

Dunoon and District

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Gazette

Issue No 210

Dec 2025 - Jan 2026

www.dunoongazette.com

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Dunoon and District

Gazette 

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**Next Issue:
Feb – Mar
Copy Deadline:
21 Jan**

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A FEW WORDS FROM THE EDITOR...

With Christmas just around the corner, this edition of the Dunoon and District Gazette feels especially warm and community-focused. This time of year naturally invites us to slow down, catch up with friends and family, and reflect on the places and people that matter to us — and that's exactly what this issue does.

Inside, you'll find a wonderful collection of local stories that capture everyday life in Dunoon and the surrounding district. These pieces are written by people who know the area, care about it, and want to share a slice of their experience. That's what makes the Gazette special — it's a place where our community tells its own story.

We're also delighted to include the final instalment of Dapto to Dunoon by Peter Dorrrough. Many readers have followed Peter's journey over recent editions, and this last chapter

brings the story to a fitting close. We've included a photo of Peter as well, to put a face to the words that have been such a valuable addition to our history of the area.

Looking ahead, we'd love to hear from more of you. If you have a story to tell — a memory, a local history, a reflection, or something that simply captures life in this area — please consider contributing. You don't have to be an experienced writer, just someone with a connection to Dunoon and District, and a story to share.

I have been lucky enough to have pre-Christmas family visits both here and in New Zealand, and I learned something new from my son — how to edit pictures in seconds



using Meta AI. So rather than a real picture of your editor, just for fun, here is a picture of me in the lift at my son's place, playing with mirrors and reflections — edited using Meta AI in mere seconds!



Wishing everyone a relaxed, happy Christmas and all the best for the year ahead.

Bronwen Campbell
Dunoon & District Gazette Editor
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Hello everyone,
Can you believe we're already at the end of the year? Term 4 has been a wonderful one at Dunoon Preschool, filled with new friendships, "big school" visits for our older children, an incredible art exhibition, caring for baby chicks, making our own set of memory cards, excursion to Whian Whian schools, bird watching in bird week... and so much more.

As part of both the recent local council surveys about park upgrades and our own social and environmental sustainability program, the children spent time thinking about what makes a park fun and safe — not only for people, but also for insects, animals, birds and plants. They sketched their ideas and then created individual clay pieces that were combined into one large collaborative "park". Their thoughtful contributions included balance and climbing areas, shady spaces, nesting spots, beehives, tables and chairs, and even a bin to help keep the imaginary park clean.

Another highlight this term was creating with loose craft parts during our Schoolie Time sessions. Children were given a selection of small items in a basket and encouraged to think, plan and design

something unique, using sticky tape to join their pieces together. It was full of opportunities for problem-solving, creativity and imagination.

We also worked through the SAFE Series by the Office of the Child Guardian. This set of four books supports children to learn about their bodies — how to keep themselves safe, how to listen to their own early warning signs, and how to communicate their feelings or worries to trusted adults,



also learned a new song in language called "No Buru on the Bus", originally written by Faith Baisden and sung by Robert "Dhurwain" McLellan. The song features animal words in Gooreng Gooreng language, and for our performance we have adapted the lyrics to use local Bundjalung words.

or "heroes". The children have participated well with these concepts throughout the term.

Right now, we are busy preparing for our end-of-year show. This year we are performing the much-loved story *Room on the Broom* by Julia Donaldson, with every child taking part — removing the hat, finding the bow, and helping the witch and her friends along the way. We have

It has been a joyful and meaningful term full of learning, creativity and connection. We wish our big schoolie preschoolers all the best on their next learning adventure, and we wish all our families a safe and happy holiday season.

Looking ahead to 2026, there will be a small change to our usual operations. From Week 1 of Term 1, Dunoon Preschool will be closed on Fridays. All other days will continue as normal with our amazing teaching team and our 8:30–4:00 program. For enrolments, please head to our website: dunoonpreschool.com. We look forward to welcoming new families to our Orientation Morning on Thursday 29 January 2026, with preschool recommencing on Monday 2nd February 2026. Please get in touch if you would like more information.

Thanks,

Kate Scanlan



Whian Whian Public School has had an action-packed Term 4, with students taking part in a wide range of learning experiences, community events, and end-of-year celebrations. Here's a look at what we've been up to!

Intensive Swimming and Water Safety Program

In Week 4, students attended the Intensive Swimming and Water Safety Program at the Lismore Pool, completing two 45-minute lessons each day. Following initial assessment, students were placed into groups according to skill level.



Teachers were extremely impressed with the students' participation, effort, and noticeable improvement – especially from those who have been doing extra lessons outside school. We're confident Whian Whian will have some strong swimmers at next year's swimming carnival.

A special thanks to Louise for supporting the non-swimmer groups in the pool each day.

The week ended with a huge splash on the giant inflatable water obstacle slide – an absolute highlight for everyone!

Life Education Visit at Corndale Public School

Students enjoyed a fantastic day at Corndale Public School for the Life Education Program.

- Kindergarten to Year 2 took part in Ready, Steady, Go!
- Years 3 and 4 participated in BCyberwise
- Years 5 and 6 learned through Relate, Respect, Connect



While waiting to see Healthy Harold, students rotated through a variety of fun and active stations. Miss Jodie led "Alphabet Workouts," Miss Rhiana and James ran energetic warm-ups such as "open the gate" and "shut the gate," and Year 5/6 designed an obstacle course that proved to be a huge hit. The day wrapped up with some fiercely competitive handball matches – full of laughter, excitement, and teamwork. Students loved reconnecting with friends from across our small-school cohort.

Dunoon Preschool Visit

On Friday 29 November, we welcomed the Dunoon Preschool children for a morning of fun. They enjoyed exploring the playground, playing snakes and ladders, hopscotch, and sharing a delicious fruit platter.

In the music room, our visitors sang songs, played instruments, and joined in action games. They were also the very first audience to watch our students' animation movies! Although we ran out of time for a few activities, we look forward to hosting them again early next year.

Thank you to Dunoon Preschool for visiting our school.



Stop Motion Animation and Movie-Making

Students have been working tirelessly on their stop-motion films. With filming nearly complete, they are now editing, refining scenes, and preparing to add the sound effects and soundtracks they created earlier in the term.

This exciting project began in Term 2 when students wrote original stories in literacy. These stories became the foundation of their Claymation films. Their dedication has resulted in hundreds of photos and scenes – truly a labour of love. The final films will premiere at our End-of-Year Concert, and we know families will be amazed by what the students have achieved.

Dr Nathan – Science Morning

On Tuesday 2 November, Dr Nathan visited for our final science session of the year. Students investigated water surface tension using an eye-dropper and five-cent pieces, carefully testing how many drops of water each coin could hold before overflowing.

They explored variables such as: the height the drops were released from, whether the desk was bumped, and ensuring only one drop at a time was added. Students were fascinated watching the water rise into a dome shape on top of the coin before spilling over. It was a fantastic hands-on experiment that sparked great discussion and curiosity.

The session finished with a much tastier experiment – making ice-
continued on page 7

The school year has wrapped up and by the time this goes to print, we will be on holidays!

Term 4 was another big one at Dunoon School. Our Year 4/5/6s embarked on a 4-day camp to Brisbane, which included a trip to Australia Zoo and a sleepover under the aquarium! It was a nervy night for some..

All students visited The Channon for a Musica Viva show, and we took part in a Rugby League Gala Day at Modanville School.

Our Swimming Intensive week has come and gone, with lots of great swimming taking place. There are many strong swimmers at Dunoon and everyone is improving in their confidence and skills, which is really encouraging to see.

The usual end-of-year festivities took place. The concert was a wonderful evening and our departing Year 6 cohort enjoyed their final days in style! They have collectively created an acrostic poem to remember their time at Dunoon School:

Looking ahead to 2026, students start back on February 2nd. We wish Mrs Clark all the best while she is on maternity leave for the year and look forward to meeting the new addition.

We hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable holiday and can't wait to see you soon!



D oug's dramatic drama workshop	P erforming arts festival mesmerising marimbas	S trumming Franklin on guitar
U ndefeated girls' soccer to Round 5	U nderstanding the science of solar cars	C inderella the musical
N ational diabetes awareness	B eing cared for by buddies on the buddy bench	H igh school orientation
O riel and Willow C Dunoon regional champs	L ogan's Legendary drumming	O utgoing and organised Willow <small>M</small>
O utstanding effort in Green Innovations	I maginative incredible ologies	O vernight stay at school
N oteworthy discussions	C lever Lucy the cable coder	L ayla's love of cakes





WHIAN WHIAN PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWS *continued from page 5*

continued from page 5

cream with liquid nitrogen! It was, without a doubt, the yummiest science lesson ever.

Thank you, Dr Nathan!



Making Icecream – liquid nitrogen!



Cubby House Makeover

Our cubby house transformation is officially underway – and looking fantastic! The colours now match our playground equipment, featuring vibrant yellow, green, blue, red, and orange.

Karl selected the colour scheme, and even in these early stages the difference is remarkable. Once the exterior is complete, we will tackle the interior for a full makeover. Huge thanks to Dulux Paints for generously donating the paint. Come by and check out the progress!

Christmas Concert and News

Our Christmas Concert and Ballina Pool & Waterslide were great fun.

Friday 19 December – We’re hosting our first-ever School Colour Run, with Corndale students joining in. An exciting obstacle course will make the event even more memorable! The afternoon will feature our annual water fight, shared lunch, ice-creams, and our end-of-year assembly.

Merry Christmas We wish all our families a very Merry Christmas and a safe, happy New Year. See you in 2026!

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The Station Hotel, Lismore
Bangalow Cellars
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The Modanville Public School Annual Halloween Disco

Well, it wouldn't be Halloween without the frights of the Modanville Halloween Disco. Students from our school, along with their cousins and friends from the community, enjoyed a spooky-filled evening of dancing, games and scary looking treats. The kids all turned up the hair-raising factor with their fantastically eerie costumes. The Haunted House went to a whole new level with many screams to be

heard near and far as students entered if they dared! A big thank you to our amazing P&C who made the evening possible with their planning, organising and execution.



Goonellabah Sports and Aquatic Centre. It was a fantastic day with some terrific handball skills, great sportsmanship and many nail-biting rallies.

Modanville participated against Tregeagle, Bexhill, Coraki and Albert Park. Boy, there were some tough competitors with it being very evident just how much practice these students had put in to make it along to the competition.

Handball Competition

On Friday the 7th of November, 22 students from Modanville Public School enthusiastically took part in the Small School's Handball Competition at

Students participated as either singles or doubles, with many of our students making it to the finals. The main goal of the day being to 'have fun' was definitely achieved! Modanville came very close to victory, but Tregeagle walked away with the converted handball belt on the day. Well done everyone and we look forward to competing again next year!





Grandparents Day

At Modanville Public School we love a community event and our Grandparent's Day this year was no exception! On Friday the 14th of November, we welcomed many of our fabulous Grandparents into our school for a game of trivia followed by a scrumptious morning tea. Students formed teams and worked

with their Grandparents to solve some Australian geography, pop culture and sports questions. Several students gave heartfelt speeches emphasising how important their Grandparents are to them. They thanked them for sharing stories from when they were kids, taking them on fun adventures and of course spoiling them! It was a lovely morning, enjoyed by all.

Enrolments for 2025

Modanville is now taking enrolments for all classes for 2025. Please contact our friendly office staff on 66282234 to find out more.

Modanville Public School would like to wish all of the Dunoon Gazette readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

NUMULGI HALL NEWS *WITH LISA R*

Website: numulgihall.com

Email: numulgihall@gmail.com

A huge thank you to those who have donated and supported Numulgi Hall in 2025.

We wish you a wonderful festive season and look forward to connecting with you in 2026.

2025 has been an amazing year. Numulgi Hall has continued to host regular classes in fitness and art, also dance lessons, choir, family fun days, a fundraising auction of the old stumps, plus awarding lifelong memberships to four special locals.

Again we have benefitted from the support of Red Cross in building community resilience through Tales as Old as Time, Psychological First Aid, First Aid and a Family fun day. The hall has hosted craft markets and Art shows, concerts and more than a few family celebrations.

We have been beneficiaries of three grants:

Northern Rivers FRRR - Foundation

for Rural and Regional Renewal 'Painting a Brighter Future for Numulgi' We have been gifted \$18,456.00 to paint the exterior of our hall. Thank you to our painters Shane Davis and his team for completing the work as requested and on time.

NRCF - Northern Rivers Community Foundation 'Water - a vital refresh for Numulgi' to upgrade all things to do with water - tanks, filters, toilets, pumps and plumbing. Thank you NRCF for your generous gift of \$10 192.00. The work was completed by Ian Hardy from Barcoo Plumbing.

CBP25 Community Building Partnership 2025 'Lifting up Numulgi: re-stumping Our Community Hall for a Stronger, Connected Future'. Our hall has been leaning following the flood in 2022 and desperately needed this funding boost of \$46,150. The work was completed by Gerard and his team at Byron Hinterland Building who has removed and replaced all 74 stumps using two small shovels!

Thank you to our committee who meet regularly and as needed to make decisions on our priorities, source quotes and tradies, write the grant applications and facilitate the works. The committee are a group of local volunteers who work well together with vision and action.

Our Hall is for community use. If you have any ideas to use the hall in ways that support our community, please let us know and we can discuss your ideas.

Our hall is fully Air Conditioned!! Cool and Warm, whatever is needed!

For details and contacts, photos and events, check the website numulgihall.com – it will all happen again in 2026.

Where is NUMULGI?

At the intersection of Duncan Rd, Cross Road, Lockton Rd and Numulgi Rd.

4 mins from Bexhill, 7 mins from Dunoon, 15 mins from Rosebank, 11 mins from Clunes.

Part 6 of 6: The Dorrough Family Story by Peter Dorrough.

The full story is available on Trove at <https://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-3253686100/view>. Parts 1-5 of this story were in previous editions. This is the final part of our abridged edition. Thank you to Peter Dorrough for his contribution.

The name leaves Dorroughby

Although he held his land holdings at Dorroughby, after marriage and the arrival of children, in 1890 Matthew Dorrough moved to Grafton, working as a Carpenter building dwellings.

This move potentially coincided with the loss of funds associated with the failed Sugar Mill enterprise. His eldest son Stan, and daughter Elsie, were both born at Grafton.

The young family then moved back to the area circa 1895. His second son, Ray was born at North Lismore, whilst his youngest son Ted was born at Dunoon.

However, in late 1900 tragedy struck again. Whilst working at the Dorrough sawmill in North Lismore he had an accident. He was hospitalised, contracted pneumonia, and on the 31 December 1899, he passed away in Lismore hospital. This left his wife Eliza with four young children.

His grandfather, Matthew Dorrough, the original immigrant, had passed away on 18 August 1897 at the age of 94, which left John Dorrough head of the family. But this did not last long, and on 20 August 1903, John passed away at Casino.

So, within the years 1897 to 1903, six years, the line of first born Dorrough sons had passed onto what was then commonly phrased, the great divide.

Males left to perpetuate the family name, were John Dorrough's youngest son Wesley Harold, John's brother James Dorrough, his son Charles, and Matthew's three young boys, Stanley, Raymond and Edwin (Ted).

For clarity, the photo above shows only Matthew Dorrough's first two names. He was named Matthew Dorrough Arthur, after his uncle Matthew and his mother's maiden name.

Apart from Charles' commercial interest, the others had no connection with the Dorroughby location. The properties at Dorroughby originally held by Matthew reverted to his father John on his passing, and then eventually changed hands, and the direct connection was lost.

However, there was still one Dorrough kicking. Margaret, or Granny Arthur as she became known, lived in Dorroughby until her death in 1907 at the age of 93 and is buried in the Dunoon Cemetery.

Connections

Local names that are descended from the Dorrough family still exist in either the Richmond River Valley or Southern Highlands of New South Wales and include: -

- John Dorrough: Smith, Francis, Dawes and Missingham.
- William (or Bill) Missingham was to become a prominent member of Dunoon, President of Terania Shire Council, and later an MLA (Member of the Legislative Assembly) of the NSW State Parliament. Bill married John's daughter Margaret.



Margaret Arthur (nee Dorrough), wife of John Arthur with some of the Arthur boys — Left to Right back row: John Young (1846), Gavin Young (1855), Alexander (1853), James (1857) 'twins', Front Row Left to Right: Matthew Dorrough (1851), Margaret (1817), William Moira (1857) 'twins', Albert Robert Young (1845), Elizabeth (1849), Margaret (1855), Jane Douglas (1858), Thomas (1861)

- James Dorrough: Simes, Cottee, Funston and Gray.
- Spencer Milton Cottee helped to establish Norco and the famous Australian brand Cottées. Spencer married James' daughter Eliza Ellen Dorrough.
- Elizabeth Dorrough: Knight, Arthur, Jarman, Hewitson.
- John McCosh Hewitson was a blacksmith and carriage builder located in Lismore. He married Matilda Knight.

The Alcorn families are connected twice through James' marriage to Mary Ann Alcorn, and Margaret Dorrough's marriage to William Alcorn.

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The Canadian Pioneer Sawmill

It would be remiss not to mention the activities that were occurring in Lismore whilst agricultural pursuits were underway in Dorroughby. From 1882 the more serious enterprise of a commercial based sawmill was underway in Lismore by James Dorrough.

With proceeds from the sale of an investment property in Bowral, James Dorrough quickly leased, then purchased land on the banks of the Wilsons River just north of its confluence with Leycester Creek, North Lismore. The site was at the time quite visible from the Lismore town centre. As such the Canadian Pioneer Sawmill was established.

The out of local character name given to the sawmill relates to the imported Canadian steam engine, used to drive the mill plant. John had used a Canadian steam engine for mill work in the Illawarra. However, the sawmill also came to be known as “Dorrough’s Sawmill”.

It was not the only sawmill on the river, but it was the most prominent,

and at his height employed over 50 employees.

In March 1882, the Northern Star reported *“On the river bank nearly opposite Mr. Coleman’s store, a new sawmill is being erected by Mr. Dorrough, who is a new arrival; but I will give fuller particulars on its being in working order, which will not be many weeks. Suffice it to say that it will be a good acquisition to this side.”*

Over the next ten years James built up the enterprise, whilst his wife and six children (the second youngest dying at aged 3, the youngest dying of diphtheria at 10 months along with two other infant Dorrough children) busied themselves with community, school and social activities including Church, fetes and galas, and agricultural shows.

During the mid-1890’s Charles Dorrough, James’ only son took up ownership and control of the sawmill, and further modernised and expanded its operations. Timber from this mill was sent throughout



Pioneer Canadian Sawmill — opened by John and James Dorrough — North Lismore, N.S.W. 1882. Employed over 50 employees in the mill at its peak. Destroyed by fire, rebuilt and eventually demolished in 1916. This photo taken in the early life of the mill and later photographs show some buildings along the river

Australia and ports throughout the world.

On the 1 September 1906 the sawmill burnt down, with flames reported to have been seen as far as 20 miles beyond Casino. Within a month Charles Dorrough had rebuilt the mill and had it operational.

In 1912 the sawmill operation was sold to the British Australian Timber Company (BATCo), Charles acting as Manger for a stint then relocating to southeast Queensland.

The site upon which the sawmill once stood is now known as Pritchard Park, the only remnants of the once thriving mill, a concrete plinth that housed the engine block.

The Richmond River Historical Society placed their No. 1 historical marker on this block.

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We encourage you to visit the Dunoon Sports Club and enjoy the family friendly environment and lovely food.

Yes, it is the time of the year where everyone is going crazy. Well Dunoon Sports Club will be having their Christmas Raffle drawn on Friday 19th. All the ho ha beforehand will also be going ahead. Enjoy our Celebrations.

See some of our Hamageddon winners on the next page

Free Trivia

Wednesday nights at 6.30pm

Happy Hour

4:30pm-5:30pm

Friday Raffle

Trays from Goonellabah Quality Meats and Farmer Charlies Lismore

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Dunoon Sports Club Following

Dunoon Sports Club is getting ready for our Christmas Raffle. Tickets \$2 each or 3 for \$5 or 7 for \$10... See more

PLUCKERS AND POETS

Second Sunday of the month, after The Channon Market.



Club Opening Hours

REGULAR TRADING HOURS



Wednesday-Saturday
4pm till late

Check updates on our website and Facebook pages. See you there!

Details are correct at time of printing

To confirm details phone
Dunoon Sports Club
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or visit the Facebook page
www.facebook.com/Dunoon-Club
Club website www.dunoonclub.org.au

Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/DunoonClub



HAMAGEDDON WINNERS



2025 has been huge for Lismore Regional Gallery, with 22 exhibitions, over 52 unique public programs, and 2 artist residencies. On behalf of the team at the Gallery, thanks to all our visitors for your support, and please keep coming in over the summer season!

And remember, at this time of year, there's no better way to support artists than to buy their art! Our gallery store has artwork galore – we have ample parking and a range of creative Christmas shopping opportunities you won't find anywhere else.

Wishing you all the best and hoping to see you very soon,

*Courtney Gibson
Acting Director*

Clare Milledge: complex notophyll vine forest: ground-proof

Until 15 March 2026

This is a significant survey of Milledge's practice across the past two decades and is her first major exhibition on Bundjalung Country, the region where she grew up. The

exhibition sweeps across three large galleries, permeating the connecting walkways and spaces in-between.

Club Ate: Ex Nilalang, episodes 1 - 4

Until 15 February 2026

Ex Nilalang is a cumulative performance-video project that transforms urban myths and traditional Filipino folklore into stories of queer resistance.

Sonka Pietrek: Memory of motion

Until 1 February 2026

Memory of motion explores a year of close observation in which the artist notices the subtle details in the world around her.

Summer school holiday workshop

Saturday 17 January, 10am – 12pm

Escape the heat and join First Nations weaver Kyra Togo, for a relaxing and mindful weaving workshop. Participants will explore the basics of fiber weaving and create their own small piece to take home. All materials and morning tea are provided. This workshop is for youth aged 10 - 17 years.

IMAGInE Awards



Clare Milledge, sruth 2021, oil on tempered glass, reclaimed timber (Eucalyptus oreades)

We are thrilled that the Arts Northern Rivers exhibition Bulaan Buruugaa Ngali, curated by Kylie Caldwell, received the IMAGInE Award for Exhibition Projects - Galleries (Medium), a statewide recognition of excellence presented by Museums & Galleries of NSW.

We are also pleased to have been awarded Highly Commended for our Art and Ageing Enrichment program for Engagement Programs - Small and Volunteer Organisations

Other programs

Gathering space first Sunday of the month from 1pm – 3pm

Collage Club every Thursday from 4pm – 6pm

Christmas closure

Please note the Lismore Regional Gallery will be closed on the following dates over the holiday period.

Closed 24 to 26 December

Closed 31 December to 2 January
art.gallery@lismore.nsw.gov.au

Open hours

Wednesday–Sunday 10am–4pm

Thursdays until 6pm

lismoregallery.org

facebook | instagram

Lismore Regional Gallery

11 Rural St, Lismore NSW 2480

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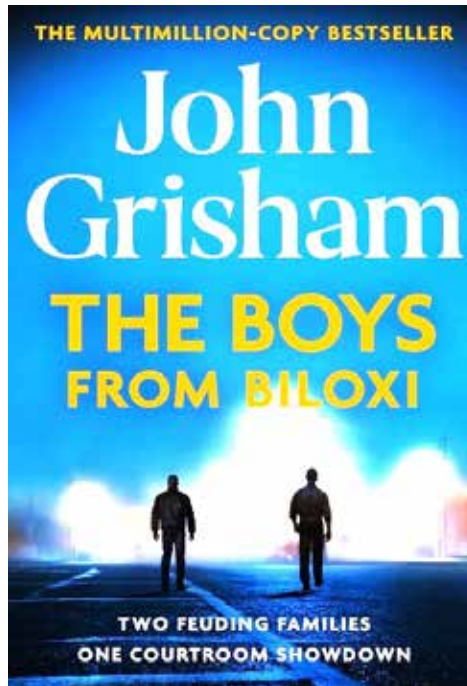
The Boys From Biloxi

By John Grisham

I know John Grisham has written lots of books – there are 47 listed on page 3 of this book – but I have never been tempted to read one before until this one was lent to me by our neighbour. I thought I should give it a go and I'm very glad I did. It was written in 2022 but given the author's popularity I'm sure a copy can be ordered from the Book Warehouse. It's a long book and spans 1948 to 1986. We get a good picture of Biloxi, Mississippi with all the corruption that has come to this town.

We have two families who originally came from Croatia in the early part of the century. Usually names were shortened on arrival by Custom Officials who were unable to cope with long European names, so we have the Malco's and the Rudy's as our main focus. Through them we become privy to all the gambling, drunkenness, drugs, prostitution and bribes etc. that are rampant in this place. Other interesting and sometimes frightening characters emerge as well.

We start with Part 1 where The Boys. Keith Rudy and Hugh Malco grow up together playing baseball. Hugh follows in his dad, Lance's, footsteps and the father/son pair become the Dixie Mafia in town. Keith follows in his dad, Jesse's, footsteps and the father/son pair



become lawyers. Can the Rudy's take down the Malco's? And what will be the cost? We get lots of family context and background in this first part about two immigrant families and how they came to be where they are. There is quite a bit of American history here too. Prohibition covered all of the country originally but some States, like Mississippi, kept it for many years after others stopped using it. This is why there was the build up of illegal activity involving alcohol etc. but it all appeared to be openly accepted. This book clearly shows us all the hows and whys.

As we move through, we have Keith's dad, Jesse, become DA (District Attorney) through getting enough community votes when he fought Insurance companies after

Hurricane Camille hit. This is where we get our first Court Room battles. Jesse moves on with his mission to clean up the Biloxi Coast by putting the members of the Dixie Mafia in prison. Some will end up on Death Row and it is here that we get an inside look at the failings of the criminal Justice system in America. Rather scary. There is a lot going on in this book and I don't want to give away too much information that would spoil it for future readers. I just want to prepare you for a very deep and long read.

There are some characters in the book that get very little light. Women. We get mention of the wives of both Lance Malco and Jesse Rudy, but they don't figure much at all. And the strippers and prostitutes, although important in the clubs, are not significant characters and we mostly don't even get to know their names. The main characters are men, both the criminals and the lawyers and given the time frame the book is set in, this is understandable.

This is not a book that would normally have induced me to buy and read it, but I'm glad that I was able to borrow it because I did learn quite a bit about America and its laws. I believe that Grisham was a lawyer himself, so he is very good at showing us the legal system with its faults and good points. Not a bad book at all.

Lyn Armanasco

LISMORE THEATRE COMPANY lismoretheatrecompany.org.au

LTC courses & Workshops

In 2026 LTC will be offering a Directing Course, a Lighting Workshop, a Design and Set Planning Workshop, a Stage Managing Workshop and Acting Workshops. Join our Facebook group for course updates

2026 Season Launch

January 17

Free entry, but seating is limited so grab your free ticket now.

Term 4 Embodied Theatre

In 2026, Term 4 workshops will be held from 3rd February until 21st

April (12 weeks every Tuesday night 6-9pm and 3 Saturdays 10am-4pm on 7th February, 7th March and 11th April). All sessions will be held at the Uniting Church Hall and will culminate in a Showing on Wednesday 29th April. The total cost for all Term 4 sessions will be \$100 and \$75 for LTC members.

What's Fruiting

by *The Fruity Farmer*

Mangoes a go go? **FINALLY!** After years of disappointment the local mango trees are laden with a super heavy crop of mangoes for summer feasting. They just need to survive the next couple of months. If the weather stays wet and humid it could quickly become Mangoes a no no!

Fungal disease thrives in wet weather, particularly the black spot disease Anthracnose. If the flower or small fruit gets infected and doesn't drop off and somehow gets to maturity the black spots will grow bigger and rot the fruit. There are fungicide sprays to try to control the fungus but for the home gardener with few trees it's probably cheaper to buy a tray or two of nice clean mangoes from the Bexhill shop.

If by some chance enough fruit survives, consider making room in the freezer to store any surplus ripe fruit so the feast can be enjoyed over the following months.

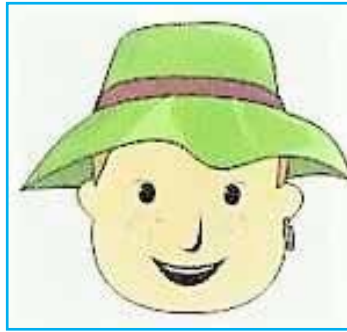
No surprise that the main mango growing regions in Australia are located in the hot dry season areas. Hot and Dry = No Fungus.

Did you know?

"Mango is one of the most popular of all tropical fruits. Mangiferin, being a polyphenolic antioxidant and a glucosyl xanthone, it has strong antioxidant, anti lipid peroxidation, immunomodulation, cardiogenic, hypotensive, wound healing, antidegenerative and antidiabetic activities." Phew.

Thank you Dr Google! (<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC3249901/>)

If that's not enough reason to love mangoes, there is the aroma of the ripe fruit, the beautiful pink blush on



the skin, the luscious yellow flesh inside with such a smooth creamy texture that doesn't even need chewing to release those heavenly

sweet-flavoured juices.

Fingers crossed the weather will be kind and the "Mangoes a go go" season won't turn out to be the "mangoes a no no" season.

Finally, here's some good advice from the Qld Govt and the Mango Industry on safe picking and handling of mangoes. Always be extra careful with little children around the freshly picked fruit. The sap burns delicate skin (see information below).

Mango Sap & Allergies

Mango Sap

- When the stem is removed from the fruit, the mango releases a highly caustic sap, this can burn the fruit and your skin.
- Sap may simply cause irritation to skin, however some people have severe reactions to sap.
- You can avoid sap burn by using good picking and de-sapping practices.
- The grower or supervisor will give you instructions on how to pick and how to remove the stem from the fruit (de-sapping).

Avoiding sap burn & preventing mango rash

Avoid sap burn and mango rash by using good picking and de-sapping practices.

- Always hold stem end of fruit away from your body.
- When picking mangoes – wear long pants, long sleeved collared shirt, wide brimmed hat, 30+ sunscreen, closed-in shoes, gloves and sunglasses
- When sorting or packing mangoes – wear gloves, closed-in shoes, a long sleeved shirt and sunscreen.
- If your skin does come into contact with sap, wash with fresh water immediately
- Wash hands thoroughly with soap and water before touching eyes, face and going to the toilet.

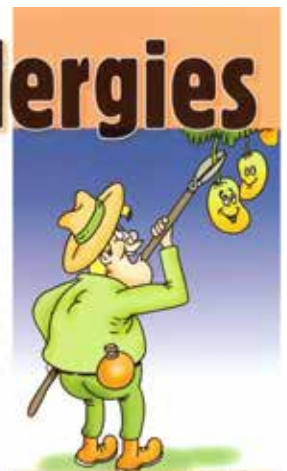
First Aid

- Wash the affected area in soap and water, then immediately rinse thoroughly with clean water
- If sap comes into contact with eyes, flush with water for several minutes.
- If you suffer an allergic reaction to mango sap burn, avoid further contact.
- If itching persists consult a doctor or chemist
- Cover with a clean dressing and protect skin from further contact with sap and from the sun (sun burn over sap burn is very painful)

Call for an ambulance (Emergency 000) immediately if you have: • Swelling of the face • Breathing difficulties

Mango sap burn is serious

Prevention is better than cure





Writers Festival Residential Mentorship

Four aspiring local authors gathered in Bangalow for the Byron Writers Festival Residential Mentorship. worked with mentor and acclaimed novelist Sarah Armstrong.

Byron local Sylvia Wilczynski's novel *The Bullet* is inspired by her family history.

Jacqueline Walsh, from South Golden Beach, worked on her historical fiction *Mute*.

Alison Thompson, a poet and veterinarian from Lismore worked on her short fiction collection *Dingo & Other Stories*.

Gabby Le Brun from Bangalow said, *'This week-long immersion has been a true gift.'*

Our podcast series returns!

These audio vignettes offer full-length recordings of festival sessions for listeners who value the chance to revisit conversations in

depth, or to experience the events they couldn't attend.

Released weekly, each episode captures the richness, rigour and intellectual generosity of the festival program, preserving these discussions exactly as they unfolded.

<https://www.byronwritersfestival.com/podcasts>

Bryan Brown on the art of storytelling

We had the pleasure of welcoming acclaimed actor and author Bryan Brown to The Book Room in Byron for a jam-packed, sold out event. Expertly guided by Nell Schofield, Bryan dived into his life as a storyteller, the difference between playing characters on the screen and writing your own, and of course, his brand new book *The Hidden*.

Watch this space to see who will join us for author in conversations events in 2026!



What's on

First workshop for 2026 – Explore trauma, memory and narrative
Saturday 14 March 2026
More information at <https://www.byronwritersfestival.com>

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Phone our friendly team for more info: **6689 1709**

WHAT DOES THE CURRENT FEDERAL BATTERY REBATE MEAN FOR YOU?

New federal battery rebate and solar support for Australian households and businesses

The Australian Government is significantly expanding support for clean energy, with new incentives aimed at making solar and battery storage more accessible for homeowners and small businesses. In addition to the existing **Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme (SRES)**, which provides upfront discounts for solar systems, the government has now introduced a **federal battery rebate** – a game-changer for households looking to store their solar energy and boost energy independence.

Under the **Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme**, eligible solar systems generate **Small-scale Technology Certificates (STCs)**, which reduce the upfront cost of installing renewable energy.

The number of STCs depends on:

- The amount of electricity the system is expected to produce or offset.
- The location of installation (climate zone).
- The size of the system in kilowatts (kW).

Currently, the federal government contributes **approximately \$300 per kilowatt (kW)** toward the cost of a solar system. For example, a 6.6kW solar system may attract over \$2,000 in government-backed discounts, helping reduce upfront investment significantly.

Introducing the federal battery rebate: \$350 per kilowatt-hour

To further accelerate the transition to renewable energy and energy resilience, the government has now introduced a **federal battery rebate of \$350 per kilowatt-hour (kWh)** of usable battery storage. This means a standard 10kWh home battery could attract up to **\$3,500 in rebates**, significantly lowering the barrier for Australians to adopt battery technology.



Hope and Jesse are considering a 10kW solar system plus a 16kWh battery, supplied and installed by ProSolar for \$25,300. The federal government discount for this system is \$8,782 (at time of publishing). This brings their system cost down to \$17,533, saving them \$6,000 per year, enabling them to pay back their investment in 2.92 years! Alternatively, the same system can be financed for \$90 per week through Brighte Finance.

This system provides full power to your home during a blackout and you can even sell your battery power back to the grid with the VPP (Virtual Power Plant Program).

ProSolar provides advice and guidance in a simple and easy way, to ensure you select the optimal solution for your home and budget. This is the best opportunity Northern Rivers families and business owners have ever had to generate our own power.

For more info, call ProSolar on 02 7912 0760 or 0482 082 304.

ProSolar has designed three solar and battery packages to help you take advantage of the federal government discounts this year 2025:

6.6KW SOLAR SYSTEM + 16kWh BATTERY STORAGE

- 15 x Trina Vertex S+ All Black with a 25 year warranty
- 1 x Sungrow 5kW Hybrid inverter with a 10-year premium warranty
- 1 x Sungrow 16Wh Battery with a 10-year premium warranty
- **Total cost after discount = \$15840 or \$80 per week financed**

8.8KW SOLAR SYSTEM + 19.2kWh BATTERY STORAGE

- 20 x Trina Vertex S+ All Black with a 25 year warranty
- 1 x Sungrow 8kW Hybrid inverter with a 10-year premium warranty
- 1 x Sungrow 19.2kWh Battery with a 10-year premium warranty
- **Total cost after discount = \$18960 or \$96 per week financed**

10.56KW SOLAR SYSTEM + 25kWh BATTERY STORAGE

- 24 x Trina Vertex S+ with a 25 year warranty
- 1 x Sungrow 10kW Hybrid inverter with a 10-year premium warranty
- 1 x Sungrow 25kWh Battery with a 10-year premium warranty
- **Total cost after discount = \$23440 or \$120 per week financed**

The above prices include supply, installation (standard installation on a tin roof) and GST. The federal government discount is subject to change at anytime.

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Richmond Riverfest – Wilson's River Lismore

Rivertime closing ceremony

Attendees pay their respects to the Wilsons River in Lismore, marking the conclusion of Richmond Riverfest 2025. Photo: Lisa Gough.

Richmond Riverkeeper, Kristin den Exter, has been recognised at the 2025 NSW Coastal Conference Awards, receiving honours in the Local Hero category for her outstanding contribution to river health, community collaboration,

and coastal care. Her work brings people together around shared care for Mamaang Balun – the Richmond River, inspiring both local and regional partnerships to heal Country and strengthen community resilience.

Return and Earn – 8 Years!

LISMORE MP Janelle Saffin says the popular NSW container deposit scheme, Return and Earn, is celebrating eight successful years of recycling, refunding and keeping litter out of the environment.

According to Ms Saffin more than 410 million containers have been recycled within the Lismore Electorate and surrounding areas of Tweed and Byron shires since the scheme launched:

- 219,918,405 containers in Tweed Shire Local Government Area
- 108,452,980 containers in Lismore City Local Government Area
- 51,842,200 containers in Byron Shire Local Government Area
- 18,405,497 containers in Tenterfield Shire Local Government Area.
- 11,904,387 containers in Kyogle Local Government Area

Since launching on 1 December 2017, Return and Earn has also become a great way to fundraise for many charities and community groups in NSW.

One of these fundraising collection points is at the Dunoon Preschool - please support them by dropping off your containers.

For more information visit www.returnandearn.org.au.

I love working with our local communities to make a difference.

Janelle Saffin MP

MEMBER FOR LISMORE

55 Carrington Street (PO BOX 52), Lismore NSW 2480

lismore@parliament.nsw.gov.au

02 6621 3624 | www.janellesaffin.com.au



Authorised by Janelle Saffin MP. Funded using Parliamentary entitlements.



What is happening at the Anglican Church of St. Matthew's

Well, as we look forward to Christmas, the Anglican Church in Dunoon continues to provide a weekly service on a Saturday afternoon at 5:00pm. If you wish, you are very welcome to come earlier for the service and enjoy a cup of tea/coffee with us, from about 4:30pm onwards.

Lismore Parish (of which we are part) now has a new Rector. The Rev Roxanne Addley came to Lismore from a parish in Melbourne at the beginning of November. She has taken on the reigns of the Parish and is leading the services very well.

The Dunoon Book club has now spread its wings. The afternoon Club meets on the first Friday of the month and the new club meets on the first Monday evening of the



month (both in the undercroft of our church) both clubs are going very well. If you are interested in joining either club, please contact Melanie Dorian at Mdorian@gmail.com.

Looking forward to Christmas. On Saturday 13th December in St Andrew's Church grounds in Lismore, there will be a special programme called Bethlehem Revisited. This is now an annual event and has proved to be every successful in the last few years. It is a very fun way (especially for children) to explore the Christmas Story. Everyone will be able to pat the stable animals, meet the local citizens of Bethlehem, visit the Manger,

dress up as a Roman Soldier, do all sorts of handcrafts, eat sausages from the Sausage Sizzle and sing carols.

This will be held from 5:00pm until 8.00pm.

Plans are on the way for a family Christmas service on Saturday 20th December and perhaps a carol based get together on Christmas Eve 5:00 pm.

Have a wonderful festive season and I hope to see you at Church sometime soon.

'Gina Murray

(Anglican Women's Guild of St Matthew's, Dunoon)



THE DUNOON BOOK CLUB

First Friday and First Monday evening of the month

Meeting at the "Croft" - morning tea room under St Matthew's Church Dunoon.

Please Call Melanie on 0439 895 395 for more details and times.

Everyone welcome



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ST DYMPNA'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Peace be to you

Our little church was packed to the rafters in October as we witnessed a Christening, we love it when our pews are full.

In November we celebrated All Saints Day, then All Souls Day with our annual trip to Dunoon cemetery to pray the rosary for the departed Souls of our loved ones.

As we go into our Advent season we change our Mass colour from green - ordinary time to purple, pink or rose and white.

Purple symbolises penance preparation and the royalty of Christ... while pink is for joy of Gaudete Sunday, the third Sunday of Advent. White is the "Christ candle", which is lit on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day to signify the

birth of Christ.

In losing our happiness we do not lose the will to be happy.

St Augustine

Sunday Mass 8.30am

Wednesday Rosary 5pm

Wishing everybody a very merry blessed Christmas. We will put a notice on the front door of the Church for Mass time for Christmas.



NR WILDLIFE HOSPITAL / FRIENDS OF THE KOALA

A medicated spa day for one lucky echidna

Thankfully, not every patient journey begins in crisis. A crowd favourite on our socials this month, this little echidna came in bright eyed and alert, but a little too smelly for our liking! After a thorough health check, he was treated with a gentle medicated bath to help soothe and repair skin issues, without the need for oral medication.



Give a Gift That Keeps on Giving:

Christmas with Friends of the Koala. With koalas under increasing threat, the team at Friends of the Koala invites you to give something special this year: a gift that supports real koalas, real habitats, and real hope. <https://friendsofthekoala.org/give-a-gift-that-keeps-on-giving-christmas-with-friends-of-the-koala/>



VILLAGE HALLS

DUNOON HALL

Rev Fitness Class Mark Roberts
Wed 8am-9.30am 0419 831 424

Art & Craft Group Gloria Stuart
Wednesday 10am 0499 428 828
All welcome to bring along your art or craft. If you want help with anything. I am sure there will be someone to help no matter how small.

Euchre Robyn McLucas
Thursday 7pm 6689 5073
All welcome.

*For all bookings contact Jillian Blake
by email: jillian_blake@hotmail.com
PH 0428 394 216*

Tullera Hall 6628 2060

Corndale Hall David Hunter
6628 4364

Dorroughby Hall Aaron
0437 434 858

Whian Whian Hall Gail Chapman
0406 966 868

The Channon Hall General Store
6688 6240

Numulgi Memorial Hall Lisa
numulgihall.com 0418 685 020
numulgihall@gmail.com

CHURCH SERVICES

DUNOON ANGLICAN

Holy Communion Every Saturday 5.00 pm
Guild meets every 3 months 11:30 am

CHRISTADELPHIAN ECCLESIA

Sunday School 9.30am
Memorial Meeting 11am each Sunday
Bible Address on occasions 6689 5229

DUNOON CATHOLIC CHURCH

8.30am every Sunday morning

COMMUNITY MARKETS

TUESDAY **Lismore Organic Market**
Every Tuesday 7:30 – 11 am
Lismore Showgrounds

EVERY SATURDAY **Lismore Farmers' Market**
Alstonville Farmers' Market
8am – 12 noon Bugden Lane
Car Park

2ND SUNDAY **The Channon Craft Markets**
<http://thechannonmarket.org.au/>

3RD SATURDAY **Mullumbimby Market**
<http://www.mullumbimby.com.au/>

3RD SUNDAY **Lismore Community Garden**
9-11am

4TH SUNDAY **Bangalow Market**
9am – 3pm
<http://www.bangalowmarket.com.au/>

Nimbin Markets
4th and 5th Sunday 8am – 4pm
Market coordinator 0458 506 000

SPORTS AND GROUPS

Channon/Dunoon Pony Club 6628 2690
Fiona Wilders

Channon Tennis Club 6688 6165

Dunoon Sports Club 6689 5444
Enquiries & Cricket

Dunoon Social Golf 6624 8437
Chris Gulliver 0459960356

Dunoon United Football Club
Simon Webster (President) 0425 337 690
Liz Vickers (Secretary) 0403 208 174

Dunoon Tennis 6689 5444
Call Sports Club

Tullera Tennis Club 6628 2060
Pauline Leeson

Dunoon Men's Shed
Ross (President) 0409 425 551
Karl (Secretary) 0427 834 264

BUS TIME TABLES

HALLS BUS COMPANY

WHIAN WHIAN – LISMORE

School Days Only School Bus Service

Please flag driver / 0421 566 460

DEPARTS Whian Whian (cnr Starkey Rd) 7:57am
May St, Dunoon (Nthn end) 8:08am
May St, Dunoon (Sthn end) 8:10am

ARRIVES Trinity 8:40am

DEPARTS Trinity Bay 1 (opp Menins) 3:30pm

ARRIVES Dunoon Shop 4:00pm
Whian Whian 4:15pm



Dunoon Bus Service



TNSW Route Numbers
S897 – Dorroughby to Lismore
S898 – Modanville to Lismore
653 – Dorroughby to Lismore

Phone (02)66 212 279

Mobile: 0401 072 606

Timetable 2025/26

FARES:

Regular : \$2.00 Per Trip

R.E.D. – \$2.50

School Term

Bus Stop	Depart
Dorroughby Hall.....	7:50am
Dunoon store	8:00am
May/Donoghue Street.....	8:01am
Modanville store.....	8:10am
Tullera Hall Interchange.....	8:16am
Minschul cres.....	8:21am
Richmond River High.....	8:25am
Woodlark st.....	8:30am
Lismore square.....	8:32am
Trinity interchange.....	8:35am
Lismore Bus Terminal.....	8:56am

Depart P.M.

Lismore bus Terminal.....	3:30pm
Magellan St Near Library.....	3:33pm
Trinity Bay 10.....	3:34pm and 3:37pm
Tullera.....	3:40pm
Modanville.....	3:50pm
Dunoon.....	3:55pm
Dorroughby.....	4:15pm

School Holidays

Hail and Ride!

ROUTE 653

Bus Stop	Depart
Dorroughby Hall.....	8:30am
Dunoon Store.....	8:40am
Modanville Store.....	8:45am
Tullera Hall.....	8:52am
Minschul Cres.....	8:56am
Uniting Church.....	9:00am
Molesworth St.....	9:05am
Lismore Bus Terminal.....	9:07am

ROUTE 653

Depart P.M.	
Lismore Bus Terminal.....	3:30pm
Magellan St Near Library.....	3:33pm
Tullera.....	3:40pm
Modanville.....	3:50pm
Dunoon.....	3:55pm
Dorroughby.....	4:10pm

AVAILABLE FOR CHARTER
24 TO 57 SEATER



FIRE PERMIT OFFICERS

DUNOON

Ross McDougall 0409 425 551

Barry Watts 0483 203 032

Paul Cox 0481 186 410

Mike Berry 0414 764 360

TULLERA

Helen Robinson 0449 893 239

Brad Stucky 0488 581 796

D. Farrell 0428 633 218

G. Vickers 0448 693 188

THE CHANNON

John Hutchison 0428 886 480

David Smith 0429 030 317

J.J. Bruce 0419 420 362

Russell Johnston 0427 161 282

ROSEBANK

De Condos 0402 605 063

Mal Fox 0416 009 689

Didier Marceau 0400 963 985

WILDLIFE CARERS



Northern Rivers Wildlife Carers 6628 1866



WIRES Animal Rescue 24hr Hotline
6628 1898



MOBILE LIBRARY

Tuesdays Week 2
Enquiries: Michael Riddle
Phone 6625 5100

Clunes 9–10am School

Dunoon 11.15am–12.15pm School

Modanville 2–3.30pm School

OTHER USEFUL NUMBERS

Justice of the Peace (JP) Georgina Murray
JP 66895104

Dunoon Lodge Gordon Starkey
6689 5166

Northern Rivers Animal Shelter Robyn
6681 1860

LOCAL BUSINESS PHONE DIRECTORY

Advertising	Dunoon Gazette - Bronwen	0439 842 237
Bottle Shop	Dunoon General Store	6689 5225
	Hotel Lismore, Cnr Woodlark/Keen St	6622 2924
Bus Service	Dunoon	6624 8734
	Whian Whian	0421 566 460
Doctor	Dunoon General Practice, James St	6689 5811
Electrician/Handyman	Peter Dunn	0418 661 748
Excavations	MJC Excavations	0427 355 557
General Store	Dunoon General Store	6689 5225
Hair	Earthen Hair and Beauty – Alexandra	0403 705 246
Handyperson Fuchs	Adrian	0413 607 857
Insurance	Dudgeon & Berry, 5/76 Woodlark St	6621 3000
Massage	Mark	0448 441 194
		6689 5174
Plumber	Nik Hyde	0428 753 796
	Barcoo Plumbing	0427 445 555
Postal and Services	Dunoon Post Office – Fiona	6619 6334
Printing Services	Lismore City Printery	6621 5371
Real Estate	Peta Thompson @realty	0403 123 115
Restaurant	Dunoon Sports Club, Cowley Rd,	6689 5469
	Hotel Lismore, Cnr Woodlark/Keen St	6622 2924
Septic Tank Pumping	Motion Mover	0428 813 310
Slashing	Don Moss	0438 234 800
Solar Power	Pro Solar	0418 240 282
Sports Club	Dunoon Sports Club	6689 5444
State Member	Janelle Saffin	6621 3624
Transport	Northern Rivers Community Transport	6628 8806
Volunteering	Northern Rivers Community Gateway	6621 7397
Winery	Imogen's Wines	(02) 6689 5839

SCHOOLS PRESCHOOLS PLAYGROUPS

Dunoon Public School	6689 5208
Modanville Public School	6628 2234
Corndale Public School	6628 4305
The Channon Public School	6688 6236
Whian Whian Public School	6689 5240
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For further details please contact:
Fiona Wilders Club President Hm: 6628 2690
Lisa McFadyen Vice President Hm: 6629 1023
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