

Douglas Shire News Newsport

PRINT

Thursday, October 8, 2026

newsport.com.au

FREE

Your locally sourced, printed and recycled newspaper is an extension of the Newsport Daily website, established in 2009

Tourism tax grab

Shaun Hollis

The State Government has introduced a new tax in Douglas Shire despite promising at the last election not to bring in any new taxes during this term of government.

From Sunday, October 18, non-local visitors to Mossman Gorge - the most visited Indigenous landmark in the country attracting about 300,000 tourists per year - will be required to pay a new tax of \$2.70 to help maintain the park. In the June state budget

Continued Page 5



Circus show
scarily
good

See Page 2

PORT DOUGLAS MAGAZINE

150 YEARS OF DOUGLAS.

BE PART OF A LANDMARK
YEAR IN PRINT

2027 BOOKINGS ARE NOW OPEN

COLLECTOR'S EDITIONS

49 • 50 • 51



*Celebrating the people, places, and stories
that make our region extraordinary.*



sales@portdouglasmagazine.com.au
TALK TO THE TEAM TODAY

Newsport Print welcomes your community story submissions. Submissions can be emailed to editor@newsport.com.au. Please include the what, when, why and how and, preferably, with a picture. Please also include a direct phone number and a full name so we can verify and confirm any further details when required to do so. Please keep your submission or story to no more than 200 words and as succinct as possible. Newsport reserves the right to edit, modify, change and re-write your submission for clarity, brevity or legal reasons. The publishing of all contributed submissions is at the sole discretion of the editor. Newsport Print also welcomes your story ideas, tips and leads.

Circus launches new show

Shaun Hollis

An ever-growing Sea Circus cast will this month unveil a brand new show at a brand new location for their yearly Halloween extravaganza.

The third in the local troupe's Tide of Terror Halloween series, Myths and Monsters promises "new ideas, new storylines, new costumes and more experiences" at a new venue - the Port Douglas Sailing Club at Four Mile Beach, according to organiser Vanessa Carey.

"Expect a lot of really good group acts, very creative stuff, collaboration, poetry, theatrics, fire dancing, aerial acrobatics, stiltwalking, LEDs, singing," Carey says.

"Plenty of new cast members, the circus is growing."

"We've got Keep on Dancing involved, playing live entertainment, members from the Clink (Theatre), so every year it just grows and then we're just getting other members from the community.

"They come to us, more or less, we mention Sea Circus, and people go 'Ooo, what's that', and then



Sea Circus performers (clockwise from back left) Vanessa Carey, Liselot Pappyn, Erica Mast, Cobie Nev, Ella Critchley, Zoey Silva, Morgan Nieuwoudt and Melanie Baynham. Picture: Shaun Hollis

they can be a part of it in a small way, and then it can be bigger."

About 25 cast and crew are involved in this show at the sailing club - which is not to be confused with the surf club or yacht club just down the road.

There will also be a food truck, a mini haunted-house walk-through

area, facepainting, a photo booth and prizes for the best dressed.

Myths and Monsters by Sea Circus is on Friday, October 16 and Saturday, October 17 at Port Douglas Sailing Club on Solander Boulevard. Doors open 5pm for a 6.30pm show.



Coastal living, without compromise.

Only 12 premium homesites remain.

Titles are complete and the first homes have commenced, bringing this boutique community to life.

Secure yours today.

Sagiba Ave
Opposite Pullman Port Douglas
Sea Temple Resort & Spa

Tegan Whatley
0409 413 659
tegan@allarohomes.com.au

beche.au

Comments flooding in

Bryan Littlely

Douglas Shire ratepayers have spoken loudly of their desire for council to consider greater use of social media for consultation, following the brakes being put on such commentary to its Port Douglas and Craiglie Flood Study.

Council is undertaking the Port Douglas and Craiglie Flood Study and Wonga Beach Flood Study to build a clearer picture of how water moves through the catchments and where flooding affects people, property and roads.

Encouraging people to give their views, a council social media post and promoting community drop in sessions on October 13 at Wonga Beach and October 14 at Port Douglas, the post says: "We

would like to hear from residents, business owners, property managers and visitors who experienced flooding in Port Douglas, Craiglie or the surrounding area".

The post directs readers to learn more about the project by visiting the Have Your Say online link.

But a move by one ratepayer, Liza Stewart, to provide feedback was rejected on the Council's Facebook post.

"It's been a disgrace the way this lazy council have never managed the forever clogged storm-water drains," she said.

The harsh social media critique prompted a swift response from Douglas Shire Council: "Facebook comments will not be collected as part of the study. If you want

your feedback included, please complete the survey or attend the community drop in session."

The move raised further response from poster Liza Stewart, telling council to "take feedback where you can get it".

"Douglas Shire Council, this is part of your study. It's local feedback."

Newsport asked questions of Douglas Shire Council with regards to the social media policy and how it might consider it as a tool for getting feedback.

"At this stage, Douglas Shire Council will not be incorporating social media comments into the formal consultation process for the Flood Studies," the response said.

"The key objective is to gath-

er meaningful local knowledge and feedback to help inform the study."

The response to Newsport's article has been overwhelmingly in support of council adopting more use of social media for community engagement.

Robyn Perry said social media was definitely the easiest way to consult with the community.

"Would happily see a staff member paid to monitor like administrators do for other groups," she said.

Doug Herrington added: "Turning off comments to council posts is like putting your fingers in your ears and saying 'la la la la' while the person commenting is talking.

When the Crocs come out to play...



Port Douglas Crocs players Elle Glazbrook, Daisy Quilter and Hannah Hyland attended the glittering awards ceremony late last month. For more on the evening see pages 19 & 20. Picture: Shaun Hollis

News in Brief

OPERATION YANKEE SURETY
Police across Queensland have seized 558 non-compliant e-mobility devices and issued more than 2,400 traffic infringement notices riders in the first three months of statewide Operation Yankee Surety.

The counts include 40 seized non-compliant bikes and 193 e-mobility infringement notices being issued in the Far North, with three people booked for drink riding.

A total 68 people have been booked by random breath testing for drink riding across Queensland.

Since the operation commenced on July 1, police have conducted targeted enforcement to seize non-compliant devices, ensure age and licencing requirements are adhered to, and deter dangerous riding and riding without a helmet.


Nurturing Life Connections
Learn, Play, Explore

Shop open-ended toys that *grow with your child's imagination* and offer long-term value.

Learn, play and explore with your child.



www.nurturinglifeconnections.com.au

SCAN ME



FROM SIDELINES TO CENTRE STAGE

Regional Queensland's 2032 opportunity

FOR generations, Queenslanders in regional towns have watched the Olympic and Paralympic Games from the couch while the action unfolded in faraway cities. In 2032, that changes.

From up in Cairns, all the way down to Maryborough, regional Queensland will not simply share in the excitement of the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games. It stands to be part of the journey.

While the world will see four weeks of competition, the real opportunity for regional Queensland lies in what happens before the opening ceremony and long after the closing ceremony. For communities across the state, the Games are a chance to strengthen transport connections, upgrade community facilities, reveal new tourism opportunities and bring global exposure for some of our

iconic destinations.

The commitment to spread events across regional Queensland marks a significant shift from many previous Olympic Games, where the benefits were largely concentrated in the host city. The Games provide a fixed delivery horizon, but their success for regional Queensland will ultimately be measured by what communities inherit.

Games events slated for regional Queensland include football preliminaries at Barlow Park Stadium in Cairns and Queensland Country Bank Stadium in Townsville, rowing in Rockhampton, and sailing in Townsville and the Whitsundays.

Rockhampton will also host one of the Games' Athlete Villages, alongside Brisbane, the Gold Coast and the Sunshine Coast - giving a regional city



a central role with additional housing as a legacy. Toowoomba is slated to host equestrian events, with the Showgrounds

to be transformed into a centre of excellence, while archery is planned for the town centre of Maryborough.

Great Barrier Reef Arena, Mackay

Legacy lives on in roads and tourism

REGIONAL Queensland's Games opportunity will look different in each community. It includes Games events and venues, but also investment in the connections people rely on, opportunities for tourism and local businesses, infrastructure intended to serve communities for decades, plus support for grassroots sporting facilities.

As Queensland prepares to welcome athletes, officials and visitors in 2032, better connectivity will be key. Alongside Games preparation is the broader investment in fixing the Bruce Highway. Described in Games planning documents as the state's most important road, the Australian and Queensland governments are investing more than \$9 billion to upgrade it - linking the

regions to Brisbane, each other, and the growing list of Games venues being built outside the capital. The improvements will support Games-time travel, but their long-term value will be measured through safer, more reliable journeys for regional Queenslanders.

Tourism is another pillar. A 20-year tourism plan is being implemented to capitalise on Queensland's time in the global spotlight, with new attractions, including eco-tourism experiences and accommodation, to draw visitors beyond Brisbane. For regional tourism operators, the opportunity is not limited to visitors who arrive in 2032. It is also about building the profile and appeal of Queensland destinations for the decades that follow.

GAMES ON!

Boosting regional grassroots sports

ACROSS regional Queensland, the 2032 Games are an opportunity to build something larger than the Games themselves. For all regional Queenslanders hosting a slice of the world's biggest sporting event is set to translate into a lasting, local legacy. The global spotlight will be temporary, but the facilities, connections, business opportunities and community pride created along the way can endure for generations.

But it is at the grassroots level that the regional legacy is arguably most visible right now, years out from the opening ceremony. The



Bundaberg Netball Association umpire Anne Howard (L) and Matt Leighton, President of Bundaberg Netball (R).

Queensland Government's Games On! Grassroots Infrastructure Program is already funding upgrades to local sporting facilities across regional Queensland, helping communities 'get more people active' and 'build a lasting community legacy' well before 2032.

In Mackay, the Great Barrier Reef Arena is just one of many venues benefiting. The arena - already a hub for major sporting fixtures where it recently hosted an Australia v Bangladesh cricket Test - is now positioned to host other major events.

Arena General Manager

Adrian Young said the funding would "help us improve facilities for our community while preparing Mackay for 2032." He said the venue's Stage 2 upgrade, and the success of hosting Mackay's first Men's Test Match, gave the region "enormous confidence" heading toward 2032.

In Bundaberg, the local netball association has also benefited under the program. Bundaberg Netball Association President Matt Leighton said the investment, covering lighting, court surfaces and accessibility, "has been essential" to improving facilities.

Advertisement



BARLOW PARK STADIUM CAIRNS
Early works commencing

DELIVERING 2032 AND BEYOND

UPDATE



TOWNSVILLE SAILING
Planning underway



ROCKHAMPTON ROWING FACILITY
Planning underway



GRASSROOTS SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE
Works underway






Authorised by the Queensland Government, Brisbane.

Broken promise

From Page One

help maintain the park. In the June state budget the Government announced an about \$630,000 upgrade of the Mossman Gorge Rainforest Circuit to improve the walking trail.

Douglas Shire Mayor Lisa Scmazzon spoke out against the new tax in the most recent council meeting, saying she had lobbied Tourism Minister Andrew Powell to introduce a broader tourist levy in the region, but he had knocked that back because the Government had promised not to introduce any new taxes.

"Previously I've advocated strongly at every chance with the State Government to introduce a sustainable tourism levy for this Shire," Mayor Scmazzon said.

"The intention behind the proposal is to generate funding that could be invested back into our community and benefit our ratepayers, residents and visitors by helping provide and maintain quality tourism infrastructure and community assets."

Deputy Mayor Roy Zammataro and Cr Damian Meadows supported the Mayor's stance.

"They knocked back a bad tax," Cr Zammataro said.

"A bed tax would benefit all of the ratepayers, it would cut the rates down."

Cr Meadows: "This seems like a back-handed tax."

"It's a cash grab by the State Government."

Several councillors said that Douglas Shire ratepayers pay to maintain the road to the Gorge, so the council should receive a share of this new tax.



Mossman Gorge is the most visited Indigenous landmark in Australia.

"We own that road, so why can't some of this funding come back to us to maintain that road?" Cr Meadows said.

"Why is it the ratepayers' responsibility to maintain that road?"

Mossman Gorge tourists who ride the bus from the cultural centre to the park are being hit with a new tax of \$2.70 from mid October.

Once the new fee is applied, an adult ticket will cost \$18.20, up from \$15.50, a child will cost \$10.45, up from \$7.75, and a family ticket will cost close to \$50, up from \$38.75 now.

A report tabled in last week's council meeting outlined reasons for the new tax.

The new fee will "flow directly to the Jabalbina Yalanji Aboriginal Corporation" under their park-management arrangements

with the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation Department (DETSI), the report stated.

"This fee increase and proposal is fully supported by Jabalbina," according to the DSC report. Reasons given for the new tax include to "support the sustainable environmental management of Mossman Gorge and the Daintree National Park, and "provide additional financial support for the ongoing maintenance of protected areas".

The Mossman Gorge visitor centre and bus are run by US-owned company Voyages Tourism Australia under the trading name Mossman Gorge Cultural Centre.

The DSC endorsed the new tax in the full council meeting, with chief executive Scott Osman saying it would be introduced anyway however way they voted.

Quaid's worth fighting for

Quaid's Road is "worth fighting for" even if a Ministerial response suggests big hurdles remain to get a win, says Member for Cook David Kempton.

Mr Kempton said he'd had numerous queries in relation to the Minister's response to the petition supporting Quaid's Road but made it clear it was not the end of the road for Quaid's being opened.

Mr Kempton said the response did not say that Quaid's Road could not be opened but rather set out prerequisites were this to occur."

"Quaid's Road is an iconic link between the coast and the tablelands that has survived the test of time and should be opened to the public for all to experience and enjoy."

Mr Kempton said Quaid's Road will provide a critical link for shift workers, locals, travellers, medical emergencies and perhaps evacuations when other links are closed for maintenance and repairs and could divert traffic from the Kuranunda Range which will likely suffer road work delays for years to come.

"The road may play a major part in the delivery of Wangetti Trail stage 3 and provides amazing tourism opportunities through access to national parks and wonderful vistas," he said.

"I will continue to work hard with the landowner, councils, tourist bodies and of course the tens of thousands of supporters who want to see Quaid's Road open after 35 years of closure.

"So far as I am concerned the people of the north have spoken and this is a project worth fighting for."



PORT SHORTS
FILM FESTIVAL

SATURDAY
24 OCTOBER 2026

REX SMEAL PARK
PORT DOUGLAS

GATES OPEN
4.30PM

Book your
TICKETS

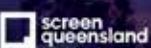


www.portshorts.com

Media Partners

STAR **WIN** **9**

Proudly supported by

  **DOUGLAS SHIRE COUNCIL**  

ROAD END IN SIGHT

Close to three years on from the devastation of Tropical Cyclone Jasper, the end is in sight for the restoration of the Mossman-Mount Molloy Road.

Both lanes on the busy highway up the range are now open to traffic, and the final works to stabilise the last two sites are expected to be completed midway through this month, weather permitting.

Following that the road surface will need to be finalised before the road is expected complete by the end of the year.

"Pavement resilience works are expected to commence in early November 2026 and be completed by the end of December 2026," according to the State Government Transport and Main Roads Department (TMR).

"During construction, the road will operate under single-lane contraflow traffic conditions."

More than 10 separate sites have been fixed, with works including slope stabilisation, erosion-prevention measures, anchor installation, concrete-retaining-wall construction and drainage improvements.

Ferry sales on the slide

Shaun Hollis

Daintree Ferry ticket sales across the past two months were down about 7.5 per cent on sales for the same period in 2025, as tour operators have had to deal with roadworks at the ferry terminal, price increases, petrol price hikes and an unusually wet July and August.

In August this year, about 24,500 tickets were sold, down about 1800 on the 26,300 the year before - a 6.8 per cent decrease.

And in July, about 25,500 were sold, down 2300 on about 27,800 in 2025 - an 8.3 per cent drop.

The 2026 ticket sales are still better than those of 2023 and 2024, when the Daintree Rainforest tourism industry was dealing with the effects of Covid-19 from 2020-23 and Tropical Cyclone Jasper from late 2023.

Tourism operator Lawrence Mason this week said the busy season had been "disappointing".

"The lack of traffic is noticeable," Mr Mason said.

Mr Mason said he believed the terminal roadworks were the biggest factor affecting ticket sales, but weather, and increased travel



Works to widen the approach lanes to the Daintree Ferry have been affecting customer numbers. Pictures: DSC

costs also played a part. "When you add in those roadworks it's been devastating.

"I don't think anyone up here's having a good time."

From July, long line-ups have been reported at the Daintree ferry as ongoing roadworks have caused delays for drivers heading across the river.

Douglas Shire Council is widening the approach lanes in preparation for a new four-lane ferry service set to start next year.

And that same month, the price

of a return ferry trip to the Daintree rose to \$57 as DSC fees and charges went up an average of 3.9 per cent for the 2026/27 financial year.

For the months of May and June, the Douglas Card was reinstated as a temporary measure to boost economic activity north of the Daintree River following flooding earlier in the year, which was made available to Queenslanders in neighbouring council areas allowing free ferry rides and visits to Mossman Gorge.

The year deserves a proper send-off

End of year party at Sheraton Grand Mirage Resort, with packages starting at \$159pp including transfers



Put your party boots on for FNQ's favourite music festival

Far North Queensland's premier music festival kicks off on Thursday and runs all this weekend.

The Savannah in the Round festival at Mareeba features a massive bill of world-class artists, including Icehouse, Don McLean, Missy Higgins, Tyler Braden, Lee Kernaghan, Ian Moss, Troy Cassar-Daley, The Wolfe Brothers, San Cisco, Busby Marou, Mental as Anything, Ganggajang and Kingswood.

Last year Savannah in the Round was believed to deliver more than \$7.4m to Mareeba Shire, largely driven by visitors travelling from outside the region and staying multiple nights.

The festival attracted close to 12,000 visitors and more than 30,000 attendances across four days. Savannah in the Round is on at Mareeba Rodeo Grounds from October 8-11.



Icehouse, Don McLean and Missy Higgins are headlining Savannah in the Round at Mareeba starting on Thursday. Pictures: Tnoy Mott, Emma Goodland

Local therapy practice helps kids

BUSINESS FEATURE
Jamie Jansen

Helping local kids thrive through play is at the heart of Nurturing Life Connections. After three years of mobile paediatric therapy across the Douglas Shire and Cairns, the practice is expanding with an online shop, bringing clinically tested developmental toys straight into local homes.

Founded by Paediatric Allied Health Therapist Jazmyn Vaughan, the practice supports children aged 0 to 12 navigating developmental delays, trauma, or social and emotional challenges, including NDIS participants.

Her approach centers on a simple philosophy: children learn and heal best when they feel connected to themselves, their families,



Developmental toys with goal-based filters to help parents, Picture: Jamie Jansen

and the world around them.

Through play-based learning and nature therapy, Ms Vaughan and her team help young clients grow, build motor skills, and improve emotional regulation.

Now, alongside their ongoing

mobile client sessions, they are making their exact clinical toolkit directly accessible to parents.

"Every item in our shop is chosen because it actively builds your child up and supports their emotional well-being."

Online toy shop

The idea for the online shop grew directly out of field work. Early on, therapists hauled heavy trolleys of standard toys to home visits, only to watch children lose interest quickly.

Switching to high-quality, open-ended tools changed everything.

Observing which toys held a child's attention week after week ultimately shaped both the practice's therapy model and its new storefront collection.

"We found children would

play with the exact same item for an entire year, expanding their creativity and cognitive abilities while playing in new ways every session," Ms Vaughan explained.

The online store features a broad collection of developmental tools tailored to different needs.

To help families find the right fit, the website includes developmental filters matching toys to specific goals like emotional regulation.



To read the full story scan this QR code

Want to showcase your business with a business feature? Please contact feature editor jamie@newsport.com.au

With Sugar

GRAB YOUR PORT SHORTS ESSENTIALS
Open 7 days, 9am to 5pm

BEAU GENTRY MENSWEAR
Behind the iconic Courthouse Hotel
Shop 3 Mantra on the Inlet,
Cr Wharf & Macrossan Streets
P: 07 4099 6881
www.beaugentrypd.com.au

HEMINGWAY'S BREWERY

TROPTOBERFEST
17 & 18 OCTOBER
SAT & SUN - 12PM - 9PM
CRYSTALBROOK MARINA
FREE ENTRY

No better spot to



This whopping 25kg red emperor was caught off the coast of Port Douglas within the past month. Picture: Akula

Shaun Hollis

Have you ever dreamt of catching a metre-long, 25kg fish as the sun rises up before you atop the deep-blue tropical ocean?

Well, Far North Queensland may very well be the best spot in the world to do just that.

Coral trout, nannagai, Spanish mackerel, giant trevally, dolphin-fish, black marlin, cobia, barra-mundi cod - the list is as long as that huge fish you've always been dreaming of catching.

Fishing charter operator Jason Knack, of Akula Sportfishing, says the waters off Port Douglas include some of the biggest and heaviest fish in the world for the amateur angler to attempt to catch.

"This section of the reef is some of the most productive fishing in Australia," Jason says.

"It's just the species that it attracts."

The warm tropical waters and Great Barrier Reef play a big part in the abundance of huge fish in

TIDE OF TERROR 3 MYTHS & MONSTERS

2 SPOOKY NIGHTS

FOUR MILE BEACH, SAILING CLUB
FRIDAY 16TH & SATURDAY 17TH OCTOBER
DOORS OPEN 5PM
FAMILY PACK \$100 - LONE WOLF \$40
SHOWTIME 6:30PM
VISIT EVENTBRITE.COM OR SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE INFO

Tickets on sale now

2026 OCT 23-25

Tablelands Folk Festival

tablelandsfolkfestival.org.au

HELP SAVE FNQ FROM ELECTRIC ANTS

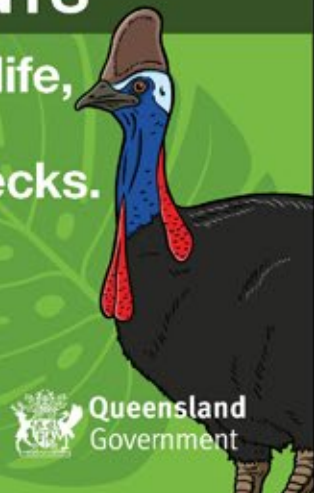
Electric ants pose a serious threat to our wildlife, pets and environment. More than 40% of infestations are found during free property checks.

Please book yours today

Please nominate Newsport Daily as how you heard of us!



13 25 23
dpi.qld.gov.au/anthunt



Queensland Government

reel in the big fish

the region. "The reef fish are all year round."

Less than a month ago Jason's charter crew caught a 25kg red emperor - and he reckons the fish are just as plentiful now as he has seen across the past about 20 years.

"I've only ever seen fish like that as a young guy caught off Fraser Island.

"It puts it in perspective of what's getting around out there."

Fellow fisherman Andy Fenwick has thrown the line in at many places across the world, but this is the best ever in terms of the "out-standing fishing", he says.

"(There is) the pure size of the fish and good eating fish are plentiful up here," Andy says.

"It's hard to go past."

Andy lists his favourites as coral trout, nannagai, Spanish mackerel, red emperor and mahi mahi (dolphinfish), although he says the blue cod in New Zealand gives them all a run for their money in terms of taste.

But, although Andy loves catching food for the table, his next challenge is to catch a catch-and-release game fish such as a marlin.

"It's one of the best places on the planet for chasing black marlin and it's right on your doorstep.

"It's just a real adrenalin rush when you get one of those big ones on."

And driving out to the Reef early in the morning with the rainforest behind you always holds the wow factor for Andy and all of his visiting friends.

"We're very lucky," Andy says.

"Where else in the world can you do that?"



Port Douglas fisherman Andy Fenwick regularly reels in huge fish off the coast of the popular tourist town. Picture: Supplied



A huge Spanish mackerel.



A coral trout.



A giant trevally.



A gold spot cod.



A large mouth nannagai.



MOSSMAN
AG SERVICES
— Your Local Team —

SPECIAL

Organic life 25kg

NOW ONLY \$31

20% OFF

Searles Premium Potting Mix 65lt

NOW ONLY \$29



100% Organic



CONTAINS 8 MONTH ROBERT



We're back online
Reconnect with Mossman Ag Services for updates, specials and local ag news.
SEARCH Mossman Ag Services ON FACEBOOK or scan the QR Code

GET IN QUICK!
UNTILL STOCKS LAST



RURAL SUPPLIES



PET SUPPLIES



GARDENING SUPPLIES



FENCING SUPPLIES



FERTILISERS

COUNCILLORS BUTT HEADS
DOUGLAS Shire Mayor Julia Leu and councillor David Carey have butted heads over a proposed development of a Community Plan for the region.

The implementation of a Community Plan was one of the main agenda items at a Council meeting yesterday, and prompted strong words from both Leu and Carey at the Chambers in Mossman.

Carey was 'gob smacked' that Leu and his fellow councillors would not consider a staged development of a Community Plan he said should be 'one of the most important projects of our council'.

A Community Plan Framework Proposal was established by the Douglas Shire's CEO Unit as part of the 2015-16 Operational Plan. They wanted to investigate strategic planning structures by other local Governments to gain a better insight into models that may be suited to the Port Douglas region.

"What council is saying is that we know better than the (council) staff," Carey said at the meeting.

"This should be one of the most important projects of our council. If it's not, then frankly I don't know what we're all doing here. I think (the decision against the proposal) it lacks vision."

The proposal presented by Council staff, who researched a number of best practice models throughout Australia, New Zealand and Canada, was knocked back yesterday.



Access thousands of archived stories since 2009 here

Fish, chips and the ever growing "Wall of Dave's"

BUSINESS FEATURE

Jamie Jansen

A true fixture on Macrossan Street, Dave's Takeaway has long been a Port Douglas icon, famous for classic Aussie fish and chips, an established turn-key reputation, and its legendary "Wall of Dave's." Now, the town's favourite chip shop is officially up for grabs.

Current owners, affectionately known to locals as "Dave and Mrs Dave (Bel)," are stepping back to enjoy a well-earned early retirement, leaving behind a true community hub and a fully fitted commercial setup for whoever takes over the reins.

Occupying a prime spot on the busiest side of Macrossan Street, midway between Four Mile Beach and the marina, the venue catches a continuous stream of foot traffic.

Anyone who's ever set foot inside or scanned the photos while waiting for an order knows Dave's is far more than just a chip shop.

Collected over 14 years, almost 4,000 photos now cover the walls and spill onto the windows, making the venue a genuine tourist attraction that draws holidaymakers and families of past and present Daves back year after year.

"We get at least one or two Dave's a day on average, yesterday alone, we had five in line at once!" Bel laughs.

"We also get families coming back to visit photos of a Dave who has passed away. It means a lot to people, it's much more than just pictures on a wall."

Between the cheeky banter and old-fashioned hospitality, Dave and Bel have built a genuine gathering spot for locals and



Dave discusses the Dave Wall and the menu with a customer. Picture: Sold by Steve

visitors alike, creating joy, delivering a memorable experience, and making sure everyone leaves with a laugh.

It's a warm connection they've nurtured since trading city life in Adelaide for a tropical sea change nearly seven years ago, quickly embedding themselves into the fabric of Port Douglas.

"You don't realise it at first, but a business like this has a massive impact on the town," Bel reflects.

From sponsoring the local footy club to hand-delivering bottled water to elderly residents during cyclones, they've poured their hearts into looking after the community.

"We also joke that we run the unofficial tourist information centre. People love the interaction and the cheeky banter when they come in on holiday."

For incoming owners, the turn-key operation offers total freedom to adjust operating hours, tweak the menu, or expand on an already

proven, profitable concept.

Dave and Bel reckon the shop is ideal for a family, a couple starting out, or anyone seeking a change of pace who brings a bit of personality and genuine chat.

"As long as you come in with an interest in community and personal customer service, the locals and tourists will support you all the way," Bel says.

"It really is the ultimate lifestyle choice, you get to be your own boss and live in a paradise with no traffic lights, all while running a solid, profitable business that people love coming back to."



To read the full story scan this QR code

Want to showcase your business with a business feature? Please contact feature editor jamie@newsport.com.au



MELBOURNE CUP AT SAILS PORT DOUGLAS

CUP DAY *on the Marina*

TUESDAY 3 NOVEMBER | 11AM TO 5PM

EARLYBIRD \$149PP
ENDS SUN 11 OCT | \$169 AFTER

HEMINGWAYS BREWERY.COM



BOOK NOW

RACE

DINE

CELEBRATE

RACE LIVE & LOUD

4 HOUR PACKAGE

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Rainforest refresh for land

Jamie Jansen

Just south of the Daintree River ferry, former sugarcane land at McDowell Swamp is being restored as a wildlife corridor through the Daintree Oxbow Project, creating a practical new land use that can support ecological recovery and local employment.

The project is managed by Rainforest Rescue, an environmental non-profit that purchases and re-vegetates degraded land.

Anchored by the lower river's only natural oxbow lagoon, the site forms part of a wetland mapped on the Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia that was farmed for sugarcane for seven decades.

Following frequent flooding, saltwater ingress, and the liquidation of the local Mossman sugar mill, land use across the floodplain began to shift.

Rainforest Rescue has acquired approximately 120 hectares

across three properties, bringing one-fifth of the 600-hectare Oxbow project footprint across 17 properties into conservation ownership and restoration management.

Historically, the junction of river, mangroves, and wetland forest functioned as a natural buffer, slowing floodwaters and filtering runoff before it reached the Great Barrier Reef.

Project planners state that re-vegetating the site will rebuild this natural filter while allowing mangrove habitats room to shift inland as sea levels rise.

Rainforest Rescue's nursery in Cow Bay produces up to 150,000 native plants annually and provides the local capacity needed to support restoration as planning, assessment and feasibility work progresses.

Rainforest Rescue CEO Branden Barber says restoring the area also gives the river's mangrove nursery room to retreat inland as



Rainforest Rescue team at the Daintree Oxbow community planting day
Picture: Martin Stringer

sea levels rise.

"This was never about nature versus agriculture," Mr Barber says. "When the mill closed, these families needed real options."

"Not every former cane block should become rainforest, and viable farming remains essential to the shire. But on low-lying, flood- and salt-affected land beside an important wetland, restoration is

a practical land use.

"It creates work in seed collection, nursery production, site preparation, planting, weed management and long-term land management."

A community planting day on May 16 established 5,000 native trees on an early restoration area.

To get involved, visit: rainforestrescue.org.au/the-oxbow

New citizens welcomed by council



More than 20 people from a broad range of backgrounds were this month sworn in as new Australian citizens during a ceremony in Port Douglas.

The cohort included people from Ireland, France, Argentina, Papua New Guinea, Zimbabwe, the Philippines, the UK, the US, New Zealand, Germany, China, Mongolia, Scotland, Italy and the Netherlands.

Council was proud to host a citizenship ceremony at the Port Douglas Community Hall for 22 people, with Mayor Lisa Scmazzon and councillors attending.



ASK YOUR AGENT TO ADD YOUR PROPERTY ON NEWSPORT FOR ONLY \$150 +GST

Connect your property with locals, frequent visitors, investors and interstate buyers through Newsport's Real Estate section.



Local buyers



Interstate reach



Property exposure

60,000
readers per month
from all over Australia

contact your agent today

Visit newsport.com.au/property >

Douglas Shire News
Newsport
News | Property | Community

1 of 1

Queensland

Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY



You know why you live here.
We know how to sell it.
Locally understood. Globally discovered.

Curious about how much your property is worth?
Contact us for a complimentary appraisal.



Barbara Wolveridge 0418 760 004 | Amanda Haines 0417 248 854
Caroline Yarr 0409 365 261 | Jessie Goetze 0422 243 342 | Craig Schofield 0419 494 800

12/26-30 MACROSSAN ST PORT DOUGLAS | 07 4237 8088

25 years at Bay Villas

BUSINESS FEATURE
Gazza McIlroy

With Douglas soon to commemorate 150 years as a Shire, local history is currently quite a hot topic. Bay Villas Resort, a much loved and revisited favourite holiday location, situated at 51-53 Davidson Street, has certainly been part of Port Douglas' recent history and over the last 25 years has seen a number of changes.

The resort originally began as two separate complexes, built between 1999 and 2000, and these joined as a single scheme shortly after, providing both studio and self-contained apartments.

Ken Lockhart has been the caretaker/manager for nine of those years and has overseen many improvements including, back in 2023, a major external refresh involving a repaint of the entire complex, replacing roof screws, updating gutters and fascia, plus reviving the BBQ decks.

"That project actually inspired quite a few individual owners to refresh their own unit interiors at



Bay Villas Resort Caretaker / Manager Ken Lockhart Is Passionate About Hospitality & Community. Picture: Gazza McIlroy

the same time" Ken said.

Ken says the core philosophy at Bay Villas Resort is providing a fantastic guest experience.

"We pride ourselves on offering a relaxed tropical escape, whether for a bucket-list trip or just escaping a southern winter" he said.

"We hit that sweet spot, with an easy 10-minute stroll to town, but still far enough away from the hustle and bustle.

Ken feels it's been a fantastic year for tourism. "We ran at full capacity through July and August, with very strong demand continuing through September

"What's encouraging is the noticeable return of international travellers, alongside steady domestic visitors discovering Port Douglas for the first time or falling in love with it all over again."

Regular visitors to Bay Villas

Resort will be pleased to know that further improvements are next on the agenda.

"We'll be upgrading the BBQ deck areas, cabinetry and outdoor furniture to keep the outdoor living spaces top-notch" Ken said.

Committed to community

Apart from offering a fantastic holiday experience, Bay Villas Resort's values have always been strong when supporting local sport & community.

Manager Ken says, "community sport is a massive passion of mine."

Bay Villas Resort proudly sponsors both the Port Douglas Reef Raiders and the Muddies Cricket Club, and Ken is also a Port Douglas Croc Club member.



To read the full story scan this QR code

Want to showcase your business with a business feature? Please contact feature editor jamie@newsport.com.au

"THE GARDEN INSIDE"

BY RACHAEL BOON



Capturing bountiful, blooming, colourful moments from an artist's tropical garden, this solo exhibition by Port Douglas based artist Rachael Boon brings the garden inside.

On display from Tuesday 13 October – Saturday 28 November
Exhibition opening 10.30am Saturday 24 October, all are welcome

Tableland Regional Gallery, 16 Robert St, Atherton QLD 4883

EVENT SCHEDULE OCTOBER 2026

SCAN HERE



OCT 9 6:30 PM	Pullman Sea Temple Social Dancing Port Douglas
OCT 16 & 17 5PM	Sea Circus Halloween Show Sailing Club Port Douglas
OCT 23 6PM	Tango Class with Grant Mossman Buffs Hall
OCT 30 6:30 PM	Pullman Sea Temple Halloween Party Port Douglas
OCT 31 12PM	Wellness Festival Port Douglas Community Hall



St Andrew's Hall Port Douglas

Mondays
Beginner Ballroom & Latin 6pm
Salsa & Bachata 7pm
Tuesdays
Salsa & Bachata Solo Styling 7pm
Bachata Choreography 8pm

Mossman Buffs Hall
Mixed Level Ballroom & Latin
Friday 23 October, 5pm

Private lessons, wedding dance & private events
Bookings available

Contact Jeanfer 0423 453 329

MELBOURNE CUP LUNCHEON

SUPPORTING



Tuesday 3 November 2026

The Glade · Sheraton Grand Mirage Resort

From 11.30am · Bubbles on arrival

✿ Air-conditioned comfort ✿

\$200 per person

Includes a 3-hour beverage package

\$10 from every ticket supports KIND

Best Dressed · Calcutta · Raffles · Great Prizes

Bookings essential

Message us on Facebook **KIND Inc**
to secure your seat!

Book direct via EFT to KIND to avoid credit card fees

By popular demand, the buffet is back!

Fresh local seafood · Ploughman's table · Rump cap
Reef fish · Pork belly · Dessert platters

Building momentum surges at BeCHé for luxury homes

BUSINESS FEATURE

Jamie Jansen

Momentum is building at BeCHé Estate near Four Mile Beach, where the exclusive 33-lot coastal sanctuary is fast taking shape as a vibrant, living community.

After years of careful planning, real visual transformation is underway across the site, making the milestone of securing a home or block this close to the beach a tangible reality for buyers.

Vacant residential land anywhere near Four Mile Beach is exceptionally rare. Situated just 350 metres from the sand and directly opposite the Pullman Sea Temple Resort, the boutique enclave has turned heads across the property market since its launch.

That appeal earned BeCHé a featured spot in Real Estate Australia's "Queensland's Best Places to Build by the Beach," celebrating its seamless blend of coastal living and natural tropical beauty.

Behind this momentum is Allaro Homes, a local family-run business backed by over 130 years of building experience across Far North Queensland.



Construction and landscaping are in full swing at BeCHé Estate, bringing rare Four Mile Beach living to life. Picture: Allaro Homes

For Troy Cavallaro, CEO of Allaro Homes and developer Cavall Investments, seeing physical progress across the estate represents a major triumph following years spent navigating environmental planning controls and coastal development regulations.

Today, the estate is rapidly shaping up into a high-end coastal neighborhood, with eight luxury residences under construction on-site.

Feature entry walls are now complete, and mature date palms

have been established throughout the grounds, setting an elegant Mediterranean-inspired backdrop as the first homeowners prepare to move in before the end of the year.

With the estate's high architectural benchmark set on the ground, Cavall Investments reached another key milestone on 1 October by offering the final eight parcels as unbundled, land-only lots through Lloyds Auctions.

The rare opportunity to buy bare land so close to Four Mile

Beach drew around 50 registered bidders from across Australia, giving buyers ultimate design freedom to build their dream home or collaborate with Allaro Homes on a custom tropical layout.

"Taking these final lots to auction was about reaching a national audience and giving buyers total design freedom," Mr Cavallaro said. "The response from across the country has been incredible."

Whether buyers choose to landbank their prime coastal block, collaborate with Allaro Homes on a custom tropical sanctuary, or select from pre-priced climate-smart designs, the enclave reflects a relaxed rhythm that captures the Australian seaside dream.

For more information about BeCHé, visit: beche.au



To read the full story scan this QR code

Want to showcase your business with a business feature? Please contact feature editor jamie@newsport.com.au



The Essentials Corner by:

CORNETTS

SUPERMARKETS

Supporting the local community

Cornetts - As Fresh As It Gets





1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9

Port Douglas gets Ferrari fever



Port Douglas welcomed the Annual Ferrari Tour 2026 on Sunday, October 4 as it stopped at Dixie Park to showcase rare and exotic Ferraris. Pictures: Sez Kuring



Fisheries gets an \$11m patrol boat boost

The State Government is delivering stronger compliance and enforcement in north Queensland waters, and protecting Queensland's fisheries for future generations, by investing in a new purpose-built fisheries patrol vessel.

Construction of an \$11 million, 21 metre vessel and 5.4 metre tender vessel is underway to enhance services provided by the Queensland Boating and Fisheries Patrol along Queensland's northern coastline and the Torres Strait

and Gulf of Carpentaria.

Once complete, the new vessel will provide the ability for extended offshore patrols, focused on fisheries surveillance and inspections, ensuring compliance with fisheries and marine safety rules and regulations.

It's just one of the targeted actions by the State Government under Prosper 2050 to stop illegal fishing and strengthen community confidence in sustainable fisheries management.

This significant investment in

fisheries operations is part of the Crisafulli Government's commitment to deliver better services through a stronger economy and increase the value of primary production to \$30 billion by 2030.

The Government's first budget delivered \$13 million to retain important scientific capability within the department, and importantly, 38 public servants kept their jobs.

Brisbane-based boat builder Norman R. Wright & Sons will construct the vessel with fit for purpose navigation and commu-

nications technology, improved stability and manoeuvrability, a longer fuel range and enhanced onboard accommodation to support patrols of up to 10 days.

The investment is part of the Crisafulli Government's commitment to support ongoing operations, fleet enhancements and vessel replacements, ensuring fisheries officers have the resources they need to do their important jobs, and protect one of Queensland's most important industries.

OPEN HOMES

OPEN HOME

1/24 Solander Boulevard, Port Douglas
Wednesday, 7 October
10am - 11am
Sotheby's

OPEN HOME

1/24 Solander Boulevard, Port Douglas
Saturday, 10 October
10am - 11am
Sotheby's

AUCTION

14 Johnston Road, Mossman
Wednesday, 14 October
4pm - on site
Ray White

REAL ESTATE

Raine & Horne

Charlie Madgwick

A HORSE LOVERS HAVEN IN TROPICAL NORTH QUEENSLAND

81 Bells Road, Newell

Price: \$1,500,000

8/56 Macrossan Street | 4087 1800 | rh.com.au/portdouglas

Queensland Sotheby's

Caroline Yarr

CONTEMPORARY COASTAL RETREAT WITH RESORT-STYLE LIVING

3 Seabrook Avenue, Port Douglas

Price: \$2,400,000

24-30 Macrossan St | 0422 243 342 | queenslandsothebysrealty.com

Raine & Horne

Chris McMullen

A RARE MIRAGE MASTERPIECE

2/21-41 Bougainvillea Way (MIRAGE VILLA 115), Port Douglas

Price: OFFERS OVER \$4,200,000

8/56 Macrossan Street | 4087 1800 | rh.com.au/portdouglas

Raine & Horne

Charlie Madgwick

RENOVATED 1950'S QUEENSLANDER

3 Enid May Ln, Mossman

Price: \$ 499,000

8/56 Macrossan Street | 4087 1800 | rh.com.au/portdouglas

YOU SAID IT! Opinion Page

COUNCIL SHOULD 'FACE IT'

Robyn Perry

Definitely, easiest way to consult with community ever. Would happily see a staff member paid to monitor, etc like administrators do for other groups.

Michelle 'Midge' Simone

I have told them about my place so it will be interesting to see if anything comes of it as I did say yes to being contacted.

Karen Marsden

Absolutely 100 per cent and if they choose to inform the community about anything on social media those posts NEED to be open for comments and taken seriously and discussed

Michael Matthews

Has DSC taken on any ratepayers feedback to take to the LGAQ Annual Conference being held in Cairns on the 19th October 2026?

Jessie Stephens

It's been long enough that this council's social media has not been managed well and in the best interest of residents. Less focus on emojis, and instead, more focus on promoting engagement with residents. Open comments, use a moderator, feed info back to departments. Especially in modern times when its the most used source of information distribution and communication globally.

David Haratsis

Probably the only council in the country that turns off comments on posts. Almost like they don't want to know.....

Craig Stevens

Yes and all councillors should allow comments when ever they

post anything on social media

Jtwodramakarma Dharma

It would seem to be indicative that pollys of all station are given to listen selectively no matter what the medium

Derek Brown

100% yes they're paid to serve the community but turn off comments as if they don't actually want to listen to the community

Sime Coomb

If they are not going to listen to local opinions, they will miss out what's actually happening. Ive rung up a couple of times about flooding in Cooya and clearing out the drains. I even spoke to a Council Officer when he was in Cooya, and he said it needed to be done. We've had a pretty wet dry season already. It's a worry what wet season will be like.

Doug Herrington

Turning off comments to council posts is like putting your fingers in your ears and saying la la la la while the person commenting is talking

Neal Keenan Al Maktoum

Council takes no notice of anyone's thoughts or comments rogues

FIGHT IS ON TO GET AROUND THE QUAID'S ROADBLOCKS

Ian Edwards

As the petitioner, I thought that the ministers response was measured and cautious. It was encouraging to the extent that he did not say that the road would never reopen. He enunciated a number of issues that would need to be addressed. None of which we were unaware of prior to initiating the petition. All of the required permits were in place prior

Shire fishing comp...

I think I've caught a big one...

Throw it back



From the Holster



Shaun Hollis brings you a lighter look at local news.

to the completion of the road in 1989. Consent for the road to be constructed through a UNESCO World Heritage listed area was granted on 4/7/89, by then Senator Graham Richardson, the minister for the environment. The owner of the 8km of freehold through which the road passes, has offered title to the road to the state government. The other issues, such as who would be responsible for the ongoing upkeep of the road once it is brought up to a usable standard, are to be discussed with both the Mareeba and Douglas Shires in due course. The point of my comments here are to advise that I as the petitioner, and David Kempton MP as the member for Cook, are both encouraged by Minister Mickleberg's response to the petition. Reopening Quaid road will be a lengthy process, but a very worthwhile project. David Kempton will work very hard to ensure that the road opens for

the benefit of the Cairns, Tableland and Cape communities.

Michael Johnson

Needs to be prioritised since contractors have signed to continue roadworks on kuranda range for another three years.

Eugene Lucano Geyl

Should be a priority as Kuranda range will fall down both lanes soon Also a National security access to Cape in case of war

Adam Paton

It's quite clear that the government doesn't listen to the people.

Rob Jovic

Enough of the Greenie garbage, if you like living in the stone age go live in a cave, but we need this road in case of disaster.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Send your letters and comments to editor@newsport.com.au or post comments on our Facebook and Instagram pages.

POSITIONS VACANT



Mossman Support Services
Supporting Our Community

RADIO CASE MANAGER

Seeking a compassionate Case Manager to support young people with AOD services and holistic wellbeing.

Apply at:
mssadmin@dscsa.org.au



CRICKET CLUB SECRETARY

Volunteer Club Administrator overseeing compliance, records, committee support and club growth initiatives.

Apply at:
president.douglasmuddies@gmail.com



M&R Kitchens
THE BUILDERS CHOICE

CABINETMAKER / TRADE ASSISTANT

M&R Kitchens is seeking a team member for cabinet assembly, machinery operation and kitchen deliveries.

Apply at:
max@mrkitchens.net.au

COMMUNITY NOTICE

NOTICE of Annual General Meeting

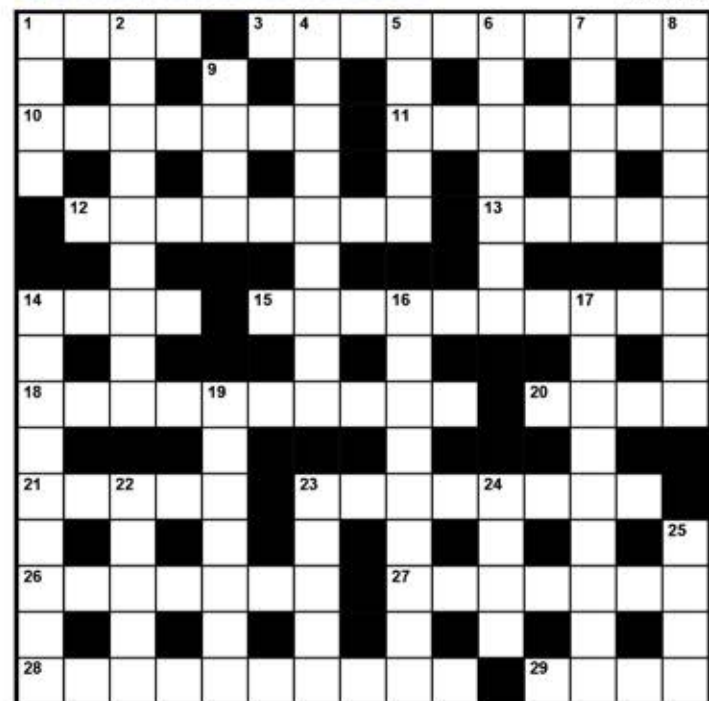
13th October 2026
3.00 pm

Douglas Shire Community Services Association to Mossman Support Services would like to invite all interested parties to its Annual General Meeting 2026

RSVP: mssadmin@dscsa.org.au

'THE COTTAGE'
20 Mill St, Mossman

Mossman Support Services
Empowering Our Community



ACROSS

- 1 Atlas contents (4)
- 3 Cynical (10)
- 10 Australian musician and former politician, Peter - (7)
- 11 Braid of hair (7)
- 12 Relating to monks (8)
- 13 Stocking material (5)
- 14 Titled woman (4)
- 15 Involving an affair (10)
- 18 Buying (10)
- 20 Close (4)
- 21 Finnish phone maker (5)
- 23 Abandoned (8)
- 26 Irregular (7)
- 27 States as true (7)
- 28 Interpreted (10)
- 29 Absent (4)

DOWN

- 1 Extremely big (coll) (4)
- 2 Actor (9)
- 4 Heights (9)
- 5 Savoury jelly (5)
- 6 Artless young girl (7)
- 7 Path (5)
- 8 Settler (9)
- 9 Self-referential (coll) (4)
- 14 Contingent (9)
- 16 Painting of the countryside (9)
- 17 Removed from power (9)
- 19 Furnace parts (7)
- 22 Asian peninsula (5)
- 23 Russian country cottage (5)
- 24 Luxuriant (4)
- 25 Catch sight of (4)

SOLUTIONS

pagemasters 08-10-26

Quick Crossword



Word Find Message:

We make most of our own monsters



9-Letter

regency, renege
mercy, mere,
greeny, grey, gyre,
germ, green,
energy, ern,
emery, enemy,
EMERGENCY,
emerge,
emcee, emer,
cere, cyme,



SUDOKU

No. 006



9-LETTER

No. 006

Using the nine letters in the grid, how many words of four letters or more can you list? The centre letter must be included and each letter may only be used once. No colloquial or foreign words. No capitalised nouns, apostrophes or plural nouns ending in 's'.



Today's Aim:

14 words: Good
18 words: Very good
22+ words: Excellent

QUICK QUIZ

- 1 What is the only insect that can turn its head?
- 2 What well-known service was originally called the Australian Inland Mission Aerial Service?
- 3 What word can mean a breed of dairy cattle, a type of knit fabric or an island off the coast of France?
- 4 Fargo is the largest city of which US state?
- 5 In which century did the Roman emperor Caligula live?
- 6 What is the colour of the Liverpool FC home kit?
- 7 Who wrote the classic 1911 novel *The Secret Garden*?
- 8 In which year did Bob Dylan release his eponymous first studio album?
- 9 Scurvy results from a dietary deficiency of which vitamin?
- 10 Name the three films for which Daniel Day-Lewis (pictured) has won the Academy Award for Best Actor.



ANSWERS: 1. The praying mantis 2. Royal Flying Doctor Service 3. Jersey 4. North Dakota 5. 1st century AD 6. Red 7. Frances Hodgson Burnett 8. 1962 9. Vitamin C 10. *My Left Foot* (1989), *There Will Be Blood* (2007) and *Lincoln* (2012).

WORD FIND

THEME: Mythical creatures

The remaining letters will spell out a message.



- | | |
|------------|--------------|
| BANSHEE | IMP |
| BEAST | LEVIATHAN |
| BEHEMOTH | MUMMY |
| BUNYIP | NYMPH |
| CERBERUS | OGRE |
| CHANGELING | ORC |
| COLOSSUS | SATYR |
| DEMON | SHAPESHIFTER |
| DJINN | SIREN |
| DRAGON | SPHINX |
| DRYAD | SPIRIT |
| ELF | SPRITE |
| FAIRY | TITAN |
| FIEND | TROLL |
| GHOST | UNICORN |
| GHOUL | VAMPIRE |
| GIANT | YETI |
| GOBLIN | YOWIE |
| GRIFFIN | ZOMBIE |
| HARPY | |
| HYDRA | |



Small Plates. Big Memories



SCAN TO BOOK



SOCIALS

Our photographer went out and about last weekend to capture the town celebrating the nights
Pictures: Santi Gonzalez



Simon and Kerry Bourke at Central Hotel



Ben and Jesse Bouracre at Central Hotel



Sophie McDermott and Eoin McCurtin at Paddy's Irish Pub



Jamie Smith and Billy Cane



Baz & Elma Shedden at Paddy's Irish Pub

WHAT'S ON

OCT 9 **Bingo Night**
Time: 6.30pm - 8pm
Location: 3Sixteen Bar & Bistro at Ramada Resort, Port Douglas

OCT 9 **Rob Longstaff**
Time: 07.30pm - 10.30pm
Location: Club Mossman

OCT 10 **Kiera Collins**
Time: 1pm - 4pm
Location: Ellis Beach Bar & Grill

OCT 11 **Abi Muir Duo**
Time: 1pm - 4pm
Location: Ellis Beach Bar & Grill

OCT 12 **Hole In One Cash Jackpot**
Time: 10am - 6pm
Location: Daddyshack Indoor Golf, Grant St, Port Douglas

OCT 13 **INDONESIAN NIGHT**
Time: 5pm - 8pm
Location: 3Sixteen Bar & Bistro at Ramada Resort, Port Douglas

OCT 14 **Marina Markets**
Time: 11am - 5pm
Location: Crystalbrooke Marina, Wharf Street Port Douglas

OCT 15 **Trivia Night**
Time: 6.30pm - 8pm
Location: 3Sixteen Bar & Bistro at Ramada Resort, Port Douglas

OCT 15 **Bingo with K-Star**
Time: 7pm - 8.30pm
Location: Club Mossman

OCT 16 **Bingo Night**
Time: 6.30pm - 8pm
Location: 3Sixteen Bar & Bistro at Ramada Resort, Port Douglas

OCT 16 **Sea Circus Myths & Monsters for Halloween**
Time: 5pm - 8pm
Location: Douglas Sailing Club on Solander Boulevard

OCT 16 **Dave Dusch**
Time: 7.30pm - 10.30pm
Location: Club Mossman

OCT 17 **Ellis Beach Tribal Roots - Wild Marmalade**
Time: 5pm -
Location: Ellis Beach Bar and Grill

OCT 18 **Rob Longstaff**
Time: 1pm - 4pm
Location: Ellis Beach Bar & Grill

OCT 19 **Hole In One Cash Jackpot**
Time: 10am - 6pm
Location: Daddyshack Indoor Golf, Grant St, Port Douglas

OCT 19 **Get Online Week - Over 50'S - Free Morning Tea, Information Session & Digital Bingo!**
Time: 10am - 12pm
Location: Port Douglas Neighbourhood Centre

OCT 20 **Indonesian Night**
Time: 5pm - 8pm
Location: 3Sixteen Bar & Bistro at Ramada Resort, Port Douglas

OCT 21 **Marina Markets**
Time: 11am - 5pm
Location: Crystalbrooke Marina, Wharf Street Port Douglas

OCT 22 **Trivia Night**
Time: 6.30pm - 8pm
Location: 3Sixteen Bar & Bistro at Ramada Resort, Port Douglas

OCT 22 **Trivia with Supa Sal and Wevs**
Time: 7pm - 9.30pm
Location: Club Mossman

OCT 23 **Ben Jansz**
Time: 5.30pm - 8.30pm
Location: Ellis Beach Bar & Grill

OCT 23 **Bingo Night**
Time: 6.30pm - 8pm
Location: 3Sixteen Bar & Bistro at Ramada Resort, Port Douglas

OCT 23 **Yahdoh**
Time: 07.30pm - 10.30pm
Location: Club Mossman

OCT 24 **Rachael Boon - Art Exhibition Opening**
Time: 10.30am -
Location: 16 Robert St, Atherton QLD 4883

OCT 24 **Port Shorts Film Festival**
Time: 4.30pm - 10pm
Location: Rex Smeal Park

OCT 24 **Bon Jovi Forever show**
Time: 3pm - 7pm
Location: The YACHTY - Port Douglas Yacht Club - 1 spinnaker cl - Port Douglas

OCT 24 **Mark Seymour**
Time: 5pm - 11pm
Location: Ellis Beach Bar and Grill

OCT 26 **Hole In One Cash Jackpot**
Time: 10am - 6pm
Location: Daddyshack Indoor Golf, Grant St, Port Douglas

OCT 27 **Indonesian Night**
Time: 5pm - 8pm
Location: 3Sixteen Bar & Bistro at Ramada Resort, Port Douglas

OCT 28 **Marina Markets**
Time: 11am - 5pm
Location: Crystalbrooke Marina, Wharf Street Port Douglas

Visit www.newsport.com.au to list your event for free

Pool final a big coup

Beach Shack has taken out the Port Douglas 8 Ball Competition Grand Final, beating the Tav Rats 7-5 in a tight Grand Final at the Reef Tavern on Sunday afternoon.

A transfixed crowd watched on as the teams slugged it out for the trophy, riding every hit and miss.

In the first-to-seven format, Tav Rat Scotty won the first game, but Beach Shack players Chris, Neil and Brendon took the next three.

Tav Rat Stewie hit back to make the score 3-2, but Beach Shack held on to register a hard-fought win.

The day did not go so well for minor premiers FN Cue, who had the double chance but lost the first final to Beach Shack then the next one to the Tav Rats to be eliminated from the finals series without making the Grand Final.



Winners Beach Shack



Grand Final-making Tav Rats



Tav Rats player Stewie in action. Picture: Shaun Hollis

Glitz & Glamour



Jesse O'Donoghue, Tara Breen and Ryley Forrest at the football presentation night. Pictures: Shaun Hollis



Shay Linke and Ella Jones at the football presentation night.



MDGC
MOSSMAN & DISTRICT GYMNASTICS CLUB

HALLOWEEN GLOW DISCO

30 OCTOBER

SESSION 1: 5PM - 6 PM
JUNIORS: KINDY, PREP & GRADE 1

SESSION 2: 6:30PM - 7:30PM
SENIORS: GRADES 2-6

TICKET PRICE \$10 pp

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL WWW.MOSSMANGYMNASTICS.COM



Mossman PRINT

PROUDLY PRINTING
Douglas Shire News

Newsport
PRINT

Every Fortnight

4 WILLIAM STREET
MOSSMAN

4077 0257

INFO@MOSSMANPRINT.COM.AU

Our best 2026 Crocs



Ella Jones, Tom Cantwell, Caity McPhee, Daisy Quilter, Ben McPhee, Jared Petrenko, Hannah Gullane, Kirra Revell, Shay Linke and Murphy Short.

Shaun Hollis

Ruckman Tom Cantwell won a thrilling Port Douglas Crocs best-and-fairest count on Friday night from new gun forward Shay Linke, while Ella Jones beat out captain Caity McPhee in an equally enthralling women's team vote.

Sam Wall won the reserves

best and fairest, while Linke was crowned leading goalkicker.

The club players of the year awards went to captain Ben McPhee and Georgia Walker, while midfielder Murphy Short was awarded the most courageous trophy.

Former Adelaide Crow Jared Petrenko won the best in finals

gong, young gun Zayne Moore was named the best defender and McPhee was named the men's most determined.

For the women, Daisy Quilter was most improved, Kristie Hynes was most consistent, Hayley Nash won the coaches award, Kirra Revell was most courageous and Hannah Gullane was the best first-year

player. Club person of the year went to Greg Herring.

The glittering ceremony was held for more than 100 people at the Oaks resort on Friday, September 25, with everyone in high spirits after the club snared the 2026 senior men's and reserves flags the weekend before.

SUPPORTING LOCAL SPORT CLUBS

RATTLE N' HUM BAR AND GRILL

Enjoy a wood-fired pizza or a hearty steak in a cosy, relaxed and family friendly atmosphere.

Rattle N' Hum Bar and Grill
38 Macrossan St

PROUD SPONSORS OF REEF RAIDERS RUGBY TEAM

PORT DOUGLAS SCAFFOLDING
07 4099 4516

CHILLED ELECTRICAL FNQ
0413 455 867

From Daintree to Cairns, Chilled Electrical FNQ provides licensed electrical, air conditioning, and data services.

0413 455 867
admin@chilledelectricalfnq.au

BAY VILLAS RESORT PORT DOUGLAS

Centrally located in Port Douglas. Spacious, self-contained holiday units, pools, and BBQ areas offer comfort and relaxation near downtown amenities. The fully self-contained, self-catering holiday units are large with a choice of Studio, 1, 2 and 3 bedroom holiday apartments

51-53 Davidson St | 07 4084 2999