

# What's On

FRASER COAST MAGAZINE

TAKE ME HOME

104

MAY 2026  
MONTHLY MAGAZINE

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Calendar of Events
- Gig Guide
- Tide Times
- Markets



## The Australian Bee Gees Show

ODYSSEY FESTIVAL

THE SCREAMING JETS

SOUNDS OF  
ROCK MUSIC  
FESTIVAL

FRASER COAST

INDUSTRY  
CAREERS  
SHOWCASE





### The Boat Club Hervey Bay Twilight Cruises KIDS FREE\*



Large Stable Boat - Full Facilities  
\*\$55 Adults + 1 Child FREE  
Book: [BoatClub.com.au](http://BoatClub.com.au)

Everyone's welcome at



**OPEN EVERY DAY**  
Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner



### The Boat Club Hervey Bay Café - All Day Dining



Coffee - Breakfast - Lunch & Dinner



### The Boat Club Hervey Bay Sightseeing, Dolphin & BoomNet Cruises (all ages) KIDS FREE\*



Large Stable Boat - Full Facilities  
\*\$60 Adult + 1 Child FREE  
Book: [BoatClub.com.au](http://BoatClub.com.au)



### The Boat Club Hervey Bay Cocktails



Cocktail Lounge  
or Cocktails On The Deck



### HarbourView Restaurant



Full à la carte Menu  
Seafood, Steaks, Pasta, Pizzas  
Daily ~ Lunch & Dinner



Including  
Johnny Spitz

LIVE & FREE Entertainment most days!



### The Boat Club Hervey Bay Cinemas



Latest Movies  
Prices from \$8.50 - \$14  
Licensed Cinema

**PHONE (07) 4128 9643**  
Buccaneer Drive, Urangan, Hervey Bay

[BoatClub.com.au](http://BoatClub.com.au)

# Contents

WOFC Index .....	3
Editor's Note.....	4
<b>MAY:</b> Inside this Edition.....	4
<b>Feature Story:</b> The Australian Bee Gees - Odyssey Festival..	6-7
Illuminate: 100 Days of Imagination for Hervey Bay .....	10
The Screaming Jets - Dave Gleeson: Sounds of Rock Music Festival.....	12-13
Community Showcase.....	14
<b>MAY:</b> Calendar of Events .....	16-17
<b>MAY:</b> Gig Guide .....	18
Artist in Focus: Helen Aland - A Shift in the Paddock.....	19
Explore the Region on Foot with Mayor George Seymour....	20
Fraser Coast Industry Careers Showcase.....	22
Dunga Derby by Rally for a Cause: Recipient's story .....	24
Opinion Piece by Andrew Sadler: The hunt for a cushy job...25	
Arise+Shine - Tania Comerford: Resourcefulness.....	26
Fraser Coast Agriculture Show.....	26
<b>NEW:</b> Our People, Our Past - George Saleam .....	27
Social Pics .....	28-30
<b>TIDE TIMES &amp; FRASER COAST MARKETS</b> .....	31



Fraser Coast Agriculture Show 2017

## Get in Touch

If you have a local story to share, please contact us at [whatsonfrasercoast@outlook.com](mailto:whatsonfrasercoast@outlook.com)  
We would love to hear from you.



Fraser Coast Agriculture Show 2017

## Regular Contributors

Mayor George Seymour  
Andrew Sadler  
Tania Comerford

## Photography

Kim Parnell  
Stock photography (Pixabay/Unsplash)  
Contributed  
**Cover photo:** Marc Mancini, AAA Entertainment

# What's On

FRASER COAST MAGAZINE

Produced and Published by Kim Parnell

t/a What's On Hervey Bay  
ABN: 39 762 265 534

-  [whatsonfrasercoast@outlook.com](mailto:whatsonfrasercoast@outlook.com)
-  [whatsonfrasercoast.com.au](http://whatsonfrasercoast.com.au)
-  0467 303 171
-  [www.facebook.com/WhatsOnFraserCoast](https://www.facebook.com/WhatsOnFraserCoast)

**"Whatever you are into, get into What's On Fraser Coast"**

*The What's On Fraser Coast Magazine is published monthly and distributed for free across the Fraser Coast region. The magazine is published by Kim Parnell (ABN 39762265534) and printed at Fast Proof Press.*

*Disclaimer: The information in this magazine is intended as a guide only and does not represent the opinion or view of the publisher. Advertising placed in this publication is assumed that the advertiser is not infringing any copyright, trademark, breach of confidence, or does not infringe the Trade Practices Act or other laws, regulations, or statutes. Whilst reasonable care is undertaken in producing content for this publication, the Publisher does not accept liability for any errors or omissions it may contain.*

## Acknowledgement to Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of this land and pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

Bring the family down for a fun day in the park!

# SUNDAY IN THE PARK

+ Band Hall Handcraft Markets

9AM - 1PM\*

**SUNDAY MAY 31**

**QUEEN'S PARK MARYBOROUGH**

STALLHOLDERS! BOOK YOUR SITE  
[mbexcelsior@outlook.com](mailto:mbexcelsior@outlook.com)

**excelsior**  
BRASS BAND MARYBOROUGH



Major Sponsor: **What's On**  
FRASER COAST MAGAZINE

Community Sponsor: **Fraser Coast**  
REGIONAL COUNCIL

\*APPROX. TIMES

BRASS BAND | TRAIN RIDES | HOT FOOD/COLD DRINKS | MARKETS | FOOD & TRAIN RIDES FROM APPROX. 9AM | EXCELSIOR BAND FROM 10AM



## Note from the Editor

Welcome to our May edition, jam-packed full of events and interesting stories.

This magazine is lucky enough to sponsor two wonderful music events that are coming up in the coming months in our region. The events are The Sounds of Rock Music Festival and The Odyssey Festival.

Regional audiences are the backbone of live music outside the major cities, and their importance should never be underestimated. That enthusiasm creates an atmosphere artists, promoters and organisers feel immediately. More importantly, strong regional support proves there is a real appetite for quality live entertainment beyond metropolitan centres. It boosts local business, strengthens community connection, and helps ensure music and culture remain accessible to everyone, not just city audiences.

Music festivals keep music alive because they offer far more than a lineup of performances – they create a space where music can be experienced in its most powerful form. In a time when so much listening happens through screens and headphones, festivals remind us of the magic of live connection, discovery and shared emotion.

Artists often speak fondly of smaller towns and local crowds because the experience feels refreshingly genuine. In regional communities, live music is rarely treated as background entertainment; it is embraced as a true occasion. That warmth and authenticity allows performers to connect more personally, perform more freely, and remember why they fell in love with live music in the first place.

## A sneak peek at what's inside this issue!

In our **Artist in Focus** segment, local talent Helen Aland invites you to view her exhibition, *A Shift in the Paddock*. Discover whimsical, curious characters in her illustrations, where every layer tells a story and reflects on the environment. Thought-provoking and playful, this is one exhibition you won't want to miss. (page 19)

I also caught up with the legendary Dave Gleeson, iconic frontman of **The Screaming Jets**, for an inside look at what he's been up to since we last met. The band is fired up to rock Hervey Bay this September at the **Sounds of Rock Music Festival**—we can't wait! (pages 12–13)

**The Fraser Coast Agriculture Show** marks its 151st year this month! With the theme "*Cultivating the Future*", it promises a vibrant celebration of tradition, local talent, and farming. This is always a fun family day out and not to be missed—grab your tickets now! (page 22)

Turn the page to read these articles and more!

*Kim Parnell*

Editor/Owner, *What's On Fraser Coast Magazine*.



An iconic shopping destination for the sunsmart and fashion conscious in glorious Hervey Bay. Our extensive range includes numerous brands and countless styles, offering something for everyone.

Let our friendly team find the right hat for you.

Open daily, on the Esplanade,  
at the Urangan Pier

Ph. 0423 358 583   [www.hatco.com.au](http://www.hatco.com.au)



# THE GREAT WESTERN PLAY N' STAY MUSICAL TOUR 2026

IN OUR  
14TH  
YEAR!

21<sup>ST</sup> SEPT -  
1<sup>ST</sup> OCT 2026

Includes - Bus, Bed, Breakfast, Nightly  
Meals, Entertainment, Stockman's Hall  
of Fame, Thompson River Cruise and  
Dinosaur Museum in Hughenden all for  
just \$3,800 per person!

CALL 4129 7132 TO BOOK  
YOUR SEAT TODAY!



11 Day Musical Tour with 12 Country/Western, Rock n Roll Artists.  
SEE THE OUTBACK, LIKE YOU'VE NEVER SEEN IT BEFORE!

# TAMWORTH COUNTRY MUSIC FESTIVAL 2027

Waiting  
List for  
LAST 5  
DAYS

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> -  
Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup>  
January 2027

\$1,200  
per person  
Bus, Bed &  
Breakfast

SINGLE/TWIN SHARE AVAILABLE

For more information or enquiries please  
contact Greg & Donna Ross.

Ph. (07) 4129 7132 Mob. 0427 297 132

**G&D ROSS**  
Bus Charters

1197 Bidwill Rd, Maryborough Qld 4650  
greganddonna@ganddrossbuscharters.com.au  
www.ganddrossbuscharters.com.au

Real life doesn't follow a script.

Your property journey shouldn't either.

**Live Life the RealWay**

Local people. Local knowledge. Real outcomes.

**Real Service. Real Results.**

Ask us today how we can help you with your property journey!

**Residential Sales & Property Management**

*Proudly servicing the Fraser Coast since 2004*

07 4128 4255

363 Esplanade Scarness

www.herveybay.realway.com.au

**RealWay**  
HERVEY BAY

*Life Life the RealWay*  
**Real Service. Real Results.**



# Bee Gees magic comes to Maryborough

By Kim Parnell

**Fifteen years on the Las Vegas Strip is no small feat—especially for a tribute act. In a city built on spectacle and reinvention, longevity speaks louder than neon lights. Yet for The Australian Bee Gees, what began as an ambitious idea in Australia has become one of the most enduring tribute shows in Las Vegas.**

On February 1 this year, the group celebrated the 15th anniversary of their residency at Excalibur Hotel and Casino. Recently, I caught up with performer Michael Clift as he reflected on a journey that began long before the bright lights of Vegas ever seemed possible.

"We got a foothold in the US many moons ago," Michael says. "The show started about 30 years ago, back in 1996. We were fairly ambitious at the time and wanted to tour outside Australia too. We started working around Australia and Southeast Asia and put together some nice-looking promos that helped. We figured we would need to expand pretty quickly."

That ambition led them to America—but not straight to the Strip.

"We found a US agent based in Las Vegas and started touring. We spoke to a few producers over there and they said, 'Well, tribute bands don't really work on the Strip.' So, we signed on to tour instead and spent about five years doing two US tours a year, just grinding away."

That slow burn eventually paid off.

"One day our agent called me and said, 'Your numbers are great at the casinos—we think we might be able to give it a try.' It took a few years to convert them, but eventually we landed a gig at Excalibur in 2011, and we've been there ever since."

Even now, Michael says the reality of it still feels surreal.

"We had to pinch ourselves. Taking the show to Las Vegas

was a very ambitious idea. We had a bit of luck here and there and met the right people. And this was all before the internet—we couldn't just Google agents. It was phone calls, letters... it felt exciting, but also like a bit of a pipe dream at the time."

That dream now plays out six nights a week on the Strip, alongside a global touring schedule that would challenge even the best performers.

"At Excalibur we do six shows a week, and then our touring shows can do anywhere from 150 to 250 shows a year, including Australia," Michael explains. "We've got four line-ups of the show—main casts in Vegas and Australia, plus a lot of subs. There are probably close to 30 performers involved across everything."

The scale is impressive.

**"We've done over 4,500 shows just in Las Vegas and close to 10,000 worldwide."**

Despite that consistency, no two crowds are ever quite the same.

"American audiences are a little more enthusiastic upfront," Michael says. "They're willing you to succeed, and if you don't, they'll let you know pretty quickly. In Vegas especially, it's a party crowd—people are a bit rowdier, a bit louder."

Australians, by contrast, take a little more winning over.

"They sit back a bit more. You really have to prove yourself. Once you win them over, they're great—but it's a different energy."

Then there's the challenge of building a show around one of the most loved catalogues in pop history.

"There are so many good songs," Michael says. "You could easily list 20 that you have to include—the big disco hits, the '60s classics, some later stuff. There's a core group of songs that people expect."

The key, he says, is in the structure.

"We don't present it chronologically. The show starts with a bit of that '70s disco feel, then moves into later hits, then back to the '60s, and builds up again. It's about dynamics."

They also lean into the Bee Gees' famous medley style.

"The Bee Gees were known for those medleys around one microphone, so we incorporate that. It helps us fit more in without it feeling rushed."

That balance between nostalgia and freshness is central to the show's success.

**"We look at it from the point of view of—if the Bee Gees were still touring today, what would they be doing with this catalogue? That's how we treat it. It keeps it fresh for the audience and for us too."**

And while the songs may be familiar, recreating the sound is no easy task.

"The Bee Gees' sound is all about that blend," Michael says. "It's almost like one voice."

Maintaining that harmony across different line-ups takes work, but over the years the group has refined its approach.

"We've worked out how to get the best out of everyone and get as close as we can to that original sound."

The audience itself has changed too.

"There's definitely a younger crowd coming through now," Michael notes. "A lot of that comes from social media, and also kids discovering their parents' record collections."

To meet those expectations, the production has evolved with the times.

"We aim for a faithful reproduction—the costumes, the sound—but we also have an animated media backdrop with videos and content that tell part of the Bee Gees' story. We keep updating that to modernise the experience."

Still, the real goal is less about education and more about immersion.

"We try to suspend disbelief, so people feel like they're actually watching the Bee Gees live."

What matters most is the emotional connection.

"We get a lot of people saying, 'I got dragged along and didn't think I knew many songs, but I ended up knowing most of them.' That happens a lot."

For Michael, the appeal of the Bee Gees only deepens with time.

**"As a musician, when you start pulling songs apart—working out all the parts, what everyone's doing—you gain a whole new appreciation. Then when it all comes together, you realise just how well-crafted it is."**

And after three decades, he says it's still the live element that keeps it exciting.

"People always ask how we keep it fresh, but the live element does that for you. Every audience is different. You're feeding off their energy."

That energy will be on full display when The Australian Bee Gees perform at this year's Odyssey Festival.

"We don't get to do a lot of festivals, so we're really looking forward to it," Michael says. "We've built the tour around this one."

Festival audiences can expect a shorter, high-impact version of the show.

"It'll be shorter than our usual show, but punchier. Lots of dancing, lots of fun—plenty of the big hits from the '60s and the disco era."

After thousands of performances and decades on the road, one thing remains unchanged: the music still resonates.

"You can listen to the records at home anytime," Michael says. "But people want to come out and experience it live. For an hour and a half, they can feel like they're watching the Bee Gees—and that's pretty special."

**Sharing the lineup with The Australian Bee Gees Show is Gold – The Ultimate ABBA Show, The Art of McCartney, The Elton John Experience and The Billy Joel Experience.**



Some call it the whale-watching  
capital of the world.

Hervey Bay offers a balmy subtropical climate, wide sandy beaches, and calm waters—making it an ideal seaside escape.

Located a three-and-a-half-hour drive north of Brisbane, Hervey Bay is also accessible by plane, with direct flights operating from Sydney and Brisbane to Hervey Bay Airport.

Situated just a ten-minute drive from the airport, Ramada Hotel & Suites Hervey Bay is your ideal base from which to explore the beautiful Fraser Coast.

**RAMADA**  
BY WYNDHAM  
HERVEY BAY

[www.ramadaherveybay.com.au](http://www.ramadaherveybay.com.au)



## Quality Family Dentistry

***Blue Sky Dental Care is a locally owned, boutique dental clinic providing quality care to the Wide Bay area since 2013.***

- General, Emergency, Cosmetic & Implant Dentistry (including All-on-X)
- DVA
- CDBS

**We accept all health funds**

 4128 9276  [blueskydental.com.au](http://blueskydental.com.au)

 [blueskycares](https://www.facebook.com/blueskycares)  [@blueskydental\\_herveybay](https://www.instagram.com/blueskydental_herveybay)

 Shop 2, 1 William Dean Avenue, Urangan  
Airport Service Centre



# The Services Club Scores Another Big Win!



2026 CLUBS QLD & MCCAIN FOODS AWARDS

BE HERE TO WIN

## SUPERDRAW

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS 6.30PM - 7.15PM! TWO CHANCES TO WIN THOUSANDS!  
 JOIN US EVERY WEDNESDAY NIGHT FOR THE EXCITEMENT AND YOUR CHANCE TO TAKE HOME A BIG CASH PRIZE!  
 6.30PM - 7.15PM | LIVE STREAMED

2 DRAWS  
2 CHANCES

WIN  
THOUSANDS

JACKPOTS  
WEEKLY

MEMBERS ONLY

## MOTHERS DAY BREAKFAST

Celebrate the most important women in our lives

HOT BUFFET BREAKFAST PLUS  
FRUIT, DANISHES AND  
DELICIOUS PANCAKES.

\$57.50 ADULTS - \$17.00 KIDS

SUNDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> MAY 8AM-10.30AM

BOOKING ESSENTIAL

15<sup>TH</sup> APRIL - 31<sup>ST</sup> MAY



DRAWS EVERY SUNDAY FROM 2PM

6 X MEMBERS WILL PLAY TO WIN UP TO

**\$1,000  
CASH EACH!**

ENTER FROM 15<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, WITH EVERY  
\$20 GAMING PLAY, \$5 SPEND ON FOOD  
OR BEVERAGE OR SWIPE AT KIOSK.

# Nothing beats watching a movie on the BIGSCREEN!



LICENCED BAR ■ CAFE ■ DELUXE SEATING



Ask us about the  
VIP experience  
for your next movie  
you deserve it



128 Boat Harbour Drive, Pialba - mybigscreen.com.au

Check our Facebook and website for current sessions



# ILLUMINATE: 100 DAYS OF IMAGINATION FOR HERVEY BAY

Last year more than 30,000 community members participated in programs, activities, and events delivered by the Hervey Bay Neighbourhood Centre. This tells a powerful story about our community, we are a place where people are connecting, creating, learning, and supporting one another.

But what if we could imagine even more?

At the Hervey Bay Neighbourhood Centre, we believe imagination is one of the most powerful tools a community has. It helps us remember who we are and inspires us to shape who we want to become. That's why HBNC are inviting the entire community to take part in Illuminate: 100 Days of Imagination starting in April.

This is not just another event to mark on your calendar. It is a gentle interruption to the rhythm of everyday life. For 100 days, Hervey Bay will become a canvas for imagination. Through simple events, signs around town, and small 'micro-activities', we are inviting everyone from our youngest children to our most senior elders to rediscover their sense of wonder.

Some key events include: Youth Pitch Event, 29 of April to hear ideas from our young poeple; Volunteer Conference, 19 May to learn about the future of volunteering; The Great Easter Eggs-pedition in the Botanic Gardens during the April school holidays and Stage Two of the Art Story Wall: Where I Belong? launching for local creatives to share why they love living in Hervey Bay.

While this campaign is fun and creative, it also has a deeper purpose. At HBNC we are currently planning the next four years for 2030, and we want that future to be shaped by the community. Every idea, every story, and every dream shared during these 100 days will help inform the HBNC Strategic Plan. We want a plan written with the voices of the community, the people who walk our Esplanade, raise families here, run businesses, volunteer, and call Hervey Bay home.

There is no right or wrong way to participate. It might be sharing an idea sparked by a sign in the park, a conversation over coffee, or a creative dream you've been holding onto for years. If you would like to get more involved, visit the website to see the activities and events being delivered during April - June.

HBNC has established a Dream Team who meet every Friday from 10am - 2pm at the Neighbourhood Hive, where community members come together to share ideas, create projects, and imagine what's possible. Join us for the next 100 days and let's bring the village back, one imagination at a time.

Tanya Stevenson  
CEO, Hervey Bay Neighbourhood Centre



# 100 DAYS OF IMAGINATION

APRIL TO JULY 2026



PAUSE.  
DREAM.  
SHARE.

#imagineherveybay



**HBNC**

Creating Connected Communities





# THE SCREAMING JETS

## STILL BRING THE NOISE

### LOOKING FORWARD, NOT BACK

Although The Screaming Jets have now been around for decades, Gleeson isn't one for nostalgia for nostalgia's sake. The 2021 *All For One* 30 Year Anniversary edition gave one of the bands defining records a new life and sent fans down memory lane, but for Dave, it was less about looking back and more about reconnecting with a defining moment in the band's story.

"I'm a looking-forward person," he said. "We still play the songs we recorded all those years ago, but you don't rest on your laurels. You're always looking forward to creating new music and maybe having some more hits down the line."

Still, revisiting *All For One* stirred some vivid memories.

"It was a time capsule," he said. "It instantly transports you back to those times in the studio, the shenanigans we were getting up to, and how close we all were at that stage."

He laughs recalling just how intense those early years were.

**"We were all living together and in each other's back pockets. Like any band at the beginning, you spend years like that. Then eventually people get married, buy houses, and not everyone wants to live together anymore."**

The album, he says, was recorded in just 15 days.

"We packed a lot of life into those 15 days, I'll tell you."

### A BITTERSWEET CHAPTER

That same forward momentum carried into *Professional Misconduct*, released in 2023.

For Gleeson, the album became something much more significant than just another release. It was also one of the last major works involving guitarist Paul Woseen, who passed away just months after the record was completed.

"This album felt like a continuation of the legacy," Dave said. "Paulie put his heart and soul into it."

That made the record both a celebration and a loss.

"It became a bit of a bittersweet one because of that fact," he said. "But there was also a positive thing in that he left us with these amazing songs, and we had a great, great time recording the album."

By Kim Parnell

**The last time I interviewed Screaming Jets frontman Dave Gleeson was back in 2017, ahead of the band's show at the Beach House Hotel. I remember it vividly.**

While organising the interview, I asked Dave the obvious question: tea or beer?

"Beer," he said.

So, we sat down at the Beach House, had a beer, Dave's brother joined us, and what followed was one of the more memorable interviews I've done—equal parts relaxed, funny and rock 'n' roll. The show that followed was a sellout.

Eight years later, Gleeson is still as busy as ever fronting The Screaming Jets, broadcasting on Triple M, and staying connected to the people who've kept Australian rock alive for decades.

These days, he's often the one asking the questions.

He'd just wrapped up an interview with Gavin Rossdale from Bush when we spoke and admitted he still gets a buzz from talking to artists he admires.

"You do get a little nervous when you interview the big ones," Dave said. "But at the end of the day, most of the time—not all the time—they're just like you and I, and really good for a yarn."

That dual life as performer and broadcaster has shaped him in unexpected ways.

"You hear people's answers in interviews and that can give you a bit of inspiration," he said.

He recalled a conversation with Bernard Fanning, who once described songwriting as the process of starting with nothing and ending up with something real—pulling notes, chords and ideas out of the ether and giving them shape.

"When I hear stuff like that from people, I really take it in," Dave said. "It's one of those things that kind of wears off on you."

## STILL GOING STRONG

I asked Dave about what he is proudest of when he reflects on the last eight years.

He replied, "On a personal level, it's family.

"My two kids have now made it all the way through high school," he said. "My son is drumming in a band, my daughter's been gainfully employed for about three years, and my wife and I have been married for 29 years. They're my personal milestones."

Professionally, he's proud that The Screaming Jets are still not only surviving—but still connecting.

**"We're very lucky that we've been able to continue to build the crowd," he said. "We're getting younger people coming along now because their parents might have influenced them in some way."**

And perhaps most importantly, they're still creating.

"It's ever evolving, ever growing," he said. "Writing songs—it's what we do. It's part of our life strategy, our coping plan. You put words down on paper, turn them into music and hopefully connect with people."

That connection will be on full display when The Screaming Jets return to Hervey Bay for the Sounds of Rock Music Festival in September.

Gleeson says he doesn't think he's been back since our beer at the Beach House all those years ago—but he's ready.

He loves the festival circuit, the backstage camaraderie, and



the chance to share a bill with artists who've travelled the same roads.

And as for what fans can expect.

"Balls-to-the-wall rock and roll," he said.

"Every time we get on stage, we smash it out like it's the last gig we'll ever do. We absolutely love performing."

### The festival lineup also includes:

Pete Murray	Pseudo Echo
Diesel	Toni Childs
The Black Sorrows	1927
Richard Clapton	

**Get your tickets now:**  
[www.soundsofrockfestival.com.au](http://www.soundsofrockfestival.com.au)

*Fashion forward  
for the young at heart*



**Dress Me Wild**  
*by* Janie Wild

Pialba Place - Opposite Big W  
0409 266 966

DRESSMEWILD  
WOMEN'S WEAR

# Community Bank Hervey Bay turns 20

*with a celebration for the whole Fraser Coast*

By Lizzie Macaulay

Twenty years ago, Community Bank Hervey Bay opened its doors with a simple idea: that banking could do more for a community than just hold its money. Two decades on, that bank is woven into the fabric of life on the Fraser Coast, and it's just getting started.

To mark the milestone, Community Bank Hervey Bay is throwing a party, and the whole region is invited.

**The 20th Anniversary Community Showcase takes place Saturday 13 June at Seafront Oval, Hervey Bay, from 10am to 2pm. Entry is completely free, and the event has already generated plenty of buzz ahead of what's shaping up to be one of the Fraser Coast's most anticipated community days of the year.**

Think of it as part family fun day, part community expo. Dozens of local groups, clubs and charities will be there, each with hands-on activities designed to get you involved, not just informed. Whether you've been meaning to try something new, find a cause worth backing, or simply discover what's happening in your own backyard, this is the place to do it. There'll be live music from local performers, displays of athleticism from gymnasts and martial artists, food trucks to keep everyone fuelled, and a look inside the work of the Fraser Coast's emergency services.

For kids who like to explore, there's an added reason to see everything on offer. Throughout the event they'll be collecting stamps from our stallholders to earn themselves a prize, making sure families get a proper look at everything the day has to offer.

It's the kind of event where you might just find your family's next favourite 'thing'.

The headline moment goes well beyond the fun. Community Bank Hervey Bay will take to the stage to announce \$200,000 in community grants, with funding going to local organisations doing real, meaningful work across the Fraser Coast. If you've ever wondered how a community bank actually makes a difference, you'll see it live.



It's a fitting way to mark 20 years, and a reminder of what community banking looks like when it's working.

"Reaching 20 years is something we're incredibly proud of, but for us, the real celebration is the community itself," said Branch Manager Alex Kruger. "This showcase is our way of bringing everyone together, shining a light on the incredible groups doing great work across the Fraser Coast, and showing what's possible when a community invests in itself. We can't wait to welcome everyone on the day."

The event runs from 10am to 2pm, so if Saturday morning means sport on the sidelines or on the field, you've still got time. Wrap up the game, grab some lunch from a food truck, and make an afternoon of it. Come for an hour or stay for the lot. Either way, come.

## EVENT DETAILS



### WHERE

Seafront Oval,  
Hervey Bay



### COST

Free entry



### WHEN

Saturday  
13 June  
10am–2pm



Presented by

**Fraser Coast**  
Tourism & Events

Major sponsor

**HYNE** group

# Relish <sup>20</sup><sub>26</sub>

## Food & Wine Festival

**Saturday  
6th June**

**10am – 5pm**

Buy  
Tickets  
Early and  
Save!

Cooking Demonstrations | Regional Wineries  
Distilleries & Breweries | Live Music | Eating Competitions

Portside Precinct & Queens Park, Maryborough

**relishfrasercoast.com.au**



# Calendar of Events

## MAY 2026

**Fri, May 1 - Sun, May 17**

**LIVE THEATRE: Mosquitoes**

(Lucy Kirkwood)

Ticketed event

[www.zpactheatre.com.au](http://www.zpactheatre.com.au)

Z-Pac Theatre, Scarness

**Fri, May 1 - Sun, May 17**

**ART EXHIBITION: Anastasia Klose: World without End**

Cost: Free

Hervey Bay Regional Gallery

**Fri, May 1 - Sat, May 30**

**ART EXHIBITION: A Shift in the Paddock: Helen Aland**

Cost: Free

Gatakers Artspace, Maryborough

**Wed, May 1**

**The Work-ready Op Shop Ball**

6pm – 10pm

Ticketed event

Tickets via:

[www.rdawidebayburnett.org.au](http://www.rdawidebayburnett.org.au)

Hervey Bay Golf Club

**Sat, May 2**

**Art-SING Workshop**  
**Learn to sing with Richelle Nicholls**

1pm – 3pm

Cost involved – Ages 12+

Hervey Bay Regional Gallery

Tickets:

[www.frasercoast.rezdy.com](http://www.frasercoast.rezdy.com)

**Sat, May 2**

**Show Ball**

(By Next Gen)

6pm – 11pm

Cost involved

Maryborough Services Club

**Sat, May 2**

**1 Day Casting Workshop**

(Event by Screen Fraser Coast)

9am – 3pm

Cost involved

Tickets via humanitix

The Tree House: Urangan

Community Wellness Centre

Hervey Bay

**Sat, May 2**

**Maryborough Parkrun**

(Every Saturday)

Brief 6.50 am

FREE 5km timed event

Cheapside St

(Don't forget your barcode)

**Sat, May 2**

**Hervey Bay Parkrun**

(Every Saturday)

Brief 6.50 am

FREE 5km timed event

Urangan Pier

(Don't forget your barcode)



**Tues, May 5**

**Seed Library in the Garden**

10am – 11am

Free: Bookings required via

Fraser Coast Libraries

Halcro Street Community Garden,

Pialba

**Wed, May 6**

**Pilates in Motion**

(Every Wed)

5.30pm – 6.30pm

Cost: \$5 – Take yoga mat & Cushion

The Tree House: Urangan Wellness Centre

**Thu, May 7**

**Business Networking Drinks**

(Business Hervey Bay)

5pm – 7pm

Aquavue Beachfront Bar & Eatery

Non-member \$10

**Fri, May 8 - Sun, May 10**

**LIVE THEATRE: The Rocky Horror Show**

(Macabre Theatre Company)

Ticketed event

[www.brolgatheatre.org](http://www.brolgatheatre.org)

Brolga Theatre & Convention Centre, Maryborough

**Sat, May 8 - Sun, May 10**

**3 Day Intensive Workshop**

(Screen Fraser Coast)

Cost involved. Tickets via humanitix

The Neighbourhood Hive, Pialba

**Sat, May 9**

**Antiques & Collectables & Handicraft Fair**

9am – 2.30pm

Cost: \$10

Children under 16 years free  
Hervey Bay Historical Village & Museum

**Sat, May 9**

**Hervey Bay Community Listening Event on Butchulla Country**

3pm – 5pm

Have your say and make it count!

Share a meal, meet people and chat

Hervey Bay Botanic Gardens

**Sat, May 9**

**2026 Harvey Norman Maroons Footy Fest**

10am – 1pm

Free entry, no registration required

Hervey Bay Seagulls Rugby League Club

**Sun, May 10**

**Handmade Artisan Fraser Coast Mother's Day on the Mary**

9am – 1pm

Free Entry

Brolga Theatre, Maryborough

**Sun, May 10**

**Mother's Day Classic – Hervey Bay**

8am – Urangan Pier

Walk or run

Register:

[www.mothersdayclassic.com.au](http://www.mothersdayclassic.com.au)

**Tue, May 12**

**The Sweet Caroline Tour: A Tribute to Neil Diamond**

7.30pm – Ticketed event

[www.brolgatheatre.org](http://www.brolgatheatre.org)

Brolga Theatre, Maryborough

**Wed, May 13**

**Author Talk with Georgia Harper & Mercedes Mercier**

5.30pm – 6.30pm

Free: Bookings essential

Hervey Bay Regional Gallery



**Fri, May 15**

**Coffee & Connect (BiziWomen Connect)**

8am – 10am

Henri's Gourmet Foods,

Central Avenue, Urraween

# Brought to you by What's On Fraser Coast

Gig Guide on page 18 | Full market list on page 31

**Fri, May 15**

**LIVE SHOW: Queen Forever - Greatest Hits Tour**

7.30pm  
Ticketed event  
Bookings essential  
[www.brolgatheatre.org](http://www.brolgatheatre.org)  
Brolga Theatre & Convention Centre

**Fri, May 15 - Sun, May 24**

**Circus Rio**

Seafront Oval – Hervey Bay  
[www.circusrio.com](http://www.circusrio.com)

**Fri, May 15**

**Wildlife Talks**

1pm – 2pm  
Hervey Bay Library  
Free: No bookings required

**Sat, May 16**

**FUNDRAISER: Ghostbusters Music Trivia**

(Proceeds to Childhood Cancer Support)  
Doors open 6pm  
Cost involved Bay RSL  
Find our more on Facebook

**Sat, May 16**

**Everly Brothers & Friends & Roy Orbison**

2pm – 4.20pm  
Ticketed event  
Bookings essential  
[www.brolgatheatre.org](http://www.brolgatheatre.org)  
Brolga Theatre & Convention Centre

**Sun, May 17**

**Tiaro Fishing Competition**

7am – 11.30am  
(Mary River Catchment Coordinating Committee)  
Cost involved  
Petrie Park boat ramp, Van Doorn Rd, Tiaro  
For more info, email:  
[secretary@mrrcc.org.au](mailto:secretary@mrrcc.org.au)

**Sun, May 17**

**Val Machin Opera Scenes - Excerpts from Marriage of Figaro and Tales**

2pm – 3.40pm  
Ticketed event  
Bookings essential  
[www.brolgatheatre.org](http://www.brolgatheatre.org)  
Brolga Theatre & Convention Centre

**Thu, May 21 - Fri, May 22**

**Fraser Coast Agriculture Show**

9am  
Cost involved  
Tickets:  
[www.frasercoastagshow.com](http://www.frasercoastagshow.com)  
Maryborough Showgrounds & Equestrian Centre

**Thu, May 21**

**Choose Happiness (Public Talk) (Kadampa Meditation Centre Brisbane)**

7pm – 8.30pm  
Cost involved - humanitix  
Discover practical Buddhist wisdom  
Everyone is welcome  
Hervey Bay Botanic Gardens, Urangan

**Fri, May 22**

**Best of Broadway (Fraser Coast Orchestra)**

7.30pm – 9.45pm  
Ticketed event  
Bookings essential  
[www.brolgatheatre.org](http://www.brolgatheatre.org)  
Brolga Theatre & Convention Centre

**Fri, May 29**

**Wildlife Talks**

1pm – 2pm  
Maryborough Library  
Free: No bookings required



**Sat, May 30 & Sun, May 31**

**Community Flights Fundraising Joy Flight Weekend**

8am – 5pm  
Cost from \$150  
Hervey Bay Aeroclub,  
Don Adams Drive, Hervey Bay  
[www.communityflights.org.au](http://www.communityflights.org.au)

**Sat, May 30**

**FUNDRAISER: Hervey Bay RSL Volley For Youth - Charity Carnival**

9am – 5pm  
Cost involved for teams  
Spectator area  
Raising funds for HBNC's youth programs  
Hervey Bay Surf Club

**Sun, May 31**

**Goomeri Pumpkin Festival**

From 8am  
For more info head to:  
[goomeripumpkinfestival.com.au](http://goomeripumpkinfestival.com.au)

**Sun, May 31**

**Sunday in the Park + Band Hall Handcraft Markets**

9am – 1pm  
Queens Park, Maryborough

If you have an event to add for future editions, please send details to [whatsonfrasercoast@outlook.com](mailto:whatsonfrasercoast@outlook.com).

**Disclaimer** - All event details are correct at the time of print. Events can be cancelled, change location, have time changes, or be rescheduled without our knowledge. What's On Fraser Coast takes no responsibility for the cancellation of events. We also take no part in organising any event listed. We offer this calendar as a free community service and in good faith.



**TIME OUT**  
**DISABILITY SERVICES**

*Looking beyond disabilities!*

**Ph: 07 4334 0444**



✉ [admin@timeoutds.com](mailto:admin@timeoutds.com)  
f [timeoutdisabilityservices](https://www.facebook.com/timeoutdisabilityservices)

**7 Day Flat Rate Pricing**  
**Social Activities**  
**Capacity Building**  
**In Home Support**  
**Community Inclusion**

**Supported Travel & Transport**  
**Fishing & Camping**



# GIG GUIDE

## LIVE MUSIC ON THE FRASER COAST

May  
2026

Brought to you by  
What's On Fraser Coast

### HERVEY BAY

#### Hervey Bay Boat Club

Fri 1, 6.00 pm, Brian Speirs  
Sat 2, 6.00 pm, Diamonds & Rust Duo  
Sun 3, 2.00 pm, Shaun Beckett  
Fri 8, 6.00 pm, Darren Marlow  
Sat 9, 6.00 pm, Shannon Young  
Sun 10, 2.00 pm, Peter Baker  
Fri 15, 6.00 pm, Derek Smith  
Sat 16, 6.00 pm, Dean Gray  
Sun 17, 2.00 pm, Darren Marlow  
Fri 22, 6.00 pm, Shane Allsop  
Sat 23, 6.00 pm, Aaron Westlake  
Sun 24, 2.00 pm, Frank Benn  
Fri 29, 6.00 pm, Brian Speirs  
Sat 30, 6.00 pm, Insufficient Funds  
Sun 31, 2.00 pm, Emma Newman

#### Hervey Bay RSL

Fri 1, 11.30am, Brad Sorenson  
Fri 1, 6.00 pm, Shannon Young  
Sat 2, 8pm, Rhubarb Tarts  
Fri 8, 11.30am, Trevor Judge  
Fri 8, 6pm, Emma Newman

Sat 9, 8pm, Trainwrecks  
Fri 15, 11.30am, Trevor Judge  
Fri 15, 6pm, Will Ramage  
Sat 16, 8pm, Insufficient Funds  
Fri 22, 11.30am, Trevor Judge  
Fri 22, 6pm, Frank Benn  
Sat 23, 8pm, Red Betty  
Fri 29, 11.30am, Trevor Judge  
Fri 29, 6pm, Sam Maddison  
Sat 30, 8pm, Rhubarb Tarts  
Sun 31, 12pm, Brad Turner

#### Beach House Hotel

##### Main Bar

Fri 1, 9pm, Dogwood Duo  
Sat 2, 9pm, Dirt N Diesel  
Sun 3, 2pm, Scott Angeles  
Fri 8, 9pm, Insufficient Funds  
Sat 9, 9pm, Forbidden Road  
Sun, 10, 2pm, Joel Spence  
Fri 15, 9pm, Head on Collusion  
Sat 16, 9pm, Saltwater Cartel  
Sun 17, 2pm, Mia Rose  
Fri 22, 9pm, The Marshall Brothers

Sat 23, 9pm, Dance Floor Confessions  
Sun 24, 2pm, Brian Speirs  
Fri 29, 9pm, Dust Trio  
Sat 30, 9pm, Sunset Nova  
Sun 31, 2pm, Doug Edwards

#### Scarborough Bar

Sat 2, 4pm, Emma Newman  
Sat 9, 4pm, Mia Rose  
Sat 16, 4pm, Brian Speirs  
Sat 23, 4pm, Mia Hinsch  
Sat 30, 4pm, DJ Crooksy

#### The Clubhouse Hervey Bay

Fri 1, 6pm, Doug Edwards  
Sat 2, 6pm, Frank Benn  
Fri 8, 6pm, Scott Angeles  
Sat 9, 6pm, Brian Speirs  
Fri 15, 6pm, Mia Hinsch  
Sat 16, 6pm, Brad Turner  
Fri 22, 6pm, Aaron Westlake  
Sat 23, 6pm, Joel Spence  
Fri 29, 6pm, Kev Carroll  
Sat 30, 6pm, Emma Newman

### MARYBOROUGH

#### Carriers Arms Hotel

Fri 1, 9pm, Bad Attitude  
Sat 2, 9pm, Sunset Nova  
Sun 3, 2pm, Open Mic  
Fri 8, 9pm, Merlin  
Sat 9, 9pm, Dogwood Crossing  
Sun, 10, 2pm, Open Mic  
Fri 15, 9pm, Dirt Blonde  
Sat 16, 9pm, Red Betty  
Sun 17, 2pm, Open Mic  
Fri 22, 9pm, DJ Crooksy  
Sat 23, 9pm, The Wannabees  
Sun 24, 2pm, Open Mic  
Fri 29, 9pm, Trainwrecks  
Sat 30, 9pm, The Marshall Brothers  
Sun 31, 2pm, Open Mic

#### Maryborough Services Club

Sat 2, 8 pm, Bad Attitude  
Sun 3, 1pm, Doug Edwards  
Sat 9, 8pm, Marshall Bros  
Sun 10, 1pm, Sam Maddison  
Sat 16, 8pm, Sunset Nova  
Sun 17, 1pm, Frank Benn  
Sat 23, 8pm, Forbidden Road  
Sun 24, 1pm, Shane Van Wamellan  
Sat 30, 8pm, Saltwater Cartel

#### Maryborough Sports Club

Fri 1, 7.30 pm, Rockin Riots  
Fri 8, 7.30 pm, 2EZ  
Sat 9, 7.00 pm, Billy Guy  
Sun 10, 12.00 pm, Billy Guy  
Fri 15, 7.30 pm, Hillbilly Goats  
Fri 22, 7.30 pm, Graeme Jensen  
Sat 23, 7.00 pm, Rufus Jack  
Thu 28, 7.00 pm, Open Mic Night  
Fri 29, 7.30 pm, Kick Arse Country  
Sun 31, 12.30 pm, Maria Whittaker

Frank Benn



# Where Wonder Meets Warning: Inside Helen Aland's *A Shift in the Paddock*

*Whimsical, immersive and quietly confronting, A Shift in the Paddock by Helen Aland transforms the bushland of Tinana into a world of curious characters, layered meaning and environmental reflection. Through illustrations, Helen explores the fragile beauty of the natural world — and the human impact changing it. We spoke with the artist about the inspiration behind the exhibition, her creative process and the deeper message woven through the work.*

## Exhibition aside, tell us a little about yourself and your love of art.

I was born in Penang, grew up in Brisbane, then moved to the Northern Territory in 1998, where I lived for 23 years. I came to the Fraser Coast about five years ago. I was drawn to Maryborough because of its old houses, buildings and rich history which I love, and I also have family in Hervey Bay.

I've always loved being creative and I work across lots of mediums. Clay is something I always return to, but I also love paper, collage, drawing and painting. I taught myself metalsmithing and made silver jewellery for a while, and I've also worked with porcelain and throwing. Since moving back to Queensland, I've returned to clay in a more sculptural way. I tend to move between mediums depending on what inspires me.

## Your exhibition at Gatakers Artspace has been described as both whimsical and foreboding. How did you balance playfulness with the environmental warning at its core?

I'm not even sure if I did balance it, but I hope I have. I've got a bit of a strange sense of humour, so coming up with these maladapted creatures felt quite natural.

The exhibition is inspired by Police Paddock at Tinana. When I moved here, I really missed being immersed in nature. In the Territory, the bush was right there at my back door. Here, I was looking for somewhere that felt untouched and someone suggested Police Paddock. A soon as I got there, I felt restored. It was birdsong, smells, sounds — proper bushland. It became a really important place for me.

But as I walked there more often, I started noticing cigarette butts, food packaging, dog waste and signs of people not respecting the environment. That got me thinking about human interference and how deeply it affects these spaces.

## How do you weave that environmental message into the work itself?

Birds became central to the exhibition. Police Paddock has a



*Birds Eye View by Helen Aland*

wonderful list of bird and animal life, and I started paying close attention to them. I love expressing emotion through faces and gestures, so I began giving the birds human-like characteristics.

Some of them are quirky — growing cigarettes out of their hair or becoming overweight from eating chips instead of natural food. There's humour there, but also discomfort. The characters show emotions like freedom, happiness and loss.

## What does your artistic process look like?

I mainly work with pencil and watercolour gouache. I'll often begin with a very light sketch, then build with paint and come back in at the end with graphite and pencil detail. Most of the imagery comes straight from my imagination, though I do use reference photos to study the birds more closely.

## Your uncanny characters are incredibly striking. What role do they play in helping people connect emotionally with environmental change?

I want people to laugh at first — to get a little giggle — and then stop and think, "Hang on, that's not right. Why have they changed? What have we done?"

If people can feel amusement and concern at the same time, then hopefully they'll reflect more deeply on what's happening in our natural spaces.

## Exhibition Details



The exhibition runs through until **Saturday, May 30.**



**Gatakers Artspace**  
311 Kent Street, Maryborough



**Entry is free.**



### Gallery opening hours:

Monday: Closed

Tuesday to Friday: 9.30am – 3.30pm

Saturday to Sunday: 9.30am – 2pm

# EXPLORE THE REGION ON FOOT

## POLICE Paddock

Written by **Fraser Coast Mayor, George Seymour**

**Police Paddock in Tinana is a very interesting conservation park to explore. It is a rich wilderness with a particularly unique history.**



Early in Maryborough's history this site was used as the paddock for the police horses, hence the name which it retains.

Amongst the towering trees here are historical ruins and relics, although not related to horses. For the keen and curious, there are huge concrete slabs, piping and other intriguing remains to discover. The concrete slabs are in remarkably good shape and, if the leaves and debris were swept aside, could function as skating rinks in the midst of this untamed bushland.

What is preserved in Police Paddock was actually part of a much larger World War II logistical endeavour which stretched kilometres across Tinana into what is now private property.

In February 1943 orders were given for plans to be drawn up for a complex camp here with all necessary facilities and an interconnecting road system.

The US Army 27th Division was to arrive in Australia in November 1943 and were to occupy the site.

Preliminary plans were drawn up and on 31 July the construction order for the camp was given, with a construction period of three months. The site would require facilities, power and running water for more than 15,000 men. 18 miles of roadway would be required,

involving 50,000 cubic yards of gravel.

However, despite the project being identified as a priority, there was a lack of available labour, by September when the construction was underway there were only 17 men engaged on the site.

By October there was a stream of prefabricated huts,



*Amongst the wilderness are ruins from WW II facilities*



*The path through police paddock is well marked*

pipes and other building materials arriving at the site, but it was clear that the November finish date was not going to be achieved. Due to favourable developments in the War, there were thoughts of abandoning the Tinana construction, but as it was about halfway finished, it was decided that it would continue albeit at a slower pace and with a revised completion date of 31 January 1944.

The layout was dispersed over 23 square miles of undulating forested country. Clearing for roads and buildings sites required a significant contingent of heavy machinery.

The administration of the construction site was actually run out of the warehouse building on Wharf Street that is now the Military and Colonial Museum.

Walking amongst the ruins in Police Paddock, it takes a bit of imagination to comprehend all the kitchens, ablution blocks, recreation huts, roads, warehouses, latrines, administration buildings, infirmary huts and other buildings that the remnants represent.

By May of 1944, there were no plans for any more major US army divisional units to be deployed within Australia. At this stage, with the 27th Division having never come to Australia, it was handed over to become an Australian Staging Camp.

The site never saw the many thousands of Americans it was quickly constructed for. Built in war time when Australia was under threat; in peace time it has been slowly subdivided up, and backyard sheds have utilised the slabs that were constructed for mess halls. But here in Police Paddock there is this special wilderness which is reclaiming the site.

The best way to get a sense of this scenic conservation park is to start at the entrance near where Koala Crescent meets Lindah Road East and follow the well-constructed path as it heads north across the site.

# Green Finance Group

## Experience matters.

### Local Finance Expert



G. FINANCE SPECIALISTS

- Home & Investment Loans
- Refinancing & Rate Reviews

Australian  
Credit Licence -  
ACL 517192

Beth Rachel  
0403 192 552

[beth@greenfinancegroup.com.au](mailto:beth@greenfinancegroup.com.au)

Beth Rachel -  
Green Finance Group

[bethrachel\\_gfg](#)



## Not Just Food, it's an Experience!

COFFEE | COLD DRINKS | SMOOTHIES | GELATO

DELI DISPLAY OF CHEESES, SALAMI,  
OLIVES & SMOKED MEATS

ALL DAY MENU | CHARCUTERIE BOARDS

DELICIOUS FRESHLY CUT SANDWICHES

TACO & NACHOS NIGHTS EVERY THURS & FRI

DINE IN | TAKEAWAY

LICENSED

Trading Hours:

Mon - Wed - 7am - 5pm

Thurs - Fri - 7am to 7pm

Sat - 7am to 3pm

Sunday 7am to 12pm



4/432 Esplanade, Torquay

0407391826



## Waterfront Restaurant

Stunning uninterrupted ocean & island views  
are perfect for your next breakfast or lunch date.

Fresh local produce & seafood.

Award winning wedding venue.



PHONE: (07) 41946733

ON THE BEACH - DAYMAN PARK, URANGAN, CNR KENT & PULGUL ST

EMAIL: [WATERFRONTHERVEYBAY@GMAIL.COM](mailto:WATERFRONTHERVEYBAY@GMAIL.COM)

*Where you're so close to  
the reef you can touch it!*

# REEFWORLD AQUARIUM

*Swim with  
the Turtles!*

OPEN 7 DAYS / FROM 9:30AM  
DAYMAN PARK, URANGAN

41 289 828

# A world of opportunity right here on the Fraser Coast

Set to return for another record-breaking year on June 18 is Jobs Fraser Coast's Fraser Coast Industry & Careers Showcase at the Maryborough Showgrounds. The event has become a standout on the local calendar, drawing thousands of students, jobseekers and community members each year. It's where ideas about "what's next" and "what's possible" start to become a reality, whether that's a first job, a career pathway change, or a life pivot!

For local businesses, it's one of the most practical, beneficial and brand-building ways to be part of that journey, with exhibitor registrations now open and offering the opportunity to showcase what your industry looks like behind the scenes, connect directly with future employees, and help shape how people understand the opportunities available right here on the Fraser Coast.

The value goes both ways. Businesses have the chance to build their profile, connect in real life with an engaged audience, and spark interest in careers that people may not have previously considered. For many, it's also the start of shaping the future of their workforce.

At the same time, the Showcase gives locals a rare opportunity to explore what's possible without leaving the region. From hands-on displays to conversations with training providers and employers, to discovering education



pathway possibilities, it's about making the job, career or education journey clearer and more accessible.

As the Fraser Coast continues to grow, so does the need for strong connections between industry and community. This event sits right at that intersection, practical, local and full of potential.

Exhibitor registration is free, and for businesses looking to be part of something that shapes both the region's future and their own business or industry, it's well worth a place on the calendar.



June 18



Maryborough Showgrounds



10am-3pm



<https://www.jobsfrasercoast.com.au/frasercoastindustry-careersshowcaseregister>



## Engage Your Curiosity

Try something new at Fraser Coast Libraries! Our hands-on digital programs make learning fun while building confidence and discovering new skills. No experience needed.



### Family Fun

Coding adventures for kids and grown-ups

### Makerspace Mastery

Design and create custom 3D models



Scan for more info

Public libraries are a partnership between Local Government and the Queensland Government through State Library of Queensland



HANDMADE ARTISAN  
Fraser Coast  
*Mothers Day on the Mary*  
Sunday 10th May  
9-1 Free Entry  
**Brolga Theatre**  
*All made locally from around the Fraser Coast Region*



# Fraser Coast **INDUSTRY & CAREERS** SHOWCASE

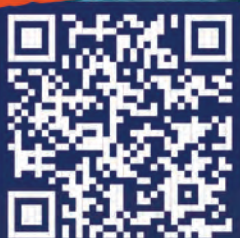


## DISCOVER A WORLD OF OPPORTUNITY...

...right here on the Fraser Coast!



**REGISTER AS AN EXHIBITOR!**



SCAN HERE

### 18 JUNE

Maryborough Showgrounds | 10am - 3pm



[jobsfrasercoast.com.au](http://jobsfrasercoast.com.au)

EVENT SPONSORS



The Fraser Coast Regional Jobs Committee is proudly supported and funded by the Queensland Government



## DUNGA DERBY by RALLY FOR A CAUSE



### RECIPIENTS ENJOY A PHINS UP FOOTBALL EXPERIENCE

Two recipient families from local charity Rally for a Cause were treated to a National Rugby League blockbuster as the guests of the Dolphins in Brisbane on March 7.

The families said it was a case of "Phins Up" as they were treated to the game between the Dolphins and foundation club South Sydney Rabbitohs.

"It was a great weekend and a great game, despite the Dolphins being beaten," grandmother of one of the recipient families said.

"Our grandson loves his football. It was a big thing for him to attend the match live as he had just played his last football game before his father died in November 2022."

"They all had such a great time, despite being a little wet, and we want to thank the charity and especially the Dolphins for the invitation.

"Our other grandson wasn't as big a NRL fan before attending – but he is now."

Recipient Andrew said going through cancer treatment brought a lot of complexities with it that most people don't see, from financial pressure, the disruption, and the reality of having to leave home for long periods.

"For us, being a rural family, that's meant relocating hundreds of kilometres away and stepping away from work, friends, and the support networks you normally rely on.

"It also means that something like attending an NRL game has never really been within reach for us, and likely wouldn't have been. So, the opportunity to go was something pretty special, more so in a difficult time.

**"In the middle of everything, having a few hours together as a family away from hospitals and treatment meant a lot. It gave us some good memories and something positive to hold on to."**

Andrew said he was sorry his family's barracking didn't bring the Dolphins the win on the field.

"But I tell you what, a win occurred off the field. You've likely created three new little Dolphins fans for life; there's now a Dolphins flag hanging above their beds in our hospital accommodation.

"The adventure of visiting the stadium, cheering, and joining in with the crowd was a form of medicine whose outcomes you cannot measure. Thank you again for your generosity. It made a real difference to our family."

Rally for a Cause general manager Scott Rowe said the Dolphins should be congratulated on their community spirit.

"I want to thank the Dolphins for setting aside tickets for charities because on many occasions this is the only way some of our recipients would get to experience a match live.

"Being able to get away to Brisbane for a weekend and enjoying a live match takes their mind off their grief journey momentarily and gives the family a chance to enjoy first-class entertainment together."

The match, won 40-30 by South Sydney, saw more than 20,000 spectators attend which created a carnival atmosphere for the recipient families.

The match features some of the superstars of the National Rugby League including Jamayne Isaako, Latrell Mitchell, Hamiso Tabuai-Fidow, Alex Jonston, Tom Flegler, Selwyn Cobbo and David Fifita.





### Elcraft Electrical Solutions

Local, Hervey Bay Electrician



We show up, communicate clearly, and get it done right.



Professional



Affordable



Reliable

☎ (07) 4183 7754

🌐 [elcraftelectrical.com.au](http://elcraftelectrical.com.au)  
[desk@elcraftelectrical.com.au](mailto:desk@elcraftelectrical.com.au)




Lic: 150 5451  
ABN: 85 687 789 966





# OPINION PIECE: THE HUNT FOR A CUSHY JOB

By Andrew Sadler

FX of Coffee

**Who would have thought I would ever use the line, if you are reading this, I am already dead!**

One of the greatest memorable lines in suspense movies.

Well fortunately I am not dead! Some may wish it of me but that's for them to deal with, until then I am here to annoy and rile up the boring and mundane beige people.

After over 45 years in this industry I love, I have decided to try one more thing before they send me out to pasture. I am looking for a cushy job where I get paid, I was going to say a number but in reality, I have been working for myself for the last nearly 20 years, so paid regularly would be sufficient. I don't really want to do a lot; someone did say stand for parliament, but I really have limited tolerance for manipulative sycophants. I want to try something that doesn't involve the Hospitality Industry or perhaps even people. I realise it kind of limits things, oh and I am not a big fan of technology either, so don't expect me to check emails and messages regularly. I don't mind having a chat on the phone, but I don't do boring people. I did see a job advertised that could be just what I am looking for, I wouldn't be expected to talk to the people I deal with, I would get paid regularly, there was limited technology to deal with and no beige people. The Council was looking for Grave Diggers. On second thoughts, I would probably get bored with the lack of intellectual conversation. Oh well the search goes on, and before anyone comes up with a toilet cleaner, see above for grave digger.

I did think of a CEO position, they do next to



Image by AI

nothing, everyone else does the majority of the work and they get a squillion dollars for it because apparently that's what they can get overseas. A Director of a big company might suffice, I have no idea what they really do except get paid for going to meetings a few times a year, I could do that on the condition that the meetings didn't go on too long and people attending would at least stick to the point.

Other than that, I may as well just stick to what I am doing and pretend I have won the lotto and have all this money to spend. So please feel free to email me as to what I should spend all my winnings on and I shall settle back in my leather armchair and chastise you for being so gullible.

As always enjoy your FX of Coffee, without doubt the best coffee in the bay as said by some random tourist whom I forget what they looked like but put me on this path of discovery.

Ahh that's it, I shall become a random tourist.

Serving Robust Coffee, ground to order, served promptly

Assorted cakes, slices and biscuits made on premises

Fresh Gourmet Sandwiches/Breaky Wraps

Smoothies/ Frappes / Milkshakes/ Iced Coffees-Lattes/ Iced Chocolate

Assorted Teas incl. Our own Quokka Tea/ Zokoko and Grounded Pleasures

Hot Chocolates

Try our Boutique Aussie Chocolate Bars



Open 7 Mornings per week | Fraser Street, Torquay

# Arise+Shine

with Tania Comerford



## Resourcefulness

When clients apply to work with me, one of the qualities I am looking for is resourcefulness. This is their ability to be creative, adapt and find solutions. Resourcefulness is a positive mindset which asks, 'how can I make this work' rather than a negative mindset which declares 'this is too hard I can't do it'.

I look for this because I know how essential resourcefulness is for them to achieving their goals in life.

I currently have the immense privilege of looking after my two-year-old granddaughter for a week. I have decided that parents of young children must be constantly living in a state of resourcefulness. Every few seconds my granddaughter creates a new scenario in which I need to quickly adapt, be creative and find a solution for. Especially being on my own. I am grateful to have a 'can do' attitude when there wasn't an extra set of hands to help while I was trying to keep hot food and sharp knives out of



reach only to discover that my grandchild was using the toilet brush to do her hair!!! Solo parents must be incredibly resourceful.

I recently travelled overseas for the first time on my own – which also created next level resourcefulness. When it was entirely up to me to solve all travel issues and not having anyone else to help out or hold my table or belongings.

Training our mind to be resourceful is so helpful for every area in life. Resourcefulness is a life-skill and a positive mindset. Resourcefulness is turning life's lemons into lemonade. It is empowering to have a 'I can do it' attitude and it will help you achieve whatever you set your mind to.

### Tania Comerford

#### Arise+Shine

Transformational Life Coach + Retreat Mentor

Follow me on Facebook

## Fraser Coast Agriculture Show

**The Fraser Coast Agriculture Show is celebrating its 151st year on May 21 and 22, with the theme, 'Cultivating the Future', the show is shaping up to be a special celebration of tradition and fun, showcasing local talent and farming.**

Joy Duke President of the Fraser Coast Agriculture Show Society said we will be offering the traditional jam-packed events including a return of dressage and re-vamped horse events, agriculture, horticulture - showcasing our local talent in nine pavilions. As well as woodchopping, chainsaw events, vintage cars, stud cattle, poultry, miniature goats, woodcraft, budgies, pigeons, petting zoo, food court, sideshow alley and family favourite, the spectacular fireworks.

Locals and visitors are encouraged to join the thousands at the rodeo on Friday night and support local competitor young teenager Elana Hyne in the under 18 girls bull ride.

Across the venue free family entertainment will take place including whip cracking, dog obedience, highland cattle, Great War Living History and Young Farmers Challenge. Activities in Kids Korner will keep the littlies amused and will include free fruit from Scott's fruit tree as well as an iced

biscuit activity and messy play. The horticulture pavilion will offer free rock painting for the children, card making in the community pavilion and Lego in the Art pavilion. Keep an eye out for complimentary voucher handouts from Daniella and Bronco throughout the two-day show.

Free buses from Hervey Bay and Maryborough will ensure that patrons can travel to and from the show with timetables available from Wide Bay Transit. Head to their website [www.widebaytransit.com.au](http://www.widebaytransit.com.au) or contact them on 41213719.

For 151 years, Fraser Coast families have made cherished memories at the Fraser Coast Agriculture Show, and we are striving to keep these wonderful memories going for many more emerging generations. Without our committee, members, volunteers, entrants and valued sponsors we simply would not be able to present this family annual event to our community.

**For tickets to the event and to find out more go to [www.frasercoastagshow.com](http://www.frasercoastagshow.com).**



# George Saleam - Draper

Research & Story supplied by Marlene Wilson  
Maryborough District Family History Society

George Saleam was born on 14 February 1878 in Constantinople, Turkey to Wowhan Saleam and Yesmen Monsour. The family moved to Syria when George was very young, and he always regarded it as his native country. He landed in Sydney from Syria in 1895 or 1896 and proceeded to Bundaberg where he was a hawker for about 18 months.

In January and February 1900, the firm of Saleam and Gazal were suing in the Small Debts Court in Maryborough for goods sold.

George purchased a drapery and fancy goods business in Maryborough in Adelaide Street opposite Booker's. He held a clearing out sale in June 1901. In December 1901 he was opposite White Bros in Adelaide Street. On 6th March 1903 he opened in Howard for a short time in the shop next to Mr Steley's Royal Hotel. He had for sale, drapery, readymade clothing, fancy goods, clocks, and watches.

In May 1906 he held a sale of all his drapery and fancy goods at Home Cost Price as he had taken on the sale of Edison's Phonographs and Records.

In May 1907 George sold his business and went to Sydney where he married Ettie Ward on the 30th of May. The pair travelled to Turkey and Syria departing two days later on the ORUBA on 1st June 1907. They arrived back in Sydney in December 1907 on the GNEISENAU. By June 1909 George had purchased another drapery and fancy goods business.

A fire occurred in George's Adelaide Street building on 17th January 1910 while he was absent in Sydney. Ettie, her infant son Ernest, and a girl Maud Lin managed to escape. Several boxes were saved also the counter book ledger and the wholesale account book.

The Chronicle on 20th December 1911, advised that Saleam's was not only a drapery but also sold Berlin pianos, bicycles, sewing machines, glassware, and silverware. George's business establishment was named as Manchester House earlier that year.

On the afternoon of 18th October 1915, a fire broke out in George's premises. It was confined to bedding in a room on the second storey. George was badly burned on both hands.

In March 1918 George decided to demolish the old building and erect a 2-storey shop with all the latest in fittings. The shop floor covered 1800 square feet.

**ROGERS and WILSON, v. SALEAM.**

The adjourned hearing of the case in which Rogers and Wilson painters, proceeded against George Saleam for 44/- for works and labour done, and materials supplied, was next proceeded with. Mr. Geo. McGhie appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. C. S. McGhie for the defendant. Evidence for the plaintiff had been concluded last week and that for the defence had commenced. The following additional evidence for the defence was taken—

George Saleam, a draper, carrying on business in Adelaide street, the defendant, deposed: "I have recently completed a two storey building in Adelaide street, and the work was carried out by Mr. Ferguson. Messrs. Rogers and Wilson offered to paint the place for 44/- and I told them I would call tenders. Rogers said, 'There is no need. Whatever price Ferguson puts on it I will do it for less.' I had previously had an estimate of all that was required showing on the estimate 'painting 45/-'. I showed it to Mr. Wilson and said, 'would you let anybody do the work we will do it for 40/- less than the estimate.' We both agreed to this. I told him Mr. Ferguson was in charge of all the work. I never told the plaintiffs at any time to put on the P. C. paint that was considered bad and was hard. I know nothing about paint. The job is not satisfactory by a long way. It is an absolute disgrace. I never hurried them up in their work. They told

8th March 1918

There were to be two entrances and three windows for display. Upstairs the residential quarters consisted of 7 rooms. A grocery department was a new venture. The grocery department was closed in August 1919.

George's wife Ettie died in St Mary's Private Hospital on 27th December 1919. She and George had three sons – Ernest George, Jamael, and George.

By January 1925 the firm was named G. Saleam & Sons.

In August 1926 George applied for the admission to Australia of his nephew Master Jameal Kalib Saleam a farmer who was born in Syria.

In February and March 1930 Saleam's announced they were closing three departments with goods to be sacrificed at ridiculous low prices. There would be bargains - some almost half price – in other departments – silk, men's wear, boots, trousers, fancy goods, linoleum, bedsteads, musical instruments and Manchester.

Early in the morning of 5th August 1930 three shops in Howard were destroyed by fire. The fire started in Ross's Cafe and spread to Saleam's Drapery Emporium and Nelly's temporary hotel.

George made extensive alterations to his business premises in Adelaide Street in March 1939.

He died on 16 September 1941 and was buried in the Maryborough Cemetery with Ettie.

Newspaper Articles & Photo's obtained by Trove & Ancestry.

To find out more about our history head to [www.maryboroughfamilyhistory.com](http://www.maryboroughfamilyhistory.com).



George Saleam - Draper

**GEORGE SALEAM.**

Always up-to-date, Mr. Geo. Saleam's business establishment, the "Manchester House," of Adelaide street, has not in one whit lost its thriving atmosphere of business activity during the year, but rather has increased its operations, to such an extent that Mr. Saleam has found it both profitable and advisable to set up a special department in the jewellery line, or at least to enter on a more extensive scale than hitherto in this branch. And in its establishment Mr. Saleam has given due regard for effective display, for one of his front windows has been given over exclusively to a beautiful range of jewellery of a very high class indeed, embracing, as it does, articles with the hall mark of excellence self evident. The other windows have been beautifully and artistically decorated for the forthcoming festive season, carrying a display of drapery of every description, embroidered costumes and blouse lentils, hats, ties, collars, men's shirts, etc., etc., with a general appearance that calls forth invitation within, and once there the intending purchaser is confronted with a galaxy of assorted articles, both pleasing to the eyes and appealing to the purse. On the left, extending right back is the drapery department proper, consisting of both the ladies' and men's department, with children's dress goods in evidence, and boots and shoes of highly finished design. The central portion is allotted to fancy goods, with clocks and musical instruments apportioned to an especial counter. The opposite portion of the shop is divided off into several compartments, containing beautiful glass cases of jewellery, glassware, silver, and electro-plated ware, whilst immediately to the rear of this is what is termed the show room, the resort of the ladies. One look invites inspection, and excellent business management does the rest. The side walls of this portion of the establishment's store is heterogeneous assortment of commodities, pleasing to all tastes, while immediately to the very rear of the shop is noticed a large stock of bicycles, and such, but by no means least, comes the linoleum department, whose quality speaks for itself. Generally speaking, Mr. Saleam has every reason to be proud of his "Manchester House."

18th December 1929



George Saleam's grave at Maryborough Cemetery

# SOCIAL SNAPS

*Out and about on the Fraser Coast!*

Pron & Ice make up the Ponsawan Band



Big energy, bigger heart—Jira Toms helps bring Songkran to life



Smiles, community, and celebration with David Lee, LNP Member for Hervey Bay & event organiser Rose Forster

Ellie & Nam making festival moments



Wide Bay Thai Community members, Patsy & Lee bring the taste



# SOCIAL SNAPS

*Out and about on the Fraser Coast!*

Seree looks the part at the Songkran Festival



Emily & Rihanna, 7 years old and loving the festival vibe



Songkran Festival  
Thai New Year  
Seafront Oval  
Photos by Kim Parnell

Taya McNeely and Noochy Bisiani  
celebrate the Thai New Year



Rhonda waves from  
behind a wall of flowers



Tiny pilot, big fun—  
Enzo enjoys the  
Songkran vibes



# SOCIAL SNAPS

*Out and about on the Fraser Coast!*



**Coffee Rave  
By Rave the Bay  
Enzo's on the Beach  
Photos by Kim Parnell**



# TIDE TIMES URANGAN

## MAY

	Time	m	Time	m	
<b>1</b>	0229	1.03	<b>16</b>	0201	0.84
	0809	3.37		0747	3.44
	FR 1417	0.75		SA 1410	0.48
	2043	3.66		2032	4.08
<b>2</b>	0307	1.07	<b>17</b>	0256	0.81
	0841	3.26		0835	3.35
	SA 1445	0.77		SU 1452	0.49
	○ 2114	3.64		● 2119	4.13
<b>3</b>	0345	1.13	<b>18</b>	0351	0.82
	0912	3.13		0925	3.21
	SU 1514	0.82		MO 1536	0.56
	2143	3.58		2208	4.08
<b>4</b>	0421	1.23	<b>19</b>	0447	0.90
	0941	2.98		1017	3.05
	MO 1543	0.91		TU 1621	0.70
	2213	3.48		2300	3.95
<b>5</b>	0459	1.34	<b>20</b>	0545	1.00
	1013	2.84		1115	2.89
	TU 1614	1.04		WE 1711	0.90
	2245	3.36		2356	3.78
<b>6</b>	0542	1.46	<b>21</b>	0645	1.10
	1048	2.71		1222	2.78
	WE 1648	1.19		TH 1809	1.11
	2325	3.22			
<b>7</b>	0633	1.56	<b>22</b>	0056	3.61
	1135	2.58		0744	1.18
	TH 1729	1.35		FR 1332	2.73
				1919	1.29
<b>8</b>	0017	3.10	<b>23</b>	0159	3.47
	0736	1.61		0843	1.20
	FR 1245	2.50		SA 1445	2.77
	1825	1.50		● 2041	1.39
<b>9</b>	0129	3.04	<b>24</b>	0301	3.37
	0840	1.57		0941	1.17
	SA 1409	2.52		SU 1555	2.88
	1945	1.58		2158	1.40
<b>10</b>	0241	3.07	<b>25</b>	0400	3.31
	0939	1.46		1034	1.10
	SU 1523	2.66		MO 1657	3.05
	● 2109	1.54		2302	1.36
<b>11</b>	0343	3.16	<b>26</b>	0454	3.27
	1032	1.28		1120	1.02
	MO 1627	2.88		TU 1749	3.23
	2219	1.41		2357	1.30
<b>12</b>	0437	3.28	<b>27</b>	0542	3.22
	1120	1.07		1200	0.94
	TU 1722	3.15		WE 1834	3.38
	2319	1.24			
<b>13</b>	0527	3.39	<b>28</b>	0045	1.24
	1203	0.87		0626	3.18
	WE 1812	3.44		TH 1237	0.88
				1914	3.51
<b>14</b>	0015	1.08	<b>29</b>	0131	1.19
	0614	3.46		0706	3.13
	TH 1245	0.69		FR 1312	0.83
	1900	3.72		1949	3.59
<b>15</b>	0109	0.94	<b>30</b>	0215	1.15
	0700	3.48		0745	3.07
	FR 1328	0.55		SA 1345	0.81
	1945	3.94		2024	3.63
<b>31</b>			<b>31</b>	0256	1.14
				0820	3.02
				SU 1418	0.81
				○ 2056	3.62

# Fraser Coast Markets



## MARYBOROUGH

### Maryborough Rotary Markets

Adelaide and Ellena St, Maryborough  
Every Thursday - 7am to 12pm

## MARYBOROUGH

### Sunday Mixed Markets

Tinana Markets on the Field  
Every 2nd Sunday of the month  
7am - 12pm - 0447 407 008  
Tinana Football Club - Soccer Fields  
maryboroughsmm@gmail.com

## HERVEY BAY

### Torquay Beachside Markets

Opposite the Torquay Hotel  
Every Saturday  
7am to 1pm

## HERVEY BAY

### Koala Markets - Kruger Court

Every 2nd & 4th Sunday  
6am to noon

## HERVEY BAY

### Nikenbah Markets

Hervey Bay Animal Refuge  
Nikenbah-Dundowran Rd, Nikenbah  
1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday of the month  
6am to 12 noon

## HERVEY BAY

### Markets at the Pier

Pier Park, Urangan, (in front of Jetty)  
Every Wednesday & Saturday  
7am to 12pm

## OTHER AREAS

### Glenwood Community Produce Markets

Pepper Rd  
2nd and 4th Sunday of the month  
8am to 9:30am

## OTHER AREAS

### Brooweena Markets

Historical Village, Smith Crescent  
4th Sunday every 3rd month  
8am to noon

## OTHER AREAS

### Bauple Markets - Band Hall Road

4th Saturday of the month  
7am - noon

## OTHER AREAS

### Howard Country Markets

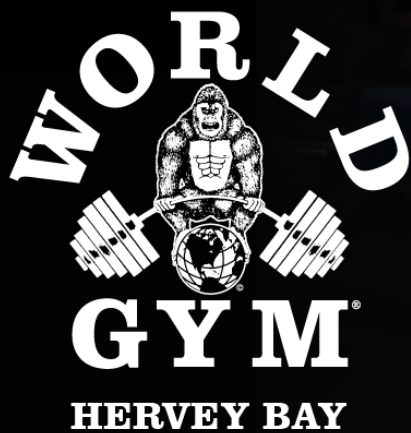
Howard Community Centre,  
Steley St, Howard  
1st Saturday of the month  
7am to 12 noon

For all Market submissions or corrections please contact:  
What's On Fraser Coast on

**Ph 0467 303 171**

or email: [whatsonfrasercoast@outlook.com](mailto:whatsonfrasercoast@outlook.com)

*DISCLAIMER: The market guide is offered as a free community service. Markets can be relocated or cancelled at any time without our knowledge. If you are interested in attending a market listed here, find the market on Facebook to get the latest updates. For all market submissions or corrections please email [whatsonfrasercoast@outlook.com](mailto:whatsonfrasercoast@outlook.com).*



**NOW OPEN**

**24/7**

**176 MAIN STREET**

**[www.worldgymherveybay.com.au](http://www.worldgymherveybay.com.au)**



- Weights Area
- Group Fitness
- Childminding
- Functional Training
- Cardio Machines
- Comfort Zone