

SCOTTS HEAD WAVE

Community Newsletter for Scotts Head & Surrounds



SHCG

Scotts Head
Community
Group



FUNDING FOR SCOTTS HEAD RESERVE

By Tony Crimmins - Chairperson

Earlier this month, SHCG Executive and Reflections Holidays Senior Representatives conducted an audit of the Scotts Head Reserve from Waki Beach to the Gaagal Wanggaan National Park boundary (near the 4WD Track).

The purpose of the audit was to view the extent of the work required to restore and maintain the vegetation and infrastructure throughout the reserve and provide Reflections with sufficient information to prepare a budget bid for recurrent funding to enable this work to occur on a continuous basis throughout this year and in years to come.

For those who may not be aware, Reflections Holidays responsibilities go beyond the Holiday Park boundary, and extend north and south to include the entire 42 hectares of the Scotts Head Reserve. Later that same week, The Member for Oxley Michael Kemp inspected the Reserve with SHCG and Reflections Holidays Representatives and gave his commitment to support, and if required, advocate for the allocation of additional funds to maintain the Reserve. Advice regarding the outcome of the budget bid is not expected until May or June this year. The SHCG is ever hopeful of this year's bid being favourably considered.

Grant Applications Approved

- Nambucca Valley Council advised that a \$500 donation has been approved to cover SHCG Newsletter printing costs

Grants Applications Awaiting Advice

- Reflections Holidays application to the Crown Reserve Improvement Fund (Crown Lands) for funding for the restoration and ongoing maintenance of vegetation across Scotts Head Reserve, SHCG letter of support provided, submitted November 2024
- SHCG application to the Community Building Partnerships Program for \$25,000 to renovate and refurbish the Scotts Head Reserve Hall meeting room, letters of support provided by Crown Lands and Reflections Holidays, submitted February 2025.

Scotts Head Community Group Inc is where we come together to discuss local issues affecting community members as well as sharing a common goal of bringing the community together.

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every second month at the Reserve Hall, Scotts Head.

Are you passionate about our community? Do you want to raise issues occurring within our local community and become part of the solution? If so please come and join us, we welcome everyone!

Membership is only \$10.00 per year

Enquiries please email:
scottsheadcommunitygroup@gmail.com

GIINAGAY – HELLO!!

In the spirit of reconciliation Scotts Head Community Group acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of country throughout Australia & their connections to land, sea & community. We pay our respects to their Elders past & present & extend that respect to all Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander peoples today.



NAMBUCCA VALLEY COUNCIL NEWS

Scotts Head Road Black Spot Project Update

Nambucca Valley Council is due to commence upgrades to Scotts Head Road funded by the 2021/2022 Australian Government Black Spot Program.

Work will commence on 24 March 2025 and continue for approximately 16 weeks. During construction motorists can expect minor delays with traffic control in place. Please allow additional travel time during this period.

Changes to Council Meeting Schedule

At the meeting of Nambucca Valley Council on 27 February 2025 a new schedule was approved for future council meetings. Key changes are as follows

Council will now:

- Meet once per month at 5.30pm on the third Wednesday of each month.
- Host a public forum the day prior to a Council Meeting at 5.30pm.

Note to persons who were accustomed to Council meeting on the second and fourth Thursday of every month, to update their diaries with the new schedule.

BRINGING THE RESERVE HALL BACK TO LIFE By SHCG

Built in 1928-1934 and protected by Heritage Listing, the Reserve Hall is surely Scotts Head's oldest and most iconic building. For many years it was the focus of social life, but now it is all too rarely used.

The Scotts Head Community Group would love to know your ideas on how to make it come to life again.

What would be great for our kids or suit the seniors in our community? What interest groups would find it a useful space? What activities could be offered that bring people together and strengthen our town's social fabric?

If you are reading this online, please click on this short survey link to help us collect ideas and wisdom

<https://forms.gle/jEFkGjqPGh4eq5Sq8>

Alternatively, if you have a hard copy please go to our website <https://scottshhead.org.au/> and click on the link in the article on the Reserve Hall which can be found under News.



REFLECTIONS COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

By Reflections Holidays

On behalf of Reflections Holidays we would like to thank the many members of the Scotts Head Community who came out and actively supported the recent community consultation program we conducted between 28 February - 2 March 2025.

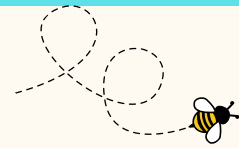
Reflections Team members Scott Burns and Jacki Middleton (Scotts Head Park Manager) were very impressed by the number of people who participated and by the considered and respectful manner in which they engaged and shared their thoughts on the proposal to lock the boom gate to the Reserve overnight together with the many other thoughts and ideas that were put forward.

It was a great opportunity for our team to engage with such a broad cross section of the Scotts Head community and we feel that we gained a better understanding of how deeply people care for their community and the importance they place on the management of the Scotts Head Reserve.

Our team went away from the exercise with a lot of information which we are still processing and we look forward to providing feedback to the community once it is finally consolidated and we have determined a way forward.

Thank you again for your support for this exercise and we look forward to working with the Scotts Head community to make Scotts Head an even better place to live and enjoy whilst on holidays.

MEET CATH O'DONNELL OUR LOCAL 'BEE WHISPERER' & FARMERS MARKET ENTHUSIAST



By Deena Gilroy

Q: For those who don't know you, can you tell us a bit about yourself and of course about 'Cath's Honey' and the local Farmers' Markets?

A: We've been living here since 2007, so we consider ourselves to be long-term locals. My husband, Jason, teaches at TAFE, and our 19 year old son, Keiren, has finished school and now works in Valla. We're a family that loves the water whether it's surfing, stand-up paddleboarding, swimming, kayaking, or fishing, so Scotts Head is perfect for us! I've been a beekeeper for the last 14 years, and it's both a hobby and a true passion for me. I started with just one hive, and in the space of 10 years I've built them up to around 20. Beekeeping is more than just collecting honey it's a deeply calming and meditative experience. When I'm with my bees, and in the 'bee zone' its like everything slows down. They know me, and I can tell them anything that's on my mind. I also sing to them, and even if I'm not extracting honey I'll still check on their well-being every day, and stay in tune with their needs. Happy bees are productive bees! But honestly, they help my own well-being too. Their steady, low hum is so reassuring, especially when life feels overwhelming it brings me back to the bigger picture. I feel incredibly lucky to have found something that brings me so much joy.

I've also recently begun helping to run the Scotts Head Farmers' Market, which takes place on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month on the village green, right across from Driftwood Café. Our goal is to grow the market into a thriving hub for fresh, local produce similar to what you find in Bellingen. We also feature local artisans on a bi-monthly basis, adding to the vibrant and supportive community atmosphere. For small-scale producers or vendors who don't have enough products for a full stall, we also offer a Community Stall. This allows people to sell their produce on a flexible basis, with insurance covered for just \$5. Anyone interested can reach out via email on :

Scottsheadfarmersmarket@gmail.com

Q: What does a typical day look like for you?

A: I generally start my day early, so at this time of year its usually before sunrise! This morning, for example, I went on a 54km bike ride before breakfast. Then I'm busy with the usual sorts of chores around the house and property. After that, I like to focus on my bee-related activities which includes making candles, beeswax wraps, honey infusions, and creamed honey. *cont*

I also take our dogs to the beach when I get the chance. If it's a market day like Wednesdays in Bellingen you'll find me there! Some days, I attend workshops, industry training, or meetings, but I always make time to catch up with friends and neighbours. We've been here a while now and have some strong connections with the people around us, and I love any excuse to socialise!

Q: Besides beekeeping and growing the Farmers' Market, is there anything else you're passionate about?

A: Absolutely! Right now, I'm training with three local friends for a huge 'Bike Packing' adventure in July. It's an off-road cycling trip where we carry everything we'll need, on our bikes. Its the Munda Biddi Trail, which stretches 1,050 km from Perth to Albany, known as the longest off-road cycling trail in the world, taking 14 to 15 days to complete. It's going to be an incredible experience!

Q: Anything you'd like to leave us with?

A: If there's anyone who has some time and would like to volunteer with setting up and with packing up and just being on hand to help out generally, please let me know! Otherwise simply join us at the Scotts Head Farmers' Market!

Where: Village Green, Scotts Head (opposite Driftwood Café)

When: 2nd & 4th Sundays of each month

Find: fresh local produce, artisan crafts, live music, friendly vibes and more!

For more information contact on :

Scottsheadfarmersmarket@gmail.com



MEET JACKI MIDDLETON MUSIC LOVER AND MANAGER AT REFLECTIONS HOLIDAY PARK SCOTTS HEAD

By Deena Gilroy

Q: Where are you from? Can you tell us a little about your family?

A: I'm from all over, really! I was born in Orange and spent my school years in Canberra, where I also raised my three kids. I now have 10 grandkids and two grand dogs! My partner, Ray, and I have been part of the Reflections team here for about two years. Ray managed this park before me, and I worked as the Guest Services Officer. He's now managing the Urunga and Mylestom parks, and I've been in the manager's seat at Scotts Head for the past six months.

Before joining Reflections, Ray and I both worked along the Great Ocean Road for the statutory authority responsible for managing coastal Crown land. We were there for seven years, and we really believed in their focus on conservation, collaboration with Traditional Owners, and sustainable tourism. That philosophy brought us to Reflections and to Scotts Head where we're excited to continue working in ways that balance care for the environment with community and visitor needs. I'm especially passionate about fostering strong local connections and working together on the inevitable changes that come with growth in this beautiful part of the world.

Q: What brought you to this particular community?

A: We moved to be closer to Ray's parents in Port Macquarie, as his mums health was declining. Ray found the role here, and when I came to visit, I completely fell in love with Scotts Head. I soon left Lorne and joined him here. We've always worked well together, so it was a natural transition. Our family visits often and they've made it very clear we're not allowed to leave because they love it here so much!

Q: What does a typical day look like for you?

A: I usually start with a morning walk around the park to check on things, chat with guests, and ensure everything's running smoothly. I love that this lets me connect with both returning visitors and newcomers discovering Scotts Head for the first time. Then I check in with the office team, followed by a catch-up with the grounds crew to go over the day's tasks. There's always something going on! I try to squeeze in a proper lunch break, preferably with my toes in the sand or grabbing something from one of the great local spots. In the evenings, I like to walk either solo to clear my head or with Ray, just soaking in village life. Now that we've settled into our roles, we're making more of an effort to connect socially with the community.



Q: What are some of the challenges and how do you manage them?

A: One issue we face is illegal overnight camping in the area. It strains local resources and doesn't contribute to the village's economy. We've recently done some community consultation around possible solutions, and we're currently reviewing the feedback with plans for more discussion ahead.

Within the park, the usual operational challenges apply weather impacts, upkeep, and keeping guests happy. That said, we've just installed a fantastic new amenities block, and it's getting great feedback! Personally, and professionally, I'm committed to collaboration and open communication. I believe when we work together, we get better results and results that benefit everyone. A thriving community is what makes a place special, keeps visitors coming back and helps local businesses continue to flourish.

Q: What are you enjoying most about your role?

A: Living in Scotts Head, of course! But also working with an amazing local team that shares my love for the area and the park. There's a real synergy here. I feel lucky to be part of this community, and I want to do right by it by running a great park and being a good neighbour. I'm also loving the slow but steady process of connecting with people here. There are so many wise, thoughtful locals who see the benefit of growing with change, not just reacting to it. And on a personal note, being near the ocean just makes me happy.

Q: Anything new on the horizon for the park or community?

A: We're in the process of upgrading the park's Wi-Fi and security systems. Outside of the park, we're supporting the Scotts Head Community Group in plans to upgrade and refurbish the Rec Hut, making it more usable and accessible for everyone. We already sponsor the local junior soccer team, the annual Paddle Board Riders event, and the Loggerheads. I'd love to hear from anyone in the village with ideas for future sponsorships if there's something local we can support, for the village, please come and have a chat!

VEGE PATCH NEWS

SCOTTS HEAD COMMUNITY GARDEN

Hello from Scott's Head Gardeners Crew!

Veggies are super happy in the Community Garden. Great healthy rain, dodged the real dreaded TC Alfred getting just enough to avoid watering for a week.

Bananas are slowly maturing, two large bunches almost ready to hang for ripening. Contact us if you are banana lovers.

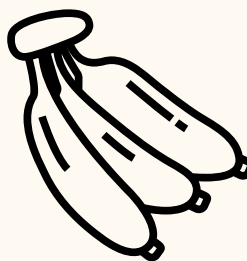
Beans, lettuce, egg plant, herbs, basil, silver beet, zucchini, rocket, all ready for the picking.

Autumn has arrived and we will need new seedlings soon to be planted including cabbage, broccoli, snow peas, kale, red kale, carrots, potatoes, bok choy and more.

Give us a call if you would like to plant your special veggies in the community garden.

Please come down as helpers are always welcome and it's a great way to meet the community.

Cheers from the Scotts Head Gardeners



RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Our best-ever Australian banana bread recipe

INGREDIENTS

- Melted butter, to grease
- 265g (1 3/4 cups) self-raising flour
- 40g (1/4 cup) plain flour
- 1 tsp Cinnamon Ground
- 140g (2/3 cup, firmly packed) brown sugar
- 2 overripe medium **bananas**
- 2 eggs, lightly whisked
- 125ml (1/2 cup) skim milk
- 50g butter, melted, cooled



METHOD

Step 1

Preheat oven to 180°C. Brush an 11 x 21cm (base measurement) loaf pan with melted to lightly grease. Line the base and 2 opposite sides with non-stick baking paper, allowing it to overhang.

Step 2

Sift the self-raising flour, plain flour and cinnamon into a large bowl. Stir in the sugar and make a well in the centre.

Step 3

Mash bananas in a medium bowl. Add the eggs, milk, and melted butter, and stir until well combined. Add the banana mixture to the flour mixture and stir until just combined. Spoon the mixture into the prepared pan and smooth the surface.

Step 4

Bake in preheated oven for 45-50 minutes or until a skewer inserted into the centre comes out clean. Remove from oven and set aside in the pan for 5 minutes. Turn onto a wire rack to cool completely. Cut into slices to serve.

*recipe can be found at <https://www.taste.com.au/>

SAFE BIKE/WALKING CONNECTION SCOTTS HEAD TO MACKSVILLE – PROJECT UPDATE

By Allan Turner

The Scotts Head Community Group is continuing efforts to push for a safe walking and cycling connection from Scotts Head to Macksville. This follows a community petition in 2024 in favour of better connections signed by almost 1,000 people and supported by key local business and organisations.

If a better and safe connection can be delivered it will provide many benefits to the community but we need to keep up the pressure and keep pushing.

Proposals have been provided to Nambucca Valley Council for an initial connection over Warrell Creek and connecting with Gumma Road, supported by better signage and eventually future, longer works to improve cycling safety (as resources permit).

Scotts Head Community Group representatives presented at Nambucca Valley Council meetings in 2024 to explain and promote the proposal and have met with Council staff to discuss pragmatic options and funding opportunities.

NEXT STEP: The Council staff assessment of the proposal is likely to be presented to Council at a meeting in April - possibly Wednesday 16 April, with the agenda to be published on 9 April.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?

Support and advocacy can help make this vision a reality:

- Come to the council meeting to hear the debate and show your support for the proposal.
- Send an email of support for better cycling and walking connections between Scotts Head and Macksville to the Mayor and local councillors.

You can find email addresses for councillors at:

<https://www.nambucca.nsw.gov.au/Council/Council-Business-Councillors/Elected-officials>

- Register to speak at the Council Public Forum, which is held the day before the formal Council meeting:
<https://www.nambucca.nsw.gov.au/Council/Council-Business-Councillors/Business-Papers>
- Discuss the proposal with your friends, family and local contacts and encourage them to do the above.

APRIL BOOK REVIEW

By Alisha Cruickshanks

If you are a self-proclaimed 'word nerd' like me, you're going to love this book! I read this book sometime ago, and recently it was brought up in conversation over coffee, so I thought what an excellent time for a re-read!

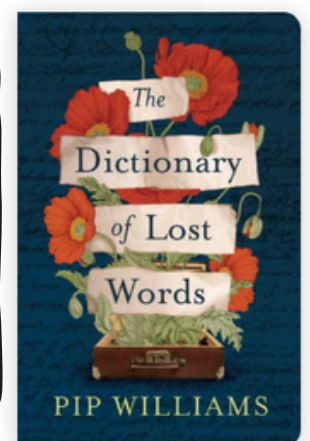
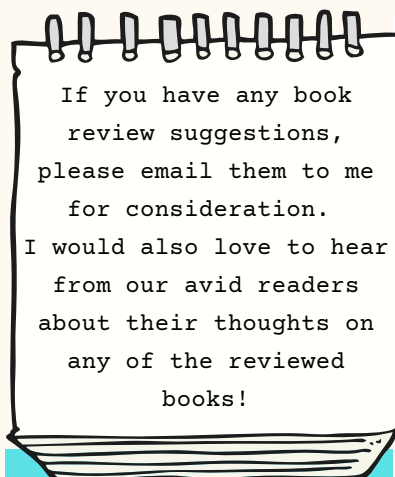
The Dictionary of Lost Words by Pip Williams takes readers on a journey through the early 1900's when the women's suffrage movement was at its peak. It is a beautiful and captivating celebration of words which encapsulates the power of language in our world.

In 1901, the word 'Bondmaid' was discovered missing from the Oxford English Dictionary. This is the story of the girl who stole it.

Esme is born into a world of words. Motherless and irrepressibly curious, she spends her childhood in the 'Scriptorium', a garden shed in Oxford where her father and a team of dedicated lexicographers are collecting words for the very first Oxford English Dictionary. Esme's place is beneath the sorting table, unseen and unheard. One day a slip of paper containing the word 'bondmaid' flutters to the floor. Esme rescues the slip and stashes it in an old wooden case that belongs to her friend, Lizzie, a young servant in the big house. Esme begins to collect other words from the Scriptorium that are misplaced, discarded or have been neglected by the dictionary men. They help her make sense of the world.

Over time, Esme realises that some words are considered more important than others, and that words and meanings relating to women's experiences often go unrecorded. While she dedicates her life to the Oxford English Dictionary, secretly, she begins to collect words for another dictionary: The Dictionary of Lost Words.

*blurb comes to you from goodreads.com



SCOTTS HEAD PICKLEBALL NEWS

Buzz Brazel Oval Basketball Court is booming with all the Pickleball action and the new venue is proving a great hit amongst all our players!

Social games are being held:
Sundays 8.30am and Thursdays 3.30pm.

All are welcome, easy to learn, and suited for all ages and aptitudes. Come along and join the fun!

Pickleball Australia, membership is available online at <https://www.pickleballaus.org/>

For more information please call Allan 0411 191 354




CAN YOU GUESS WHAT THIS PHOTO IS?

CLUE:
They do look like vehicle tracks in the sand, but they are not and it is important to watch out for them on our local beaches because the creatures creating these tracks have to move southward to nest.

ANSWER: on the last page



COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

DUNE CARE

Thursday 10th April

- Top of Little Beach , tidy up for Anzac Day
- All welcome from 8:30am
- We work for two hours
- Followed by morning tea.
- Wear long sleeves, long pants, covered shoes, hat and sunscreen.

see FB for more information or phone Moira 0421 911 294



SCOTTS
PROPERTY BOUTIQUE

★★★★★

"Lyn has been amazing with the sale of my property at Scotts Head. At all times she has demonstrated excellent communication skills with clarity and compassion.

Lyn was comprehensive in all areas from the outset. Her depth of experience and understanding of the current real estate market was accurate, this saw the sale through smoothly and has made this transition in my life uncomplicated. Thank you very much Lyn"

- Adele (vendor)



LYN SCOTT
0402 277 658

lyn@scottsproperty.com.au
www.scottsproperty.com.au

Experience the difference

ANSWER TO PHOTO PAGE 7:

Tracks from Green turtles (Chelonia mydas) at Lady Musgrave Island.



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LANDSCAPE AND BRICKLAYING SERVICES

0438 218 591
dansbricklaying.com



Dan moved to beautiful Scotts Head in 2018 from the stunning Blue Mountains and has been working in the Nambucca Valley between Coffs and Port Mac for the last 7 years. He has a truck full of expertise to bring to your project. By carefully blending hard scape and soft scape elements, you can achieve an attractive and functional garden. Investing in quality materials and thoughtful design will give you an outdoor space that stands for its elegance and practicality.

Call Dan to arrange an appointment to discuss your landscape vision on 0438218591 or alternatively send an enquiry on our website, dansbricklaying.com

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Please send any newsletter items for consideration to our editor Alisha at
scottshheadwave@gmail.com
Items must be sent in by 23rd of each month