



Destination North Coast NSW

News & Views Issue No. 22

New GM for Destination North Coast

On behalf of the Board of Destination North Coast I am pleased to announce the appointment of Mr Michael Thurston to the role of General Manager of our organisation.

Michael is extremely highly regarded in the industry and amongst his achievements is his role as project manager for the Australian Tourism Exchange in 2016 held on the Gold Coast with record high satisfaction rates from participants. Michael is a resident of Ballina in the north of our region and has been working for Gold Coast Tourism for the past 6 years as Associate Director - Global Partnerships. Michael will commence on the 1st August based from our office in Lismore.

Cameron Arnold
Chair

Last chance - Tourism Symposium & Tourism Awards

This is it!

It's time to join Destination North Coast and co-hosts Coffs Coast at the North Coast Tourism Symposium and to celebrate at the Regional Tourism Awards in Coffs Harbour on Wednesday July 25th.

Last chance to attend the industry event of the year combined with the social event of the year.

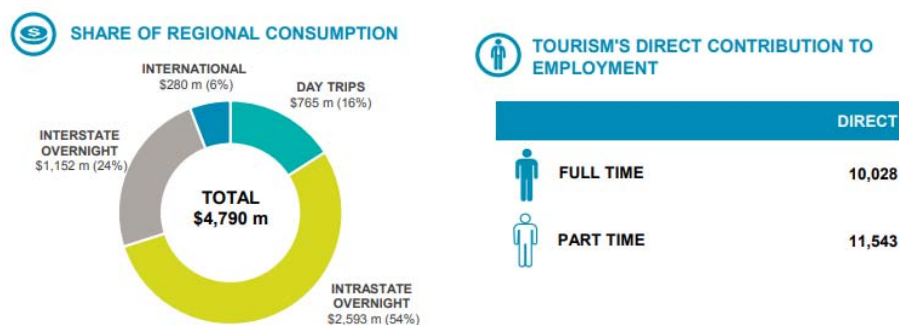
Check out the [Symposium Program](#) and [BOOK NOW](#) and we look forward to seeing you in Coffs Harbour.



Tourism Research Australia - 2016-17 Regional Tourism Satellite Accounts

To get a snapshot of the [North Coast's tourism visitation data](#), review TRA's recently released 2016-17 Regional Tourism Satellite Accounts.

Key take-outs are illustrated [at this link](#) and indicate in 2016–17, tourism (both direct and indirect) was worth \$3.2 billion to the North Coast economy and that the region has 21,000 people directly employed in tourism.



Reminder – NSW First Industry Development Workshops – Port Macquarie

Tourism Manager Forum – July 31st, 1pm – 4.30pm

For Local Tourism Managers, Tourism Associations and Destination Marketers. [Full details and to register](#)

Inbound Strategy Workshop – August 1st, 9am – 2.15pm

For tourism businesses (e.g. tour operators, attractions, accommodation providers etc) to get a practical guide to developing export-ready tourism products to the international travel trade. [Full details and to register](#)

Diploma of Event Management Scholarship Recipients

As reported in our last News & Views, Destination NSW is supporting three applicants from across the North Coast to undertake a Diploma of Event Management via Meetings and Events Australia.

Today we profile Molly, scholarship recipient from Waters Edge Boutique Hotel, Port Macquarie. Molly is currently working as Event Coordinator & Front Office Supervisor. Each day she enjoys going to work and is continuously learning on the job and every day is different to the last. Molly has lived on the Mid North Coast for over 15 years and loves every aspect about it, from the beaches to the lush hinterlands. She believes it's such a beautiful place to live and work.



Her biggest accomplishment is being awarded Trainee of the Year in 2014 after completing her Cert III in Business. She is thrilled to have been given this opportunity to complete the Diploma in Events Management and is extremely passionate about the industry. Molly feels it will assist in broadening her current skill set to help with her everyday job roles along with furthering her employability in the future. Ultimately Molly's goal is to complete her Diploma in Events Management and move onto larger scale events throughout the Region.

Upcoming Events on the North Coast

To aid in your planning, keep in mind these upcoming events across the North Coast over the coming weeks.

[Elephant Trail Race](#) - 20 to 22 July 2018, Port Macquarie

A picturesque trail run throughout the beautiful Cairncross State Forest in the hinterland of Port Macquarie with the option of 160km, 100km, 50km or 25km races and a shorter 13km course and a Kids Trail Race for younger runners.

[Splendour in the Grass](#) – 20 to 22 July, North Byron Parkland

One of the must attend music gigs of the year.

[Battle Recharge](#) - 27 to 29 July, Tweed Valley

It's all about the bike! Battle Recharge is Australia's most sought after weekend of cycling; showcasing the best of the Tweed's natural environment, food, accommodation and cycling.

[Bangalow Music Festival](#) - 9 to 12 August 2018, Bangalow

The festival premieres new and innovative Australian works; promotes interactive educational programs for students and emerging artists; and offers local amateur and professional musicians the opportunity to perform at the Festival Prelude Community Concert.

[The O'Heart Festival](#) - 17 – 19 August, Tyalgum

The O'Heart Festival is a three-day, conscious living indie folk festival held in the village of Tyalgum and is deeply rooted in environmental awareness, including alternative energy technologies and sustainability education and solutions, wellness and conscious living, and quality live music.

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