

AUGUST 2025

SOUTHERN LIVING & *Real Estate*



RECORD NUMBERS OF ENTRIES FOR THIS YEAR'S
HISTORIC LEYBURN SPRINTS.

PAGES 3-5

Celebrating motoring history

WarwickToday
StanthorpeToday



FOCUS ON STANTHORPE GALLERY



The Stanthorpe Art Collection as curated by Chris Worfold.



The art of Chris Worfold.

All aboard for some insight

Vision Boarding with Rothy Benson: Art Meets Mindfulness – Saturday 2 August 1-4.30pm

Vision Boarding is a fun technique about deeply exploring aspects of the ‘self’. Anyone can do this, you don’t need to be an artist

The process gives participants fascinating and insightful creations and takes them on a voyage of discovery and insight. This session has been hugely popular in Brisbane and previous participants call it “an awesome opportunity to learn and grow” in a “a really creative and friendly environment”.

In this small-group session participants will create a poster of their dreams, aspirations, or any chosen aspect of themselves. Through collage art, cutting words and pictures from magazines, plus a free-flow of visual ideas from the participants sub-conscious, they build a unique picture of the topic, which then becomes a pleasing affirmation for the future.

This is a totally engrossing session which provides participants with many long-term benefits of direction and motivation.

Suitable for all levels and ages.

All materials are supplied and the class relaxed and nurturing, fun and deeply meaningful.

Refreshments will be served and it is \$30 per person limited to 10 participants with bookings essential.

Chris Worfold - Numinous

The Chris Worfold’s Numinous is now open and free to attend. It’s a gallery take over.

Chris’s large scale artworks are here and are simply mindblowing. Given the vast scale of the painting you have to see these face to face, there is no other way. So come and get yourself lost in their scale, their colour, and their stories.

Chris is a Brisbane-based artist and has exhibited in Taipei, Seoul, Paris, and New York. The gallery believes it is truly privileged to have such a world-renowned



Vision board examples.



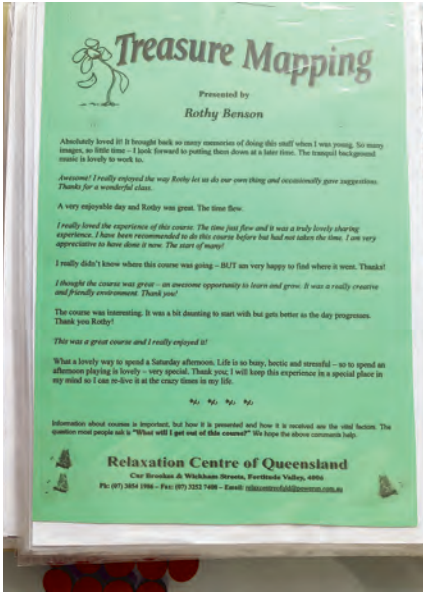
Vision Boarding art meets mindfulness.

artist exhibiting here in Stanthorpe.

To accompany his work Chris Worfold has also curated a select group of artworks from the Stanthorpe Art Collection to

accompany his Exhibition ‘Numinous’.

Chris has provided a rationale for each piece’s selection - what drew him to it, what it says to him, and his relationship with it.



Vision Boarding participants feedback.

This is a huge opportunity to see behind the curtain and read first-hand how a globally-exhibited artist like Chris sees and thinks about art. Exhibiting until 7 September.

Historic Leyburn Sprints a unique event

BY CHRIS NIXON

In 1949, Leyburn like every small country town in Australia was rebuilding after World War II. Hosting the Australian Grand Prix - the nation's most important motor race - on an ex-war-time aerodrome just outside town provided a highlight for people throughout the Darling Downs region and beyond.

Race day on 18 September 1949 was an amazing occasion when 30,000 people descended on the tiny, but welcoming community. The grand prix never returned after 1949 and so neither did the record crowd, but its modern-day successor, the Historic Leyburn Sprints, is doing a grand job of keeping the memory alive.

Seventy-six years later, as the grand prix continues in Melbourne as a highlight in the Formula One calendar, the Sprints is preparing for its 29th edition as a tribute to its own moment in history, to be staged on 23-24 August.

While some way off the 1949 crowd, the 2024 Sprints attendance of 18,000 people set its own record and confirmed it as the biggest annual Queensland motorsport event after V8 Supercars and one of the biggest historic racing events in Australia. It was named Queensland Motorsport Event of the Year, an accolade won also in 2017.

This year organisers expect to welcome a record 250 competing cars, encompassing all types of single-seaters, sports cars and tin-tops from a 100-year Austin to a 2024 McLaren supercar.

"Every year we get more and more entry applications and this year's list is bulging with fabulous machinery of astonishing variety. Patrons will see everything from Fords to Ferraris, Aston Martins to Vipers and almost everything in between, all competing against the clock on our 1.0 kilometre track on the closed streets of the town," said Sprints President Tricia Chant.

"Adding to the two days of action on-track is the fact spectators are able to wander freely among the cars and drivers when they're not competing and enjoy a very special and friendly experience. Children especially love seeing up-close cars they might never see anywhere else."

Easy-going access is part of the Sprints special grassroots country atmosphere, which also provides many other activities



Something for all motoring enthusiasts.



Cars of all types and ages take to the Leyburn track.



A VW makes its way in front of the Royal Hotel Leyburn.



Lots of fun to be had at Leyburn.

and attractions to entertain the whole family.

When not watching the cars on-track from the spectating areas or on two video superscreens, visitors can enjoy refreshments from volunteer-run food outlets around the course or the 1863 Royal Hotel and Leyburn RSL. There are market stalls, fascinating displays at the new Vintage Van Village and Show 'n' Shine, a charity auction, fun-run, helicopter and race-car rides, special car

displays, autograph sessions with famous drivers and plenty of other fun.

The Sprints prides itself on providing an inexpensive day out. Adult ticket prices are \$30 per day or \$40 for the weekend, while accompanied children under 14 enter free. Street parking is free and food and drink prices are set at affordable levels.

"It's all about giving our visitors a wonderful day out, whether they're diehard car fans or a family looking for a bit of fun

that won't break the bank," Mrs Chant says.

Tickets can be bought at the gate, or on-line to save queuing on the day. And fans who want even more motorsport can enter the Sprints' on-line raffle to win a Gold Coast 500 Supercars weekend for two, including VIP champagne hospitality tickets and four nights' accommodation, or five runner-up prizes of \$500 Supercheap Auto vouchers. Buy raffle tickets at <https://www.raffletix.com.au/leyburnboostraffle2025>.

Drivers & Cars:

Keith Edwards – AU CAT Falcon | Jamie Chant – XY GT Falcon
Phil Heafey – Mitsubishi Lancer Evo VI*

*Lancer has height and size restrictions of 84kg and 5' 10".

Use the QR Code
to enter Online
Multiple Raffles
Per Day

Saturday Draw
23rd August
Closes 12noon

Sunday Draw
24th August
Closes 12noon



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Leyburn organisers consider themselves fortunate to showcase this spectacular car.

Super Car from Caloundra returns

BY TANIA PHILLIPS

There aren't many cars that have been built and created in Australia and while we all know Holdens – not many have heard of Giocattolo Motori Pty Ltd – though it's better-known as Giocattolo – the Super Car from Caloundra.

Giocattolo was a short-lived Australian car company, founded in 1986 in Queensland by sports car enthusiast and entrepreneur Paul Halstead and renowned designer Barry Lock, who had worked in Formula One and Can-Am sports car racing for the McLaren team.

Named after the Italian word for "toy" the Giocattolo used as its base a humble Alfa Romeo Alfasud Sprint coupe.

The small front engine was removed and replaced with a modified 5.0 litre Holden V8 in the rear, connected to a racing-type Hewland gearbox. The bodywork was heavily modified and the car emerged as an exciting-looking Australian supercar.

Fifteen examples were built in Caloundra between 1986 and 1989, but one was destroyed in a race crash in 2001. The remainder are highly prized and increasingly valuable because of their exclusivity, rarity and high engineering standards.

Caloundra's Jason Overland owns one of these cars and is hoping to have it on display



Destined for Leyburn this year and expected to be competitive.

at Leyburn this year along with a second one coming from interstate owned by Adam Kaplan.

"There are only 14 of them and Adam's car is chassis number six and it's been a race car for the majority of its life," Jason said.

"They were all made in the Giocattolo

factory in 1987 and 1988/89. It was a short-lived Super Car company – the cars were made in Caloundra featuring Kevlar body panels and a mid-mounted five litre V8 – designed by a Formula One designer from McLaren called Barry Lock.

"It's been a race car for the majority of its life and has been rebuilt a number of times

as result of racing incidents. In its current form it's running its original five-litre Holden motor and has competed in Targa events around Australia.

"It's never been out to Leyburn before."

So how will motoring enthusiasts pick it out of the crowd at Leyburn this year?

"They'll hear it," Jason laughed.

"And it's bright orange."

The Giocattolos were originally built as road cars but due to their performance, many made it into race series.

"This is probably the most successful of the cars and he's bringing it up from Sydney and is really looking forward to the event and sharing the experience with people with Queensland because it was made in Queensland," he said.

"It's nice for it to come home."

While this will be the first time number six and Jason's own car (if it makes it out there) have been to Leyburn there have been a couple of the others out there before.

"This is the first time it will be a very competitive package," he said.

"I picked up a trophy last month in Noosa (at the Noosa Concours D'Elegance) with my car number 10 and if I can get it running, I will get it out there."

The reported top speed of the V8-powered Giocattolo was 160 mph (257 km/h). Power was 190 kW (255 hp).

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Art, community and advocacy

BY KARINA DEVINE

Myasthenia Gravis (MG) is a chronic autoimmune condition that causes weakness in the body's voluntary muscles.

It occurs when the immune system produces antibodies that block or destroy receptors for acetylcholine—a chemical essential for muscle contraction. This leads to muscle fatigue that worsens with activity and improves with rest. Common symptoms include drooping eyelids, difficulty swallowing, slurred speech, and weakness in the arms, legs, and body.

In Australia, there are just over 2,000 people living with MG, including artist Chloe Wigg, whose exhibition *Oh MG* exists at the intersection of art, community, and advocacy for others grappling with the challenges of the condition. *Oh MG* is a deeply moving exhibition created by Chloe Wigg, an artist living with Myasthenia Gravis (MG). The thoughtful body of work uses textile art as a tool for advocacy, awareness, and healing.

While there is currently no cure, treatments such as medications, immunotherapies, and in some cases, surgery can help manage symptoms. Early diagnosis and tailored care significantly improve quality of life. However, in Australia, the average time to diagnosis is 2.9 years, and nearly half of those surveyed report that their MG is not well controlled with existing treatments.

Art historian, writer, editor and mentor, Dr Louise R Mayhew, wrote the exhibition essay for the *Oh MG* exhibition catalogue,



Adrian Ashman - A moment captured.

published following the exhibition's premiere at Logan Art Gallery.

Dr Mayhew describes the exhibition's opening work, *Held in the Drift* (2025), as a crocheted curtain of snowflakes as soft, tactile, familiar, and domestic.

"It speaks of home and handicrafts, nostalgia and comfort. Monochromatic colours in white, teal, and blue slowly give way to delicate creams, under-water greens, and variegated threads. As our eyes roam across these colours, different sizes, shapes and patterns also emerge. Every snowflake

is unique", said Dr Mayhew.

"Held in the Drift is the realisation of a years-long community art and awareness-raising project. It brings together snowflakes crocheted by the artist with snowflakes made by others with MG, as well as their family, friends, and community.

"The collated pieces materially and symbolically speak to this Australia-wide network, with 2500 snowflakes deliberately numbering more than the number of people in Australia with MG. In between the moments of reaching out to her community

for contributions, and crimping together the final work, this project stretched across the country. Snowflakes, like those with MG, are unique and individual, fragile and vulnerable to heat."

Chloe's story, and those of the other members of the MG community honoured in the exhibition, reveals the strength and spirit that emerges from life-changing circumstances. Warwick Art Gallery proudly presents this exhibition in the Main and Foyer Galleries until 16 August.

Bruce Dawe Poetry Prize opens

The passion, creativity and candour of new and established poets will be on show again this year as part of the University of Southern Queensland's (UniSQ) 2025 Bruce Dawe Poetry Prize.

One of the richest accolades in Australian poetry, the literary prize honours the legacy of acclaimed contemporary poet Bruce Dawe AO and was established 26 years ago following his long tenure as a lecturer at the University.

Bruce Dawe was not only loved across the country for his award-winning work and profound observations of ordinary life, but also deeply cherished by the UniSQ community and the many alumni whose lives he touched.

Chair of the Bruce Dawe National Poetry Prize Professor Laurie Johnson said the significance of the competition never fades – regardless of how many years pass by.

"Bruce Dawe remains in our cultural memory as one of Australia's finest poets, and we are extremely proud of the fact that he served here for many years, inspiring generations of writers, teachers, and scholars," Professor Johnson said.

"We received just under 1700 entries in 2024, which is both a great show of continued support for the Prize from Australia's writing community and a testament to the power of



An oil on canvas artwork of Bruce Dawe by artist Sven Roehrs (Fryer Library accession number 100528).

poetry to help people find a voice at a time when the events around the world can seem overwhelming."

Professor Johnson said one of the most exciting parts of the Bruce Dawe Poetry Prize was the variety and uniqueness of entries, and he expects this year to be no different.

"There was plenty of formal experimentation on display in last year's entries and we expect to see more of that in

2025, with our writers looking for new ways to make a mark through poetry in a world of clips, soundbites, and viral memes," he said.

"Politics and global conflicts are likely to dominate the entries, but we invite poets to also find ways to use their writing to highlight the good in people or the joy in their world.

"Sometimes, writers can be their own worst critics – so the best way to gauge your own writing is to have it read. Submitting to

the competition allows our expert judging panel to identify yours as a voice for our time."

The winner of UniSQ's 2025 Bruce Dawe Poetry Prize will receive \$3000, and two highly commended entrants will be awarded \$500 each. Submissions close 22 October.

For more information - www.unisq.edu.au/events/2025/03/2025-bruce-dawe-poetry-prize.



UniSQ Bruce Dawe National Poetry Prize Chair Professor Laurie Johnson.



29th HISTORIC Leyburn SPRINTS

Queensland

MOTORSPORT EVENT OF THE YEAR 2024 & 2017

23rd-24th August 2025



WEEKEND TIMETABLE

Visit Motorsport Alley just inside the main gate and the new Vintage Van Village near Turn One. See trade displays and market stalls behind the Royal Hotel and in the Sprints Paddock. Buy food and refreshments from the many vendors throughout the precinct, including licensed bars located in three Sprints viewing areas. Take a helicopter ride for a bird's-eye view of the Sprints (departs from rear of Sprints Paddock).

Take a walk around the township and see if you can find the 23 plaques marking historical locations – self-walk pamphlets available at the shop, RSL, post office and hotel. Rock to live music at the Royal Hotel and RSL on Friday and Saturday nights and at the Vintage Van Village on Saturday afternoon.

FRIDAY 22 AUGUST

10.00am -5.00pm: Competitor registration/vehicle scrutineering. Secretary's tent, and scrutineering bay, Warwick St

3.00pm: Judging of campsite competition. Main campgrounds

4.30pm-6.00pm: Welcome BBQ. Meet the drivers, Motorsport Alley display, special presentation to senior driver. All welcome. Gold coin donation. Main food tent, Warwick St

7.00pm and 7.30pm: Live entertainment. Royal Hotel (Greg Carter) and Leyburn RSL (Cambooya Rockers)

SATURDAY 23 AUGUST

6.00am: Roads closed

6.30am: Spectator gates open. MacIntyre St.

8.00am: Sprints competition starts

All day: Motorsport Alley. MacIntyre St, inside main gate

All day: Vintage Van Village. Live entertainment Cambooya Rockers from 12.00pm. MacIntyre St, outside Turn One

10.00am-close: Leyburn Museum. Leyburn RSL, Warwick St.

12.00pm: Officials' lunch break

Opening Ceremony, including Advance Australia Fair sung by Leyburn State School choir, VIP driver guests, official guests, 1949 grand prix trophy display, parade lap by 1949 grand prix cars. Start line, MacIntyre St

12.15pm: Raffle winners' hot laps. Start line, MacIntyre St

4.00pm: Vintage Vans prize presentation. Vintage Van Village, MacIntyre St, outside Turn one

5.00pm approx.: Sprints competition finishes. Roads re-open

From 6.30pm: Charity auction. Royal Hotel

From 7.00pm.: Live entertainment. Leyburn RSL (Cambooya Rockers) and Royal Hotel (Reckless)

SUNDAY 24 AUGUST

6.00am: Roads closed

6.30am: Spectator gates open. MacIntyre St.

7.00am: Charity Fun Run. Entry \$5. Start line, MacIntyre St
Show 'n' Shine. Entrants \$15/car, spectators free. St Matthews Catholic Church grounds, Warwick St

8.00am: Sprints competition starts

All day: Motorsport Alley. MacIntyre St, inside main gate

All day: Vintage Van Village. MacIntyre St, outside Turn one

10.00am-close: Leyburn Museum. Leyburn RSL, Warwick St

12.00pm: Officials' lunch break

12.15pm: Raffle winners' hot laps. Start line, MacIntyre St

1.00pm: Shannons Show 'n' Shine prize presentations. St Matthews Catholic Church grounds, Warwick St

3.00pm (approx.): Sprints Top 10 Shootout, Sprints competition finishes

3.15pm: Top 10 Shootout podium presentation, winners drawn for Historic Leyburn Sprints Supercars Gold Coast 500 raffle

3.30pm: Historic Leyburn Sprints trophy presentations. Front of Royal Hotel, MacIntyre St

5.00pm: Roads reopen

Times are subject to change without notice

The romance continues

Romancing the Stones Classical Music Festival returns to Warwick for a second year with a feast of local talent, heritage spaces and community spirit to shine from 12 – 14 September.

The grand sandstone walls of Warwick are poised once again to echo with harmony and history as the Romancing the Stones Classical Music Festival returns for its much-anticipated second year.

Following last year’s resounding success, the festival will once again transform the town’s most beloved heritage buildings into vibrant spaces alive with music and community connection.

Unlike many festivals that rely on imported talent, Romancing the Stones is distinctly and proudly local according to Vibrant Arts spokesperson and event organiser Bronwyn Clark.

“This is not a festival where we bring in performers from faraway places – it’s our festival, a local festival where people who live, breathe and work in our region can display their talents,” she said.

“We are building something special together, and everyone’s invited to be a part of it.”

“When you see locals on stage, you see courage, dedication, and a different kind of discipline being nurtured in our community. It’s inspiring for everyone.

“There’s a ripple effect when someone takes the risk to perform. That kind of bravery is contagious—it draws us together and builds our collective spirit.”

She said this year’s festival features five headline events, each set in one of Warwick’s cherished historic sandstone churches, community halls, and local businesses which will be throwing open their doors, welcoming residents and visitors to our town into familiar places made new by music and camaraderie.

FESTIVAL OPENING: MEDIEVAL SHARE-A-FEAST – Friday 6pm at St Mary’s Assisi Place, Palmerin St, Warwick

The festival opens Friday night at St Mary’s Assisi Place—a special location, as it was the original Catholic church in Warwick. Under its soaring rafters, the East St Minstrels will enchant the audience with merry madrigals, and the evening will be further enlivened by the wit of Stephen Clark and the lively acting of a local troupe featuring Neil Rasmussen, Celia de Winter, Mary Jane Cook, and friends. A special attraction will be local Harpist Lissa-Kathe who charmed the audience at last year’s Sonnets of Love. This “Medieval Share-a-Feast” gala is something more than a concert; it is a celebratory nod to the foundations of Western music itself.

Attendees are welcome to dress in Medieval costumes to heighten the spectacle, but festival organisers insist the most important thing is simply to come as you are. “We want everyone to feel welcome, whether you’re in full regalia or your everyday clothes,” Clark smiled. All attendees are invited to bring their own delicious hamper to enjoy at communal tables with the friends in their party, and a complimentary mulled wine will be served as the festival is officially toasted open. Visit trybooking.com to purchase tickets and for more information.

Adults \$30 / Concession & Under 18 \$25



Michael Spiller -first violinist in the Southern Down Orchestra.



SONGS ‘N’ SCONES with the MELOMANIACS – Saturday 10am at Warwick Uniting Church, Guy St

Saturday morning sees the festival move to the welcoming space of the Warwick Uniting Church for “Songs ‘n’ Scones with the Melomaniacs.” Marking their festival debut, Cathi Brown and her beloved ensemble of performers will offer a warming selection of solos, duets, and chorus gems. “It’s the kind of concert where you’ll hear familiar tunes and be introduced to something new - performed with heart,” said Clark.

Following the concert, audience members are invited to linger for a sumptuous morning tea and conversation with friends old and new. “It’s about building community not just through music, but through shared experience,” noted Clark.

All tickets are \$20 includes concert & morning tea. Tickets are available at the door. Doors open 9:30am

YOUNG PERFORMERS SHOWCASE – Saturday 2pm at St Mark’s Church, Grafton St, Warwick

The afternoon program shifts to St Mark’s Church, where Warwick’s next generation of musical stars will shine at the “Young Performers’ Showcase.” Local music teachers have been hard at work preparing their students to step into the spotlight.

This presentation will not be rigidly classical as the emphasis is to encourage these youngsters to perform the music they connect with at this time of their musical journey. Admission is a gold coin entry ensuring that entire families can come and support newcomers to the performance scene.



“There’s a special courage required to get up and perform in front of a crowd and we thank St Mark’s for providing a platform for our young musicians to develop that confidence and for the whole community to cheer them on,” said Clark. She stressed, “Supporting our young musicians isn’t just about music; it’s about nurturing focus, resilience, a sense of belonging and so much more.”

Gold coin entry or donation. Doors open at 1:30pm.

SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES “CHEVALIER”

Saturday, 6pm at Warwick Twin Cinema, Grafton St

Saturday evening’s event is a treat for both movie lovers and music aficionados. Warwick Twin Cinema will host a special one-off screening of the English-language film “Chevalier” (Released 2023/Running time: 1hr 47min/Rated M). This remarkable film tells the true story of Joseph Bologne, Chevalier de Saint-Georges – an 18th Century composer, violin virtuoso, dancer, and champion fencer who broke barriers as the son of an aristocratic French father and an enslaved African mother.

Bologne’s life was one of prodigious talent and relentless ambition. He rose to become a legend of his time, dazzling the court of Marie Antoinette and even crossing paths with Mozart. As one of the earliest prominent bi-racial classical musicians in Western history, Chevalier’s story is both inspirational and a powerful reminder of music’s ability to transcend boundaries of race and circumstance.

“In telling Chevalier’s story, the film helps us remember that classical music is



Pianist Arlene Bird, Actor Mary-Jane Cook and Harpist Lissa-Kathe - all performing at this years Medieval Share-a-Feast and Fabulous Classics.



Warwick Music teacher, Natalie Blanche and her daughter who will be performing at this year’s festival (Young Performers).



Young Performers at St Marks.

filled with untold stories and voices that deserve to be heard,” said Clark. “His legacy speaks to the resilience of the human spirit and the universality of music.”

■ Adults: \$20 / Concession & Under 18: \$15

Tickets available at the Warwick Twin Cinema and can be purchased in advance.

FESTIVAL FINALE: FABULOUS CLASSICS with the EAST STREET SINGERS and SOUTHERN DOWNS ORCHESTRA

Sunday 2pm at St Mary’s Church, Palmerin St, Warwick

The festival’s closing event, “Fabulous Classics,” will bring St Mary’s Church to life with melodies and harmonies performed by a twenty strong choir, with soloists and orchestra. Led by Jillian Hulme, Michael Funder and Gabi Laws, the East St Singers and Southern Downs Orchestra will present a variety of fabulous classics. A highlight at this grand finale will be Queensland Conservatorium graduate – pianist: Arlene Bird, who will captivate the audience with Debussy’s “Clair de Lune.”

To mark the end of what will be undoubtedly another successful festival, an afternoon tea will be served to audience members, performers, and volunteers. Clark remarked, “There’s something moving about experiencing music and hospitality in these beautiful sandstone spaces. It connects us to our past, our present, and to one another. Let’s honour our homegrown talent and our community that makes it all possible.” Fabulous Classics: Adults: \$30 / Concession & Under 18: \$25 (Includes concert & afternoon tea) Tickets available at the door. Doors open at 1:15pm or via trybooking.com



The ever-popular Late Shift Big Band.



The band, based in Brisbane, is drawn from all ages and all walks of life.



Playing for the sheer joy of it. The Late Shift Band.

Come enjoy the Late Shift

.....

BY TANIA PHILLIPS

There is something freeing, fun and magnetic about listening to music created not for fame or money but for the sheer joy of it.

It's probably why Brisbane-based community ensemble The Late Shift Big band is such a hit when they come to Stanthorpe to play.

The Late Shift Big Band is back at the Civic Centre Stanthorpe for 2025 on Saturday 16 August at 6.30pm after big performances in 2022, 2023 and 2024.

This year they come with an all-new set of tunes that are sure to get the heart pumping and the body moving.

This will, as always, be an entertaining night of swing, jazz and rock music to have everyone dancing the night away.

The Late Shift Big Band is a vibrant community big band with a broad repertoire of Swing, Latin, Funk and Rock arrangements from standards to surprises. Musicians from all walks of life share their passion for the big band format and put on a show with a cabaret feel.

This is not about money for the artists – well not in the normal sense of the word – the show is a major fundraiser for the Stanthorpe Art Gallery's yearly art prize – a cause the band is happy to support according to group president and spokesperson Ed Suttie. It has been the band's major gig for a couple of years now and one that the community band looks forward to – both for the gig and the trip out to Stanthorpe.

"The band is based in Indooroopilly in Brisbane and our band director is a music teacher at St Peter's Lutheran College at Indooroopilly so that's our base for rehearsing every Tuesday night, we are lucky enough to have that facility," Ed said.

"We are a 20-piece big band – a community band – so we're a not-for-profit organisation and the only money we make is to buy new charts and to pay for our insurance etc so. We're made up of the usual trumpets, saxophones, drummer keyboard player, bass and guitar."

They also feature vocals by Akash



Vocalist Lillia Vickers.

Rooney and Lillia Vickers.

Akash Rooney: Akash has been performing for over a decade both around Brisbane and internationally with acts such as Ian Moss and the Black Sorrows.

Lillia Vickers: A contemporary vocalist and vocal teacher who has been teaching for four years and has over 15 years of performance experience.

"We built up a relationship with a couple of guys at the Stanthorpe Regional Art Gallery probably five years ago now, because we just needed somewhere to play," he said.

"The first gig we played out there was at the actual art gallery itself and I said to them we just need somewhere to play pick an organisation who might need some money. They chose the rural fire brigade so we raised several thousand dollars for those guys and I think they bought a whole heap of new radios for the trucks. So that's how that all started – I've always loved Stanthorpe a lot. I'm country at heart even though I've never lived out there.

"So, from then on – I think this the fourth year in a row we've played at the Stanthorpe

Civic Centre – that's for the Art Gallery guys again and that's the major fundraising event for the Stanthorpe Regional Art Gallery's art prize. We go there every August, max out the Civic Centre and go nuts for a couple of hours and make money for their art prize so that's pretty cool."

The band itself was started at least 20 years ago by the original director Grant Mason, who was one of the band leaders at St Peters and he just wanted an outlet for the past students to continue their music.

"And now we are where we are today – playing about five or six gigs around Brisbane," he said.

"We play the jazz club, we do private corporate functions if people need us and fundraising events for charities but the Stanthorpe one will be about our fourth year in a row at the Civic Centre. We play from 7pm-9.30pm.

"It's two sets. The doors open at 6.30pm and the first set is more mellow sort of jazzy slow stuff and the second set is get up on the dance floor and crank it up a bit. There's a bar there that you can buy your drinks from but they don't supply food. Everyone brings there own, snack stuff. There are tables of eight and people just back them full of food, I just wish I was down there sometimes eating," he laughed.

"The tickets are \$35pp but you can buy a table of eight for \$280 and if you buy an individual ticket they just put you on a table of eight because they are all table of eight originally."

So, if you haven't been before – what can you expect?

"We play some Sinatra, Cab Galloway for the oldies – Minnie the Moocher, Ella Fitzgerald, Louis Armstrong, Stevie Wonder, Toto, Phil Collins, Buble, Queen, Huey Lewis, James Brown and Ray Charles – so all sorts of stuff for all different audiences so that should get them rocking," he chuckled.

So how did Ed get involved with the band?

"The good thing about community bands is that you get to get the instrument

you learned at school out from under your bed – which is exactly what I did - and started playing it again," Ed, who is a nurse by profession, explained.

"I started at primary school on euphonium in grade four and the natural progression from euphonium is trombone, so in grade nine I switch so I could go from orchestral to stage band stuff. Community bands are great. Our players range from 18 to 70 from all diverse backgrounds, employment status. It's fantastic.

"My trombone was sitting there for six or eight years after school and a doctor rocks up to work and started telling me he was a trombone player. He said come and audition for our band and I said mate I'm not going to audition for any band right now and he said just come and play and I'm still there after 12 years or so, it's a long time but it's excellent fun, it's good."

And you can tell the Stanthorpe gig is a favourite of the band though it obvious talking to Ed that they just love what they do.

"We had a gig last week and they wouldn't get off the dance floor so we just had to keep playing, which is always a good sign," he laughed.

"I always tell them at Stanthorpe – don't do your hammys on the dance floor. It's just good that it's a fundraising event.

"We just love going out west it's cool – a different vibe and environment than Brissie. It's heaps of fun and we look forward to it."

The Late Shift Big Band is directed by Mark Pradella.

Doors open 6:30 pm, Saturday 16 August. The Late Shift Big Band will be playing two sets from 7-8 and 8:30-9:30 pm.

The dance floor will be in big demand, and drinks are available to purchase. BYO snacks and food.

Tickets are \$35pp or \$280 per table. People will be seated at a table of eight - purchase a table of eight for those wanting to be seated together.

Venue: Civic Centre, Marsh Street, Stanthorpe.



WEDDINGS



20201021 9807_1-JW44-20

Hens and Bucks party ideas

Looking to take your hens or bucks party to the next level? There are plenty of creative and unique ways to make it unforgettable. For hens, why not hire a private boat and cruise the harbour with champagne, music, and ocean views? You could also organise a luxury picnic in the park, complete with styled decor, grazing platters, and fun games. A dance class – like salsa, burlesque, or even Beyonce-style – adds laughter and energy to the day. Or go all-out with a glamping weekend filled with pampering, nature walks, and bonding under the stars.

For the bucks, consider something a little

adventurous. Try escape rooms, or even a skydiving experience for thrill-seekers. A poker night with a private dealer, whisky tasting, or cigar lounge visit offers a touch of class. Prefer something sporty? Hire a private box at a footy match or arrange a backyard sports tournament with trophies and team colours.

Don't forget to add personal touches – matching shirts, custom games, or a heartfelt speech can turn fun into meaningful. Whether it's wild, relaxed, or somewhere in between, the best parties celebrate friendship, good vibes, and the excitement of what's to come.



Shine on your big day

BY TANIA PHILLIPS

Thirty years ago, an engagement meant finally getting to buy one of those glossy wedding dress books that frequented the local newsagents, flicking through the pages looking at everything, -making notes.

It meant ticking off the list in the back of the magazine or book – working through what was “needed” - what rules were needed to be followed. And while weddings are far less rule by the book these days and far more about the couple rather than the pomp and ceremony back then it wasn't the done thing.

However, after attending several weddings during the period between our engagement and wedding, it became clear that following those lists led to one thing – an event where really only the

name and possibly the colour of the bridesmaids dresses changed and that didn't really suit my personality.

Then a friend said they were having a “gangster/20s theme reception” and although they were talked out of it, the thought of doing something very different really struck a chord.

Then one day, flicking through a Women's Weekly at the doctors – there it was – pictures of a wedding where the couple had got married in an old stone arbour in the middle of Sydney. They were in medieval dress. Robin Hood Prince of Thieves and Much Ado About Nothing had just come out and I was reading medieval book series by the dozen and continuing my love of Shakespeare so the idea of having a medieval/ Midsummer Night's Dream wedding was born.

My mum and mother-in-law were horrified

but in the end both came around and embraced the theme, my dress and even our crockembush cake – the traditional fruitcake they insisted on (with a purple icing twist) left uneaten until the next day's after party. And it actually ended up cheaper (no cutlery to wash for the venue cut our costs considerably as did having mead rather than champagne and asking everyone to “bring their own goblets and drinking horns”).

While everyone loved the day there were still people who thought we'd “done something silly”. My boss at the time laughed as we flicked through the photos after the fact– “you'll be so embarrassed by these pictures and this wedding in 30 years,” he said. This is an argument I've seen used a bit over the years (though less now days) to shoot down dreams of a coloured wedding dress or a themed event or straying from the norm.

On my 30th wedding anniversary this year, remembering my boss's words I hauled the pictures out and went through them with my daughters. I still love those pictures and I still love what we did – it was uniquely us and has inspired my oldest daughter to want something similar.

These days those “rules” pushed by the wedding industry seem less important, weddings similar to mine often pop up on social media and couples are more about putting their own touches into every aspect of the day.

So, my advice to anyone planning a wedding – is follow your heart and create the day you want whether you go for a beautiful traditional ceremony or do something totally out of the box. After all this day is about you and your partner and should be a celebration of who you are as a couple.

BRIDAL DIRECTORY



Does your business help couples create a day to remember?



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12637997-RR40-23



REAL ESTATE FOCUS

History for sale (or sail)

It's not every day that someone offers you a yacht as part of a real estate deal but the current owners of the Butter Factory in Inglewood are doing just that.

"The old Butter Factory is full of history and now needs new owners," agent Helen Harm said.

"The owner is also offering the Sydney to Hobart yacht, "Witchdoctor" as a bonus to the purchaser of this historic Butter Factory with Power House beside it.

"He is no longer able to make use of the yacht so is letting it go in the hope the buyer will enjoy another chapter in the boat's rich sailing adventures."

Witchdoctor competed in the Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race for more than a quarter of a century and has almost as much history as the factory itself. According to Helen, the yacht is not only a former winner of the iconic race but also many other events and it is still an ocean-going vessel.

The butter factory is situated on 3194 m²

of land with leasehold title (application can be made to freehold).

Easy access to rail line which may suit astute investor with Inland Rail Project gaining momentum.

Current owner is disposing of this Inglewood asset due to family commitments and is ready to talk.

The Butter Factory was the original power station for Inglewood and Cooper Bessemer engine is still on site.

Helen believes the factory will suit warehouse, tourism, museum or any number of uses.

"Or just make it your own private castle -you'd have the castle and all you'd need is a moat for the boat," she joked.

The old Butter Factory is listed with Goondiwindi Regional Council as a local Heritage site.

Contact Helen Harm on 0408 457 496 for inspection. Go to www.helenharm.com for more photos.



Address: 114 Queen Street, INGLEWOOD Price: \$159,000 Contact: Helen Harm 0408 457 496 Agent: HELEN HARM REAL ESTATE



Worshops and offices

These Industrial/Commercial buildings are located in the Industrial estate just 2.7K off the main interstate highway through Warwick and close to Morgan Park Complexes.

The 2000 m² allotment fronts three streets and is zoned as Industrial.

The workshop is 9m x 18m with offices on lower level which are 6m x 9m as well as toilet facilities set up for wheelchair access.

There is also an office on mezzanine floor (6m x 9m) with a toilet, shower and vanity facility.

There are kitchen areas on both levels and the meeting room on the lower level has bar setup.

The Mezzanine level can be accessed via external stairs or the staircase from the workshop level.

At a glance.

- Three Phase power to the workshop
- Insulated roof
- Air-conditioned offices
- Two toilets areas
- Instant security alarm system
- And there is 270m sq floor space



Agent Helen Harm believes this one would be “ideal for Morgan Park participants for storage and workshop with facilities to cater.” The shipping containers are not included in the sale.

Contact Helen Harm on 0408 457 496 for inspection. Go to www.helenharm.com for more photos

Address: 14 – 16 Industrial Avenue, WARWICK Price: \$880,000+ Inspection: By appointment
Contact: Helen Harm 0408 457 496 Agent: Helen Harm Real Estate

Ground-level living

This single-storey air-conditioned two-bedroom brick terraced house has its own courtyard and is close to the hospital.

With no body corporate fees and a separate title it features a new cooktop, gas hot water, 1.5KVA Solar System and low maintenance Stramit cladding.

The two bedrooms are air-conditioned and feature built-ins while the bathroom has a shower, vanity and toilet.

There is an open-plan living area featuring the kitchen, living, dinning and lounge area. The kitchen has an electric oven, hotplates, rangehood and pantry while there is a separate laundry and plenty of storage.

Outside is a private outdoor courtyard, remote single garage and two parking areas all on a 321 m² corner allotment.



For the investor, the property is currently rented at \$450 per week until 20 April 2026.

Contact Helen Harm on 0408 457 496 for appointment.

Please allow 48 hours for inspection as the tenants need to be notified.

Go to www.helenharm.com for more photos

Home Features at a glance:

- Air-conditioning
- Carpeted floors
- Entertaining area
- Electric hot plates
- Fenced
- Heated
- Oven
- Patio

- Rangehood
 - Vinyl flooring
- Community Features:**
- Cultural Centre
 - Hospital
 - Pool
 - Primary school
 - Public transportation
 - Secondary school
 - Shops

Address: 11E Leslie Street, WARWICK Q4370 Description: 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, 1 car Price: \$450,000 Inspection: By appointment
Contact: Helen Harm 0408 457 496 Agent: Helen Harm Real Estate



SOLD

Affordable Land

Quiet country lifestyle only 5 mins to Allora, 15 mins to Warwick and 40 mins to Toowoomba.

- 1922 m² – almost ½ Acre, 40.2 m frontage
- Sloping 1% gradient from front to back diagonally
- Power available on Goomburra Street
- Rural Boundary Fenced
- Zoned as Rural Residential
- Trees give shade in summer, warmth in winter

\$ 150,000+



3 Street Frontages

Industrial buildings, located in the Industrial estate just 2.7K off interstate highway through Warwick & close to Morgan Park Complexes. 2000 m² lot fronts 3 streets, Zoned Industrial.

- 3 Phase power to 9m x 18m workshop
- Insulated roof • 270m sq Floor space
- Aircon offices lower & mezzanine levels
- Kitchen & Toilet areas on both levels
- Instant security alarm system

\$ 880,000+



Commercial Site

Spacious commercial building, well located just metres off Albion St, main highway, plenty of off-street parking available, zoned Mixed Use.

67 Grafton St –

297m² - Currently vacant - FOR LEASE \$400 p.w.

- Reception/office area
- Workshop at rear

BUY both 65 & 67 Grafton for \$ 800,000 + GST if applicable

\$ 400,000+

WANTED FOR QUALIFIED BUYERS

Unit 2-3 bed, 1-2 bath, garage...Up to \$400,000

100+ Acres, 2 deeds...\$600,000+

Acreage to run 110 breeders, water...\$900,000+



Commercial Site

Commercial building, well located just off Albion St, main highway, zoned Mixed Use.

65 Grafton St –

490 m² - LEASED til 2026 at \$350 p.w.

- Reception area • 5 rooms • Kitchen, toilet & powder room • Room has plumbing for toilet/bathroom • 4 reverse cycle air-con • Building at rear has 2 rooms • Parking for 5 vehicles

\$ 400,000+



Your Private Castle

Old Butter Factory full of history, now needs new owners.

- 3,194 m² with leasehold title (application can be made to freehold).
- Easy access to rail line may suit astute investor with Inland Rail Project
- Current owner is disposing Inglewood asset due to family commitments and is ready to talk.
- Suit warehouse, tourism, museum or???

\$ 159,000



Endless Possibilities

'Kurrajong' 518 Ha country haven, top of Herries Range. KARARA is halfway between Warwick & Inglewood on Cunningham Highway. Sheds, shearing setup with power. Lean-to for tractors & equipment, rainwater tanks, water holes, cattle yards, fencing round property.

- 4 Bed, 2 built in • Bathroom, shower over bath, vanity • Open plan living, aircon/woodfire • Kitchen- gas cooktop, electric oven, rangehood,

\$ 900,000+



Optional Extra for Your Private Castle

Old Butter Factory full of history, now needs new owners. The owner is also offering the Sydney to Hobart yacht, "Witchdoctor" as a bonus to the purchaser of the historic Butter Factory. He is no longer able to make use of the yacht so is letting it go in the hope the buyer will enjoy another chapter in the boat's rich sailing adventures.

Optional

WE'RE IN A SELLER'S MARKET!!

Take advantage of this unprecedented timing.

BUYER interest from Interstate and across Queensland.

LIST YOUR PROPERTY WITH US NOW!!



MotoX, SuperX

FOR SALE due to ill-health. Track unused few years - needs some attention. Within 2.5 hrs of Brisbane - 20 mins to Warwick on 47.11ha. Established shed, lined, self sufficient + extras

- 1.5K MotoX & SuperX track, dams, irrigation/sprinkler. • Freestyle motoX area
- Fencing 3 side boundary & bore pump
- Solar system 12V 52W 560amp hrs 1kw inverter • 2 shipping containers, awning

\$ 600,000+



40 Wood Street

- Business Office with reception & rest room, concrete storage yard.
- Zoning is "Mixed Use" which permits – Residential, Low Impact Industry, Commercial Office, Childcare
- Home – 4 Bed, 1 Bath, carport
- General Development Requirements please contact our office
- Land Size is 1897 m²

\$ 1,450,000



2 Street Frontages

Great opportunity for a light industry venture, establish new business or upgrade to higher profile site near Black Toyota, Top Two Motorcycles, Beta Storage.

- Corner of Murphy Street & Ogilvie Road. Both are bitumen roads with 300m or more frontage.
- Power, water sewerage nearby.
- Zoning is Specialised Centre
- 2.6 Ha off Cunningham Highway.

\$ 2,210,000



Commercial premises for sale

These spacious commercial buildings are well located just metres off Albion St, main highway, with plenty of off-street parking available.

The businesses are in the mixed-use planning zone and street access to both buildings is at the rear off Albion Street.

The property at 65 Grafton Street is 490 m² and is currently tenanted until 14 January 2026 at \$350 per week to a Pet Grooming business.

It was previously a veterinary surgery/ professional offices and features a reception area/ waiting room, five rooms for offices/ treatment rooms as well as a kitchen, separate toilet and powder room with plumbing suitable for toilet/bathroom. There are four reverse cycle air-conditioners. There is a separate building at rear with two rooms (offices or storage?) and parking for five vehicles.

The 67 Grafton Street is 297 m² and currently leased at \$400 per week until 30 June 2026.

There is a reception/office area and a workshop at rear. The properties are \$800,000 for two (\$ 400,000+ each).

Contact Helen Harm on 0408 457 496 for inspection. Go to www.helenharm.com for more photos



Address: 65 and 67 Grafton street, WARWICK Price: \$800,000 Inspection: By appointment
Contact: Helen Harm 0408 457 496 Agent: HELEN HARM REAL ESTATE



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SOLD

Special Features

Elevated views of NE aspect from deck off living areas. Street level entry.

- 4 built-in bedroom • Kitchen- electric stove, elevated oven, dishwasher & pantry • Dining/ living- R/C aircon • Decorative dado- living & hallway • Laundry- storage • Bath, separate shower, vanity • Separate toilet • Garage on house currently rumpus • Carport • Detached garage, powered • Rear access, fenced 840 m²

\$ 575,000+



SOLD

Settlers Cottage

YANGAN - Overlooking Swanfels Valley, is a rustic timber cutter's cottage on 2,125 m².

- Deck across Cottage front
- Open plan living dining with woodfire
- 2 Beds • Electric appliance kitchen
- Clawfoot bath, shower over, vanity & toilet
- Timber frame shed, 3 bay + shipping container
- 6m x 6m shed, 2 x 3 m roller doors
- Town water & multiple rain water tanks

\$ 350,000



SOLD

INVESTORS ALERT

Executive aircon 2 bed brick terraced House near hospital, with own courtyard. NEW paint, NEW oven & cooktop

Extras:- Gas HW, 1.15 KVA Solar, Stramit cladding
NO BODY CORP FEES – Separate title

Upstairs:- • Aircon 2 built-in Bed • Shower, vanity & toilet

Downstairs:- • Open plan kitchen, living, dining • Laundry, toilet, storage • Remote 1 garage

\$ 450,000



SOLD

Renovated Home

ALLORA - Reconfigured maximising living space & minimise wasted hallway spaces. Appealing layout flows well to include extensive storage.

- Entry via open plan living
- Good modern kitchen, electric appliances
- 3 built-in bedrooms • Large bathroom
- Toilet/powder room & laundry/utility between
- Undercover entertaining off family living
- Double garage on 604 m² fenced backyard

\$ 475,000+



Under Contract

Brick & Tile

Open plan living brick & tile, 4 bed, 2 bath, 2 car.

- 4 Bedroom, built ins
- King sized Master has ensuite, walk in robe
- Bathroom – bath, separate shower, vanity
- Separate toilet next door
- Mod con kitchen with pantry
- Aircon tiled living, slider to u/c entertaining
- Separate laundry • 472m² lot • 2 Car garage

INVESTORS: Rent is \$500 p.w. till 22/08/25

\$ 600,000+



This could be advertising for your property

Call Helen today!



Under Contract

Possible Options

Family home, reorganize extra 2 beds + office.

- 3 Bed, built-ins • Lounge Living with aircon
- Bathroom, bath, separate shower, vanity
- Separate toilet • Dining has servery to kitchen
- Modern kitchen with electric appliances
- Rumpus - (2 bedrooms) • Office/nursery
- Laundry/storage • Undercover entertaining
- 2 Bay detached garage • 2 Carports
- Garden sheds • 840 m² backyard

\$ 525,000



Ground Level

Single storey air conditioned 2 bed brick terraced home near hospital, with own courtyard.

NO BODY CORP FEES – Separate title

Extras:- NEW cooktop, Gas Hot water, 1.5 KVA Solar system, low maintenance Stramit cladding

- Aircon 2 built-in Bed • Shower, vanity & toilet
- Open plan – kitchen, living, dining & lounge
- Laundry & storage • Remote single garage

INVESTORS: Rent is \$450 p.w till 20/04/2026

\$ 450,000

- BUSINESS OWNERS -

No rental vacancies?

Have you considered housing as part of your employment package?

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Central Location

Short walk to schools, shops, business and sport facilities. 1950's home has hardiplank exterior.

- Double block frontage on one title – possible to build a unit complex
- 4 bedrooms • Large kitchen
- Separate lounge • Enclosed sunroom
- Bathroom with separate toilet
- Large yard 1166 m2 • 2 Carports
- Close to Primary school and shops

\$ 650,000

For Rent: 4661 3663

HOUSE – 3 bed, 2 bath, Open plan, lounge living, u/c outdoor, 2 car **\$ 500 p.w**

House – 4 bed, 2 bath, Open plan living, shed, 3 car **\$ 550 p.w**

NEW reno 3 bed built-ins, 2 bath, living, kitchen/dining, u/c outdoor, 2 car **\$ 600 p.w**

House – 4 bed, 2 bath, Open plan living, 4 car **\$ 650 p.w**

NEW 3 bed, 2 bath, Open plan living, 1 car **\$ 550 p.w**

URGENT !! WE NEED RENTALS IN GOOD REPAIR

LAND

WARWICK - 25930 m², High profile, 2 street frontage, Zoned specialised **\$ 2,210,000**

HENDON - 1922 m², frontage 40.2m, power next door, fence.....**SOLD** **\$ 150,000+**

PRATTEN - 47.11Ha, MotoX, shed, solar power, rural fence..... **\$ 600,000+**

WILDASH - 49.36Ha, shearing shed, NEW shed, power, rural**SOLD** **\$ 675,000**

See www.heleharm.com for more listing

www.helenharm.com

0408 457 496

Helen Harm

Licensed Principal



16 SOUTHERN LIVING & Real Estate

AUGUST 2025