

Hit the Road for the 2024 Red Ride



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Anywhere Festival takes over Moreton Bay



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SILENT EPIDEMIC SWEEPS MORETON BAY

KATY MORE

WITH outdoor activities a cherished part of daily life, a health concern quietly affects many Moreton Bay residents. Dr Raj Selvarajan, an experienced general practitioner specialising in skin cancer detection and prevention, is encouraging the local community to reconsider their tanning habits.

Dr Raj has noted a surprising increase in sunburn cases, even in areas not directly on the beach. He emphasises the

deceptive risk of UV rays on cloudy days, catching people off-guard and leading to unexpected sunburns.

"Despite increased awareness, we still see sunburn and skin damage cases, especially during the warmer months. Teenagers, in particular, tend to underestimate the risks and overestimate their resilience," warns Dr Raj.

Moreton's sun-filled lifestyle comes with a cost, as Queensland holds the world's highest rates of skin cancer. In 2023, Dr Raj and the Burpengary

East Medical Centre and Skin Cancer Clinic team treated 178 melanomas and over 1,500 skin cancers like Basal Cell Carcinomas or Squamous Cell Carcinomas. A combined total of approximately 140 skin cancers per month.

Despite initiatives like the You do the 5. You survive. Campaign, recent warnings from 2024 Australians of the Year Georgina Long and Richard Scolyer stress that the Aussie tanning culture is "killing us".

Dr Raj agrees, dispelling

common misconceptions, explaining, "Tanning is a sign of sun damage, and UV rays can penetrate clouds. A base tan does not shield you from the harmful effects of the sun."

For Dr Raj, the solution lies in community-wide education and action. He advocates for local initiatives such as free sunscreen dispensers, workshops, and school campaigns to boost sun safety awareness. The Burpengary East Medical Centre and Skin Cancer Clinic's professional team actively engages with the community,

collaborating with local Men's Sheds and schools to offer bulk-billed skin checks and promote regular self-examinations.

To reinforce the message, Dr Raj encourages everyone to follow the Slip, Slop, Slap, Seek, Slide campaign, stressing the importance of protective measures like sunscreen application, seeking shade, and wearing protective clothing.

"The tanning culture varies across communities, and despite not living directly on

the beach, access to nearby beaches like Bribie Island, Sunshine Coast, Redcliffe, and Deception Bay is easy," cautions Dr Raj.

"Outdoor activities such as mowing the lawn or walking the dog without sufficient sun protection also tend to result in more people showing signs of recent sunburn, particularly during the summer."

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3B Media Pty Ltd
PO Box 189, Sandgate
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EDITOR

Jodie Morphet
0416 677 905
editor@localtimes.com.au

BUSINESS HOURS

Mon to Fri 9am to 5pm

CONTRIBUTORS

Alyssa Mackay
Bruce Giddings
Gabrielle Turnbull
Joshua East
Elisabeth Walsh
Marnie Birch
Meade Murphy
Pat Cannard
Patricia Higgins
Richard Lancaster
Sheree Hodinett
Vanessa Bragdon

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While online resources are available, Dr Raj recommends credible sources such as Cancer Council Australia, Melanoma Risk Assessment Tool, and the Cancer Council's Guidelines for Melanoma and Keratinocyte Carcinoma for reliable information.

Regular self-examinations and professional skin checks are

advised for adults annually, with screenings every six months for high-risk individuals.

"The Burpengary East Medical Centre and Skin Clinic offers convenient online booking systems, evening and weekend appointments, bulk billing for pensioners, and concession rates for healthcare card holders, ensuring essential skin health services are accessible to all," advised Dr Raj.

"Total Body Photography,

precise mole mapping, digital monitoring, and a range of non-surgical and surgical treatments are also available to ensure patients receive suitable and effective care in the fight against skin cancer."

To connect with Dr Raj or for more information about the Burpengary East Medical Centre and Skin Cancer Clinic, visit www.bemedicalcentre.com.au

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FEDERAL MINISTER VISITS CITY OF MORETON BAY

ELISABETH WALSH

FEDERAL Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Territories, Hon. Kristy McBain MP, visited the City of Moreton Bay last month to meet with Mayor Peter Flannery and discuss upcoming projects and key opportunities to support the city's development.

Mayor Flannery expressed his gratitude for the Minister's visit, stating that it could not have come at a better time as Moreton Bay has recently been declared Australia's newest city and is one of the fastest-growing regions in South East Queensland.

"With a population of over 500,000 people expected to grow to 800,000 by 2046, the visit from Minister McBain has been critical to discuss the infrastructure and funding support needed for this projected growth," Mayor Flannery said.

"It's important that we continue to work in partnership with the Federal Government to invest in the future of Moreton Bay and bring long-lasting

benefits to our communities."

One of the major developments in the City of Moreton Bay is the Waraba housing development, which will soon be home to over 70,000 residents.

Mayor Flannery highlighted the importance of securing funding for infrastructure projects such as the Buchanan Road corridor upgrade and the Bruce Highway Western Alternative to support the projected growth.

"The national housing and homelessness crisis was also top of the agenda as Council steps up to fill the gaps in services locally, through groundbreaking initiatives outlined in our Homelessness and Housing Action Plan such as our Attraction of Affordable Social Housing Policy," he said.

"Our holistic and unified approach is working successfully with all levels of government, and industry stakeholders, to make a difference to people experiencing homelessness."

Mayor Flannery showcased the Moreton Bay Central Sports Complex, where Stage 2 construction is underway

thanks to a \$3.5 million investment from the Federal Government. Further opportunities and projects in the pipeline were also discussed, including a new Queensland Police-Citizens Youth Club hub in Caboolture and growth opportunities at the City of Moreton Bay's innovation precinct, The Mill.

The Minister and Mayor also discussed other initiatives, including a \$32.75 million investment into upgrading Youngs Crossing, improving NBN internet services in rural areas, and funding for the development of a new wildlife hospital.

Minister McBain acknowledged the significant growth and opportunities in Moreton Bay.

"It's clear that the projected growth for City of Moreton Bay is significant and I understand the critical need for timely infrastructure and investment into a local government of this scale," she said.

\$50M FUNDING TO BREAK THE CYCLE OF DFV

ELISABETH WALSH

QUEENSLAND is taking a stand against domestic and family violence with an investment of over \$50 million in initiatives aimed at preventing violence before it even begins. This latest investment will support the rollout of the Plan for the Primary Prevention of Violence Against Women 2024-2028, a blueprint designed to address the root causes of violence against women and create a safer future for all Queenslanders.

The new five-year plan focuses on addressing the systems, structures, norms, attitudes, practices, and power imbalances that contribute to domestic and family violence. Through community education projects, initiatives led by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled organisations and peer-to-peer programs, the plan aims to build and embed positive and respectful relationships to prevent violence from occurring in the first place.

In addition to the plan, the State Government has announced the establishment of a peak body for the DFV sector, with Queensland Council of

Social Service (QCOSS) being appointed as the state's new peak body. QCOSS will represent and advocate for DFV services, including shelters, women's health and wellbeing services, and perpetrator intervention services, ensuring a unified and effective response to domestic and family violence across the state.

To support the implementation of the plan and strengthen DFV training across the state, a new training and change management framework has been released. This framework will provide organisations with evidence-based information and resources to deliver consistent trauma-informed and culturally appropriate DFV training to staff and volunteers, ultimately enhancing the sector's capacity to support victim-survivors and hold perpetrators accountable.

Attorney-General, Minister for Justice, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence, Yvette D'Ath, emphasised the government's commitment to ending domestic and family violence.

"This additional investment of more than \$50 million builds upon the work we are doing to prevent and respond to DFV, but also seeks to break the cycle by targeting violence

before it occurs," she said.

"This five-year plan prioritises actions that address the drivers of violence against women and supports a safer Queensland that upholds the values of equality and respect for the entire community.

"Everybody has a role to play in shifting attitudes and behaviours that underpin violence against women, as we all deserve to feel safe from the threat or experience of domestic, family and sexual violence.

"I also welcome the release of the training and change management framework. This is about supporting government and organisations to become more DFV proficient, to provide trauma-informed responses to victim-survivors, and effectively and safely engage with people using violence.

"We also recognise the benefits of further unifying the DFV sector which delivers vital services across the state to help victim-survivors receive the support they need and hold perpetrators to account.

"I'd like to congratulate QCOSS for its commitment to lead the peak body initiative and look forward to seeing its work in this space, including in primary prevention."

RENEWABLE ENERGY PUSH CONTINUES

ELIZABETH WALSH

THE State Government has announced a multi-million-dollar commitment to fund energy and environmental measures in Queensland. The investment includes a \$2.5 million pilot program for solar panel recycling, marking a national first.

The pilot program aims to collect and recycle thousands of solar panels on homes, businesses, and solar farms in Queensland, diverting them from ending up in landfills.

This initiative is designed to not only reduce waste but also contribute to the re-purposing of valuable parts, creating opportunities for regional communities to directly benefit from renewable energy solutions.

In addition to the solar panel recycling pilot, almost \$3 million has been allocated to industry leadership in recycling, career development, and social license.

This funding aims to support the growth of the large-scale renewable energy industry in Queensland and promote better practices within the sector.

Minister for Energy Mick de Brenni said the announcement was not only about saving solar panels from landfill but also creating opportunities for

jobs and economic growth in Queensland.

"With up to five locations in metro and regional Queensland set to host the pilot, we expect to see a significant uplift in opportunity to create new jobs in recovery and processing activities," he said.

"I commend those leading the way in the renewable energy sector, and especially acknowledge the work of the Smart Energy Council for its innovation in proposing this program."

Environment Minister Leanne Linard said Queensland had the highest rooftop solar penetration in Australia.

"It's something we should be proud of and continue to build on," she said.

"The increasing use of solar panels on our homes and businesses is also helping Queensland meet its ambitious climate change goals, which is great

news for our iconic natural environment.

"The solar panel recovery pilot will identify the best path forward in recycling solar panels once they have reached their end of life or have become damaged.

"I'm heartened by the enthusiasm of the industry and local councils to get involved. Now we're going to test how to make this work in a practical sense.

"I'm particularly excited by the enthusiasm of regional Queensland to trial solar panel recycling, and we will focus our efforts there."

The grants provided by industry bodies such as the Smart Energy Council, Clean Energy Council, and QREC will support various initiatives, including PV recycling pilots, career fairs, community engagement projects, and landholder support programs.



PLANTS TO BE GROWN ON THE MOON WHEN HUMANS RETURN

JOSHUA EAST

NASA's upcoming Artemis III mission, set to return humans to the moon for the first time in 50 years, will not only mark a historic moment in space exploration but also a groundbreaking step in agriculture beyond Earth's atmosphere.

The mission will include the cultivation and return of lunar-grown plants to Earth for the first time, as part of the Lunar Effects on Agricultural Flora (LEAF) project.

Led by Space Lab Technologies and involving a consortium of partners including the Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence in Plants for Space (P4S), the project aims to collect valuable data on plant growth and development in a lunar environment.

This information will be crucial in understanding how plants can be used for human nutrition and life support on the moon and beyond.

Scheduled for a September 2026 launch, the LEAF project will see a variety of plant

species grown in an isolated atmosphere on the moon's surface.

Associate Professor Jenny Mortimer of the University of Adelaide, and P4S Chief Investigator, highlighted the importance of studying plant behaviour in an off-Earth environment.

"The data we capture from the mission, both from the lunar surface and what we learn when we analyse the samples upon return, will help us to design the lunar and Martian crops of the future," Associate Professor Mortimer said.

Professor Mathew Lewsey of P4S and the La Trobe Institute for Sustainable Agriculture and Food said the LEAF investigation would provide information about how plants could grow in extreme conditions.

"The seeds we send to the moon will germinate in an enclosed capsule, which we will be monitoring through a remote camera," Professor Lewsey said.

"Our team of scientists will collect data on the plants as

they grow on the moon, monitoring their size and morphology, then conduct genetic and metabolic analyses of individual cells when the plants return to Earth.

"We can then apply this knowledge to improve plant resilience to radiation and other environmental challenges."

The LEAF experiment is one of three science instruments selected for deployment on the Moon's surface as part of NASA's Artemis III mission, along with a Lunar Environment Monitoring Station and a Lunar Dielectric Analyser.

The inclusion of Plants for Space in this mission showcases Australia's expertise in space research and innovation, with potential benefits for improving sustainable plant production and addressing challenges like food security and water scarcity on Earth.

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SMOOTH SAILING FOR FERRY TRAVELERS

ELIZABETH WALSH

BRISBANE River ferry passengers can now enjoy the convenience of Smart Ticketing, as full-fare adult customers can use their Visa, Mastercard, or American Express credit or debit card, smartphone, or smartwatch to pay for their journey.

This latest development in public transport payment options means that customers can now use Smart Ticketing on CityCats, joining the already available options on SEQ trains and Gold Coast trams.

The customer trial of this technology is part of Translink's efforts to modernise the public transport system in South East Queensland.

Minister for Transport and Main Roads Bart Mellish said it was an exciting milestone to make Smart Ticketing available to adult customers on a third mode of public transport in South East Queensland.

"Whether you're a tourist exploring Brisbane from the river or you're a commuter getting to and from work every day, it is now easier than

ever to pay for your journey on one of our iconic ferries," he said.

"Customers have told us they have enjoyed the ease of paying for their journey on trains and trams in the same way they might pay for a coffee with tap-and-go on their bank card, mobile phone or smartwatch.

"That same ease of payment is now available to adults catching a Brisbane River ferry."

Acting Head of Translink Peter Milward noted that the rollout of Smart Ticketing across all modes of public transport was a major step forward.

"We thank customers for their patience as we roll out the technology across one of the largest geographical public transport networks in the world," he said.

"We know SEQ bus users are keen to trial the technology as well but we are taking our time to get it right and we look forward to announcing the first SEQ bus trials in due course."

ADVISORY GROUP GIVES A VOICE TO YOUNG PEOPLE IN CARE

ELIZABETH WALSH

THE Queensland Government is taking a step forward to empower young people in care by establishing a ministerial youth advisory group.

This group will give children and young people with lived experience of the Queensland child protection system and residential care a platform to share their knowledge and expertise.

These young advisors will be compensated for their contributions, ensuring that their voices are not only heard but valued.

The initiative fulfils a key action from last year's extensive review of Queensland's residential care system, which identified the need for greater input from those directly affected by the system.

Minister for Child Safety Charis Mullen expressed her excitement about the upcoming meetings with the youth advisory group.

"I want to listen and talk with inspirational members who will no doubt help improve the lives of children and young people in care," she said.

"Following last year's residential care review, we heard more needed to be done to listen to young people, to understand what matters to them, and to work with them to make real change.

"I can't wait to see what these young people will achieve through this exciting opportunity."

QFCC Principal Commissioner Luke Twyford praised the establishment of the group, highlighting the invaluable insights that young people with lived experience bring to the table.

"Too often, we forget or fail to acknowledge that young people in care are indisputably the experts of the Child Safety system," he said.

"Throughout last year's review process, the Queensland Family and Child Commission spoke to more than 200

workers and visited 16 sites, but the workshops hosted with young people who have lived experience of residential care provided the richest and most pragmatic solutions to the problems being discussed.

"Young people must be empowered within the system by actively and meaningfully involving them in discussions and decisions."

The ministerial youth advisory group will provide a

vital forum for the government to hear directly from young people about the quality of care they receive in residential care and the improvements needed to better meet their needs.

The initiative is part of the broader \$4.7M investment to implement the actions outlined in the five-year Roadmap for Residential Care in Queensland.



\$94M COCAINE PLOT FOILED

ELIZABETH WALSH

A Victorian man has been charged in connection with a criminal syndicate that imported 289 kg of cocaine into Queensland from Papua New Guinea. The man, aged 20 and from Cranbourne West, was arrested last month as part of a joint investigation involving Taskforce Venator, the Australian Federal Police (AFP), Queensland Police Service (QPS), and the Australian Border Force (ABF).

The investigation began on 9 April, when the ABF identified an air cargo consignment arriving in Brisbane that was suspected of using the altered details of a legitimate company, a tactic known as 'piggy-backing'. Upon examination, investigators discovered that the cargo, described as gravel mix water purifier and drill bits, actually contained 248 packages of cocaine stacked among shredded paper and bubble wrap. Police replaced the cocaine with a harmless substance and allowed the consignment to be collected.

The man allegedly collected the cargo from a freight warehouse in Strathpine and was arrested after opening one of the boxes at a short-term rental property.

The man has been charged with attempting to possess a commercial quantity of an unlawfully imported border-controlled drug, a serious offence that carries a maximum penalty of life imprisonment. He was refused bail and is expected to appear in Brisbane Magistrates Court this month.

AFP Detective Superintendent Adrian Telfer commended the close cooperation between law enforcement agencies.

"This criminal syndicate hoped it could fly under the radar of law enforcement and profit from the misery of drug addiction by allegedly using details of a legitimate company for the import," Detective Superintendent Telfer said.

"However a vigilant border industry worker raised suspicions about the consignment and authorities were able to prevent these drugs from reaching the community.

"An import of this size could have accounted for at least 289,000 individual street deals of cocaine, which can cause significant havoc and harm to the Australian community.

"We're now working with our law enforcement partners offshore, including in PNG, to identify all those involved in this importing plot."

Queensland Police Service Detective Acting Superintendent Tim Leadbetter underscored the importance of partnerships in combating organised crime.

"Through the sharing of capability, resources and knowledge, the Queensland Police Service (QPS) continues to develop partnerships to deal with syndicates that threaten the safety of our community," Detective Acting Superintendent Leadbetter said.

"The threat posed by organised crime involves all crime classes including domestic violence, child protection, property crime and financial crime, as well as offences of violence. Operations like this have significant impact on crime and will enhance community safety."

Taskforce Venator, comprised of the AFP and QPS, is dedicated to investigating and prosecuting Transnational Serious Organised Crime entities and Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs that pose a significant threat to Queensland and Australian interests. The successful arrest and seizure in this case demonstrate the effectiveness of joint operations in disrupting criminal syndicates and protecting communities from the harmful effects of illicit drugs.



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FREE RSV IMMUNISATION PROGRAM FOR BABIES

ELISABETH WALSH

THE Queensland Government has launched a \$31 million Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) immunisation program, offering free protection to more than 70,000 newborn babies, eligible infants, and young children in Queensland.

RSV is the most common cause of hospitalisation among infants and young children, leading to serious illnesses such as bronchiolitis, bronchitis, and pneumonia. In 2023, more than 2500 infants and young children under the age of two were hospitalised with an RSV diagnosis in Queensland.

Due to limited global supply of nirsevimab, the TGA-approved monoclonal antibody product, Queensland's immunisation program will ensure that infants and young children at the highest risk of severe disease from RSV are protected. Eligibility criteria for the program has been expanded to include all infants born on or after 1 February 2024.

Premier Steven Miles said the free RSV immunisation would give "our smallest Queenslanders" the best start in life.

Minister for Health Shannon Fentiman also emphasised the importance of protecting newborn babies from serious illness.

"I am thrilled that newborn

babies across the state are now able to access protection from contracting RSV and developing serious illness," she said. "More babies receiving this important immunisation means fewer babies in hospital and less pressure on our health system."

Acting Queensland Chief Health Officer Dr. Catherine McDougall highlighted the steady rise in RSV cases and encouraged parents to immunise their children to reduce the risk of severe RSV disease.

"Like all immunisation programs, the RSV immunisation program is an important step towards reducing the risk associated with disease and keeping more children safe," Dr McDougall said. "As always, I continue to remind Queenslanders to maintain good hand hygiene, cover coughs and sneezes, and stay home when you're sick. This will help to limit transmission of not only RSV, but also other respiratory illnesses also reaching their peak in the winter months such as flu and COVID-19."

The immunisation program will run for 12 months until 31 January 2025. Parents are advised to contact their local immunisation provider to make an appointment for their children to receive the RSV prevention product. More information can be found on the Queensland Health website.

BOOSTING BIKE RIDING IN THE COMMUNITY



ELISABETH WALSH

THE Queensland Government's commitment to promoting bike riding within the community is being further emphasised with the opening of the second round of the Bike Riding Encouragement Program Community Grants.

With grants of up to \$25,000 available for eligible organisations, the aim is to encourage more Queenslanders to embrace bike riding for various purposes such as transport, recreation, and overall wellbeing.

The grants, which are part of the Queensland Cycling Action Plan 2023-2025, seek to inspire

innovative ideas and projects that will motivate individuals to take up cycling as a mode of transportation or as a means to stay active and healthy.

Minister for Transport and Main Roads, Bart Mellish, said he was extremely pleased to announce the opening of the second round of the Bike Riding Encouragement Program Community Grants.

"The first round of grant projects delivered in 2020-21 was a great success and included the development of a bike riding app for women, a mountain biking program for girls, a school-based community bike library, and videos and online

maps of local bike riding routes," he said.

"We are committed to continuing to support community-led efforts to encourage more people to jump on their bike, leave the car at home and ride in their local communities instead.

"More people riding a bike to work, school, to socialise or to go to the shops means less traffic and less pollution, which can also mean savings on transport costs."

Organisations eligible for the grants can apply under two streams - one for local events and activities that address community-specific challenges and

opportunities for bike riding, and another for innovative concepts that will encourage more people to ride bikes in Queensland.

Jordana Blackman, CEO and Founder of Chicks Who Ride Bikes, said the Bike Riding Encouragement Program had helped thousands of women to get active through cycling.

"The Community Grant in 2020-21 provided Chicks Who Ride Bikes the seed funding to create an app for women to meet like-minded women, share their experiences and learn more about their bikes," she said.

"We're so fortunate to have a government that recognises riding bikes as the key to active transport in our beautiful state."

For those interested in applying for the Bike Riding Encouragement Program Community Grants, applications must be submitted by Friday, 24 May at 5pm.

More information can be found on the Transport and Main Roads website at www.tmr.qld.gov.au/bikeriding-grants

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5 TIPS FOR GETTING ON TOP OF YOUR MORTGAGE REPAYMENTS

VANESSA BRAGDON
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IF you're struggling to cover your mortgage repayments and other living expenses, you're not alone.

Data by Roy Morgan revealed that more Australian homeowners were "at risk" of mortgage stress over the three months to January than ever before. If you're wondering how you'll afford your next mortgage repayment, here are some tips for getting on top of your finances.

1) Reassess your budget
Many households are already stretched thin at the moment and there's no better time to see where you can cut even more expenses.

Can you do without the gym membership? Maybe you don't need five subscriptions to different streaming platforms?

Start cutting costs and saving a buffer for your mortgage repayments.

2) Shop around
Ten minutes of your time spent making a few phone calls to your utility and service, or health insurance providers to see if you can get a better deal could save you money in the



long run.
Go through your expenses and try to negotiate a more competitive rate. Be sure to see what competitors are offering too.

3) Boost your income
Realistically, there is only so much you can save. Another way to boost your savings is to

establish an additional income stream. Think about starting a side job, renting out assets, or selling some of the unused items sitting around the house.

If you're feeling game and you think you deserve it, perhaps you could ask your boss for a pay rise. You never know your luck!

4) Review your interest rate
Don't assume your current loan is the be-all and end-all. There are loads of different lenders with different home loans out there.

While a broker has access to a number of lenders, your current bank will only be able to offer their products and rates.

Speak to your broker to explore all of your options.

Your broker may be able to secure a more competitive interest rate with your current lender or point you in the direction of another bank with a loan that's more suitable for your needs.

5) Reach out if you're struggling

If you are having difficulty making your repayments or are at risk of defaulting, get in touch with your lender's hardship team. It's best to do this early before the situation gets worse.

What happens if you default?

If you've already fallen behind in mortgage repayments, your bank may give you a grace period of a couple of weeks to catch up. However, if you don't make the repayment, you will have defaulted on your mortgage.

At that point, you may be stung with fees and your mortgage default may be recorded on your credit rating. This could impact your ability to borrow money in the future.

You may be issued with a default notice to pay the lender within a certain timeframe. If this doesn't happen, the lender may repossess the property and sell it to recoup the debt.

The bottom line is to try to stay on top of your mortgage repayments and avoid defaulting if possible.

IT'S TIME TO SHARE THE LOVE

JOSHUA EAST

MANGO Hill Plaza is once again hosting its Share the Love campaign. This year, there is an \$8,000 prize pool up for grabs, with the most voted-for group or school receiving \$3,000 to further its initiatives.

From May 13 to 26, customers can vote for their favourite community group by placing their sales docket in one of the voting boxes opposite Coles at Mango Hill Plaza. Customers can also vote online on the centre's website, and be entered into a draw to win a \$100 Gift Voucher.

Participants in this year's Share the Love campaign include:

The Y Vocational School has been providing adjusted educa-

tional programs and vocational training to secondary students who benefit from an alternative learning environment, and supporting them in their journey to employment.

Pine Rivers Koala Care Association, a charity organisation creating a safe living environment for the koala population of the Moreton Bay region by taking steps to educate residents about koala protection and preventing the destruction of koala habitat.

Mango Hill State Secondary College has been engaging students through its philosophy -- REAL (Respectful, Engaged, Aspiring Learners) learning for the world of tomorrow -- by engaging students in real experiences within and beyond the classroom.

Zonta Redcliffe, which is part of a global network to empower women and girls through advocacy, education and services and by promoting women's rights and gender equality, and saying no to violence against women.

Mango Hill Progress Association, a non-profit lobby group that has been advocating for residents since 1986 by working with the government, the council and other community groups to improve quality of life through infrastructure and facilities.

North Lakes Lions Club, a non-profit organisation that supports the local community and who have contributed thousands of dollars over the past decade to worthwhile causes in the area.

For more information go to www.mangohillplaza.com.au



HERBIE CELEBRATES TURNING 103 IN STYLE

JOSHUA EAST

Sunnymeade Park resident, Mr Herbert "Herbie" Franz Roehrich turned 103 years of age on 23 April 2024. Mr Roehrich has lived in the Sunnymeade Park Aged Care Community for approximately 20 years. Herbie lived in the Sunnymeade Park retirement village up until February this year when his health deteriorated and he had to move into residential care.

Herbie is well known at the Caboolture Golf Club where he has spent many afternoons having a drink and talking with the other patrons of the club. Herbie has made many friends at the golf club and some of them come and take him out to the club a couple of afternoons each week.

Herbert was born on 23 April 1921 in Hindenburg, Germany. Herbie served in the New South Wales Railways at Eveleigh Workshops as a labourer. Herbert attended Sydney TAFE College and had his German trade papers accepted. Herbert then worked as a Ground Engi-



Herbert emigrated with his wife, Elizabeth to Australia on 1 November 1955. In 1956, Herbert worked for the New South Wales Railways at Eveleigh Workshops as a labourer. Herbert attended Sydney TAFE College and had his German trade papers accepted. Herbert then worked as a Ground Engi-

neer for QANTAS at the engine workshop at Mascot, Sydney from 1964 to 1981. Herbert remains friends with some of his workmates from his years at QANTAS.

Herbert was taken by his golf friends out to lunch at the golf club for his birthday, which he thoroughly enjoyed.

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A PIONEERING SPIRIT IN NARANGBA

Narangba local Dawn Finch mirrors the same energy and commitment to community affairs and business as her pioneering ancestors.

MARNIE BIRCH

Residents new to Narangba might not grasp the historical significance of May Court, Duncombe Road, and James Mac [McCullagh] Court to Narangba. Dawn Finch, who resides on a property her pioneer family has owned for generations, reflects on how the community around her has changed over the years.

In 1869, Dawn's great-great-grandparents, James and Mary McCullagh, selected land at Narangba when early settler Tom Petrie sponsored their immigration from Ireland. They grew oats, corn, and chaff as feed for the Cobb and Co. horses and established a dairy on 600 acres around Pioneer Drive. Son William's ten children attended Narangba State School after it opened in 1910. "My grandmother May was the oldest child of William McCullagh and the first pupil enrolled at Narangba School," explains Dawn. May married Joe Duncombe, who lived on the neighbouring farm. Much later, their son, Morrie Duncombe (Dawn's father), switched to grazing cattle.

"People didn't go places," says Dawn of 1950s Narangba. "We lived our lives in the community." Groceries and supplies were home-delivered, and her mother didn't drive. As a five-year-old, Dawn rounded up cows and rode her horse along a dirt track to school.

"We took our time getting home," Dawn says, "because there were always jobs to do. If we got up to mischief, Mum and Dad knew about it before we got home. That's the sort of community Narangba was - it was family - it was safe. Everyone cared and looked after everyone else. Everyone knew everyone."

Narangba State School's jubilee celebration offers a fascinating snapshot of the 1960s community. Among the events held were potato races, a hypnotism demonstration, rooster-catching, and even an adult pillow fight. Dawn recalls weekly fundraising dances



for community clubs like the tennis club, CWA, and the Progress Association in the local hall. Her father was M.C., while the mothers made refreshments.

"That's how the community got together," she says. "We were very community-oriented. It was like that until the seventies." Instead of a teaching career, Dawn landed a pioneering role as one of the state's first computer programmers. She managed payrolls for hospitals and sugar mills and estimated for the construction of the South-East Freeway, North Pine Dam, and Skyrail in Cairns. After a stint in Melbourne, Dawn returned to Narangba, "I didn't want to live anywhere else - Narangba was my home." Not one to sit still, Dawn turned her dressmaking hobby into a business, opening two retail stores.

New families arrived when the farm was subdivided into estates like Kinnaird. Dawn laments that as Narangba grew, the sense of community diminished.

"That was the best thing about Narangba. The community worked together. Everyone pitched in and contributed what they could," collaborating on projects like street beautification and tree plantings, construction of the sports fields and facilities block, plus the Spring Festival, which included art shows,

cocktail evenings, and helicopter prize drops.

Those events have long gone, but the community spirit continues at Pioneer Drive. Dawn helps daughter Belinda Finch run Plot 4504, a farm-gate stall selling fresh, spray-free produce grown on the family farm.

"I have never really retired—I've always done something," says Dawn.

In another nod to her pioneer ancestors, Dawn salvaged the original homestead's front door as her own door when she built a new house. Like her family's legacy, she says the hardwood door "will last for generations."

Dawn Finch with the historic homestead's front door.



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THE Guides

FARM GATE PRICE MONITORING

ELISABETH WALSH

QUEENSLAND families are feeling the pinch at the supermarket as they pay more for fresh produce, while farmers are struggling to make a fair income. As a result, Australians are turning to cheaper, packaged foods instead of fresh fruit, vegetables, meat, and dairy.

To combat this issue, the Queensland Government has announced a farm gate price monitoring scheme that will be led by industry to establish pricing standards.

The scheme will analyse farm financial performance, historical data, and weekly pricing information for the top 20 products. This data, combined with contract negotiation and cost of production training, will empower farmers to negotiate better deals and receive fairer returns.

Workshops will be held in major growing regions to educate growers on negotiation skills, ensuring they are confident in their dealings with buyers and retailers. The government will also develop a production cost best practice

model for Queensland growers to help them understand their profitability and risks.

Premier Steven Miles highlighted the importance of supporting farmers and ensuring they are rewarded for their hard work.

"I shared a story earlier this year of a farmer selling watermelons by the road for \$10 each, because he couldn't afford to sell it for the \$4 he was offered by the supermarkets," he said.

"It's a story that is all too familiar for those in the industry and something growers tell me is happening more and more often.

"Workshops will be delivered to upskill Queensland growers so they understand their true cost of production and are better positioned to negotiate with buyers and retailers.

"I want farmers to be equipped with the information and training they need to back themselves and advocate for their product."

Queensland Fruit and Vegetable Growers CEO Rachel Chambers emphasised the importance of ensuring fair returns for growers and providing con-

sumers with affordable, quality Queensland produce.

"Gearing Up Growers is about levelling the playing field. It is a collective, state-wide effort which aims to empower Queensland growers to be the most equipped negotiators in Australia," she said.

"We know Queensland's produce holds more value than what is currently being paid and we are going to do all we can to support our growers to achieve a fair return at market."

The Queensland Farmers' Federation CEO Jo Sheppard welcomed the announcement and emphasised the need for market transparency and fair trading terms.

"Market transparency and fair trading terms need to be improved to ensure the future viability of farmers and everyday Australians' ability to access and afford Australian food," she said.

"Food insecurity in Australia and globally is rising. We cannot sit on our laurels. We must work to support a sustainable future for food and fibre production for the benefit of future generations."

HOUSEHOLDS BENEFIT FROM BATTERY REBATE SCHEME

JOSHUA EAST

QUEENSLAND'S commitment to supporting households in reducing their power bills and cutting emissions has reached new heights with the success of the state's energy-efficient appliance and battery rebate schemes.

The State Government has announced an additional \$6 million investment in the Battery Booster program, bringing the total funding to \$16 million. This increase will allow about 1,000 more households to benefit from rebates of between \$3,000 and \$4,000 on approved solar battery systems.

Since its inception, over 1,400 households have been granted conditional approval for the Battery Booster program, with more than half of recipients coming from low-income households. The means-tested rebates will provide significant savings for eligible households, with those earning less than \$66,667 eligible for \$4,000 cash back.

In addition to the success of the Battery Booster program, the Climate Smart Energy Savers program has seen over 72,700 Queensland households receive cash back on energy-efficient appliances. This program, which offers rebates

of \$300-\$1,000 on appliances with energy-efficiency ratings of four stars or better, has already saved Queenslanders more than \$7 million off their power bills annually.

Energy Minister Mick de Brenni highlighted the importance of these initiatives in assisting Queenslanders with the cost of living and reducing emissions.

"Whether it's saving on running costs of white goods, or storing free energy from the sun, we are determined to come up with cost-saving measures that benefit Queenslanders," Minister de Brenni said.

Queensland Council of Social Service CEO Aimee McVeigh welcomed the news that more Queenslanders would benefit from the extension of the government's battery rebate scheme.

"Many Queenslanders are really struggling as a result of soaring living costs, and targeted financial support is something we've been strongly advocating for," she said.

"The biggest barrier to consumers accessing energy-efficient appliances is how much they cost.

"These latest rebates will help to not only to reduce energy bills, but also to reduce

the state's CO2 emissions."

Queensland Conservation Council Senior Campaigner, Stephanie Gray said increasing the energy efficiency of Queensland homes was a simple way to slash power bills, bring down emissions and reduce stress on the grid at peak times.

"We know from Climate Council research that Queenslanders could save more than \$800 per year just from swapping out gas hot water for a solar hot water system," she said. "Government initiatives that promote the uptake of clean technology and upgrades in homes are clever solutions that tackle high cost of living and climate change at the same time."

Household battery owner and Battery Booster recipient David Chan shared his experience, stating that he received a rebate of about \$4000 after installing a new solar system and a rebate of \$3000 for the battery.

"We expect that through most of the year, depending on our energy usage, our power bill will be zero dollars," Mr Chan said.

"We made the choice because we wanted to lower our bills, and be a bit more energy efficient too."

SAMANTHA JADE TO HEADLINE PRIDEFEST

ELISABETH WALSH

MORETON Bay is set to explode with colour, music, and dance as ARIA award-winning singer Samantha Jade headlines Moreton Bay PrideFest on Saturday, 8 June.

The event, celebrating the region's LGBTQIA+ community, will coincide with World Pride Month and promises to be a day filled with entertainment, empowerment, and acceptance.

Joining Samantha Jade on stage will be Australian drag artist Art Simone and international drag performer Kween Kong, known for their appearances on RuPaul's Drag Race Down Under. The lineup also includes Harry K and Fluffy All Stars, who will showcase their talents across three stages of entertainment.

City of Moreton Bay Mayor Peter Flannery said Council was proud to host Moreton Bay's second PrideFest in June.

"At Council, we know our communities are as diverse as our landscapes," he said.

"We want Moreton Bay to be a place where people can come together proudly, where they can freely participate and celebrate their unique selves.

"This is a community celebration, so we hope to see a broad cross-section from our whole community turning out to not only support our LGBTQIA+ community but also enjoy a stellar line-up of superstar performers."

Moreton Bay Region Industry & Tourism CEO Tash Wheeler said the event would empower current and future generations to be their true selves and feel

accepted and proud of who they are, regardless of their gender identity or sexuality.

"Moreton Bay PrideFest has a vision to make the region a happier, healthier, safer and more culturally rich and diverse place for the LGBTQIA+ community," Ms Wheeler said. "PrideFest is at the heart of this dream.

"Importantly, PrideFest will highlight the support services and networks available to the LGBTQIA+ community throughout Moreton Bay"

Tickets for Moreton Bay PrideFest are on sale now at www.moretonbaypridefest.com.au

The festival is presented by City of Moreton Bay and delivered by Moreton Bay Region Industry & Tourism.

QLD EMBRACES FREE TAFE

JOSHUA EAST

Queenslanders looking to save money on upskilling, re-skilling, or kickstarting their careers have a new opportunity with the State Government's Free TAFE program.

With over 70 courses open for enrolment in the second semester of 2024, the initiative is expected to pave the way for thousands of students to gain valuable skills in a variety of industries.

The state has already seen over 14,000 enrolments in Free TAFE this year, with the Certificate III in Electrotechnology Electrician standing out as the most popular course.

Minister for Employment and Small Business and Minister for Training and Skills Development, Lance McCallum, said Queenslanders "absolutely loved" the Free TAFE and Free

Apprenticeships.

"With our Big Build of renewable energy, infrastructure, healthcare, and housing delivering the biggest decade in our state's history, now is a golden opportunity for students to get the skills they need to get a good secure, highly paid job," he said.

Two recipients of Free Electrical Apprenticeships, Cooper Gough and Kaiya Seymour, shared their positive experiences with the program.

Cooper, aged 19, said a free apprenticeship was better than a uni degree because he could get paid while learning.

"I'm working on rooftop solar, mostly commercial stuff, like big shopping centres, and it's been really good to get into the renewable energy industry," he said.

"There's jobs everywhere at the moment, if you can't land your hands on one it's unbelievable."

Seymour said she took on a "sparkie apprenticeship" because she likes working with her hands.

"It's been great to learn on the big jobs—I'm currently working on a renal dialysis ward upgrade at the Princess Alexandra Hospital and did a ward upgrade at the Mater Hospital," Kaiya said.

"It's really good to have a free apprenticeship and my message to anyone thinking about it is to 'just go for it'—if you want a future out of it, do something about it."

For more information and to explore the range of courses available, visit the Queensland Government's website.

KILLER COLD WAVES THREATEN MARINE LIFE

A recent study published in Nature Climate Change has shed light on the increasing frequency and intensity of "killer coldwaves" along the southeast coast of South Africa and the east coast of Australia. These deadly weather events, which see surface temperatures plummet rapidly by 10 degrees Celsius or more

over a day or two, have led to the mass deaths of marine animals, including vulnerable species such as manta rays and bull sharks.

In March 2021, a particularly severe coldwave killed at least 260 animals across 81 species in South Africa. Among the casualties were bull sharks, known for their resilience to

harsh environmental conditions. Researchers found that even these tough creatures were unable to withstand the sudden and severe drop in water temperatures caused by the extreme upwelling event. Upwelling occurs when winds and currents force cold water from the deep ocean to rise to the surface, displacing

warmer surface water. Climate change-induced changes in wind and current patterns have led to an increase in the frequency and intensity of upwelling events, making them more common along certain coastlines.

The study's findings raise concerns about the impact of climate change on marine life,

particularly for species like bull sharks and manta rays. These animals, which are already facing threats such as habitat loss and overfishing, may be further endangered by the increasing occurrence of killer coldwaves.

Researchers emphasise the need for continued research into the effects of climate

change on marine ecosystems and the urgency of reducing greenhouse gas emissions to mitigate its impact. As tropical and subtropical species expand their ranges towards higher latitudes, they may be at risk of exposure to sudden extreme cold events, putting their survival at stake.

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May Marks Domestic & Family Violence Prevention Month across the country. Meet two local women working hard to break the cycle.



HANDLES BY AMY - HELPING VICTIMS OF DV

BRUCE GIDDINGS

DAKABIN local Amy Rastall is helping victims of domestic and sexual violence through a successful business she has built for the purpose.

Her online enterprise called "Handles By Amy" markets a specially designed gym bag that has begun to sell well, generating funds for a charity that rescues victims of domestic and sexual

abuse.

It is a issue Amy is personally acquainted with, having suffered domestic and sexual violence in a past relationship.

Amy says she was well and truly "down" during that part of her life, and describes herself as a "definite suicide risk".

She credits others for helping her find the strength to break free and make the required changes in her life.

"My family and friends literally saved my life, I am sure," she

says.

"After they helped me get out of that relationship I poured all my energy into rebuilding my life and the gym became my therapy to deal with trauma."

As part of her journey to recovery Amy challenged herself by participating in the Legacy International Pageant in February where she was nominated with the title Ms Australian 2024.

She plans to use the award as a platform to advocate for victims of abuse.

Amy, who is 35, speaks up for victims of violence any chance she gets, and will be a guest speaker at the Business and Professional Women's (BPW) club at Caboolture in May.

She says it is easy to become emotional about the issue sometimes, but she remains crystal clear about her objective.

"I am at the beginning of my task, which is to help create a future free of domestic and sexual abuse."

She is enthusiastic about the innovative gym bags she sells through her website, and is pleased that sales are trending up.

She has sold around 80 of the designer gym bags already, allowing her to make a donation of 300 Christmas gifts to Rize Up, a charity close to her heart that helps victims of domestic and sexual violence.

Amy's online business began with a stake of just \$3000, and she recalls many nights spent learning how to construct her enterprise and build a sales website.

She plans to continue building "Handles By Amy" to enable larger donations to her chosen cause while she works at amplifying her voice on behalf of victims of domestic violence.

Amy has recently made a commitment to supporting Destiny Rescue, a not for profit organisation that rescues and rehabilitates children, women and men from the sex trafficking trade.

Amy has committed to donating 50% of all proceeds from her business.

In addition to attending to her online business, Amy keeps busy in her job as a personal trainer at a gym in the Brisbane CBD, and is also employed as an aged care worker.

The instagram page handlesbyamy has more details on Amy and her popular gym bag with a link to her website.

WORKING HARD TO BREAK THE CYCLE

SHEREE HODDINETT

IF life experience gives you lemons, then Lesley McConnell has certainly made her share of lemonade many times over. Her passion for the prevention of domestic violence runs deep and Lesley, a former teacher now counsellor, dedicates her time to helping others in a bid to break the cycle of generational domestic abuse. Through the Caboolture Neighbourhood Centre, Lesley draws on her own experiences to help others navigate their own difficult path. She's also written a book called Black Tears, aimed at children as an early intervention strategy. The month of May marks Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month in Queensland, an annual initiative to raise community awareness of domestic and family violence and coercive control, along with the support services available. Lesley is just one of many out there doing their best to make a difference!

Hardly a day goes by when we don't hear about an incident of domestic violence in the community and beyond. It is an unfortunate and sad reality that society is a part of. What comes into play now is how we go about dealing with it and changing the path. For Lesley,



it's all about starting as early as possible.

"I'm such a strong believer in early intervention," Lesley explains. "It's too late when kids get to high school, the damage is already done. It needs to be done when they are still young, the younger they are, the more potential there is for a better outcome."

For most people, their lived and learned experiences are definitely what shape them

and Lesley is no exception. Although her life now sees her as a happy wife, mum and grandmother, it hasn't always been this way.

"It's really quite a long story. Everything with me is a long story," she says with a laugh. "My first marriage, there was a lot of psychological domestic violence or DV as you commonly hear it called. I was totally unaware of it and the sad part about it is so many people are"

Lesley goes on to explain that she also found out in her early 30s that she had a half-brother she never knew existed after discovering that her mother had been married to another man before her father, news that was revealed around the time of her father's death.

"I was going through things at the time of my father's death and needed some information," Lesley recalls. "So I rang my mum to ask about her first husband and she told me I didn't need to know anything about that, but she also told me he had been very violent - he had held a gun to her head."

"I didn't get a chance to ask my mum many questions about her other marriage, because she died six months after my father. But on discovering I had a half-brother, who was a dead ringer of my grandfather, it was all quite a shock, I didn't speak for two days."

"Finding out all these secrets did help in putting a lot of pieces together and things started to make more sense. I had the opportunity to speak to my half-brother and he had the most horrific life, in and out of orphanages, no attachment to anyone, nothing, and he experienced violence in his life as well. "So, children learn what they live and he actually became a

perpetrator of domestic violence as well and he even told me not to try and get close to him because he wouldn't let me. So all of this has been what kick-started my own experiences, it's been quite a journey and this is only an abridged version."

It was when Lesley worked for Lady Gowrie Queensland that Robin Sullivan was appointed the Commissioner for Children and was talking about the link between child abuse and later domestic violence that Lesley knew she was on a mission.

"It's a vicious cycle and it's generational," she says. "The main thing they need to do is early intervention to teach children what domestic violence is and what it looks like. And that's why I wrote the book Black Tears for children as a resource giving them an insight into what domestic violence is."

"I had no idea when my ex-husband was verbally abusing and psychologically abusing

me. Everyone thinks when they hear domestic violence that it's all hitting, but it's not just physical, there's a lot of emotional abuse and coercive control."

"There's also a lot of misconception that it's all against women and while we see so many instances against women, it also affects so many men out there as well."

Lesley looks upon the work she does as one way to sow the seed and hopefully get through where it counts.

"None of this is rocket science and early intervention is the best prevention," she says. "That's where you can make a difference with kids and even perpetrators. But it's just trying to get someone to listen. We're going into schools and hopefully getting through to young minds and just getting that message across."

"Children are our future and as their teachers and mentors, what are we showing them? Let's break these cycles."

"Children are our future and as their teachers and mentors, what are we showing them? Let's break these cycles." Lesley

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FEELING THE POWER OF STEAM



SHEREE HODDINETT

LONG before technology ruled the world, the power of the steam engine reigned supreme. You have the chance to take a step back in time and experience the true power of steam engines for yourself at the Old Petrie Town Steam Fair on the first weekend in June. Hosted by the Queensland Steam and Vintage Machinery Society Inc., the fair is the largest steam engine and heritage event in Queensland and will feature an array of machinery including standalone engines, old tractors, vintage cars and so much more.

Have you ever wondered

how things worked on the farm long before you were born? Or even the machinery used to make local suburban roads? Or better yet, maybe the kids have hit you with these curly queries.

The answers to these questions will likely be part of the steam fair. Initially started in the 1990s, the steam fair has been a regular event in the community, with the exception of a few years in the early 2000s.

Queensland Steam and Vintage Machinery Society Inc. president Bill Ives has a passion for all things steam engines and has been a part of the society now for 35 years.

"My interest stems from my

father because he was interested in all things mechanical," Bill explains. "But my first real recollection of a steam engine was when I was three in 1965. I was standing on a station platform in Sydney and the vintage train was there, so that's my first recollection. And then in 1974, we were at a railway museum and I said to my dad, 'I'm going to drive one of those one day!'"

"And then I did. About five years later, I started working on them at a railway museum in New South Wales. We moved to Queensland in the 80s and in 1990 I bought a Marshall steam roller and not everyone can say they have their own steam roller."

With more than 60 members from across the City of Moreton Bay council area, the Queensland Steam and Vintage Machinery Society Inc. work hard to keep more than just the magic of steam engines alive for future generations. New members are always encouraged to join the group.

"We're trying to encourage more people to come on board because let's face it most of us aren't young anymore," Bill says. "We're all happy to help people understand the old machinery. If they want to get involved, we're happy to take on new members and we will show them what they want to know.

"I mainly work with steam engines and to me, it's like they're alive, because you have to work with the elements to make them run." Bill

"If they want to learn how to run a steam engine, then we'll teach them how to run a steam engine. If they want to know how to work on stationary engines, petrol engines, that sort of thing, we'll do that as well. We will also assist anyone looking to get their qualifications in steam engines."

So what can visitors expect to see and do across the steam fair weekend?

"They'll see tractor engines driving around, so big steam tractors weighing up to 20 tonnes, steam rollers that used to make the roads around local suburban areas, steam portable engines driving different types of belt driven machinery and there's going to be vintage tractors and vintage cars too," Bill explains.

"On the Sunday, the normal markets will be on as well. Our steam museum will be open, so the mill engine, which is an engine used for crushing sugar cane up north will be running, it's got a 13-foot flywheel and it weighs about 12 tonnes, just the flywheel alone!

"There's an engine out of a steamship that we run, so it should be running that weekend as well. There'll be something for everybody to see with different displays and demonstrations around the park.

"The steam engines and tractors have a designated roadway, so people will be able to see them in action as they drive up and down the roadway. So, they'll be able to see them doing what they were made to do."

Having been lovingly restored to its former glory, the oldest engine in the shed is from around 1884. The oldest one running during the steam fair is from 1900, certainly a historic piece of machinery.

"It's great that members of the public can see some of these really old pieces in operation in our shed, they can't get on them, they can't touch them, but they can see them," Bill says. "I mainly work with steam engines and to me, it's like they're alive because you have to work with the ele-

ments to make them run. There's a lot of thinking involved in the process, you have to consider whether you have enough water, whether you have enough fire, what the air is going into the boiler like, that sort of thing. So there is a bit of skill behind it."

For Bill, one of the best things about hosting events at the museum is seeing the reaction from visitors.

"There's a lot of, 'Oh wow, what's that? Or how big is it?' There's usually lots of smiles, especially on the faces of kids," Bill says. "And you see the older people that may remember steam trains when they were originally running."

"We also have people come up to us and say, 'My grandfather used to have one of those steam tractors on the farm and they used to do ploughing with it.' So it's just the opportunity to share in and see the joy on everyone's faces."

If you're looking for something to do on the first official weekend in winter, you don't want to miss all the fun and flair of the Old Petrie Town Steam Fair.

"We want people to come out and enjoy themselves and enjoy Old Petrie Town because it's a great place to go," Bill says.

"It's just a great place for the whole family and on top of that, our steam event is always great. It's as good as we can make it and we just want people to go away knowing they have enjoyed themselves and most people do."

Don't miss the 2024 Old Petrie Town Steam Fair on the weekend of June 1 (10am-4pm) and June 2 (7am-1pm) at Old Petrie Town, 901 Dayboro Road, Whiteside. Entry to the event is free, but donations are happily accepted.

For more information visit queenslandsteamandvintagemachinerysociety.org.au or follow their Facebook page.

CABOOLTURE'S HIDDEN TREASURE

As you watch laughing children tumble out of buses into the bright Queensland sunshine and spill into Caboolture's Abbey Museum on a school excursion, you could have no inkling of the ancient treasures and unique artefacts held inside this modern-looking building.



Stained glass window - Coronation of the Virgin

SUE WIGHTON

THE Abbey Museum of Art and Archaeology is a hidden treasure, standing benignly amidst pleasant fields in the back blocks of Caboolture, just off the road to Brisbane Island.

What is this place? And how on earth did it come to be here?

If I told you about a group of intrepid travellers who came to Caboolture from England via Cyprus and Sri Lanka - laden with precious artefacts and antiquities from medieval times and beyond - you simply wouldn't believe me.

The enthralling story of the Abbey Museum is shrouded in curious tales of spiritualism, faith, Freemasonry, precious objects and artworks, and global pilgrimage. It's the romantic story of one man and his passion for collecting. Not just things, but people, ideas and philosophies.

The Reverend John S M Ward - founder of the Museum - was born in England in 1885. Described as charismatic and eccentric, John Ward was a devoted educator, author, poet, mystic, visionary and Masonic historian. The son of an Anglican clergyman, Ward was a deeply spiritual man, interested in both Western and Eastern spiritual ideas. In 1929, he founded a mixed

monastic community, the Confraternity of the Kingdom of Christ, and in 1934 established Britain's first social history museum - the Abbey Folk Park - at New Barnet, north of London.

Ward's radical vision was to create a truly 'living museum'. Visitors were invariably entranced as they glimpsed the daily lives of their ancestors through a series of carefully curated buildings and historical objects. In fact, the newspapers of the day dubbed him 'the man who collects houses' after he rebuilt a 16th-century 'Witch's Cottage' and a 17th-century blacksmith's shop, among thirty other buildings on the site. The central attraction was a remarkable prehistoric village of several buildings meticulously reconstructed from local materials.

After the bombing of London in the Blitz in 1941 during World War Two, Ward was forced to close the Museum.

Then in 1945, Ward and his community relocated to Cyprus with their crates of precious antiquities, where they extracted a meagre existence from a farm they'd purchased.

In those intervening years of the 40s and into the 50s many famous Australian artists spent time at the Abbey Folk Park (now renamed the Abbey Art Centre) as part of



Roman House, New Barnet

an artists' community. Luminaries like Bernard Smith, Leonard French, Noul Counihan and later Russell Drysdale and Arthur Boyd spent time there. Another famous visitor was thought to be the renowned English sculptor, Henry Moore.

John Ward died in Cyprus in 1949. Before too long, Cyprus was no longer viable due to the trouble between the Greek Cypriots and the British, so the community once again was on the move. They travelled to Australia via Egypt and Sri Lanka, eventually arriving, penniless, in Sydney in 1956.

Ten years later, the community moved to their current, permanent home in Caboolture, Queensland, where the legacy of the Reverend John S M Ward lives on. The philosophy and spirit of this curious, intelligent and eccentric man echo through the current Abbey Museum and the community which embraces it.

While much of the collection was sold to finance the community's extraordinary peregrination from England via Cyprus, Egypt, and Sri Lanka to Australia, the Museum still holds a prestigious collection of antiquities, spanning more than a million years of human history.

Highlights include a gilded cartonnage mask from ancient Egypt, Bronze Age swords and spears, medieval stained glass and art artworks, medieval manuscripts, 17th-century carved panels from Cheveley Manor and exquisite samurai swords.

Members of the original community, Michael Strong and his wife Edith Cuffe, along with volunteers, are highly involved with the running of the Museum and associated developments. This includes the highly popular, annual Medieval Festival which takes place in the grounds.

Today, the Abbey Commu-

nity and the Board of the Abbey Museum of Art and Archaeology continue to breathe new life into John Ward's vision of an immersive, living museum.

The community itself continues to flourish as a vibrant centre for spiritual growth and well-being. Regular church services are conducted in the beautiful church, bathed in the light of the many glorious stained-glass windows. Many of these windows date from medieval times while some rem-

nants originate from Winchester Cathedral in England.

In keeping with Ward's lifelong commitment to education, in 1983 the community established a primary school in 37 hectares of beautiful bushland setting.

Visitors to The Abbey Museum of Art and Archaeology make many return visits to delight in the romance, mystery, and magic of this hidden treasure.

Find out more at abbeymuseum.com.au/

Find out more at abbeymuseum.com.au/





BUBBLES OF MAGIC FOR ALL AGES

SHEREE HODDINETT

THERE'S something magical about bubbles, no matter what age you are. One person who has captured the true essence and power of bubbles is Debra Malone. It all started with the idea to bring joy and blew into something much bigger, culminating in giant bubbles that have to be seen to be believed. Knowing children and all the big kids too, along with their four-legged furry counterparts, love the giant colourful bubbles is a big part of what spurs Debra on to continue doing what she loves the most.

Incredabubbles is a venture that has been in operation for about nine years, but long before bubbles ruled her life, Debra was on a different path in the world of business. She owned a florist and gift shop and before that, she worked as a graphic artist. Initially training as a graphic artist and going to art school, Debra worked in the industry for 25 years, before moving in the next direction.

"I've always been on the go, but I've got an entrepreneurial background," Debra explains. "My father, who passed away about two years ago, he was an inventor. He was a builder who came

up with ways to do things better, faster and safer.

"We initially lived in New Zealand, that's where I grew up and the catalyst for him to bring his products into light was Cyclone Tracy in Darwin. And that was when his business just took off. He was a prolific inventor, he made many products, but the majority of the ones that made him wealthy were the building products that everybody uses today."

Debra was 20 when she made the move across the ditch to Australia. Fast forward many years and she is happily married to Tom.

Between them they have four children and seven grandchildren, bringing together a big blended family full of love, laughter and happiness. Her life has certainly been one of ups, downs and roundabouts, but Debra's idea for Incredabubbles came to her one night and she's never looked back.

"Sometimes you get your inspiration when you're in God's world dreaming at night," she recalls. "Something came to me and I thought I really want to do giant bubbles, but I don't know how to go about it. So, I did some research and started the creative process from there.

"The first one I made was a loop, but

to get the loop apart you had to pull a string and that ended up being too messy. My next idea was to bring some sticks into it, so you don't have to put your hands in the bubble mixture to open the loop. I made this contraption with two wooden dowels and then I put screw eyes in the end of the wands and then a big rope loop.

"Following that I had to research what holds a good bubble in, which would involve using hollow cotton ropes. Well, that took more research and I ended up finding someone in Sydney who had the hollow ropes I needed. That was just the trick that completed it all."

Debra credits her husband Tom as being a big part of her business success and also sends a nod to her late father as well.

"My husband Tom is the other half of my team in putting the wands together," she says. "He cuts, files and drills the tops for the screw eyes and swivels. I'm very grateful for his support.

"At the time I was getting things rolling, my dad was in a wheelchair, he would sit in his chair at the park while I did the bubbles and he would just start crying. And I asked him why he was crying, he told me, 'The bubbles are so beautiful, I can see these going a long

way. People are going to fall in love with them and you're going to do really, really well.' He knew that I'd hit on something immense."

Not only are the bubbles a big hit with families, but believe it or not dogs love them as well.

"I actually have customers who buy them for their dogs," Debra says. "They have a doggie day care and they are a big believer in making dogs happy as well, so they bought the wands off me and now they just keep on buying the magic mix, which is the secret formula that took me a year to make."

Knowing she is able to share the magic and wonder of bubbles throughout the community and beyond warms Debra to her core.

"The kids are funny, they come up to me and ask how I do it and I tell them it's right here in this bucket," she says. "To them, it looks like a big bucket of soap, but I tell them it's really special, but it's also a big secret!

"It's seeing the delight in people's faces, it doesn't matter what age they are. It's so much fun and it's just the magic of them as well."

While she knows she's not getting any younger, Debra hopes to keep the magic of Incredabubbles alive for the

foreseeable future, sharing her products online and through local markets.

"Some of these bubbles can be as big as the size of whales," she says.

"You can see the beautiful colours in the bubbles and that's what everyone loves, those beautiful rainbow colours. And if you perform them at a concert or market at night, like about five o'clock in the afternoon when the sun's setting, they capture the reflections of light and they look amazing. I get so much enjoyment out of what I do and I'm appreciative of being able to share this magic with others."

Incredabubbles bubble wands come in five sizes from Child to Super Colossal. All wands come with sachets of MagicMix. The best part is everything is handmade, right here at Debra's home in Margate.

To get your hands on some Incredabubbles, visit www.incredabubbles.com or to get in touch with Debra send an email to debra@incredabubbles.com. You can also find Incredabubbles on Facebook.

You're Invited

Mother's Day MEMORIAL SERVICE

10TH MAY 2024 - FROM 6:00PM

Each year Great Northern Garden of Remembrance holds a special Mother's Day Memorial Service in our beautiful Deception Bay chapel to remember and celebrate the wonderful women in our lives. This is your chance to gather with others, hear heartfelt stories and reflect.

Simply RSVP to 3888 6622 by Wednesday, May 8th. Entry is free and a light supper will be served afterwards.

THE MORETON REGION'S MOST OUTSTANDING FUNERAL VENUE
31-35 TALLOWOOD DR, DECEPTION BAY

You're Invited

Australia's Biggest Morning Tea

MAY 23RD - 11:00AM

Gold Coin donation entry.

Let's get together and enjoy a cuppa and a beautiful morning tea hosted by Great Northern. Bring your family, friends and work colleagues to fundraise and support those impacted by cancer.

RSVP by Monday May 20th on 3888 6622 or email info@gngor.com.au

THE MORETON REGION'S MOST OUTSTANDING FUNERAL VENUE
31-35 TALLOWOOD DR, DECEPTION BAY



Mother's Day Sunday 12 May

IT'S IN THE BAG

Win a stylish handbag filled with feel-good contents valued at \$500

Monday 22 April - Tuesday 7 May

Simply spend \$20 or more at any specialty store OR \$100 or more at Coles or Woolworths in one transaction to enter.*

Entry barrel located near Coles.

*Market Square Deception Bay stores only. Two (2) winners drawn on Wednesday 8 May 2024. Entry forms available from eligible stores. Attach valid docket to entry form or keep safe and show if you win. You can enter as many times as you like, but you can only win once during the competition period. Full terms and conditions available on the website.

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Mixing the Elements of Life & Death

Leah Cotterell and Narelle McCoy will perform Whistling Past the Graveyard at this year's Moreton Bay Anywhere Festival. During their performance, Leah and Narelle will draw from their written memoirs and academic research to reflect on funerals, from the truly sad to the sublime and uplifting. The music is as eclectic as the subject matter, ranging from classical and folk songs to emblematic pop songs and of course, together they will sing Amazing Grace.

SHEREE HODDINETT

WHO knew there was an entertainment factor in cemeteries, a place many find a little on the spooky side? Enter Leah Cotterell and Narelle McCoy, the duo behind Whistling Past the Graveyard, a performance offering the unique thrill of sharing stories and songs with the community in the beautiful surrounds of Moreton Bay's historic cemeteries and one you'll get to witness as part of this year's Anywhere Festival.

Anywhere Festival Moreton Bay has been designed to make your weekends more vibrant and memorable with creative experiences for you, your family and friends to enjoy. From May 9 to 26, talented performers from Moreton Bay and beyond will bring you an assortment of entertainment, including:

- theatre
- dance
- comedy
- musical theatre
- circus
- immersive installations
- storytelling
- cabaret
- classical and swing music.

There are free and ticketed performances spread throughout the City of Moreton Bay.

After debuting to a great response at the historic South Brisbane Cemetery at last year's festival, this year will see the Whistling Past the Graveyard team performing at Lawnton and Samford cemeteries to weave in stories about these atmospheric sites.

Leah and Narelle share quite a history. They first met at the Queensland Conservatorium, where Leah was working on her doctorate (studying music and emotion) and Narelle was lecturing on music history. But they knew each other indirectly, as actors and singers in the wider theatre scene in Brisbane in the 1980s, sharing friends in common. Their own personal stories and academic interests in exploring death, dying and funerals are what led them down the path of Whistling Past the Graveyard.

"Narelle and I share an abiding interest in how funerals have a role in managing death and grief and the big challenges we face in letting people go," Leah says. "Narelle's PhD research has been focused on Irish funeral rituals, keening (a special form of singing for the dead) and 'the merry wake' and Narelle grew up in a big Irish Catholic family in Ip-



Whistling Past the Graveyard – Leah Cotterell and Narelle McCoy.

swich. She tells wonderful stories about McCoy family funerals.

"My postgraduate study explored my own experience of complicated, chronic grief, as a family carer for people with serious, chronic mental illnesses. My story is about enduring great love and loss.

"The show is easygoing and uplifting by design. We feel that death has been stigmatised, that our culture is not good at dealing with the inevitabilities of ageing, loss, grief and death. By talking, singing, laughing and crying about it together, we hope to do our little bit to bring some ease to the conversation. What ultimately inspired the performance is a belief that sharing stories about death and dying is liberating, and that a good funeral is important for the health and wellbeing of the community."

Despite their unusual idea, audiences are very receptive to their show, with people fascinated by the idea of singing and performing in cemeteries. It all begins with volunteer ushers dressed in mourning clothes setting the audience into the space

with music performed by guitarist Jamie Clark.

"The performance is a frisky mix of stories about funerals, the good ones and the hard ones, the unusual and the sad ones, mixed up with Narelle's stories

"Narelle and I see this performance as part of a wider project. We want to go on exploring the art of music and death. We think there is a lot of life in our project!" – Leah

about drinking whiskey with old Irish ladies to learn about the traditional rituals of village funerals and my own research on how music and songs create a safe place for our emotions," Leah explains.

"We sing songs throughout, from traditional Irish folk to emblematic pop songs and finally together we all sing Amazing

Grace. By the end of the show, we hope that everyone will feel easier about their own experiences, preferences and plans.

"For these shows in the Anywhere Festival Moreton Bay program, we'll be weaving in a

few elements of local history research about the Lawnton and Samford Cemeteries. We were very lucky to receive Regional Arts Development Funding from the City of Moreton Bay Council to allow us to plan the production and research and write new material."

It's hard to imagine finding a cemetery a magical place to per-

form, but for Leah and Narelle the experience fills them with gratitude.

"These are public spaces and so the people who care for them are giving us all a chance to experience them in a new way - celebrating the many lives known and unknown, all the people who went before us, both remembered and forgotten," Leah shares. "Being together in the space, we can't help thinking about what it means to be alive. That's why the show harks back to that old idea of whistling past the graveyard, holding on to our good luck because the proximity of death strengthens our grip on life. And by the time the audience have settled into the space, there's so much atmosphere in these places, the sense of being connected to the group, the connections between all the members of the group, feel really strong. That makes performance really satisfying."

Leah's love of singing is deep, having won a talent quest at a young age, she knew it was something that would always be a part of her life. Tying it in with

her research was the next natural step.

"In my masters (2015) and my doctoral study (2021) I've tried to find a way to talk about the powerful connections that we make through music and singing, connections that mainly operate under the level of our awareness," Leah says. "When we talk about music as being magical - it's the magic that I have tried to understand. Music in the funeral ritual has a special power I think. That's why it's a natural subject for me to explore.

"Narelle and I see this performance as part of a wider project. We want to go on exploring the art of music and death. We think there is a lot of life in our project!"

Whistling Past the Graveyard is on May 26 at 10.30am at Lawnton Cemetery and 3.30pm at Samford Cemetery. Bookings can be made via anywhere.is/series/whistling-past-the-graveyard/

For further information about Anywhere Festival and other performances, visit anywhere.is/moretonbay/

"The initial idea for the ride



Participants in last year's Red Ride.

Hit the Road for the Red Ride

SHEREE HODDINETT

GET red-dy for another bright display as supporters hit the road for this year's Moreton Bay Red Ride on Saturday, 18 May. Now in its fourth year, the ride is all about standing up against domestic violence in our community and beyond. For those who hit the road, not only will you get to take in the many beautiful sights in and around the City of Moreton Bay, but this year's event is going to be brighter and bigger than previous years, with the addition of a family fun day component for all ages.

These days we are hearing about domestic violence more and more. Knowing it was so prevalent and wanting to make a difference was a big part of why the Red Ride came about. Red Ride committee member Randall Macey has been involved now for the last three years and enjoys the opportunity to be a part of such an important event.

"The initial idea for the ride

came from the Rotary Club of Caboolture, particularly Riana Botha and Chris Sharp - sadly Chris passed away several months before last year's ride - and also Councillor Tony Latter," Randall explains.

"Initially Red Ride was about a motorbike ride showing solidarity against domestic violence. The sea of red procession down Morayfield Road and the Ted Smout Bridge is a very visual show of solidarity. The colour red was chosen because of its impact. We wanted to make an impact and highlight that domestic violence is NOT OKAY in our beautiful community. The aim of Red Ride is to raise awareness of domestic violence in our community and to raise funds for not-for-profit organisations that support individuals and families who are impacted by domestic violence."

This year's Red Ride event begins at 7am with breakfast/ coffee and time for a chat at the Caboolture Showground. Stands will go up at 8.30am

with the procession heading from the showground to Caboolture Sports Club before making its way to Redcliffe and regrouping in the Humpybong Yacht Club car park. From there, the ride will go towards Brendale, out to Dayboro and up Mt Mee Road where photographers will be capturing all the action so make sure you smile and wave. Once riders are back out on the D'Aguilar Highway, they will head towards the final stop at the showground.

Last year was the first year the Red Ride included a car show and now it's about including even more fun for the family.

"We tried a few things last year but we knew we had to go bigger," Randall says. "This year we have added a family fun day to the event with live music, super slide, rock climbing wall, face painting, balloon twisting, giant Jenga and much more.

"With another major sponsor, Supreme Community Care on board, this has given us the

opportunity to make it a free event for the kids. Yes, a free event! We will have boxes/ buckets around, so do feel free to drop a gold coin into one of these as the money goes to our not-for-profit domestic violence charities we support. The kids need a happy day so this is our way of helping."

So what is it about the Red Ride that makes it special to Randall?

"For me, it's all about helping the community in any way possible to put smiles on people's faces. With smiles it helps ease daily pains and takes their minds off things for a little while, that's why I do this," Randall says. "I also really love to dress my bike and fly these flags, raising money and helping people is what this is all about. I don't like domestic violence and I will help where I can with the skills I have."

This year the big focus is on families and the provision of information, particularly in relation to coercive control and where individuals and families can get help. The Domestic

Violence Prevention Council is on board this year and Vanessa Fowler will be giving a

"Without these guys, we have no event. We encourage everyone

"We wanted to make an impact and highlight that domestic violence is NOT OKAY in our beautiful community!"

presentation on domestic and family violence and coercive control. Vanessa is the sister of the late Allison Baden-Clay and is Chair of the Board of Directors of The Allison Baden-Clay Foundation.

Red Ride would not be possible without the support of the Caboolture Sports Club, who have been the platinum sponsor for the past four years. "We would also like to send a big thank you to the working committee including Tony Latter, Kathleen Fitter, Leah and Duncan Campbell and Darren Marshall," Randall says.

to spread the word. You can be a part of the ride or just come along for the family fun day, remember to bring your smiles and dress to impress by wearing red! Red is the colour of the day so dress your bike, your pillion, your car and yourself in red. We have flags to purchase, so let them fly free on your bikes. We also have prizes for best bike in five categories, so it will be fun for all the kids to see a sea of red."

For further information, please visit redride.org or follow Red Ride on Facebook.

SLEEP APNEA TREATMENT ON THE GO

WHILE on the road, there is one crucial factor that can make all the difference between a successful journey and potential hazards: a good night's sleep. However, if you're grappling with snoring and fatigue, you may have a serious underlying condition – sleep apnea. With one in four males over 30 experiencing symptoms such as excessive snoring and daytime fatigue, the impact of this condition on both health and relationships can be significant.

Sleep apnea, a condition characterised by interrupted breathing during sleep, can significantly impact your reaction time, focus, and energy levels, as well as your quality of life.

That's why CPAP Direct is dedicated to providing solutions that can help you regain control and have the best chance of gaining a restful night's sleep.

Founded by a Queensland family who recognised the need for quality care, CPAP Direct has grown into a company with over 110 dedicated employees and multiple locations nationwide.

Their unwavering commitment to patient satisfaction

remains at the core of their business.

Not only does CPAP Direct offer exceptional solutions for sleep apnea at 20+ locations across Australia, but they also pride themselves on being the trusted name in travel CPAP.

One of their most popular offerings is their range of travel CPAP machines, specifically designed to meet the unique needs of travelling with sleep apnea.

Portable CPAP machines are built with convenience and efficiency in mind, enabling you to maintain your sleep therapy even when you're away from the comfort of your own home. Equipped to run on either 12 or 24 volts, travel CPAP machines provide the assurance that your sleep apnea treatment remains uninterrupted, no matter where your journey takes you.

Rest assured, they also have you covered with masks, so you can sleep comfortably and wake up ready to tackle the miles ahead.

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SHARING THE JOY OF ANIMALS

MARNIE BIRCH

WHO can resist an adorable baby goat, a cute chicken, a friendly llama or an alpaca? When David and Katrina White managed mobile farms at events, festivals, and shopping centres, they witnessed the immense joy and happiness of getting close to the animals. To share that joy with others, they created White Ridge Farm, a family-friendly farm where members of the public, regardless of age or ability, can engage directly with and hand-feed animals and learn about farming life.

"Not everyone can live on a farm," says Katrina, "so we thought we would share ours!"

Located a five-minute drive from Caboolture on 20 acres of natural bushland at Elimbah, visitors get to hand-feed a camel, get close to llamas, alpacas, horses, donkeys, goats, sheep and lambs and spend time in an interactive bunny and guinea pig area. In addition, there's a playground, train rides, a tractor ride and putt-putt golf to entertain children.

Katrina says, "We love watching children and adults having fun and relaxing," but there's also an educational aspect to the farm. School groups get to experience



Head Girl Bailey and Jack the Llama

the workings of a farm environment, and there's even a very relaxed fibreglass cow that Katrina says, "will stand nice and steady for people to have a go at what it is like to milk a cow."

Her favourite farm animal is

Bluey, the three-legged goat who lost a leg through a misadventure 10 years ago and is still going strong. Many of the animals and birds have come to White Ridge from rescue operations. Others are born on the premises, includ-

ing the bottle-fed baby goats and piglets, some of whom have starred in television commercials and shows.

"The animals get to show off their quirky personalities," says Katrina.

While chicken cuddles are always popular with the guests, the stand-out crowd favourite is their largest and cheekiest animal, nine-year-old Gypsy the camel.

"Gypsy is sweet, kind and gentle, but a nightmare to give medi-

cine to!" says Katrina.

Katrina insists, "There is no such thing as a typical day on a farm!" Each day begins with feeding and moving the animals to the display paddocks. After the guests leave, the animals get to play in the big paddock and are given fruit and vegetables. "Watermelon is the favourite food on the farm," Katrina says. "Even the dogs love it!"

Running a small business with many different animals has its challenges, not least in dealing with the amount of animal waste produced. "We have a compost heap the size of a tennis court," says Katrina, "which they use again later as garden fertiliser."

Inclusivity and accessibility are at the heart of David and Katrina's mission. Bitumen pathways throughout the farm ensure everyone, including those with prams and wheelchairs, can comfortably navigate and enjoy the farm experience.

"We have an awesome team of staff and volunteers that we also call our family, who have just as much passion for our business as we do," says Katrina. "We all love sharing our animals and spreading joy."

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Welcome to 6 Canando Street, nestled in the heart of picturesque Woodford, QLD. I'm delighted to present to you this stunning property, offering you the chance to create your very own masterpiece in this charming, historic town.

Auction on-site
4th May 2024 at 10am

Woodford is more than just a place to live; it's a community steeped in rich history and surrounded by natural beauty. With its wide streets, grand old hotel, and colonial-style shops, you'll find yourself immersed in the quaint charm of yesteryear. Explore the nearby Mount Mee State Forest, with its winding walking tracks through sub-tropical rainforests, perfect for picnics and camping. And don't miss out on the renowned Woodford Folk Festival, a highlight of the annual calendar!

Just a short drive away, you'll discover the pristine estuary of Pumicestone Passage and Bribe Island, offering endless opportunities for relaxation and recreation. And with Brisbane Airport a mere 50 minutes away, you're never far from the hustle and bustle of city life.

Now, let's talk about the property itself. Situated on 12.56 hectares (31 acres) across 2 titles, this expansive land parcel boasts abundant water with Stanley River frontage, a spring-fed dam, and well-drained black alluvial soil. The possibilities are endless with fully fenced internal paddocks, laneways, cattle race and yards, and a 5-bay Colourbond shed complete with tank water, power, perfectly positioned house site and your very own windmill.

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FOR THE LOVE OF CREATURES

GABRIELLE TURNBULL
ART SO LIVELY

MORETON Bay is such a wonderful place to live. My daily routine gets me out early walking, enjoying what my local area offers in abundance. I'm also fortunate enough to be able to walk to work.

My route takes me along the banks of Redcliffe's Humpybong Creek which is alive with a variety of bird and animal life. Different types of ducks, some wild and some discarded domestic ones, brighten my days with their adorable antics. Cheeky waterhens dart in and out of the creekside bushes, feeding and protecting their fluffy black chicks.

However, my favourite is the wonderful Ibis, hated and demonised by many, but whose close relative was worshipped by the ancient Egyptians. I see them as gentle, industrious and majestic. I also see an occasional eel slithering in the water, dragonflies zig-zagging and many tortoises sunning and swimming. All of this makes my daily walks rich and memorable.

My love and respect for these creatures reminded me of an article I read recently in the Smithsonian magazine. The article by Amy Crawford tells of an early 20th-century German artist named Franz Marc, whose love of animals was great. He passionately

Painted animals of every kind, using vibrant colours. He visited zoos and roamed fields and byways in search of fauna. His works featuring domestic dogs and cats followed by foxes, deer and even exotic tigers became popular.

Expressing his love for animals he once said: "People with their lack of piety, especially men, have never touched my true feelings. But animals with their virginal sense of life, awakened all that is good in me!"

Born in Munich in 1880, the son of a landscape artist, he studied art at Munich University. He co-founded The Blue Rider, a journal whose name became synonymous with a group of influential German artists. He greatly admired the work of Vincent Van Gogh and was friends with Wassily Kandinsky.

He lived in a time of great upheaval, struggles and social change. His interpretation of "man's wickedness" proved disastrously accurate. He was drafted into the German army and sadly was killed in 1916 at the Battle of Verdun. The art world is the poorer for his untimely, unnecessary death.

In recent years, his paintings have attracted large sums, in particular The Foxes, which fetched a record 42,654,500 pounds (nearly A\$82 million).



STUDENTS RAISE THE CURTAIN ON CLASSIC MUSICAL

ELISABETH WALSH

GRACE Lutheran College has announced their upcoming production of Rodgers and Hammerstein's classic musical Oklahoma!

The performances will take place at the Redcliffe Entertainment Centre from Thursday, 2 May to Saturday, 4 May.

Set at the turn of the 20th century, Oklahoma! follows the story of farm girl Laurey Williams and her two suitors, the charming cowboy Curly McLain and the brooding farmhand Jud Fry.

As tensions rise and love blossoms, the characters navigate the complexities of life, love, and the pursuit of dreams in a rapidly changing landscape.

The production is directed by John Sencuk with musical direction by Rachel Howley and choreography by Janet

Thiel.

Rachel said the production was a celebration of community, resilience and the enduring power of love.

"Audiences can expect an exhilarating journey filled with laughter, tears, and plenty of toe-tapping tunes," she said.

With iconic songs such as Oh, What a Beautiful Mornin' and The Surrey with the Fringe on Top, this production is sure to captivate audiences of all ages.

Meanwhile, Year 12 student Charlotte Lake, who plays the role of Aunt Eller, said it was her first musical at Grace.

"I love working with everyone and it's been a new experience working with a live orchestra," Charlotte said. "It is so good to see it come together with the orchestra, crew, sets and costumes."

Year 11 student, Mac Gynther, stars as the charismatic

Curly McLain.

"It's been amazing to be a part of such an incredible production, working with industry professionals and be surrounded by like-minded performers," Mac said.

Keegan Rorke, a Year 12 student in the orchestra, said it was his first time performing in a musical and that he was enjoying the experience.

"It's such a great production and I'm really excited that the orchestra will be on stage with the actors," Keegan said.

Don't miss out on this unforgettable theatrical experience.

To purchase tickets visit www.graceacademy.com.au/ticketing



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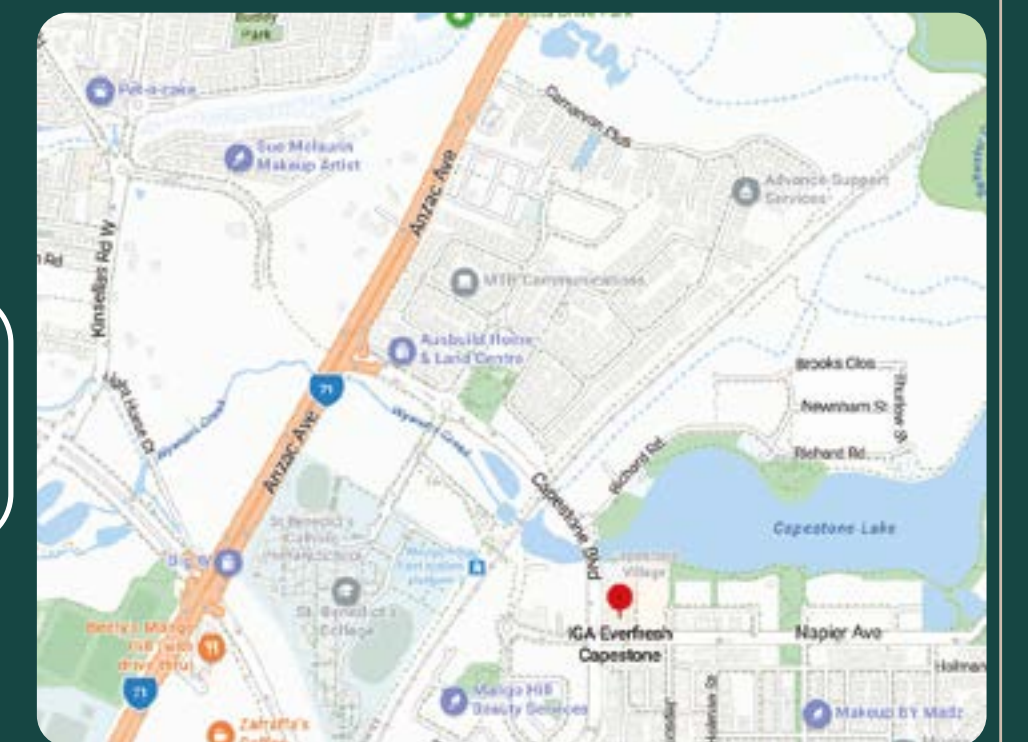


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MARK VINCENT BRINGS HIS BEST TO MORETON BAY

STORY ALYSSA MACKAY

Don't miss the opportunity to witness the incredible talent of Mark Vincent, Australia's classical crossover tenor, when he takes the stage at the Redcliffe Entertainment Centre.

On Saturday, 6 July, Mark will perform his most popular hits in his show, *The Best So Far*.

Mark, who shot to fame after winning Australia's *Got Talent* in 2009 at the age of 15, said his repertoire included Hallelujah and Nessun Dorma.

"Audiences can expect a calibration of songs from musical theatre, arias and classic ballads that I've been known for over the years," he said.

"Nessun Dorma for me is an aria like no other. It's the party piece of my show. If I don't do this aria, people yell out for it.

"For me, it's great to experience the audience's reactions from different areas around the country. Make me always believe that being a performer is who I am and what I'm meant to be doing.

"The hardest thing is being away from my wife and children. It can get lonely on the road touring but this is the business I'm in. It's all part of the journey."

Mark began singing at the age of nine when he was inspired by his grandfather and the music of American actor and tenor, Mario Lanza.

After struggling to find the right singing teacher, Mark eventually met a special woman

named Mrs Gould.

"She was the only person who never gave up on me," he said. "To think I went through five different singing teachers prior to her and each teacher said the same thing: 'We can't help Mark. He can't take on music direction.' Mrs Gould saw something in me and from that moment I started with her, I never looked back."

Mark's career has been on the upward ever since, working with artists like Dame Julie Andrews and recording the album *A Tribute to Mario Lanza*, which features a virtual duet with the legendary tenor.

He said paying tribute to Mario was a great honour.

"Having Mario Lanza's only living daughter, Elisa, giving me permission to do this project is something I'll never forget," he said. "I'll always cherish this close to my heart."

Tickets start at \$75.50 (excluding transaction fee).

To book tickets go to www.redcliffeentertainmentcentre.com.au/Events/Mark-Vincent

Mark Vincent - The Best So Far
Saturday, 6 July, 2pm
Redcliffe Entertainment Centre
Downs Street, Redcliffe.

MOVIE REVIEW



STORY @WATCHITWOMBAT

Set in Switzerland during the Second World War, *Lubo* follows the journey of a humble nomadic street performer who is happy with his lot in life – friends, family and the open road. That is until he's reluctantly called up to join the Swiss army to defend the border with Austria from a potential German invasion. Forced to abandon his family, it's not long before tragedy hits and the authorities take his three young children away. Fueled by his love for his kids and hatred of those who've taken them, he's determined to have his family back,

but where to start?

Although this is a story of one man doing anything (and I mean anything) to be reunited with his family, you'll soon realise that the story has a deeper and far more sinister mystery lurking beneath the surface. After *Lubo*, played expertly by Franz Rogowski, deserts the army and assumes a new identity, you'll be wondering if his secret will be uncovered and if he'll ever find his family. To explain any further would spoil your enjoyment of the movie but what I can tell you is that the driving force of

this film boils down to a simple question – how far would you go to protect your children? This may sound cliché but as a parent, I can relate to it being one of the biggest motivations of my life.

Thanks to Director Giorgio Diritti and his incredible cast and crew, you won't doubt for a second that this isn't the 1930s and that Hitler isn't a stone's throw away. The locations look amazing, the costumes look authentic and the cars look brand new.

As I'm sure you can imagine from what you've

read so far, this isn't a light-hearted jaunt through the Swiss Alps. However, what it lacks in laughs, it makes up for in heart and mystery, as at any moment he could be discovered.

Make sure you purchase a large popcorn and drink (preferably a stein of beer) and get comfortable because *Lubo* has a three-hour run time. Don't be daunted by this, think of it more as value for money.

Catch *Lubo* at the German Film Festival from 9-29 May at Palace Cinemas Brisbane.

Mark Vincent

THE BEST SO FAR



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Eco Eve

CLEANING OVENS THE NATURAL WAY

OVENS are a pain to clean, and oven cleaners often contain caustic chemicals that give off nasty fumes. But there are natural alternatives.

However dirty your oven is, scrape off as much grime as you can, then mix plenty of bicarbonate of soda with water to make a thick paste. Spread this over the sides and base of a cold oven and leave overnight.

Wipe down with hot water the next day. Repeat if necessary.

For stubborn baked-on grime, use dry bicarb on a scourer or sponge, and rinse well afterwards.

Oven Spritzer

Keep your oven fresh and clean by spraying regularly with water and then sprinkling with dry bicarbonate of soda. Once you apply the bicarb, spritz again with water to dampen. Give further spritzes every hour or so. Leave the mixture to sit overnight.

Remove with a cloth the next day. Rinse with water.

Microwave Oven

When the microwave door is closed continually, musty smells and moulds can build up, especially in times of high humidity and steam from cooking.

Combat this by leaving a small, open container of bicarbonate of soda inside the microwave oven. A ramekin or glass pot works well. Periodically stir the contents and replace them every two to three months.

Remember to remove the container when the microwave is in use.



ROCKING HORSES

MEADE MURPHY

FOR many people, rocking horses evoke some of the fondest memories of the sheer fun of their childhood. Recently, I purchased a rocking horse (pictured) and for every second person that has walked into my antique shop it has triggered some sort of memory of their childhood.

The first rocking horses date back to the 1600s and it was a horse on a pair of bow rockers similar to a rocking chair. The golden age for rocking horses boomed in the second half of the 19th century. Manufacturers jumped on the bandwagon – they were not only made by toy makers, but companies engaged in the manufacture of baby carriages and sports goods. Some of the rocking horses were as large as 2.4 metres, including the bow rockers.

By the late half of the 19th century, the bow rockers proved to be responsible for damage to walls and flooring and children's

fingers and toes. In 1880 the safety stand was created for the horse to not travel across the floor and proved to be very popular and soon manufacturers around the world offered it as an alternative to bow rockers. These rocking horses were mainly made by European, British and American manufacturers but Australian makers came into their own at the onset of World War I when the traffic on imported goods ceased. The Australian rocking horses were cheaper, and while not as graceful as imported rocking horses, they were sold in great quantities. Then in the 1930s, the Great Depression sounded the death knell for the rocking horse industry. The introduction of metal toys such as pedal cars, scooters etc – children wanted the toys of new transportation. Rocking horses were relegated to dusty attics. After World War II, people started to think

about non-essentials again and factories slowly ramped up production in the 1950s. The Cyclops Company, who were making metal toys, made metal and plastic rocking horses, which were a lot cheaper and lighter than the old wooden rocking horse. Australian manufacturers struggled to compete and in the 1970s, import tariffs on toys were removed and cheaper Asian toys dealt Australian manufacturers a fatal blow.

I have restored a number of rocking horses over the decades and some of the finest rocking horses I've seen have been made by parents and grandparents. They put a great deal of love into the handiwork becoming part of the family, which in turn become family heirlooms and are passed down through the generations.



ASK AN EXPERT

What is Box Breathing?



BY DEBB WEBBER
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the same pace, and holding air in your lungs for a count of four before exhaling and beginning the pattern again.

Practice anywhere – when you are showering, watching tv, or even working.

THIS powerful breathing technique works by distracting your mind as you count to four, calming your nervous system, and decreasing stress in your body.

Box breathing is a simple but powerful relaxation technique that can help return your breathing pattern to a relaxed rhythm. It can clear and calm your mind, improving your focus.

Box breathing, also known as four square breathing, involves exhaling to a count of four, holding your lungs empty for four – count, inhaling at

- Keep your lungs empty for a count of four
- Inhale for a count of four
- Keep your lungs full for a count of four

There is a box breathing app you can download from apple.

If you would like further information or to make an appointment, please contact Zen Chi Natural Therapies on 0734822549.



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NARANGBA VALLEY TAVERN

Dining in Restaurant 37/47 is a treat for the entire family. We offer a warm, fresh, family friendly vibe with our chefs providing a wide range of tasty dishes while also keeping with our classic pub favourites. A variety of mid-week deals are available, check our website for details. We can get a little busy, especially during our dinner time service so we highly suggest making a booking to make sure we have a seat for you. **Open 7 days, Lunch from 11:30am and Dinner from 5:30pm.**

 Ph: 3491 1000
37-47 Golden Wattle Drive, Narangba
www.narangbatavern.com.au
@narangbavalleytaVERN

DECORATED in clean lines of contemporary décor, this restaurant chain prides itself on fresh, quality ingredients prepared in-house by professional chefs with years of experience. Following Japanese custom, staff politely greet customers outside and invite guests indoors when a table is available. (Tip: arrive early—lunchtimes are popular).

Signature Katsu dishes are lightly fried premium meat cuts breaded in a melt-in-the-mouth panko crumb and cooked using French techniques.

Choose from six Katsu sets of either pork, seafood, chicken, or tofu accompanied by rice, cabbage salad, miso soup, pickled vegetables, the restaurant's famous blend of Katsu sauce, plus sesame seeds that guests may choose to grind with a mortar and pestle, enhancing the flavour.

Salmon, curry or eggplant donburi, sashimi, and udon and soba noodle dishes round out the main course options. But with seven sides and five add-ons, you'll never leave hungry.

I was sorely tempted by the Tomahawk (pork rib eye) and Chicken Katsu but instead, chose the Silken Tofu Katsu for my main dish. Like its name, it was seductively smooth, and the panko crumbs were exquisite.

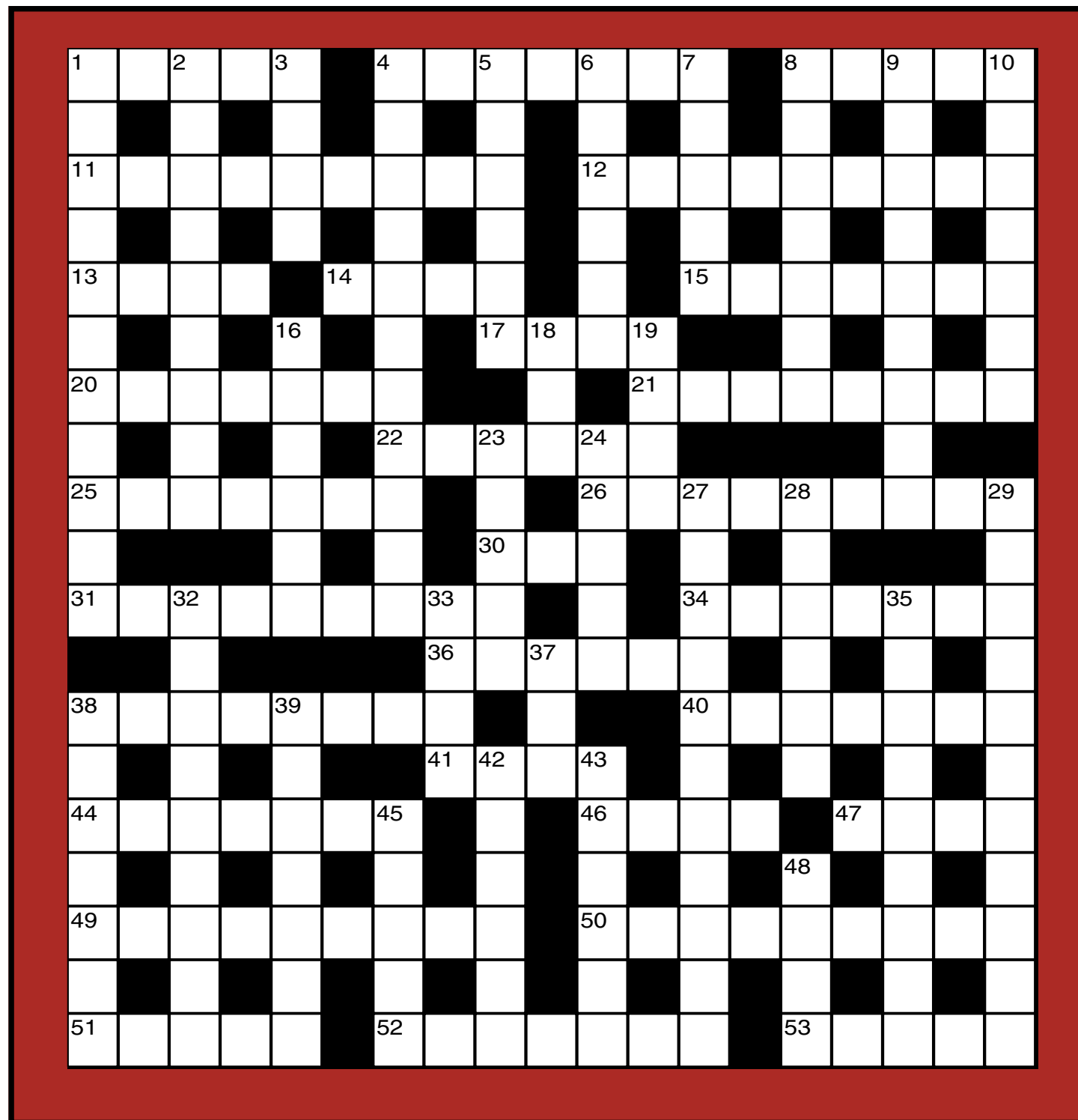
Try dipping them in the condiments of pink Himalayan salt, a touch of wasabi, or ground sesame seeds mixed through the in-house Katsu sauce, which is a special blend of Worcestershire, tomatoes, and oyster sauce that can be purchased separately to take home.

Table condiments include black sesame or soy citrus dressing – delicious on the cabbage salad or rice. I was delighted to find Ramune, a Japanese lemonade soft drink and a non-alcoholic Asahi beer on offer. Gluten-free, vegan, nut and dairy-free options are available.

And if you think Japanese food isn't for you, try the carbonara udon. It's sure to please even the pickiest Aussie-style eaters.

Marnie's Rating - 5 out of 5 stars

THE BIG ONE CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 1 Directed
 - 4 Amount left over
 - 8 Verse writers
 - 11 Foolish person
 - 12 Unconvinced
 - 13 Diesel oil, eg
 - 14 Round object
 - 15 Keep at it
 - 17 Tinkle
 - 20 Allow to grow
 - 21 Unfavourable
 - 22 Exit
 - 25 This evening
 - 26 Helper
 - 30 Earnings
 - 31 Whiskers
 - 34 Element, Li
 - 36 Ruined
 - 38 Synthetic rubber-like compound
 - 40 Supply
 - 41 Files a suit against
 - 44 Most orderly
 - 46 Tradie's implement
 - 47 Celebration
 - 49 Differently
 - 50 Peak viewing period (5,4)
 - 51 Discontented (3,2)
 - 52 Protest by a minority
 - 53 Short message on Twitter

- DOWN**
- 1 Forever (2,9)
 - 2 Dummy
 - 3 Food fish
 - 4 Showing fellow feeling
 - 5 Outcome
 - 6 Example
 - 7 Doze
 - 8 Rat-kangaroo
 - 9 Mexican dish
 - 10 Toasted
 - 16 WW2 submarine
 - 18 Anger
 - 19 Blast
 - 23 Come of age
 - 24 Seal of approval (3-2)
 - 27 Switchboard operator
 - 28 Country
 - 29 Personality
 - 32 Let loose
 - 33 Shades
 - 35 Mimicking
 - 37 Female deer
 - 38 Farewell party (4-3)
 - 39 Clarify (5,2)
 - 42 Knocks over
 - 43 Metal paper fastener
 - 45 Attempted
 - 48 Trousers' support

DATE CLAIMERS

Every Saturday

Narangba Park Run Walk, jog, run, volunteer or spectate at Narangba's 5k park run. **Details:** FREE, 7am, Harris Ave, Narangba. www.parkrun.com.au/register or www.parkrun.com.au/harrisvenue

Social

Starting a movie and coffee club. Looking for anyone over 50 who would like to be part of social events please contact Marion on 0420 444 175.

4 May

Get ready to laugh a lot as you learn how to be more relaxed onstage at the 'Techniques for improvisation comedy workshop' hosted by City of Moreton Bay. Award-winning comedian Jenny Wynter will show aspiring, emerging and established performers aged 16 years and over the fundamentals of improvisation and how to create spontaneous, fun and entertaining moments on the spot. **Details:** FREE | 9.00am to 1.00pm | North Lakes Community Centre, Meeting room 2, 10 The Corso, North Lakes | Email: cultural.activation@moretonbay.qld.gov.au | Book: aumbrc.sales.ticketsearch.com/sales/salesevent/118302

4-5 May

There's plenty to see and do at the Bromeliad and Foliage Frenzy, hosted by the Caboolture and Districts Bromeliad Society Inc. Speak to one of the growers who will provide valuable advice about your garden, find a gift for Mother's Day and explore many varieties of bromeliads, succulents, orchids, pots and garden tools. **Details:** FREE | Saturday: 8.00am to 4.00pm, Sunday: 8.00am to 1.00pm | Minimbah State School, Cnr Walkers Road and Minimbah Drive, Morayfield | Email: secretarycabroms@gmail.com

7-28 May (Caboolture) and 10-31 May (Burgpengary)

Women and children are invited to take part in a four-week progressive self-defence course hosted by City of Moreton Bay and Inner Circle Academy, choosing from two different locations. Participants will learn proven techniques that can be used against a broad variety of common attacks. Suitable for those aged over 12 years old. Participants under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. **Details:** FREE | 6.15pm to 8.15pm | Caboolture Memorial Hall, 61-65 King Street, Caboolture OR Burgpengary Community Hall, 101 Station Road, Burgpengary | Contact: Inner Circle Academy on 0405 318 449 or email peter@innercircleacademy.com.au | Book online: www.moretonbay.qld.gov.au

moretonbay.qld.gov.au

10 May

Engage your senses and learn about the local flora and fauna at the Sensory Bushwalking event, presented by Nature Freedom as part of the City of Moreton Bay Healthy and Active Program. The scavenger hunt bushwalk is designed to activate your eyes, ears, nostrils and tastebuds. Bring your hat, insect repellent and water and meet at the picnic tables at Carole Green Walkway. **Details:** FREE | 8.00am to 10.00am | John Oxley Reserve, 2 Ogg Road, Murrumba Downs | Contact: 3205 0555 | Book: aumbrc.sales.ticketsearch.com/sales/salesevent/130190

11 May

Dance with a full-sized, live Big Band for a full hour of the classics at A Swing Around the Dance Floor with the Northside Concert Orchestras (NCO). The NCOs is a not-for-profit music organisation comprised of high school students through to retirees. **Details:** \$20pp | 7.00pm to 8.00pm | Narangba Community Hall, 229 Mackie Road, Narangba | Contact: enquiries@northsideconcertorchestras.com or call 0401 753 137

11 May

The general public is invited to the Annual Birman Cat Fanciers Club of Queensland Inc Cat Show to witness 180 pedigreed shorthair and longhair cat breeds in a three-ring championship show. Discover the Birman (Sacred Cat of Burma) with their blue eyes, snow white feet and silky-soft coat and speak to the breeders and exhibitors about these beautiful show cats. **Details:** \$5 adults, \$4 seniors/pensioners, \$10 family pass | 9.00am to 3.00pm | Morayfield Sports and Events Centre, 298 Morayfield Road, Morayfield | Contact: birmanclubqld@gmail.com

17 May

Spend an action-packed evening underneath the stars at Movie in the Park North Lakes with a free screening of Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem. Pack a picnic rug and/or bring your chairs to this all-ages event presented by City of Moreton Bay. **Details:** FREE | 5.00pm to 8.00pm | The Lakes College, 2 College Street, North Lakes | Contact: info@whatsonmoretonbay.com.au

18 May - 18 June

Blair Garland's exhibition, The Change, delves into the experience of menopause as a cultural milestone through various mediums. By disrupting common assumptions surrounding menopause and

examining the language used to describe women, their fertility, and ageing, the exhibition aims to provoke thoughtful discussions and challenge societal norms. **Details:** FREE | Tuesday to Saturday from 10.00am to 4.00pm | The Hub Gallery, 4 Hasking Street, Caboolture | Contact: 07 5433 2800

18 May

Join Red Ride - Ride Against Domestic Violence at their Family Fun Day and say NO to domestic violence. There will be free activities for the kids, live entertainment, food and market stalls, a car and bike show, important information sessions about domestic violence. Say hello to the Red Riders as they return from their ride around the region. **Details:** Gold coin donation | 10.00am to 3.00pm | Caboolture Showgrounds, 140 Beerburum Road, Caboolture | Contact: info@redride.org

18 May

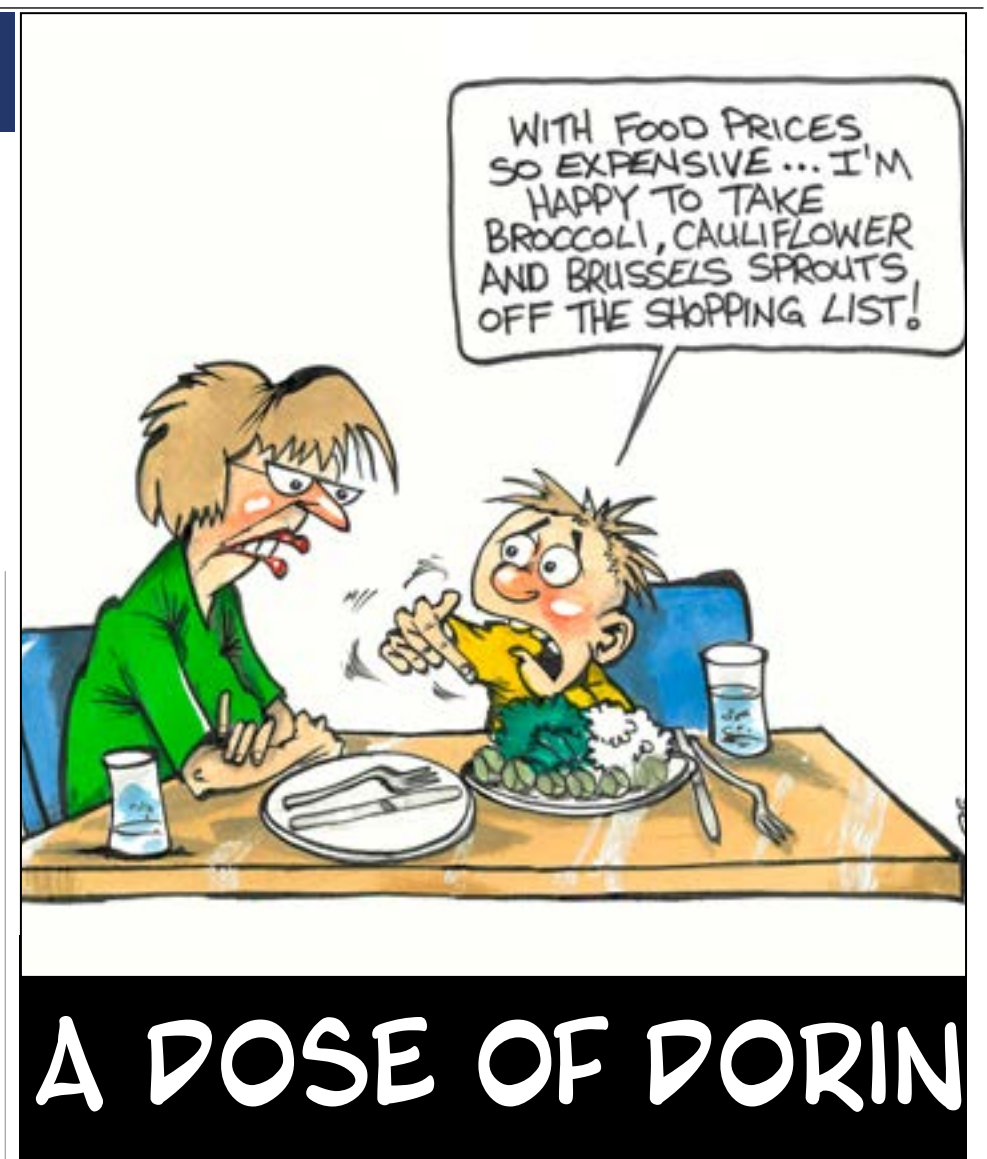
The whole family will enjoy the mind-boggling magic circus stunt show presented by the Flabbergasters, a special event as part of Anywhere Festival Moreton Bay. Magic Pete is set to dazzle the crowd with illusion and mind-reading, while Cirque Stuntman Joel's displays of juggling, ballooning and balancing will impress and amaze. **Details:** Tickets start at \$20 | 2.30pm to 3.30pm | Narangba Community Hall, 227-229 Mackie Road, Narangba | Book online: anywhere.is/event/flabbergasters/

18 May

New Beginnings Baptist Church is inviting local women to participate in games, crafts, food and fellowship at the Rejoice Ladies Retreat. All ladies over the age of 12 are welcome to attend. Ticket prices include morning tea, lunch and craft. **Details:** \$20pp | 9.30am to 2.00pm | Mango Hill State School, Bonnet Parade, Mango Hill | Contact: Melissa on 0497 986 114 or email rejoice@newbeginningsbc.com.au

25 May

Find your next great read at the inaugural Local Author Expo at Burgpengary. More than 15 authors will share their motivation for writing in a speed-date style format, where audience members will sit in small groups as the authors take turns sharing their elevator pitches. **Details:** FREE | 11.00am to 1.00pm | Burgpengary Library, 121 Station Road, Burgpengary | Contact: 07 5433 2215 | Book online: www.moretonbay.qld.gov.au/libraries/Events/WAMB/Local-Author-Expo-Burp



A DOSE OF DORIN

LOCAL CLUB MEETINGS

Rotary Caboolture
Every Wednesday at 7pm
Bronze Room at Sports Central, Cnr of Beerburum Rd & Hasking St, Caboolture
Ph: 0417 744 731
www.caboolturerotary.org

BPW Caboolture
Meets the first Friday of each month at 7am at Sports Central, Cnr of Beerburum Rd & Hasking St, Caboolture.
Ph: 0402 065 619 or email president@bpwcaboolture.com.au

Mango Hill Progress Association
Meets the third Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm at the Mango Hill Community Centre.
Ph: 0415 342 007 or email admin@mangohillprogress.org

Burgpengary Camera Club
Third Thursday of each month at 7.15pm at KSP theatre, Cnr Old Bay Rd and Maitland Rd, Burgpengary East. \$5pp
Ph: 0409 766 645 or email burgpengarycameraclub@gmail.com

Artisans' Guild
Meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 1-17 Maitland Road, Burgpengary East. Ph: 3888 6333 or email gallery@artisansguild.org.au

Pine Rivers VIEW Club
Meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 10.30am at Murrumba Downs Tavern, 232 Dohles Rocks Rd, Murrumba Downs. Ph: 0417 639 800 or

email.pinerivers.view@gmail.com

Zonta Club of Caboolture
Last Wednesday of each month at 6.30pm
Jacaranda Café, King Street Caboolture
Ph: 0407 169 682 (Pam)
New members welcome

QCWA Burgpengary Green Wattles Branch
Meets every Wednesday at 9am to 11.30am at the Burgpengary Men's Shed, Maitland Road, Burgpengary East. Everyone is welcome to come along and meet new friends, learn a craft and enjoy a lovely morning tea.
Phone 0409 195 163.

Phoenix Country Music Club
Meets the first Sunday of each month commencing at 11am at the Burgpengary Community Hall, Station Rd, Burgpengary Young and Old alike are welcome and encouraged to get up and have a go. Phone 0405 722 246

Robus Club of Caboolture
Meets on the second Monday of each month at 9.30am at Council Hall 21 Hayes Street Caboolture. Contact Secretary on 0418632689 or robuscaboolture@gmail.com.
Burgpengary Men's Shed Drop In Group
Meets on the first Tuesday of each month from 6pm - 8pm at The Burgpengary Men's Shed 1-17 Maitland Road Burgpengary East. Contact Rodney Hansen on 0481 480 486.

Pines Garden Club
Meets on the 1st Monday of the month except public holidays and the 2nd Monday from 9am to 12pm at the Community Hall 1480 Anzac Ave Kallangur. Visitors most welcome.

Caboolture Radio Club Inc
Meets on Saturday and Monday mornings at about 9am at the clubrooms behind the Scout Den at 169 Smiths Rd, Caboolture. Newcomers welcome. Our interest is primarily amateur radio, though an interest in radio or electronics is not necessary.
Ph 0455 860 256
vk4qd@yahoo.com.au

Morayfield & District Lions Club Inc
Business Meetings on the second Wednesday of the Month and Dinner Meetings on the fourth Wednesday of the Month. December meetings may vary. Arrive 6.30 pm for 7.00 pm start at 1 Maitland Road Burgpengary East (third driveway in from corner of Maitland Rd & Old Bay Rd). Contact Glenda Riley on 0407027535

50+ Club Kallangur
Meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month. Ph: 3204 6366

Probus Club of Pine Rivers Inc.
Meets the 1st Thursday of each month, except January at 10am, at Pine Rivers Memorial Bowls Club, 1-11 Sparks Rd, Bray Park. Phone Secretary 32611926 or 0401261637

MEDIUM

SUDOKU #90

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	3						5	4
9		6		4	5			8
	5		1	6				

Puzzle Solutions on Page 38

HARD

		2			6					9
5							2			6
	4						3		8	5
		9				3				
1		5		7			4	8		2
						2				7
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9				4						3
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THE CRYPTIC CRITIC ANY APPLICATIONS

RICHARD LANCASTER

YOU have studied, passed your exams and practised and because of this, you have been rewarded with the job you have always wanted. The first couple of weeks of induction are both exciting and fulfilling. Exactly as you expected. But as the first and then the second year roll by, the job with all its promise, has lost its lustre and become an unfortunate experience. Why is this so? The job specifications keep dramatically changing. The boss authorities keep wanting more and more detailed information about the work. Now more frequently, verbal abuse occurs in the workplace, which on some occasions leads to physical violence. A 12 hour working day is not uncommon and during holidays, rest time is taken up carrying out more work duties. And after all that the wage is barely average. What is the job, you ask? The job title is Queensland School Teacher. The Federal government estimates a shortfall of 4000 high school teachers across the country, by 2025. Research tells

us that teachers intending to leave the profession within the first five years is up to 50% of the teaching workforce. Similar results are shown with more experienced teachers and principals planning to leave. Primary school teachers reflect similar feelings. With 40% of career teachers planning to leave the profession within the decade and governments relying on student teachers to fill the gap, it's little wonder that the student truancy rate is at an all-time high and their academic skills are at an all-time low! Most of those teachers who have already left the profession are working in non-teaching roles in museums, art galleries, sports coaching and social work. So, it's basically down to acting on the problems causing this pending catastrophe. What are they? Excessive workloads, poor student behaviour, insufficient money spent on schools and mediocre wages. And in so doing, both government and the public must acknowledge and respect the members of the teaching profession, who provide a public service that is so vital to the future of our nation.

The World According to Kate THE DOUBLE LIFE OF EMOJIS



IT seems like just yesterday when words meant what they meant, and emojis were just a glint in a digital artist's eye. But now, as I'm reminded by my dear daughter, even the most innocent of terms can carry a hidden meaning that's sure to raise an eyebrow or two among those in the know.

Could this be why so many seem to be struggling with the social dance of life? In a world where every word, every emoji, every gesture can be interpreted in a dozen different ways, how can anyone be sure they're speaking the same language as the person they're talking to? It's enough to make anyone feel like a fish out of water, socially, emotionally, and in almost every other way.

And it's not just the youth who are feeling the pressure. Even us old-timers, who grew up when you said what you meant and meant what you said, can't help but feel a bit overwhelmed by this brave new world of hidden meanings and secret codes.

But fear not; some have taken on the task of decoding this modern-day Babel of emojis. They're the unsung heroes who

ensure that when we ask someone to pick up something from the grocery store, we don't accidentally proposition them instead.

Yes, my friends, this is not just a problem for the next generation. Even seasoned citizens can inadvertently send the wrong message with a poorly chosen emoji.

Alas, emojis are here to stay along with their convoluted meanings, so perhaps it's time for us all to take a step back and brush up on our emoji skills.

Who knows, it might just help us all feel a little less awkward and a little more understood in this crazy, multilayered world of ours.

Or, in the best case, it may help us identify and report those unsavoury beings determined to groom our online enthusiasts.

Here are some hidden meanings behind 2024's most popular emojis, brought to you by our friends at the Australian Federal Police. If you think it is a problem for today's youth, think again! These little guys are being used by all generations.

Bottom



Drunkenness, sexual arousal, or a grimace

Feeling frisky or naughty



Nudes, which are often called "noods"



Used when sending or receiving nudes



K

Spiciness eg. inappropriate or risqué content



Cuddles



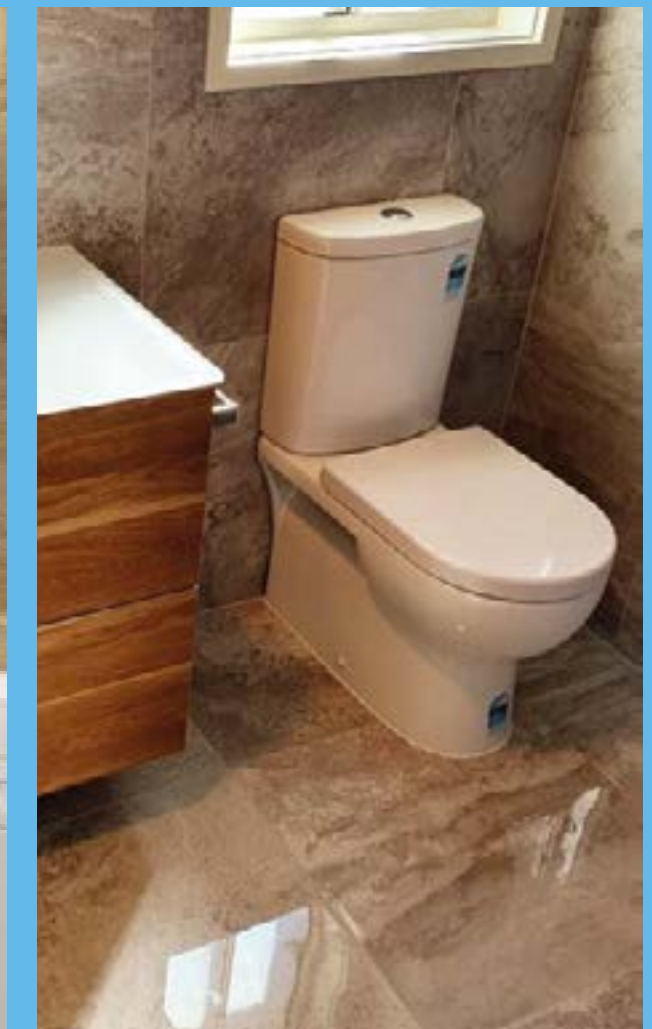
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We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Country across our region. We also acknowledge and pay our respects to the Kabi Kabi, Jinibara and Turrbal Traditional Custodians, and their elders past, present and emerging.

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D	A	O	Y	E	E	L	O	N	A								
I	G	N	O	R	A	M	U	S	S	C	E	P	T	I	C	A	L
N	N	Y	P	U	S	E	O	H	U								
F	U	E	L	B	A	L	L	O	P	E	R	S	I	S	T		
I	Q	M	T	T	I	N	G	O	L	E							
N	O	U	R	I	S	H	R	U	N	T	O	W	A	R	D		
I	I	D	E	G	R	E	S	S	D								
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D	S	A	R	S	A	N	B	T	M								
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F	E	U	E	T	L	S	L	V	N								
F	E	D	U	P	D	I	S	S	E	N	T	T	W	E	E	T	

MEDIUM

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

HARD

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

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OUT AND ABOUT



THE NEW NORMAL

MEADE MURPHY

IMAGINE going to the Bribie Island Passage for a flathead fishing adventure casting out and catching an 86cm barramundi!

These species of fish have been caught throughout Moreton Bay in numbers now and the odd barra all the way

down to the Nerang River. They now seem to be caught regularly in the Brisbane River with fishers using lures for jew fish and threadfin salmon. It seems every week I get a phone call from members wanting to know the legal catch size for barramundi. The minimum size is 58cm with a maximum size of 120cm and a boat limit of 10.

What is now more abnormal is that we have had a number of barred grunter fish (pictured) weigh in in the last few months. They have been caught in Hays Inlet, Nudgee Creek and the southern end of Moreton Island. The trouble is they have a size limit of 40cm, unlike the silver spotted grunter, which is 30cm. This has created confusion with members who hear the fish grunt when they

are out of the water and they think they have a 30cm limit. We have issued two members from two different clubs a 50-point penalty for weighing in an undersized fish. Fish are all about water temperature – when we have had an increase of one degree in the water temperature the fish can swim 200 km south. Due to the marine heat wave

we have had we are starting to get these tropical fish here in Moreton Bay.

Last year, we fished Caloundra in June for bream only to find when filleting the bream they were mainly males. The female bream didn't appear until the middle of July, the same time the snapper closure started.

The big snapper who spawn at 16 degrees centigrade turned up spawned and left just like the female bream did. Then in August, the whiting took us by surprise, turning up in large numbers at Bribie Island and Moreton Island a month early.

So, due to the water temperature, the bream were a month late and the whiting were a month early. The Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) has now issued a statement that we are going to have another warm winter. We have now started to monitor the water temperature with the sounders in our boats.

Currently, the water temperature from the end of April is 23 degrees centigrade in Moreton Bay. The WA government has just deployed temperature buoys along the west coast as the marine heat wave has increased the water temperature by a whopping four degrees. Maybe we should do the same as the Irukandji jellyfish must also be heading south.

It is time to call the abnormal the new normal after all – all of the world's oceans have had a marine heatwave and Australia has had its hottest eight years on record from 2005 to now. Now is the time for S.Q.A.F.C.A. to share its catch data with Fisheries Queensland so we can monitor Moreton Bay together.

The latest news that Fisheries Queensland has just released is the proposed changes to the crabbing fishery.

The proposal, the Recreational Fishery Discussion Paper, is to remove the lightweight fold-up crab pots from the fisher to protect the large amount of turtles and platypus etc. that have been killed in these pots.

These lightweight pots are also a menace to boating in high-current estuaries like Jumpinpin. Kalinga Bank is a graveyard full of these pots and we have had to dive to retrieve a number of anchors recently. View the discussion paper at: daf.engagementhub.com.au/recreational-fishing

Tickets are now available on the Oztix website for the 2024 Moreton Island Classic. For details visit www.oztix.com.au. Stay warm and safe out on the water.

MAY TIDE TIMES

TIME	M	TIME	M	TIME	M	TIME	M	TIME	M
1	0235 2.25 0944 0.82 WE 1519 1.63 2100 0.81	7	0250 0.49 0834 2.25 TU 1501 0.30 2115 2.59	13	0054 2.36 0757 0.83 MO 1317 1.56 1846 0.78	19	0030 0.87 0622 2.04 SU 1255 0.60 1914 2.11	25	0500 0.67 1020 1.82 SA 1623 0.47 2301 2.50
2	0350 2.26 1054 0.73 TH 1642 1.76 2226 0.77	8	0343 0.49 0920 2.14 WE 1539 0.31 2159 2.65	14	0142 2.23 0854 0.87 TU 1422 1.53 1944 0.90	20	0121 0.80 0704 2.03 MO 1331 0.53 1952 2.24	26	0545 0.69 1104 1.77 SU 1700 0.51 2344 2.48
3	0500 2.32 1156 0.60 FR 1750 1.94 2343 0.69	9	0433 0.52 1005 2.00 TH 1615 0.35 2243 2.66	15	0237 2.12 0950 0.87 WE 1537 1.57 2058 0.98	21	0209 0.74 0744 2.00 TU 1407 0.48 2030 2.35	27	0632 0.71 1153 1.73 MO 1743 0.56
4	0602 2.37 1250 0.49 SA 1848 2.13	10	0523 0.58 1050 1.87 FR 1649 0.42 2326 2.60	16	0338 2.06 1044 0.83 TH 1647 1.67 2219 0.99	22	0253 0.69 0822 1.96 WE 1441 0.45 2107 2.43	28	0030 2.44 0725 0.73 TU 1248 1.70 1833 0.63
5	0052 0.60 0658 2.38 SU 1338 0.39 1940 2.32	11	0613 0.66 1138 1.74 SA 1725 0.53	17	0440 2.04 1132 0.76 FR 1744 1.81 2330 0.94	23	0335 0.67 0900 1.91 TH 1515 0.44 2145 2.48	29	0121 2.40 0823 0.71 WE 1353 1.71 1935 0.70
6	0155 0.53 0747 2.34 MO 1421 0.33 2029 2.47	12	0009 2.49 0703 0.75 SU 1223 1.63 1802 0.65	18	0534 2.04 1215 0.68 SA 1831 1.96	24	0417 0.66 0940 1.87 FR 1548 0.45 2222 2.50	30	0218 2.36 0922 0.67 TH 1506 1.77 2047 0.75
						31	0321 2.32 1019 0.60 FR 1618 1.89 2204 0.76		



FISH OF THE MONTH

COPPERBAND BUTTERFLYFISH - CHELMON ROSTRATUS

The Copperband Butterflyfish also known as the Beaked Coral Fish is one of the prettiest fish found in Moreton Bay and inhabits the warmer areas of both the Pacific and Indian Oceans.

A reef fish that feeds mainly on tiny stinging anemones, coral polyps, worms and tiny shrimp hiding in the reef. I have seen them picking at the growths on the pylons of our local jetties. Growing to around 20cm they are usually found by themselves or swimming in pairs and are very territorial.

While diving once, I witnessed them swim away from me and I realised the black dots on their side resembled eyes looking back at me, that seems like a great way to fool a predator. Also a very sought after, peaceful and stunning fish for reef aquariums, they can fetch prices of around \$50 to \$100.



"Pete's Fishing and Underwater Videos" on Youtube and Facebook



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