

Celebrating 2026

45 YEARS CARING FOR COMMUNITY

BYRON COMMUNITY CENTRE

ANNUAL REPORT FY26

Index

Chair's Report 04
Bruce Clarke

General Manager's Report 05
Michelle Heuer

Secretary's Report 05
Peter Tanner

Treasurer's Report 06
Benjamine Duncan

Community Services 07
Kate Love

Fletcher Street Cottage 08
Damian Farrell

Byron Theatre 10
Jon Howell

Byron Spaces 12
Carl Taylor

Byron Markets 14
Carl Taylor

Byron Seniors 16
Renuka Nicail

Byron Volunteers 18
Cathy Levins-Byres

Donors & Partners 20
Rebecca Robinson

Grants 23
Shanti Des Fours

Staff & Board 25



Celebrating

45 YEARS
CARE, COMMUNITY & CULTURE

1895 Byron Bay School of Arts

1913 Byron Bay Literary Institute

1981 Byron Community Centre

1987 Byron Markets

2003 Byron Theatre

2011 Byron Seniors

2022 Fletcher Street Cottage

In 2026, the Byron Community Centre celebrates 45 years of supporting, connecting and inspiring our community. Founded in 1981 through a community campaign led by Jan Dawkins, the organisation has continued to evolve in response to changing community needs through essential services, creative programs, social enterprises and spaces that bring people together. From the launch of Byron Markets and Byron Theatre to Fletcher Street Cottage, Byron Spaces and Byron Seniors, each chapter reflects the power of collective action.





Built by Community

Since 1981, generations of volunteers, staff, donors and partners have shaped Byron Community Centre. In 1987, Byron Markets began supporting small local businesses, while the launch of Byron Theatre in 2003 strengthened the region's cultural life and Byron Spaces became a hub for meetings, workshops and community events.

Responding to Need

Over 45 years, the Byron Community Centre has expanded its services to support people experiencing hardship, foster connection and provide disaster relief. Fletcher Street Cottage reopened in 2022, followed by Byron Seniors Club in 2025, continuing a proud Byron Shire legacy of responding with compassion, inclusion and community care.

Chair's Report

Bruce Clarke



FY26 has been a year of resilience, adaptation and continued impact for the Byron Community Centre. As an organisation, we have navigated a changing funding environment while remaining focused on our mission to support community wellbeing, creativity and connection across the Byron Shire.

This year we strengthened our governance, refined our strategic priorities and continued building organisational sustainability. Across our diverse programs we have seen strong outcomes - from the ongoing impact of **Fletcher Street Cottage** and the growth of the Women's Space program, to the continued success of **Byron Theatre**, **Byron Markets**, **Byron Spaces** and **Byron Seniors**.

As our community continues to evolve, so too must we. The changing demographic profile of the Byron Shire presents both opportunities and challenges, reminding us of the importance of continually engaging with our community, building new connections and promoting our services, activities and welcoming spaces. Remaining visible, relevant and responsive will be essential as we continue to serve both long-standing residents and those who are new to our region.

A significant leadership transition saw **Michelle Heuer** step into the role of Acting General Manager following Louise O'Connell's departure in July 2025, ensuring continuity, stability and strong leadership during this period of change. I thank Michelle and the entire management team for their professionalism and commitment throughout the year.

On behalf of the Board, I extend my sincere thanks to our staff, volunteers, partners, donors and the wider community. Your dedication, generosity and shared vision continue to make the work of the Byron Community Centre possible.

This year also marks the conclusion of my time on the Board. After several years as a Director, including the past two years as Chair, I will be stepping down with immense gratitude for the opportunity to serve this remarkable organisation. It has been a privilege to work alongside such committed fellow Directors, an outstanding management team and a dedicated staff whose passion for our community is evident every day.

I do so with confidence, knowing I leave behind a strong, capable and committed Board and management team who are well positioned to lead the Byron Community Centre into its next chapter. I look forward to watching the organisation continue to grow, adapt and make a lasting difference in the lives of people across our community.

General Manager's Report



Michelle Heuer

When I stepped into this role, I was acutely aware of the extraordinary legacy left by **Louise O'Connell**, whose leadership through COVID-19, the launch of Fletcher Street Cottage and the cultivation of vital donor relationships laid strong foundations for the Byron Community Centre. Following in those footsteps has been both a privilege and a responsibility.

FY26 has been a year of honest reckoning and quiet determination. The philanthropic landscape has shifted, government funding has remained difficult to secure and we have faced hard truths about what sustainability truly requires. Rather than shy away from those challenges, we have leaned in, reviewing our models, strengthening partnerships and shaping a future that is financially sound and environmentally considered.

Our Board has provided steady guidance and our staff and volunteers continue to be the heartbeat of this organisation. Together, we are honouring **45 Years of Community Care** by building a resilient future and ensuring Byron Community Centre remains the beating heart of this town.

Secretary's Report



Peter Tanner

FY26 has been a year of continued focus on good governance, accountability and strengthening the foundations that support Byron Community Centre now and into the future.

The Board maintained its monthly meeting schedule, providing oversight of governance, finance, risk and strategic priorities while supporting the organisation through a changing operating environment. Directors worked closely with management to ensure sound decision-making, regulatory compliance and effective oversight. We also continued to strengthen governance systems, review policies and support strategic initiatives designed to enhance long-term organisational sustainability.

We welcomed **Haki Song** to the Board as a Director and thanked **Brandon Saul** and **Lenni Weber** for their valued service and contribution. I acknowledge the professionalism and diligence of my fellow Directors, whose expertise and commitment continue to guide our work. The Board remains focused on ensuring Byron Community Centre is well positioned to meet future challenges and continue serving our community with integrity, transparency and purpose.

Treasurer's Report

Benjamine Duncan



In 2026, Byron Community Centre marked **45 years of Caring for Community**, celebrating the enduring support of the community, donors and partners who continue to make our work possible.

$2,477,637
Invested in Community

$888,986
Donations

$607,351
Grants

The Invested in Community figure includes donations received but excludes grant funding.

FY26 marked another chapter of growth and resilience for Byron Community Centre. Byron Seniors continued to bring older residents together for drumming, digital skills and social tea, while Fletcher Street Cottage expanded its reach to vulnerable women through Women's Space creative activities and ongoing support pathways.

The Byron Theatre Company built on its debut, staging a full season of original and touring productions and reinforcing the theatre's role as a cultural anchor for the Byron Shire. The Byron Markets and Byron Spaces again supported hundreds of local businesses and community groups, sustaining the social enterprises that underpin our services.

Fletcher Street Cottage remained central to our mission, connecting people experiencing disadvantage with housing, health and support services. Visitation continued to increase this year, underscoring the ongoing need for support services in our community.

Financially, FY26 reflected both the continued tightening of the philanthropic environment and our sustained focus on securing multi-year government funding. Total income for the financial year was **$2,477,637**, including **$888,986** in donations. In addition, we secured **$607,351** in grant funding, which is not included in the total income figure.

We continued to prioritise the deliberate allocation of resources, enabling the organisation to deliver vital services and invest in new initiatives where they are most needed. The FY26 audit by Butlers Chartered Accountants resulted in a **positive, unqualified audit certificate**.

On behalf of the Board, we extend our deepest gratitude to our donors, volunteers, partners, funders and the Byron community. Your continued support allows us to provide essential services, foster culture and creativity, and ensure that we remain a place of connection for all.

Community Services



2500+
Information & Referrals

100
Byron Counselling

25
Christmas Hampers

37
Tax Help

Community Programs

- **Information & Referrals** Our Reception team and volunteers responded to **2,500 enquiries,** helping community members and visitors access essential local services, support and resources.
- **Tax Help Centre** Two ATO-accredited volunteers helped **37 low-income earners** complete their tax returns between July and October 2025, easing financial stress and increasing confidence.
- **Byron Counselling** Community members, staff and volunteers accessed **100 free or subsidised counselling sessions** by phone, online and in person, supporting their mental health and wellbeing.

2025 Christmas Hamper Appeal

The *Adopt a Family* Christmas Hamper Appeal shared festive joy with families experiencing hardship, distributing **25 gift hampers** and creating a Kindness Tree filled with heartfelt messages of hope.

2025 Tropical Christmas Party

Staff, volunteers and community members celebrated together at our Tropical Christmas Party in December 2025, enjoying a festive feast, Christmas karaoke, hula dancing and prizes for the best tropical costumes.

Fletcher Street Cottage



$892,796
Donations

12572
Visits

520
New Service Users

12
Staff

343
Visiting Services

159
Volunteers

3126
Volunteer Hours

In FY26, Fletcher Street Cottage continued to provide a safe, welcoming and trauma-informed space for individuals and families experiencing hardship in our community. Staff and volunteers delivered essential support including breakfasts, showers, laundry, emergency relief, office assistance and personalised casework.

Creative and wellbeing programs, including our weekly **Art Space** and **Women's Space**, fostered connection, creativity and belonging. Women's Space expanded to include a Women's Clinic, providing free healthcare for vulnerable women.

Our heartfelt thanks to **Byron Shire Council**, our donors, partners and grant providers, whose generous support makes these vital services possible.

"Fletcher Street Cottage has achieved many positive outcomes this year, made possible by our generous community, staff and dedicated volunteers who give their time, support and heart."

— Damian Farrell, Fletcher Street Cottage Manager

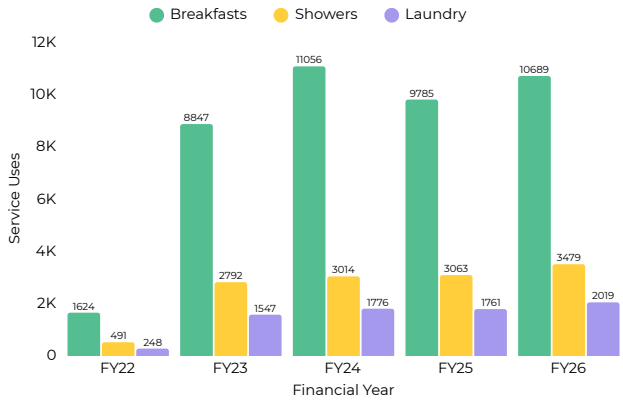


Our Services

Opening Hours: Tuesday-Friday | 7am-12pm
Location: 18 Fletcher Street, Byron Bay

Daily Support

Breakfast Space *7am–9am* Nutritious meals, connection & a pathway to support.
Showers & Laundry *7am–11:30am* Facilities supporting dignity, hygiene and wellbeing.
Office Support *9am–12pm* Information, phones, internet, printing & documents.
Emergency Relief *9am–12pm* Essential assistance with food, transport & medication.
Casework *9am–12pm* Personalised support, advocacy, referrals & service navigation.





Women's Space

Every Tuesday | 1pm-3pm
A nurturing and inclusive environment where women can connect, access practical and domestic violence support, and participate in wellbeing activities including Social Tea, Art Space and a free **Women's Clinic**.

25 Service Partners

Daily Schedule | 9am-12pm
Strong partnerships with external service providers ensure coordinated, wraparound support across health, housing, legal aid, employment, counselling and outreach to help address complex needs.



Health
- First Light Healthcare
- Needle and Syringe Program *(Byron Central Hospital)*
- NSW Health - Homelessness Health Outreach Team
- One Bridge
- Right Foot Podiatry
- Southern Cross University: Naturopathy Clinic
- Tweed Heads Health

Housing
- Byron Shire Council - Backbone Team & Public Space Liaison Officers
- Care Finder
- Ending Rough Sleeping Collaboration
- Pathways Australia
- Pets in the Park
- Social Futures - Connecting Home & Assertive Outreach

Legal & Advocacy
- Justice of the Peace
- Northern Rivers Community Legal Centre
- NSW Community Corrections

Community
- Byron Anglicans
- Global Ripple
- Hairdresser
- St Vincent de Paul Society

Domestic & Family Violence
- My Momentum
- Women's Health Northern Rivers
- Mullumbimby Women's Resource Centre

Education & Employment
- APM Employment
- Byron Community College

End Street Sleeping Collaboration

BYRON SHIRE COUNCIL

Byron Theatre



18764
Ticket Sales

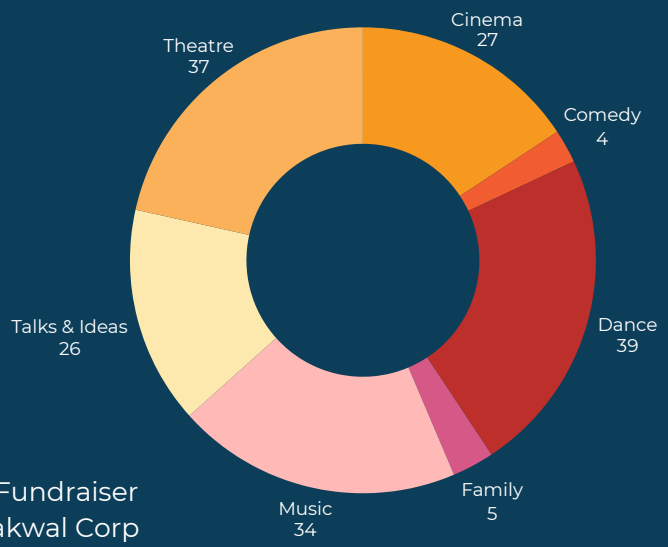
172
Theatre Events

31
Sold Out Shows

3 Sponsored community events & fundraisers worth **$8,000**

52 Weekly community sessions worth **$11,440**

FY26 was a defining year for Byron Theatre, building on the momentum of previous years through the presentation of ambitious new productions, expanded programming and deeper engagement with artists, audiences and the wider community.



Community Sponsorship

- **Byron Seniors** Drumming & NT Live
- **Liberation Larder** Christmas Party & Film Fundraiser
- **NAIDOC Film Screening** - Flickerfest & Arakwal Corp

BYRON BAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Winner — Creative Champions
Uniquely Byron Business Awards 2025

Event Highlights

Byron Theatre provides a creative home for artists, festivals, performers, theatre companies, music ensembles and arts organisations.

- **Concerts:** Amalfi Roast, James Morrison, Byron Speakeasy, Ganavya, The Backsliders, Eric Bibb
- **Festivals:** Byron Latin Fiesta, Byron Tango Festival
- **Theatre:** Displace I Call Home, Come From Away, NORPA: Prima Facie, Tirra Lirra by The River
- **Comedy:** Ross Noble, Arj Barker, Lawrence Mooney
- **Kids & Family Shows:** Bright Lights
- **Talks & Ideas:** North Coast Tourism Symposium, Byron Tourism Symposium, Quantum Conference, Mandy Nolan Presents - Byron Live: Iconic



"Our dedicated team is the reason Byron Theatre continues to grow its reputation as one of regional Australia's leading performing arts venues."

— Jon Howell, Theatre Manager



Byron Theatre Company

FY26 marked Byron Theatre Company's first full year, producing original Australian work and supporting regional artists. Its inaugural production, **Displace I Call Home** by Bianca Sirianni, was followed by the acclaimed **Tirra Lirra by the River**, adapted by Heather Fairbairn and Kate Wild from Jessica Anderson's award-winning novel.



Masterclasses

Beyond the stage, Byron Theatre Company invested in local creative development through professional masterclasses led by acclaimed theatre makers **Waangenga Blanco** and **Wesley Enoch AM** *(Creative Australia)*, providing valuable opportunities for Northern Rivers artists to learn from renowned industry leaders.



The Byron Speakeasy

The Byron Speakeasy returned for its second season in January 2026, further establishing itself as one of Byron Theatre's signature events. Combining live music, storytelling and cabaret in an intimate setting, the series attracted consistently strong audiences and became a much-loved part of the venue's annual program.

Byron Spaces



1000+
Space Hires

An impactful year for Byron Spaces, bringing people together to connect, create and collaborate across a range of community, creative and business events.

"It's been rewarding coordinating Byron Spaces and being able to offer professional meeting spaces in the heart of Byron. After 12 years, I'm stepping down from the role in July 2026."

— Carl Taylor, Byron Spaces Coordinator



Supporting Our Community

- 12-Step Program for Drug & Alcohol Addiction
- Byron Seniors Festival 2026
- Byron Youth Theatre
- Byron Volunteers: Tea & Play
- Counselling
- Destination Byron
- Liberation Larder
- Seniors Tai Chi, Drama & Chair Yoga

3192

Sponsored hours of community space worth

$97,880

Event Highlights

- **Music NSW Conference** returned in July 2025, activating the full venue across a 2-day program.
- **Awakening Conference** hosted a 2-day event in the Wategos Room in September 2025.
- **Tom Panos** held multiple 2-day events in the Wategos Room and is set to return in late 2026.
- **Pia Essential Skills** continued its strong relationship through several 5-day programs.
- **SIT Study Abroad** remained an ongoing client with multiple bookings across the year.

The **Byron Community Cabin** was in high demand again this year, with strong repeat bookings and a homeschool program continuing three days a week.





Byron Spaces Gallery

Four artists, including two Byron Markets stallholders, exhibited this year: **Jan Rae, Yvonne Fenech, Mirabela Varga and Valentina di Blase**. Jan painted the original building mural in 1984, while Valentina created new murals. Several works were sold to space hirers, with all proceeds to artists.

Byron Seniors

- Elder Beats Drumming & Social Tea
- Studio 55 Drama, Tai Chi & Chair Yoga - Byron Community Cabin
- Digital Skills
- Canva & AI Workshops
- Special Events



Our Spaces

- **Wategos Room (1 & 2)** A flexible venue for workshops, conferences and presentations.
- **Wategos 1** A bright space for meetings, training and workshops.
- **Wategos 2** An intimate room for meetings, presentations and small gatherings.
- **Byron Theatre** A fully equipped venue for performances, screenings and conferences.
- **The Verandah** An outdoor space for receptions, networking and celebrations.
- **The Pass** A compact room for meetings, interviews and consultations.
- **Cosy Corner** A private office for one-on-one meetings and focused work.
- **Byron Community Cabin** Workshops, classes and community activities.

Byron Markets



Photo © David Cope

300+
Local Businesses

48
Markets

$32K+
Paid to Musicians

The Byron Markets continue to be a vibrant showcase of the region's creativity and community spirit, bringing together locals, visitors, musicians and makers since 1987. Across the Community, Twilight and Beachside Markets, we delivered **48 markets** in FY26, supporting over **300 local businesses** and paying over **$32,000 to musicians**.

The Community Market returned to its former beachfront location in July 2025 due to Byron Shire Council's town centre drainage works, creating more sites for stallholders. Easter was a standout, with three well-attended markets over consecutive days, satisfied stallholders and plenty of community connection, discovery and celebration.

BYRON COMMUNITY MARKET — **14** Markets

BYRON BEACHSIDE MARKET — **4** Markets

BYRON TWILIGHT MARKET — **30** Markets

"For nearly 40 years, the Byron Markets have brought our community together, showcasing the creativity, character and welcoming spirit that make Byron so special."

— Carl Taylor, Byron Markets Manager



Community Market

1st Sunday | 8am-3pm | Main Beach
A vibrant monthly gathering of local artisans, producers, food vendors and performers, alive with community spirit.

- No cancellations, averaging **250 stallholders** each month.
- Live entertainment including Broadfoot, Hayley Grace and The Cassettes.





Twilight Market

Saturday | 4-9pm | Oct-Apr | Railway Park
A lively summer evening market featuring local arts, crafts, food and live entertainment under the Byron stars.

- Record stallholder applications and steady foot traffic throughout the season.
- All markets proceeded as scheduled, despite challenging weather conditions.

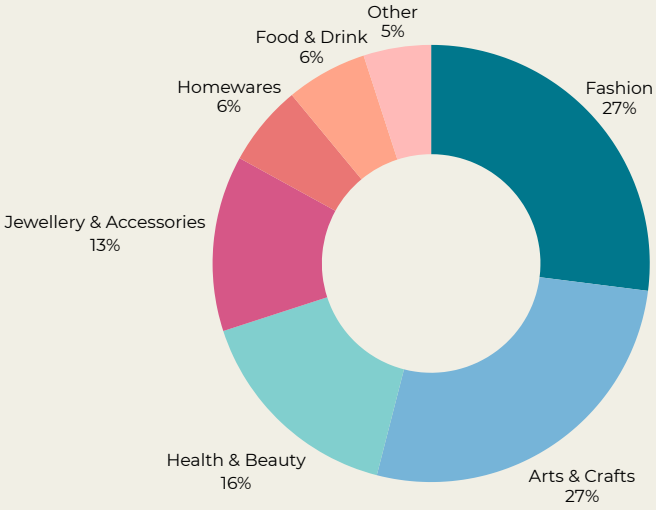
Beachside Market

Seasonal | 8am-3pm | Main Beach
A curated artisan market bringing together high-quality, locally made products beside Byron Bay's iconic beachfront.

- A strong season with excellent stallholder participation and visitor numbers.
- Successful Easter market with high attendance and positive stallholder feedback.



Byron Markets Photos © David Cope



Stallholder Advisory Group

- **Ananda McOscar** Black Crest Coffee
- **Elaine Richter** Byron Hinterland Ceramics
- **Mignon Frances** MinMin Designs
- **Meli Smith** Petal & Wood

Byron Seniors



590
Club Members

74
Events & Activities

994
Attendances

7
Core Activities

Byron Seniors Club

Now in its second year, the Byron Seniors Club has grown to **590 members**, reflecting strong demand for a dedicated space where older residents can connect, learn and thrive. With strong attendance across programs including **Drumming**, **Digital Skills** and **Social Tea**, the Seniors Club is helping to reduce isolation and foster wellbeing and belonging.

Members have formed lasting friendships, built confidence and discovered new ways to stay active and engaged. With the generous support of our sponsors and partners, the Seniors Club is creating a community where older residents feel welcomed, valued and connected.

Winner — Pippy Wardell (Byron Bay Seniors)
NSW Local Seniors of the Year Award

"Byron Seniors events are very welcoming and the calibre of the teachers is excellent. Having a catered morning tea with the drumming is perfect for socialising and relaxing together, and my mood has improved with all the new people I'm meeting."

— Club Member

Weekly Activities

In FY26, Byron Seniors Club delivered a vibrant weekly schedule of activities and events designed to keep older residents active, engaged and connected.



Drumming & Social Tea

Gareth Jones | Byron Seniors Club

Joyful free Elder Beats drumming sessions that encourage rhythm and movement, followed by a catered social tea where members can relax, chat and connect.

Drama, Chair Yoga & Tai Chi

Byron Bay Seniors

Weekly energising Studio 55 Drama, Chair Yoga and Tai Chi at the Byron Community Cabin support movement, creativity and connection, proudly sponsored by Byron Spaces.





Digital Support

Jacky Barker | Byron Seniors Club

Weekly free sessions offer personalised help with emails, apps and devices, alongside specialised **Canva and AI Workshops** to improve digital skills and accessibility.

National Theatre Live

Byron Theatre | 321 Tickets

Members enjoyed $10 access to world-class stage productions, including *Inter Alia*, *Mrs Warren's Profession*, *The Fifth Step*, *Hamlet*, *Othello* and *The Playboy of the Western World*.



Special Events

- **Let's Talk: End of Life Planning** Feb 2026 | Sabine Muschter & HeyDay Supports
- **Seniors Festival: Live Life in Colour** March 2026 | Pippy Wardell & Byron Bay Seniors
- **Midwinter Celebration** June 2026
- **Digital Skills** May-June 2026 | Good Things Foundation & Byron Community College

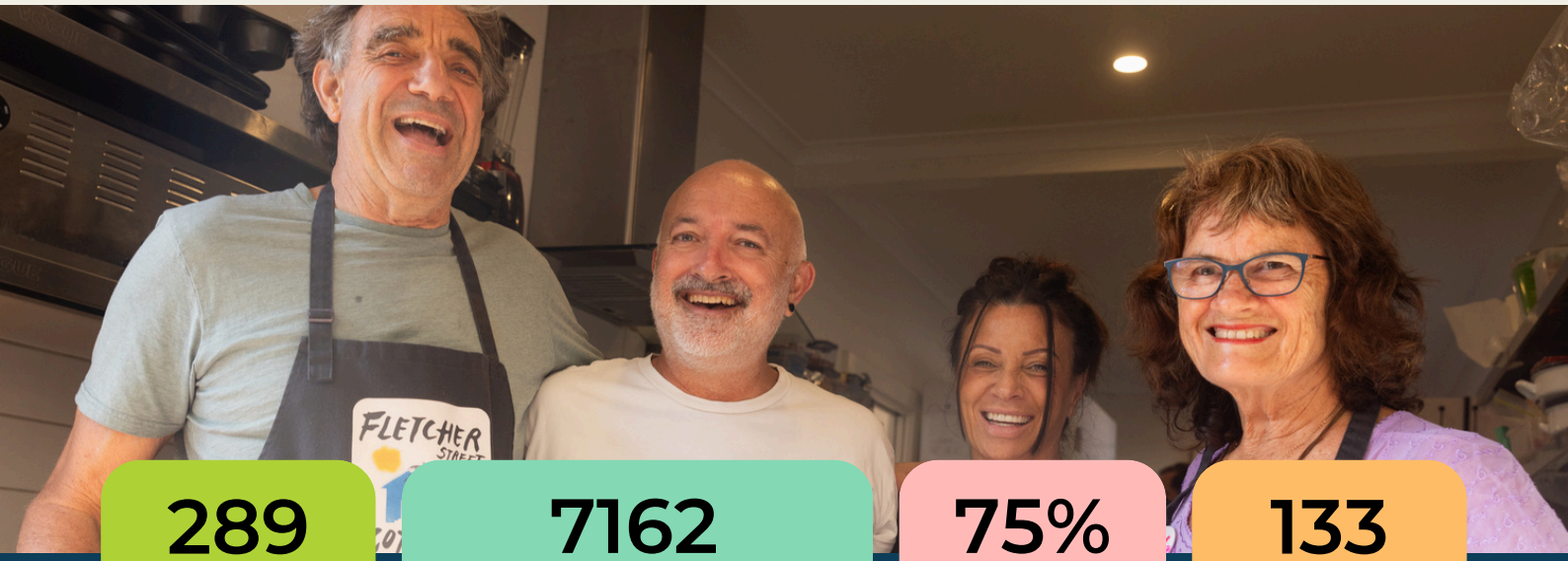
Sponsors & Partners

- Byron Bay Seniors
- First National Real Estate Byron Bay
- Pippy Wardell
- Seaton Foundation
- Ubuntu Foundation - Carolyn Vincent

+ Anonymous Community Donor

Good Things · Byron Community College · HeyDay Supports · First National Byron · Ubuntu Foundation · Seaton Foundation

Byron Volunteers



289
Volunteers

7162
Volunteer Hours valued at
$214,860
**Based on an average rate of $30/hour*

75%
Female
25%
Male

133
Inductions

Volunteers play a vital role across Byron Community Centre, generously sharing their time, skills and energy. Throughout FY26, **289 volunteers** contributed more than **7,162 hours** across Fletcher Street Cottage, Byron Theatre, Byron Markets, Byron Seniors and other community activities. Whether serving breakfasts, theatre ushering or supporting seniors activities and community events, their dedication makes a meaningful difference every day.

As we evolve to meet the changing needs of the community, so too do our volunteer roles. We strive to match each volunteer with opportunities they enjoy, and many contribute across multiple roles that suit their interests, skills and availability. This flexibility ensures a rewarding experience for volunteers while strengthening our impact.

The Centre for Volunteering

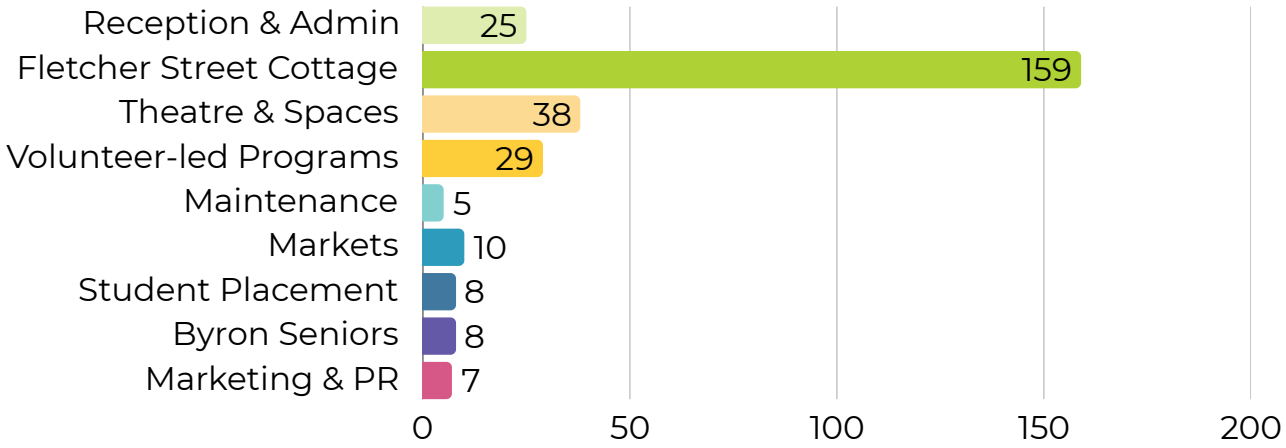
Winner — Ella Vivian-Kay (Fletcher Street Cottage)
2025 Northern Rivers Young Volunteer of the Year

Events, Workshops & Activities

- **Tax Help** July - Oct 2025
- **Mental Health First Aid** July 2025
- **Seniors Digital Support** Weekly
- **SCAM Alert Training** Aug 2025
- **Tropical Christmas Party** Dec 2025
- **Canva Digital Workshop** Feb 2026
- **Seniors Festival** March 2026
- **First Aid Training** March 2026
- **Volunteer Week Party** May 2026
- **Life Coaching Free Program** June 2026
- **Volunteering with Seniors** June 2026
- **Mental Health First Aid** June 2026

289 Active Volunteers

As of June 2026





"Our volunteers bring extraordinary energy, heart and diverse skills to every corner of the Byron Community Centre. Their kindness, flexibility and dedication strengthen our programs, create a welcoming sense of belonging and make everything we achieve possible. They truly are the heartbeat of our Byron Shire community."

— Cathy Levins-Byres, Volunteer Coordinator

529 Hours of volunteer contribution across maintenance, marketing & **Byron Markets**, valued at **$15,870**

1001 Hours of volunteer contribution at **Byron Spaces** & **Byron Theatre** valued at **$30,030**

2506 Hours of volunteer contribution at **Byron Community Centre** reception, events & admin tasks, valued at **$75,180**

3126 Hours of volunteer contribution at **Fletcher Street Cottage** valued at **$93,780**

The Centre for Volunteering

Byron Community College

Donors & Partners



$888,986
Donations

224
Individuals

81
Businesses & Organisations

17
Fundraising Events

In FY26, Byron Community Centre raised **$888,986** with the support of **224 donors** and **81 businesses and organisations**, alongside **17 partner events** to raise funds and awareness. Their generosity strengthened essential services, enriched cultural and creative programs, and helped us respond to emerging needs across our community.

Whether donating, contributing expertise, providing goods and services or hosting fundraising events, our donors and partners helped turn community care into meaningful action. Their collective support helps our programs grow and our community thrive.

Campaigns & Events

- Homelessness Week - Aug 2025
- Include a Charity Week - Sep 2025
- Supporter Event - Oct 2025
- Christmas Appeal - Dec 2025
- International Women's Day | Women's Space Appeal & IWD Event - March 2026
- EOFY Appeal | Matched $30K Global Ripple - May/June 2026



"Every donation, partnership and fundraising event is an act of community care. We thank everyone whose generosity helps us respond to local needs and make a lasting difference."

— Rebecca Robinson, Relationships Manager

224 Individuals

59 Regular Givers
+ Anonymous Donors

- Alice O'Hehir
- Alison Woods
- Amanda Peters
- Andrew Smith
- Anna Rolfes
- Annabelle Wadsworth
- Anne Considine
- Anne Densley
- Annie Phillips
- Antoine Quezel
- Antony Faa
- Antony Palamara
- Ashlea Nisbet
- Barbara Sayers
- Bec Buckwell
- Ben Fawcett
- Benjamine Duncan
- Bernadette Welch
- Bernard Fanning
- Brandon Saul
- Brendan Walsh
- Brian Conneely
- Bronwyn Waddell
- Bruce Holcombe
- Bryan Paull
- Caelie Drayson
- Caitlin Reilly
- Calle Axelsson
- Carlie Eden
- Carmel Pollard
- Carolyn Farrow
- Catie McDonald
- Charles Sutton
- Charlotte Vockler
- Chris Hanley
- Chris Hemsworth
- Christiane McCann
- Clive Magowan
- Coral Jones
- Damian Farrell
- Danielle Roberson
- Dave Brauer
- Dr David Cooke
- Dawn Standfield
- Detlef Krause
- Dianne Conley
- Edith Ferns
- Elizabeth Hamilton
- Erwin Macdowell
- Felicity Watsford
- Fiona Maxwell
- Franziska Pfeiffer
- Gabi Giacomin
- Gabrielle Kennard
- Gabrielle Requena
- Gail Martin
- Gayle Hultgren
- Gemma Wake
- Gerard Vos
- Gerrit Tandetzke
- Harley Graham
- Harriet Clutterbuck
- Hayley Katzen
- Helen Ryan
- Helen Steel
- Holly Stiffe
- Ian Kavanagh
- Jacki Dirckx
- James Bennett-Levy
- Jane Ball
- Jane Edgecombe
- Jason Coutts
- Jay Hetzel
- Jeffrey Dolin
- Jen Boelen
- Jenny Pandava
- Jeremy Ferrier
- Jill Eddington
- Joanna Palser
- Joanne Morgan
- Jodie Thompson
- John Hertzberg
- John Middleton
- John Parche
- John Rouse
- John Williames
- Johnny Abegg
- Jonah Ink
- Josephine Wolanski
- Josie Bahedry
- Jules Hunt
- Julia Lowe
- Julie Sheer
- Karen Ashbury
- Karen Ellis
- Kate Love
- Kate Williams
- Katharina Ohman
- Kathleen Toovey
- Katie Wilkinson
- Keith Schroeder
- Kelsey Canning
- Kenneth Sayers
- Kerrie McDermott
- Kerry Stubbs
- Kevin Yin
- Kim Donnelly
- Kris Graham
- Ky Haus
- Kylie McGregor
- Laura Conlon
- Laura Peck
- Laura Shore
- Leo Mburu
- Leonie Mills
- Lily Schmelzle
- Lincholn Kerr
- Linda Teese
- Lisa Sampson
- Liz Mutkins
- Louisa McKay
- Luca Castelnuovo
- Lyn Parche
- Maggie Camp
- Malin Beverskog
- Manesh Pillar
- Margaret Wiles
- Maria Dorfer
- Mariette Maclurcan
- Marine Gouezo
- Marita Kohl
- Maritza Cuffe
- Marsha Tauber
- Mary Campbell
- Mary McEvilly
- Matilda Donnellan
- Matthias Krups
- Meera Liesle Bickley
- Mel Roome
- Melinda Andreas
- Melissa Creighton
- Michael Fricker
- Michelle Heuer
- Nanette Lawson
- Navaya Ellis
- Nick Towers
- Nicole Burke
- Nikk Crow
- Nitzan Karni
- Paige De Losa
- Pamela Ditton
- Pamela Lamaro
- Patrick Giddy
- Patrick Reilly
- Paul Considine
- Paul Sprokkreeff
- Paul Thomas
- Paula Brown
- Pauline Johns
- Peta McCallum
- Petrina Hutchinson
- Phil McTaggart
- Philip Salfield
- Philippa Abbott
- Philippe Gouezo
- Pippa Noble
- Pippy Wardell
- Rachel Wallen
- Riikka Lampinen
- Robert Bleakley
- Roslyn Jensen
- Sam Curtis
- Scott Jago
- Sean Croon
- Sean Wroe
- Shani Parry
- Shelley Bourke
- Silver Groves
- Simone O'Brien
- Sonya Wright
- Sorrell Millis
- Steve Alderson
- Steve Wyatt
- Stuart Anderson
- Suzanne Bourchier
- Suzi Rosedale
- Tahmina Curic
- Talia Levy
- Tim Le Mesurier
- Tim Roodenrys
- Torsten Krause
- Trevor Smith
- Vicki Brooke
- Vicki Henricks
- Wendy Boyd
- Wendy Edwards
- Wendy Tashiro
- Wesley Enoch
- Yonas Kolb

Media

Echo · the byron wave · Byron Bay FM · SAE University College · Rhythm Section · Times News Group · Future Good · Ballina Byron Gateway Airport · Byron Magazine · The General Store

17 Partner Events

- Bangalow Hotel Social Club
- Byron Anglicans - *Hope 25 Concert*
- Byron Bay Lady Golfers - *Women's Golf Tournament*
- Byron Bay Long Lunch Club
- Byron Bay Public School
- Byron Community Primary School
- CADRE - *Future Series*
- Christmas Belles
- Dharma Care - *Winter Warmer 2025*
- Grill'd - *Local Matters*
- Lennox Head Lions Club - *John Mitchell Charity Golf Tournament*
- Nudge Nudge Wink Wink (May/June 2026)
- Rhythms of Resolution - *Sensory Blender*
- Stone & Wood - *Festival of The Stone 2026*
- The Macro Group
- Tweed Valley Rollers & Northern Rivers Roller Derby Tournaments
- Veterans Motorcycle Club - *Dice Run 2025*

12 Foundations

- Eisen Family Private Fund
- Gary Lucas & Gabrielle McMahon Giving Fund
- George Lewin Foundation
- Goninan Foundation
- Ingrained Foundation
- James Frizelle Foundation
- James N. Kirby Foundation
- L&R Uechtritz Foundation
- Nogunosa Foundation
- Northern Rivers Community Foundation (NRCF)
- Rekindle Foundation
- Seaton Foundation
- Ubuntu Foundation - Carolyn Vincent

81 Businesses & Organisations

- Ally Group
- APM Employment
- Bangalow Bread Company
- Blackdog Surfing School
- BOHO Hair
- Business NSW
- BVK Solicitors Attorneys
- Byron Anglicans
- Byron Bay First National
- Byron Bay Muesli
- Byron Bay Pretzels
- Byron Bay Rotary Club
- Byron Central Hospital
- Byron Community College
- Byron Farmers Market
- Byron Shire Council
- Cape Byron Steiner School
- Care Finder
- CLD Resources
- Commonwealth Bank
- Cottenham
- Country Women's Association (CWA) Bangalow
- DAYO
- Destination Byron
- Endota Spa
- First Light Healthcare
- First National Real Estate
- FXBC Fuji Xerox Business Centre
- George's Deli
- Global Ripple Op Shop
- Good Things Foundation
- Haven Gallery
- HeyDay Supports
- iFly Indoor Skydiving
- Lennox Head Lions Club
- Let's Go Surfing
- Liberation Larder
- Lord Byron Distillery
- Mani Bar
- Melodie C Art
- Mind & Body Group
- Mullumbimby Women's Resource Service
- My Momentum
- Neverland Book: Tricia Shantz
- Nina Hurr Art
- NORPA
- North Coast Events
- Northern Rivers Community Legal Centre
- Northern Rivers Plant Hire
- NSW Community Corrections
- NSW Health
- OneBridge
- Order of Malta
- Pathways Australia
- Pets in the Park
- Right Foot Podiatry
- Rochdale Accounting
- Sakura Finance
- Social Futures
- Somara
- Sotheby's International Realty
- Southern Cross University
- St Vincent de Paul Society
- Station Street Co-op
- Stone & Wood
- Surffit Byron Bay
- TAFE NSW
- The Beach Hotel
- The Byron Bathhouse
- The Secret Chef
- Tweed Heads Health
- Tyagarah Honey
- Underwear for Humanity
- ValeVale Art
- Wild Byron
- Women's Health Northern Rivers
- XTM
- YHA Byron Bay
- Yoga Impact Charity
- Yvonne Fenech Art
- Zonta Northern Rivers

In partnership with **ProSolar** and **Sungrow**, new solar panels and donated battery systems were installed at Byron Community Centre and Fletcher Street Cottage, strengthening renewable energy capacity across both sites.

PROSOLAR SUNGROW

Grants



$607,351
Grant Funding

18
Individual Grants

15
Government, Foundation & Corporate

In FY26, Byron Community Centre secured **$607,351** in grant funding through **18 grants** from **15 funding partners**. A defining feature of this year's funding has been the strength and continuity of our funding relationships, with many of our funding partners continuing to support our work year-on-year. Funders have helped us launch new programs, backed successful pilots into their next stages, enabled us to progress larger projects in phases and continued to invest in initiatives as they have grown and demonstrated impact.

We are particularly grateful for the depth of understanding our funding partners bring to these relationships. Increasingly, our funders are responding to the realities of delivering programs and services without recurrent State and Federal Government funding, and working with us in flexible and creative ways to help sustain effective programs and strengthen the foundations that make our work possible.

"Every grant not only represents an investment in our community, but also a relationship built on trust. To all of our funding partners, thank you for your trust, your continued support and for helping us create meaningful impact in our community."

— Shanti Des Fours, Grants Manager



Photo: Women's Clinic © Jeff Dawson, The Echo

Grants

$607,351 Grant Funding
18 Individual Grants **15** Funding Partners

Funder	Initiative	Area	Amount
Create NSW	Byron Theatre Company	Byron Theatre	$52,460
James N. Kirby Foundation	Women's Space Program	Fletcher Street Cottage	$15,000
Carolyn Vincent Ubuntu Foundation	Elder Beats Seniors Drumming	Byron Seniors	$5,000
James Frizelle Foundation	Women's Health Access Program	Fletcher Street Cottage	$45,000
NSW Health	Mental Health Support	Fletcher Street Cottage	$169,000
Seaton Foundation	Byron Seniors Club	Byron Seniors	$10,000
NSW Environment Protection Authority	Breakfast Equipment	Fletcher Street Cottage	$2,000
Northern Rivers Community Foundation	Women's Health Access Program	Fletcher Street Cottage	$15,000
Northern Rivers Community Foundation	Kitchen Upgrade	Fletcher Street Cottage	$15,000
Healthy North Coast	Women's Health Access Program	Fletcher Street Cottage	$50,000
Rekindle Foundation	Operations – Year 1	Fletcher Street Cottage	$150,000
NSW Government	Kitchen Equipment	Fletcher Street Cottage	$30,732
Australian Government	Solar Energy Upgrades	Byron Community Centre	$20,000
Byron Shire Council	Courtyard Accessibility Upgrades	Byron Community Centre	$4,000
Australian Government	Volunteer Communication & Technology	Byron Volunteers	$909
Byron Bay Services Club	Women's Space Program	Fletcher Street Cottage	$15,000
Byron Shire Council	Elder Beats Drumming	Byron Seniors	$1,250
Australian Recording Industry Association	Great Southern Nights	Byron Theatre	$7,000

Staff & Board

At 30 June 2026

The Byron Community Centre team and Board are deeply committed to our community, united by a shared purpose to create meaningful impact across social and cultural programs.

Board Of Directors

- **Bruce Clarke** Chair
- **Louisa McKay** Vice Chair
- **Peter Tanner** Secretary
- **Benjamine Duncan** Treasurer
- **Karen Hillen** Director
- **Kerry O'Brien** Director
- **John Hertzberg** Director
- **Haki Song** Director

Byron Community Centre

- **Michelle Heuer** Acting General Manager & Operations Manager
- **Kate Love** Communications Manager
- **Rebecca Robinson** Relationships Manager
- **Shanti Des Fours** Grants & Projects Manager
- **Carla Castro** Management Accountant
- **Sorrell Millis** Senior Administrator
- **Cathy Levins-Byres** Volunteer Coordinator
- **Renuka Nicail** Customer Service Coordinator
- **Colman Conlan** Facilities Coordinator
- **Jarrod Johnson-Clarke** IT Services
- **Ky Haus** Design & Website
- **Adam Thistlewaite** Building Projects

Byron Markets

- **Carl Taylor** Markets Manager
- **Natwah Petruszka** Community Market Coordinator
- **Greg Curry** Twilight & Beachside Markets Coordinator
- **Tahli O'Sullivan** Markets Registration & Administration
- **Georgi Miln** Community Market Site Admin
- **Market Site Crew** +8 Casuals

Fletcher Street Cottage

- **Damian Farrell** Fletcher Street Cottage Manager
- **Steve Strang** Breakfast Coordinator
- **Victor Salamanca** Community Support Worker
- **Suzanne Flowerday** Community Support Worker
- **Mira Finckenberg** Community Support Worker
- **Siobhan Carlin** Community Support Worker
- **Jennifer Abed** Community Support Worker & Art Space Facilitator
- **Will Conley** Daily Coordinator, Assistant Breakfast Coordinator & Community Support Worker

Byron Theatre

- **Jon Howell** Theatre Manager
- **Kristina Oddestad** Event Manager
- **Bianca Siranni** Creative Producer
- **Lena Cook** F&B Operations Manager
- **Tia Stanhope** Marketing Assistant
- **Duty Officers** Izzy Durbin, Peta O'Doherty, O Roberts, Bobbie Field
- **Technicians** Glenn Ward, Jake Dix + more
- **Front of House & Bar** +14 Casuals

Byron Spaces

- **Carl Taylor** Byron Spaces Coordinator

REGIONAL LEADERS | BUSINESS NSW
Strengthening the voice of business

Byron Community Centre acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of this land, the Arakwal people, the Minjungbal people and the Widjabul people of the Bundjalung Nation, and pays our respects to Elders past, present and emerging. Always was, always will be.



BYRON COMMUNITY CENTRE

Byron Community Centre Ltd
ABN: 69 627 365 180

The Trustee for Byron Bay Community Benefit Fund
ABN: 98 427 003 802

www.byroncentre.com.au