

# The Community Leader

## Redlands

WE'RE ALL ABOUT GOOD NEWS



## THE BAY IS OUR PLAYGROUND, SO LET'S MAKE A SPLASH!

Look out to sea along the Redlands' coastline any weekend, and you'll see people at one with the water. Kite surfers, yachties, paddlers, friends fishing in tinnies and swimmers taking a dip – the bay is an enviable year-round playground for water sports, open to all of us.

April 21 will be a particularly busy day on the waters off Cleveland Point, with sailors from across Queensland and northern New South Wales taking to the seas for the 53rd Peel Island Marathon. This flagship event for Cleveland Yacht Club encourages friendly competition, fosters community spirit, and promises a day full of fun both on and off the water.

If you'd like to get on board and learn more about local sailing and cruising, chat with the members

of Cleveland Yacht Club (more on page 2). Keen to explore other on-water activities? Many clubs and groups in the Redlands are ready to help you find your sea legs. And for those who prefer to stay high and dry, relax, take a seat on the shoreline, and soak up the bay's beauty.

This month, we're featuring ordinary locals doing extraordinary things, from artists to teachers and playwrights to people who generously volunteer to help people and animals. We're privileged to highlight their achievements, and we hope you love reading this edition of The Community Leader.

*Pictured L-R: Cleveland Yacht Club members Steve Lawie, Dave Sharp, Grant Veckranges, Cath Hornabrook and Denham Howe at Cleveland.*



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# READY, SET, SAIL: CLEVELAND YACHT CLUB'S 53RD PEEL ISLAND MARATHON

Excitement is brewing as Cleveland Yacht Club gears up for the 53rd edition of its renowned Peel Island Marathon, slated for Sunday, April 21st, 2024. This flagship event promises thrilling competition amidst the picturesque waters encircling Peel Island (Teerik Roo Ra) in Moreton Bay.

Originating in 1969 as the Cleveland Catamaran Marathon, this race has evolved into the revered Peel Island Marathon. Welcoming diverse participants, including off-the-beach catamarans, monohulls, wind foilers, yachts, and sports boats, the race kicks off from Cleveland Point, typically spanning two laps around Peel Island.

The event draws competitors from across Queensland and northern New South Wales and serves as a litmus test for their prowess and endurance, often under demanding conditions.

As a not-for-profit club, Cleveland Yacht Club thrives on the dedication of its members, who generously volunteer both onshore and offshore on race day, ensuring the seamless and safe execution of the event. Those inclined towards helping on race day or in subsequent events are warmly encouraged to join the Club's ranks of volunteers and members.

Whether you're an experienced sailor or a casual enthusiast, the 53rd Peel Island Marathon promises an unforgettable experience. Stay updated with event details and developments by visiting the Club's website and Facebook page at [www.cyc.asn.au](http://www.cyc.asn.au) and 'Cleveland Yacht Club' respectively.



Photos: Supplied.



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# ALL THINGS BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL — BIRDS, BOTANICA AND BLUE GLASS

The art exhibition **BIRDS, BOTANICA and BLUE GLASS** features the work of three women artists, drawn into this collaboration at Redland Museum by a shared love of art, the natural environment and native flora and fauna.

This is not the first time they have thrown their combined weight into an environmental issue. Their work was part of the 2022 Safe Harbour Exhibition, featuring artists' visual responses to the plight of migratory birds, shore and wader birds around Australia, and the future of our coastal resting and feeding grounds on the Redlands Coast. Held in St John's Cathedral, the exhibition drew a strong and supportive public response, and Redland Museum is confident that their newest collaboration will trigger similar reactions.

While their art contributions have a common focus — the pressing need to preserve nature for now and the future — their artistic interpretations are fascinatingly different.

Rhyll Henzell (who initiated the Safe Harbour exhibition) applies her talent to a variety of media: eco-printing (creating an image of a plant part by pressing it against fabric or paper and extracting the tannins with heat), watercolour, pens, wax colour, acrylics, gold leaf and long-lasting archival ink. The "blue glass" element is a Rhyll inspiration.

"I have always been in love with the colour ultramarine blue. It shows up somewhere in most of my paintings, and I guess the blue glass collection evolved out of that... I had never thought of it as a passion, as I don't go seeking blue glass, but it often finds its way to me!"

Working in multi-media gives Rhyll the opportunity to push artistic boundaries in all directions in what she calls her "visual voice"; she says that the excitement of experimenting with new ideas and combinations gives her a reason to bounce out of bed in the mornings.

The Eastern Curlew, a critically endangered visitor to Redland's foreshores, is Rhyll's favourite bird — along with (not surprisingly) the tiny, brilliant blue Splendid Fairy Wren.

Bush Stone Curlews and Sparrows are Julie Barker's favourite birds and acrylics are her choice of artistic medium. Enhanced with extension mediums, the colours flow onto the canvas, creating the overlaps, blurred lines and sense of movement that is Julie's special delight. Her foliage, drawn in lively circles and spirals, reflects the

same sense of unbroken continuation and connection.

"I like to have fun with my art, and if other people can enjoy the playfulness and get joy from it — well, that's great," Julie says. "I'm very conscious of us, animals, plants — the whole of nature — being integral parts of a whole. It sounds a bit weird but I develop a real fondness for some of my art subjects, particularly the birds. I sense them as being little entities of their own, give them names and fold them into my family."

Jen Henzell gives a new life to fabric pieces, paper cut-out illustrations and found objects, re-creating the patterns, shapes and colours that she finds in the natural environment of her much-loved local landscapes.

"I find texture adds as much excitement as colour; once I include elements of texture and pattern, they bring depth to a piece that may have a tendency to look static. I want to keep experimenting with ways to achieve a sense of life or movement I admire in other artists' work."

Jen says that the largest single element she's incorporated into her work is a paper lantern. The quaintest was a defunct silicone rubber stress ball.

"My nephew really wanted a blobfish stuffed toy, so I made one out of old fabrics and used the stress ball case to fill the nose — I made several versions until he was happy with the level of ugliness!"

Jen's work features her favourite bird, the Magpie. "They're so handsome in their black and white suits. I feel happy every time I hear a magpie call."

Rhyll hopes that the exhibition will raise community consciousness and satisfy our love of beautiful artefacts.

"Collectively we hope that our individual pieces will touch the hearts of all who view them and that our viewers will leave our exhibition more curious about their natural surroundings and with a renewed awareness of the fragile beauty to be found out there."

For art lovers keen for initiation into the mysteries, the exhibition will include a morning tea floor talk where the three artists will explain their individual techniques and materials — and allow participants a glimpse of the Muse that inspires them.



By Jen Henzell. Photos: Supplied.



By Julie Barker.



By Rhyll Henzell.

Birds, Botanica and Blue Glass exhibition is on display at Redland Museum during April. The morning tea floor talk and technique demonstrations will be held on Wednesday, 10 April 2024, at 10:00am.

For more information, call 3286 3494 or go to <https://www.redlandmuseum.org.au/whats-on/events/>.

SOCIAL MUMS CLUB.

## Mother's Day Soirée

Saturday 11th of May | 2pm - 6pm

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KIM RICHARDS MP STATE MEMBER FOR REDLANDS



Kim RICHARDS MP

#LuvRedlands



# KIM RICHARDS LISTENING TO YOU.

Everybody is under different pressures in this cost of living crisis.

I have pledged to fight for more in 2024.

But I want to know what measures the Miles Government can implement in the upcoming budget that would make the most difference to you.

I want to listen to stories from the Redlands community to understand what I can do to help those who are struggling in this cost of living crisis.

Join me at my Cost of Living Community Forum on April 22nd, at the Redlands Community Hall.

Scan the QR code for more details.



HAVE YOUR SAY.

MP FOR REDLANDS





# LOCAL EVENTS

See what local events are happening in your community.





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If you're looking for something to do locally, check out The Community Leader's What's On page here and online.

## LIVING IN THE '80S



Saturday April 20, from 7:00pm, Redlands RSL, Cleveland

Relive the big hair and even bigger sounds of the '80s at Redlands RSL for an evening of nostalgic rock and pop hits from the heady days of 1980s FM radio. Get down to a decade of covers performed live, including songs made famous by Queen, INXS, Bon Jovi, and more. Call 07 3488 1199 for further details about this sensational night out!

## CRAFT BREW HOUSE'S OPEN MIC NIGHTS



The last Wednesday of each month, from 6:00pm to 9:00pm, Craft Brew House, 1/190 Birkdale Road, Birkdale

Hosted by Ian Calvert, Craft Brew House's open mic night allows aspiring musicians to jam with fellow musos. All equipment is supplied, but if you've got an instrument you play, bring it along. If you sing, musicians will back you up, so why not give it a go? And if you have no musical ability, you're welcome to be part of the audience, soak up the atmosphere and enjoy Craft Brew House's hospitality.

## CAPALABA ROTARY HERITAGE DAY



Now is the time we need the late Rotarian Peter CAMPBELL to give us some advice. Peter was the visionary for the Rotary Club of Capalaba establishing The Rocks Project over 20 years ago.



### Heritage

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April  
9am to 1 pm

Save the Date, 13<sup>th</sup> April  
It is time to celebrate this great project with a **Free Event** in West John Fredericks Park, on the banks of Tingal



Find us on: **facebook.**



The Rocks Today (photo below), like a lot of South East Queensland Parks has green, green grass but suffering because the mowers can't get onto the grounds. The 8 trees around the Peace Poles are now established .



Saturday, April 13, 9:00am to 1:00pm, John Fredericks Park (West Park) Capalaba (behind Koala Tavern)


Learn about "The Rocks Crossing", a significant historical landmark of an early creek crossing between Brisbane and Cleveland, located at Capalaba. Remnants of the 1874 bridge foundation are still visible at low tide today. Capalaba Rotary's Heritage Day will allow visitors to learn more about early transport in the region. Over the years, Rotarians have contributed to The Rocks project by shifting bollards to create a grassy area, identifying the original cobblestone road leading to the creek and installing picnic tables and chairs. This area has a fascinating history, so come along and discover more from enthusiastic Rotary members, and enjoy a free sausage sizzle, drinks and activities.

## NATIONAL TRUST HIGH TEA AT ORMISTON HOUSE



Saturday April 27, 1:30pm for a 2:00pm start, Ormiston House, 277 Wellington Street, Ormiston

Step back in time and enjoy the ambience of Ormiston House at this Champagne High Tea. As part of Heritage Month, this elegant high tea will begin with a glass of bubbles (or two) on arrival, followed by a delectable assortment of traditional high tea goodies, including finger sandwiches, hot savouries, tea and coffee, and everyone's favourite – scones with jam and cream. Organised by the Redland Community Group of the Queensland branch of the National Trust, this high tea blends Ormiston House's beauty with the time-honoured tradition of high tea. Tickets are \$60 per person — book online by scanning the QR code.





# JOY AND COMMUNITY CONNECTION IN THE POOL AT ‘THE Y’

BY TRACEY ENGLAND – YMCA VICTORIA POINT

It all started about a year ago when a few children wanted to swim 25 metres down the pool for fun. Mums and dads fully supported this goal because it is cost-effective, a great way to keep them moving, and an hour away from technology.

In the beginning, we just did our best to engage the students in enjoying following the black line for an hour once or twice a week, and then things began to happen! More children joined us, and their swimming started to improve. Twenty-five metres became too easy, so we continued extending their skill sets, making it fun.

I have always believed that swimming is more than just a sport – it is a community that fosters friendship, teamwork, and discipline. Whether you are a beginner or a seasoned swimmer, the benefits of being part of a swimming team go beyond the physical aspects of the sport.

That said, I introduced dry-land training on Mondays before their swim set, and the swimmers loved it! As this was only a 10-15-minute session, I wanted to add a different spin to our drills, so I created Wacky Wednesdays. This was the day our participation numbers grew the most. It's also the day swimmers work in teams, race, laugh, and celebrate each other. The pool is very noisy on Wednesdays!

As we continued to grow and became friends, we discovered some amazing little children who had obstacles to improving their swimming, but they continued to get in the water and be a part of this team. We have a little 11-year-old girl, Charlotte, who has been diagnosed with arthritis in her joints. Even when she is in pain, she never misses a session – imagine swimming around one to two kilometres with arthritis! She truly is a champion.

We have two amazing ladies, Meagan and Hayley, living with disabilities, who also join us. They have become such valuable members of our team. Meagan and Hayley have physical and developmental hurdles to overcome, but they show up every week and swim to the best of their abilities.



*Photo: Supplied.*

We are so proud of our swimming squad and the strong sense of camaraderie and friendship that has developed among team members. Spending hours training together, cheering each other on during races, and celebrating victories creates a bond that goes beyond the pool. The shared experiences and challenges of swimming create lasting friendships that can extend far beyond the pool deck.

Swimming is not just a sport here at 'The Y' – it is a way of life that helps build character and shapes people into confident, resilient, and successful individuals, regardless of their obstacles.

A year has passed, and our amazing little team of swimmers now consists of five age champions, three swimmers competing at State titles, and multi-class swimmers thriving in this environment.

I could not be prouder of these amazing athletes, and I am confident we will see them standing on podiums very soon!

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# CONGRATULATIONS TO JOS MITCHELL, REDLANDS' NEW MAYOR

A change is underway in Redland City Council, with newly-elected Mayor Jos Mitchell ready to take the reins.

Following a successful campaign that spanned over a year, Jos says she is committed to leading change in the Redlands.

"I love the area we live in, and I'm looking forward to working collaboratively with the elected council members, the organisation, and the community to achieve great outcomes," said Jos.

"My focus is on bringing council and community together. That includes introducing committees to our council to build bridges between councillors, residents, local businesses, and non-profit organisations.

"I love our bayside lifestyle. We have a unique environment, and I believe we need to carefully protect the lifestyle we all love. We need to balance it with a progressive and innovative approach to our planning and investment attraction."

As a long-standing member of the Redlands community, Jos is married and has three adult children who have grown up in the area and attended local schools.

"Early in my career, I was a police officer, police prosecutor, and trainer," Jos explained.

"I later developed a company with my husband, became a manager of economic development and community services in local government, and have been a nationally accredited mediator for the last decade. I've also enjoyed becoming involved in the creative arts, which has become a personal passion."

Jos is also an avid reader and would love to pursue writing in the future.

And while there hasn't been much downtime in the last year due to her packed campaign calendar, Jos and her husband love exploring South-East Queensland in their spare time.

"We enjoy day trips on our motorbikes, classic cars, walking, and spending time with family and friends," says Jos. "I sing badly, laugh loudly, and have a pair of rollerblades I have yet to use... maybe this weekend!"

Congratulations to Jos and the team of councillors who will guide Redlands through the next four years, balancing lifestyle, liveability and economic growth.



Photo: Supplied.

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# LOCAL HEROES: OUR FIRST RESPONDERS FOR WILDLIFE

Twenty-two kookaburras, 30 lorikeets, 10 possums, 20 tawny frogmouths, 23 fig birds, two ibises and an uncounted collection of magpies and peewees could be a zookeeper’s nightmare or a twitcher’s dream, but that’s the tally of wildlife cared for and released by Wildlife Rescue Queensland volunteer Nicole Bennett in the current spring/summer season.

Nicole’s 29-year career as a professional nurse stands her in good stead for caring for injured animals (“I’m an old hand at things like wound care and treating dermatitis”) and she counts herself lucky to have the time to care for human patients and injured animals.

“My nursing work now is mainly administration so I can work from home,” she says. “My days are really busy but efficient time management means that I can also look after the furred and feathered patients.”

Nicole’s love of the animals is obvious and she cares for them as if they were her own.

“Some of them really find a place in your heart,” she says. “I had one little kookaburra that the RSPCA passed on to me and I cared for him from the bundle of fluff stage right up until he was ready to fly away and be independent. He was special.”

Nicole says that all the animal welfare groups in the region have a good working relationship, which helps the increasing demands being made on wildlife carers.

“We need more volunteers; some people feel that they’re not up to it but there are several ways of volunteering and people are trained in the various tasks. Most folk can fit in somewhere.”

Typically, a rescue volunteer who finds an injured animal or bird will call the 24/7 WRQld Hotline for advice on what to do. If necessary, the next step is to take the animal to the RSPCA or a vet for assessment or treatment. From there, the “patient” may either go into fostering with a wildlife carer – who may be the rescuer – or be taken to a Bribie Island pick-up point to be collected by an animal ambulance service that does three runs a day to Australia Zoo on the Sunshine Coast.

“There are induction days for new volunteers that offer training in caring and feeding for birds, macropods (wallabies and kangaroos), possums, koalas and bats – and bat carers need to have a course of three vaccinations,” says Nicole. “There are also specialist roles within the ranks of volunteers, such as drivers for the wildlife ambulance and professional tree climbers for high-tree rescues.”

Training is essential for volunteers, as are cages, basic equipment and sufficient appropriate space if they intend to become carers. Carers must have a current wildlife rehabilitator’s permit. The ultimate aim of wildlife rescue is to rehabilitate the animal to a state of health where it can resume its independent life as nature intended.

“Their general condition, weight and behaviour are the best indicators. You learn to gauge when an animal’s ready to go and that’s when you start reducing contact with them,” Nicole says. “I prefer a ‘soft release’, where the animal can leave but can come back to the protection of its enclosure until it establishes its territory in the wild.”

Nicole says that because many animals – such as possums, kookaburras and frogmouths – are strongly territorial, it’s preferable to release them back into the area where they were found.

“You learn interesting things about animals just by taking the time to observe them,” she says. “An injured adult male kookaburra in an outside cage will be harassed as an interloper by resident kookaburras. If the patient is a juvenile bird the resident birds will sometimes try to feed it through the cage wire. They just want to keep it alive and healthy.”

Which is pretty well what Nicole and other wildlife volunteers are all about. It’s not too hard to join them.

New volunteers are always welcome. To find out more or put your hand up to join the team call 3824 8611 or go to [https://www.redland.qld.gov.au/info/20253/native\\_wildlife\\_trees\\_and\\_plants/620/wildlife\\_rescue\\_service](https://www.redland.qld.gov.au/info/20253/native_wildlife_trees_and_plants/620/wildlife_rescue_service)

The Hotline number for help with injured animals is 0478 901 801 or 3833 4031.



Wildlife Rescue Queensland volunteer Nicole Bennett. Photo: Supplied.

### DON’T KILL THEM WITH KINDNESS!

Nicole warns against feeding wild birds, such as magpies, with raw meat. “Adult birds may be able to tolerate it but lacking insects, worms and the like, it’s a totally inadequate diet for their youngsters and can even affect chicks in the egg. Metabolic bone disease can cause twisted beaks and fractured bones.”

Also, make sure that any young birds that you rescue really are in trouble. “If they’re sitting on the ground they may just be learning how to fly; always check if there are adult birds hovering around, they may be mum and dad.”

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# Maggie's Mates



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**Name:** Hi, my name's Liquorice (Licky). I was named Liquorice because of my dark brown/black hair as a puppy. After a year, my hair grew out, and I became a blonde. My family now always call me Licky (unless I am in trouble!).

**Where do you live?** I am from Thornlands.

**How long have you lived there?** Twelve years, which is all my life!

**What's your favourite local walk?** I love to walk around the Rushwood Estate or Cleveland Point.

**Your most treasured toy?** Any teddy bear that my five-year-old human brother Orlando leaves on the floor that I can get my chops around.

**What is your favourite food?** I eat EVERYTHING!

**What's your worst habit?** I lick my paws – hence my nickname, Licky. (It's also short for Liquorice.) I'm also in big trouble every year for raiding whatever is under the Christmas tree, just in case Santa left something for me. It seems my family doesn't like being helped to unwrap presents. You'd think that they'd be grateful for the assistance, wouldn't you?

**What's your favourite local hangout?** I like to go to the park and roll around in the sand.

**Who is your best doggo friend?** Alfie, who is my cousin.

**Do you have any funny or embarrassing stories to tell?** I had just been groomed and wanted to smell doggy again. I escaped into the garden, rolled and danced in the dirt and ran back into the house. Well, I didn't know that dirty paw prints through the house would be a problem, did I? Maybe I shouldn't have dried myself on all the kids' beds. I learned some new words from Mum.

**What do people love most about you?** People love how lovable and cuddly I am. I am the biggest teddy bear and adore my human family.



**Name:** I am Smiggle.

**Where do you live?** Redland Bay.

**How long have you lived there?** Since 1998.

**What's your favourite activity?** Laying in the sun with my back legs apart. Not very ladylike, but very comfortable.

**What is your most treasured toy?** My toy mouse. Mum throws it onto the couch for me and I flick it off. It keeps both of us entertained for hours. I also like playing hide and seek.

**Your favourite food?** Felix Jellies. Felix is Latin for happy – that's how they make me feel.

**What's your worst habit?** Nagging Mum. She agrees with me and sometimes tells me to shut up. Nicely.

**What's your favourite place?** Outside. I like to drape myself on a chair on the patio.

**Your best friend?** Mum!

**Do you have any funny or embarrassing stories?** None that I'm prepared to tell here...

**What do people love most about you?** I'm beautiful and I've got a great personality.



## The Community Leader

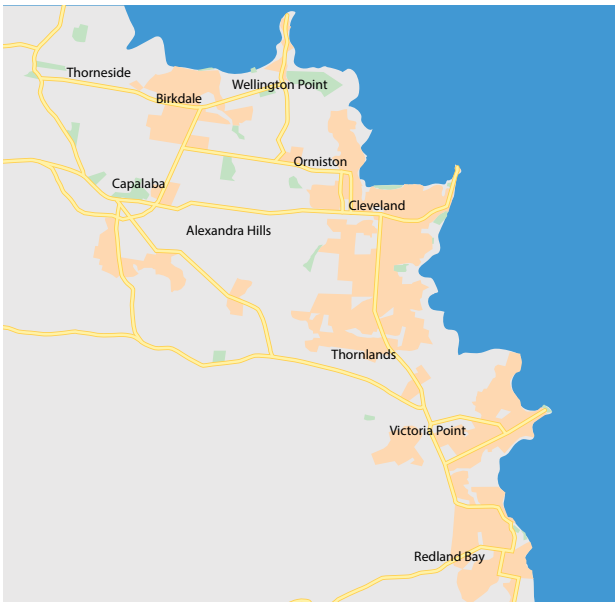
WE'RE ALL ABOUT GOOD NEWS

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Any submissions can be emailed to [sales@market2market.com.au](mailto:sales@market2market.com.au) for consideration.

### LOCAL PICK UP POINTS

Various shopping centres, cafes, clubs and local businesses.



### ADVERTISEMENT SIZES

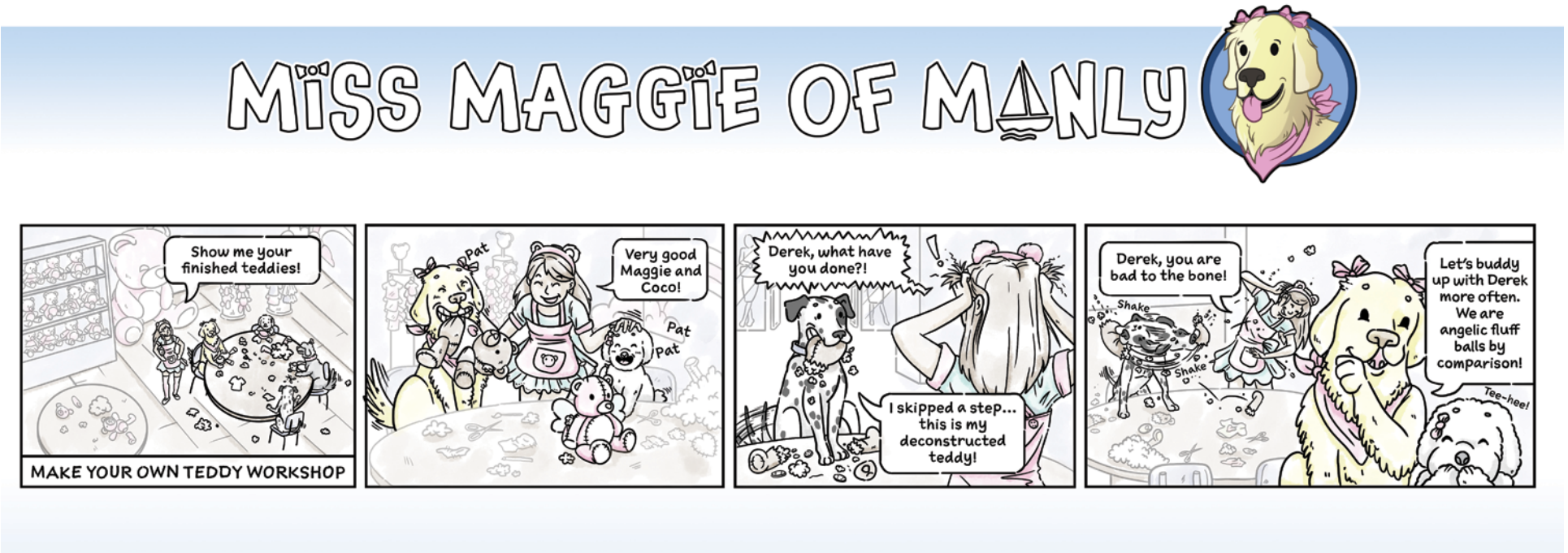
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### MAY BOOKINGS

- Community editorial 10th of April or earlier
- Advertising cut off 16th of April
- Distribution 30th of April
- Bookings are for a minimum of 3 months and space is limited
- Market to Market Communications reserves the right to refuse any advertising
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# ALL ABOUT MALASSEZIA EAR INFECTIONS IN DOGS AND CATS

BY DR NICKY THOMAS, WYNNUM MANLY VETERINARY HOSPITAL

The hot, humid weather of the last few months has seen a marked increase in the number of dogs and cats affected by the yeast *Malassezia*. This yeast normally lives in the ears (and on the skin) of dogs and cats but may become overgrown, resulting in a painful and itchy ear infection (otitis).

### WHAT ARE THE SIGNS?

The signs of an ear infection caused by *Malassezia* are similar to ear infections from other causes such as bacteria. Common signs include:

- Increased ear wax/discharge – the discharge is commonly a Vegemite colour and consistency but may vary depending on the presence of other infections
- Odour
- Head shaking or ear scratching
- Swollen or ulcerated ear flaps
- Increased pigmentation of the ears and canals
- Pain around the ears and head
- Loss of hearing

### HOW IS MALASSEZIA OTITIS DIAGNOSED?


Your vet may find discharge in the ear canal, and the skin of the ear canal may be red and swollen. A sample of the discharge can be examined under a microscope where *Malassezia* can be readily identified.

### HOW IS MALASSEZIA OTITIS TREATED AND PREVENTED?

Your vet will prescribe a medicated ear preparation to treat the yeast infection. Many ear drops also contain cortisone, which is an anti-inflammatory that helps to reduce the pain and itching associated with an ear infection.

Your vet will talk to you about the ongoing prevention of ear infections. Regular cleaning of the ear canals to remove excess discharge can help reduce the likelihood of recurrence. There are several different products available to help clean your pet's ears – have a chat with your vet about the best option for your pet.





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# BREWING BEATS: CRAFT BREW HOUSE BACKS LOCAL MUSICIANS

In the heart of Birkdale lies a gem for live music enthusiasts – Craft Brew House. Renowned for its vibrant atmosphere and exceptional selection of craft beers, Craft has become a cornerstone of the local music scene.

What sets Craft apart is not just the quality of live performances but its commitment to showcasing local Redlands musicians. At Craft, the spotlight often shines on the abundant talent within our own community, providing a stage where local artists can thrive, grow, and connect with audiences who are eager to support them.

The live music scene at Craft Brew House is a testament to the diverse and rich tapestry of musical talent found in the Redlands area. From folk to indie, rock to pop, the venue offers something for every musical palate. It's a place where you can discover your next favourite artist or band, and where music lovers of all ages come together to celebrate the power of live performance.

One of the most anticipated events in Craft's calendar is the Open Mic night, held once a month. This event encapsulates the spirit of inclusivity and community that Craft is all about. Open Mic nights offer a platform for up-and-coming artists to showcase their talents, experiment with new sounds, and gain invaluable live performance experience. For the audience, it's an opportunity to witness raw, undiscovered talent, potentially seeing the early stages of future stars in the music industry.

Craft Brew House is more than just a venue; it's a community hub. By prioritising the inclusion of local Redlands musicians, Craft not only enriches its own live music offerings but also contributes significantly to the cultural vibrancy of the area.



Photos: Supplied.

You can enjoy live music at Craft three times every week, and the Open Mic series is on from 6pm the last Wednesday of the month. Visit Craft Brew House at 1/190 Birkdale Road, Birkdale.

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# THE BAYSIDE’S LONGEST-RUNNING YOUTH FESTIVAL IS BACK THIS APRIL!

FROM BABI YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICE

For over 15 years, BABI Youth and Family Service has hosted the free BayWave youth festival, solidifying its status as the longest-running youth festival in the Wynnum/Redlands area.

Since 1983, BABI has been at the forefront of youth and family services in the Wynnum/Redlands region, addressing the needs of young people at risk of or facing homelessness.

This year, BayWave will take place on Tuesday, April 9, from midday to 5:00pm at Lota Skatepark.

The festival promises an enjoyable day for all ages with an extensive program of activities planned, including live entertainment, stalls, food, and a showcase of young talents.

Attendees are encouraged to explore the skatepark, try their hand at basketball, or indulge in unique experiences like henna art. Importantly, the festival is entirely free, ensuring accessibility for everyone.

The event is a vibrant celebration that acknowledges the significance and accomplishments of young people within the community. It’s a testament to the community’s commitment to showcasing and appreciating young people’s diverse talents and passions, spanning music, performances, sports, and skate demonstrations.

Funded by the Brisbane City Council, the event aligns with the Council’s continued support for community initiatives, including the LINX space at BABI Youth and Family Service.

See you on Tuesday April 9 from 12:00pm to 5:00pm at Lota Skatepark!



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# REVEL IN A WORLD OF POPULAR MUSICALS IN ONE NIGHT AT RPAC

His grandmother performed in opera and stage musicals, as did his mother; his grandfather performed in musicals, and his father is a musician and singer. Little wonder that Ciarán Olohan has performed and toured internationally in light opera, full-weight opera, musicals, theatre, television and film and also as a singer/guitarist. In his spare time, he enjoys nothing more than a good music session at his local, probably with his Da. He could probably sing before he could talk; his talent's both innate and absorbed from childhood. As Ciarán says, "I didn't lick it up off the floor".

Wicklow-born but truly a citizen of the world, Ciarán's career has taken him to the US, Canada, Germany, Norway, Spain, China, the UK and – fortunately for us – Australia.

Following its most recent sell-out Australian tour in 2022, The World of Musicals in Concert, a musical extravaganza presented by an ensemble of multi-talented performers, will be back again this year. Ciarán, lead performer and co-producer, says he's itching to revisit the warmth of the Australian welcome.

"In 2022 we'd just come out of the worst of COVID and the response we got was uplifting. Australian audiences are wonderful; we chat to them during the show, we love it when they join in the choruses and always enjoy meeting up in the foyer afterwards," he says.

So what is it about musicals that weaves such a special spell?

"They've always been a part of our lives," Ciarán says. "We heard the songs on the radio, the TV, in films, on stage – it's a vast and rich repertoire that evokes all our emotional responses. It's a long tradition; even in modern musicals you can hear the influence of Gilbert and Sullivan, Rogers and Hammerstein, Gershwin – all the greats. We select our songs so that there's something for everyone, so everyone in the audience can go home with a smile on their face, humming lines of a song they remember and love."

Some of the songs are performed just as they were originally. Sometimes a traditionally solo piece will have more voices added, "just to have a little fun with it" and occasionally unexpected songs are included for an element of surprise.

Bringing together a team that can deliver the show is a skilful task. Organising them to 22 venues in eastern Australia could be as daunting as herding cats on a tractor, but the whole operation comes together seamlessly. Some of the tour members have been with the show for years, some are newly recruited, and all of them bring their own high-energy skills to the production.

"We've got lyrical singers and rock 'n' roll singers, dancers, and acrobats. We do auditions with casting houses in London, and we've always been on the lookout for someone with that special something to offer," Ciarán says.




Photos: Supplied.


The ensemble will offer their 'special something' at RPAC on April 9. To book, call 3829 8131 or go to <https://www.rpac.com.au/what-s-on/all-events/the-world-of-musicals-in-concert/>.

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# LISTEN UP! THE TALKING WIRELESS TAKES TO THE STAGE

There’s a duchess who isn’t really very duchessy. There’s a French dressmaker – oops, couturière – who is very French and very haute. There’s a social climber who puts Hyacinth Bucket in the shade. And there’s a housekeeper who’s basically kind but will instinctively find the darkest side of every situation. All this in the middle of a howling snowstorm. What are the possibilities?

C.A.Castell’s *Snowed Up With a Duchess*, while essentially a charming little drawing room comedietta, is an astute observation of human nature and the social structures we create. It was published in pre-World War 1 England in 1906, which saw the beginning of a naval race between Germany and England, Finnish women becoming the first to win the right to vote, and continuing power shifts in Russia after the First Revolution. Set in the confines of a country cottage, the play notes the changes rippling through world politics – even through such unshakeable institutions as the British class system.

The type-written script was discovered by Redland Museum’s Library Coordinator, Liz Blumson, during a stocktake of the library’s archives. It was immediately accessed by Theatre Redlands, the Museum’s auspiced theatre group and will be the group’s contribution – along with a floor talk – for the Museum’s contribution to the National Trust’s Australian Heritage Festival celebration. Director Jan Nary has adapted it as a radio play – complete with a narrator and singers – and it will be presented as a live “studio” performance for an audience.

“It’s a delightful little piece,” Jan says, “genteel but robust, like a cross between a tin mug and a bone china teacup. I did a cursory hunt for its origins and found a copy in a Canadian library which had one interesting script difference from ours – a reference to Australia in our copy appeared as a reference to Ireland in the Canadian version.

“Liz asked Betty Walker, a formidable researcher who volunteers in the Museum Library, to see what she could turn up. Her findings will be the basis of a floor talk before the show, so it’ll be a tasty theatrical treat for theatre-goers who like a touch of provenance.”

There will be four productions of the play: evening shows on Saturday, 20 and 27 April, and matinees on Sunday, 21 and 28 April, at Redland Museum, 60 Smith Street, Cleveland.

For more information, call 3286 3494 or scan the QR code:



Playwright and Director Jan Nary. Photo: Supplied.

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# LOCAL PERSONALITY PROFILE



Photo: Supplied.

**Name:** Kay Howick.

**Suburb:** Cleveland.

**What's your business?** I'm a radio announcer on Bay FM 100.3 at Thornlands, our local community radio station for 27 years. I was awarded a golden microphone two years ago for being on air for 25 years. I do a show on Saturdays called Twist and Shout from 3:00pm to 6:00pm, and a Sunday program called Vintage Sundays with Jackie J from 8:00am to 10:00am. I am known on air as Kay from The Bay.

**Do you have any fun/interesting stories about your job?** I have lots of stories, but a funny one is when I forgot to turn the microphone on during a show.

**What's your favourite local dine-in and take-away?** Café 63 at Victoria Point.

**Best local activity:** I did do rock 'n' roll dancing until a few years ago.

**What's the last book you read?** As James Patterson is my favourite author, the last book of his I read was *24 Hours*, which is part of his women's murder club series.

**Is there anything you'd like to see happen in the local area?** I would like to see more seats in parks and children's playgrounds for people to sit on or for the elderly to use as a place to stop and catch a breath (as well as more water coolers).

**Is there a local business/community group/club you'd like to give a shout-out to?:** I'd like to give a shout-out to Banjo's for great coffee and service, and Cleveland Newsagency opposite Woolworths in Stocklands as the lovely ladies that serve you always have a smile on their faces and are friendly.

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# The Truth Behind Public Open Houses & What is a Smart Sale Inspection!

Real Estate agents push public open houses for essentially four reasons.

1. The number one reason is to meet other potential home sellers who stop by to check out the competition. Therefore, your home is used to help agents get more listings leads.
2. To meet potential buyers for other properties.
3. To look like they are doing something to sell your home.
4. To avoid having to do inspections at odd times or after hours.

## WHY PUBLIC OPEN HOUSES SHOULD BE AVOIDED!

Public open houses are conducted by unskilled lazy agents, and the disadvantages can be very costly to a property seller.

- They have restrictive inspection times that may not suit the buyer.
- Open houses are all held at similar times for short periods.
- Buyers feel rushed and not relaxed.
- The agents do not demonstrate the necessary property features.

- Your contents are not insured during the public open house.
- Too many people in your house at once can make it seem small.
- Genuine buyers may be put off by other buyers' negative comments.
- Buyers are not qualified by the agent as to the affordability and the suitability of the home.

## THE SMART SALE INSPECTION METHOD IS PREFERRED BY SELLERS AND BUYERS!

The best and safest way is by private one-on-one inspections with pre-qualified buyers. The Smart Sale Inspection has the following seven benefits for the home seller:

1. Buyers prefer flexible inspection times.
2. Buyers prefer not to be rushed. They need to have time to envision themselves in the home and take in all the features.
3. Buyers are pre-qualified to their affordability and suitability of the property.

4. Agents can focus on the real needs of the buyers and engage the buyers in conversation at the property.
5. The agent's knowledge of the buyers will aid the agent in negotiating the buyer's highest price.
6. Genuine feedback from genuine buyers can be passed onto the sellers.
7. Multiple buyers can be booked at similar times so the seller is not inconvenienced.

The way inspections are conducted, and the pre-qualifying of a buyer is a critical link for a skilled agent to obtain the buyer's highest price.



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# Urgent crackdown on rental black market is required

FROM THE REAL ESTATE INSTITUTE OF QLD

**The Real Estate Institute of Queensland (REIQ) is calling for a crackdown on the appalling black market of 'backyard campsites' for rent emerging in Queensland amid the rental crisis.**

REIQ CEO Antonia Mercorella said the state peak body for real estate professionals would like to see such practices urgently investigated and stamped out for the safety of the community.

"It is highly disturbing to see reports that backyards, garages and storage spaces are being advertised for rent for people to reside in," Ms Mercorella said.

"We would like to see the full force of the law coming down on these opportunistic people.

"This black market of grossly substandard 'sites for rent' needs to be nipped in the bud."

Ms Mercorella said the vast majority (87.6%) of rental properties in Queensland were represented by professional Property Managers. However, a small cohort of self-managed lessors existed, and potentially, many more were flying under the regulatory radar.

"Real estate professionals are required by law to understand and comply with a raft of ever-changing and complex legislation, and they take this responsibility very seriously," she said.

"These professionals are well educated by the peak body and understand legislative requirements surrounding tenancy agreements and minimum housing standards.

"Chances are that those deplorably looking to rent out backyards, garages and storage spaces for a quick buck are self-managed would-be 'lessors' who are either ignorant of the law or are blatantly thumbing their noses at it.

"Even if your property is not represented by a real estate professional, there is really no excuse for non-compliance, given the Residential Tenancies Authority provides a suite of free educational resources about lessor obligations."

Ms Mercorella said it was also a timely opportunity for the Government to raise the bar for qualifications to be a real estate professional and to clean up the deficient education providers in the sector.



"When you consider the incredibly important work that real estate professionals are performing and the complex legislative environment they operate within, it's essential we set the right entry threshold requirements," she said.

"The Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) has already launched a review into real estate education providers. It's time for urgent action to stop diploma factories that are just providing quick 'tick and flick' real estate courses.

"It's also important that the ongoing education of real estate professionals is addressed with the long-overdue introduction of quality mandatory continuing professional development (CPD) to maintain and broaden real estate practitioner's knowledge, competence and compliance."



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# ANGLICARE SOUTHERN QUEENSLAND FOSTERS SOCIAL CONNECTIONS

FROM ANGLICARE SOUTHERN QUEENSLAND

Feeling socially connected is important for older Queenslanders as it can reduce feelings of loneliness, provide independence, and create a sense of belonging and connection to the community and their peers.

The emotional benefits of being socially and physically active can positively affect physical health.

Anglicare Southern Queensland offers a range of engaging activities tailored to clients' interests and abilities at day respite centres, social activities and groups, exercise and wellbeing classes, and bus outings. From live music and dancing to crafts and scenic drives, clients can connect with others and remain physically active while staying in their local area.

The services also enable carers to take a break and recharge their batteries with peace of mind, while giving clients the opportunity to spend their day in a way they enjoy, whether that is building friendships, participating in activities, or simply relaxing.

Sue Montgomery, Anglicare Southern Queensland Group Manager Home and Community, said it was important that carers take time out for themselves so they can continue to provide quality care to their loved ones.

"We can provide experienced qualified Anglicare staff, nursing and care support workers who will ensure the social, emotional, cultural and spiritual needs of the person you are caring for are met, with respect for their dignity, self-worth and individuality," Ms Montgomery said.

A client's family member said: "The respite centre gives mum what we cannot give – six hours of mental stimulation, time with people similar to herself in age and health, and a safe and happy environment where she feels and is independent from us."

"Regardless of the activity, we always have a tonne of fun, and I go home feeling great," says Kath, an Anglicare Southern Queensland Social Group client.

Anglicare Southern Queensland's day respite, social support and lifestyle services are available to clients through a range of government-funded packages and programmes, depending on your location and circumstances. They also offer fee-for-service.

If you would like to find out more information about Anglicare's social activities, outings and day respite services, how to access them, what funding support is available, or would like to have a chat about how they can support you and your loved one, please give them a call on 1300 610 610 or visit their website [www.anglicaresq.org.au/carers-support/respite](http://www.anglicaresq.org.au/carers-support/respite)

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# WHAT IS THE ARMISTICE CENTENARY WAR MEMORIAL?

CONTRIBUTED BY BRIGADIER IAN ERRINGTON (RETD)

**This Armistice Centenary War Memorial, located at the entrance to the Belmont Shooting Complex, is a State and National memorial.**

The purpose of the ACWM is threefold:

- Commemorate the more than 560 Riflemen of the QRA who made the supreme sacrifice in the First World War.
- Acknowledge the contribution of Australia’s men and women from the many shooting disciplines to Australia’s defence, in peace and war.
- Serve as a War Memorial for the local community.

The Commemorations Committee believes the ACWM will provide a suitable and significant venue for the many users of the Complex to effect important and sustainable community outreach through shared commemoration and ongoing education. These opportunities demonstrate in a tangible way that the Complex users, past and present, are an integral part of the broader community.

The committee is committed to holding ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day services at the ACWM. It expects participation at future commemorative events to increase commensurate with the growth in the local community. The Committee is, of course, amenable to other commemorative events at the ACWM, such as Vietnam Veterans’ Day.

## FOR REMEMBRANCE AND EDUCATION

Apart from its visible commemorative purpose, the Armistice Centenary War Memorial has a close link with the QRA Museum where Honour Boards are already on permanent display together with other memorabilia. The QRA Museum is now working with the Commemorations Committee to re-establish the destroyed Honour Boards from the Spring Hill shooting complex, and the QRA Museum management has initiated a survey of clubs throughout the State to record the names of those men and women who served in World War II and in the wars and campaigns since 1946.

The Commemorations Committee has been working closely with local school communities to involve students in the commemorative observances and to encourage students to reflect on the sacrifices and honour the contributions of those who have served in the defence of Australia. This includes sponsoring educational competitions within the participating schools.



Photos: Supplied.



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# BEFORE THE INTERNET...THERE WAS THE LIBRARY

BY JAN NARY

**Humble beginnings can grow into impressive results. Take the Redland Museum’s Rotary Heritage Library for instance, which started life as a redundant toilet block and is now a veritable treasure trove of rare and contemporary books, manuscripts, newspapers, periodicals, historical maps, photographs and the strange and wonderful objects classed as ephemera.**

It took professional builders and a team of dedicated volunteers only a year to transform the toilet block, gifted by Redland Council in 2017, into a thriving literary hub which is now supported by 14 volunteers and used by the whole community. Two of the original volunteers are still involved; Liz Blumson is the Museum’s Library Coordinator and Betty Walker (whose skills in ferreting out information would qualify her as a super-spy) plays a major role in research. As well, there are two other qualified librarians on the team and an experienced school librarian. Other volunteers are trained in library procedures and adding information to the catalogue.

Prior to the toilet block regeneration the library had been housed in an ante-room/corridor not much larger than a telephone booth.

“It was piles of books and documents and papers and the only catalogue was an Excel spreadsheet,” Liz says. “Once we had the building completed Col Sutcliffe, a Museum member who was dedicated to fostering literacy, organised a funding drive through all the region’s Rotary clubs. That raised enough money to fit out the space with furniture, equipment and computers and the proper organisation and cataloguing could begin. It’s still going, I think it’ll be a constant work in progress!”

The print material previously kept in the Museum’s Collections department was relocated into the safer air-conditioned realm of the Library, along with the extensive photographic archives (which number nearly 2400 to date). Liz says that other than specifically relevant books or books relating to a newly-instigated collection – such as the growing collection of Indigenous material – most are donated.

The Museum has proven to be the ideal repository for detailed, personal material of local people and events, pieces that include a WW2 pilot’s logbook, the confirmation certificate of one the area’s early European settlers (Hermann Holzapfel) and a program from one of philanthropist Leona Kyling’s stage productions.

“The books don’t just live on the shelves,” says Liz, “they’re incorporated into exhibitions that they relate to. We currently have an art exhibition that uses paint and beeswax as a medium; we’ve supplemented the exhibition with a book on bees and photograph of a student bee keeper. We put children’s books – like the old Boy’s Own Annuals – on display in the Toy Museum. Many of our exhibitions have archival photographs included and the schoolroom tableau features old text books that many visitors recognise – warmly or ruefully!



Photos: Supplied.

“The Museum has a wonderful wagon collection; the bread wagon, the Cobb and Co. coach and the fruiterer’s wagon. Sandra Davis, one of our exhibitions officers, is currently researching the bread wagon and the people who were associated with it for a presentation at a Museum Show ‘n’ Tell session in March. Members of the public come in to research their family or the house that they live in – there really is something for everyone.”

The education system is close to Liz’s heart. As a teacher-librarian, she travelled extensively around Queensland; her career included being responsible for the choice and purchase of books to be included in new school libraries, a task that she relished. She also worked on a University of Queensland project that involved training high school students to use research facilities at UQ’s library and how to use the newly-introduced online databases.

Every now and then there’s a special gem that surfaces, such as the typewritten 1906 play script that Liz found.

“We don’t know how *Snowed Up With a Duchess* came to be on our shelves,” she says. “Betty tracked down its provenance to Manchester in England but we don’t know if there had been a local production – perhaps something that Leona Kyling might have been considering – or just how it came to us. The really exciting thing is that our own Museum theatre troupe, Theatre Redlands, will be presenting it as a radio play in April. It’ll be wonderful to see a treasure from the library come to life again on stage. We like to see our collection put to work!”

## AN INVITATION TO COMMUNITY GROUPS

As The Community Leader evolves, we’d love to include your local story. We openly encourage community groups, sporting clubs, and charities to contact us with their stories and photos. The newsletter’s objective is to promote activities and events in the community, while encouraging the support of local businesses. Thank you to the community leaders who have enthusiastically supported the idea of developing a friendly local newsletter. Please support them, and engage with them as best you can. Any submissions can be emailed to [sales@market2market.com.au](mailto:sales@market2market.com.au) for consideration.





# OWN WELCOMES INSPIRATIONAL GUEST SPEAKER DIANE CARTER CPCS

FROM OWN CAPALABA

*The Older Women’s Network’s (OWN) Capalaba branch recently hosted guest speaker Diane Carter CPCS, who shared her inspirational life story with members.*

Diane is an internationally recognised speaker and author. She has spent most of her life in Africa and is a gutsy, never-say-die woman who has achieved success by embracing adversity and winning against all odds.

She considers herself a survivor and thriver. Diane has led an exciting and varied life on four continents, experiencing many adventures that others would find extremely daunting.

Diane has canoed on the Zambezi River, been on safari in Africa, crossed the Tanami Desert, raced saloon cars, climbed glaciers, was an instructor at Outward Bound, swum with dolphins, been deep-sea diving, climbed the Chimanimani Mountains, was arrested in Mexico, married and brought up two children. She has survived a wild animal attack and has lived with tyrannical persecution within the oppressive Zimbabwean regime, coping with political harassment, brutality and bullying by Mugabe’s henchmen. She followed her heart and eloped with her first love, whom she hadn’t seen for over 40 years.

Diane uses many of her life’s stories in her talks. Audiences love to hear what comes from the heart and from personal experience. In her own passionate way, Diane weaves her strong message about the power of positive mindset energy in between these real-life stories, with a generous sprinkling of humour to keep her audiences enthralled with laughter and totally spellbound. Her presentations are entertaining and inspirational.

Diane’s keynote speeches demonstrate how a positive attitude leads to happiness and success that can change personal and business lives. They also demonstrate how a positive attitude affects not only them and the way they look at the world but also their whole environment and the people around them.

Diane’s energy, passion, humour, and ‘can-do’ attitude show audiences how to live successfully and build enriching family and business relationships.

For more information about OWN, visit [www.ownqld.org.au](http://www.ownqld.org.au).



Photo: Supplied.



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## LOCAL POETRY

# THE HONEY BEE

BY GEOFF SMILEY

No place for thought,  
honey bees lead an  
ordered, structured life.

Drone males don't work,  
don't feed themselves.  
No other duty but  
as the Queen's consorts.

Female workers strive,  
no procreative distraction.  
Responsible for the hive,  
they fight, they gather,  
they ensure the group survives.

Position without power;  
the Queen, the captive centre.  
Polyandrous egg layer,  
structured slave and breeder.

Bees bound by ordered service,  
a life defined by obligations.  
No distracting thoughts for these,  
the uncorrupted honey bees.

© Geoff Smiley

# JOHN HORTON: 50 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY



Queensland Chief Government Whip and member for Capalaba, Don Brown, (right) presenting a 50 years of service Justice of the Peace Certificate to Capalaba resident, John Horton. Photo: Supplied.

Capalaba’s John Horton has received formal recognition for his 50 years of community service as a Justice of the Peace.

Service to the community has been at the forefront of John’s life since his early involvement with the scouting movement. This was followed by his contributions as a volunteer in St John’s First Aid, the Army Reserve, Qld Rural Fire Service, and the Circle of Men Organisation, in addition to various sports and brass band commitments.

John became a Justice of the Peace (JP) out of necessity. He says the impetus for seeking the office was the frequent need for a JP to carry out witnessing documents and other duties necessary during his working career and in the wider community.

“Being able to actively participate in offering this service to others is most satisfying and rewarding,” says John.

Through his role as a JP and volunteer with the non-profit organisation Circle of Men, John has served people from all walks of life.

“Both bring me into contact with so many interesting people, with visiting male residents in aged care facilities being a genuine highlight,” says John. “Who wouldn’t enjoy mixing with ‘living history’?”

Thank you, John, and keep up the excellent work!

# WEEKLY MEETINGS SUPPORT AND NURTURE MEN LIVING IN AGED CARE

FROM CIRCLE OF MEN

For nearly 20 years, the Circle of Men organisation has been visiting men living in aged care facilities every week to help relieve any possible loneliness or boredom they may be experiencing.

Currently, approximately 50 members are divided into small groups and attend 14 care facilities. This is to share either morning or afternoon tea with men who wish to participate.

Gatherings last for one-and-a-half hours and follow a reasonably tried and tested procedure.

A typical program consists of a Circle welcome, how is everyone feeling?; tell us something of your past week; discussions about topics of interest, a good chat, a load of jokes; where enjoyed, some group sing-alongs. Occasionally, guest speakers or entertainers are present, and we close with well wishes.

Every Thursday from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m., 20 or more members gather for a coffee and chat at Browns Cafe, Cleveland (opposite the council chambers). This is a great opportunity to relax, swap ideas, and enjoy each other’s company.



Photo: Supplied.

Naturally, the Circle of Men is always keen to welcome new members. This is to service existing aged care facilities, and, to offer our services to additional facilities who approach us for inclusion.

Interested parties are invited to drop in for a Thursday coffee where president, Mick Kilmartin, will be more than happy to outline our procedures. Alternatively, contact secretary Kevin James on 0490 105 715 or [info@circleofmenqld.com](mailto:info@circleofmenqld.com).





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# LOCAL GARDENING WITH KAT

## BASIL AND THE BEES: PERENNIAL BASIL

BY KAT PEARSON, *GIRL IN THE GREEN*

Are you looking for something that flowers all year round, brings in lots of bees, has minimum pests and diseases, is low maintenance, and best of all, is easy to start again if you do happen to kill it? Well, do I have a plant for you!

Perennial basil. Smells fabulous, is always smothered in flowers and bees, home and birthplace to many an alien-looking praying mantis and super easy to grow from cuttings.

I will concede some people probably aren't terribly excited about being surrounded by bees – understood. Though for the record, I brush against the perennial basil, thick with bees, surrounding my washing line all the time and I've never been stung, they're far too busy collecting pollen.

As always common names can be a little confusing, and there are a few plants called perennial basil. The one I'm referring to is a cross between *Ocimum basilicum* and *O.kilimandscharicum*. It's also very similar to African blue basil and I use them both interchangeably in the garden. The leaves are small and very strongly scented. You can eat it like sweet basil, but I generally find it too strong and am happy just to smell it as I walk by.

Untended, plants will grow to 1.5m high – but beware, it's not the most structurally sound plant when it gets this tall and a good heavy shower of rain will have it flopping over and snapping stems. If it does, prune it hard and it will re-shoot, or you can prune (or hedge) it every few months to keep it more compact. If you want more plants, simply snip off a semi-woody stem, stick it in the ground and keep it damp. Voila!



Photo by Kat Pearson.

### ABOUT KAT

I love gardening, growing my own food and plants in general. I've been working on our current garden in subtropical Brisbane for the last five years but have been gardening for much longer in all sorts of places. I'm an ex-engineer, recently turned horticulturist (life's too short not to work in something you love!). I grow edibles and ornamentals in an often wild, rambling jungle, filled with birds and bugs, including a handful of pet chooks and a dog (though to be honest you're more likely to find him inside on the couch). Find out more at [www.girlinthegreen.com.au](http://www.girlinthegreen.com.au).



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# KEVIN HUGHES RECOGNISED FOR OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE

Local Redland identities are honoured annually in the Redland City Council Australia Day Awards, which are a regular reminder of the talent, commitment and good will that exist in the region. The 2024 awards included the usual rich crop of musicians, charity workers, supporters of sports, reconciliation, youth and the aged – and an individual who has committed himself to several community causes.

Kevin Hughes BM received the Environment and Sustainability Award for his work with Endangered Species Supporters Australia, an organisation that he founded, but he has interests that extend beyond that.

From early childhood Kevin wanted to fly, preferring a trip to the aerodrome over a trip to the beach as a weekend treat. The passion has lasted; he is about to undertake studies in the science of aviation. A military veteran and pilot, Kevin’s personal experience led him to take an active interest in the mental health and welfare of retired military personnel and their families.

“Mental health is an important issue for me,” he says. “Been there, done that and have seen mates suffer from it.”

Kevin gives support to White Ribbon Australia, the Black Dog Institute and the Bravery Trust, a national military charity which provides current and ex-serving members of the Australian Defence Force with financial aid, financial education and financial counselling. He also actively assists veterans to gain the aid and support that is needed from Veterans Affairs.

“You speak a different language when you’re in the military and it can be really difficult to ‘de-tune’ when you leave, particularly for the veteran who’s physically or mentally wounded,” he says.

“You’ve been fed and clothed by the military and you can lose the sense of what the outside world is like. It can be daunting for the individual and the whole family.”

He says that his concern for the environment grew out of an awareness he developed after leaving his nine years’ service in the military.

“I got my commercial pilot’s license and took up work in the Tanami Desert in Western Australia, which was my introduction to living with the local Indigenous Wurrumanu people.

“I found their knowledge of native animals and their skills in tracking, hunting and fishing just fascinating. I came away from that experience wanting to educate people about the importance – and the fragility – of our native environment. Do you know we have one of the highest rates of endangered species in the world? We forget that we’re part of that eco-system, we depend on it and if you take away one part it will affect the whole structure.

“As an industrial society and as individuals we need to be more aware of the amount of rubbish that we generate; what we consume and what we throw away. If education doesn’t work maybe we need stiffer penalties – the hip pocket is always a good trigger!”

Kevin applauds the work being done by native animal welfare and rescue groups and says more of the same attitude would serve the community well.



Photo: Supplied.

“We need to be less selfish and remember that it’s not all about us; it’s about the animals and the eco-system and our future generations.”

### ABOUT KEVIN

Kevin is the founder of Endangered Species Supporters Australia and has taken the lead in inspiring others to learn about Australia’s unique ecosystem. He recently travelled around the country to raise awareness about the importance of preserving the natural environment. This involved visiting schools to educate students on the role they can play in protecting native wildlife.

He has been invited on both television and radio to speak about how a well-balanced ecosystem purifies the environment, giving us clean air to breathe and a healthy water system to support diverse marine life.

Kevin is also an 18-year veteran of the State Emergency Service and an ambassador for various organisations.



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# WARM LAMB AND COUSCOUS SALAD RECIPE

Summer is all about salads, but in the transition to winter, autumn is the perfect time to whip up a warm salad to serve as a hearty lunch or dinner.

### INGREDIENTS

- 500g of lamb loin or leg meat, sliced to around 1cm thick
- 1 cup couscous
- 1 1/2 cups chicken stock
- 1 red capsicum, diced
- 1 zucchini, diced
- 1 small red onion, finely chopped
- A handful of cherry tomatoes
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 teaspoon cumin
- 1 teaspoon sweet paprika
- Salt and pepper to taste
- Juice of 1 lemon
- 1/4 cup fresh parsley, chopped
- 1/4 cup fresh mint leaves, chopped
- Optional: crumbled feta or goat cheese to serve

### METHOD

1. First, you'll need to marinate the lamb. Combine the olive oil, minced garlic, cumin, paprika, salt, pepper, and lemon juice in a bowl. Add the thinly sliced lamb and mix it into the marinade. Let the marinade work its magic in the fridge for at least 30 minutes.
2. Now make the couscous. Bring the chicken stock to a boil in a medium saucepan, remove it from the heat, and stir in the couscous. Cover the saucepan with a lid and let it sit for about five minutes, allowing the couscous to absorb the liquid. Fluff the couscous with a fork to separate the grains. Put the lid back on to keep it warm.
3. It's time to cook the lamb! Heat a large frying pan over medium-high heat. Add the marinated lamb slices to the pan and cook for about three minutes on each side or until the lamb is cooked to your liking. Remove the lamb from the pan, cover it with foil, and set it aside.
4. Using the same frying pan over a medium-low heat (add more olive oil if needed), sauté the diced red and yellow capsicums, zucchini, cherry tomatoes and the chopped red onion until tender, for about five minutes.
5. In a large bowl, combine the cooked couscous, sautéed vegetables, and chopped herbs (parsley and mint).
6. Add the lamb to the couscous and vegetable mixture once it is cooked. Toss gently to combine all the ingredients.
7. Serve on a large platter or individual plates, and top with crumbled feta or goat cheese (optional).





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# THERE IS SQUID GALORE CLOSE TO SHORE THIS MONTH!

BY SPERO KARTANOS

Well, if you're like me and love the old calamari for dinner, this is the time of year to start catching them, and they'll be in excellent numbers throughout the bay. You'll even find them around the rock wall at Manly Harbour. If you go for a walk near the rock wall, you'll spot the black ink marks everywhere – especially near the lights where fisherman have been catching them – as squid are attracted to bright lights at night. High tide is the best time to try fishing for squid at the wall and around the marinas and jetties.

For those who can get out on a boat, you should find plenty of tiger squid at the southern end of Green Island and in front of the Victoria Point Jetty. In most cases, they'll be in a metre to a metre-and-a-half of water. The Rous Channel and the Small Boat Channel always have plenty of tiger squid when the turtles and sharks are not eating them, and the Rainbow Channel has lots of small arrow squid, but most squid around the bay are tiger squid at this time of year.

Further out, Moreton Island, at the entrance to the Blue Hole and in the Blue Hole, will also have plenty of squid on offer, so there's no reason not to get a few this time of year.

The red and orange tiger prawn-coloured jigs work the best; the squid will be very aggressive as it's mating season, so be ready for two or more to attack the jigs.

So, all you need is a whiting rod, 10 to 12lb line and a couple of good squid jigs, and you can have calamari for dinner.

Whiting and flathead will be around the banks between the Chain Banks and Maroom, and the school mackerel action is starting to heat up with the cooler weather setting in — not that we had a bad summer when it comes to mackerel. Good fishing!



Photos: Spero Kartanos.



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# MARINE RESCUE QUEENSLAND STARTS IN JULY

BY HARVEY SHORE

The Queensland government is proceeding with plans to amalgamate all Coast Guard and Volunteer Marine Rescue (VMR) units into one new organisation called Marine Rescue Queensland (MRQ).

MRQ will be an independent volunteer organisation under the authority of the Queensland Water Police.

It will continue to deliver all marine rescue and safety services currently provided by VMR and the Coast Guard.

The government says the purpose of merging these two organisations into one body is to simplify community safety. The government intends to pay for all operational and administration costs involved with MRQ, including new uniforms and new boats, and to ensure all MRQ volunteers receive the same marine rescue training and protections, well-being and support services as do members of Queensland's Police Service.

The government has been working for several years on MRQ. It intends to put the proposed legislation before parliament on 7 May, have it proclaimed on 3 June, and officially launch MRQ on 1 July 2024.

New uniforms, badges and branding for MRQ have already been designed. Last month, a new Chief Officer for MRQ was appointed by the Minister for Police and Community Safety, Mark Ryan. He is Tony Wulff, a Melbourne businessman. He has no Marine Rescue qualifications nor experience working with Marine Rescue volunteers, but he is very experienced in transformation and change. People working with him say he's very focused on bringing all Marine Rescue volunteers into MRQ as efficiently as possible.

The government intends to roll out MRQ in stages to ensure it is 'bedded in' and working properly across the state. The first stage of the roll-out begins in Far North Queensland in July. The VMR and Coast Guard units in Moreton Bay and Redlands are expected to start their transition into MRQ in December 2024.



MRQ Chief Officer Tony Wulff.



Photos: Supplied.

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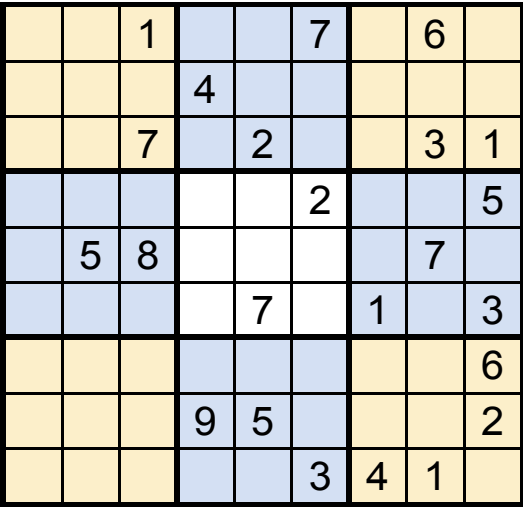
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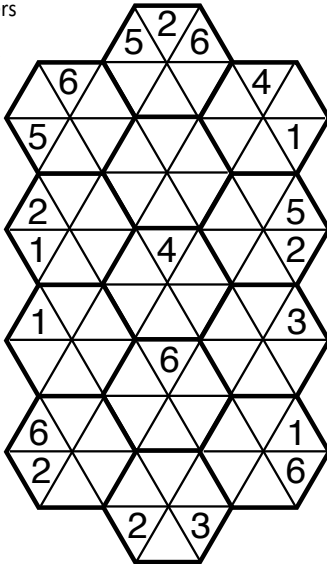
Sudoku

Fill in the blank cells using numbers from 1 to 9. Each number can only appear once in each row, column and 3x3 block.

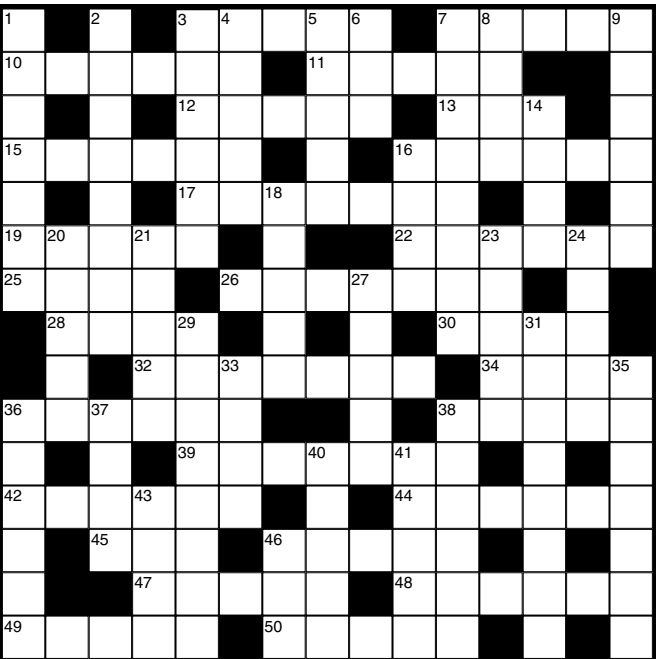


Quick Workout

Fit the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 into the hexagons so that where the hexagons touch, the numbers will be the same. No number is repeated in any hexagon.



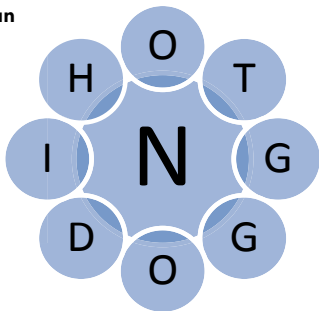
Crossword



Focus An All Australian Word Game

- \* Each word must contain the centre 'Focus' letter and each letter may be used only once
- \* Each word must be four letters or more
- \* Find at least one nine letter word
- \* No swear words
- \* No verb forms or plurals ending in 's'
- \* No proper nouns and no hyphenated words

TODAY'S Good: 12 words  
FOCUS Very good: 19 words  
Excellent: 26 words



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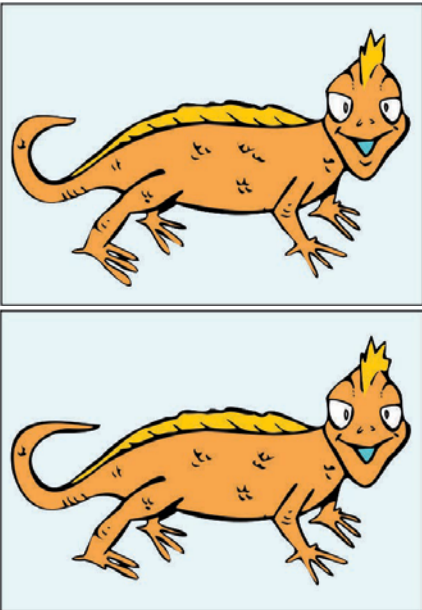
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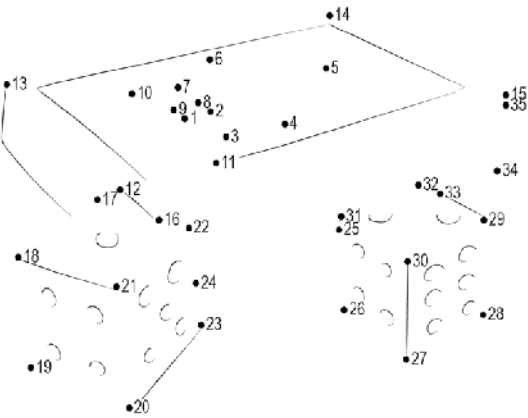
Reference: Macquarie Concise Dictionary  
Focus No. 3880

Spot the 5 Differences



Join the Dots

What is this? Find out by joining the dots.



ACROSS

- 3 Passageway between seats  
7 Underwater worker  
10 Inn  
11 Church office bearer  
12 Of a duke  
13 Mild explosion  
15 Cattle trough  
16 Give to charity  
17 Retributive justice  
19 Break out  
22 Scottish musicians  
25 Actual  
26 Card game  
28 Mean neighbourhood  
30 Token  
32 Errand  
34 Finds fault constantly  
36 Temper a metal  
38 Scatter

- 39 Beginning to exist  
42 Strongly built  
44 Severe trial  
45 Bishop's territory  
46 Boat  
47 Incendiarism  
48 Harsh  
49 Snares  
50 Headwear

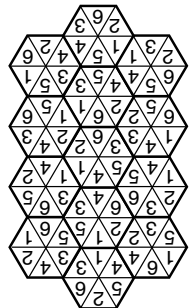
DOWN

- 1 Speech defect  
2 Ultimate  
3 Fiery  
4 Come into use  
5 Letting contract  
6 Old cloth measure  
7 Puts down  
8 Metal  
9 Alcove  
14 Wan

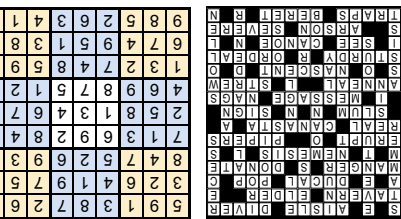
- 16 Immerses  
18 Expresses suffering  
20 Plant secretion  
21 Showy feather  
23 Colouring agent  
24 Scope  
27 Fish with rod and line  
29 Wanders aimlessly  
31 Outdoor worker  
33 Kill  
35 Distended  
36 Aid  
37 Intellect  
38 Thoroughfare  
40 Bird  
41 Hangman's rope  
43 Harvest  
46 Male swan

Solutions

Puzzles and pagination supplied by Auspac Media



FOCUS: ding ding ding doing doing doing going going  
GOODNIGHT good hind hind hong honing ingot into  
nigh night nodi onto thin thing thing thong tigon ting  
moved, bottom lip missing, extra spike on head.  
SPOT THE 5 DIFFERENCES: Tail longer, missing toe, scales



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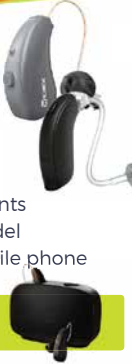
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# WHO CARES IF I'VE LOST A TOOTH?

FROM DENTAL ON CAMBRIDGE

**It may seem like losing a tooth – especially one that's not easily visible – isn't such a big deal. But did you know that there are several significant consequences to losing a tooth, especially to the orofacial complex and to the shape of your face over time?**

The consequences include a loss of bone volume and density, which accelerates the appearance of facial aging, overloading and movement of the remaining teeth, which can increase the risk of residual tooth fracture, bite disturbances, and gum disease. Additionally, chewing, speaking, and smiling can be difficult, and there is even an increased risk of further tooth loss.

When a tooth is lost, leaving a gap in the dental arch, the teeth on either side of that missing tooth start to drift into the remaining gap. More detrimentally, however, is when the opposite tooth over- erupts into the gap, as it has no opposing tooth to keep it in place. Unfortunately, this often leads to the loss of an additional tooth over time. The end result is the loss of not just one tooth but two teeth!

So, how can you bridge a gap to prevent this? Traditionally, gaps were 'bridged' by an artificial tooth attached to the teeth on either side of the gap with crowns. This is a great solution for many people, especially when the teeth on either side of the gap have been weakened by decay, fillings, or cracks over time and could benefit from the reinforcement of the crown anyway. However, if these teeth either side of the gap are in very good condition, it could be considered unnecessary treatment to crown these teeth when a dental implant could be placed in the gap as a stand-alone tooth replacement.

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# To gift or not to gift? What about your pension?

BY LAURENCE SMITH, FINANCIAL ADVISER, UEM WEALTH

With Australia’s age pension being subject to an assets and income test, giving away some assets is often viewed as a simple way for part-pensioners, or individuals who do not qualify for age pension (due to excessive assets), to increase or receive some level of pension payment.

Not surprisingly, the government is on to such an obvious strategy. It’s called gifting, and while it is perfectly legal for you to give away whatever you want whenever you want, if you exceed the relevant limits, Centrelink will continue to assess what it calls “deprived assets” for five years.

Gifting is defined as giving away assets or transferring them for less than their market value. Limits are the same for both singles and couples. If you give away less than \$10,000 within a single financial year and no more than \$30,000 over five consecutive financial years, Centrelink will disregard these gifts. Any gifts in excess of the allowable amount will be assessed as an asset (and, where applicable, subject to the income test) for a period of five years from when the gift was made.

These rules don’t just apply to existing pensioners. They also concern anyone applying for the age pension, as recent retiree Frank discovered.

Frank has reached age pension age, and based on his current assets and income he should be eligible for a part pension. However:

- Four years ago, he gave his daughter one of his cars, valued at \$25,000.
- At the same time, he gave his son \$25,000 in cash to match the value of the car.
- Two years ago, Frank sold a beach house on the open market for \$210,000. This was \$40,000 less than the initial valuation from the estate agent.
- In the past year, he spent \$35,000 on home renovations and \$15,000 on an overseas trip.

What does this mean for his pension assessment?

The money spent on renovations and holidays counts as normal living expenses, not a gift. Likewise, with \$210,000 being the best offer Frank received for his holiday home after it had been on the market for a couple of months, the property would not be considered to have been disposed of for less than its market value.

While he understands that the money he gave to his son is clearly a gift, Frank’s biggest surprise is the treatment of the car. Four years after he gave it to his daughter, it’s about to be treated by Centrelink as an asset Frank still owns.

That means Frank gave away \$50,000 in one year. The annual ‘Gifting Free Area’ is \$10,000 within a single financial year, so the difference, \$40,000, will be assessed as an asset for the next year. This

will reduce his pension by more than \$100 per fortnight.

If Frank had thought about his pension five years before he was eligible to apply for it, he could have achieved a better outcome.

To gift or not to gift? It’s an intricate question. The right answer depends very much on personal circumstances, so talk to your financial planner. They can help you work through all the issues, including the complex calculations of the impact of multiple gifts over several years.

**Disclaimer**  
General Advice Warning - this is untailored, general advice. It does not take into account your personal circumstances. You need to decide whether it meets your needs. Laurence Smith is an Authorised Representative and UEM Wealth Pty Ltd is a Corporate Authorised Representative of Lifespan Financial Planning Pty Ltd (AFSL 229892). Laurence Smith may offer services through UEM Wealth and UEM Group. Accounting services are provided by UEM Group. Financial Services (financial product advice and dealing) are provided by UEM Wealth. To the extent permitted by law, although the same adviser may offer you services under the above business, each business is solely and separately responsible for the advice they each provide.



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