

**INQUIRY INTO THE CLOSURE OF CASINO TO
MURWILLUMBAH RAIL SERVICES**

Organisation: Bangalow Progress Association Inc.
Name: Mr Ian Ritchie
Position: President
Telephone: 02 6687 1494
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Subject:

Summary

Bangalow Progress Association Inc.

Box 244 Bangalow 2479 66871494 p/f

The Chair, GPSC 4
Parliament House
Sydney 2000

Dear Sir Madam,

1st June 2004

Re: the loss and return of the Rail Service to the Northern Rivers

The Bangalow Progress Association was instrumental in saving from demolition the Bangalow Railway Station and have subsequently secured Commonwealth Grant Funds to restore the Railway Buildings. State Rail is also committed to the restoration of the Station.

It is clear to all who live near Bangalow the Station and the rail service has a strong social, commercial and historic link to the town.

The restoration of the Station Buildings will continue awaiting the trains return

The demise of the rail service is a short sighted glitch in the political and financial planning of the current heads of government.

The Railway Service will return and it will be linked to the Queensland line in response to sensible strategic, commercial and economic rationalism.

While the line is not in use we request the line be allocated a minimum maintenance programme to preserve the line to allow it to reopen with a minimum of effort in the future.

We will not under any circumstances allow for this line to be removed.

I trust the Current State Government will respond to the overwhelming community support to reinstate the Rail service and to plan for its extension to Queensland.

Your sincerely,

Ian Ritchie
President of the Bangalow Progress Association