Douglas Shire News
Newsport
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Creepy in Cape Trib jungle

There was no shortage of spook across the Shire and beyond, with the prize for the biggest scare factor on Saturday night almost certainly secured in Cape Tribulation.

The community pulled out all stops with outfits, makeup and room decoration to celebrate Halloween at PKs, soon to be Cape Reef Hotel, under its new ownership.

They weren't alone in their efforts, though, and we've captured a stack of the best of Halloween for you on Page 12.

BIG SHED DREAMS

Bryan Littlely/Shaun Hollis

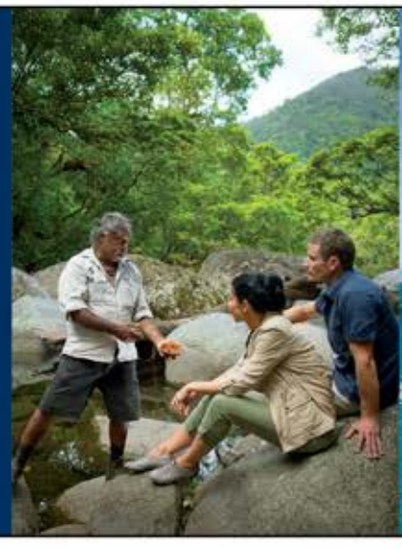
A planned expansion of iconic Port Douglas venue The Tin Shed is not in jeopardy despite an apparent snag with Douglas Shire Council last week voting not to support the sale of the land to the current leaseholders.

General manager of Douglas Community and Sports Club Kyle Livingston says the part parcel of land purchase was only one option in the club's bid to secure the long-term future with an extension of the venue.

"We were looking at an extension or new lease and that was the discussion when the option to buy the land as freehold was put on the table too," Mr Livingston said. "We put both balls in the air. We want security for the future and an extension for our members and the community.

Continued Page 6

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Award winners at the 2026 TNQ Tourism Industry Awards. Picture: TTNQ

industry honours

The 2026 TNQ Tourism Industry Excellence Awards at The Mill on October 23 celebrated 10 award winners from across Tropical North Queensland, Port Douglas snorkelling and sailing tourism pioneers Steve and Katrina Edmondson honoured with an Outstanding Commitment to the Industry Award.

Tourism Tropical North Queensland chief executive Mark Olsen said 200 tourism industry members gathered to acknowledge excellence stretching from the pioneers who helped to develop the destination to the young innovators who are continuing their legacy.

Steve and Katrina Edmondson have been long-time champions of our destination: pioneers in boutique snorkelling and sailing on the Great Barrier Reef, leaders in eco-tourism, reef conservation and responsible tourism, and long-standing partners who have consistently engaged in trade marketing and showcased the very best of Tropical North Queensland.

To read the full story scan this QR code

East takes the chair

The former chairman of Tourism Australia and Tourism and Events Queensland Bob East has been appointed chair of Tourism Tropical North Queensland at the Annual General Meeting on October 23.

Mr East is the chair of Experience Co (ASX:Exp), Australian Venue Co, Leisure Accommodation Collective and the Gold Coast Suns. With a group of passionate tourism operators, he created the Mantra Group and developed it into the largest Australian-based accommodation provider.

Chief executive Mark Olsen welcomed Mr East and thanked John O'Sullivan for his three years of service as chair.

"It is fitting that we have a Chair with the depth of experience that Bob East brings in accommodation, experiences and global marketing to take up the mantle of TTNQ Chair after the great leadership shown by John O'Sullivan in his time as TTNQ Chair," Mr Olsen said.






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Market crackdown

Shaun Hollis

Port Douglas Market is set to stock only handmade artisan goods and services following a review of the popular tourist attraction by Douglas Shire Council.

Councillors voted unanimously in last week's full council meeting to back the elimination of a "grandfather clause" - a move recommended by council staff following the review - allowing some factory-made products to be sold.

Staff told councillors there were only "a few" vendors selling non-handmade items at the moment, but that would be stopped within the coming months.

The meeting heard the market was the fourth-most-popular tourist attraction in the Shire, and online feedback from travellers showed there was strong support for an artisan-only venue.

Councillors were also fully supportive of the change.

Cr Damian Meadows: "I'm really pleased to see this."

Cr Michael Rees: "I'm really happy about this."

Cr Abigail Noli said, however, there were "grey areas" when it came to deciding what was handmade and what wasn't, as there were "varying degrees of artisan products".



Bev and Gary Dunkley of Jedmax Seeds. Picture Bryan Littlely

Mayor Lisa Scomazzon had the last word before the unanimous vote of support.

"I think this a great policy," she said.

"(It will) keep our markets unique."

The Mayor also said the market was "probably the best in Australia".

Introduced in 1996, the grandfather clause is a loophole allowing some vendors to sell commercial goods.

Noah Creek Bridge progress

A major milestone has been reached on the new Noah Creek Bridge, with all eight foundation piles now successfully installed.

Each pile measures about 15m long and weighs about 35 tonnes.

To create a strong and durable foundation for the new bridge, the piles were drilled and concrete placed to a depth of more than 12m beneath the creek bed.

To allow the piling works to take place, Noah Creek was temporarily diverted around the construction site, giving crews access to complete the project.

With piling now complete, attention is turning to the bridge structure itself. The transportation of large concrete bridge components began last week and will continue this week, bringing another impressive sight to the construction site.

As these bridge elements are installed over the coming weeks, the new crossing will really begin to take shape, providing the first clear glimpse of what the finished structure will look like.

The $12m project is jointly funded by the Australian and Queensland Governments under the joint Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.

News in Brief

SNORKELLING DEATH

A man has died while snorkelling at Mackay Coral Cay on a Sailaway tour on Friday, October 30.

A Sailaway Port Douglas spokesperson confirmed the news on Monday.

"At approximately 10:40am on Friday 30 October 2026, an incident occurred involving a guest who was snorkelling at Mackay Coral Cay. Despite efforts to assist, sadly the guest passed away," the spokesperson said.

"Our heartfelt condolences are with the guest's partner and loved ones during this very difficult time.

"Sailaway Port Douglas liaised with emergency services to ensure our guests and crew received appropriate support.

"We are unable to provide any further comment."

MAN HUNT:

Police took 34-year-old Ryan Symonds into custody on Monday afternoon, November 2, following a Far North Queensland man hunt.

Officers found him at 4pm in Miallo and he was taken into custody.

No one was injured during the incident.

A gun was allegedly located in his possession and seized by police.

Symonds was on the run following an alleged serious crime near the Aloomba area last week.



Wanted man Ryan Symonds.

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Learning the art of basket weaving are Sveta Hurford, workshop host Julie Williams, Angel Carling and children Genevieve and Jon. Picture: Bryan Littlely

Working on Port wellness festival

The first ever Port Douglas Wellness Festival, bringing ice baths, salsa, sound baths, drumming, yoga and a whole lot more has been hailed a success.

The free two-day community event across Friday and Saturday brought a packed program of taster workshops, activities and experiences together at a Twilight Market, Sugar Wharf and Dixie Park on Friday and then at the Port Douglas Community Hall on Saturday for a full day of workshops, talks and activities.

The initiative was jointly funded by the Australian and Queensland Governments under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.

10 YEARS AGO

Moneghetti praises GBR Marathon

LEGENDARY Australian long-distance runner Steve Moneghetti (3hrs31) was spot on when he said, after finishing third in the Tropical Journeys Great Barrier Reef Marathon yesterday in Port Douglas, it's the tough and demanding conditions that quickly "find you out".

Speaking after finishing behind winner Chris Vadas (3:20) and China's Jiancan Chen (3:28), the 54-year-old veteran champion said this is not an event where you can improve your time.

"These are tough conditions, and if you're not prepared, do not take in enough fluid and accept that parts of the course will be extremely tough – especially the Bump Track – you can really hurt. There are no short cuts, it's that simple.

"The stifling conditions are not made for record times. You have to overcome the elements. This is what makes this a challenging event. I give full praise to everyone who competed, irrespective of the distance," he said. Moneghetti, who is honoured with the 42.2km marathon named in his honour, jokingly said after the race that perhaps it can be changed to the "Steve Moneghetti Memorial".



Steve Moneghetti interviewing one of the runners.

The winner of the 74km ultra marathon, Anthony Ralph, who finished the distance in 7hrs28, was quick to endorse Moneghett's comments.

"It was extremely tough out there.

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DOUGLAS SHIRE COUNCIL
The Regional Arts Development Fund is a partnership between the Queensland Government and the Douglas Shire Council to support local arts and culture in regional Queensland.

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Hot festival to return

Heatwave Festival has announced its return to Port Douglas, running from Friday to Sunday, February 12 to 14, on the back of the first event which injected an estimated $350,000 into town in the low season.

Organisers Andrew Dalbertanson and Kent Fordham report that Heatwave 2026 brought more than 850 guests into town for the festival and their visitor-spending estimate covers a four-day visit period encompassing accommodation, hospitality and purchases from local businesses.

The organisers report that some major hotels reached 100 per cent occupancy over the festival weekend, with busy cafés, restaurants and bars as guests spent time in town between events.

Those accommodation bookings and hospitality purchases placed the festival's commercial contribution beyond its ticketed venues and into the wider local economy. The opportunity extends to other parts of the tourism industry. Airport transfers and local transport connect visitors with the destination, while shops, reef experiences and rainforest tours offer reasons to explore between events or extend a stay.

Heatwave's 2027 approach will encourage those connections, giving local operators more opportunities to turn festival visitation into business. International artists were also flown into the region for the inaugural festival.

Behind the performances, catering, sound, lighting, security and other event services formed part of delivering the weekend. These connections bring the tourism and events industries together, with opportunities for venues, suppliers and creative professionals to participate in the festival's growth. "We created Heatwave to celebrate our community and give people a reason to visit Port Douglas in February," said festival founder and director Andrew Dalbertanson.



Heatwave revellers at this year's event. Picture: Supplied

"Seeing guests stay in town, dine locally and enjoy our venues showed us what this festival could contribute. We want local businesses to share in its success."

Tourism Port Douglas Daintree recognised that contribution in its industry update in February. The tourism organisation reported that Heatwave had drawn visitors from across the country and highlighted the festival's role in attracting interstate visitation during traditionally softer periods, while generating content that helped promote the destination.

That domestic appeal was evident before the first festival. Tourism Port Douglas Daintree reported in December 2025 that around 80 per cent of early ticket sales were coming from Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne, demonstrating the event's reach into key domestic visitor markets.

Granny flat fee relief

Shaun Hollis

Some granny flats and other multiple homes being built on the same blocks are set to qualify for huge fee reductions for developers under a new discount scheme being introduced by Douglas Shire Council in December in an effort to kickstart more development.

Although the discounts vary depending on where the homes are built, some new housing developments will qualify for up to $500,000 in waived fees, while developers of aged-care homes will be in line for discounts of up to $1m while the scheme is in place for the next two years.

For example, developers building five homes on a single block will only have to pay an about $30,000 fee, and will get close to $120,000 waived.

All the councillors in last week's full council meeting heaped praise on the new scheme.

Cr Michael Rees: "I'm so happy with this, I actually gasped when I saw it."

Developers will have up to four years to deliver new projects, he said.

Cr Damian Meadows said the money waived by the council would flow back to the community in the form of more jobs, schools and other benefits.

"This might trigger some faster development," he said.

Cr Abigail Noli said she "strongly supported" the scheme, and it was one solution to housing shortages in the region.

Mayor Lisa Scomazzon: "I think it's a great incentive."

The council will have the option to extend the scheme when it expires in two years' time.



Shoring up the Tin Shed's future

From Page 1

"We are bursting at the seams and we don't have any more space so we are working to secure that future and looking for a new lease of 30 years."

Mr Livingston said the vote by the council last week was not a set back and the renewed lease discussions are ongoing.

The DSC is currently responsible for the parcel of land and sea that takes in the popular restaurant and bar - which also includes the Sugar Wharf and the stretch of water from the wharf to Dickson Inlet - even though it is owned by the State Government.

A final decision, the third option available to the club, would be to go direct to the State Government for lease negotiations.

Tin Shed lessee Douglas Community and Sports Club approached the Government to buy the land where the venue is located, but the sale has to be ticked off by the council to go ahead.

At Tuesday's regular full council meeting, councillors voted unanimously to oppose the land sale.



Port Douglas Community and Sports Club general manager Kyle Livingston at The Tin Shed. Picture: Bryan Littlely

Cr Damian Meadows said the council wanted to work with Tin Shed management to help make the redevelopment happen, but this did not mean selling off the land and venue was needed at this stage.

"This is a little bit like putting the cart before the horse," Cr Meadows said.

The councillors were concerned that, if the block was sold off, the transfer would be permanent, and any future changes of use would be ruled out indefinitely.

Every councillor, as well as Mayor Lisa Scomazzon, said The Tin Shed was a great asset to the community, and they wanted to help as much as possible with making the redevelopment happen, except for selling the land.

Mayor Scomazzon: "The Tin Shed does a lot for our community."

Cr Michael Rees said the decision was "very difficult" because the Tin Shed did a "phenomenal amount for the community", but it was in the ratepayers' interests to retain the land as public property.

Proposed Development

Make a submission from
6 November 2026 to
27 November 2026

Material Change of Use (Warehouse – Self Storage)

Where: 29 Front Street, Mossman

On: Lot 34 on RP706256

Approval sought: Development Permit (Material Change of Use)

Application ref: MCUI 2026_6011/1

You may obtain a copy of the application and make a submission to:

Douglas Shire Council
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Mossman QLD 4873
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www.douglas.qld.gov.au

Public notification requirements are in accordance with the *Planning Act 2016*









Rum fuelled recovery?

Shaun Hollis

Cairns Rum Company representatives are just some of several business leaders that have met with the Douglas Shire Council Mayor and chief executive as talks ramp up on bringing new industries to the region in the wake of the demise of the local sugar industry.

Mayor Lisa Scomazzon and chief executive Scott Osman met with CRC late last month - Newsport understands talks are underway about the possibility of the company establishing a greater presence in Douglas Shire following the closure of Mossman Mill.

On top of the discussions with CRC, several other companies have been in talks with the council and State Government Cook MP David Kempton about kickstarting more industry in the area.

Last week a bana grass field day was organised by former cane farmer Gerard Puglisi and the State Department of Primary Industries.

"The closure of the mill in Mossman has been catastrophic for the region and whilst there is no one single crop to replace sugar I believe diversification will be the answer," Mr Kempton said.

"There is no doubt bana grass grows prolifically in the Douglas region and the advisory group will continue to work with growers to investigate its commercial options," he said.

Industry representatives also had a look at a trial crop of sorghum at a local property during the visit.

Meanwhile, in August, Cr Abigail Noli revealed discussions were taking place on a plan involving biofuels company Jupiter-RE.



A recent bana grass information day event. Picture: Supplied

Kestrel chick captures our hearts

Jamie Jansen

A young Nankeen Kestrel chick - one of Australia's smallest falcons - is safely back in its nest after being discovered severely malnourished in a Port Douglas resort driveway.

Last Friday, October 23, I was near the driveway garage at Mantra Heritage on Warner Street when a loud chirping caught my attention.

Sitting right in the middle of the pavement was a small, feathered chick looking up as if asking for help.

High above, nestled in the building's roof structure, three other chicks were chirping away,



The chick appeared fine initially, but was severely underweight. Picture: Jamie Jansen

but their parents were nowhere in sight.

I contacted raptor-qualified rescuers from Port Douglas Wildlife Rescue and they assessed the weakened chick and took it into care for intensive rehabilitation, administering fluids and high-nutrition food.

This is a common situation for young birds attempting their first flight from the nest.

Although the chick appeared physically uninjured, it was underweight and its exposed position left it vulnerable.

The young bird had gone without food for roughly three days and was far too weak to fly back up to its nestmates.

"The bird looks lovely and fluffy at first instance until you assess it, and that's when you feel how thin it is," PDWR explained.

After three days, once the bird had regained its weight and strength, it was returned to its Warner Street nest.

The mother kestrel soon returned to the site, where she has since been spotted supervising the brood and teaching her fledglings how to hunt.

The management team at Mantra Heritage had already been keeping a close eye on the family and was in regular contact with PDWR.



Kestrel chick was first taken into care beginning of October. Picture: Jamie Jansen



Staying safe in storm season

As another severe weather season approaches, LifeFlight rescue crews are urging communities to prepare early, drawing on lessons learned from their emergency responses to floods, natural disasters and severe storms across the country.

LifeFlight's aeromedical teams witness first-hand the consequences of leaving preparations too late and tips provided by LifeFlight's rescue experts reveal that storm readiness goes beyond basic emergency measures.

Effective preparedness relies on practical, actionable strategies covering every aspect of a property, from securing windows and packing domestic pet go-bags to clearing farm drainage channels and mapping high-ground stock paddocks.

Key Areas of Storm Readiness

Protect your home, livestock, and community by taking these critical safety precautions before severe weather hits:

1. Emergency and First Aid Preparedness: Weather can isolate communities and delay access to emergency services, making basic first aid knowledge an important part of any storm readiness plan. Households should ensure at least one family member has first aid training, keep a well-stocked first aid kit in an easily accessible location, and understand how to manage common emergencies such as bleeding, fractures and shock while waiting for help to arrive. It's also important to save emergency contact numbers and local evacuation information on mobile devices so critical information can be accessed quickly when conditions deteriorate.



LifeFlights Guardian 10 in action in a rescue. Picture: LifeFlight

2. Household & Property Preparation: Structural readiness is the first line of defence against severe weather. Clearing roof gutters, securing loose outdoor items, and fitting storm shutters or temporary plywood covers over large windows significantly reduce structural damage. Every home should maintain an easily accessible emergency kit equipped with a battery-powered radio, fresh batteries, torch, first-aid supplies, non-perishable food, and clean drinking water for at least three days.

3. Pet & Domestic Animal Safety: Domestic animals are highly vulnerable during severe weather events. Ensuring all dogs, cats, and small pets are microchipped with up-to-date registry details is essential for reunification if animals are separated. Preparing a dedicated pet emergency kit, complete with leads, travel crates, food, water, and medical records, allows for rapid evacuation when emergency warnings are issued.

4. Farm & Livestock Management: Rural properties require specialised planning to protect stock and agricultural infrastructure. Mapping out designated high-ground paddocks clear of flood channels and major power lines ensures stock can be relocated before waters rise.

For Newsports guide to storm season online, scan this QR

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Nets set by weekend

Bryan Littlely

The stinger nets on Four Mile Beach will be in place by the weekend, with Surf Life Savers detecting jellyfish over recent days and noting water temperatures have risen.

Surf Life Saving Queensland Port Douglas president Irene Knight said it was time for the nets to be put in place, but warned swimmers that while they would be protected from box jellyfish by the nets, it was still essential to wear a stinger suit or at very least a rash vest when taking to the water at Four Mile.

"The water is definitely heating up and there's been a few little jellyfish-like creatures getting around so it is definitely getting into the season," Mrs Knight said.

"Surprisingly, and I am always scared to say it, I am not aware of any beach closures this season because of crocodiles. We haven't really had to deal with that at all this season... so that's good."



Zoe Shannon, Hugo Moores and Grant and Irene Knight on duty at Four Mile Beach on Sunday. Picture: Bryan Littlely

Numbers on the "busiest beach north of Noosa" had been strong this year, Mrs Knight said.

"We have had the biggest numbers since I don't know when. Our beach is always named the busiest beach north of Noosa. We do always get high numbers but luckily not much action

"We have different things to worry about here, we might not have rips or big waves. it is more preventative what we do."

The stinger net going in, with it scheduled to be in place by November 6, is an opportunity to inform people what the nets are for and what they are not for, she said.

"It is a box jellyfish net ... the holes are quite big. It is for the box jellyfish which are the most deadly ones. So the irukandji can still potentially go through the nets.

"We do daily drags to check if there are irirukandji with a finer net but the stinger net doesn't protect you from crocodiles or irukandji.

"Be smart, check with the lifesavers before you go in and you should be all good," Mrs Knight said.

There are life guards or volunteer lifesavers on the beach from 8am to 5pm, seven days of the week all year.

Top tips for FNQ beach safety

Warmer weather and beckoning beaches are expected to have plenty flocking to Queensland beaches from now on, with Surf Life Saving Queensland reminding beachgoers to choose patrolled locations and swim between the red and yellow flags.

The reminder has come after a busy long weekend start to October on Queensland beaches, with a high number of rescues and incidents recorded.

Of the rescues recorded over the October long weekend, 62 per cent occurred away from patrolled areas, highlighting the importance of choosing a beach where lifesavers and lifeguards are on duty.

SLSQ public safety general manager Matt Thompson said beachgoers should make safety a priority as warm weather encourages more people to head to the coast.

"We're asking everyone to take a few simple steps to help keep themselves and their families safe this weekend," Mr Thompson said.

"Choose a patrolled beach, swim between the red and yellow flags and keep a close eye on children whenever they are in or around the water.

Mr Thompson said conditions could vary between beaches and throughout the day, making it important for beachgoers to check conditions and local signage before entering the water.

"Our lifesavers and lifeguards are constantly assessing the conditions and are there to provide advice, so if you're unsure, ask them before entering the water," he said.

SLSQ is also reminding parents and carers to keep children within arm's reach when they are in or around the water.

"A busy beach can make it more difficult to keep track of children, particularly when there are lots of people in the water so please keep your children within arms reach," Mr Thompson said.

"Our lifesavers and lifeguards are there to help Queenslanders enjoy the beach safely, so make the most of their presence and ask for advice if you're unsure."

SLSQ beach safety tips

- Swim at patrolled beaches between the red and yellow flags.
- Check local beach and weather conditions before heading out.
- Read and obey all safety signage.
- Swim with a buddy.
- Ask a lifesaver or lifeguard for advice if unsure about conditions.
- Supervise children at all times near the water.

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Rare turnkey opportunity

BUSINESS FEATURE

Jamie Jansen

After 40 years of keeping the Shire cool and its pools crystal clear, local trade staple Pool Mekanics is officially hitting the market as its owner prepares for retirement.

The Craiglie-based enterprise has long served as an essential lifeline for the community, keeping hundreds of residential and commercial pools running smoothly day-in, day-out.

Its scope covers everything from routine water balancing, chemical supply, and automated lab testing to mobile maintenance, equipment repairs, and warranty servicing.

Under its current owner, Pool Mekanics evolved into a market-leading operation with four fully equipped service vans, specialised testing gear, and streamlined systems to back it up.

Operating under a 100 per cent independent model, the business grants full operational control with zero ongoing franchise royalty fees or marketing levies. Ray White Port Douglas Principal Mark Flinn said the business offers a rare, turn-key opportunity driven by the region's climate.



Long-standing Craiglie business Pool Mekanics has been put up for sale. Picture: supplied

"Tropical North Queensland's climate and resort demand makes pool maintenance non-negotiable year-round. There is no real off-season for the business," Mr Flinn said.

"A built-in client roster spanning luxury holiday homes, private residential estates, and major commercial resort contracts allows for consistent monthly cash flow." Structured for semi-passive management with an experienced General Manager and trained technical crew in place, the enterprise provides flexible options for an incoming buyer.

"With an experienced manager and crew running day-to-day route operations, a buyer can step in as a hands-on owner-operator to pocket maximum net profit, or retain management and treat it as a lifestyle business working part-time hours," Mr Flinn noted.

Mr Flinn highlighted that no prior pool industry experience is necessary to take over.

"It's great for a sea-changing couple or family seeking a reliable six-figure income in the tropics, an existing trade business expanding into property maintenance, or an investor wanting an established enterprise," he said.

"The technical staff and current owner can train an incoming owner, alongside a comprehensive handover period covering key resort accounts, vendor networks, and backend systems."

The sale of the going concern includes the transfer of client databases, commercial resort contracts, operational equipment, and direct supplier networks, with an option to lease the high-traffic Craiglie commercial shed.

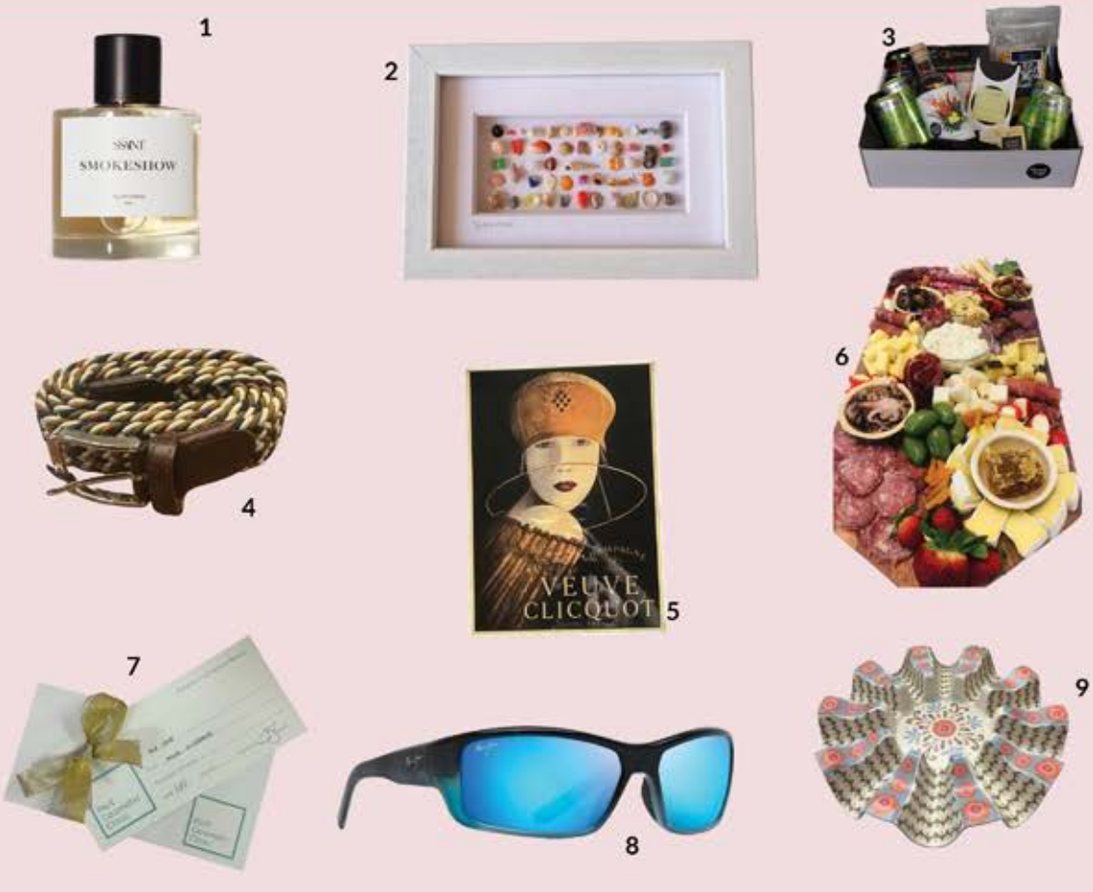
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ESSENTIALS CORNER SPECIAL

Christmas Wishing List

All I want for Christmas is...



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2. Tropico | Port Douglas | Wooden Framed Seashell Picture

3. Floral Edge | Port Douglas | G & T with snacks

4. Beau Gentry | Port Douglas | Miguel Bellido Belt, made in Spain

5. Jimmy Rum's Tiles| Port Douglas | Custom Tiles

6. Smokehouse Deli | Port Douglas | Delicious platter for 4+

7. Port Cosmetic Clinic | Port Douglas | Summer Facial Special. Get your GLOW on for the Summer

8. iKANDi Sunglasses | Port Douglas | Maui Jim Barrier Reef

9. With Sugar | Port Douglas | Taco Platter

Movement for everyone arrives

BUSINESS FEATURE

Jamie Jansen

A familiar face in local wellness, Mayra Fairlie - known for her energetic Aqua Zumba and Pilates classes, as well as her sought-after massage therapy - has officially opened Maywell Studio in Port Douglas, creating a fresh destination for movement and recovery.

Co-founded with her partner Tomy, Maywell brings Reformer, Mat, and Chair Pilates, Barre Fit, private massage, and facials under one roof on Owen Street, directly across from the post office.

Designed as a warm community hub, the space offers locals and visitors of all ages an inviting place to get active, unwind, and feel good.

Supported by certified instructors Paloma and Keiyana, Mayra has built a schedule that reflects that playful, inclusive spirit.



Mayra Fairlie has officially opened Maywell Studio in Port Douglas, offering a welcoming new destination for movement classes and recovery therapies. Picture: Jamie Jansen

Alongside traditional Pilates and Barre sessions, members can channel a bit of nostalgia with a high-energy "Back to the '80s" cardio class.

"I just wanted to open a space that offers something a bit different," Mayra shares. "It's not just Reformer Pilates or dance; it's everything in one spot."

To keep movement accessible and encourage everyone to try out the space, Maywell is running an introductory pass of three classes for $35 (valid over seven days, with a slight price adjustment coming up in November).

Flexible class packs, specialised senior options, and weekly memberships are also available so locals can move at their own pace.

Movement for everyone

As a qualified physiotherapist, Mayra infuses every session with a focus on posture, joint health, core strength, and injury prevention, prioritising controlled movement over high-volume repetition.

That physio background shapes programming tailored for every season of life.

Building on the loyal following - especially among local seniors - she's built through years of Aqua Zumba and Aqua Fit classes, Mayra created Chair Pilates.

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

OPEN HOMES

OPEN HOME
42/11-15 Port Douglas Road, Port Douglas
Thursday, November 5
2pm - 2.45pm
Property Shop

OPEN HOME
6 Mitre Street, Port Douglas
Saturday, November 7
9am-9.30am
Ray White

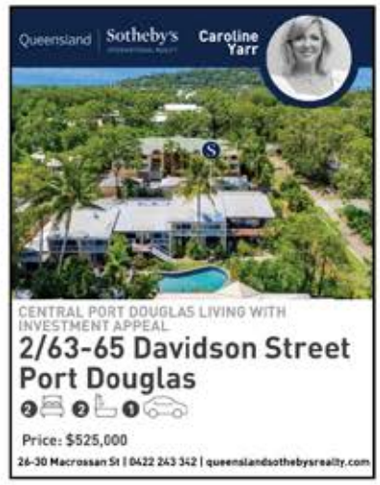
OPEN HOME
4 Hibiscus Court, Rocky Point
Saturday, January 17
10am - 10.45am
Property Shop

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Douglas Shire News
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Douglas gets it scare on in town



Young locals out for halloween.



Polly Huang and Coco, AKA Alcocolick



Kerry and Cass Nicholson as Beauty and the Beast



Ady Whittacker, Niki Whiting, Ange Whittacker, Erica Mast, Kirsty and Ben Cole. Picture Bryan Littlely



Diana Twist and Marie Black



Cinzia Durante and Dani Jorge



Lola Everett and Jasmine Rennings



Kevin Boitel and Marine Grillon



Juane Tecco, Caroline Kadji and Ana Tecco-Kadji from Belgium.



Raymond and Jade Michael



Local youngsters out trick or treating.

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QUALIFIED MECHANIC

QUALIFIED MECHANIC

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Douglas Shire News

Newsport

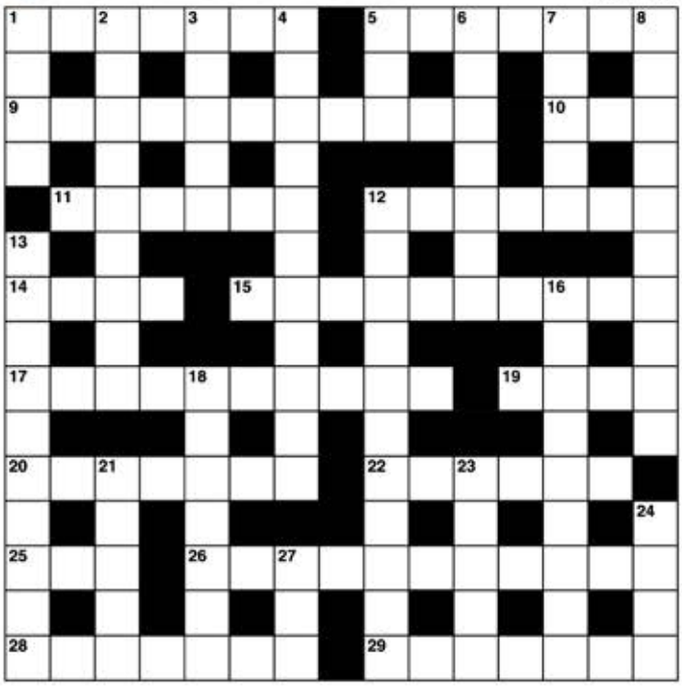
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QUICK CROSSWORD

No. 107



ACROSS

1 Concentrates (7)
5 Sports ground (7)
9 Pledges (11)
10 Broodmare (3)
11 Actor, – Levy (6)
12 Hub for military planes (7)
14 Regretted (4)
15 Scents (10)
17 Sent off (10)
19 German automobile manufacturer (4)
20 Melodious (7)
22 Antenna (6)
25 Tear (3)
26 Practical (11)
28 Wrap a baby tightly (7)
29 Candidate (7)

DOWN

1 Visage (4)
2 Mathematical logic devices (9)
3 Sharp metal protrusion (5)
4 Evenly proportioned (11)
5 Our star (3)
6 European country (7)
7 Asian country (5)
8 Belonging to an association (10)
12 Combined whole (11)
13 Indications of commercial ownership (10)
16 Person of European descent (9)
18 Accumulated (7)
21 Prefix meaning above (5)
23 Kingdom (5)
24 On a single occasion (4)
27 Freshwater fish (3)

PUZZLES BROUGHT TO YOU BY COSMOS COCKTAIL LOUNGE
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(07) 4099 6090

SUDOKU

No. 008

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

9-LETTER

No. 008

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:
10 words: Good
13 words: Very good
18+ words: Excellent

QUIZ



1 Phascolarctos cinereus is the scientific name for which Australian animal?
2 Serving as a prequel to *Jane Eyre*, the 1966 novel *Wide Sargasso Sea* is by which Dominican-British author?
3 Nestlé's Milky Bar Kid is usually dressed as what type of character?
4 Sandi Toksvig (pictured) hosted which British competition show from 2017 to 2020?
5 Which American rock band's albums include *Brand New Eyes*, *After Laughter* and *This Is Why*?
6 What type of chestnut can be used as an eco-friendly detergent?
7 Maithili is a language spoken in which two countries?
8 Netflix's *Stranger Things* debuted in which year?
9 The Strait of Malacca is notable for being used as one of the most important what?
10 True or false: an avocado contains more potassium than a banana?

ANSWERS: 1. Koala **2.** Jean Rhys **3.** Cowboy **4.** *The Great British Bake Off* **5.** Paramore **6.** Conker/horse chestnut **7.** India and Nepal **8.** 2016 **9.** Shipping lanes **10.** True

WORD FIND

THEME: Wine

The remaining letters will spell out a message.

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

AMARONE
ARNEIS
AUSLESE
BARBARESCO
BARBERA
BARDOLINO
BEAUJOLAIS
BLANC
BRUT
CABERNET
CHINON
GAMAY
GRAPPA
LAMBRUSCO
MALBEC
MEAD
MERLOT
MUSCAT
NOIR
PINOT
PORT
PROSECCO
RED
RIESLING
ROSE
SANGIOVESE
SAUVIGNON
SHERRY
SPARKLING
SYRAH
VERNACCIA
WHITE

SOLUTIONS

pagemasters. 05-11-26

Quick Crossword



Word Find Message:
Old wine and friends improve with age

Sudoku

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

9-Letter

coin, conn, cousin, icon, incus, INNOCUOUS, nocuous, noon, noun, nous, nuncio, onion, onus, scion, sonic, soon, unco, union, unison



SOCIALS

It was auction action at the Surfy on Monday night for the Port Douglas Melbourne Cup Calcutta. Bryan Littlely was there to snap the action.



LJ Hooker represents with Harry Hughes, Asher Gibson, Leevi Madgwick, Cash Johnston, Lane Hatfield, Peter Brown, Eva Scott and Nyra Kote.



Bryce Tozer and Norm and Heather English.



Sarah and Matt Gray and Ash and Linda Oldham.



Tonya Guild, Iesha Murphy and Caroline Raffaele.



Paul Martinez, Col Johnson, Rodney Gillespie, Graeme Rea and David Cotton.

WHAT'S ON

NOV 5 Trivia Night
Time: 6.30pm - 8pm
Location: 3Sixteen Bar & Bistro at Ramada Resort,

NOV 5 Trivia with Supa Sal and Wevs
Time: 7pm - 9.30pm
Location: Club Mossman

NOV 6 Bingo Night
Time: 6.30pm - 8pm
Location: 3Sixteen Bar & Bistro at Ramada Resort,

NOV 6 Rob Longstaff
Time: 07.30pm - 10.30pm
Location: Club Mossman

NOV 8 Wellness Festival Satellite Events
Time: 9.55am - 4.45pm
Location: Port Douglas Yoga Shala , Above The Book Lounge, Warner Street

NOV 9 Hole In One Cash Jackpot
Time: 10am - 6pm
Location: Daddyshack Indoor Golf, Grant St,

NOV 10 Indonesian Night
Time: 5pm - 8pm
Location: 3Sixteen Bar & Bistro at Ramada Resort, Port Douglas

NOV 10 Four Mile Beach Clean-up
Time: 1pm - 4pm
Location: Daintree Lounge, Sheraton Mirage

NOV 12 Trivia Night
Time: 6.30pm - 8pm
Location: 3Sixteen Bar & Bistro at Ramada Resort

NOV 12 Bingo with K-Star
Time: 7pm - 8.30pm
Location: Club Mossman

NOV 13 Bingo Night
Time: 6.30pm - 8pm
Location: 3Sixteen Bar & Bistro at Ramada Resort

NOV 13 Dave Dusch
Time: 7.30pm - 10.30pm
Location: Club Mossman

NOV 14 Rob Longstaff
Time: 1pm - 4pm
Location: Ellis Beach Bar and Grill

NOV 14 Katie Richards
Time: 5.30pm - 8.30pm
Location: Ellis Beach Bar and Grill

NOV 14 Candice Bliss
Time: 1pm - 4pm
Location: Ellis Beach Bar and Grill

NOV 14 Daintree Coast Community Shed Community BBQ
Time: 10.30 am - 2pm
Location: Cow Bay Beach park.

NOV 15 Infinity Duo
Time: 2pm - 5pm
Location: Club Mossman

NOV 17 Indonesian Night
Time: 5pm - 8pm
Location: 3Sixteen Bar & Bistro at Ramada Resort

NOV 18 Port Douglas Marlin Challenge
Time: 11am - 5.30pm
Location: Port Douglas Marina

NOV 19 Trivia Night
Time: 6.30pm - 8pm
Location: 3Sixteen Bar & Bistro at Ramada Resort

NOV 19 Port Douglas Marlin Challenge
Time: 11:00am - 5:30pm
Location: Port Douglas Marina

NOV 19 Trivia with Supa Sal and Wevs
Time: 7pm - 9.30pm
Location: Club Mossman

NOV 20 Bingo Night
Time: 6.30pm - 8pm
Location: 3Sixteen Bar & Bistro at Ramada Resort

NOV 20 Port Douglas Marlin Challenge
Time: 11am - 5.30pm
Location: Port Douglas Marina

NOV 20 Yahdoh
Time: 07.30pm - 10.30pm
Location: Club Mossmanz

NOV 21 Port Douglas Marlin Challenge
Time: 7pm -
Location: Salsa Bar and Grill

NOV 21 Port Douglas Marlin Challenge
Time: 11am - 4.30pm
Location: Port Douglas Marina

NOV 22 Nicole Nighthawk
Time: 1pm - 4pm
Location: Ellis Beach Bar and Grill

NOV 24 Indonesian Night
Time: 5pm - 8pm
Location: 3Sixteen Bar & Bistro at Ramada Resort

NOV 25 An Evening of Burlesque
Time: 1pm - 4pm
Location: Ellis Beach Bar and Grill

NOV 25 An Evening of Burlesque
Time: 6pm - 9pm
Location: Ellis Beach Bar and Grill

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

YOU SAID IT! Opinion Page

WILL WE HAVE A RUM FUELLED RECOVERY?

Robyn Perry
Don't they all require a sugar mill for production?

Jake Wyatt
Local kids motorbike track with all the vacant land around. Closest is Cairns or Mareeba. Get them outdoors and on the fresh air. Annual fee and committee members to help maintain. More activities for the kids.

Karen Marsden
Why not hemp? You can build houses, make fabric, rope, biofuel, paper, list goes on, crop every 3 months.

Adam Lübke
What about cocoa?

Barry Williams
There is a company in WA that is already exporting biofuels, for christ sake, all everyone wants is a taxpayer handout. The Australian Government apparently doesn't want to use biofuels, that is why it's being exported by the company in WA.

Kris Kupsch
Respect the land and plant diversity.

Christine Sudarsana
Throw in some agave for some tequila.

Steve Puppinato
I hope the previous management of the mill are well clear of this new proposal. They screwed the entire system earlier on, please, chase them from this one.

FAVOURITE CROC RETURNS TO OLD STOMPING GROUNDS

Jo Black
Leave him alone!!

Richard French
A skinny croc is a dangerous croc.

John Sexton
Wow... didn't some know it all tell me this wouldn't happen. You can't relocate these animals.

John Chapman
303 time our kids can't play near the water anymore because of idiots who think they are cool.

Andrew Louden
A well-fed Croc will stash you away for later.

Lynne de Groot
Mo3 isn't skinny. Been snacking on Daintree produce for several months.

HOPE STILL HELD FOR MISSING SAUSAGE DOG

Jo Westgate
Sausage dogs at least 2 of them in this area have gone missing for days even weeks on end and still made it home safely.

Jackie Osborne
Update Bobby might've been spotted walking down the path behind Sea Temple towards the road from the beach around 11:30 today (Wednesday) please keep an eye out, he doesn't have a collar on anymore. We have hope.

Deidre Baker
We miss seeing Bobby and Ollie at the beach.

Christina Gibbins
Praying for Bobby's return.

Amanda Haines
Oh poor Bobby! Every owner's worse nightmare - any more sightings? Sausages (like my Slinky) are tougher than we give them credit for. I have everything crossed that he's found.



From the Holster Shaun Hollis brings you a lighter look at local news.

NEW RULES WOULD LET HARVESTERS TAKE GREAT BARRIER REEF CORAL MID-BLEACHING

Leith Garretty
There's plenty there. Just saying.

Davina Phillips
Crisafulli couldn't care less about the environment, 190 tonnes of coral can be taken & we're all worried about the tourists flapping their feet! All talk on crime, fail. Put LNP last!

Nic Leoni
The other funny part is I don't know if any fish that actually eat corals, parrot fish scrape algae off dead sections of Coral for the algae, not actually eating live corals, hump headed parrot fish break off corals as they are the gardeners that help maintain the reef, butterfly fish nip at Coral polyps but dont actually kills corals for this ?????

BUILDING FEE RELIEF

Ian Locke
For who, southern investors who then turn them into BNBs?? Or locals who need them? Maybe fix the issue, which is too many BNBs. Has the council done anything about this yet? We all know the Douglas Shire can't handle more population with water and roads. And also destroying the area!!! Fix the real issues first.

Vanetta Nunn-Pattrick
What was that "the money waived by the council would flow back to the community in the form of more jobs, schools and other benefits." I don't believe that for a second. And what exactly are "other benefits" Douglas Shire Council cannot handle/ maintain what is here now.

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



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Port Douglas Rugby Club has secured a $420,000 grant to build a gym to support the club, Cook MP David Kempton sharing the news. (inset) Mareeba Tennis Club also have been supported with a Games On! Grassroots Infrastructure Program grant. Pictures: Supplied

Grants: Game On!

Bryan Littlely

Six sporting clubs in the Cook electorate have been successful under Round 2 of the Games On! Grassroots Infrastructure Program.

Mareeba Gymnastics received almost $1.2m for a building extension and installation of an in-ground foam pit. This upgrade will enable advanced skill development locally, removing the need for gymnasts to travel to Cairns for this training.

Mareeba Soccer Club received almost $150,000 for new lighting to meet Football Queensland lighting standards, while Mareeba Tennis Club received about $390,000 for new tennis and pickleball courts. In Port Douglas the Port Douglas Rugby Club received over $430,000 to construct a gymnasium to support Rugby Union.

Further north, Weipa Dirt Karts received over $185,000 for lighting upgrades and Aurukun Shire Council received almost $700,000 to upgrade the indoor court to support multi-sport in Aurukun.

The funding will deliver new and upgraded facilities in the Cook electorate, giving young people greater opportunities to develop their skills and participate in local sport.

Cook MP David Kempton said he was excited to see grassroots sporting clubs in the Cook electorate receive more than $3m in funding combined.

"It's great to be a part of the Crisafulli Government delivering a Games for all of Queensland, with benefits reaching from the biggest sporting stages, right through to our grassroots clubs."

Earlier this week Mr Kempton joined Sport and Racing Minister and Olympic and Paralympic Games Minister Tim Mander to visit Mareeba sporting clubs that were successful under Round 2 of the Games On! Grassroots Infrastructure Program.

Round 2 of the Games On! Grassroots Infrastructure Program supports Queensland organisations to upgrade sporting.

Muddies IV on improve

An encouraging win against Barron River at home has helped with the Muddies Fourths cricket team's chase for a top-four spot.

After captain Scotty Collins lost the toss, the Muddies bowled first, restricting Barron to 7/149 in their allotted 35 overs.

The wickets were shared around, with paceman Tim Dellatorre the only multiple wicket taker with 2/23 from seven overs, while Jesse Morris also snared one.

When it was their turn to bat, the Muddies top order started well, with openers Dellatorre and Kal Zahnow both getting into the 20s.

The rest of the runs were shared evenly among a host of players, as the Muddies recorded a good team win, finishing on 7/150 in the 30th over.

This Sunday the Fourths take on Mareeba at home from 12.30pm, while the Thirds team is scheduled to play Bhutanese Rovers at home from 1pm on Saturday.



Tim Dellatorre made 25 runs opening the batting on Sunday, and also took two wickets with the ball.

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