5) | 1. Grease duet (12) |
| 6. Frosty fruit, Zooper Dooper, Icy Pale (8) | 2. Hottest 100 Radio Station (7) |
| 7. Neptune's necklace, Sargassum (7) | 3. Early 90s life-guard drama (8) |
| 10. Crank it when it's hot (15) | 5. Gianduja, Stracciatella, Nocciola (6) |
| 11. Driving getaway (8) | 7. Beads on the brow (5) |
| | 8. Tags, cozzie, bathers (8) |
| | 9. Quick swim (3) |

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Star Signs

by Krystal Bawl

Capricorn Dec 22 - Jan 20

You're surviving all life's hiccups, always growing stronger. The fact you cause the hiccups is worth exploring.

Aquarius Jan 21 - Feb 19

Considering a reinvention? Do it! And be bold, so bold no one even recognises you after your new year's frenzying.

Pisces Feb 20 - Mar 20

New year, new you, nothing can stop you! Until dusk, of course, when hungry mossies begin eating you alive.

Aries Mar 21 - Apr 19

Your new year's revelling is consumed with home improvements and neighbourly drama. Be smart. Travel far.

Taurus Apr 20 - May 21

Your resolutions read "stay sane" and "look good doing it." Your mirror says, "Put some sunscreen on, lobster."

Gemini May 22 - Jun 21

Optimistic at sunrise, apocalyptic by afternoon, comatose by evening. You're living the Australian dream.

Cancer Jun 22 - Jul 22

Your focus on healthy living, clean eating and dawn fitness is wonderful. But it's helpful to do it, not talk about it.

Leo Jul 23 - Aug 22

January rewards your problem solving ability with lots of problems. Maybe stop solving them, you won't get so many.

Virgo Aug 23 - Sep 23

Your life is dominated by goals, to-do lists, schedules, but allow a little flexibility, or you'll miss certain gold.

Libra Sep 24 - Oct 23

Staying cool in extreme heat is not easy. Your determination to never stray from air-conditioning is admirable.

Scorpio Oct 24 - Nov 22

This year your patience, intuition, and knack for letting others do what they want will see you loved by all, yet again.

Sagittarius Nov 23 - Dec 21

Running barefoot over hot sand is not recommended, but when the surf's cooking and no one's out, get moving!

A SIMPLE ACT, WITH A BIG IMPACT.

MWP Community Care is rallying the Northern Beaches community to help keep our older residents' gardens safe, maintained and tidy! A new initiative from MWP, we are looking for local residents to put their hand up and volunteer to mow the lawn of an aged neighbour or someone who needs assistance with their garden. A freshly mowed lawn is not just about property maintenance; it's about pride, independence, and the confidence that comes from living in a well-kept home. Grab your mower, bring your heart, and make a real difference with MWP Community Care. Spare an hour of two and give back in the simplest way.

Sign up to register your interest for the big event across the beaches in **MARCH 2026!**

Are you over 65 and would like your lawn mowed?
Call our friendly team on 9913 3244 to register your lawn!

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Trivia Answers
 1. Tom Trbojevic 2. Brookvale 3. Jacqui Scruby
 4. Christmas Lights 5. 2:15pm 6. Monopoly
 7. Pacific Highway 8. Japan 9. Official Marathon
 record (Treadmill record + 9+ minutes slower)
 10. U 11. Boy 12. I Have a Dream 13. Potato
 14. Michelle Pfeiffer 15. Guinness 16. Vitamin A
 17. South Australia 18. 6-7 19. India 20. Adonis

Crossword Answers
 ACROSS: 4. Flags 6. Iceblock 7. Seaweed
 10. Airconditioning 11. Roadtrip
 DOWN: 1. Summerrights 2. Triple 3. Boywatch
 5. Gelato 7. Sweet 8. Swimsuit 9. Dip

Sudoku Solution

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



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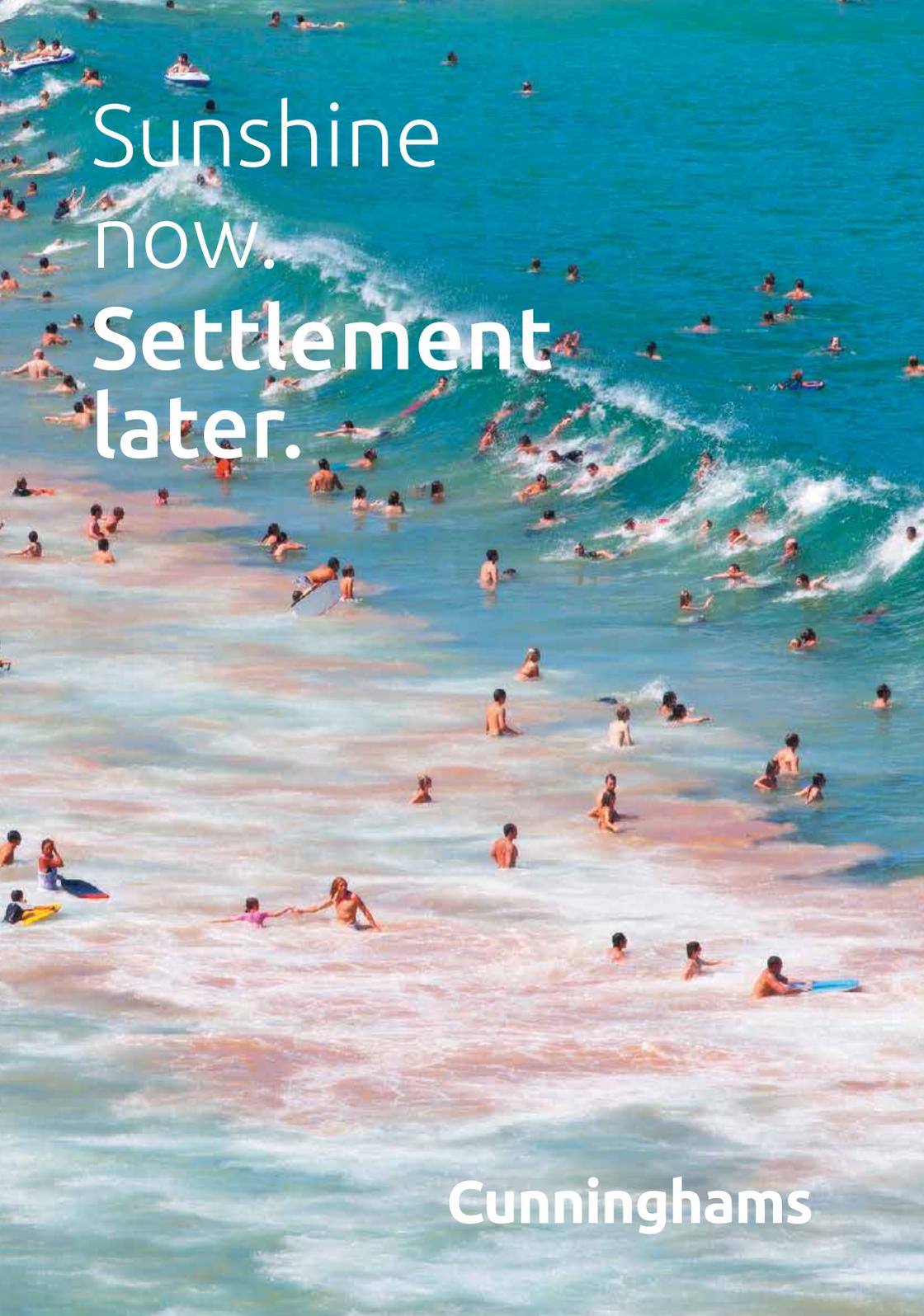
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