

COURT

# Found guns, tools worth thousands

By JOE FLYNN

A STOLEN Winchester shotgun and .22 calibre rifle were found in a man's possession at Eidsvold Caravan Park on Wednesday, the Bundaberg Magistrates Court heard yesterday.

Darren Craig Laundy, 45, stole the guns and thousands of dollars worth of tools from a shed on a Mungy property last weekend, police prosecutor Sergeant Barry Stevens told the court.

"It was opportunistic ... he did not know what he was going to do with the weapons," defence lawyer Thomas Bray told the court.

Laundy was sentenced to nine months jail after yesterday pleading guilty to four stealing offences.

Sgt Stevens told the court Laundy broke into the shed after trying to siphon fuel from a North Burnett Regional Council vehicle in Mungy, near Eidsvold.

He broke into the shed and took bolt cutters, two axes, a chainsaw and a series of drills before finding the weapons cabinet.

He took the two firearms and a quantity of ammunition, Sgt Stevens said.

Mr Bray told the court Laundy intended to sell the tools or use them for work, but did not have a reason for taking the weapons.

"He might have used them to hunt kangaroos and live off the land," Mr Bray said.

But Magistrate John Smith dismissed the submission that Laundy had no motive in taking the weapons.

"You took steps to break the appropriate receptacle for the firearms and took them after discovering them," he said.

The defence lawyer said his client had resorted to stealing because he was unable to find work in the region.

The man was struggling to provide for his 10-year-old son, Mr Bray said.

Sgt Stevens told the court Laundy had a "lengthy" criminal history in his home state of South Australia.

He will be eligible for parole on August 14.



**HUMAN POWER:** Klaus Krieger, Dario, Sabine, Andri and Salina Schwörer have stopped in Bundaberg on their eco-boat as part of their around the world trip.  
Photo: MAX FLEET eco1405

EDUCATION

## A lesson like none before it

STUDENTS, prepare for a lesson you will never forget.

Swiss sailor Dario Schwörer and his wife Sabine are inviting schools from around the region aboard their 50-foot sailboat to share their rare insight into the Earth's environment.

The pair, who are at the midway point of a "human powered", round-the-world trip, will give presentations on their experience travelling the world's climate zones.

Since 2002, Mr and Mrs Schwörer have travelled from

their home nation of Switzerland in an attempt to cross the seven seas and the peaks of the seven continents.

Along the way the couple had their first two children, Salina, 4, and Andri, 2, researched climate variations from across the globe and held environmental presentations to 40,000 students.

"We have been collecting examples of the Earth's environment from all of these places around the world and we are able to show them to the students," he said.

"To show them how amazing our planet it."

So far, the United Nations-sponsored voyage has crossed the peaks and oceans of the Americas, Europe and Australia. They are at the half-way point, with the biggest challenge of all up next when they head to Mount Everest.

Before then they will be at Bundaberg Port for the next week.

To book a session with the pair, telephone 0423 450 255 or email dario@toptotop.org.

INDUSTRY

## Up to 18 face deportation

A TOTAL of 18 people were caught in a three-day blitz on illegal workers in Bundaberg and Childers this week.

After operations on Goodwood Road and other areas of Bundaberg netted numerous offenders, the investigations moved to Childers yesterday.

"The department spoke with a number of visa holders (yesterday) but identified no persons of interest," a Department of Immigration and Citizenship spokeswoman said.

The Department for Immigration and Citizenship, Bundaberg Police and Centrelink joined forces for the operation, which saw vans of backpackers

stopped on the roadside to have their paperwork inspected.

Two Vietnamese nationals were picked up by officials on Tuesday and sent to a detention centre in Brisbane, while eight others investigated were sent to the centre on Wednesday.

They were then joined on Wednesday by six Thai and two Malaysian nationals.

The overseas nationals are believed to have been flouting visa requirements, and may face deportation.

Officials said two of the Vietnamese nationals will be removed from the country as soon as possible.

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