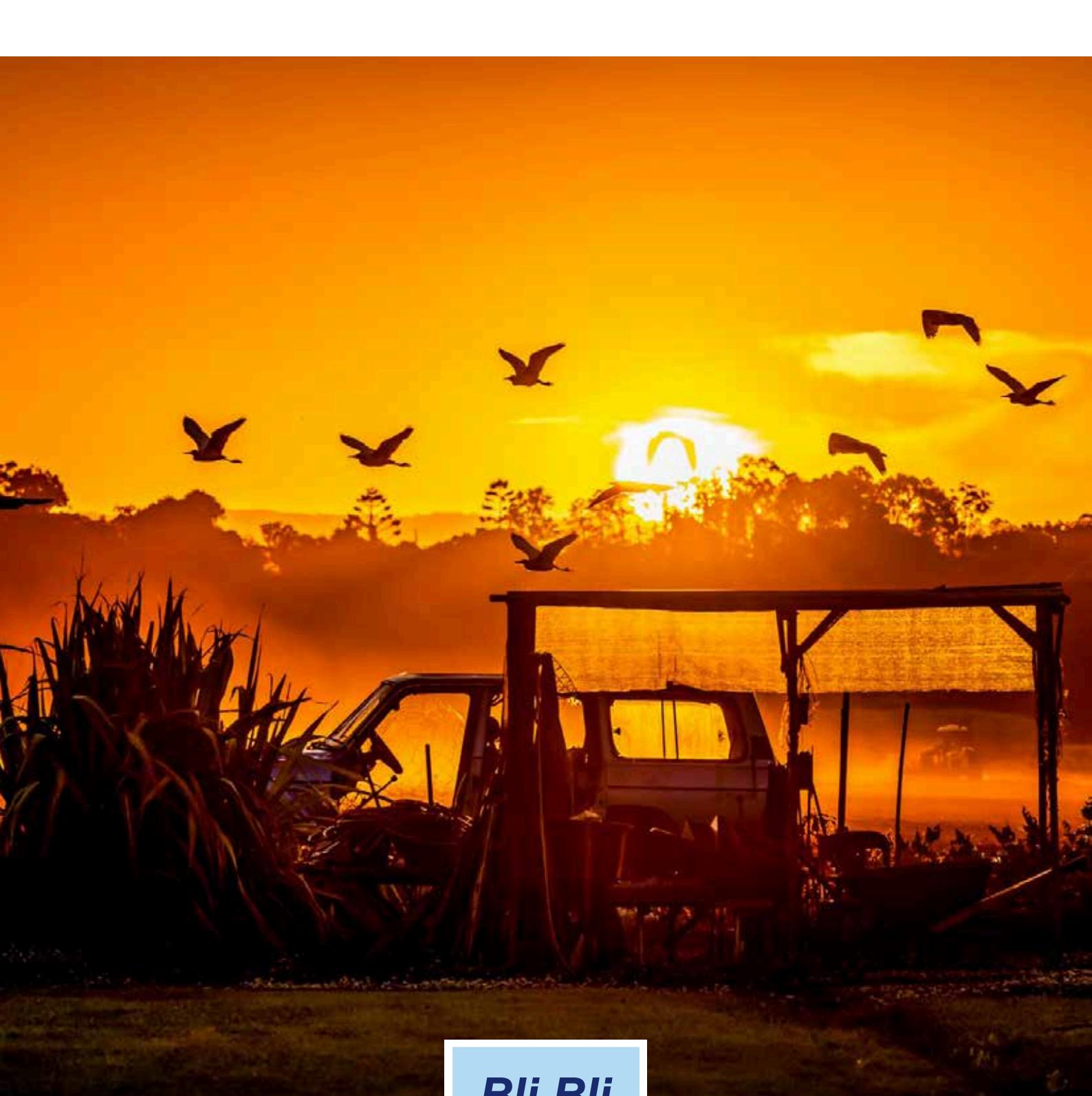


# BLI BLI

BULLETIN

ISSUE 48 | AUTUMN 2023



BLI BLI COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION - SUPPORTING LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUPS, BUSINESSES AND THE RESIDENTS OF THE AREA



## CELEBRATING 30 YEARS

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Roz & Michael White

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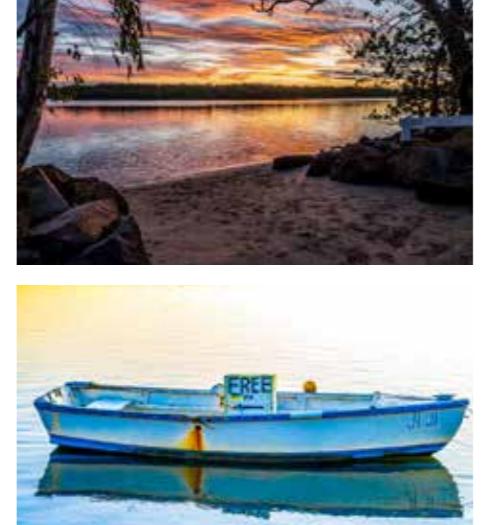
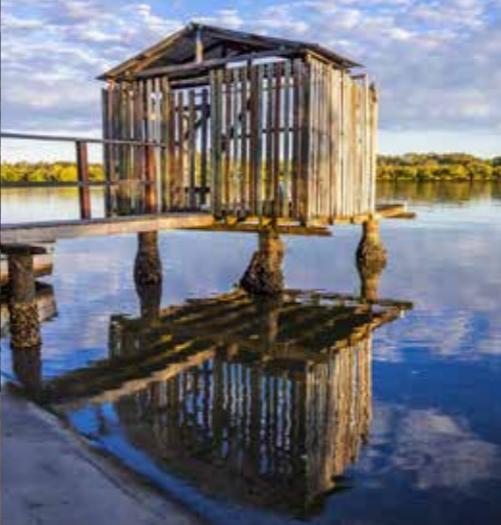
**LOCAVORES PODCAST'S**

A Locavore is a person who chooses to consume food that is grown, raised or produced locally, here on the Sunshine Coast.

In this podcast series Roz aims to take you behind the scenes with some of our favourite local growers, producers and suppliers.

We're sharing real stories from the inspirational families who create your favourite local products!

SCAN TO LISTEN!



*A message from*  
**THE BLI BLI COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

This edition of the Bulletin includes details in respect to some exciting new events in our local community. For many of you the name Karen Simpson will be familiar as she is regularly posting wonderful photos of our area on facebook. For quite a while now we have been using her photos on the front page of the Bulletin. Last year we planted a seed with Karen about an exhibition and so on Sunday 19 March in the Old Hall, a photography and art exhibition will be held from 9am to 3pm. It will be free entry and a great opportunity for everyone to meet with Karen and the 3 artists Cam and Helen Minto and Ursula Kelly.

Then on Friday 14 April will be the unveiling and dedication of the new cenotaph at Parklakes Drive. This has been some time in the planning and a wonderful addition to Bli Bli as now we will be able to attend an ANZAC Day service in Bli Bli. There is an honour board in the Old Hall which is dedicated to 49 soldiers from the Bli Bli area that served in WWII and so this will be a fitting way to remember them more specifically.

Then on Tuesday 28 March at the Bli Bli State School hall, a public consultation will be held in respect to the proposed Bli Bli Northern Village. The Community Association has been contacted to arrange for such a meeting in the community so that information can be provided as to the proposed development.

Progress is being made with the conversion of the area behind the Old Hall into an area for a group which has formed in respect to Community Gardens. Shortly this space will be converted to an open area for the establishment of raised garden beds for the group.

We would like to acknowledge the continued support of the Sunshine Coast Regional Council with the festival grant program whereby we received \$2000 towards the hosting of the Community Christmas Carols. Also, Cr Maria Suarez is very supportive in attending our monthly meeting and providing updates and useful information from Council. She attended our February meeting and gave us an update in respect to local issues.

Our next meeting is Tuesday 21st March which is scheduled for our AGM. All are welcome to attend in the Old Church from 7.30pm.

The Bli Bli Community Association acknowledges the continued support received from the Sunshine Coast Council by its grants program.



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**Dan PURDIE MP**  
Member for **Ninderry**  
Shadow Minister for Police and Counter Terrorism  
Shadow Minister for Corrective Services

11 Heathfield Road, Coolum Beach QLD 4573 PO Box 989, Coolum QLD 4573  
(07) 5406 7900 ninderry@parliament.qld.gov.au danpurdie.com.au  
DanPurdieMP @DanPurdieMP danpurdie\_mp

## An update from your LOCAL STATE MEMBER, DAN PURDIE MEMBER FOR NINDERRY

It's hard to believe we're in March already – where has the year gone! Recently, I had the chance to congratulate the new school leaders at Bli Bli State School, and they were a very enthusiastic group of students. I know they will do a fantastic job, mentoring other students and being proud ambassadors for the school.

I also had an opportunity recently to visit Good Samaritan College, and check out all new facilities as they continue to go from strength to strength. We are very fortunate to have such high-quality schools in our local area.

Late last year, many residents provided their feedback as part of a survey in my newsletter. Thank you to everyone who took the time to have their say. The results have now been compiled, and the responses are not surprising.

You told me the top three issues that concern you are health (providing the hospital and health services we need); cost of living, and building better roads for our growing population. These are basic services that taxpayers deserve and expect, and why I raised it in Parliament recently.

If you don't follow me on socials and would like a copy of my speech, please let me know and I'll get it to you.

We're still waiting on answers from the Department of Transport and Main Roads in relation to the Bli Bli bridge. Late last year, TMR carried out further maintenance works to assess the condition of the bridge, and I asked the Minister for an update when Parliament returned last month. I hope to be able to share an update soon.




**Councillor Maria Suarez**  
Division 9  
Environment and Liveability Portfolio

Phone: 07 5475 9810 Mobile: 0437 794 703  
Email: maria.suarez@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au  
Mail: Locked Bag 72 Sunshine Coast Mail Centre Qld 4560 sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au

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## A word from CR MARIA SUAREZ DIVISION 9 - SUNSHINE COAST COUNCIL

### CONGRATULATIONS TO DIVISION 9 LOCAL MICHELE

Congratulations to Coolum local, Michele Lipner founder and coordinator of the local chapter of OzHarvest for being named Sunshine Coast Citizen of the Year. She has been honoured for her dedication to helping others, reducing food waste and advocating for vital behaviour change. Michele and her team of volunteers, collect more than 15,000 kilos of quality surplus food from 40 food donors and re-distribute it to 45 agencies to feed people in need every month.

### BUSHCARE CALLING FOR MEMBERS

Do you love helping our environment and meeting likeminded people? Why not try BushCare – the local Whitecross Bushcare Group invites you to join their team of volunteers who look after their local bushland by removing environmental weeds and planting local natives. The group meetings on the second Wednesday of each month, from 8–10am at the entrance to the Whitecross Reserve at the end of Ringtail Place, Parklakes Estate. Find a group near you and register by searching "bushcare" on council's website. No commitment is necessary – join-in where and when you can.

### RECENT UPGRADES BLI BLI

Two stormwater pits on School Road and Fairview Close, Bli Bli have been replaced. This stormwater infrastructure that was at the end of its useful life and the new assets will provide another 50 years of use. A 63-metre-long stretch of existing concrete pathway was recently upgraded between 24 and 26 Tasol Street through to 1 Castle Green Court. The upgrade complements the recent lighting installation to further increase the safety of using this path both during the day and at night. Camp Flat Rd, Stage 4 upgrade is close to finalising engineering designs. Construction should occur next financial year.

### IMPACT DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

The service station application for Pacific Paradise has been refused by Council with the applicant indicating they will challenge the decision in the Planning & Environment Court. The Parklakes Central application is still requiring additional information prior to calls for submissions and assessment taking place.

### ROAD LOOKUP

When I meet with the community, there are often a lot of requests for road crossings, repairs, infrastructure upgrades, speed reductions. It can sometimes be confusing which road falls under either the Council or Queensland Government authority. A handy tool for residents to find accurate road ownership information is <https://qldtraffic.qld.gov.au/lookup.html>. From there you should contact the relevant authority to lodge your request.

### HEALTHY SUNSHINE COAST

Register now to take part in Council's health and wellbeing program – Healthy Sunshine Coast, a range of low-cost, weekly activities around the region. It is all about creating a happier, healthier, more connected and resilient Sunshine Coast community. Be sure to join the Chair Yoga sessions in Bli Bli where the gentle class incorporates various seated and standing postures to build strength and stability whilst increasing the range of movement in the body. Visit Council's website for more information and to find classes near you.

As always, please contact council direct for any service requests such as road hazards, graffiti, dumped rubbish, parking, parks, potholes, roads, trees and waste collections. Contact details or service request forms are available at [www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au](http://www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au) or call 5475 7272

If you have any other issues or suggestions to discuss, please contact me on 5475 9810 or maria.suarez@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au.

**Cr. Maria Suarez**  
Division 9 – Sunshine Coast Council



**Ted O'BRIEN MP**  
Federal Member for **Fairfax**

17 Southern Drive, Maroochydore QLD 4558 | 07 5479 2800  
ted.obrien.mp@aph.gov.au | tedobrien.com.au | TedOBrienMP

A message from

## **TED O'BRIEN - FEDERAL MEMBER FOR FAIRFAX**

Phone: 5479 2800 Email: ted.obrien.mp@aph.gov.au Web: www.tedobrien.com.au

Mail: PO Box 1978, Maroochydore QLD 4558

### **2023 PRIORITIES**

There are good reasons why people flocked to the Sunshine Coast – we are a lifestyle capital and we locals enjoy the world's most enviable way of life.

As 2023 begins, I reaffirm a pledge I made in my maiden speech in 2016: “to be Sunshine Coast’s man in Canberra and not Canberra’s man on the Sunshine Coast” – my loyalty lies at home and I’ll continue fighting for our region.

This year, I want to see tangible outcomes where I have secured funding, including: completion of the Maroochydore Rd / Mons Rd interchanges of the Bruce Highway (over \$300M); ramping up of Phase One of the North Coast Rail Line (over \$500M), and; starting work on the Mooloolah River Interchange on the Sunshine Motorway (over \$300M).

I'll also be continuing my campaign for better rail services to the Coast, including full duplication of the North Coast Rail Line to Nambour (the \$5 million I secured for design work is yet to be matched by the Qld Labor Government); and a new line along the CAMCOS corridor to Maroochydore (the \$1.6 billion we secured is yet to be matched by the Qld Labor Government and funding has been postponed by the Federal Labor Government).

These aren't my only priorities of course, but they're the big ticket ones.



### **SPORTING AND PARA-SPORTING CHAMPIONS**

It was great to recently meet another group of local sporting and para-sporting champions.

Thirty four (34) young sports stars were recognised in the latest round of Local Sporting Champions and Local Para Champions grants for 12-18 year olds.

I would particularly like to give a shoutout to:

- Finn Lawson from Bli Bli - Australian Schools Rugby Union tour to Japan; and
- Louis Fretwell from Maroochy River - Australian MX championship, QLD MX championship (Motocross).

I look forward to following their journey to the 2032 Games!

Sportspeople aged 12-18 can apply for the next round at <https://www.sportaus.gov.au/>.

### **STRONGER COMMUNITIES PROGRAMME GRANTS NOW OPEN**

Does your community group need some help?

I am inviting local not-for-profit community groups in Fairfax to submit their Expressions of interest (EOI) for grants to help with small capital projects such as upgrades, fit-outs and equipment purchases.

The Stronger Communities Programme provides grants of \$2,500 to \$20,000 for projects that deliver social benefits and boost local community participation.

Grant recipients under the previous funding round included:

- Mudjimba Community Kindergarten & Pre-School (\$5,000 towards facilities upgrades); and
- Sunshine Coast Netball Association (\$9,770 towards a new first-aid, four-wheel buggy).

EOIs must be submitted HERE no later than 10 March for projects located in the Fairfax electorate. Up to 20 local projects will share in \$150,000.

For more information on this and other grants, ring my office on 5479 2800 or email [ted.obrien.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:ted.obrien.mp@aph.gov.au)



# Photography & Art Exhibition

SHOWCASING  
Karen Simpson's Photography  
& Art by  
Cam Minto, Helen Minto &  
Ursula Kelly

Bli Bli Hall  
SUNDAY 19th March  
9.30am - 3.30pm

Coffee Van will be available on the day

Sponsored by  
Bli Bli Community Association

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## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It seems time really does fly when you are having fun. This term has started with a flurry of activity with our clear focus on high expectations, engaging curriculum and positive culture.

It has been so rewarding to see just how settled our students are, including over 100 new students who have joined us in 2023. The children at our school continue to shine with their great behaviour and positive attitudes and work ethic. Already there is a buzz in the air, as we begin our preparations for our school musical in Term 2.

Our staff are currently heavily engaged in our strategic agenda, ensuring that our focus remains on giving our students the best possible opportunities to learn and play whilst in our care. Our five key areas continue to be:

- Literacy and Numeracy in Focus** – This year we are targeting reading across our Prep to Year 6 classrooms. We are working with the latest research to ensure that we are teaching reading skills that will focus on synthetic phonics. This supports the student abilities to decode, read and comprehend a broad range of texts. Our P and C have been very supportive, providing funding for a huge number of new reading books.
- 21st Century Curriculum** – Our staff are busily working on the development of modern, highly engaging units of work for our children to promote learning extensions, and clear links to the global community. We are working towards the implementation of Version 9 of the Australian Curriculum, commencing in 2024.
- Positive Culture 4 Learning** – We are reviewing our awards and rewards in 2023, to ensure that we are acknowledging the great achievements, both socially and academically that our children are showing. There are so many amazing, hard working students, who we want to recognise.
- Digital Futures** – This year we are focusing on our infrastructure upgrades and building a new learning platform that will be used across our school and our education system. Our students continue to lead the way, utilising a broad range of technologies to enhance and extend their learning.
- Diversity** – At Bli Bli State School we work hard to promote our firm belief that everyone belongs here. We work tirelessly to support staff and students to ensure that we treat all in our school community with respect, and provide an equitable approach to support all our diverse learners.

We love our school and continue to be inspired by the amazing generation of 'smart' learners who walk through our gates every day.

**Monique Pfingst**

Principal



## WHERE THE HEART IS

Bli Bli State School's bi-annual musical is underway. 'Where The Heart Is' is a musical about families. Brother and sister, Robert and Julia, don't always see eye to eye but get caught up in a magical journey helping Caley and Forrest. On their journey, they realise that despite their differences, home is where the heart is.

Our musicals are unique to Bli Bli. In term 4 last year, six students collaborated with teachers to write the musical. In Week 2, over 100 students auditioned for lead roles in acting, singing and dancing. In Week 3, rehearsals kicked off with 176 chorus members from Years 3 to 6.

'Where The Heart is' goes on stage on Wednesday 21 and Thursday 22 June. We can't wait!



## GLOBAL GOALS

Students at Bli Bli State School are learning to become the change they want to see in the world. Beginning this year with a rollout of curriculum enhancement, teachers and students from across the school are learning about the significant challenges our planet faces and the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (also known as global goals) aimed at remedying these issues.

In Year 1, focusing on the global goal of *Quality Education*, students are learning to become book reviewers and will donate books to less fortunate communities in need of educational resources. In Year 3, students are undertaking a campaign to encourage the community to use fewer disposable plastics and thus working on the global goal of protecting sea turtles and all *Life Below Water*.

Finally, in Year 6, students are exploring the global goals holistically and contemplating what they would do if they were the president of the United Nations. These activities mark just the start of our journey and we are all very excited to keep supporting our students to become global citizens for the future.

More information on the UN Sustainable Development Goals can be found here <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>



Year 1 Students:  
Hava, Oliver, George, Phebe



Year 3 Students:  
Sean, Cruz, Jaxon, Ava, Torah, Freya

## MISSION STATEMENT

Bli Bli State School inspires children to confidently contribute to our dynamic world through strong foundations of commitment, creativity, character and community.

## BLI BLI SCHOOL TOUR

EXPERIENCE WHAT BLI BLI STATE SCHOOL HAS TO OFFER YOUR CHILDREN ON A TOUR OF OUR GREAT SCHOOL.

If you are considering enrolling at Bli Bli State School, we encourage you to visit the school for one of our regular school tours.

After your campus tour you are welcome to stay and chat with our staff. All tours commence from the administration building of the school.



## TOUR DATES

- 9.15am Friday 10th March 2023  
9.15am Friday 5th May 2023  
9.15am Friday 2nd June 2023



## ENROLLING AT BLI BLI STATE SCHOOL

Learn and play in our friendly school community

We provide a nurturing and supportive environment for your children where their individual needs are respected and personalised learning approaches allow for each child to have the opportunity to reach their full potential.

Parents wishing to enrol at Bli Bli State School will need to demonstrate that the student's principal place of residence is within the school catchment area, or submit an Expression of Interest to enrol. This form can be found on our website.

Please check out our website for details on applying for enrolment at Bli Bli State School.  
[www.blibliss.eq.edu.au](http://www.blibliss.eq.edu.au)





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# Hello from Bli Bli Tennis Club

THE NEW COURTS ARE NOW 18 MONTHS' OLD AND WE ARE DELIGHTED WITH THEM. NOT ONLY IS IT A PLEASURE TO PLAY ON THE NEW SURFACE BUT THEY HAVE VASTLY IMPROVED THE OVERALL APPEARANCE OF THE CLUB. FEEDBACK FROM MEMBERS AND CASUAL PLAYERS ALIKE HAS BEEN VERY POSITIVE.

We are now fortunate enough to have the services of a coach – Ryan Thomas. As outlined in Ryan's own article in the Spring edition of Bli Bli News, he has been involved in tennis coaching for over 15 years in Australia and overseas. Ryan and his family moved to the Sunshine Coast 18 months' ago from Melbourne. After visiting Bli Bli Tennis Club, Ryan realised that there is little tennis coaching available to the local community and there was an opportunity to change that. Local residents who had to go further afield for coaching are now able to take advantage of the coaching facilities in place right here in Bli Bli. Ryan coaches on Tuesdays and Fridays after 3.30pm. He enjoys coaching all standards and ages. Ryan can be contacted on: 0403 736 774

In line with the Committee's constant efforts to improve the facilities, we now have a new practice ball machine which is available for members to hire for a small fee. We have also purchased a defibrillator and so are now well-equipped for any emergency.

The courts are easily accessible and bookings may be made either through:

[www.tennis.com.au/blibli](http://www.tennis.com.au/blibli)  
or 0439 099 692 for casual play

The courts are available to casual players from early morning to dark for just \$5 per player. Night tennis is also available. A code number is required to open the court gate, which is available by ringing the phone number on the web site. Our courts are shaded in the morning by beautiful gum trees which make tennis matches especially enjoyable.

Membership and playing fees are stated on our website – our fees are the lowest on the Sunshine Coast.

Bli Bli Tennis Club is run entirely by hard-working, not-so-young volunteers. We are looking for players in their 60's, male or female, to play in our social tennis group on Tuesday mornings 7am to 9am in summer (to beat the heat). We then relax afterwards with a coffee.

We welcome with open arms any new members both to play the wonderful game of tennis and to help in the running of our great little club.



# Share a Cuppa for Cancer

The ladies of Hometown Edgewater Village at Bli Bli are again busy planning to host an Australia's Biggest Morning Tea on Friday 19th May 2023 commencing at 9.30am.

Tickets are \$10.00 and will be available early April. This is for a cuppa, sandwiches, delicious cakes and slices and includes a lucky door prize. Many great prizes will be raffled and one of our resident singers will provide entertainment. There will be a guest speaker from The Cancer Council.

We extend a welcome to anyone interested in attending this morning tea. We hope to raise considerable funds to help and aid the Cancer Council in their endeavours to help fight this disease. Every one knows a family member, friend or work colleague who has been through the cancer journey.

To purchase tickets or for more information please phone MERLE – 0427 457 392 or JOY – 0419 660 378.



# Your Local Club

## MAROOCHY RIVER GOLF CLUB

There's nothing better than sitting down for a great meal with family and friends, watching the sunset. The terraced deck at Maroochy River Golf Club (MRGC) is the place to be, either after golf or having a relaxing meal in a family friendly atmosphere. It is great to see and hear of so many locals utilising the deck area with expansive views to Mount Coolum. Bli Bli locals and nearby residents are always welcome to enjoy the club facilities.

We're proud to announce that MRGC was recently awarded as a top 100 Golf Course in Australia. So if you're planning a round of golf on one of Australia's best courses, call the Pro Shop on (07) 5457 0900.

Here's some of what else we offer for members and guests.

### CANE CUTTERS BAR & BISTRO

If you are thinking of having a party, (and we are currently catering for every type of party – children's & adult birthdays, special occasions, work parties), the Cane Cutters Catering crew can offer all sorts of options for you.

Families and friends love coming out in the fresh air, sharing some value time, having some drinks and staying for a pizza or snack. Guests enjoy the Cane Cutters Bar & Bistro facilities and taking in the great views of the golf course to the North, with Mount Coolum on the horizon, as the sunset glistens across the water in a friendly family atmosphere.

The Friday night raffles are proving very popular, with raffle prizes up for grabs from 7pm. These include meat trays, breakfast trays, food and beverage vouchers and mini golf vouchers. After the raffles, the membership draw starts, where members who are present have the chance to win thousands of dollars. The Courtesy Bus also runs on Fridays from 5pm to bring patrons to and from the club.

With easy parking the Cane Cutters Bar & Bistro is open every day for coffee & cake, mouth-watering lunches and dinner with a great menu!

### MINI GOLF

The Maroochy River Mini Golf course (adjacent to the Clubhouse) is very popular with families and groups who play 18 holes of mini golf with specially designed putters and balls.

For those who are still not sure what mini golf is, it is a supercharged version of the old 'putt putt' game but without clowns faces and animal obstacles etc... Instead, it has classy, landscaped humps & hollows, delightful water features and pretend sand traps. Overhead

Maroochy River Golf Club – The terrace deck is a stunning feature of the Cane Cutters Bar & Bistro.... The place to be!

Bli Bli and nearby residents are always welcome. Become a social member for just \$5 and receive club discounts at the Cane Cutters Bar & Bistro. We hope to see you soon....



# Your Local Golf Club



- Magnificent views on the deck
- Family friendly atmosphere
- Mouth watering menu
- Local Craft Beer on tap
- Friday Night Raffles, Members Draw & Courtesy Bus
- Top 100 Golf course in Australia
- 2021 Qld. Golf Club of the Year

© Image by Golf Australia Magazine | Brendan James

- Fun for the whole family
- Open 7 days - 9am until late
- Adults: \$17.00 each
- Children: \$12.00 each (<sup><18 years of age</sup>)
- Family Pass: \$45.00 (<sup>2A+2C</sup>)
- Great food and drinks available
- Thursday Putt and Parmi: \$35.00
- Family Putt n Pizza Deal: \$70.00

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visit [maroochyriverminigolf.com.au](http://maroochyriverminigolf.com.au)



**UNVEILING AND DEDICATION OF THE  
PARKLAKES  
CENOTAPH**

**PARKLAKES DRIVE, BLI BLI**

The construction of the new Cenotaph for the Bli Bli Community is nearing completion and all being well, it is proposed to have the official Unveiling and Dedication Service on:

**DATE:**

**Friday, 14 April 2023 at 10.00am**

**LOCATION:**

**The Cenotaph will be located in Parklakes Drive at the end of the Avenue of Honour and is opposite The Local Parklakes Café, 125 Parklakes Drive, and near the roundabout with Kingfisher Drive.**

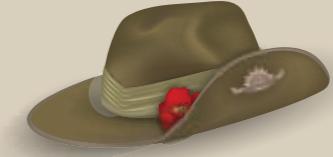
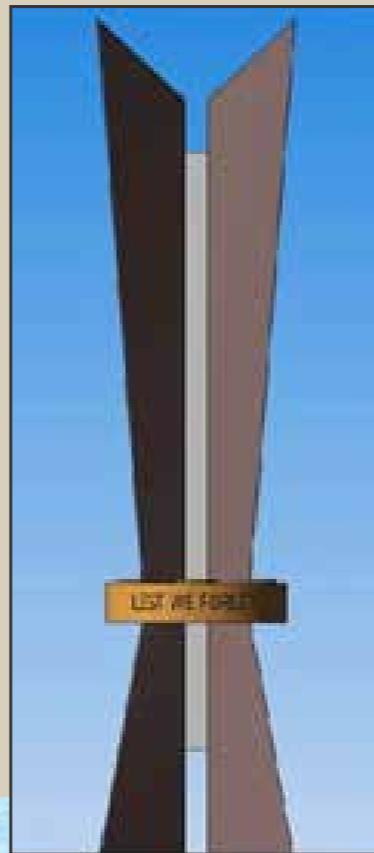
The Service will be conducted by the Sunshine Coast RSL.

The local community is cordially invited to attend this Service and show support as we remember the sacrifices of our Defence Personnel. The Cenotaph will be a wonderful addition to bring the Bli Bli community together.

The Cenotaph has been made possible by the support of the Sunshine Coast RSL Regional Office, Department of Veterans Affairs, the Sunshine Coast Council and various Community Associations. Thank you to all.

There will be more information available in the press and social media as we draw closer to the date.

Enquiries can be directed to the RSL on 5458 8303.



**LEST WE FORGET**  
**- ANZAC DAY -**  
**TUESDAY 25th APRIL 2023**

**THE INAUGURAL PARKLAKES ANZAC DAY SERVICE WILL BE CONDUCTED AT THE PARKLAKES CENOTAPH, PARKLAKES DRIVE, BLI BLI ON TUESDAY 25 APRIL 2023.**

The Service will commence at 9.00am.

This will be preceded by a March along the pathway of the Avenue of Honour by local Veterans and by the children from the local College and State School.

The March will start at the Good Samaritan College at 8.30am.

The local Bli Bli community is cordially invited to attend this Service to pay their respects and remember the sacrifices of our Defence Personnel.

There will be more information available in the press and social media as we draw closer to the date.

Enquiries can be directed to RSL on 5458 8303.





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2022 ENDED WITH A CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR MEMBERS AND PARTNERS. THIS EVENT WAS HELD AT OUR 11 PROGRESS ROAD, MAROOCHYDORE SHED WITH 100 IN ATTENDANCE. WE CATERED FOR THE LUNCH OURSELVES AND WERE ASSISTED BY URBAN ANGELS WITH DESSERT IN APPRECIATION OF OUR DONATIONS OF VEGETABLES FROM OUR GARDEN FOR THEIR WORK IN FEEDING THE HOMELESS. A VERY HAPPY OCCASION.

This year we have had guest speakers on topics of Coping with Grief and the dangers of skin cancer.

The workshop has been extremely busy with many projects on the go for members of the public, sporting organizations and local authorities.



Our IT Group is busy learning better ways of using a mobile phone. The Camera Group is popular with a monthly competition for the best photo of a certain theme and judged by Teds Camera House at Maroochydore.

The Discussion Group of about 30 members meet each Tuesday and speak without fear or favour of any topic of the day which they would like to comment on.

Our fundraising efforts continue with our popular Friday night meat tray raffle at the Maroochy Bridge Hotel commencing at 5.30 pm. We also assist the Mooloolaba Lions Club by providing members to direct stall holders to their parking sites as well as the buying public with parking.

New members are welcome. Please phone Ian on 0407 898430 for further information.



## BLI BLI NORTHERN VILLAGE COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Community Consultation for the Bli Bli Northern Village Master Planned Community will begin this month with the team hosting an information session at the Bli Bli State School on Tuesday, 28 March 2023 from 6pm.

This will be a great opportunity to meet the project team and find out more about Bli Bli Northern Village.

# GOOD SAMARITAN CATHOLIC COLLEGE

## - THE ARTS



THE ARTS AT GOOD SAMARITAN CATHOLIC COLLEGE ENCOURAGES STUDENTS TO EXPLORE A RANGE OF DISCIPLINES, INCLUDING DANCE, MUSIC, DRAMA, MEDIA AND VISUAL ART.

The College's experienced instructors are passionate about sharing their knowledge and skills with students, giving them the opportunity to develop their creativity, critical thinking and teamwork skills.

The music program is highly regarded, with students able to learn a range of instruments and styles from highly trained and experienced musicians. The choirs and bands regularly perform at school events and in the wider community. Our amazing new visual arts hub opened this year and now includes two studios and an open-air ceramics space. We have some exciting community arts projects on the go and hope to host an art exhibition later in the year.

Media is another area where Good Sams excels, with students given the opportunity to learn about all aspects of media production, including scriptwriting, filming, special effects and editing. The students are using cutting-edge technology and equipment such as DSLR cameras, gimbals, drones, green screens



### 2024 ENROLMENT TIMELINE

- Prep and Year 7 2024 applications have now closed. Late applications will be placed on a waiting list
- March/April 2023 Enrolment interviews for Prep 2024 and Year 7 2024 commence
- End of April 2023 – Enrolment offers made for 2024 placements in Prep and Year 7



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

2023 has started extremely well at Good Samaritan Catholic College, with almost 1000 students now in attendance from Prep to Year 11. There is great excitement in the air at the College with new and exciting events happening throughout the year. The College will stage its first musical later in the year with students from Year 4 to 11 involved. The first cohort of Year 11 students has commenced their senior studies, with students studying a wide variety of subjects across many different pathways. As well, sporting teams have started in different competitions while the classrooms are alive with teaching and learning opportunities.

While delayed due to last year's incredible rainfall (over 2m of rain fell on the site and over 90 work days were lost to weather), the College building program continues to provide first class facilities for our students and staff. Eleven new state of the art classrooms were ready on the first day for occupation, while another 16 in the senior school will be ready at Easter. Seven of nine new specialist rooms were ready at the start of the year with new drama, art, science and hospitality spaces being enjoyed by staff and students alike. New Industrial Technology and Design spaces will also be ready at Easter. The College Resource Centre and Administration area refurbishment, while delayed, will provide amazing learning and work spaces by mid-year. At the same time, we are deep into planning the next stage of the building program which will feature more learning spaces, particularly for senior students. This construction will take place in early 2024. As we continue to grow to meet the needs of our community, our facilities will also continue to keep pace with modern educational trends.

A school is more than the subjects taught, the buildings occupied, and the opportunities offered. A school is a community that embraces those who belong and reaches out to those in need. Our theme this year is "Our Greatest Opportunity" where everyone is encouraged to be and give more. I look forward to seeing our students grow and develop into outstanding Good Sams graduates.

**Greg Myers**  
Principal



## GOOD SAMARITAN CATHOLIC COLLEGE

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*The better your sleep, the better you'll feel  
WHEN YOU'RE AWAKE!*

Our principal chiropractor Richard has been traveling all around Australia for the past 18 months, due to his lovely wife Patrice playing in the hit musical Moulin Rouge! As such, he and his family have been with her every step of the way, all across this great country of ours.

Richard's greatest concern, however, has been the great variations in mattress quality that he and their family would have to stay in. While they would all take their pillows to every town, their mattresses would ultimately dictate the quality of sleep that they would all get. So, what do we recommend? Ultimately, you have to find what works for you. Some people fare much better with firmer mattresses, while others swear by softer mattresses that give way and conform better.

Sleep position can also dictate whether you are getting a proper rest and recovery period. Speak to any health practitioner, and they will tell you that sleeping on your stomach is the worst position for your neck and lower spine to sleep in, as you are constantly turned 90 degrees at the head and neck. This can cause long term stiffness in your neck muscles, but could also affect your general neck and spine movement, and leave you more prone to neck pain in general.

Back sleeping is the most ideal position, as it naturally allows your neck and spine to remain neutral, so individuals who prefer this position generally do best on a surface with a balanced feel. The largest concern for back sleepers spine-wise can be the lower back, which can suffer from pressure buildup if the hips and lumbar region do not receive enough support.

Side sleepers can often suffer if their mattress is too firm, or if their pillow is not thick enough.

Side sleeping places extra pressure on the hips and shoulders, which can quickly lead to soreness if there is insufficient cushioning. Usually, the best mattresses for side sleepers have thicker comfort

systems that allow wider parts of the body to sink in enough for the spine to remain straight. On the other hand, side posture can be better for people that suffer with conditions such as snoring or sleep apnea. The average person moves about 13 times an hour during sleep, but this can vary greatly between people(1).

How do you find the right mattress? As with a lot of other purchases, 'try before you buy' is the best answer. Don't be afraid to lay down in the mattress store or department store for a good 5-10 minutes per mattress, trying out all the different sleeping positions. Who knows, you may even make a friend or two!

If you have any other questions, please feel free to speak to your local chiropractor or health professional about the best way to get a better night's sleep. The better your sleep, the better you'll feel when you're awake!

(1): Haba-Rubio J et al. (2016). "Prevalence and determinants of periodic limb movements in the general population." Ann Neurol. 79(3):464-74.

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



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# Keep Your Pet HEARTWORM SAFE

No pet owner ever expects their dog to catch deadly heartworm, however there is a continuing increase in the number of cases being detected on the Sunshine Coast. Upsettingly, cases are being seen in dogs that have lived on the coast their entire lives. While North Queenslanders have been dealing with high levels of infected pets for many years, we've had a very low incidence of cases here. However, the area of high infection rates is encroaching - Bundaberg is the latest hotspot.

## What is Heartworm?

Heartworm is transmitted by mosquitoes. After biting an infected animal, the tiny worms (Microfilaria) develop in the mosquito and are subsequently transferred to other animals. When bitten, heartworm larvae are injected into your pet's bloodstream, where they undergo several stages of development and make their way to the heart and lungs. These adult worms can reach sexual maturity in a few short months and will continue to reproduce for up to 7 years. They cause irreversible damage to the heart, lungs and arteries, and can affect your dog's health and quality of life long after the parasites are gone.

## Prevention

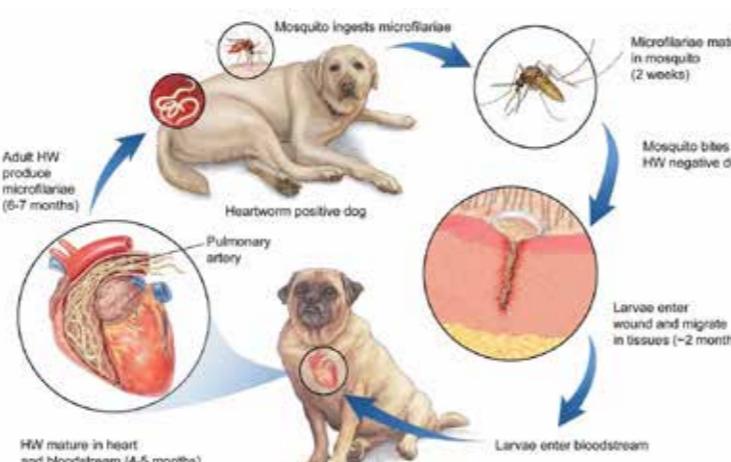
We would like to remind everyone that prevention is by far the best option when it comes to heartworm.

There are many monthly preventative treatments available which are effective. However, they must be given on time and without fail as they only act against heartworm for a small part of the their lifecycle - just after the developing worms enter your pet's skin following a mosquito bite.

The most effective method of protection is an annual injection - it is effective against heartworm through all of their life stages, including the adult worms.

An important reason for a preventative plan is that the treatment of clinical disease from these worms is complicated, lengthy and carries a level of risk as well. Treatment is also expensive and not always successful.

**IF YOUR PET HASN'T BEEN ON CONTINUOUS PROTECTION, TESTING FOR HEARTWORM IS RECOMMENDED BEFORE STARTING ANY TREATMENT. TALK TO OUR VETERINARY STAFF IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT IS THE BEST OPTION FOR YOUR PET.**



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## What to look for

In the early signs of the disease many dogs show little or no symptoms. It can easily go unnoticed.

- Mild persistent cough
- Limited energy
- Low appetite
- Weight loss

It is generally not until the disease has progressed further that symptoms are spotted - such as laboured breathing, constant fatigue, a swollen belly or pale gums. This may mean that by the time you are seeing symptoms, your pet has already acquired irreversible organ damage. Dogs with large numbers of heartworms can suddenly develop life-threatening blockages of blood flow within the heart.

If your pet hasn't been on continuous protection, testing for heartworm is recommended before starting any treatment. Talk to our Veterinary staff if you have any questions about what is the best option for your pet.



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# Floods over the Years

## EPISODE 2

**January 1st 1943.** Flash flooding at its best. For 4 days the coast was the scene of violent storms with heavy rainfall. Average rainfall was approximately 6 inches, before the sky cleared.

Unfortunately, rapidly rising streams caused by the heaviest rainfall recorded for the month of December in some years, took the life of a resident in a flooded stream near Bli Bli. Although watercourses overflowed their banks and flooded many low-lying areas, little or no damage was reported apart from the sweeping away of soil from farm areas.

A violent storm with heavy lightning and crashes of thunder appeared over Maroochydore late on the Saturday afternoon. A flash struck the home of Mr. W. Ruegger, and another flash smashed a tree nearby. His wife was ironing with an electric iron downstairs. Suddenly, the lightning struck and she was thrown violently to the floor. Her husband, who was only a few feet away from his wife escaped injury. It was later confirmed the lightning had struck the radio aerial and progressed through a hole in the wall to demolish the radio and phone casing.

**February 4th 1944.** Conditions at Bli Bli were not good. Since Friday last the Bli Bli district has recorded something like eight inches of rain. The river has been in flood, carrying a fair amount of debris. Backed up against big tides and whipped by a strong south-easterly wind, the river has become exceedingly rough. While however, low-lying land along the river has been inundated, there are no reports of losses having been experienced. With the water receding great areas of mud and debris have been deposited on the river bank.

**February 14th 1947.** Again, the Maroochy River Tram Bridge is swept away in the district's cyclonic rain, cane and other agricultural areas have been inundated, rapid rises in the higher reaches of the Maroochy River have wrought havoc in numerous areas throughout Maroochy and Landsborough Shires.

Not for 24 years has Petrie Creek been so high, with the northern end of the main street at Nambour being submerged to about 18 inches. No fate as to the cane areas at Maroochy River and Bli Bli have been received, as they are all cut off. Most of the other areas traffic and tram bridges are known to be under water.

By 1950 communications were much improved and most of the flooding and cyclonic disturbances have been well documented. Below are just a few of these extraordinary events.

**February 2nd 1951.** The Maroochy in flood again. Reports have come in regarding relief parties and their magnificent work wading through chest high flood waters to deliver food rations to be made available to be delivered by boat, to the flood bound victims of the river areas.

In the most widespread flood of the river since the 1930s, Coulson's Wharf and boatshed were swept away. The water over the traffic bridge was at one point as high as 10 feet, the Coolum Road was at least 12 feet deep and several homes were in great danger, necessitating the removal of a number of families.

Mr. Coulson in an interview in 1996, pointed out a gumtree in the paddock and advised his 33-foot boat the "Irene" was dumped in the fork of the tree. He salvaged the steering wheel and attached it to the tree in memory of the boat.

The position on the river was growing and more serious every hour. It had been intended for Mr. Coulson's boats to assist in the removal of marooned families on the river. Eventually they bought in a large motor boat in charge of Mr. Percy Evans who removed many farmers and families to higher ground.

**In 1954** the coast experienced some of the worst weather it had ever experienced. Two cyclones made landfall and left a trail of devastation, beaches were eroded, buildings and crops destroyed and took the life of one resident. In an interview with the newspaper, the then Chronicle, one resident, who in the 69 years he had lived on Buderim, claimed it was the worst cyclonic blow Buderim had ever endured.

The Bald Knob Hall was wrecked. Many houses were unroofed, including 50 at Caloundra. The outside toilets fared no better and most of the outside showers and toilet facilities were destroyed.

**Between July 6-10 1973.** On July 8 one 24-hour period recorded 384mm at Nambour, 349mm Woodford and 340mm at Mapleton. The 600 ton empty cargo vessel, the "Cherry Venture" was grounded on July 8th by gale force winds and wild seas that drove her onto Teewah Beach. She remained firmly grounded on the beach sands where she formed an established landmark. In 2004, her skeleton remains were dismantled and removed from the beach due to safety concerns.

**On the 22nd June 1983.** During this month flood waters inundated Petrie Creek, Cornmeal Creek and the Maroochy River causing widespread damage and flooding to buildings, roads,

bridges and farmland with the towns of Maroochydore and Nambour being the worst affected. Ray Grace had to be extracted via the roof when trapped by fast rising floodwaters.

**February 21st and 22nd 1992:** This was the closest flood to 1893 and gives thought to the Aboriginal prediction all those years ago of another in 100 years. This turned the coast into an inland lake with water covering hectares of land and the main transport was by boat.

Bli Bli was badly hit with this deluge. Water covered all approaches to the town centre, David Low Way to Pacific Paradise was covered in water. Standing in the middle of the Bli Bli Bridge the view was water from there to the motorway. Looking back to the castle, the old McBride's shop had water up to its floor boards (now the car wash).

With the coming of technology this flood and many other rain events since have been fully covered, the information is available from the Sunshine Coast Heritage Library and various newspaper records are available.

References: *Nambour Chronicle, Sunshine Coast Heritage Library Nambour, Stan Tutt, Sunshine Coast Daily, Bli Bli Historical Society, Janine Hill, Brisbane Courier.*



View from bridge towards Pacific Paradise. On the right Surf and Ski and Muller Park. Notice the hood of a car just peeking out of the water.



Roof of ute washed into the lake from David Low Way at Edgewater 1992



Damage at Cotton Tree in the 60s from wild weather.



## BLI BLI ON MAROOCHY HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

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Other times are by appointment with President Ailsa Watson 0408 544 845 / 5448 4848

All Historical Society members, guests, researchers and the public are also welcome to join us on the 1st Monday of each month in the old Church Hall located at 89 Willis Road, Bli Bli from 9.30 a.m. Refreshments provided.



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