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CAMDEN HAVEN LOCAL news

HOLIDAY EDITION

LAURIETON | NORTH HAVEN | DUNBOGAN | KEW | KENDALL | BONNY HILLS | LAKE CATHIE | COMBOYNE

FREE | DEC 2024/JAN 2025

The season of giving.

In Camden Haven, the spirit of giving runs deep, with volunteers forming the backbone of many local initiatives. Their efforts touch every corner of the community, making a tangible difference in the lives of residents. From assisting families in need to supporting recreational and social projects, these volunteers embody selflessness and dedication.

The region's vibrant Op Shops are a perfect example, run entirely by volunteers who not only sort and sell donated items but also generate essential funding for community services. Meanwhile, Riding for the Disabled (RDA) provides a unique space for people with disabilities to experience therapeutic horse riding, enriching their physical and emotional well-being, all thanks to passionate volunteers.

Community projects such as Beach to Beach and Bridge to Bridge showcase the collective strength of Camden Haven, as volunteers rally to organise, manage, and promote these popular construction works. Participating in the organisation of these civic works foster unity while raising awareness.

Another initiative, Aussie Battlers, works quietly but powerfully, supporting families facing financial hardships by providing emergency assistance.

Community@3 offers crucial help to the homeless, ensuring individuals receive meals, companionship, and support when they need it most. Their efforts reflect the kindness and compassion that defines the compassionate Camden Haven way of life.

In respect of International Volunteer Day (Dec 5) we are celebrating the Camden Haven community's volunteers



This community in particular would not be what it is without the invaluable help of groups such as Marine Rescue keeping the waterways safe, the SES who helped immensely when massive floods impacted hundreds of homes a few years ago, and are always on call. The Fireies at the various RFS units in our valley always at the ready to answer when called, and continuously keeping the bush and roadsides safe with controlled burnoffs and clearing. And all other volunteer based emergency responders.

Organisations such as Rotary also play a pivotal role in the community. Their volunteers tirelessly raise funds for both local

and international projects, addressing diverse needs, from disaster relief to education programs. Rotary's initiatives ensure that Camden Haven stays connected to global causes while keeping a strong focus on the local community by funding local schools, RFS, Aussie Battlers and Community@3.

And not to mention all the mums and dads putting their time into their kids sports clubs, teams and organisations.

Camden Haven thrives because of its volunteers. Well done, one and all.

Now is the time to declutter and donate any spare items to Op Shops and enjoy the feeling of giving this holiday season.

Merry Christmas from your caring team at Sundial Dental.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support in 2024 and we hope everyone has a safe and joy filled Christmas and New Year.



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Happenings on the home front.

Sometimes the natural environment needs a helping hand.

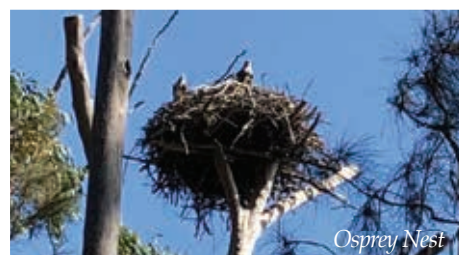
Environmental Citizen of the Year, Peter Berecny OAM, is renowned for his dedication to preserving nature and his commitment to community projects. Recently, Peter, along with a team of environmentalists and arborists, assisted Landcare in repairing a beloved osprey nest in Lakeview Crescent, West Haven. This nest has been a vital site for supporting multiple seasons of osprey breeding and fledging over the past six years.

The original nest, installed by lead arborist James Stapleton, had begun to show signs of wear from storms and seasonal use. Known

as the "osprey whisperer," James brings a unique skill set to the delicate task of building and maintaining osprey habitats. His love of the species ensures the nests are safe, sturdy, and perfectly suited to the birds' needs.

The repair effort involved careful planning and execution to minimise disruption to the ospreys' breeding cycle. The team reinforced the platform and restored the structure to its former glory.

This collaborative effort highlights the importance of community involvement in conservation and the role of dedicated



individuals like Peter Berecny and James Stapleton in protecting local wildlife. Their work ensures the Mid North Coast remains a sanctuary for these majestic birds.

Luke Hadfield takes leadership of the Chamber of Commerce.

"I'm truly humbled to be chosen as President of the Camden Haven Chamber of Commerce.

This organisation has done so much to foster growth and community spirit in our area, and to have the opportunity to lead it is a privilege I hold in high regard."

"I'm looking forward to working closely with our dedicated members to continue building a vibrant and resilient local economy. There's so much potential here, and I'm eager to help Camden Haven businesses thrive and support one another."

Kind regards, Luke



Poetry on the Lawn.

A sunny Sunday afternoon in John's River saw the inaugural arts event at Falls Forest Retreat. Hugh and Alicia welcomed the community to their property for Poetry on the Lawn. Each month, they hope to host a free, themed function aimed to attract those wanting to share their creative side. Alicia calls this a micro community gathering and a place to share your passion.

Those people wishing to share their poetry, took to the handmade throne, one of Hugh's creations, to voice their own works or chose works that resonated with them.

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Rotary Club of Laurieton BOOK SALE



4th-18th January • 10am-4pm each day
(3pm close on the 18th)

Scout Hall 3 Tunis St

Most books \$2 plus children book bargains
Quality book donations accepted



A colourful entrepreneurial environmental saver.

Angela Carroll's journey with Lids 4 Kids began four years ago with a small collection from family and friends. Initially, she donated the plastic lids to a local high school in Port Macquarie, where students created a vibrant mural for the playground. But when the school stopped the project, Angela was left with nowhere to send the lids, and she became concerned that they would end up in landfill.

Determined to find a sustainable solution, Angela discovered Lids 4 Kids (L4K) online. The organisation's mission matched her goals, and she connected with a volunteer who transports lids from Queensland to Canberra, where L4K's headquarters turn them into useful products like garden furniture, clipboards and skateboards.

From humble beginnings - just four or five boxes - Angela's collection recently grew to 44 boxes in a single pickup. She collects lids from local coffee shops, schools, aged care centers, and even hotels, sorting them by color and type. Beer and wine tops, saved in tin cans, are also sent to L4K, where proceeds from recycling support the program.

Those wishing to contribute can drop lids at several local coffee shops, helping Angela keep thousands of plastic lids out of waterways and landfills, one collection at a time.

The Lids collected include those from Milk Bottle Tops - both fresh milk and Long Life Milk, and Tops from Juice. Tops from Cream, Yogurt, Washing Detergent etc. are not acceptable as the machinery is only able to crush the smaller lids. Drop points are the Services Clubs, Riverview Cafe in North Haven, Bold Espresso in Laurieton and Bliss Coffee Shop in the Medical Complex behind Woolies in Lakewood.



Selection of Lids



Angela Carroll with some recycled product

Laurieton Library Events

DECEMBER 2024

Thursday Dec 5, and Dec 12. 10am - 11am

BABY BOUNCE

Join us at your local library for fun songs, rhymes, finger play, and music for infants from birth to 1 year.

Tuesday Dec 3 and Dec 10. 10am-11am

STORY TIME.

Join us at your local library for some wonderful stories and great fun. Suitable for ages 3-5 years, with parent / carer.

Thursday Dec 5 and Dec 19. 10am-12pm

Mobile Library Van @ Lake Cathie

(Lake Cathie Community Centre Lot 3 Mulloway Drive)

www.mnclibrary.org.au

JANUARY 2025

Thursday TBA 10am - 11am - Check website

BABY BOUNCE

Join us at your local library for fun songs, rhymes, finger play, and music for infants from birth to 1 year.

Tuesday TBA 10am-11am - Check website

STORY TIME.

Join us at your local library for some wonderful stories and great fun. Suitable for ages 3-5 years, with parent / carer.

Thursday Jan 2 and Jan 16. 10am-12pm

Mobile Library Van @ Lake Cathie

(Lake Cathie Community Centre Lot 3 Mulloway Drive)

www.mnclibrary.org.au

Letter to the Editor.

Dear Sir,

Re: Celebrating your town.

It is nearly 17 years since we visited your beautiful town. Last time we were here we met a lovely gentleman at your wonderful Plaza Theatre. We were so impressed with the theatre and the help he was by telling us all the great things to go and do.

We had to return to the theatre to see him and thank him so much for making our visit so memorable. But when we went back last week we were told he had left many years ago and moved on.

But as we walked across the road we

noticed a sign at your museum of an up and coming event. (Editor's note: Laurieton Voices).

We are keen singers ourselves, my husband I, and are in a local choral group back in California.

So we went along and enjoyed every minute. We were very impressed with their song selection for the age group. Well done to all who sang and the food was a banquet fit for royalty. We hope the local community supports both these places.

If we lived here we would join the choir, we may think of our future.

Happy Travellers, **Peter and Leonie Howard**

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Camden Haven's origins.

by Diane Solomon Westerhuis

The name Camden Haven is currently acknowledged by the Geographical Name Register of NSW as the name of a parish, a river, an estuary and an inlet, a trig station, two parks and a school, all situated on the Mid-North Coast of New South Wales, approximately 30km south of Port Macquarie. Today there is no village or town named Camden Haven, although Kendall and Laurieton have both in the past been named Camden Haven, and in its earliest days Laurieton was called Peach Orchard. This curious history was somewhat confusing for postal services and telegraph lines, and is worth exploring.

This naming of Camden Haven began in the 2nd expedition of John Oxley (1784–1828) who prudently named places after important people. In 1818, Oxley had turned east to the coast following the Hastings River, which he named for the then Governor General of India. He named Port Macquarie after his employer, Governor Lachlan Macquarie (1762–1824). Travelling south down the coast, the (boatless) expedition was blocked by our wide estuary

mouth. He explored around the entrance and Queens Lake into what he described as 'the haven, which we named after Lord Camden.' A haven, in the British naval language of the day, described a harbour or port. Lord Camden was John Jeffreys Pratt, 2nd Earl and First Marquess of Camden (1759–1840), then Teller of the Exchequer. Oxley also named Queens Lake (after Queen Charlotte) and Watson Taylors Lake, after Lord Camden's Private Secretary, George Watson Taylor (1771–1841).

Although Port Macquarie was established as a penal settlement in 1821, The Camden Haven named by Oxley

remained relatively remote for some time. Occasional lime burners came into the estuary to reap shell for lime to be used in buildings in Port Macquarie. Convicts and bushrangers were intermittently reported in the area, and in 1832 the NSW Postal Directory designated a 'Soldiers' hut' at the base of North Brother. Oysters were frequently harvested and shipped to Sydney. However it was not until the 1870s, when timber getters travelled through the hinterland and down the rivers, that people began to settle here. It was then that Camden Haven became a flexible name for various locations. We can follow the name changes through government publications of the times.

In 1875 the Post Office asked for tenders for mail delivery to and from Camden Haven and (Peach Orchard) Laurieton, twice a week. This clarifies that at that time, Camden Haven and Laurieton were two different places and that Laurieton was also known as Peach Orchard.

By 1882 Peach Orchard consisted of a post and telegraph office, a public school, several dwelling houses, and a sawmill: 'The settlement came into existence about seven years ago, and received, from the Postmaster-General of the day, the name of Laurieton, in compliment to Mr. Laurie, the proprietor of the mill, together with other public works on the Manning.'

In 1889, the New South Wales Government Gazette described the boundaries of Camden

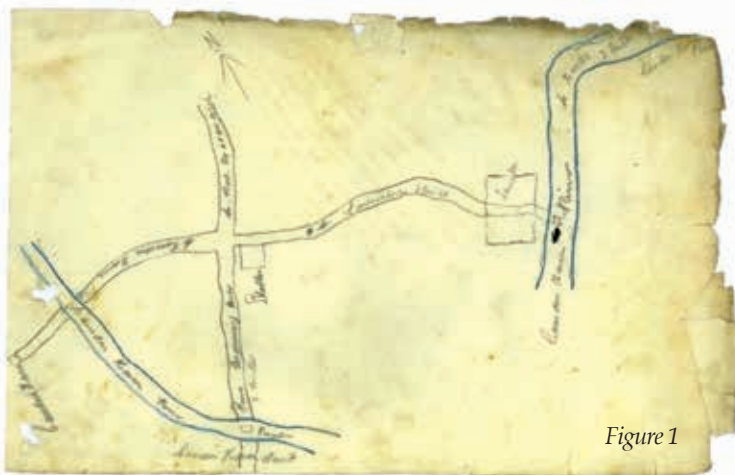


Figure 1

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the Minister for Lands officially declared the alteration of the name of the village of Camden Haven to Laurieton in the Government Gazette.

So today we have the villages of Laurieton (on the inlet) and Kendall (up the river),

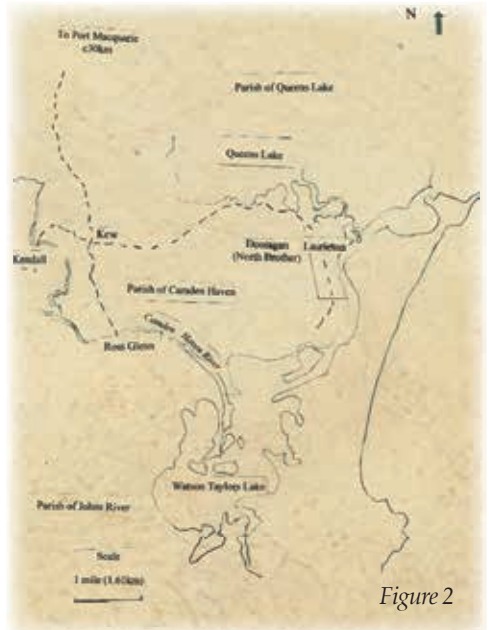


Figure 2

(See Figure 2) in the Parish of Camden Haven. There is no village named Camden Haven. It makes you wonder if people at the time ever received their mail. Other villages in or near the parish have interesting place names, to be a following story in a later edition.



Early infrastructure

Haven as 'Commencing at the waters of Camden Haven Inlet at the north-east corner of portion 72, and between Austral, Norman, Castle and Short Streets.'

Even officials of the time became confused; for example, in 1890 when considering a petition for a telephone connection, a petitioner sent the Superintendent of Telegraphs a sketch map of the locations to clarify place names (see Figure 1). Mr A. Thomson wrote 'that the petition refers to a place locally known as the 'Stables', which is situated 6 miles from Laurieton 2 miles from Camden Haven Punt and 1½ miles from Camden Haven.'

In 1891 the village further up the river changed its name, to honour the once-resident poet, Henry Kendall, and so the names of post offices were changed. Following this, an attempt at clarification was made by the Post

Office, with these three notices in the *New South Wales Government Gazette*:

General Post Office, Sydney, 10th September, 1891, On and from the 1st proximo, the Post and Telegraph Office at present known as "Laurieton" and the Post Office known as "Camden Haven", will bear the designations of "Camden Haven" and "Kendall" respectively.

General Post Office, Sydney, 21st September, 1891, It is hereby notified that the designation of the Post and Telegraph Office at Laurieton will not be changed to "Camden Haven" as intimated in a notice dated 10th instant, but remain at present "Laurieton".

General Post Office, Sydney, 23rd October, 1891, On and from the 1st proximo, the Post Office at present known as "Camden Haven Punt", will bear the designation of "Camden Haven".

Yet it was not until 13 December 1946 that

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Community Chit Chat.

From real life issues to seeing time fly by.

Extra red bin trial for Xmas.

Port Macquarie Hastings Council (PMHC) is spreading festive cheer this December by trialing weekly general waste (red bin) collections for six weeks, from December 23 to January 31. This initiative aims to help households manage the increased waste typically generated over Christmas and New Year. The extra red bin service complements the usual weekly green bin collections and the yellow bin recycling service, which already runs weekly between December 23 and January 3.

Mayor Adam Roberts championed the trial, highlighting the need for improved waste management during this busy season.

Residents are urged to utilise the WasteInfo App which can be found on Council's website. <https://www.pmhc.nsw.gov.au/home>

Kayakers still paddling away.

In late October, 8 paddlers set off for the Kundabung picnic area and as they paddled, they passed patches of flowering water lilies and were serenaded by the fan tailed cuckoos and a plethora of other birds hidden from view in the surrounding bush.

Upstream they were pleased to find that a large tree trunk, that blocked the way on a previous outing on this creek, had been cut away, allowing them to continue upstream to the farthest navigable part of the creek. After passing under both a road and rail bridge they stopped for morning tea. And it continued.

While the paddle was relatively short at 8kms, it was one of loveliest paddles done this year. More info about this great activity can be sourced at Kendall Community Boatshed.



A nation's first in our skies.

On Saturday, November 9, the Barrington Coast Airshow transformed Taree's skies into a spectacle of aviation history and aerobatic prowess. The event attended by over 5000 enthusiasts, marked the first Australian appearance of a meticulously restored Supermarine Mk VIII Spitfire (above), captivating audiences with its storied legacy and engineering excellence.

The airshow featured continuous aerobatic displays and flyovers by an array of historic warbirds, including the P-40 Kittyhawk, Australia's sole Hawker Sea Fury, the formidable Grumman Avenger, the iconic Wirraway, and the T-28 Trojan. Notably, the event showcased the debut performances of the F4U Corsair, renowned for its distinctive gull wings and formidable reputation, and the De Havilland Vampire, a pioneer of the jet age.

Aerobatic virtuoso Paul Bennet and his team delivered exhilarating performances, with Bennet executing a solo routine in the 400hp Wolf Pitts Pro biplane. The team further

impressed spectators with a three-ship Pitts Sky Aces formation, demonstrating precision and skill. Bennet's daring stunt of landing an aircraft atop a moving vehicle added to the day's thrills.

Beyond the aerial displays, attendees engaged with interactive exhibits, explored aircraft up close, perused market stalls, and enjoyed a car and motorcycle show. The event offered a comprehensive experience for aviation enthusiasts.

The photographs featured were shot by hobby photographer, Mel New, who your editor met on the transport into the

Show. She was carrying what looked like a bazooka, but was in fact a very large new lens she was trialling. Mel usually photographs birds and landscapes and this was her first attempt at "war" birds. An admirable result.

To view more of Mel's work visit: <https://www.facebook.com/p/Unique-Prints-by-Mel-100094928778222/> OR: <https://www.instagram.com/uniqueprintsbymel/>

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Pets in paradise.

Keeping your pets safe during the Australian summer heat.

As the Australian summer heats up, it's vital to keep our pets cool and safe. Just like us, they're affected by the heat, and some are more vulnerable than others, so keep them comfy in the sun.

Know the signs of heatstroke.

Pets can suffer from heatstroke, which occurs when their body temperature rises dangerously high. Animals with thick coats, breathing issues, or short noses (like pugs or bulldogs) are at higher risk. Watch for excessive panting, drooling, red gums, weakness, or vomiting. If you notice any of these signs, cool them with tepid (not icy) water and get them to a vet.

Tips to keep your pets cool.

Exercise at Cooler Times: Walk pets early in the morning or late evening when it's cooler. Avoid hot surfaces like asphalt – if it's too hot for your hand, it's too hot for their paws.

Shade and Fresh Water: Make sure your pet has access to shaded areas and plenty of fresh water. Indoors is best on extremely hot days, especially if you have air conditioning.

Never Leave Them in Cars or Utes: Leaving pets in vehicles can be life-threatening within minutes. Likewise, avoid letting them ride in ute trays on hot days, as the metal surface can burn them.

Sun Protection: Light-colored pets can get sunburned, so limit sun exposure and consider pet-safe sunscreen for extra protection.

Don't forget small animals.

Smaller pets like rabbits, guinea pigs, and birds are also prone to overheating. Keep them in shaded, ventilated areas with access to fresh water and bring them inside on very hot days.

With a bit of planning, you can help your pet stay safe and cool through the summer. Watching for any signs of heat stress and staying mindful of their needs will ensure they enjoy the season right by your side.



Ruby

Ruby. The doggy doorbell.

by Sarah H.

As I arrive to interview Ruby, I am greeted by an excited, jumping, yapping ball of joy at the front door. I must now go through the Greeting Ritual of patting Ruby and being welcomed into her home. This completed, the interview can begin.

Sarah: Ruby, you seem a very happy puppy, what especially gives you joy?

Ruby: Visitors, I love them, I get so excited I can't control myself until they have gone through the Greeting Ritual.

Sarah: And what doesn't give you joy?

Ruby: Puppies. I had two litters and they were so annoying. Very demanding. They wore me right out. I told my dads to look after them which, thankfully, they did. The

little monsters must have annoyed them too because they gave them to other people. I was so worried they were going to stay here forever and disturb my peace!

Sarah: Have you had any further contact with your puppies?

Ruby: We had them over for a reunion "Puppy Party". It was good to see they were healthy and happy but they were still annoying. Surely they could just have sent a pee-mail?!

Sarah: I understand you have always lived in the Camden Haven, any particular "Must-dos" for our visitors?

Ruby: Find yourself a friend with a boat. There is nothing more pleasant than puttering around the river and lagoon on a big punt with your dads by your side. Woof!

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All-on-Four Smile vs. Dentures: Which is Right for You?

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- Minimal Maintenance:

Requires the same care as natural teeth, no special adhesives or cleaning solutions.

- Immediate Results:

In many cases, new teeth are placed on the same day, offering an instant transformation.

Considerations: It involves surgery, which may not be suitable for everyone, especially those with health issues or insufficient bone density. Full healing can take several months. Health issues or insufficient bone density. Full healing can take several months.

What Are Dentures?

Dentures are removable prosthetics for replacing missing teeth and surrounding tissue. They come in complete or partial versions and rest on the gums, held by suction or adhesives.

Advantages of Dentures:

- Less Invasive:

Dentures don't require surgery and are a suitable option for those with health concerns.

- Flexibility:

Easily modified or replaced as your dental needs change.

Considerations: Dentures may slip or shift during eating or talking, causing discomfort or embarrassment. They don't stimulate the jawbone, leading to bone loss over time. They also require special care and need to be removed at night.

Which Option is Right for You?

Choosing between an All-on-Four Smile and dentures depends on your health, lifestyle, and expectations. All-on-Four offers a more durable and natural feel but involves surgery, while dentures are non-invasive and easier to replace but may lack stability.

Ultimately, the best option is one that aligns with your needs. Consult with your dentist to weigh the pros and cons and help you decide the smile of your future.

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THU DEC 5 6.30pm – 9.30pm
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1 Woodford Rd North Haven
www.clubnorthhaven.com.au

FRI DEC 6 2.00pm – 5.00pm
Laurieton Voices Christmas Concert
Conducted by Iain Pole
Laurieton School of Arts Hall
Tickets \$5 includes afternoon tea

FRI DEC 6 6.30pm Doors
GOOD QUESTION
Kendall Music Exchange
Featuring: Sue Lee, Ian Hamann & Julie Hamann
Kendall Community Hall - Comboyne St Kendall. \$5.00 Entry at the Door.

FRI DEC 6 6.30pm – 9.30pm
Steve B (*Live Music*)
Club Lake Cathie – 45 Evans Rd Lake Cathie
www.lakecathiebowlingclub.com.au

FRI DEC 6 8.00pm – 11.00pm
(*Live Music*)
Laurieton Hotel – 80 Bold St Laurieton
www.laurietonhotel.com.au

SAT DEC 7 6.30pm – 10.30pm
Rhys Callinan (*Live Music*)
Lake Cathie Tavern - 1609 Ocean Dr Lake Cathie
www.lakecathietavern.com.au

SAT DEC 7 8.00pm – 11.00pm
Laurieton Hotel – 80 Bold St Laurieton
www.laurietonhotel.com.au

SUN DEC 8 1.00pm – 4.00pm
Steve Bennett (*Live Music*)
Moo & Bean Kitchen & Bar
613 Ocean Dr North Haven

SUN DEC 8 2.00pm – 5.00pm
(*Live Music*)
Laurieton Hotel – 80 Bold St Laurieton
www.laurietonhotel.com.au

THU DEC 12 6.30pm – 9.30pm
Andrew "Besty" Betts (*Live Music*)
Club North Haven
1 Woodford Rd North Haven
www.clubnorthhaven.com.au

FRI DEC 13 6.30pm – 9.30pm
Shane Peters (*Live Music*)
Club Lake Cathie
www.lakecathiebowlingclub.com.au

SAT DEC 14 6.30pm – 10.30pm
Andrew "Besty" Betts (*Live Music*)
Lake Cathie Tavern
1609 Ocean Dr Lake Cathie
www.lakecathietavern.com.au

SAT DEC 14 8.00pm – 11.00pm
(*Live Music*)
Laurieton Hotel
80 Bold St Laurieton
www.laurietonhotel.com.au

10

SUN DEC 15 1.00pm – 4.00pm
PhiloMusica Christmas Concert
Kendall School of Arts
Featuring: Goetz Richter
Tix: Humanitix \$30

SUN DEC 15 1.00pm – 4.00pm
Al McLeod (*Live Music*)
Moo & Bean Kitchen & Bar
613 Ocean Dr North Haven

SUN DEC 15 2.00pm – 4.00pm
Camden Haven Concert Band & Laurieton Voices
Christmas Concert
LUSC – Seymour St Laurieton
Free Entry

SUN DEC 15 2.00pm – 5.00pm
(*Live Music*)
Laurieton Hotel – 80 Bold St Laurieton
www.laurietonhotel.com.au

THU DEC 19 6.30pm – 9.30pm
Tiarmon (*Live Music*)
Club North Haven
1 Woodford Rd North Haven
www.clubnorthhaven.com.au

THU DEC 19 11.00am – 1.00pm
Bubbles Christmas Cracker Comedy
LUSC – Seymour St Laurieton
Free Community Event

FRI DEC 20 6.30pm – 9.30pm
Pure Acoustic (*Live Music*)
Club Lake Cathie
www.lakecathiebowlingclub.com.au

SAT DEC 21 6.30pm – 10.30pm
Reuben Carr (*Live Music*)
Lake Cathie Tavern
1609 Ocean Dr Lake Cathie
www.lakecathietavern.com.au

SAT DEC 21 8.00pm – 11.00pm
(*Live Music*)
Laurieton Hotel – 80 Bold St Laurieton
www.laurietonhotel.com.au

SUN DEC 22 1.00pm – 4.00pm
Martin Becker (*Live Music*)
Moo & Bean Kitchen & Bar
613 Ocean Dr North Haven

SUN DEC 22 3.00pm – 6.00pm
Kyle Moore Duo (*Live Music Sunday Session*)
Club North Haven
1 Woodford Rd North Haven
www.clubnorthhaven.com.au

SUN DEC 22 2.00pm – 5.00pm
(*Live Music*)
Laurieton Hotel
80 Bold St Laurieton
www.laurietonhotel.com.au

THU DEC 26 6.30pm – 9.30pm
Gary King (*Live Music*)
Club North Haven
1 Woodford Rd North Haven
www.clubnorthhaven.com.au

FRI DEC 27 6.30pm – 9.30pm
Andrew "Besty" Best (*Live Music*)
Club Lake Cathie
www.lakecathiebowlingclub.com.au

SAT DEC 28 6.30pm – 10.30pm
Anthony Staines (*Live Music*)
Lake Cathie Tavern
1609 Ocean Dr Lake Cathie
www.lakecathietavern.com.au

SAT DEC 28 8.00pm – 11.00pm
(*Live Music*)
Laurieton Hotel – 80 Bold St Laurieton
www.laurietonhotel.com.au

SUN DEC 29 1.00pm – 4.00pm
Max Marvell (*Live Music*)
Moo & Bean Kitchen & Bar
613 Ocean Dr North Haven

SUN DEC 29 3.00pm – 6.00pm
Leigh I Anson (*Live Music Sunday Session*)
Club North Haven
1 Woodford Rd North Haven
www.clubnorthhaven.com.au

SUN DEC 29 2.00pm – 5.00pm
(*Live Music*)
Laurieton Hotel
80 Bold St Laurieton
www.laurietonhotel.com.au

TUE DEC 31
New Years Eve Kid's Disco 6.00pm – 7.30pm
Club Lake Cathie
www.lakecathiebowlingclub.com.au

TUE DEC 31
New Years Eve 80's Night 8.00pm – 12.00am
Club Lake Cathie
www.lakecathiebowlingclub.com.au

TUE DEC 31 7.00pm – Midnight
Andrew "Besty" Best & Andy Duo
(*Live Music*)
Lake Cathie Tavern
1609 Ocean Dr Lake Cathie
www.lakecathietavern.com.au

January 2025

THU JAN 2 6.30pm – 9.30pm
Brock Colley (*Live Music*)
Club North Haven
1 Woodford Rd North Haven
www.clubnorthhaven.com.au

FRI JAN 3 6.30pm – 9.30pm
Steve B (*Live Music*)
Club Lake Cathie
www.lakecathiebowlingclub.com.au

FRI JAN 3 6.30pm – 10.30pm
Reggie D (*Live Music*)
Lake Cathie Tavern
1609 Ocean Dr Lake Cathie
www.lakecathietavern.com.au

SAT JAN 4 8.00pm – 11.00pm
Thirsty Merc (*Live Music*)
LUSC – Seymour St Laurieton
Tix: \$52.50
(Under 18 accompanied by an adult)

SAT JAN 4 8.00pm – 11.00pm
(*Live Music*)
Laurieton Hotel – 80 Bold St Laurieton
www.laurietonhotel.com.au

SUN JAN 5 1.00pm – 4.00pm
(*Live Music*)
Moo & Bean Kitchen & Bar
613 Ocean Dr North Haven

SUN JAN 5 2.00pm – 5.00pm
(*Live Music*)
Laurieton Hotel – 80 Bold St Laurieton
www.laurietonhotel.com.au

What's on and gig guide.

WED JAN 8 7.30pm – 9.30pm

Ash Grunwald (Live Music)
LUSC – Seymour St Laurieton
Tix: Adults \$52.50, Under 16's \$27.50

THU JAN 9 6.30pm – 9.30pm

Gary King (Live Music)
Club North Haven
1 Woodford Rd North Haven
www.clubnorthhaven.com.au

THU JAN 9 7.30pm – 9.30pm

IWA Wrestling
LUSC – Seymour St Laurieton
Tix VIP \$31.50, Adults \$27.50, Kids \$20.50

FRI JAN 10 6.30pm – 9.30pm

Peter Ball (Live Music)
Club Lake Cathie
www.lakecathiebowlingclub.com.au

FRI JAN 10 6.30pm – 10.30pm

Andrew (Besty) Best (Live Music)
Lake Cathie Tavern
1609 Ocean Dr Lake Cathie
www.lakecathietavern.com.au

SAT JAN 11 7.00pm Start

FUNDRAISER – Kendall Music Exchange
Featuring: Glenly Ray
Kendall Community Hall - Comboyne St
Kendall. \$15 Entry at the Door.

SAT JAN 11 8.00pm – 11.00pm

(Live Music)
Laurieton Hotel – 80 Bold St Laurieton
www.laurietonhotel.com.au

SUN JAN 12 1.00pm – 4.00pm

(Live Music)
Moo & Bean Kitchen & Bar
613 Ocean Dr North Haven

SUN JAN 12 3.00pm – 6.00pm

Al McLeod (Live Music Sunday Session)
Club North Haven
1 Woodford Rd North Haven
www.clubnorthhaven.com.au

SUN JAN 12 2.00pm – 5.00pm

(Live Music)
Laurieton Hotel
80 Bold St Laurieton
www.laurietonhotel.com.au

TUE JAN 14 8.00pm – 11.00pm

Jimeoin (Comedian)
LUSC Seymour St Laurieton
Tix: 18+ \$56.50

THU JAN 16 6.30pm – 9.30pm

Pure Acoustic (Live Music)
Club North Haven
1 Woodford Rd North Haven
www.clubnorthhaven.com.au

FRI JAN 17 6.30pm – 9.30pm

Rockabillys (Live Music)
Club Lake Cathie
www.lakecathiebowlingclub.com.au

SAT JAN 18 8.00pm – 11.00pm

The Black Sorrows (Live Music)
LUSC – Seymour St Laurieton
Tix: \$52.50 (U18 Accompanied by an adult)

SAT JAN 18 8.00pm – 11.00pm

(Live Music)
Laurieton Hotel
80 Bold St Laurieton
www.laurietonhotel.com.au

SUN JAN 19 1.00pm – 4.00pm

(Live Music)
Moo & Bean Kitchen & Bar
613 Ocean Dr North Haven

SUN JAN 19 2.00pm – 5.00pm

(Live Music)
Laurieton Hotel
80 Bold St Laurieton
www.laurietonhotel.com.au

THU JAN 23 6.30pm – 9.30pm

Brody Ireland (Live Music)
Club North Haven
1 Woodford Rd North Haven
www.clubnorthhaven.com.au

FRI JAN 24 6.30pm – 9.30pm

Shane Peters (Live Music)
Club Lake Cathie
www.lakecathiebowlingclub.com.au

SAT JAN 25 8.00pm – 11.00pm

(Live Music)
Laurieton Hotel – 80 Bold St Laurieton
www.laurietonhotel.com.au

SUN JAN 26 1.00pm – 4.00pm

(Live Music)
Moo & Bean Kitchen & Bar
613 Ocean Dr North Haven

SUN JAN 26 2.00pm – 5.00pm

(Live Music)
Laurieton Hotel
80 Bold St Laurieton
www.laurietonhotel.com.au

THU JAN 30 6.30pm – 9.30pm

Al McLeod (Live Music)
Club North Haven
1 Woodford Rd North Haven
www.clubnorthhaven.com.au

FRI JAN 31 6.30pm – 9.30pm

Happy Dave (Live Music)
Club Lake Cathie
www.lakecathiebowlingclub.com.au



Recipe of the month

by Gregor Gastar

Raisins: Peanut Whisky Danish

Ingredients:

- Puff pastry (use my go-to recipe from the Danish reel or store bought is totally fine)
- ½ cup raisins
- ¼ cup sugar + ¼ cup water (for syrup)
- 2 cups milk • 4 egg yolks
- ½ cup sugar (for crème pât)
- 2 tbsp cornstarch • 1 tbsp flour
- 2 tbsp peanut whiskey • 1 tsp butter

Method:

- 1. Soak Raisins:** Bring ¼ cup sugar and water to a simmer. Pour over the raisins and let them soak while you get on with the good stuff.
- 2. Crème Pât:** Heat milk in a saucepan till it's just simmering. Meanwhile, whisk egg yolks, sugar, cornstarch, and flour. Slowly pour the hot milk into the yolk mix (slowly, no scrambling here), then pop it back in the pan. Stir till thick and silky. Once thickened, whisk in butter and peanut whiskey. Let it cool.
- 3. Assemble:** Roll out your puff pastry, spread that peanut whiskey crème pât on, then sprinkle with the soaked raisins. Roll it up tight, slice into swirls, and bake at 180°C until golden and puffed.

Enjoy a perfect flaky, creamy, boozy treat!

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WHAT'S
ON

KCCM
kew country club

LUSO
Laurieton United Services Club

Win A CAR FOR XMAS

2024 Haval Jolion Facelift Premium Auto

DRAWN EACH THURSDAY OCT, NOV & DEC 7PM

12 Keys to be Won! Including two on the final draw night

Simply spend \$10 in one transaction on food or beverages in the Club and swipe your membership card to receive an entry.

KEY TIMES
6:00PM 50,000 POINTS DRAW
6:30PM \$10K MEGA MEMBERS DRAW
7:00PM KEY DRAW

HUGE FINAL DRAW 2X KEYS TO BE WON PLUS CASH PRIZES AND DOUBLE BONUS POINTS! THU 12 DEC

TICKETS BEGIN FROM TUESDAY 1ST OCTOBER 2024

Full terms and conditions available at reception. Winners must be members and present at the time of the draw

THIRSTY MERC

Electric Summer

TOUR 2024/5

SATURDAY 4TH JANUARY 2025
DOORS: 7.30PM START: 8.00PM
PRE-SALE TICKETS: \$52.50

ASH GRUNWALD

WEDNESDAY 8TH JANUARY 2025
DOORS: 7PM START: 7:30PM
ADULTS (16+): \$52.50 / KIDS (U16): \$27.50

IWA SUMMER 2025 MELTDOWN TOUR

THURSDAY 9TH JANUARY - LAURIETON UNITED SERVICES CLUB
VIP DOORS OPEN - 7:15PM | GA DOORS - 7:30PM | SHOW START - 8:00PM
VIP TICKETS - \$29 | GENERAL TICKETS - \$25 | KIDS TICKETS - \$10
(\$2.50 TICKET FEE IN ADDITION TO TICKET PRICE)

JIMEO IN PANDEMONIUM

TUESDAY 14TH JANUARY 2025
DOORS: 7:30PM START: 8:15PM
Tickets: \$56.50

THE BLACK SORROWS

THE WAY WE DO BUSINESS

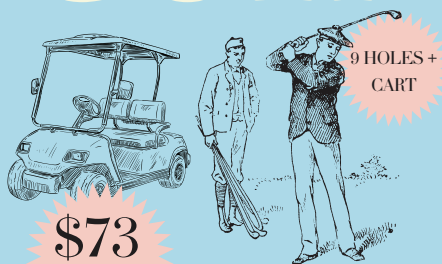
LAURIETON UNITED SERVICES CLUB
8 SEYMOUR STREET LAURIETON NSW 2445
PH 6559 9110 WWW.LAURIETONCLUB.COM.AU
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TO BOOK: 02 6559 4596



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02 6559 4203

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Kendall Philomusica Christmas Music

Festive Christmas Music for Strings

A string ensemble from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music in Sydney directed by Goetz Richter performs music to celebrate Christmas.

1pm, December at Kendall School of Arts. \$30
 Book here: <https://events.humanitix.com/philomusica-christmas-concert>

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It's written in the stars.

Religious narratives define this time of year.

This season and every year around this time people notice the brilliant 'star' to the East just before sunrise. For astronomers, we know it's the appearance of the planet Venus, but for a lot of folk it conjures up thoughts of the Christmas Star.

The 'Star of Bethlehem' is one of the most powerful, and enigmatic symbols of Christianity. For centuries historians have debated the nature of this biblical light that heralded the birth of Jesus. The true nature of the Christmas Star remains uncertain, and it's challenging to identify a single astronomical event that fits all the biblical descriptions. Theories continue to be debated, and the mystery of the Christmas Star adds an element of wonder to the Nativity story.

Regardless of the scientific explanation, the story of the Christmas Star holds cultural and religious significance for many around the world. In biblical times, the heavens held profound significance in the Middle East, shaping the religious and cultural fabric of the region. The heavens were perceived as the dwelling place of God, and the skies were considered a divine canvas reflecting cosmic order and the will of a higher power.

The sun, moon, and stars were integral elements in religious narratives, symbolising guidance, destiny, and celestial signs. The Middle Eastern people, particularly in the context of the Abrahamic religions, looked to the heavens for spiritual guidance, interpreting celestial events as divine messages. Was it purely a divine sign, or was it an astronomical event in its own right?

As an astronomer I became curious about the reality of this enigmatic 'star' and after some investigation, using the tools of modern science, I think I've found something that fits all the known facts. With today's astronomy software programs astronomers can reproduce the night sky exactly as it was, thousands of years ago. Wouldn't it be good if we could go back and have a look at the night sky of Christ's time to see if we could spot the Xmas Star?

Get ready for a surprise, because it looks like the 'Xmas Star' really did exist! Armed with an approximate date for the birth of Jesus from Matthew's version of the Bible I began a search for the star of Bethlehem. Why choose this one? It was the only book of the bible that had all players in the same general place at the same time!

Now, historical records indicate that there was a rare series of planetary 'pairings' during



the years 3 B.C. and 2 B.C. As we watched the skies, the two brightest planets Venus and Jupiter started moving closer together. Wow! Like the final pieces of a jig-saw puzzle, our fabled biblical beacon started to reveal itself.

*The crowning touch
came ten months later,
on 17 June 2BC, as Venus
and Jupiter appeared to
actually 'join up' in the
constellation Leo!*

This time the two planets were so close that, without binoculars, they would have looked like one single brilliant white beacon of light!

Jupiter was known as the 'planet of Kings' and it all took place in the constellation of Leo, denoting royalty and power. The whole

sequence of events could have been enough for the fabled three wise men to see this as a sign in the heavens that the Messiah had been, or was about to be, born. Was this the fabled Christmas star?

Ultimately, the nature of the Christmas Star may never be definitively determined. The mystery surrounding it adds to the charm and fascination of the Christmas story, inviting contemplation and discussion across different fields of study. Whether it was a natural celestial event or a unique divine sign, the Christmas Star remains a symbol of hope and wonder during the holiday season.

Want to see the Christmas 'Star' for yourself? OK, get up early, head outside and gaze to the east from 4.30am. If you've got clear skies you can't miss it!

For all the latest discoveries in astronomy and space head over to my website
www.davidreneke.com

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First Sunday of the month
Kendall Community Markets
Kendall Showground 9am - 1pm

Second Saturday of the month
Johns River Country Markets
Johns River Rd 8am - 12.30pm

Third Sunday of the month
Laurieton Riverwalk Markets
Tunis St & Short St 8am - 1pm

Every Thursday
Kendall Bazaar and The Meeting Place
Kendall Community Centre 9am - 12pm

The act of giving of your time.

Volunteers. The often unsung heroes.

As a nod to International Volunteers Day, 5th December, I want to say a great big THANK YOU to all our local volunteers.

Those who give up their time to help others often underestimate the big impact they have. Without volunteers, my house may have burnt down (RFS has been out twice in the last couple of weeks just near me), I couldn't teach yoga at Moorland (the hall is run by volunteers), I'd have a lot less clothes to choose from (courtesy of Kendall Op Shop) and my family would not have had such delight learning to play tennis (at Kendall Tennis Club).

You may be surprised at the scope of activities undertaken. The guys at Laurieton Men's Shed don't just do woodwork and estate clear-outs, a few have formed a choir, who sing at local retirement villages. In Laurieton there is a lady who always sits at the front and gets up, turns around and starts conducting "and she's actually pretty good at it; at 101 years old she still has fun", said Barry, who volunteers at Laurieton Men's Shed choir and Marine Rescue.

Volunteers have a positive impact on many lives, including mine, so as a personal thank you, I'm holding a prize draw. You can



Some of the Tuesday morning volunteers at Kendall Op Shop: Max, Judy, Denise, Carol, Margaret, Naomi and Dawn.

nominate yourself, or someone you know in the Camden Haven area. See details below:

I found it hard to find local groups looking for volunteers, so I put information on my website. You can find it on the 'contact' page of www.staceycarol.com

To add your local volunteer group to my page, please email me.



by **Stacey Carol**
Stacey Carol Wellness.

VOLUNTEERS PRIZE DRAW

Enter into a draw to win an 8 class pass and a large bottle of my Magnesium Oil. The 8 class pass is valid for any 8 classes (within 8 consecutive weeks) for any regular Yoga or DanceFit class in Kendall or Moorland.

Just send an email to staceycarolwellness@gmail.com with 1. Who you nominate.
2. Where they volunteer (they must live or volunteer within the Camden Haven Area).
3. Why they deserve to win.

Nominations close on Friday 3rd February 2025 at 17:00.



What does it mean to be a volunteer?

"Good people, good fun" Naomi, Kendall Op Shop.

"It's great to give back to the community and also provide a valuable service. On top of that you learn new skills that will be applicable to your own home and even life in general. You spend time with kindred spirits who soon become lifelong friends." Graham, Hannam Vale Rural Fire Brigade.

"Helping others results in us improving ourselves." Cameron, Kendall Mens Shed.

"My boys and I made some great friends at Moorland Hall when we used to run a playgroup there." Stacey, Moorland Hall.

"We do it because of the comradeship. Many guys my age have health issues; cancers and the like, and being there keeps us going" Ken, Marine Rescue, Laurieton.

"Giving something back to our wonderful community, plus the social aspect of volunteering". Cheryl, Kendall Community Centre 'Meeting Place' café.

Further information:
www.volunteeringaustralia.org
and www.govolunteer.com.au

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Garden hints and nature's wonders.

In the Garden of Eden you will find a garden of gardenias.

The first month of Summer has arrived. With Christmas and the New Year only a few weeks away it's time to prepare our gardens for the busy season ahead.

Hydrangeas are producing a magnificent display and a consistently a summer favourite with Australia gardeners for Christmas colour.

Mulch well and water daily to keep plants fresh and flowering. Ideally, a position in the morning sun and afternoon shade will provide a perfect spot.

Feed regularly with Sudden Impact and a small application of Organic Life.

They will also grow successfully in containers where they can be moved to enjoy the colour in summer. Always use a premium potting mix to give them a good start.

Another Christmas favourite is the NSW Christmas Bush.

Stunning red colour, these plants must be grown in a well-drained soil. If you have heavy soils, consider growing them in a large container using a native planting mix.

A small feed after Christmas with Native Slow Release will keep them happy.

With summer heat approaching now is the perfect time to mulch pots and gardens.

This helps to retain moisture and helps

to protect shallow roots from summer temperatures.

Harvest herbs regularly to ensure good flavour and prolong the plant. This can also slow some herbs from bolting to seed in summer. A fortnightly feed with liquid fertiliser will maintain good growth and flavour.

Happy growing, *Malcolm McKinley*
Bonny Hills Garden Centre



MAL'S Summer Plant Pick.

Gardenia Buttons

- Compact growth to approximately 1m high
- Plant in full sun or partial shade
- Perfumed flowers throughout spring and summer
- They are ideal for pots.
- Great as a low-growing hedge
- Prefer slightly acidic soil.
- In pots plant using Azalea and Camellia potting mix

Our birds. Where historical art meets nature.

The Mid North Coast of Australia is home to a rich variety of bird species. Iconic residents include the kookaburra with its distinctive laugh, the colorful rainbow lorikeet, and lyrebirds, renowned for mimicking sounds. Environments along the coast provide vital habitat for migratory species like the Spangled Drongo, which travels from as far away as PNG each year. These birds not only enhance ecosystems by controlling pests and dispersing seeds but also play a significant role in Indigenous knowledge and storytelling.

Bird conservation in Australia has deep roots, starting with the formation of the Gould League of Bird Lovers in 1909. The League promoted a Bird Lovers' Pledge, urging people to protect birds and avoid collecting eggs. By the 1940s, these principles became part of school education, shaping environmental values across generations. Over time, the League expanded its focus to sustainability and environmental education, offering programs like marine sanctuary



Dr Vanessa Finney with a Gould treasure

excursions and recycling initiatives.

A more recent initiative, the Birds of Australia Storybox, created by the Australian Museum, brings to life the bird illustrations of 19th-century naturalists John and Elizabeth Gould. This traveling installation offers interactive 3D displays, bird calls, and Indigenous storytelling, emphasising the importance of preserving native birdlife. It showcases how Australia's birds are not only ecologically significant but also culturally meaningful. Vanessa Finney and Louise Teteris from The Australian Museum opened the exhibition on the Port Macquarie Town Green on the 24th October.

With threats like habitat loss impacting



species such as the regent honeyeater, conservation efforts are more important than ever. The Gould League's programs and the Storybox installation inspire communities to protect bird habitats by planting native trees, reducing waste, and adopting sustainable practices. The Nature School attended the opening and each child displayed their bird song skills.

Visiting The Birds of Australia Storybox is an outing for all. And just up the road.

The Mid North Coast's birdlife is not just a source of natural beauty - it is a vital part of the region's biodiversity. Initiatives like touring The Birds of Australia Storybox provide opportunities to connect with and protect these feathered treasures for years to come. In Port Macquarie until February 2nd.

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Critiques and Reviews.

Ice cold reliving of the most incredible adventure

by Callan J Mulligan. @cal.createes

This month we're only reviewing one particular film, because it's such a stand-out. But first, I wish to quickly mention a series: **Industry** (HBO). If you liked *Skins*, *Mad Men*, *Succession*, or *Suits* - *Industry* is a similar watch. It's a blend of coming-of-age drama, mixed with workplace thrill, set in the financial world of London. I binged all three current seasons within a few weeks.

Perhaps someday I will review the series, but for now - let's talk about a Documentary!

The film - **Shackleton: The Greatest Story Of Survival** (Netflix)

If you don't know who Tim Jarvis is, you've been living under an Australian rock.

Our famous modern explorer, who rose to prominence by using century-old clothing and tools on expeditions to follow in the footsteps of Mawson and the like, is back. But this time, he is helping us follow in the footsteps of another great explorer; Antarctica's finest, Ernest Shackleton.

If you like documentaries, this is definitely for you. But even if you don't, the narrative of this story is unlike most docos. It captures the feeling of an adventure film, riddled with anxiety and curiosity as to what will unfold next. The film uses archival footage and images from 1914 to recreate the perilous journey Shackleton and his group of fearless explorers found themselves on.

Imagine, you believe you're about to cross the most unexplored and uninhabitable

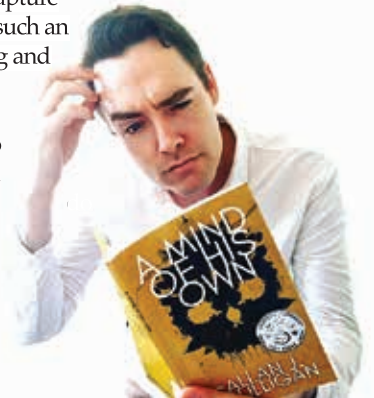


Shackleton's ship, *Endurance*, c.1916 by Frank Hurley.

continent on Earth, but before you even make it to land your ship abandons you to the endless ice.

A story about survival, leadership, morale, and human endurance, this documentary was thoroughly enjoyable - though sometimes disjointed. I found myself wishing I would remain with the archival scenes and be immersed in the story, right when Tim would pull me back out to the modern era to explain what I was watching. Other than that one small gripe, I highly recommend this film to everyone. It isn't just written and edited well, it also

managed to capture the feeling of such an overwhelming and awe-inspiring expedition. And that is no easy task for a filmmaker to (though I'm sure it was slightly easier than actually surviving in Antarctica).



Funny Plaza happenings to help with circulation.

by your Editor

A funny thing happened on the way to the Theatre! One of the Plaza's airconditioners had a glitch the other day. So the quick thinking owner and "all things film", David McGowan, grabbed some copies of the last edition of this publication and the audience used them to fan themselves to stay cool. And then according to David, took their copies home for a read. So by controlling their cooling and circulation, we increased ours. Quick thinking David.

Features over the holidays

November 29	Moana 2
December 20	Mufasa
December 21	Out of Season
December 26	Better Man
January 1	Paddington in Peru
January 9	The Room Next Door
January 11	Parthenope
January 23	We Live in Time
	A Complete Unknown
January 30	Maria
February 7	Queer

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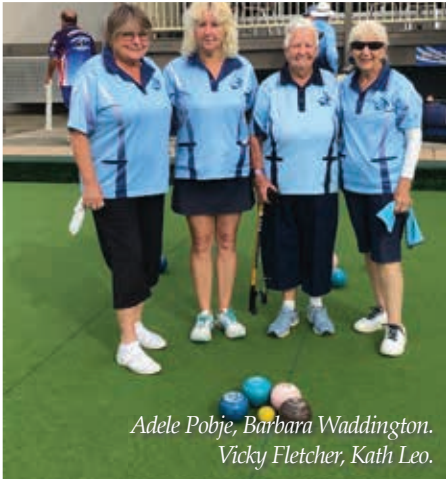
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Adele Pobje, Barbara Waddington,
Vicky Fletcher, Kath Leo.

North Haven Ladies Bowls

Some North Haven Women's Bowling Club ladies played in 2024-25 Women's Senior Fours State Championship Qualifiers at Kempsey Heights Bowling Club recently.

In the morning the North Haven team - Adele Pobje, Vicky Fletcher, Kath Leo and Barbara Waddington played 4 ladies from Urunga Bowling Club in the Semi Finals.

Adele's team won this match 17-15 and progressed to the Final.

The other Semi Final was another North Haven Team - Karen Campbell, Sandra Gill, Raylene Austin and Robyn Marker. Opponents were a Lake Cathie team.

The Lake Cathie team won and then progressed to the final playing Adele Pobje, Vicky Fletcher, Kath Leo and Barbara Waddington.

It was an exciting match with the North Haven Ladies winning 15-11. Congratulations to all the ladies who well played.

The North Haven Team will now play off for the Women's State Fours Championship next year.

Contact: bowls@clubnorthhaven.com.au or phone Club North Haven (02) 6559 9150.
Elaine Pender

Celebrating through our Services

LAURIETON ANGLICAN CHURCH

2 Mission Terrace Lakewood

2.00pm Sun Dec 15

Service of Hope - Remembering loved ones who won't be with us for Christmas

6.00pm Tue Dec 24

Christmas Eve Festival

11.00pm Tue Dec 24

Till Midnight Communion Service

8.00am & 10.00am Wed Dec 25

Celebrate Jesus

(at 1060 Ocean Drv)

9.30am Wed Dec 25

Celebrate Jesus at Bonny Hills

"Join in this Christmas as we remember the true reason Jesus was born. All Welcome!"

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"We celebrate the birth of our Saviour.

May the joy of Christmas be our gift to each other and may we give it all year long."

LAURIETON UNITING CHURCH

51 Bold Street Laurieton

9.30am Sunday December 22

Special Christmas Carols & Readings

9.30am Wednesday December 25

Christmas Day Service

"Wishing you all the best, and hope to see you there at our Christmas Services"

NORTH HAVEN BAPTIST CHURCH

683 Ocean Drive North Haven

9.00am Wednesday December 25

Christmas Day Service

"North Haven Baptist Church family would like to wish all of the residents of the Camden Haven a safe and blessed Christmas. May the love and grace of God fill your hearts and homes."

SALT COMMUNITY CHURCH

Wallum Drive Lake Cathie

6.30pm Tuesday December 24

Christmas Eve Service at

Lake Cathie Public School

"From everyone at Salt Community Church we would like to wish you a very happy Christmas full of love, hope and lasting joy."

The Laurieton Firies are doing their Santa run again.

Sunday 22nd December about 3pm. Same route as last year. So get your kids ready to scoop up those lollies that Santa will be handing out.

Pick your *Day on the Green* Binbadgen, Hunter Valley

The Teskey Bros

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Australia's most soulful siblings and 5 time ARIA winners THE TESKEY BROTHERS are set to light up one of the country's most picturesque wineries on their tour this summer.

Joined by special guests including US indie rockers BAND OF HORSES, Americana, folk and roots artist SIERRA FERRELL, the Irish singer-songwriter CMAT and Australian singer and CHARLIE NEEDS BRACES.



The Script

Saturday 25th January 2025

Return trip airconditioned coach, water, comfort stops

Package \$229pp

Deposit \$100pp

Award-winning Dublin four-piece THE SCRIPT back down under on their Satellites World Tour! The first Australian shows in close to three years, after their electric 2022 Greatest Hits Tour.

Joining THE SCRIPT on their Day on the Green will be Brit Award nominated singer CALUM SCOTT, local dynamic pop artist MONTAIGNE, pop-rock multi-platinum trio X AMBASSADORS and Melbourne's LOTTE GALLAGHER.

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Keeping the love of the garden alive.

Local gives of his time to garden clubs up and down the coast.

Malcolm (Mal) McKinley's life is deeply rooted in horticulture, with nearly 40 years of experience cultivating not only plants but also community connections.

Originally from the Hunter Valley, Mal has spent the past 12 years in Port Macquarie, where his dedication to gardening has flourished into a multifaceted role that inspires others to connect through their shared passion for nature.

During the week, Mal works full-time at Bonny Hills Garden Centre, where his vast horticultural knowledge benefits countless customers seeking advice on everything from plant care to landscape design. His expertise has made him a trusted figure in the gardening world.



On Saturdays, Mal shares his insights as a regular guest on ABC Mid North Coast Radio's Garden Show. His engaging presentations provide listeners with practical advice, creative ideas, and an infectious enthusiasm for gardening.

Beyond his professional commitments, Mal has embraced a pivotal role within the Garden Clubs of Australia as the Zone Coordinator for the Mid North Coast. Overseeing nearly 30 garden clubs from Gloucester to Coffs Harbour, he is instrumental in fostering



connections among clubs, encouraging collaboration, and ensuring their ongoing success. His work highlights the social benefits of gardening, where like-minded individuals can bond over their shared interest in plants and landscapes.

Mal organises group activities that bring gardeners together, including bus trips to visit remarkable gardens in Port Macquarie and beyond. These excursions not only showcase the region's horticultural beauty but also create opportunities for members to learn from one another.

Friendship days featuring guest speakers are another of his initiatives, providing a platform for inspiration, education, and camaraderie.

A sought-after speaker himself, Mal frequently attends garden club meetings to share his expertise on topics such as

sustainable gardening, seasonal planting, and creating vibrant outdoor spaces. Through these interactions, he imparts valuable knowledge and also builds strong relationships with fellow garden enthusiasts.

For Mal, gardening is more than a career or hobby - it's a way of life. His passion is evident in every project he undertakes, from supporting local clubs to promoting regional collaboration. His tireless efforts ensure that garden clubs remain vibrant and welcoming spaces where people can connect, share, and grow - both in their gardens and in their friendships. Whether tending plants, inspiring listeners, or uniting gardeners across the Mid North Coast, Malcolm McKinley exemplifies the transformative power of horticulture. His work continues to nurture not just gardens, but also the thriving community that grows around them.

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Camden Haven's community base.

"I once had a train trip chatting with Bob Dylan and didn't know it."

A chat with Noel Hiffernan OAM by Olwen Williams.

Chatting with Noel was an eye-opener - not just about his interesting travel stories and community work with volunteers and the disabled, but also the front-page stories he's been part of. A colorful character indeed.

North Haven's Noel Hiffernan was among those honoured in the Australia Day 2024 Honours List, receiving a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for his service to people with disabilities and the community.

Noel chaired Greystanes Disability Services for over a decade and has held governance roles with several organizations, including Breakthru, Connect Child and Family Services, SydWest Multicultural Services, and Mountains Youth Services Team. He also proudly served on the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal from 2002 to 2016.

A former presenter for 2Way FM, Noel now hosts a music show on Taree's 2BOB FM.

He is also on the Board of Laurieton United Services Club and currently serves his second term as President of Laurieton Rotary Club.

Noel was part of the State Steering Committee for the International Year of People with Disabilities in 1981, later joining a subcommittee covering topics from education to transport. He then went on to sit on the ACROD Access Committee.

This was a Federal Advisory Committee giving government direct advice from people with disabilities as well as abled-bodied people on the needs and wants of people with disabilities. As a specialist advisor, Noel has influenced Australian building standards and was a founding

member of *Access to the Sky*. This group collaborated with airlines, producing the 1988 training video *It's So Easy* and developing the Sky Chair to improve air travel accessibility for wheelchair users.

In 1986, he helped create the first wheelchair-accessible taxi in NSW and successfully lobbied for the Transport Subsidy Scheme, providing subsidised taxi fares for vision and mobility-impaired people.

During a visit to Canberra in the mid '80s, Noel discussed the need for a funding scheme to help disabled

individuals afford aids and appliances. After a chance conversation with Doug Anthony, a promise of \$5 million was fulfilled and allocated to establish the Aids & Appliances Funding Scheme, later managed by the state beauracracies.

Today, Noel continues advocating for better transport, healthcare, and education for people with disabilities. He remains active with Laurieton Rotary, which supports local schools, the RFS, Community@3, and international projects in Fiji, Vanuatu, and PNG through initiatives like book fairs and donations raised at the Laurieton Riverwalk Markets.

On the LUSC Board, Noel ensured the introduction of a wheelchair-accessible courtesy bus. He remains concerned about transport challenges for both disabled and mobility-impaired residents who rely on motorized scooters.

With International Day for People with Disabilities approaching on December 3rd, Noel reflects on his philosophy...

"I try to make every day a day for people with disabilities. If people see me doing the right thing, it might inspire them to do the same."

Noel exemplifies the spirit of volunteering and community service. Thank you, Noel, for your ongoing dedication and service.



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Bliss Coffee Shop	iKew Centre
The Laurieton	Kendall Beer & Wine
Residential Resort	Kendall Takeaway
North Haven	The Kendall Op Shop
Club North Haven	Miss Nellies
Piece of Mind Foods	iKew Centre
Sandbar Café	Dunbogan/Diamond Head
Shell Riverview	Dunbogan Caravan Park
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