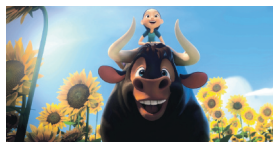


At the movies

Book makes it to the big screen **P4**



Graduation

Aboriginal leaders celebrated **P5**



Social scene

Christmas cheer in Chinatown **P6-7**



Broome Happenings

A publication of Broome Advertiser

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MANGROVE HOTEL

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MANGROVE
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Sarah Mullineux, Simone Fletcher, Curtis Robinson and Marcelle Martin armed with shovels for the big planting day. Picture: Kandy Curran

Parties galore to welcome new year

■ Jakeb Waddell

With only 10 days remaining until the big countdown to the new year, many are scurrying to work out their resolutions and plans for 2018 — but many in Broome just want to know where the party is.

For those remaining in the Kimberley town for the biggest celebration of the year, an array of options are on offer to suit all.

The Mangrove Hotel will throw a giant garden party for its night of nights from 5pm, with a live DJ and gourmet food stalls.

Live cover band Quiver will help guests dance the night away at the Roebuck Bay Hotel from 9.30pm, with dinner bookings available at the Pearl's restaurant next door beforehand.

Skylla is inviting its guests to "dress to impress" for the venue's New Year's Eve party, at which renowned Sydney DJ Bambi will blast everyone's favourite tunes from 10pm.

For a night of sensational live music, Divers Tavern is the place to be, with The Mexicans, Steve Pigram and Puertside performing from 8pm-1am.

Entry is free and prizes, giveaways and drink specials are available.

For those who like it a little bit fancy, Cable Beach Club Resort & Spa's all-inclusive White Party is sure to satisfy. Kimberley Sands is taking bookings for its New Year's Eve dinner.

Film hails community spirit

■ Glenn Cordingley

A short film portraying the happy faces of children planting bush tucker trees in a neglected part of Broome has been hailed as a model community project and a perfect example for others to follow.

Made by filmmaker Paul Bell, *Bushtucker Trail Heals Community and Bay* shows an uplifting story of local government, indigenous rangers and volunteers working together to spruce up the McMahon Walkway and stormwater drain.

Project manager Kandy Curran said communities could be fragile and if a popular walkway became degraded, people could stop using the area. Ms Curran said the

mission — led by the Roebuck Bay Working Group, Shire of Broome and Parks and Wildlife Yawuru Service rangers — delivered a win-win on all fronts.

"The walkway has now got a beautiful bush tucker trail growing vigorously between the footpath and stormwater drain, which has been cleared of litter, prickles, weeds and garden waste," she said.

"Moreover, Roebuck Bay is cleaner, with less litter and nutrients flowing through the stormwater drain into the embayment when it rains."

Ms Curran congratulated the Shire of Broome and Parks and Wildlife Service Yawuru Rangers on an "outstanding job".

"Together, they have helped

hundreds of children from local schools plant Kimberley natives beside a walkway and stormwater drain, and in so doing, restoring habitat and community pride in a popular recreational area," Ms Curran said.

"As well as the native plantings, the footpaths have been repaired, the plants reticulated and mulched and the area control burned."

To ensure the walkway and stormwater drain were kept clean and green, the Roebuck Bay Working Group developed the short film to show in the schools that took part.

In addition, fridge magnets and a letter have been delivered to homes surrounding the walkway in the Cable Beach Estate. Ms

Curran said the goal was to see community ownership of the walkway and over time, the stormwater drain colonised by the native plants, which would slow and absorb the nutrients.

If successful, she said, the project could be replicated in other stormwater drains to reduce pollutants entering Roebuck Bay.

"Nutrients feed the blue-green *Lyngbya* blooms that have been worsening in Roebuck Bay over recent years, so projects to reduce stormwater drainage impacts on Broome's beautiful coastal waters are good news," Ms Curran said.

She thanked the State Government for providing a project grant.

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