

# Safe place for business

A NEW report has identified the Wide Bay region as one of the safest places in Queensland for businesses to operate.

Just 1.5 per cent of the 4082 businesses in the Wide Bay were ranked by SV Partners accountants and partners as being at high to severe risk of financial failure within the next 12 months.

A further 23.2 per cent are rated as medium risk, while the 75.2 per cent ranked low risk is the best proportion anywhere in the state.

SV Partners' Commercial

## Wide Bay leads state for least risky operations

Risk Outlook Report for March 2019 provides an analysis of the current state of Australian businesses from an insolvency and prognostic perspective based on commercial risk data.

The Queensland region with the highest ratio of at-risk businesses was Logan/Beaudesert.

In another positive for the Bundaberg region, the agriculture industry had the lowest

ratio of high-risk businesses, with 0.7 per cent at risk.

This compares to accommodation and food services which led the state with 5.7 per cent.

"According to ASIC's recent reporting on insolvencies, the most common cause for business failure is inadequate cash flow or high cash use," the report says.

"Nationally the highest number of businesses most at

risk fall within the construction, accommodation and food services and retail trade industries.

"For those industries and regions most at risk of financial failure, it is important that business owners seek professional advice immediately when they detect the early warning signs of insolvency."

**For more on Bundaberg's business world go to Page 12.**

### HOW WE RANKED

- Bundy: 1.6 % (high risk)
  - Gold Coast: 2.7%
  - Brisbane East: 2.5%
  - Ipswich: 2.5%
  - Sunny Coast: 1.8%
  - Mackay: 1.9%
  - Fitzroy: 1.8%
  - Toowoomba: 1.5%
  - Townsville: 1.5%
- Source: SV Partners

## Briefs



### Crash at Subway

A WOMAN was taken to Bundaberg Hospital after a crash outside Subway in the CBD yesterday morning. A spokeswoman said Queensland Ambulance Service was called to the incident at the corner of Bourbong and Toonburra Sts about 9.30am. She said the woman was transported in a stable condition.

### Island snake bite

A VENOMOUS black whip snake is believed to have bitten a man at Fraser Island.

The Bundaberg RACQ LifeFlight Rescue helicopter airlifted a man to hospital, after he was bitten by a snake on the island in the early hours of yesterday morning.

The tourist, aged in his 60s, was reportedly on the veranda of his island accommodation just before 2am when he leaned on the railing and was bitten on the hand.

He was in a stable condition when he was airlifted to Hervey Bay Hospital.

### Tree falls on woman

A WALK along the beach took a dangerous turn for a woman who was hit by a falling tree. A Queensland Ambulance Service spokesman said the woman was walking along Moore Park Beach about 3pm Sunday when she was struck. She was taken to Bundaberg Hospital with scratches and grazes.

### April Fool's Day

YOU may have noticed some quirky stories in yesterday's paper. Sadly, there is no Bundy Rum Bundaberg Bearways service on the way and there will not be an eatery opening in the old water tower. Readers had a lot of fun and a good laugh at the stories on our Facebook page, which are not too bad ideas for the future when you think about it.



**BEACH DAYS:** Swimsuit model and mental health advocate Melanie Bragg modelling the \$35,000 opal bikini by Veve Swimwear designer Vanessa Bryce teamed with local jewellery designer Vanessa Nock. Photo: Patrick Woods

## Gemstone bikini proving to be more than just swimwear

SUNSHINE Coast designer Vanessa Bryce always dreamed of creating a gem-encrusted bikini, but a deeper meaning lies behind the glistening set with a \$35,000 price tag.

The Veve Swimwear owner unveiled the opal-encrusted bikini with the help of Bundaberg jeweller Vanessa Nock, who set three large gemstones in gold on quality fabrics.

Ms Nock completed her jewellery apprenticeship at Bill Proctor's Jewellers and has just started her own designer jewellery business on the Sunshine Coast.

Ms Nock and Ms Bryce's combined love for opals matched their passion for mental health awareness which spurred them to create the piece.

With 15 years in the fashion

industry, Ms Bryce has dealt with depression and anxiety, but was shocked when one of her colleagues, Baillie Schneider, took her own life.

As well as spreading the message of mental health awareness, she said the bikini was a tribute to the young model's life.

"The people I have on board with this creation are just as passionate

about the cause as I am," she said.

"We have created something truly special I hope will help spread the message."

**See tomorrow's NewsMail as we speak with jeweller and Bundaberg local Vanessa Nock about her career and her passion for making stunning jewellery.**

## Falls Prevention & Exercise Program

FULLY SUPERVISED CLASSES WITH A PHYSIOTHERAPIST AND PERSONAL TRAINER WORKING ON

Upper Limb Strength

Lower Limb Strength

Core Stability

Balance

Tuesdays & Thursday's • 9am to 10am • 10am to 11am • \$15\*

\*May be claimable on private health extras. Physio assessment required before participation in class. We recommend 10 classes over 5 weeks.

**Friendlies Physiotherapy & Allied Health**  
Regain your Physical Freedom

For more details or to book  
Telephone 4331 1888  
or Email [alliedhealth@thefriendlies.org.au](mailto:alliedhealth@thefriendlies.org.au)  
FRIENDLY SOCIETY PRIVATE HOSPITAL  
19-23 Bingera Street, Bundaberg

new PROGRAM

I ♥ ndis