



# THE QUEENSLAND NATURIST ASSOCIATION

(C) 2024 The Queensland Naturist Association Inc

## Autumn 2024 Mini Magazine

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### A Message From Our President Rachael

Over the past few months, our club has seen some remarkable moments along with a whirlwind of activity. Our Australia Day Weekend celebration at Pacific Sun Friends was an absolute blast, featuring a fun-filled day of games followed by an epic beach party. It was incredibly gratifying to see so many familiar faces and welcome our new members into the fold.

The World Naked Bike Ride at Byron Bay 2024 as usual was an amazing day with many of our members attending. The after party was a hoot too!

Our Kiels Mountain Pool Party was a great success with some old members and new attending. Even though the weather wasn't the balmy Saturday we were hoping for, it was still warm enough for everyone to get naked and have a fun day. Thanks so much Tony for opening up your beautiful place to our members.

However, amidst all that, February brought some concerning news. We learned of plans to close Tyagarah Beach near Byron Bay. A collaboration between New South Wales National Parks and Byron Shire Council wanting to shut it down without community consultation. In response, we rallied together with our friends at Byron Naturists, with Scott leading the charge as our campaign manager. Stay tuned for updates from Scott on our efforts to address this issue.

I want to take a moment to express my deepest gratitude to our hard working committee members pictured above. Member 91 - Big Dave our Secretary, Member 8 - Greg, our Membership Secretary, Member 58 - Shane, our Treasurer and tech whiz, and of course, Scott, Member 47 our Vice President. They've all been instrumental in keeping our organisation running smoothly. Their dedication and tireless efforts have truly been the backbone of our club, and I'm incredibly proud to lead such an exceptional team. What these guys have done in the background for all of us has been truly exceptional. XO Rach.



## Annual Australia Day Weekend Party

This year we really turned up the heat celebrating Australia's special day with a whole weekend of fun and activities.

Starting on Friday at 7am, the set up crew arrived bright and early to make sure things were ready. The Games area was set up, tables and chairs ready, Australian flags flying everywhere, Oz music ready to get cranking and the catering team were ready.

All of these volunteers

really help make it a special day and it's a testament of the Aussie spirit that us naturists sure do understand.

We played the usual games that everyone enjoys like tug-o-war, egg catch, sack racing, red light green light as examples. On top of that we played some impromptu games like the ladle race and bucket over the head challenge. Everyone was laughing so much.

Lou, pictured on the right, got her watermelon exploding challenge "Lou's Melons" into full swing with two teams racing to make their watermelon pop with rubber bands as fast as possible. They went off with a bang then the watermelon fights started. Watermelon everywhere!

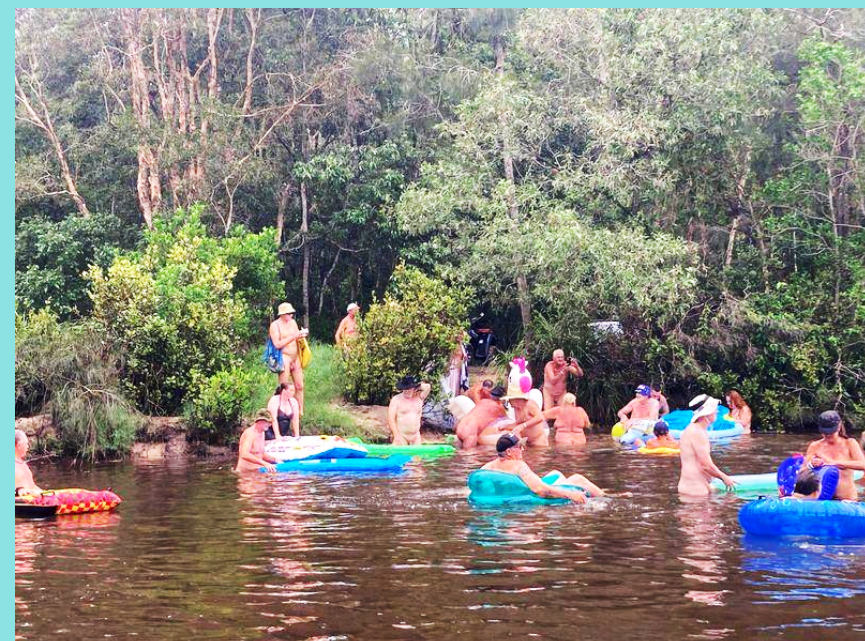
As the day warmed up the water bombs and pistols came out, along with the Holi Powder. All of a sudden a lot of people went from bronzed Aussies into multi coloured nudists!

While all this was going on, Lloyd, Kylie and Rach manned the BBQ serving the most amazing hamburgers and Bunnings Snags. They went all day with it and did a most excellent job keeping everyone fed.



In the afternoon the annual inflatable raft race happened. It was the most people that have ever entered it to date. Well done to those that made it to the end and survived the water pistol snipers hiding in the bushes.

That evening saw us entertained by Emilio, a new naturist to the scene performing his first ever naked fire show. He really lit up the night with some amazing work. He did an amazing job and no burns luckily.







Of course there was dancing, best bum competitions and the winners of each category receiving a prize, with the overall Aussie Champion going to Amity.



Saturday saw many people attend our beach party at Pacific Sun Friends "beach". A quiet spot on a tidal river that was enjoyed by many. We definitely need to do this again. Young an old enjoying a naturist camp just like the old days. All in all, it was an amazing weekend and we hope you enjoyed it too.



## New QNA Supporters

We are excited to announce two QNA discount partners. Both on The Fraser Coast and both brand new and ready for guests.

The first of the two, **Bare Haven Retreat** is owned by one of our members Roger, and even better is he's a really nice bloke who recently opened up his B&B and is ready for naturists from everywhere. With accommodation for a maximum of two guests, enjoy unrestricted nude movement throughout the property, including the nude-only pool and jacuzzi/spa area.

With lots of nearby attractions, this is a great place to stay.

**Please email: [38santarosa@gmail.com](mailto:38santarosa@gmail.com) for bookings**

**Members get a \$5 discount on their first nights stay.**



The second of the two is **The Castle Bush Camping**. Situated on 5 acres just out of Hervey Bay next to Urangan. Castle Bush Camping has on site accommodation, powered & unpowered sites, amenities block, camp kitchen, spa, campfire in a natural bush setting & abundant wildlife.

An Ideal naturist stop over within a few km from beaches, shopping centres and the iconic Urangan Pier.

**Please phone Neil on 0428932211 or email [shoulda@outlook.com](mailto:shoulda@outlook.com)**

**for further information.**

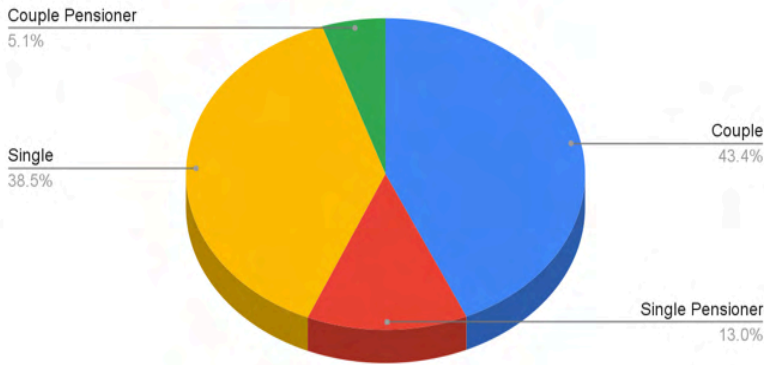
**\$5 per night for power & Donation for camping**



# Club Growth

Recently the committee has been delving into our club's statistics, and we're on a mission to unravel insights that will shape our path ahead. We're crunching numbers, analysing forecasts, and diving deep into the data to better understand where we're headed. It's amazing what we're discovering as we look into this—each one unveiling a piece of our nudist club's future puzzle.

## Membership Type Distribution



## Membership Distribution

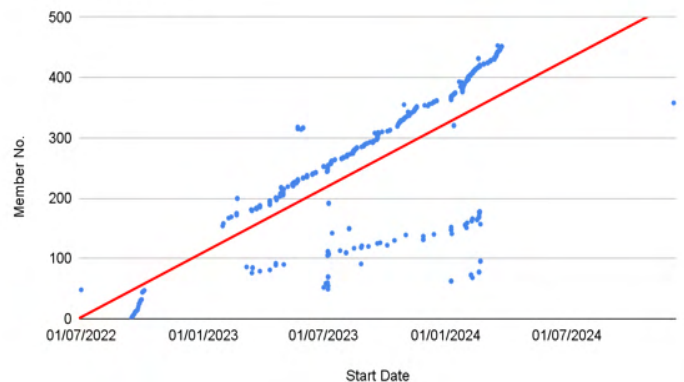
As we can see on the left, our membership comprises 48.5% couples and 51.5% single members. That's nearly an even 50/50 split which is amazing to see, and removes the notion that nudists are all "Single men". That is something we really didn't like the Mayor of Byron Bay stating recently which you will find out more about in this newsletter. This chart has been used as part of our strategy with the Save Tyagarah Beach Campaign we have been participating in, to discount that notion. We don't collect statistics as far as gender is concerned as we feel that as a non discriminatory club that is not necessary.

## Club Growth Forecast

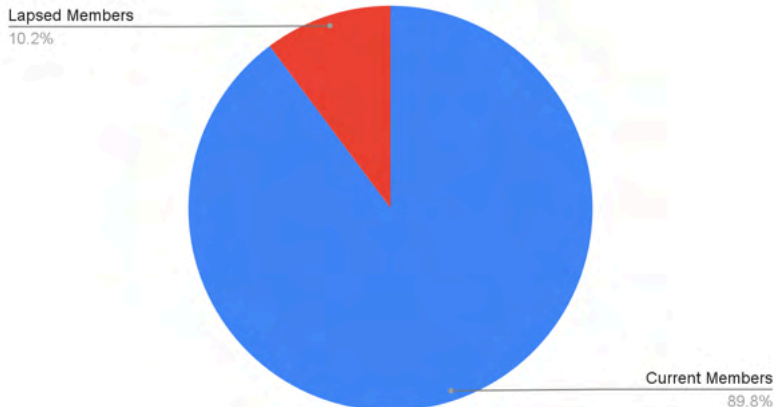
The graph to the right is from the data we have collected since the new club committee/management team came along in September 2022. The blue points represent member numbers and the red line is an average trend line. With the exception of a member joining for 5 years which skewed the statistics, we are trending at reaching member number 500 around June 2024. With consideration when we came along and shook things up in a declining Naturist membership amongst other clubs, this is quite phenomenal, sitting just above 1100% growth. Hats off Naturists!!

The more we grow, the more influence we hold on our State and Local governments.

## Club Growth Forecast



## Retention



## Member Retention

Another statistic which surprised us was member retention. We were hoping the "Blue" figure would be higher around 95% but that isn't so. The most common reason for a person not rejoining is a new partner that is not a Naturist, the next reason is unknown as that member simply does not renew. Thirdly is the saddest one of the three, deceased members.

We feel that even if you are having a break from Naturism, supporting the cause that supported you is of utmost importance.

**The committee hopes these stats shed some light on where the club is at and how we are growing.**

**Thanks to you, our awesome members and supporters.**



# CHANGES IN LATITUDES, CHANGES IN ATTITUDES

By QNA Member, Darryl

It is unlikely that the late Jimmy Buffet had naturism in mind when he wrote this song in 1977 but the title does say it all. As it happens, I lived in Port Douglas in the 1970s when things were much different than they are now. It was a time when you could hardly go to any party without Jimmy's songs being played just slightly louder than the sound barrier.

With swaying palm trees and a nautical atmosphere, music from the Caribbean was quite apt. As for clothes, well, they were generally optional and no-one gave a bugger. Maybe a few examples will set the scene. One night, my wife and I decided to go skinny dipping in the tranquil South Pacific Ocean. Afterwards, we walked, totally nude, up the moonlit main street of Port Douglas, encountering only a large, curled up python in the road. It is hard to imagine that happening today.

One colourful local resident, Boris, used to make mango or pawpaw wine with an alcohol content strong enough to power a rocket into space. You only needed one glass and you were away with the fairies.

Anyway, one day four of us blokes were drinking this stuff, naked, and decided we'd visit a lady who lived at the far end of Fourmile Beach, so we piled into Boris' four-wheel drive with its top down and drove the full length of the famous Port Douglas beach, in broad daylight, completely naked. At the end of the beach, we turned into the lady's property. She was hanging up the washing and didn't bat an eyelid at the sight of four pissed, nude men turning up in their birthday suits. In those days just about everyone owned small four-wheel drives because if you didn't or couldn't venture far out of town, especially during summer.

A few of us would form a convoy and go to places that, at least then, were out of the way – Cooktown, Chillagoe, Laura, Cape Tribulation. And none of those places were blessed with bitumen road access.



One day a party of us had been driving in the northern heat on a dusty road en route to Cooktown and stopped at one of our favourite creeks for a swim. Alas, when we got there, there was a prim and proper lady in all of her Sunday finery and her daughter relaxing by the creek.

While we hesitated to undress and dive in, one of our party, Dr. Dick, a rather gangly kind of guy if you know what I mean, decided he wasn't going to be cheated out of a swim on a hot day so he stripped off and made his way to the creek, his gangly parts swinging in

the breeze as he jogged down the embankment. The lady took one look, miraculously didn't faint, and got outta there pronto. Dr. Dick saved the day.

Just south of Port Douglas, and North of Cairns is Buchans Point has a pretty little beach just off the Cook Highway. You could park off road and a few minutes later, be naked on the beach with dozens of others. It was a favourite haunt for genuine naturists, especially on Sundays.

And there was never any trouble.

Was any of this legal? Of course not. Did anyone bother about it? No, or if they did, no-one, certainly not the police, took them seriously. But the problem remains that it was illegal which is off-putting for many.

Later in life, I changed latitudes and moved to London. While there, I visited Cap d'Agde in the south of France. Within the town itself is a satellite village which is entirely naturist. There are banks, a post office, supermarkets, everything required to sustain a village. Only those who serve behind counters wear clothes. For everyone else, clothes are a no-no.

And of course, there is a vast change in attitudes. It's legal, it's safe and no-one is put off their breakfast at the sight of an entire village undressed. Similarly, Gran Canaria in the Canary Islands has a naturist beach that is not only legal, it is policed by local armed cops, wearing uniforms consisting of shorts and polo shirts and patrolling on quad bikes, to ensure, not only that the beachgoers themselves behave, but that no harm comes to them from outsiders.



Europeans do have a different attitude when it comes to nudity. But in our latitude, most seem reticent to shed their clothes.



Perhaps we are more prudish, though if you put today's society under the microscope, that is a little hard to believe. Or, and this is more likely, they are put off by the fact that it is illegal.

The people who need a change in attitude in this latitude, who need to understand that there are major benefits and no harm in naturism, are our politicians.

Start writing, folks.

**Thanks for the great article Darryl. If you would like to write an article for our next newsletter, please email it to [qldnaturistassoc@gmail.com](mailto:qldnaturistassoc@gmail.com)**



# Kiels Mountain Members Pool and Pizza Party

We had a blast on March 23rd and 24th at our second Kiels Mountain Pool and Pizza Party. Good food, drinks, fun, and awesome company - that's what QNA is all about!

Tony, one of our fantastic members, generously hosted the event at his place, which boasts waterfalls, a rainforest, and a spacious rock swimming pool. We had a great turnout of 34 people over the weekend, with 16 staying overnight. It was a perfect low-cost getaway amid rising living expenses.



On Friday night, Tony, Rachael, Raice, and Scott got the party started, prepping for the exciting weekend ahead. Despite some showers in the forecast, members travelled from as far as the Gold Coast and Hervey Bay to join us. The weather held up reasonably well, allowing everyone to enjoy the natural beauty of Queensland.

Guests began arriving at 9 am, greeted warmly by Raice, our parking attendant. They were welcomed with a complimentary glass of bubbly, setting the tone for a fantastic day ahead.

At 11:30 am, a mouthwatering array of pizza toppings emerged, thanks to the efforts of Dave, Sam, and Caroline, assisting Rachael. Lindsay even brought along another pizza oven to keep up with demand. The pizza-making frenzy was a hit, with lively debates over toppings. It was heartwarming to see everyone sharing their creations - a true testament to our close-knit community.



Throughout the day members explored the surrounding rainforest and braved the cool pool waters for a refreshing dip.

As the day wound down, those staying overnight continued the party, enjoying a delicious barbecue prepared by Stu and Sam. The steaks, rissoles, and sausages, accompanied by salads, were a hit, capping off a memorable day filled with laughter and camaraderie that lasted into the wee hours of the morning.



The next morning, despite a few sore heads, everyone gathered, brewed coffee, and reminisced about the previous day and night, discussing upcoming QNA plans. Together, they pitched in to tidy up for breakfast, which turned out to be quite the feast!

Around 9 am, Rachael and Stu whipped up a hearty breakfast spread of bacon, eggs, sausages, mushrooms, tomato, and toast. Their culinary skills truly shone.

Even after breakfast, people stuck around to lend a hand with the cleanup, making the process a breeze.



The Committee extends heartfelt thanks to all attendees, especially those who pitched in throughout the weekend. A special shoutout to Tony for graciously hosting us.

We're already looking forward to our next event here which Tony has offered to hold in December - our club Christmas Party!



## Up And Coming Events

You can always find what's coming up on our website:  
[qldnaturistassoc.org/club-calendar](http://qldnaturistassoc.org/club-calendar)

**MAY LONG WEEKEND  
@ GG'S CHILDERS**

**May 4-6 2024**

**COME AND JOIN QNA  
FOR A FUN WEEKEND  
AT QLD'S LARGEST  
NATURIST VENUE**

**FOR BOOKINGS PLEASE EMAIL  
GGSCHILDERS@GMAIL.COM**

**Anzac Day  
Nude Cricket Match**  
Tyagarah Beach

25th April, 2024  
10am-2pm

Help keep NUDE FREEDOM Alive

Byron Naturists

Queensland Naturist Association Inc.



# Tyagarah: The fight for our closest legal CO beach.

In late January 2024, our good friends from Northern NSW, The Byron Naturists Inc received an email which was forwarded to us containing these simple words which none of us wanted to hear. We are redacting any personal information for legal reasons.



There are some emergent tenure issues around the designated Clothing Optional area at Tyagarah.

Council will be considering the impacts on February 22nd. If you would like to discuss this in advance please give me a call.

Regards,

Of course this was really not a great thing to see. A scramble of phone calls ensued between QNA, Byron Naturists Inc President Bradley, Deb from BB@Byron who is also the organiser of the World Naked Bike Ride and Byron Bay Shire Council (BSC) as well to find out what was going on. A working group was formed to tackle this matter head on between concerned beachgoers, Byron Naturists and QNA which meets weekly.

We later learnt from a GIPA request, NSW's name for their Freedom Of Information act, that National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) had contacted BSC on the 31st of March 2023 that they were investigating the tenure of Tyagarah Clothing Optional Beach and on the 3rd of July 2023 they had contacted the Byron Coast Management Committee which allows joint management of Tyagarah Nature Reserve by NPWS and the Arakwal people.

NPWS had a survey done on Tyagarah beach moving the mean high water mark close to the waterline. It used to extend to the base of the dune area. NPWS had also requested a GIPA in regards to offensive behaviour occurring at Tyagarah Beach in an attempt to support their case. The tables below show that there is hardly any offensive behaviour occurring and we do believe that the majority of these offences did not occur in the signposted area of Tyagarah CO beach, but in the dunes and at the nearby Ti-Tree lakes.

Number of infringements notices and cautions issued at the clothes optional beach, Tyagrah, between 2017 and 2023. Data current to 08/12/2023.

Type of Infringement/Caution and Offence	Number of Infringements and Cautions Issued							Total
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	
<b>Cannabis Caution</b>								
Possess prohibited drug	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2
<b>Cin - Criminal Infringement Notice</b>								
Behave in offensive manner in/near public place/school	15	31	13	5	1	2	0	67
<b>Infringement Notice</b>								
Be nude in bathing place	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Be nude in river/watercourse or tidal/non-tidal water	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	4
Be nude near bathing place/river/watercourse/water/sea	0	1	0	24	11	17	7	59
Camp in park or part of park when prohibited by notice	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Commit an act of indecency in a park	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Commit an act of indecency in park	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Drive with low range PCA - 1st off	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Fail to comply requirement public health order - COVID-19	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Fail to comply with terms of notice erected at public place	12	1	5	0	3	5	2	28
Fail to comply with terms of notice erected by council	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Not comply with noticed direction re s 7/8/9 - COVID-19	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	4
Use unregistered registrable Class A motor vehicle on road	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>169</b>

The Area Manager for NPWS, Jenny Aitken issued the following statements.

1. NPWS initiated a survey to determine the eastern boundary of the Tyagarah Nature Reserve. In the past this was understood as the “base of the dunes”. It has now been determined that the eastern boundary is the “mean high water mark”, which is 20–40 metres east of the dunes. Most of the beach, therefore, is within the Nature Reserve. Most of the beach is not Crown Land managed by Council. The survey was conducted in August 2023 to determine if NPWS had management responsibility of the beach. (A copy will be in the Council Agenda).
2. The main reason for withdrawing support for the clothing-optional beach is that nude bathing and recreation are not recognised or permissible activities in the Reserve, according to the Tyagarah Nature Reserve Plan of Management ( <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/parks-reserves-and-protected-areas/park-management/documents/tyagarah-nature-reserve> ). (These are not stated as a permissible activities in the document but they are not specifically prohibited either.) A Plan of Management cannot just be changed. The last Plan was in 2020 and there won't be a review and update for several years.
3. There have been “lots” of complaints to NPWS and police about “inappropriate behaviour” at Tyagarah. These were described as “persistent and ongoing”. There have also been similar complaints about Kings.
4. Based on legal advice received by NPWS, the Council signs are what legally enable nudity at Tyagarah. NPWS have written to Council and want these signs removed by April 8, 2024.
5. NPWS will work with Council and Police on messaging and enforcement. This will probably include signage specifically prohibiting nude bathing, like the signs at the Ti-Tree Lake.
6. Associated environmental impacts are only a secondary reason for the change. These impacts include inappropriate use of the dunes causing erosion and damage to vegetation. NB: addressing this problem would not overcome NPWS's core objection – ie. nudity is not permitted in the Plan of Management.
7. It is a hard no on relocating the clothing-optional beach to another place in the Byron/Tweed national park system. No Plan of Management for these parks recognises nude recreation as a permissible Activity.
8. It is also a hard no on extending the April 8 deadline to find an alternative location on a Council beach, as the decision has been signed-off
9. There has been a “spike in complaints” about inappropriate behaviour at Kings Beach. The situation was described as “intolerable”. Subject to resources, new signage prohibiting nude bathing and enforcement action by police will be undertaken at Kings simultaneously with similar actions at Tyagarah.





We can gather a few things from the above statements.

1. The “Lots of complaints” in item 3 does not match the data from NSW Police.
2. They discuss inappropriate use of the dunes, which are not part of the CO Beach and have not been since 2019.
3. They were not willing to budge on anything.
4. They don't like naturists.

A petition was started by Byron Naturists, a [Change.org Petition](#) and a protest on the 18th of Feb was organised at Tyagarah beach which was attended by over 140 people including many QNA members making the trip down to support our Northern NSW naturist brothers and sisters.

Besides being a great day where lots of people got together it was a great show of support for the beach with some great media attention including News Corp and The Byron Echo.

A letter/email campaign was also started with hundreds of submissions in support of Tyagarah and we thank QNA members dearly for their thoughtful words and assistance with this as many of you did help.

Next was the council meeting on the 22nd February where Brad and Jessa “The Nude Blogger” representing the working group spoke amazingly in defence of the beach. Council could not stop NPWS from shutting the beach as they did not have a say, but we did win a reprieve until the 30th of June 2024. NPWS agreed to this in response to the pressure from us naturists and some councillors regarding the lack of public consultation and how this was kept under wraps by certain elements within the council. It was also noted that the petition now had over 6000 signatures which was wonderful news.

We are up against some pretty powerful groups in this fight for our beach, including NPWS, The Arakwal Corporation who are the local indigenous corporation that manages Tyagarah on behalf of NPWS, the Osho people who are a cult once also known as the Rajneesh's and also nicknamed The Orange People, Zephyr Horses, who use the beach to ride horses along, Elements Resort who is owned by a developer with big sway in council and The Tyagarah Residents Association, a group pretty much defunct these days with a couple of very vocal new people to the area.

Since then a legal fighting fund has been put together at:

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-keep-tyagarah-clothing-optional>

QNA have now requested a fairly broad reaching GIPA request of NSW Police and another on NPWS for which we feel will be of use to this campaign and also to help with future campaigns.

The goal of the first is to compare non clothing optional beaches to the CO Beach in regards to objectionable behaviour. The second regarding NPWS and what complaints they had actually received and how many people visit the beach as it is an unknown statistic in Australia. The goal of the second request of NPWS is to gather evidence of the “Lots” of complaints and also to find out how secretive they have been and also to gather statistical information.

1. Request Description: The NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) are planning to close the clothing-optional beach at Tyagarah from 30/6/24. Public safety is one of the reasons given. The Queensland Naturist Association are one of the community organisations representing beach users. We now have statistics on fines and cautions at Tyagarah clothing-optional beach and we want to compare these numbers with other popular beaches in Byron Shire. We request data for the last 5 calendar years (2017-2023) for the number of people that have been charged/convicted (total charges), issued penalty infringement notices or cautions, and the name of the offence including "CAD Jobs" and "Events" concerning "offensive behaviour", for the following beaches: Byron Bay Main Beach. Byron Bay Clarkes Beach. Byron Bay The Pass.
2. A. Written communications and logs with all parties regarding the status of the clothing optional beach and NPWS.  
B. The number of yearly passes issued by NPWS to Tyagarah Nature Reserve.  
C. The number of day passes issued by NPWS to Tyagarah Nature Reserve via the old envelope system and the current payment kiosk in the car park.  
D. Total revenue for the above period from points B and C  
E. Information to cover the period from: 01/01/2017 to 31/12/2023

As we know 99.9% of visitors to Tyagarah use the CO beach we believe this will be a great way to know how many people use the beach and what the government makes or can make out of it financially, adding to our naturist causes in QLD and interstate. This data does not exist anywhere publicly in Australia at the moment. A round table workshop under the guise of "public consultation" was held for stakeholder groups on the 27th of



March. Arguments for and against were discussed and those points will be given to The Hon. Penny Sharpe, NSW Minister for the Environment. We dont believe this will really get anywhere but they do now know we are considering another location for the CO beach.

The members of council who are on our side had no prior knowledge of this meeting and were duly informed.

The secrecy and lack of consultation by NWPS and Byron Shire Council have been absolutely appalling and not what we expect from our elected leaders and bureaucrats in a democracy.





Where do we currently stand?

We are attempting to lobby the local indigenous corporation, Arakwal, in regards to working together for the future benefit of all of us and also with council in regards to an alternative location.

We are also hoping that many people will attend the annual ANZAC Day cricket match organised by Byron Naturists and QNA at the beach and we will show the world that there are many of us that use Tyagarah for good purposes whilst looking after the beach in a respectful, manner whilst also maintaining the natural integrity of the Nature Reserve.

## World Naked Bike Ride 2024.



What an incredible day and weekend it turned out to be! Deborah, one of our legendary members, has been organising this event for many years now, and it's become an absolute highlight on the naturist calendar. We were privileged to accept an invitation to help out as well. We believe everyone should experience it at least once in their lifetime.



The after-party at Deb's stunning retreat, BB@Byron, which is also featured on our website, was simply phenomenal. With swimming, delicious food, relaxing spas, and even the renowned Pricasso in attendance, it was an unforgettable experience for all involved.



**That wraps it up for the QNA Autumn Mini Magazine.**

**We hope to see you all again soon.**

**Thankyou for supporting and involving yourself in Our Club.**