Lennox Head Evening VIEW November Update

1. Welcome to November

Symbolically, **November** is a month of transition, reflection and new beginnings. In the Northern Hemisphere, it signals the drawing in of the year; in the Southern Hemisphere (ours in Australia), it brings the promise of growth and warmer days.

The name "November" comes from the Latin word *novem*, meaning "nine" — because in the early Roman calendar it was the ninth month. <u>Wikipedia+1</u>

Its birth flower is the **chrysanthemum**, a bloom rich in meaning. <u>Farmers' Almanac+1</u> And its birthstones, **topaz** and **citrine**, symbolise friendship, wisdom and longevity. (These associations are well-accepted, though symbolic frameworks vary.)

3. Global Commemorations & Events

Here are some of the notable cultural, historical and religious events that occur in November:

- Remembrance Day / Veterans Day (11 November) Marks the armistice that ended WWI on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918. It is observed as Remembrance Day in Commonwealth nations including Australia, and as Veterans Day in the US.
- **Diwali & Hanukkah** The Hindu festival of lights (Diwali) often falls in November, celebrating light over darkness. Hanukkah, the Jewish Festival of Lights, sometimes begins in November too.
- **Día de los Muertos** (Day of the Dead) Celebrated in Mexico and other regions from 31 October to 2 November: a vibrant multi-day observance of remembering loved ones who have passed.
- **Thanksgiving (US)** In the United States, Thanksgiving falls on the fourth Thursday of November. A major national holiday centred on gratitude, family and food.
- **Guy Fawkes Night** (UK) Celebrated on 5 November in Great Britain and some Commonwealth countries with bonfires and fireworks, to remember the failure of the Gunpowder Plot.
- Awareness & heritage months: November is designated as Native American Heritage Month in the US, and includes other global days such as World Vegan Day (Nov 1), World Science Day for Peace and Development (Nov 10) and World Diabetes Day (Nov 14).

3. November Down Under – Southern Hemisphere Perspective

Here in Australia — especially across New South Wales (NSW) — November ushers in the tail end of spring and the cusp of summer: a wonderful time to pause and appreciate nature's shift.

- Days are growing longer, the weather warming and nature is in full bloom.
- Wildlife activity is ramping up: native animals are more active, gardens burst with colour.

- With the hemispheres reversed, our November feels much like what May might feel like in the Northern Hemisphere. Wikipedia+1
- For some Neopagan communities in the Southern Hemisphere, early November (often 1 or 7 Nov) marks Beltane a celebration of summer's arrival, growth, fertility and renewal.

4. November in NSW – A Note for Club Members

- The warming weather invites outdoor gatherings: beach trips, picnics, walks in the park.
- Southern/coastal NSW typically enjoys mild to warm conditions, while further north we may already feel the beginning of the "wet season" with increased humidity and the possibility of storms.
- Remembrance Day A key moment of reflection across Australia. At 11:00 am on 11
 November we pause for two minutes of silence to honour those who served and died in conflict.
- Local community life is vibrant: in November many regions host cultural events, markets and festivals a perfect time to engage and connect locally.

5. What's On in the Northern Rivers This November

- **CR8iVE Northern Rivers Liveability Forum** Byron Bay, Wednesday–Thursday 19–20 November at the Byron Community Centre. A half-day intensive for industry, creatives and community leaders to discuss the future of the region's liveability, culture and economy.
- **Bangalow Show** Opens Friday 14 November—a regional highlight with local charm.

✓ A few friendly reminders:

- Always check the official event website or contact the organisers: dates, times and details *can* change.
- For galas or larger events (especially if there's a "cocktail attire" or VIP option), it's wise to book early.
- When heading outdoors: layering is smart a cool start, warmer midday, breeze later.
- And yes, for national commemorations like Remembrance Day: consider including in your month-plan a quiet pause or attending a local service.