

Babinda News

Proudly printed by the Babinda Taskforce
Ph: 4067 2900 Fax: 40672911
Email: babindanews@bigpond.com

March 2010



“Babinda the Umbrella Town “



“The Presidents Notes “

Debra Quabba

Hello everyone,

As many of you would have heard by now the Taskforce is struggling to survive. It is a very complex situation that we find ourselves in and is not solvable easily so we have decided to hold a community meeting to discuss what solutions we may be able to come up with before the end of this financial year. This meeting will be held on 24th March 2010 at 7pm in the Spirit of Babinda Hall, we hope to see you there.

It would be remiss of me to write this month's newsletter without mention of the Babinda Harvest Festival Committee. I have the greatest respect for those people who go out of their way to do things for the community with little or no thanks. In the last month I have had cause to go to the committee and ask them to consider moving the Festival back to Bill Wakeham Park. They have with the greatest kindness agreed to do this, however this move will come at a huge physical cost to the committee members and I am here to beg the community to pull your socks up and offer any assistance you can muster to help the committee continue to put on a wonderful Harvest Festival for US. Every person who offers assistance will lighten the load for all those involved, it is fun to take part and the friendships formed are life long.

Another organisation that is struggling to cope is Abbeyfield House they are currently finding it difficult to get committee members and volunteers to assist with helping around the house, if you would like to help out please contact Wanda Edmonds on 40671547.

Debra

Rainfall for the Month of February

Bellenden Ker - Top Station - 788mm
Year to Date - 2257mm

Bellenden Ker - Bottom Station - 701.8mm
Year to Date - 1717.8mm

Babinda Rainfall - 459.6mm
Year to Date: - 1504.6mm

Disclaimer:

All articles in this magazine are printed in good faith for the community and do not necessarily represent the views of the Babinda District Community Association Inc (aka Babinda Taskforce). The Taskforce accepts no responsibility for these articles.

Errors and Omissions:

While every care is taken in the publication of advertisements and articles, Babinda News cannot be held responsible for omissions or errors or their subsequent effects.



Police News

Well it seems the past few weeks have heralded the start of the wet season. Whilst I am sure you will all agree it is probably not the usual wet we are used to, it has caused a sharp spike in Traffic Accidents over the past two weeks. With one or two exceptions these traffic incidents have been caused largely by driver inattention or excessive speed. I implore everyone to please slow down and take extra care in the wet. The characteristics of the road changes dramatically in the wet and this can take drivers off guard. It is also pertinent to be very aware of the drivers around you and to take pre-emptive action and extra care where necessary. An example of this was a P plate driver detected by Babinda police travelling at 111 in the 60 zone at Miriwinni last week. These sort of speeds would not be expected by a resident pulling out of their driveway when judging distance and could have ended disastrously. I must also commend those locals that have been reporting hooners around town of late. One particular P plate driver decided it would be a great idea to conduct 'donuts' in his vehicle at Rotary Park in the vicinity of nearby children swimming. Thankfully an alert member of the public took details of the vehicle and rang police. As a result the driver found himself with a Notice to Appear in Court within the hour. Another P plate driver also thought a similar stunt would be a great idea last week however crashed his car through the wooden railing in the same park and is due to front court also. I also notice that there is a large black mark outside Munchies on Munro Street caused a couple of weeks ago. This sort of thing looks terrible and is not the kind of thing we want our tourists to see when they first drive into town. Furthermore this sort of driving behaviour can end in tragedy for motorists and pedestrians alike. If you see any idiots like these hooning in the town please take note of their rego and vehicle details and give us a ring. I can guarantee you it will be followed up.

Until next Month stay safe
Gerard BRADY

Contribution Closing Dates for Babinda News

April 1st 2010

5th May 2010

NEWS FROM BABINDA S E S

By Don Lawie

We enjoyed our sausage sizzle on Wed 3 March. Anybody who missed out is always welcome to attend our monthly meetings at the SES building on Howard Kennedy Drive – first Wed of month at 7 pm. Also if there are any queries from the public about the SES, I can be contacted on 40 671 577 at most times.

Our training is continuing in the absence of activations. We are getting excited about trialling some new electronic navigational aids. They may be OK in the rest of Australia but a good run in the rainforest of Bartle Frere on a wet March day will decide whether they work or not.

We're also dispersing some of our funds : The Group Leader's office lacks much useful equipment which we will buy rather than wait for it to come down the pipeline. The Kitchen – the Heart of our operation on a long activation – is to get a full make-over. The stove is ordered and we have given Dulcie free reign to replace anything worn out and replace with the most effective gear that can be obtained.

Cairns Regional Council are to give our two trailers full service and replace the jockey wheels, and we hope that CRC will also paint our building, both inside and out, before the end of March. The old building is looking a bit dowdy and a good paint job will spruce it up nicely.

We have a stock of tarpaulins that can be loaned to the public in case of emergencies so long as they are returned in a reasonable time. Ring us on 40 671 233 if you need some. In the meantime, the number to call is 13 2 500 for Flood, Storm, or Emergency, or advice on how to prepare for emergencies. We are on call, 24/7.

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Cairns Regional Council Notes By Paul Gregory

Hi From CRC.

This month sees the opening and dedication of the RSL Memorial Hall, four years to the day of Cyclone Larry. I don't want to dwell on the history, but I also feel compelled to go back over some of the memories of 2006.

My overwhelming memory is of the feeling of shock and despair looking down the main street when I could finally get through to Babinda. I immediately thought "how can you put this right?" and had a sense of the size of the job at hand. When Mayor Byrne said to me that he would hand the reins over to me to coordinate Council's efforts during the declared emergency period because "these are your people", I suddenly realised that I was facing a life changing experience. And it was! The efforts made by all who contributed certainly have shaped my outlook on life from that time on. I was made aware of the human spirit in a way few others would be able to experience, and when I see what areas such as Haiti and Chile and others are going through I can have some first hand knowledge of what those charged with recovery are experiencing.

I feel privileged to have been a part of the team in Babinda, and to have worked with Gen Cosgrove and his team. To see coordination on this scale was a real eye-opener and the trials and tribulations of all the agencies during the response and recovery has given me a greater understanding of how governments work. The internal response from Babinda people and those asked to work with the community saw some real gains on the ground at a fast pace.

The Hall has been another challenge. Funding of a project of this scale was always going to be a little problematical, and the efforts of Terry Mackenroth and the team from The Prime Minister and Premier's Cyclone Larry Appeal Fund can never be thanked enough. They made this Hall happen. What stands up there today is testament to the efforts of many people, and I trust that on the 20th, all will be recognised and we can celebrate a legacy provided by the people of Australia to Babinda.

Until next time,
Cheers Paul.

IT'S BACK!

The official opening of the Babinda RSL Hall will take place on Saturday 20th March 2010 commencing at 2.00pm. Congratulations to the Babinda RSL for their faith and persistence in what has been a long and involved project.

BABINDA SALUTES YOU!!!



Useful Numbers

S.E.S..... Phone: 132 500

Meteorological Station at Clyde
Road Bridge
Phone: 0427 360 863

New Child Restraint Legislation

Children and adults must be properly restrained to ensure their safety while travelling in motor vehicles.

From 11 March 2010, it's the law for all children up to seven years of age to be correctly restrained according to their size and age. It is important that the correct child restraint is chosen and installed.

Don't risk a child's life, or serious injury to the most precious cargo you'll ever carry.

The penalty for incorrectly securing a child is \$A300 and three demerit points.

For more information about the legislation, and the correct restraint for your child, select the link to Queensland Transport Child Restraint Legislation on the Queensland Transport Website: www.transport.qld.gov.au

The Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS) offers a Baby Capsule Hire Service. Brochures are available from the Task Force Office or by contacting QAS on 1300 369003.

AMBULANCE NEWS

Things have been quiet on our roads of late - let's hope it stays that way. With the amount of rain coming and going we would have expected a few more dingles but fortunately they have been few and reasonably far by Babinda's standards between. Curtis Pitt on behalf of the Minister for Emergency Services Neil Roberts (now Department of Community Safety) is handing over our new Mercedes ambulance which you would have seen driving around the past 8 weeks. It is a lovely car to drive and is more comfortable than our old Nissan 4WD for the patients. Boulders Court Housing Association have supplied a 3rd Automated External Defibrillator to Bramston Beach - it will arrive soon and be located at the shop. Babinda Bowls Club have placed their machine on the wall and Spar are in the process of installing theirs. On LAC matters it is with regret that our Treasurer Antoinette Russell is leaving with her family for Mt Isa. Antoinette's contribution to the LAC over the past nearly 10 years has been much appreciated. Peter, the committee and I all wish her, Steve and Lily well. Our three new members joining are Mel Elledge, Yvonne O'Leary and Barbara Depa - we are fortunate to gain new members after losing a long serving one.

Until next time,
Keep Safe
Justin Cairns
Babinda Ambulance

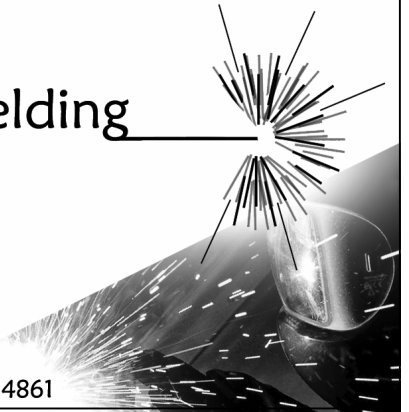
Working For You

Hon. Curtis Pitt MLA Member for Mulgrave will be in attendance the 1st Friday of each month at the Babinda Task Force Office. Please make an appointment at his office. Phone: 40563145. Email mulgrave@parliament.qld.gov.au



Davison Welding

Garry Davison
Mob: 0418 956 475
fax: 4067 2632
email: garry@ozscape.com
PO Box 404 Babinda QLD 4861



THE WOMEN OF BABINDA PROJECT

The project will identify the women of Babinda who have made or continue to make a significant contribution to their local community. Their stories will be published in the monthly Babinda Newsletter starting April 2010 and will be our contribution to International Women's Day 2010.



New Name!

Clyde Road Bureau of Meteorological Station
- ex Hydromace

Dial Up 0427-360-863

AQUA AEROBICS

at the YMCA
BabindaPool

starting 7th November

SATURDAYS 9:30 - 10:30 am

Casual visit (adult)	\$10
Casual visit (concession)	\$9
Ten visit pass (adult)	\$90
Ten visit pass (concession)	\$80



for more information phone Kath 0438 163 691
or Babinda Pool 4067 1211
or email kathsaqua@yahoo.com

Cairns Libraries will be holding a series of talks/events for Women's History Month. These are sponsored by the Australian Women's History Forum focussing on the theme of Demeter's Daughters – the history of food farming in Australia. Demeter is the Greek Goddess of Agriculture. At Babinda on Tuesday 16 March Dulcie Schnitzerling will be speaking. The talk commences at 10.30am, morning tea is provided and bookings are recommended. Contact the library on 4044 3727.

Babinda Story time is held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 10.30 – 11.30am; the next sessions will be on March 17, April 21 and May 20.

Story time includes a reading of several stories plus a fun free craft activity for preschool aged children. Bookings are encouraged on 4067 1112 or in person at Babinda Library.

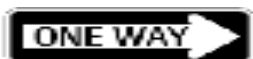
New way to self manage your Cairns Libraries Account

Do you find it challenging to manage multiple family library accounts? Not sure how many items you have out from your library?

Carol Clifford, Acting Manager Cairns Libraries has announced that Cairns Libraries is now subscribing to Library ELF Reminder Service, an independent which monitors customers' library accounts and transmits regular emails to customers detailing library items either overdue or reserved and ready for pickup.

Library ELF, which is a web based service independent of Cairns Libraries is designed for the busy avid reader and is particularly useful for families with multiple cards. Cairns Libraries will continue to send out library overdue and reservation notices however Library ELF is a free optional extra, run by an independent service, that library users may wish to utilise.

To sign up for the service simply visit the Cairns Libraries website: www.cairnslibrary.com.au. Library users need an email address, a library card and PIN number.



FREE COMPUTER COURSES

The Babinda Library is stepping into the computer age with some good hands on courses. See Holly at the Library for information on these free courses.

Online Computer Courses

Free computer courses that can be undertaken at your own pace. Accessible via any internet PC within the Cairns Library

Network. Anyone can use this service. You do not need to be a library member.

School Students take note!

“YOUR TUTOR” is a unique, free learning service offered by Cairns Libraries, that connects students to qualified Tutors for individual conversations about homework, assignments, exam preparation and study questions. **“YOUR TUTOR”** provides assistance for students (and their parents) in Grades 4 to 12 and is available online from home or the library, Monday to Friday from 4pm to 8pm. You do need to be a member of the library to access this service.
(Where was all this when I went to school?)

Word Games with Julie Jones

My Mum and I love to do crosswords; I am working on a crossword, so watch this space. One of the clues in a recent crossword we did was,



to encourage, to _ _ _ on [3 letters]. It was to egg on, and it made me think of how we use food in speech i.e. he went red as a beetroot, a real woman is pear shaped, he's as cool as a cucumber. Can you think of any you have heard or said? What is a crossword freak called I don't know do you? I know what a postcard collector is.. a deltiologist and a stamp collector like myself a philatelist. Any way here is some food for thought.

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HARVEST FESTIVAL 2010

DATE CHANGE!!

Well, we thought *Fun and Games* would be a fitting title to capture all the shenanigans that go on in Babinda, and we were not wrong!!

Due to public concern about the date and venue change, you will all be pleased to know that we have been able to put it all back how it was. This is due in large part to the **extra volunteers** who have offered to help out. Thanks so much for your interest and enthusiasm guys!!

So, new (old) dates:

Saturday, May 22, Harvest Cabaret at the RSL Hall

Saturday, May 29, Babinda Boulders Burst Fun Run, followed by family day at the showgrounds with all your favourite fun and games.

Let's all get on with the organisation and look forward to a rain-free festival.

If you would like to help out on some small thing, call me for meeting dates, or to enter the parade or apply for a stall: Fiona George, 0429 918 285 (leave a message and I will get back to you), or email fionavanilla@hotmail.com

Please note that information will no longer be available from Stella Florist.

FREE Well Women's Clinic Babinda **Tues 23rd, Mon 29th and Tues 30th**

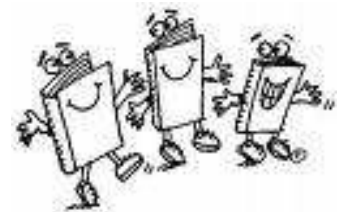
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For appo

A Website that may be useful!!!!

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It's a long time since we've had a Chinese lesson!
Must be read out loud!!!

Staying out of sight- Lei Ying Lo
You have bad body odour- Yu Stin Ki Pu
That's not right- Sum Ting Wong
More next month!

**VALE Dr Brian Merlo-
A MAN AMONG MEN!!!**

That was Dr Brian Merlo, Babinda's extraordinary medico, who treated our sick, our insane, our drunks, brought our babies into the world, patched up our kids and was "always there" for his beloved Babinda for over 30 years. There would not be a family in this Babinda area, who would not shed a tear today, because the world has changed and Dr Brian Merlo is no longer with us. His kindly deeds and service to this community are untold and will live on in our history here for years to come. We say FAREWELL and THANK YOU for the valuable part you have played in our lives in this district.

Legal Internet Music Download Sites

iTunes; www.apple.com/itunes

Need to download the iTunes software to use it.

Beatport; www.beatport.com

It sells .wav (CD quality) files too, if mp3 aren't your thing.

Destra Music; www.destramusic.com.au

MTV Music; www.optusmusicstore.com

Buy tracks online and through your mobile account if you're Optus customer.

Jamendo; www.jamendo.com

Jamendo is free. Centres around up and coming artists and bands.

**Australian Red Cross
Cent Sale**

Come Along to the
Gordonvale Branch Red Cross Cent Sale

Venue: RSL Hall, Gordonvale

Date: Saturday 20th March 2010

Time: Doors open at 1.30pm-2.00pm start

Admittance: \$3.00

Great prizes, Raffles, Lucky Door, Delicious
Afternoon Tea

**Some further useful Websites
Internet Safety for Families**

www.australia.gov.au/netalert

Community Support Centre Innisfail

www.csci.org.au or phone 40438400

Babinda

www.babinda.info



Russell Landcare &
Catchment Group

Russell Landcare and Catchment Group

The Russell Catchment Focus Workshop held on 22 February attracted about 30 attendees.

The main issues that came through were:

sediment accumulation within the bed of the Creeks and Rivers threatening bank stability.

There are now over 130 priority weed species for targeted control in the Cairns Regional

Council area with little outside assistance in terms of funding.

Tilapia are a major threat to aquatic biodiversity

The main priority was to preserve the current alignment of the Russell River and to try to keep it where it is - however as this is so big and expensive we should start in the creeks

Although many creeks were identified with issues that need addressing Babinda Creek was put up as an area to focus current effort due to - visibility, iconism, access, achievability and landholder interest.

In response to the interest shown by a number of landowners and land managers along Babinda Creek, Terrain NRM held a public meeting to collate landowners' views concerning the Creek and opportunities regarding rehabilitation and management on 4th March, so we'll report back on that next newsletter.

The Management Committee is also discussing how to best provide a opportunity for members to provide and receive information. We realize that it is difficult for many people (including the Committee!) to attend meetings even though they are interested in landcare and NRM issues in our catchment so we are looking at establishing an online discussion/information forum. The beauty of this is that anyone can have their opinion heard, it is free and can be accessed any time from any computer (including free internet access at our local library). At the moment we are considering either a yahoo discussion group or a facebook group; the issue with both of these is that some sort of membership is required which often seems to be a stumbling block to getting people on board (even though it is all free). However no one solution is perfect; we would value your thoughts on this.

We view with much concern and empathy the dire straits our wonderful Taskforce finds itself in and hope a way through can be found. They do a fantastic job keeping our community spirit alive, and we have benefitted enormously from their support of our organization, particularly through this newsletter. We have tried to return the favor by always allocating a portion of our grant money to locals and that included 'advertising' in the newsletter, but clearly it is the volunteer efforts that cannot be bought that keep the taskforce going that extra mile.

We welcome any general enquiries via email to **russell.landcare@gmail.com** or pop in and see Melanie, Catchment Coordinator, at 53 Munro St for information on the group and assistance with natural resource management issues in the Russell Catchment.

Phone/Fax: 40 67 2515

Mobile: 0419 771 629

Email: melaniem@terrain.org.au

Michele Dale

Secretary, Russell Catchment and Landcare Group Inc.



Curtis Pitt MP Member for Mulgrave

New ambulance for Babinda officially handed over

Last Friday I was delighted to officially hand over a new ambulance vehicle to staff at the Babinda Ambulance Station.

The new Mercedes Sprinter 318 V6 diesel van worth around \$180,000 represents a significant investment in local community safety. The vehicle has state-of-the-art equipment to assist the dedicated and professional paramedics at Babinda Station respond to medical emergencies and meet growing demand in the area.

The vehicle was specially imported as an emergency ambulance vehicle as it contains significant safety features not normally available in standard vans within Australia. It then underwent extensive conversion to a state of the art ambulance vehicle, so that it would be capable of responding in emergency conditions and being a platform to provide emergency pre-hospital care to the sick and injured.

Since 2004, the Queensland Government had boosted the Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS) budget by 70 per cent to a record \$494 million this financial year to address increased demand for ambulance services.

This is another example of the Bligh Government's commitment to buying new and replacement ambulances across the state, as well as funding 50 additional frontline ambulance officers this financial year.

Importantly, this is an investment in our hardworking men and women in the Queensland Ambulance Service.

Passing of a local hero

Also last Friday, I attended the moving service to mark the passing of Dr Brian Merlo.

Dr Merlo's contribution to the local community has been long and great, both at the hospital and in private practice. That Dr Merlo essentially did the job we are now asking three people to do is a testament to his work ethic and his dedication to the Babinda community.

Members of my family have had a long association with the Merlo family. Dr Merlo was my wife Kerry's doctor growing up. My sister Dionne and I have long been friends with his daughters Deanna and Alissa and their respective partners Jaimie and Kristian. Our thoughts are with Deliah and family at this difficult time.

STATISTICS

A successful MAN is one who makes more than his wife can spend.

A successful WOMAN is one who can find such a man!

A woman worries about the future until she gets a husband.

A man never worries about the future until he gets a wife!!



Family Day Care
Office: 40 302 254

CHILD CARE VACANCIES!

With Family Day Care Providers
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Babinda

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40 672 397

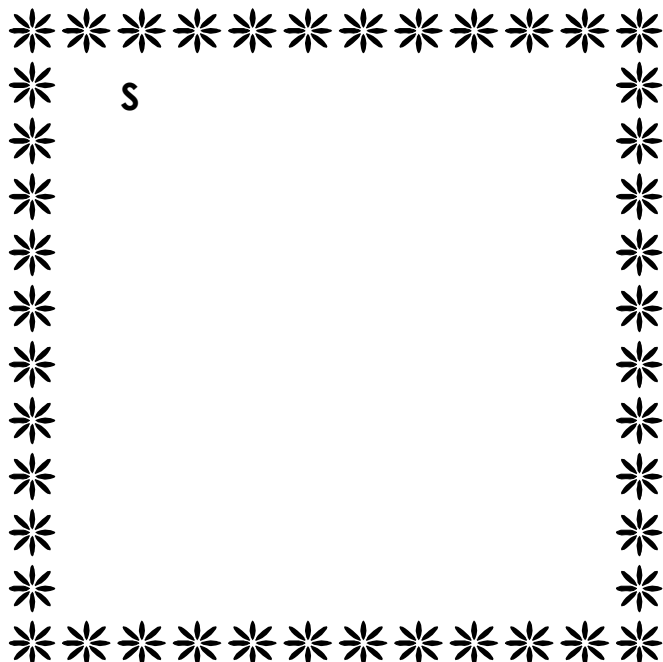
Miriwinni

Denise Boydell
40 676 334
Jamie Cannon
40 676 825

Now....

Don't stop reading this just because it looks weird. Believe it or not, you can read it.

I cdnuolt blveiee that t cluod aulacity uesdnatnrđ what I was rdanieg. The phaonmneal pweor of the hmuan mnid Aoccdrnig to rscheearch at Cmabrigde Uinervtisy, it deosn't mttar in what oredr the Itteers in a word are, the olny iprmoatnt tihng is that the first and last Itteer be in the rghit plcae. The rset can be a taotl mses and you can still raed it wouthit a porbelm. This is bcuseae the huamn mnid deos not raed ervey Iteter by istlef, but the word as a wlohe. Amzanig huh?



InnisfailFeast of the Senses 2010 **....Calendar of Events**

Check out the website www.feastofthesenses.com.au

Innisfail Chamber of Commerce **Market Day Extravaganza**

Sunday 28 March – 9:00am – 3:00pm

Imperial Tavern Wine, Fruit and Cheese Showcase
Friday 19 March 6:30 – 9:30pm

2010 Festival Gala Dinner Dance - Sponsored by Australian
Bananas
Friday 26 March 7:30 til late

Ultra-Tropics Art Exhibition
4 – 31 March – Art Gallery, Central Arcade

Moore Stephens Photography Competition

Recipe Competition

Scarecrow Competition
Entries close Fri 12 March

Cumic Steel Food Trails
20 – 26 March 2010

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In Loving Memory of Joyce Iris Buttsworth

24/2/1924 – 1/1/2010

Joyce was born in Gordonvale and was the youngest child of Lars Peter and Mary Rasmussen. Her early years were spent in Gordonvale, however after her father died when she was five, the family moved to several locations around North Queensland.

When Joyce left school she began her nursing training at the Innisfail Hospital where she worked for eight years. Here she qualified as a nursing sister and met her future husband Kevin. They were married in Gordonvale in 1947 and soon after settled in Babinda to be close to other family members.

In the years 1948-1958 Joyce and Kevin had four children; Peter, Bernadette, Margaret and Teresa. After the birth of Peter, Joyce commenced nursing at the Babinda Hospital. For most of that time she was the night sister and was present at the birth of many Babinda residents. A large proportion of Babinda's population owes their safe arrival into this world to Joyce! She was noted for her care and compassion and for the many kindnesses she showed to her patients and the public. She continued to nurse at the Babinda Hospital with only a few breaks until her retirement in 1981. Joyce made many lifelong friends in Babinda particularly among the nursing staff who often became "aunties" to her young family.

Joyce was a stalwart of the Catholic Church and regularly attended mass at St Rita's Church. She was well known and respected by the parishioners, the clergy and the nuns. She practiced her religion in her daily life and her thoughtfulness and generosity were appreciated by many people in the community.

Joyce loved to play cards and have a small bet on the horses and was a regular visitor to the TAB on a Saturday morning to place her bets. Rarely betting more than a dollar each way, she was never destined to make a fortune but she did enjoy the interaction with the other punters.

Joyce's family had quite an association with Babinda. Her husband Kevin worked at the Babinda Post Office for many years and was a tireless worker for the community, as was her brother Albert Rasmussen who was for a time the Post Master. Her mother Mary lived with Joyce for many years before her death in 1965. Her sister Kathleen Shore and husband Stan also lived in Babinda for many years and their daughters Valmae and Desley.

In 1985 Joyce and Kevin retired to Malanda where they lived until 2007. Here they also quickly became involved in the community, were well respected and made many friends. In 2007 they moved to Silkwood to live with their daughter Bernadette and in 2008 Joyce moved to the Warina Nursing home where she lived until her passing. Joyce was dearly loved by her family and friends and will be remembered with affection by many in Babinda. "God Bless".

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When:
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Where:
Babinda Outpatient Clinic located next to Babinda Hospital

HOW:
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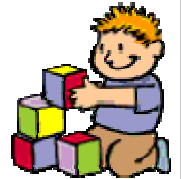
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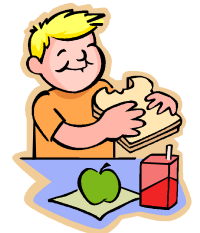


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Centrelink Agency

Babinda TaskForce Office
51 Munro Street Babinda

The service offers a direct link to the Centrelink Office by phone or fax.

If you need to fax your forms or speak to a Centrelink officer you can now do it **FREE** at the Babinda TaskForce Office.

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Drivers made to hop like frogs

Truck drivers who are caught speeding in an Indian state are being made to hop like frogs.

Police in Bihar dish out the humiliating punishments instead of taking offenders to court, reports Newindpress.com.

For the most popular punishment, leapfrog, speeding truck drivers have to sit on their haunches, hold their ears and hop for almost half a kilometre.

And the drivers are made to chant the name of the political leader they like most while they are being punished.

One policeman was quoted as saying: "If they remember their leader when they are being punished, it's like they are insulting them. If they have any sense, they won't do the offence again."



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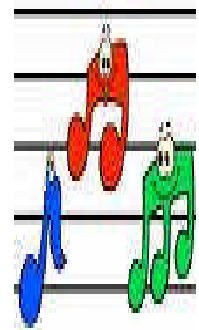
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Some More Useful Websites



Primary Industries and Fishing

www.dpi.qld.gov.au

Rainforest and wildlife

<http://rainforest-australia.com/>

ABC

www.abc.net.au/farnorth

Seniors Enquiry line

www.seniorsenquiryline.Irvnet.org.au or 1300 135 500

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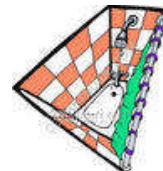
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Ph 4067 1680 Fax 4067 1645
Email babindarealestate@gmail.com

Hi Everyone,

We have moved from our leased shop to our own new premises at 62 Munro Street between Tooties and the old NAB. Pop in for a coffee and check it all out. It's hard to believe that we have been here for 3 years now and we love it. If we can help you at all with any real estate decisions, don't hesitate to ask.

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WOW!

Info Illuminations WOW!

WOW!

Congratulations to every volunteer at our very special information centre.

For the third time, the Babinda Information Centre has been named as the best information centre staffed only by volunteers, in Queensland, for 2010. The award was announced at a special function hosted by the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, in Townsville, last week.

The steady flow of local, national and international visitors who pass through our town and visit our center, make many, many wonderful comments about our beautiful town as well as the expert information they receive from our volunteers. However, we never rest on our laurels, and are constantly looking for ways to improve the service we provide. It is this dedication that sets us apart from other centers such as ours.

We are all very proud and extremely excited about having won this award for 2010.

Happy Trails

CONGRATULATIONS



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Our Guest Chef!!

This month the Recipe is from Peter Carnsew local Ambulance Officer and Treasurer here at the Taskforce.

Chicken and Avocado Casserole.

Serves 4-6

Ingredients

6 chicken breast fillets, sliced
1 cup, chicken stock
3 large shallots, chopped
2 teaspoons peppercorns
60g butter

¼ cup plain flour
¼ cup brandy
200ml milk
300ml cream
2 large avocados, sliced
200g button mushrooms, thinly sliced chives



- Place chicken fillets, stock, shallots and peppercorns in a shallow casserole dish. Bake for 10-15 minutes 200°C.
- Melt butter in a saucepan. Stir in flour. Cook for 4-5 minutes.
- Gradually stir in combined brandy, milk, cream and liquid from cooking chicken fillets.
- Pour over cooked chicken breasts. Cover and cook for 10-15 minutes 200°C. Stir twice.
- Stir in avocado slices and mushrooms. Bake a further 5-10 minutes 180°C.
Sprinkle with chives.

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"Enhancing the community"

Wow! The Babinda **Community Bank**[®] Branch was one of the top five performers out of the 91 Bendigo Bank branches in Queensland for the month of January. Congratulations to our staff for their performance and reaching their business targets.

The Board hosted a very successful wine and cheese tasting event for the community to meet our new staff, including:

Ross Growcott – our new Regional Manager
Andrew Portelli – our new Business and Agri-Business Banker and
Melissa Keating – our Financial Planner

These enthusiastic members of our team come with a wealth of experience and we are delighted to welcome them. To make an appointment, call into our branch at 55 Munro Street, Babinda or call **4067 2934**.

For school leavers and those who are almost eligible to get their driver's licence and are account holders at Babinda **Community Bank**[®] Branch, we will give you a free driving lesson from Accreditation and Training Services, Munro Street, Babinda. If you or your parents are shareholders of our branch, we will also offer a second free lesson.

Remember, this is our **Community Bank**[®] branch and with your help we will continue to grow and play an ever-expanding role, enhancing our community.



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At Babinda **Community Bank**[®] Branch, we're committed to being an important part of the community which helped establish our branch.

So we've decided to pay for one driving lesson for all our customers - from learners to seniors.

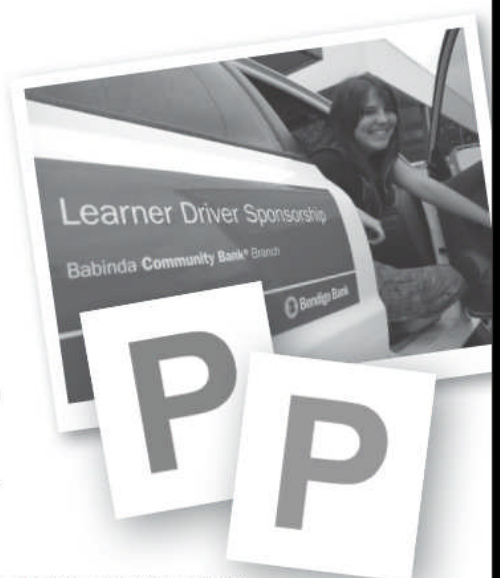
And if you are one of our loyal shareholders, we'll pay for your second lesson as well!

What better way to support our customers than equip them with driving skills which could help save their lives?

Lesson will be conducted by Accreditation & Training Services located in Munro Street Babinda.

To find out more call into Babinda **Community Bank**[®] Branch in Munro Street, or phone 4067 2934.

We look forward to seeing you soon.



Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited, The Bendigo Centre, Bendigo VIC 3550. ABN 11 068 049 178. AFSL 237879. (S27283) (01/10)

Babinda **Community Bank**[®] Branch

What's Happening In Babinda

BABINDA STREET MARKET— 2nd Saturday of each month Munro Street

BABINDA TASKFORCE - MONTHLY MEETINGS - Third Thursday of the month. 9:30am at the Taskforce Office.

AUSTRALIAN PENSIONERS & SUPERANNUATES LEAGUE - 2nd Thursday of the month at 9am at the Spirit of Babinda Hall.

BABINDA ARTS & CRAFTS - 2nd Thursday every month - 7pm shop, bring a chair

BABINDA DISTRICT FISHING CLUB meetings are now held on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm at the Club House - Phone 4067-1087

BABINDA BOWLS CLUB - Weekly Bowls - Monday 12.30pm Mill RDO Bowls - Tuesday 1pm Ladies Wednesday 6pm Barefoot - Thursday, Saturday & Sunday 1pm Social - Phone 40671148

BABINDA BOXING CLUB - Hoy at Spirit of Babinda Hall 1st and 3rd Monday of the month 1.30pm

BABINDA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MARKET DAY held 2nd Saturday of each month. Main street.

BABINDA GOLF CLUB - Time of competitions - Wednesday - Chook Run 9 holes 2.45pm

Friday - Social Holes 3pm Saturday - 18 Hole Competition 1pm

BABINDA LIONS CLUB - 2nd & 4th Monday of the month a 7pm at the RSL Hall, School St

BABINDA PROGRESSIVE ART WORKSHOPS Wed 9am - 12pm, Ph Micale on 0450 360 611

BABINDA STATE SCHOOL P & C MEETING - 4th Monday of the month 7.30pm at the school-

BARTLE FRERE STATE SCHOOL - Family Day Group Every Tuesday 9am—11am All welcome (Contact Principle Danielle 4067-6240 for more information)

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE - 6 - 6.30PM - 1st Tuesday of the month at Roddo's

CHILD HEALTH CLINIC - 2nd Wednesday of the month 10am Hospital

COOTHARINGA - HOY - 2nd Monday of every month 1.30pm to 4pm in the Spirit of Babinda Hall

FITNESS & MARTIAL ARTS - THURS 6pm to 7pm at the School Hall

FNQ WILDLIFE CARERS Harry Potyondy and Rae Heywood 228 Price Rd., Bartle Frere
Tel: 4067-6054 (after 4pm & W/ends) Mob: 0428699246 (7.30am to 4.00pm Mon to Fri)

HOSPITAL WELFARE - 3rd Friday Second Monthly - 3pm Stag Tavern

INFO CENTRE - First Friday of the month 9.30am at the Info Centre

IN TOUCH MASSAGE - Phone Judi Van Dycke on 4067 2604 / 0400 726 245 at 'In Touch'

KIDS CLUB - Grade 1 to Grade 7 - Wednesday 5pm to 7.30pm CWA Hall, Babinda.

PLAYGROUP - BABINDA BUMBLE BEES - meets every Mon. 9.30am - 1130am at St. Rita's School, Church St. Ring Julie on 4067-2397 for more information.

QCWA BABINDA- 2nd Saturday of the month meeting @ 9.30am Craft held after the meeting 4th Monday of the month - Hoy and Mini Cent Sale @ 1pm

QCWA DEERAL—2nd Wednesday of the month—09.00am Craft lessons (Teacher) - open to all. Meeting 1.30pm—New members welcome.

RUSSELL LANDCARE & CATCHMENT GROUP - see article in this issue for upcoming events or phone 40672515

SCHOOLIEZ CHURCH - Grade 8-12 Every Sunday 8.30am Tootie and Wendy's 116 Munro St Phone: 40671568.

SOCIAL TOUCH FOOTBALL - Every Thursday night 7pm Bill Wakeham Park

STORYTIME - Babinda Library 3rd Wednesday every month

TAI CHI - Every Saturday at the Babinda Golf Club from 8.30am to 9.30am

Ring 4067-1762 for more information. Every Wednesday 9.30-10.30 Spirit of Babinda Hall

YOGA—Every Wednesday 5.30-7.00pm at the Spirit of Babinda Hall. All Welcome.