

**CHANGE:** Melissa Reid swapped corporate life for Coolangatta

# Seaside life well designed

By **Zoe Hancock**  
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MELISSA Reid has swapped the corporate world for the freedom of her own business.

The former national principal for a major architectural and interior design company moved to Coolangatta in 2007 for a sea change.

"I moved from Sydney to Brisbane in 2004 but moved to Coolangatta for family reasons and now have two young children," Mrs Reid said.

"I resigned from the high-profile job and after I'd moved here and had kids I decided to try starting my own interior design business.

"I do a lot of commercial spaces but also residential design."

Her quirkiest project so far in the area has been a lingerie shop in Kingscliff, Yours Truly.

"I got the job through word of mouth, which I'm finding is the key to busi-

ness," Mrs Reid said.

"It was collaboration with the owners of the shop and they wanted a burlesque theme so we worked around that.

"The shop is very dramatic with a magnificent red satin curtain and a chandelier, and it all goes towards the experience of a lingerie shop.

"The owners relocated the shop to the main strip of Kingscliff and, as with all businesses now, the owners wanted something to set them apart."

The designer said working to a budget meant having to be creative on more than the design level.

"You have to be more innovative with your ideas to meet a budget, so it can be a really fun challenge to work within the constraints," Mrs Reid said.

"Within the collaborative process I worked closely with the owners and made



"The Tweed has a lot of potential and I think it's a really exciting time to be here"

**NEW LIFESTYLE:** Melissa Reid in lingerie shop Yours Truly which she decorated according to a burlesque theme.

Photo: John Gass D129515

three-dimensional sketches, showed furniture and light samples and then they made the final decisions as to what to buy."

Mrs Reid, from MRI Design, said businesses needed to offer employees

a work space they wanted to work in.

"Work places have to be engaging these days ... like one of my jobs in Coolangatta used a "think tank", which opens up the meeting space and also

opens the communication channels."

Next on Mrs Reid's design agenda are a cosmetic training centre, a house in Casuarina and she is waiting to hear about a Brisbane-based project.

**NEWS BRIEFS**

**Late bus service**

● A LATE-night bus service from Coolangatta to Kingscliff will now be joined by a maxi taxi to ensure Tweed Coast residents arrive home safely after a night out. The N798 NightLink service is a special bus that operates hourly from 1.15am to 4.15am DST on Saturday, Sunday and public holidays at standard TransLink fares with security provided. Pick-ups are Queen Elizabeth Park bus stop in McLean St, Coolangatta; Central bus stop in Griffith Street and Coolangatta East bus stop in Griffith Street. Drop-offs along the route via Dry Dock Road, Fraser Drive, Darlington Drive, and Chinderah Bay Drive to Pearl St bus stop. The bus links with a 10-seat maxi taxi at Kingscliff for passengers continuing to Cudgen, Casuarina, Cabarita, Hastings Point and Pottsville. Additional fares of \$5 or \$10 apply for the taxi.

**Plan deferred**

● A DECISION on adopting a new council development control plan for Hastings Point has been deferred until December for Tweed councillors to hold a further workshop with affected members of the community. Councillors this week voted unanimously to defer that matter after Cr Joan van Lieshout said some of the proposed building controls still needed clarification.

**For art lovers**

● ART lovers have been invited to a free event at Tweed River Art Gallery tomorrow when director Susi Muddiman will welcome three artists to the gallery on Sunday from 11am. Artist Robert Ryan will present a floor talk to his exhibition *Chatter*. Sydney sculptor Lionel Bawden and ceramicist Julie Bartholomew will speak about the work on display in the exhibition *Zhongjian: Midway* after lunch at 1pm.

## Body identified: man's death 'suspicious'

POLICE have identified a body found in Uki on Monday as Douglas Warren Bengé.

About 8pm on Monday the owner of a property on Kyogle Road, Uki, located the body of Mr Bengé, 46, in a shed on the property.

**WHAT DO YOU THINK**

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Mr Bengé, also from Uki, was found to have suffered head injuries and

investigators are treating his death as suspicious.

A post mortem examination has determined Mr Bengé died sometime between Thursday, November 11, and Monday, when his body was discovered.

Police from the Tweed

Byron Local Area Command with assistance from State Crime Command's Homicide Squad are appealing for public assistance.

Anyone with information about the death is urged to contact Tweed Heads Police via Crime

Stoppers on 1800 333 000. Callers to Crime Stoppers can remain anonymous and all information is treated in the strictest confidence.

A report will be prepared for the information of the Coroner.

## Keep everyone happy.

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