

# Blue Moon Cabaret



**Moira Kenny (centre) with mother and daughter Maddie (right) and Anna.**

**D**on't say you weren't warned!

In what can only be described as another triumph, the Nimbin School of Arts committee has again met its charter to foster the arts by its forte presentation of this year's Blue Moon Cabaret.

To a full house, with a waiting list of 50, the 15-act programme showcased the beauty of music, the grace of dance, the inspiration of impro, the poignancy of song, the meat of poetry, the flip of comedy, and with a solid dance band to finish. Urp. Speaking of which, Motdang's tucker was superb as usual,

and barmen Nigel and Ben proved well up to the task.

While many local-area professional performers gave faultless renditions of their crafts, a number of surprise packages were included in the programme. After the musical entr'actes of Harry Freeman, Robert Wallace and Vasudha, comic Ellen Briggs warmed up the crowd well and truly, and then Carla and Shanti were on, two 12 year old

dancers who, it was agreed, "went off." The girls had last performed their routine, to the Black Eyed Peas' "Get it Started," at their break-up concert last year at Tuntable Creek primary.

They were followed by Ariel, a 14 year-old student at Richmond River HS with an amazing voice, who sang a couple of striking original songs, accompanied by dad Darmin on guitar.

The remarkably insightful Christine Strelan had some new poetry to share, all first-time stand-up Kimberley Davenport's material was new, and the Byron Tango gave a new twist to the courtship ritual, cleverly exploiting the bi-sexual ambiguities of the 2-girl, one-guy combination.

How do you follow that? Experienced comedian from the US, Robert Grayson found a way, before the Hirsutes amazed everyone with their mental dexterity in a totally improvised act to end the first half. Whew. It's interval, time to mix and mingle, see and be seen. Lots of chat everywhere, laughter, photos being taken. People had dressed up for the occasion, as usual, and frocks were big.

The major media sent senior staff: the *NR Echo* sent its editor, as did the *NGT*, and Your ABC Radio sent its station manager. There

was also a freelance photographer in a short dress who promised to get in touch...

Willy McElroy opened the second half with his Irish ballads, David Hallett chose an erudite poem by Billy Marshall-Stoneking on the writing process to precede his hilarious "Babylon Plaza," and Azo Bell from the Old Spice



**Kimberley Davenport (right) nailed her stand-up debut, here with friend Ali.**



**Jenny Wynter, who fessed up to the comedy of motherhood.**

Monday. He was happy to reflect on the evening. "In 15 years of producing cabarets at Nimbin School of Arts, the most recent show is most likely the



**Azo Bell, uke wizard**

Boys demonstrated what you can do with a ukelele if you're very musical, before Brisbane comic Jenny Wynter brought the house down with her confessional revue act, which climaxed with her disco number, "One night in labour." Fortunately, the band Roll Like That was on hand to allow the crowd to boogie til the wee small hours. They needed no hesitation.

Compere, master of ceremonies, performer and Hall committee chair David Hallett was back at work in his Community Centre office as the Economic Community Development Officer the following

best that we have put on," he said. "It certainly sets a high standard for the next one."

The event is a major fundraiser for the Hall committee, which plans to create a landscaped sculpture garden and car park at the rear of the building. The next Hall fundraiser will be a Blue Moon Ball on 9th September. It would seem advisable to get tickets early.

## Centenary year for busy committee

**President's report**  
by David Hallett

The year 2005 was particularly significant for the Nimbin School of Arts (NSA) as it was the centenary of the "grand old hall," and basically the centenary of the village.

The Centenary Renovations Project was a major achievement for the NSA during this anniversary. The replacement of the deteriorating 1937 main roof, the completion and equipping of the new kitchen, and the funding achieved for the Indigenous Art Exhibition were all significant aspects of the celebration of the Hall's centenary.

Funding provided by Lismore City Council, the Australia Council, the federal Dept of Transport and Regional Services and the National Parks and Wildlife Service, together with the on-going fundraising of the NSA all came to a major climax in 2005 with the completion of 15 years of Hall renovations. This is a credit to the perseverance of the small volunteer management committee, which has maintained, renovated and developed the Hall since 1990.

In keeping with its charter of fostering



**Achievements.** The hall committee (left to right) David Hallett, Kim Hanning, Carol Barrett, Len Martin, Sue Edmonds, Joan Gibson, Tony Gibson.

the arts in Nimbin, the NSA managed three major exhibitions and three major performance events in 2005, while also supporting other programs such as the Nimbin Performance Poetry World Cup, Nimbin's 39 Hours Short Film Festival, the Nimbin Players, the Weave and Mend Festival, Blue Knob Gallery and many other arts and community events.

The Autumn and Spring Arts Exhibitions were both successful, and involved several weeks of management, while the Indigenous Art Exhibition during the winter school holidays was a great success with over 4,500 visitors, significant art sales and an excellent community response.

The two Blue Moon Cabarets and the September Ball all maintained the high standards of performance events of the NSA, while providing some payments to

all performers, and continuing to raise funds for Hall renovations.

The continuity of volunteer management of the NSA has remained the underlying strength of the Hall's ability to produce exhibitions and shows while also maintaining the "nuts and bolts," the locks and windows, the cleaning and repainting.

The Nimbin community and I remain indebted to the long term involvement of Tony Gibson in the management of the NSA, and also to the many years of support from Joan Gibson, Carole Barrett, Sue Edmonds and Megan Baldock. Kim Hanning's bookkeeping has been crucial to the regulation and accountability of the NSA, while Len Martin and Peter Hajenko have assisted in many areas.

A priority for the future is to continue to enlist the support of such a fine team to manage the NSA.

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# Breaking the silence on private logging



Logging on private land near Nimbin, March 2006.

Picture: Hugh Nicholson.

by Carmel Flint

Many people think that after more than 30 years of the forest debate, logging is now tightly controlled in NSW. That's not true. On private land, there are no rules. There are 4 million hectares of forests and woodlands on private land in NSW.

Private logging can occur without requiring any approvals or any assessments from any public authority, because logging has been an exemption under the *Native Vegetation Conservation Act 1997* (NVCA). This means landholders who want to log can just go right ahead and fire up the chainsaws.

As a result, intensive logging is taking place in rainforest, oldgrowth forests, streambanks, rare,

endangered and vulnerable plant communities, and threatened species habitat.

And the Nimbin area is no exception. Uncontrolled logging on private land is taking place in the vicinity, and there are concerns that blocks of land are being bought up in order to log them. The result is smash and grab logging events aimed at making a quick buck that are destroying many of our most magnificent forests and woodlands.

Nimbin is situated in a National Biodiversity Hotspot that has been recognised by the Federal Government for its outstanding biological diversity and importance. It is also an area that has been very heavily cleared historically, and where

remnant vegetation and corridors have very high conservation significance. Just outside Nimbin, unconstrained logging is taking place in a major regional corridor linking three heavily cleared river valleys in the Richmond/Tweed lowlands.

However, these areas can and are being logged without even doing any surveys to find out what threatened species might occur there. And logging is systematically targeting the largest trees, which provide the most important habitat for many birds and mammals.

It's way past time for some rules on private logging. They are needed now! The first step is for the community to take the initiative by getting involved and finding out what's happening with logging in the local area.

The NSW government has promised to introduce a Code of Practice for private logging by June 2006, but there are no guarantees it will deliver anything at all, let alone the strong controls that are needed.

For more information on the issue and to find out what you can do, go to the website of the Nature Conservation Council of NSW at [www.nccnsw.org.au/index.php](http://www.nccnsw.org.au/index.php).

# Ecology survey of school dam

Year 11 Biology students at Nimbin Central School have enlisted professional help to investigate the ecology of the school dam, in a co-operative venture between Southern Cross University and the school.

The students are assisting Stefanie Stanley, a final year student at the university, to conduct a baseline survey of the dam and its associated water catchment as part of her environmental resource management studies for a Bachelor of Applied Science degree, under the supervision of Dr Leigh Davison of the Centre for Eco-technology.

This is the first time any study on the school's catchment area has been undertaken. The idea of a baseline survey is that it yields initial data, providing points of reference to measure changes over time. The survey has several components: water quality analysis; and surveys of the bird and invertebrate populations that depend on this water source. The results will be used to calculate a quality rating for the water body.

Dean Chaussivert, Athena Zelandonii and Tammy



Students recording data (left to right): Naomi Cleary, Karma Blinco-Parr, Athena Zelandonii and Tammy Hewitt.

Hewitt have been assisting with the collection of samples for water quality analysis, and have also helped conduct the tests for dissolved oxygen (high levels are good) and coliforms, heavy metals and salts (high levels are bad). Stefanie said, "Preliminary findings show that the water is probably not drinkable, but could be used for irrigation."

Stefanie has completed the bird surveys, involving detailed observation for one hour at dawn and dusk on two days, and has identified 35 different species that use the dam. Her most unusual find was a nesting pair of Brown Thornbills, which are locally uncommon, while the most attractive was a black-striped Shining Bronze

Cuckoo. Her next survey will be of the invertebrates (large insects) that frequent the dam.

The project will continue until the end of Term 1, with a report produced by the end of May, for both the school and the Nimbin Environment Centre. This report will provide a comparison with benchmark water quality guidelines from both the World Health Organisation and ANZECC (Australian and New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council), and show the impact of the urban area on water quality.

It will also provide pointers to what can be done to protect and enhance our water catchment area.

# Hemp Factory for the Rainbow Region

by Wadzy

Paul Benhaim has worked for over eight years in Australia to promote industrial hemp for food, fibre and bio-plastics. In that eight years Paul has worked very hard getting people and industry support for developing hemp as a key plant for developing new clean green industries.

Paul is in the process of creating a hemp factory called Nomo, which will be the first of its kind in Australia. The factory will initially employ eight people with plans to grow the company and employ more people.

The factory will be open for people to see all the products that can be made from hemp. It will also be open to bus tours and form an important development for eco-tourism in the rainbow region.

Paul rightly says, "We are all reading about the marvellous products made from hemp now we have at last got a chance to see a working factory making real bio logical products from the world's most useful plant, hemp."

The factory will be making new types of materials that are still under wraps, by the inventor who will be coming out to Australia when the factory opens. The products being made will be very strong and totally biodegradable. Needless to say the products will fit in well with the philosophy and direction of the rainbow region for sustainable ecologically sound development.

Wadzy & Ala Bee from Bay FM did a radio interview with Paul on Saturday 25th March which will be replayed on the Nim-FM Hemp Hour.

The interview ended with a CD track of Rainbow area music with the CD made from hemp the case made from hemp and of course the information printed on hemp paper.

So keep an eye out in the Hemp Embassy for new hemp products made in our very own rainbow region!

There is still chances for people to invest in the factory and if you have a spare grand or so go to [www.hempplastic.com](http://www.hempplastic.com).

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# Davidson's Plum: a versatile bush food

by David McMinn

The fruit of Davidson's Plum has a brilliant reddish pulp with a delicious but sour taste. By adding sugar to counter the sourness, it can be made into delectable jams, wines and sauces. It is one of the most promising fruits of the emerging native bush food industry with great potential for development.

Previously there were considered to be two subspecies of *Davidsonia puriens* – var *jerseyana* and var *puriens*, but these have now been separated into two

and very hairy in all its parts, including the fruit.

There is another species - Smooth Davidson's Plum (*D johnsonii*), which is found in isolated populations between Tintenbar (near Ballina) to Upper Tullebudgera (Gold Coast hinterland). It is a spreading multi-stemmed plant growing to 12m, with young shoots that are an attractive pinkish colour. As its common name suggests, the leaves and fruit are smooth without irritating hairs. It is a botanical oddity as it does not produce viable seed and all reproduction in nature is clonal via

years prior to being planted out.

Davidsonia fruit is fully ripe when both the skin and pulp is a deep red colour. It is about the size of a blood plum and the ratio of flesh to seed it quite high. The fruit hangs down in bunches, which makes harvesting quite easy. It may be best to plant a few trees of the same species to encourage cross pollination and thus better fruit production. *D johnsonii* can produce prolific crops which result in limb breakages. Thus, it may be necessary to pick a proportion of the small, immature fruit to reduce the excess weight on the branches.

*D puriens* and *D jerseyana* are usually propagated from seed, which must be protected from rats and mice. *D johnsonii* can only be propagated via suckers or cuttings.

### In The Kitchen

Davidson's Plum is very versatile in cooking. It has a sharp, tangy flavour which is highly acidic making it very suitable in sauces, jams, dressing and desserts. Like many of the local bush foods, Davidson's Plum is highly flavoured and a little goes a long way. It may be used in any recipe in place of blood plums, but with the quantities being adjusted to compensate for Davidson's strong taste and high acidity.

One Davidson's Plum has the flavour effect of three Blood Plums per serve. Juleigh Robins (*Wild Lime*, 1996) recommends using half Davidson's Plums and half Blood Plums, so that the Davidson's Plum will not lose its fabulous colour when cooked, nor will the flesh break down into a mash.

Australian Bushtucker Wines produced a Davidson's Plum wine, which some friends tried and were suitably impressed. It was available commercially a few years ago, but I have not seen it around lately. The owners of the Mungalli Creek brand produce a Davidson's Plum biodynamic farmhouse yogurt. Jams and chutneys are also available at specialty shops – pricey but well worth trying when available.



species. The plants of both species are covered by fine hairs – hence the scientific name *puriens*, which means itching. These hairs cover the fruit and thus the skin may have to be peeled prior to use.

All three Davidsonia species have distinctive pinnate leaves, with a central stem and side leaflets.

*D. jerseyana* is native to riverine rainforest along the Tweed and Brunswick Rivers. Plants are commonly available at the local markets and it is now widely grown throughout the region. Mature specimens consist of a clump of stems growing to a height of 4m to 6m. *D jerseyana* will tolerate cooler conditions than *D puriens* and thus is more suited to growing in the Northern Rivers region. *D puriens* is found in north east Queensland rainforests from sea level to around 3000m. It reaches 10m under a rainforest canopy, but a more modest 4m to 5m in the open. It is larger growing than *D jerseyana* with leaves up to 1m

suckering. According to Nan & Hugh Nicholson (*Rainforest Plants V*), "this species may eventually become the most widely planted Davidsonia since (the fruit) is not attacked by King Parrots, serious seed predators of the other two species".

Davidsonia species naturally grow in limited geographic ranges, with *D puriens* and *D johnsonii* being quite rare and both are listed as endangered.

### Growing Conditions

Davidsonia species can be quickly established, but they must be given well drained soils, with mulches, slow release fertilisers and full sun or part shade. They also need protection from excessive heat and frost. Favourable treatment will reward you with fruit in three to four years after planting. *Davidsonia jerseyana* is an ideal specimen tree for small gardens, doing best in light shade as the leaves may yellow when grown in full sun. This species may be used as a potted plant for several

# The humble Jatropha



by Wayne (Wadzy) Wadsworth

The humble Jatropha tree (see small tree on top of 'chick magnet machine' carry-basket in photo) is set to become the world's most useful plant for producing bio-diesel.

India is gearing up to plant millions of trees as is Africa and parts of Asia. The beauty of Jatropha is its ability to grow on very poor polluted and poisonous land sites. It is highly resistant to heat and drought and can survive on low rainfall. Of course the tree will produce more oil when irrigated and fertilised.

On poor land Jatropha can produce up to 2000 litres of bio-diesel per hectare giving a good return to farmers on marginal lands. It also produces glycerin and bio-fertiliser.

Australia has great potential to produce many millions of litres of bio-diesel from Jatropha and other high oil bearing plants such as coconut and oil palm. While coco and oil palm produce good quantities of oil, they also require large amounts of water and fertiliser which means they have a relatively small area where they can produce.

On the other hand Jatropha can grow in very many parts of Australia which is frost free and has well drained soil. There is currently a large plantation starting in Queensland and some entrepreneurs in the Rainbow region are developing seed nurseries for planting 1000s of hectares in western Queensland.

### Can bio-diesel replace Fossil Fuels?

In short - NO. Our strategy must be firstly to reduce fuel consumption, vastly improve and increase public transport and microtise private transport. Japanese car companies are now producing smaller highly efficient high bred vehicles which will be the prelude to smaller lighter and safer solar and battery operated vehicles.

Bio-diesel's role to play in this transformation is to supply high energy bio-diesel for farm machinery, trains and heavy haulage vehicles, in this capacity bio-diesel will be highly profitable and advantages for farmers to grow.

Jatropha grown as a monoculture system will bring with it all the problems of trying to force the land to produce just one yield. However grown with crops such as hemp, Jatropha could supply large ex-cotton farms with all the fuel and fertiliser needed to grow their new Hemp crops.

### Where to from here?

The Rainbow Region is generally not suitable for growing large stands of Jatropha, as the land is far better served growing food and valuable crops such as hemp for city consumption.

However Jatropha could be used for alley cropping and to supply bio-diesel for on site use. Also the Rainbow Region could supply seed materials for planting on marginal lands.

### Chick Magnet Machine

Readers of the *GoodTimes* may remember my article last year on bio-diesel and the photo of my 'Chick Magnet Machine'. I have been asked many times if the Chick Magnet Machine worked? Martin Preedy was especially a non-believer! Well, yes it did.

Since those articles I have since shifted to Byron Bay to pursue, of course, further development on industrial hemp, the bio-diesel tree, the miracle tree, Vetiver and permaculture, the form used to integrate wealth-producing plants and trees into community based living systems.

What happened to the Magnet-drawn chick, I hear you ask? Well Jo Bjelke Petersen famously said "One day you're a rooster and the next you're a feather duster." I'm beginning to believe in reincarnation and hoping to come back as a sensitive new-age rooster!

For further information on Jatropha or sensitive new-age roosters contact Wayne Wadsworth (Wadzy) @ [Wadzyone@yahoo.com.au](mailto:Wadzyone@yahoo.com.au).

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# ASTROLOGICAL TRENDS FOR APRIL 2006



by Bev Murray -  
Insight Astrology

## BIRTHDAY – Aries

*These individuals are energetic, adventurous and pioneering!! They can also be quite passionate! They can be very determined and deal well with most challenges. Patience however is not one of their strong points! At their worst they can be selfish and obsessive. They need freedom and variety in order to be completely happy.*

**Give Them:** Diamonds, a red sports car, an adventure holiday, hang-gliding equipment, a spicy exotic dinner, a surprise!!

## What April holds...

**Aries:** This is going to be a big Month for you guys but it will require a big effort as much work needs to be done! The Full Moon on the 14th will be particularly challenging which should suit you just fine! Don't repeat old mistakes around the 18th, stay clear of conflict!

**Taurus:** The Month begins with a positive focus on finances and opportunities for investment or improvement here. The New Moon on the 28th will sow the seeds for a great year to come. New opportunities come your way on the 29th and 30th.

**Gemini:** Mercury is busy in your career sector at the start of the month so a good deal may happen on this front. All the hard work of the past twelve months will pay off nicely now! After the 19th a bright new social phase begins.

**Cancer:** On April the 14th not only is there a full Moon but Mercury is square to Pluto. This can mean that Cancerians again find themselves taking care of someone else's dirty washing so to speak! Know where enough is enough!

**Leo:** This a great month for Leos. Romance is passionately highlighted all month and any new schemes or projects can get off the ground with a positive flow of energy after the 15th. The New Moon on the 28th heralds the start of something good in the work arena.

**Virgo:** Start the month off by enjoying shared activity with family and friends. The full moon falls in your financial sector highlighting anything that has been hidden here. Order can be created out of chaos this month but it requires some focus.

**Libra:** New plans started in the first few days of April will be off to a positive future! The Full moon of the 14th is in Libra so it should be an influential time for you guys. Love and power are yours for the taking now. The only really stressful day will be the 28th.

**Scorpio:** Tensions over money or your status in the world could arise this month. Try to find some relaxation or time out in order to cope well. The New Moon at the end of the month heralds an easier time ahead. Be patient with yourself!

**Sagittarius:** Expectations can be fulfilled this month but family matters will ultimately take the bulk of your attention especially around the 18th of the month. Try not to give too much advice and allow yourself to go with the flow this month.

**Capricorn:** A great month for business and finances in general. Sudden changes to plans are likely around the 18th to 25th of the month so beware! In conflict situations try not to take sides or you'll find yourself in deep waters.

**Aquarius:** On April 8th Mars enters Gemini allowing for more mental stimulation to enter your life. Opportunity for learning and growth abounds. The new Moon begins a focus on the home and family for you. You will be reconnecting with those who are special to you!

**Pisces:** Difficult obligations and areas of imbalance in your life are highlighted this month. The going can get a little tough! You can easily speak your mind after mid-month, sometimes too easily!! The 21st will be your best day so use it wisely!

Email Bev: [insightbevmurray@yahoo.com](mailto:insightbevmurray@yahoo.com)

## Building sustainable resistance



by Graeme Dunstan  
[Peacebus.com /](http://Peacebus.com/)  
[CyanideWatch](http://CyanideWatch.com/)

The Barrick Gold mine at Lake Cowal is now in full production and shipping cyanide. But the NSW government is being secretive about which communities and waterways they have put at risk by approving the carting of the 80,000 tonnes of deadly sodium cyanide from Gladstone to Lake Cowal over the next 13 years.

Nor is the NSW government (otherwise known as the Carr-Macquarie Bank-Iemma government) overtly celebrating the wonderful job opportunities that have been created by Barrick Gold's \$300 million investment at Lake Cowal.

Could it be that these Macquarie Street corporate courtiers are being furtive because they are ashamed? Or is it just another manifestation of their political arrogance? Is it another sign of their overweening confidence in their ability to lie and deceive without reckoning; to buy and spin media whatever; to "Keep 'em (us, that is) in the dark and feed 'em bullshit" ad infinitum?

Because a sense of shame suggests something redeemable in this otherwise bleak and corrupt to the core Labor government, we of Cyanide Watch choose to think the former. Better to think positive, we say, and persevere with the good best we can.

Furthermore the secrecy suggests that our agitating at the margins is having more impact than the spin-doctors for the cyanide criminals would dare admit.



This we know: it takes a lot of money and worry to maintain a lie, but just one candle illuminates the dark. Folk are aghast when they learn the magnitude of cyanide crimes; and none but a few see glamour in a North American corporation making huge profits out of permanently poisoning ground water and permanently scarring the Australian landscape with huge pits.

Time is on our side, we reckon. Cyanide gold mining and 6090 tonnes of cyanide a year on the road is an accident waiting to happen. We know how to wait and for us waiting is not idleness; rather it is preparation.

The campaign to prevent and shut down the Timbarra gold mine took 8 years of campaigning, 8 years of activism, which went through many changes of tactics, scenarios and personnel. Perseverance in the long haul is what brought down the Timbarra gold miners and it will bring down Barrick Gold too.

A broad based, far-flung, small but persistent opposition is what will bring these cyanide criminals to justice. Death by a thousand cuts, may Barrick bleed money till it dies!

### Building sustainable resistance, we call it.

John Peace and Peacebus.net has been back in the Nimbin hills again working with Gary Gray of Cyber Shack on a hi tech fit-out – solar panels, new laptop and satellite web cam capability. He also supported Lisa to organise the Lake Cowal fundraiser at Blue Knob Hall on 1st April.

Peacebus.com and its captain, Graeme Dunstan, have been in

the Blue Mountains and in the southwest of Sydney preparing flags and fitting a new PA. In particular he has been hanging out with Natalie Lowrey, FoE's national coordinator whose house is a cross roads of koori/green activism.

Given access to an arts space called AKEMI in Medlow Bath, Graeme spent 10 days sewing up Cyanide Watch flags and painting a "Cyanide Spills/Cyanide Kills!" banner.

He also helped produce a batch of flags and donated bamboo poles for use of FoE activists there. These were arrayed in Hyde Park Sydney for the National Day of Action on Water, which FoE coordinated on 22 March. For photos and a report go to [www.peacebus.com/CyanideWatch/060328NDAwater.html](http://www.peacebus.com/CyanideWatch/060328NDAwater.html)

The Peacebuses .com &.net are ever a colourful presence; a highly visible protest action wherever they are, stationary or mobile.

Sometimes the art is challenged. See the story about defending the Peacebus.com flags at the counter celebration of PM Howard's 10 years of power in Sydney last 3rd March at <http://www.peacebus.com/OSG/>

But more often the colour lifts spirits. Wherever we roll, we win respect, attract the curious and are befriended by the green at heart. We activate activism by setting a good example, as honourable elders everywhere ought.

For peace. For justice. For the Earth!

**The Rain Corroboree at Lake Cowal this Easter (14th-17th April) will be a big one for Lake Cowal/Cyanide Watch activists. For info see [www.savethelakecowal.org](http://www.savethelakecowal.org). If you care, be there.**

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# Kiss the Piscean

A combined birthday party was held at the Oasis café on the full moon in March for a number of Pisceans whose birthdays fell within a four days span of it. Andrew and Tonia cut cakes for a large gathering of well-wishers, many dressed imaginatively with a sea theme.

The "Kiss the Fish" gathering included much



music and dancing, as well as cakes. Proprietor Andrew Kavasilas appeared to gain the lion's share of the attention of a procession of provocative belly-dancers, but then he was shouting the coffees.

Patrons also provided set after set of inventive instrumental jams in a variety of styles.

The evening appeared to affirm the veracity of NGT astrologer Bev Murray whose advice for Pisces in March was "The full moon is your best day!"

In any event, a good time was had by all.

pictures: Garry Mimlich

# Concert of Dances

Planning for this year's Concert of Dances is well underway, in preparation for the shows on 19th and 20th May in the Town Hall.

The program will include eastern, flamenco, ballet, tap, filipino, contemporary and hip-hop, and will again be a fundraiser for the Dance Studio in the Community Centre. This time the project will be to get much-needed repairs done to the floor.

Classical dancer Khadi Woolf-Brooke will also be supported by a raffle and other fundraising, to help her get to England to participate in the Royal Ballet's summer school.

All dancers are welcome to perform at the Concert of Dances. Contact Deb Turner through the Oasis café.

Khadi Woolf-Brooke with some of her pupils at last year's concert.

Picture: Chibo Mertineit.



## It's Tania, not Tonia – sorry



Tania Theoharris has qualifications in Muscle Correction Therapy, Bowen Therapy, Kinesiology, Iridology and Pranic Healing. But that's no guarantee we'll get her name right.

Tania is available on Fridays at the Nimbin Apothecary to treat back,

neck, shoulder, hip and sciatic pain. As she says, "I've been around Nimbin for ages, so everyone knows who I am."

Especially if we spell her name correctly. TANIA can be contacted for bookings on 0411-811-140, or call the Apothecary on 6689-1529.

# Preserving a great lifestyle

by Anita Bong

Find it quite strange why people get annoyed over the very bad press Nimbin gets every now and then. Whenever I read another negative article in *The Gold Coast Bulletin* or *The Northern Star*, I am so very thankful.

Face up to reality. The bad media image and the very tacky street scene keeps out the John Howard voters, who can afford to pay half a million plus for a home on small acreage. Quite frankly I prefer the junkies and the street scene to John Howard voters any day. I just wish the young guys would not go trashing the village every now and then. Without the bad image, Nimbin would have been afflicted by exorbitant real estate prices years ago. Even during the recent boom, the local prices rose, but they are still way below comparable levels on the coast.

Very high real estate prices would cause the rents and council rates to increase to

very high levels, forcing the interesting and creative people to move out as they could no longer afford to live here anymore. Rich people (usually conservative, with the negative attitudes and values to match) move in, and the best outcome you may expect would be for Nimbin to turn into another twee Bangalow; the worst outcome is tidy town Alstonville. Neither option really appeals.

This process has already happened along the coast. Byron Bay was a wonderful place to live – 15 to 20 years ago – very diverse culturally with artists, hippies, regular townspeople, alternative lifestylers, surfers, etc etc. Then it became THE place to live on the North Coast, with a flood of money into the town and accompanying high real estate prices. (One could have brought a block of land at Belongil for \$1,200 in 1982.) Pensioners, who had been living in a cheap fibro cottage for decades, had their rates rise to unaffordable levels. Renting also became prohibitive for many people. The interesting people moved out, the pretentious

affluent moved in, along with frenzied tourism.

The great Byron Bay lifestyle was destroyed and now you would not consider living there. A woman working at the Byron Bay Post Office commented to a friend, "You would not believe how we are looked down upon these days." I do not know what it is about money, but it breeds conservatism, greed and pretentiousness (not nice people). Being déclassé, I do not have to worry about the problem.

Already 20 minutes drive north of Nimbin is a new development near Kunghur, in which a house and land will effectively cost a million dollars plus. Rumour had it that there was an influx of buyers from Byron Bay after the great tsunami in late 2004. With rising sea levels and the prospect for numerous cyclones due to global warming, this could be our future – coastal refugees with bundles of money.

A few years ago, I met a woman from Maleny and we discussed how the influx of money was destroying the vibrant Maleny community. You may have seen articles in the press about the campaign against Woolworths building a supermarket in the village. She thought the Nimbin street scene was a great way to keep

developers out of the town and said she would take back some ideas to Maleny. Any ideas she did have obviously failed, as the Woolworths development still went ahead.

The high creatives and eccentrics make Nimbin such a special and great place to live. If the local real estate becomes too expensive, the area will become gentrified by mentally constipated Liberal/National voters, the developers will move in and tourism expanded. It is a process that it already underway and it is more a matter of how rapidly it will proceed.

Nimbin's street scene and appalling media image are just delaying the inevitable. In 10 to 20 years, the problem for many of us will be – where can I live after Nimbin? Lismore, the Tasmanian wilderness, the Gold Coast and overseas may be a few possibilities. So be pleased, so very pleased when more negative press appears in the mass media, it is the only way many of us can afford to live here in our wonderful village. Given what we could ultimately lose, why do we feel the need to improve Nimbin's image to the rest of Australia or the world?

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# The WAR Lovers

by John Pilger

The war lovers I have known in real wars have usually been harmless, except to themselves.



described the notorious 82nd Airborne as "the heroes of Tikrit." Last year, he lauded Paul Wolfowitz, architect of the slaughter in Iraq, as "an intellectual" who "believes passionately in the power of democracy and grassroots development." As for Iran, Frei was well ahead of the story. In

They were attracted to Vietnam and Cambodia, where drugs were plentiful. Bosnia, with its roulette of death, was another favorite. A few would say they were there "to tell the world"; the honest ones would say they loved it. "War is fun!" one of them had scratched on his arm. He stood on a land mine.

I sometimes remember these almost endearing fools when I find myself faced with another kind of war lover – the kind that has not seen war and has often done everything possible not to see it. The passion of these war lovers is a phenomenon; it never dims, regardless of the distance from the object of their desire. Pick up the Sunday papers and there they are, egocentrics of little harsh experience, other than a Saturday in Sainsbury's. Turn on the television and there they are again, night after night, intoning not so much their love of war as their sales pitch for it on behalf of the court to which they are assigned. "There's no doubt," said Matt Frei, the BBC's man in America, "that the desire to bring good, to bring American values to the rest of the world, and especially now to the Middle East ... is now increasingly tied up with military power."

Frei said that on April 13, 2003, after George W. Bush had launched "Shock and Awe" on a defenseless Iraq. Two years later, after a rampant, racist, woefully trained, and ill-disciplined army of occupation had brought "American values" of sectarianism, death squads, chemical attacks, attacks with uranium-tipped shells and cluster bombs, Frei

June 2003, he told BBC viewers: "There may be a case for regime change in Iran, too."

How many men, women, and children will be killed, maimed, or sent mad if Bush attacks Iran? The prospect of an attack is especially exciting for those war lovers understandably disappointed by the turn of events in Iraq. "The unimaginable but ultimately inescapable truth," wrote Gerard Baker in the Times last month, "is that we are going to have to get ready for war with Iran. ... If Iran gets safely and unmolested to nuclear status, it will be a threshold moment in the history of the world, up there with the Bolshevik revolution and the coming of Hitler." Sound familiar? In February 2003, Baker wrote that "victory [in Iraq] will quickly vindicate U.S. and British claims about the scale of the threat Saddam poses."

The "coming of Hitler" is a rallying cry of war lovers. It was heard before NATO's "moral crusade to save Kosovo" (Blair) in 1999, a model for the invasion of Iraq. In the attack on Serbia, 2 percent of NATO's missiles hit military targets; the rest hit hospitals, schools, factories, churches, and broadcasting studios. Echoing Blair and a clutch of Clinton officials, a massed media chorus declared that "we" had to stop "something

approaching genocide" in Kosovo, as Timothy Garton Ash wrote in 2002 in the Guardian. "Echoes of the Holocaust," said the front pages of the Daily Mirror and the Sun. The Observer warned of a "Balkan Final Solution."

The recent death of Slobodan Milosevic took the war lovers and war sellers down memory lane. Curiously, "genocide" and "Holocaust" and the "coming of Hitler" were now missing – for the very good reason that, like the drumbeat leading to the invasion of Iraq and the drumbeat now leading to an attack on Iran, it was

all bullshit. Not misinterpretation. Not a mistake. Not blunders. Bullshit.

The "mass graves" in Kosovo would justify it all, they said. When the bombing was over, international forensic teams began subjecting Kosovo to minute examination.



Apologist: BBC commentator Matt Frei.

The FBI arrived to investigate what was called "the largest crime scene in the FBI's forensic history." Several weeks later, having found not a single mass grave, the FBI and other forensic teams went home.

In 2000, the International War Crimes Tribunal announced that the final count of bodies found in Kosovo's "mass graves" was 2,788. This included Serbs, Roma, and those killed by "our" allies, the Kosovo Liberation Front. It meant that the justification for the attack on Serbia ("225,000 ethnic Albanian men aged between 14 and 59 are missing, presumed dead," the U.S. ambassador-at-large David Scheffer had claimed) was an invention. To my knowledge, only the Wall Street Journal admitted this. A former senior NATO planner, Michael McGwire, wrote that "to describe the bombing as 'humanitarian intervention' [is] really grotesque." In fact, the NATO "crusade" was the final, calculated act of a long war of attrition aimed at wiping out the very idea of Yugoslavia.

For me, one of the more odious characteristics of Blair, and Bush, and Clinton, and their eager or gulled journalistic court, is the enthusiasm of sedentary, effete men (and women) for bloodshed they never see, bits of body they never have to retch over, stacked morgues they will never have to visit, searching for a loved one. Their role is to enforce parallel worlds of unspoken truth and public lies. That Milosevic was a minnow compared with industrial-scale killers such as Bush and Blair belongs to the former.

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## "Who's On First?"



forwarded by Gil Schilling

George: Condi! Nice to see you. What's happening?

Condi: Sir, I have the report here about the new leader of China.

George: Great. Lay it on me.

Condi: Hu is the new leader of China.

George: That's what I want to know.

Condi: That's what I'm telling you.

George: That's what I'm asking you. Who is the new leader of China?

Condi: Yes.

George: I mean the fellow's name.

Condi: Hu.

George: The guy in China.

Condi: Hu.

George: The new leader of China.

Condi: Hu.

George: The main man in China!

Condi: Hu is leading China.

George: Now whaddya' asking me for?

Condi: I'm telling you, Hu is leading China.

George: Well, I'm asking you. Who is leading China?

Condi: That's the man's name.

George: That's whose name?

Condi: Yes.

George: Will you, or will you not, tell me the name of the new leader of China?

Condi: Yes, sir.

George:

Yassir? Yassir Arafat

is in China? I thought he's dead in the Middle East.

Condi: That's correct.

George: Then who is in China?

Condi: Yes, sir.

George: Yassir is in China?

Condi: No, sir.

George: Then who is?

Condi: Yes, sir.

George: Yassir?

Condi: No, sir.

George: Look Condi. I need to know the name of the new leader of China. Get me the Secretary General of the U.N. on the phone.

Condi: Kofi?

George: No, thanks.

Condi: You want Kofi?

George: No.

Condi: You don't want Kofi.

George: No. But now that you mention it,

I could use a glass of milk. And then get me the U.N.

Condi: Yes, sir.

George: Not Yassir! The guy at the U.N.

Condi: Kofi?

George: Milk! Will you please make the call?

Condi: And call who?

George: Who is the guy at the U.N?

Condi: Hu is the guy in China

George: Will you stay out of China?!

Condi: Yes, sir.

George: And stay out of the Middle East! Just get me the guy at the U.N.

Condi: Kofi.

George: All right! With cream and two sugars.

## WAR IN IRAQ - latest figures

So far the War in Iraq has cost **\$US249,992,308,158.**

Officially, the number of US Military Personnel killed stands at **2,322.**

The number Of Iraqi Civilians slaughtered is estimated to be as many as **250,000.**

"When a stupid man is doing something he is ashamed of, he always declares that it is his duty." ~ George Bernard Shaw

Source: <http://www.informationclearinghouse.info/>



"Death has a tendency to encourage a depressing view of war."

Donald Rumsfeld, US Secretary of Defense. Quoted on political humor

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# Through the Glass Darkly

- an exploration of the changing meaning of images

Exhibition open to the public from 8th April to 2nd June  
Official Opening: Friday 21st April at 6.30 pm

“Through the Glass Darkly” is an interesting title, and according to Corinthians 2 – ‘For now we see through a glass, darkly, but then face to face. Now I know in part but then shall I know even as also I am known.’

Basically, it is a biblical expression of the idea of existential isolation. In our lives as individual beings we experience one another and the universe only through the dark glass of our perception. After death and reunion with the universal consciousness we will experience the great oneness directly.

We will be providing our usual fabulous feast at a cost is \$10 mains and \$3 dessert. For catering purposes, please call the Gallery on 6689 7449 to reserve your place. All welcome.

We are also looking forward to re-opening our retail outlet on the newly renovated stage area of the hall. There will be a range of smaller gift items available for sale.

## Yoga, Art and Breakfast – it’s back!

Yes, this popular Saturday morning ritual will be starting again in May at the Blue Knob Hall Gallery. The first session is Saturday 6th May at 8.45am (for 9am start) till 10am, \$10/session or \$50 for the 6 week program.

Atma Hall will be continuing the previous program for beginners with an hour of gentle relaxation yoga for all ages. Bring a mat and light blanket. Scrumptious breakfast on the verandah will be available after the session. Bookings are essential, so please call Atma on 6679-5504 to secure your place.



The barefoot dance in full swing. Music by Black Train with Mandy Breeze and Doug Kelly.

## Barefoot dance - a toe tapping success

The Gallery decided to organise a fund-raising dance while the Gallery was closed. This turned out to be a fantastic family night of perfect weather, food and wine, barefoot dancing, music by Black Train with Mandy Breeze and Doug Kelly and a bonfire to toast your toes! This was the first time the Hall had hosted a dance for over 15 years!

Many thanks to all those members who helped to put this event together – we couldn’t have done it without you! A huge thank you also for their in-kind support to the Nimbin Australia Post Office team, Nigel Hayes and Marie Cameron, Elspeth Jones, Lifestyle Real Estate, Nimbin Artists’ Gallery, Nimbin Community Centre and the Nimbin Hall.

## Monthly Members’ Talks – Starting again in April

This program will run once a month - usually on the second Wednesday of the month, except April, which will be on the Wednesday 19th April, at 1.30pm at the Gallery. It is an opportunity for members to talk to an audience about their art, work, passion in life, or just about anything that inspires! Coffee and cakes are also available from the café.

## New operators for the Blue Knob Hall Café

We are thrilled to announce

that Michelle McQuay and Julie Rennison are to operate the new Blue Knob Hall Café and Restaurant starting 8th April at Blue Knob Hall Gallery. The cafe will be open 10am to 4pm Wednesdays through to Sundays, offering light meals such as sushi, salads, mediterranean platters and sweets, using local produce where possible.

They will also offer a Friday and Saturday night bistro on the verandah and weekly Sunday specials. There are also plans to work towards evening fine dining pre-booked dinner parties in the Gallery space. We are delighted to have them come on board, and encourage everyone to come and try their great food. Welcome! For enquiries please phone 6689-7449.

## Renovation Update

During the month of March, the Gallery was closed for some much needed repairs and maintenance to the grounds and the Hall space. The stage floor has now been sanded and sealed, the walls have been given a new coat of paint, (many thanks to the TURSA team of painters), new picture rails have been installed, the garden and grounds have had a face lift, the verandah decking has been resealed, electricals updated, and lots of other odd jobs completed.

A huge thank you to all those members who have donated their time and effort to completing these jobs.

# Indian photos at the Oasis

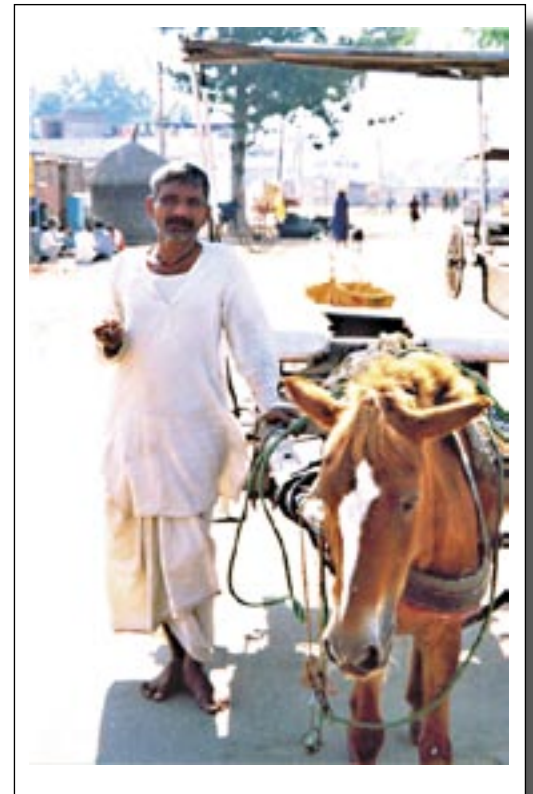
A quiet revolution is taking place in Nimbin, reinforcing the spirit of culture within the village. The Oasis cafe, already known for its poetry nights, is putting on a photographic exhibition.

The exhibition is the first for Yagia Gentle, who describes himself as someone who has taken a few photos rather than a “photographer.”

“The style of photography that involves a lot of dark room and computerised technique doesn’t interest me,” Yagia said. “I like a scene I can dissolve into.”

The photographs are snapshots of life in north west India, the area around Kolkutta which, due to economics, has retained its old Indian ways.

The pictures are inspired by the paintings of local artist Russel Scott. “I try to see the compositions of Indian scenes like Russel



captures in his paintings.

The way a rickshaw man stands, the steam from cooking pots, the colour of a fruit stall,” said Yagia.

The exhibition will run from the beginning of April through to the end of May. All photographs exhibited will be for sale.

# Our weaving community

by Granny Breath Weaver

Let’s begin by paying our respects to the ancestors of this country and to the Bundjalung people on whose land we weave and collect our natural fibres.

Our weavers have all been greatly inspired by the weavings of Yolngu (NE Arnhemland), Koori and Murri women. In this sense they are our weaving ancestors and in this way they connect us to Country. We learn about Country as we collect fibres and as we adapt our techniques to local palms, grasses, barks and vines. We see the natural world around us as a vast storehouse of materials with which to create the means of our own survival.

The basket is a symbol of woman. She and the basket are both carriers. We both carry children in our bellies and then we carry them in our baskets, in our arms. We carry the future on our

very backs.

The teachings of weaving are endless. The time taken to weave brings joy: the joy of creation. It is, in colonial English, “therapeutic.”

We meet religiously every Wednesday at our special spot, the Community Gardens, from 10am till 3pm. We do not have “workshops” or “classes” or “tuition” there, we just sit and weave, exchanging our knowledge and skills. Interested women can come along, there is no fee, but bring your own materials. If you don’t know what to bring, just come along and see what we are using for materials.

Our weavers are also exhibiting some works at the Autumn Arts Exhibition, during which workshops will be held Monday to Saturday on the Hall verandah.

The next major event for us is our first Weaving Exhibition as a group, to be held in the Rainbow Gallery

during the Winter Solstice week 19th to 25th June. Live music by local musicians will be featured on the opening night 19th June, as well as in live music sessions throughout the week, and there will be workshops each day. School students exhibits and awards will also be featured.

After that, the next big event for us is our second Weave and Mend Festival on 29th, 30th and 31st September in the Nimbin Central School grounds.

Anyone interested in more information can phone 6689-7129 or write to Wednesday Women Weavers, PO Box 530 Nimbin.

Remember this. Knowledge about how to make a piece of string or rope can save lives. But even more than this, the acquisition of this knowledge is so powerful that it transforms the holder of this knowledge. Just ask a string-maker.

## Blue Knob Hall gallery & cafe



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# Right-wing ratbags head for Lismore

A posse of conservative dissidents and conspiracy theorists will feature at a public forum in Lismore during April.

The forum is being organised by the election-oriented Voice of the People Lobby Group, and follows similar forums held in Taree, Dubbo and Inverell.

On its web-site the group claims to have "the finest investigators and researchers in Australia" and states it aims "to expose the cover ups of Australia's three tiers of Government - Federal, State and Local - as well as Multi-National Corporations." Spokesperson Phil Tzavellas says he will "expose how federal and state governments work together against the Australian people, although they are of different political persuasions."

Mr Tzavellas stood for the NSW seat of Canterbury in 1998 as part of his campaign against night racing at Canterbury racecourse. In 1999 he was mentioned in Hansard in a speech by Mr Face, then Minister for Gaming and Racing:

"Over the past two years approximately, the Sydney Turf Club, Canterbury City Council and my office have been inundated with a series of ill-informed, alarmist complaints from a very small minority of residents, led by Mr Phil Tzavellas.

"Mr Tzavellas has made some outrageous allegations against me personally and my integrity has been brought into question - only by him, I might say."

He continued, "probably the worst action he has taken has been to cast unfounded and unsubstantiated aspersions on the councillors of the Canterbury City Council."

Mr Moss, then Member for



Voice of Australia Lobby Group's footy-style logo

Canterbury, noted that in the election Mr Tzavellas "did not get a refund of his deposit - so much for night racing being an issue in the Canterbury electorate."

At the forum Mr Tzavellas will be speaking on "thirty-plus years of political white-anting by successive governments." His past forum speeches have canvassed the US free trade agreement, pensions, the full sale of Telstra, the pharmaceutical benefits scheme and the oil for food scandal.



Grant Goldman, compere for the forum of political aspirants.

Joining him at the forum will be Max Brazenall, who has unsuccessfully stood for parliament several times, in 2003 for the state seat of Camden as an independent, and in 2004 for the Senate as a member of the Australians Against Further Immigration party.

He will be promoting a regressive flat-rate tax system based on transactions, to replace "GST, taxes, excises and levies in all three tiers of government." He believes this "will benefit all Australians,

from the lowest paid to our farmers and business people." He will also share his insights into "the Howard government's industrial relations reforms."

Completing the triumvirate of speakers will be Bob Spanswick, a former secretary of the Customs Officers Association, and a NSW Senate candidate in 1987. He is the Chair of the Expert Advisory Panel of Border Watch Australia, "Promoting better protection and territorial integrity," and is the author of "The Law and You." In 1985 he made allegations against Lionel Murphy in a Senate inquiry into video porn, and in 2003 initiated an action against Bob Carr in the NSW Supreme Court for "conspiring...to carry out a seditious enterprise" by opening the heroin injecting room at Kings Cross. He will be speaking on quarantine border security and customs issues.

Compering the forum will be veteran radio broadcaster Grant Goldman, talkback breakfast announcer on the lowest-rating Sydney radio station 2SM, Manly footy fan and house announcer at Stadium Australia. "The voice of the Olympics" A father of five, he was named as one of Irena Hatfield's lovers in her 2000 murder trial, but nonetheless was appointed an Australia Day Ambassador for Cabonne Shire Council in 2003.

According to the Voice of the People Lobby Group website, Mr Goldman "has allowed our member Phil Tzavellas to air our concerns for more than three years" on 2SM, syndicating his offerings to 15 of the 33 stations in its "super network," including 2LM.

The forum, which promises to reveal "the true facts that the media fail to expose," will be held from 6pm at the Italo-Australian Sports and Recreation Club, Barrow Lane, Lismore on Saturday 6th April. Admission will be by gold coin donation, and there will be door prizes, likely to be copies of 'How To Kill A Country' and lotto tickets.

# Getting well connected



TECHNOFREAK - SPEAK! by Rob Harle

There seems to be a lot of confusion lately about becoming connected to the Internet via broadband and not getting trapped into very expensive contracts. It appears that biggest may not be best in choosing an ISP (Internet Service Provider).

The average home computer user has two choices in getting connected. Firstly, Dial-Up Service. This uses your existing telephone line, requires an internal or external modem, has maximum speed of 56K and as broadband becomes more popular, the price per month is coming down. This method of connection is a good choice if you have very limited Internet use or if broadband is not available in your location.

Secondly, Broadband Service (ADSL). This service uses your existing telephone line but because of the signal sent along the line it does not engage your normal voice service. In other words, you may receive phone calls and talk on the phone at the same time as you surf the net. It requires an external ADSL modem which connects to the computer either by a USB port or network (router) card.

Very old computers without USB ports are not suitable for broadband. Various speeds are available, but in the Nimbin area 256K is generally the choice. Being able to use your normal phone simultaneously and the fantastic speed of broadband, makes this the best choice for average to

high Internet usage.

Also an important point to understand with broadband is that it is always on (or available), so you do not actually dial a number to start using the Internet. With dial-up you dial your ISP each time you want to get connected, a local call of 15 or 20 cents applies. If you connect a couple of times a day this cost is significant, I actually saved money by changing over to broadband even though the broadband service is more expensive in itself.

ISPs normally require a user to enter a contract for the service for 12 or 24 months. Many, though not all, insist on direct debit of a credit card as the method of payment. It is vitally important before you sign-up to read the fine print cautiously. The specific points to understand carefully are:

a) **What download limits are imposed?** Download is not a downloaded program but everything that crosses your screen, so to speak. In other words, if you are searching the net for something, each page or site you visit is treated as part of your downloads. My dial-up account (\$9.90 per month) had a limit of 70 megabytes which I regularly exceeded. My broadband account (\$24.90 per month) has a limit of 256 megabytes which I have never exceeded.

b) **If you exceed the limit what's the story?** Some ISPs cap the cost at a certain figure. My broadband is capped at \$60 per month, in other words if I lost the plot more than usual and stayed on the net for 20 hours a day the most I pay is \$60 that month. Some ISPs do not cap their accounts which can result in huge charges, up to \$300 per month is possible.

c) **Check to see if uploads also count** on your download tally, for most home users this is not a significant issue.

d) **Does the length of contract suit you?** What are the penalties if you break the contract?

e) **What are the hidden costs?** Many ISPs only give you one email address with your account, virus checking and spam filtering are not standard and not included in the contract. As an example, many ISPs charge an extra \$2.50 per month if you want to stop nuisance unsolicited email (spam) filtering.

f) **What goodies do you get with your package?** Some offer a free modem or free access for 3 months. These things are like "dangling carrots" put there to entice you. Generally they save you nothing over the contract period.

Finally, your **telephone line/local exchange must be capable of providing broadband.** Before doing anything, analyse your current and future Internet needs. If broadband is your choice, then decide on an ISP after checking out exactly what they offer. Once you've decided on an ISP you then contact them, NOT Telstra, to check availability and commence the set-up. It is important to understand that whilst Telstra own the phone cables and exchanges and provide the physical broadband facility you are not obliged in anyway to use a Telstra Internet. Your chosen ISP arranges everything, bills you, provides technical support and corrects faults if any occur.

Microsoft recently announced that they no longer provide technical support for their Windows 98 operating system. No big deal really, except that some of the "big-boy-bullies" in the telecommunications scene have also stopped support for Win98 concerning their services. If you want to continue using Win98 you will need to check with your prospective ISP to see if they still provide this support. Happy and economical surfing!

## NIMBIN MUSEUM



Follow the Rainbow Serpent through 8 rooms representing the Aboriginal, pioneer and hippie eras.

Need a challenge? Get involved in your local community! Rent free kiosk in the middle of town in exchange for helping to keep the museum a safe and friendly environment for both locals and visitors!!!!

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# Walks Program April 2006

**Saturday 8th April**

## Clarrie Hall Dam Fire-trail Walk.

Leaders Kay and Len Martin, 6689-0254  
Two hours, Grade 2: walk on well-defined, mostly shaded, forestry track/fire trail through pleasant and varied forest beside Clarrie Hall Dam – starts near the dam wall. One hour out, one back all easy grades.  
Meet at: 10 am Nimbin car park; 10.30am Clarrie Hall Dam viewing shelter near dam wall. Bring: lunch for after- walk picnic – could stop at Sphinx Rock Cafe for coffee on way back.

**Wednesday 19th April**

## Quandong Falls

Leader, Lydia LePatourel 6689-0422.  
Three Hours, Grade 3: from top of Minyon Falls down well defined track. Take side track to top of Quandong Falls. After picnic lunch along creek, walk back via Quandong and Minyon fire trails. Meet at: 10am Nimbin Car park for car pooling, 10:30 at Channon Pub for leader, or 11:00 at Minyon Falls lookout picnic area on Minyon Drive.  
Bring: Picnic Lunch and swimmers.

**Sunday 30th April**

## Minyon Grass to Plunge Pool at the bottom of Minyon Falls.

Leader Peter Ward 6689-5993 or 0428 810 226.  
Two hours, Grade 3. Four km shaded walk along graded track through Bangalow palms and rainforest, some rock hopping at the bottom and a steep climb back. Meet at 10 am Nimbin car park for car-pooling or meet leader at 11.00 am at Minyon Grass.  
Directions; Dunoon Rd, Repentance Creek Rd, left up Coopers Creek Rd follow signs.  
Bring: day-pack, food & water.

Visitors (non members) will be required to pay a fee of \$5 per walk, deducted from the membership fee when they join Nimbin Bushwalkers Club Inc. Membership fee, \$25 individual, \$40 family. Contact Peter Warne 228 Crofton Road Nimbin 2480.

For more Nimbin Bushwalkers Club information see the Physical Activities Noticeboard on the side of the Nimbin Butchery laneway wall.



## Basketball

Basketball was again a great success in Term 1 2006. The Building Active Communities Project wishes to thank James Koker and Jedda Bayles in particular for the energy they put into the nights. Keep your eyes on the Physical Activities Noticeboard for further news.

## Hip Hop Theatre Show 2007

Breakers, Hip Hop Dancers, MC's, DJ's- ARE YOU READY? Dance Action is seeking potential performers NOW (April 2006). If you are interested write a letter, email or call about your interest in performing and being directed in a hip hop theatre show. Deadline 13th

April 2006. Contact details: [emma2006@norpa.org.au](mailto:emma2006@norpa.org.au) or phone 66223279/ 0411 967 690 or mail to PO Box 225, Lismore 2480.

## Salsa

Silvia Kramer has been learning to dance Salsa for the last 13 months. She has a passion for salsa dancing and would love to find other people with whom to share her passion.

Silvia would like to introduce beginning Salsa classes at Tuntable Hall. If you are interested come along to a meeting at Tuntable Hall on Wednesday 12th April at 7.30pm or contact Silvia Kramer at [silviakramer@dodo.com.au](mailto:silviakramer@dodo.com.au) or

66890270.

## Gymnastics at Nimbin Central School

Genevieve Davies is teaching gymnastics to the Nimbin Central School Junior School. It is proving to be very popular with everybody. If your child has been participating in the gymnastics afternoons and enjoying them then let the school know that you would like them to continue and make sure your child fills out a gymnastics survey form.

## Table Tennis

Through Tammaso Lonsdale's efforts there will soon be a Table Tennis table available at the Nimbin Community Centre Dance Studio. The table has kindly been donated by Peter Walker. Thanks Peter! If you are interested in a game of Table Tennis you need to book the Dance Studio and table through the Community Centre office. There is a rental fee involved for the studio space. You will also need to provide your own bats, balls & a net.

If anyone is interested but

# Headers canteen becomes a reality

The building works at the Headers soccer field are progressing at a great rate, thanks to the involvement of lots of new people in the Club.

In particular, the fathers of new players have been keen to get involved, and there have been good turn-outs for the working bees that have seen the roof completed over the new building and breezeway. The building will house a canteen and home-team change-room.

The work is being supervised by Bruce Hatfield, a long-term committee member and "quiet achiever" of the club. He co-ordinated the crews that built the roof from donated materials; the timber donated by Mark and milled from trees on his land, and the roofing iron donated by Andy Kindermann of Nimbin Building materials. Slabs for the benches have also been donated, as well as two stainless steel sinks.

The building has been made possible by a \$20,000



High goals. Headers club members constructing the roof on the new building.

grant from the Premier's Dept, to which the Club has added another \$5,000. All labour has been donated.

There will be further workdays every Sunday in April from 10am, leading up to the grand opening on Saturday 29th April, which is a home game for all teams. A fun day is planned for



does not have other people to play with please contact Sue (see below) and she will put you into contact with other players.

## Netball NSW's Player Development and Coach Education Camps

Players 10-12 years, April 21-23. Focus will be on netball skill development & game play. Cost \$170  
Players 13-15 years, April 19-20. Focus will be on netball skill development, positional & game play. Cost \$110  
Accredited coaches will staff the camp, with other supervised recreational activities included in the program.

For more information contact Leslie Kirk 66805329 or [lkirknetballnsw@bigpond.com](mailto:lkirknetballnsw@bigpond.com)

## Social Netball

Did you watch the Netball final at the Commonwealth

Games? It would be fantastic to have Netball in Nimbin. I know quite few 'old' netballers who would love to pass on their knowledge to a younger generation. If you are interested in Netball please get in contact with Sue (see below).

## Preliminary Accreditation Course Rugby League Referee

This course is ideal for Aboriginal men & women (players and non-players)

who are 14 years and older. It is the first step to becoming a Rugby League referee. It will be held at the Lismore Workers Club Saturday 22nd April from 9am-5pm. Bring a pen/pencil with you. This course is FREE!! For more information call 6687-7168.

Sue Boardman, Project Coordinator, Nimbin Building Active Communities Project. Contact: [sueb@nrhs.nsw.gov.au](mailto:sueb@nrhs.nsw.gov.au) or 66891731 or 66881454 (Tues only).

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## Nimbin Bowling Sport and Recreation Club

Sibley St Nimbin,  
Phone 6689-1250  
Come and enjoy!  
For information of members and guests.

## Social bowlers welcome

Air-conditioned lounge, bar and dining room  
Asian Star Restaurant open 6 days  
Lunch & Dinner



## Have a go at bowls

**Style.** Keen new bowler Chainsaw Chub in action on the green. More bowlers wanted.

F Troop is up and running again! This popular mufti bowls day is a great way to discover how enjoyable bowls can be. It will be on Sundays, the 9th, 23rd and 30th April. So come down as you are, and have a roll-up.

### Ladies Club

Nimbin sent a team of four to Brisbane for a three-day carnival on 6th March. It was the club's first time to participate there, and they were the only team from the Northern Rivers in attendance.

Despite only winning one game out of nine, our ladies were made very welcome, and given a warm reception by the host club. Thanks to the Club for its support, as well as all who assisted with the fundraising drive.

The ladies bowls day is now held once a month on the first Sunday of the month. It was moved from the Wednesday to



**Representing Nimbin.** The ladies team that competed in Brisbane (left to right) Di Mancell, Tina Masina, Deborah Edwards and Viola Asi.

accommodate working women. Sign on by 9.30am for a 10am start. All ladies are welcome. Phone the club on 6689-1250 for more information.

### Happy Hours

The club is offering reduced price drinks on Sundays from noon to 4pm, on a weekly selection of drinks. Remember that the courtesy bus is available!

# Bottom-bouncing off Wooli

by Pixie

The Nimbin Heads fishing team had another successful outing this month with another 10 hours at sea fishing off Wooli. Harry, Pix, Mick, Charlie, Dave, Rodney, Baker Bill and Col Fox. An eight man team ranging in age from 20s to 70s, this was a great team, and with the seas in our favour – a 0.3 metre swell and a 5 knot breeze – we were off for a good day fishing.

First off we caught some slimy mackerel for live bait. We also had some squid and blue pillies as dead bait.

We went to a reef about 20 km out to sea, and had a good morning bottom-bouncing using dead bait and live slimys, hooking up to some good yellow tail king fish, some golden fusiliers and silver trevally, with Harry and Dave landing the best: 8kg kingfish.

After about four hours of good bottom-bouncing, the



All smiles. Harry, Rodney and Dave with some nice kingfish.

captain decided to trawl our way in around the edges of a few reefs and bombies, with Bill having a good fight and landing a nice mack tuna, but losing a huge wahoo. Mick landed a 6kg yellow fin tuna, a great sushi fish.

We now headed for an inner reef to do a bit of bottom-bouncing and set up some live bait on balloons to

see if we could tempt some Spanish mackerel. We had our slimeys smashed a few times without a hook-up until the last fish of the day, when your humble fishing editor landed a good 5 1/2kg snapper to make his day.

In all, everyone landed a big fish and had a good day, with around 100kg of good reef fish to share.

**Mr Speaker**  
featuring  
**Phil Emanuel**  
6th May 7:00pm  
(Nimbin time)  
**Nimbin Bowlo.**

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**Leaving Lismore through to Murwillumbah**

Normal Depart Times			School Holiday Times		
8:00	2:35	3:20	Lismore Transit	8:00	2:35
8:10	2:45	4:00	Goolmangar	8:10	2:45
8:20	3:00	4:15	Coffee Camp	8:20	2:55
8:45	3:20	4:30	Nimbin Ave	8:35	3:10
9:30	3:30		Nimbin depart	9:00	3:30
9:40	3:40		Blue Knob	9:10	3:40
9:50	3:55		Twin Bridges	9:15	3:45
9:53	4:00		Mt Burrell	9:20	3:50
10:10	4:20		Uki	9:40	4:10
10:15	4:25		Mt Warning turn	9:45	4:15
10:30	4:40		Murwillumbah	10:00	4:25

**Leaving Murwillumbah through to Lismore**

Normal Depart Times			School Holiday Times		
7:10	1:50		Murwillumbah	7:30	2:15
7:20	2:03		Mt Warning turn	7:42	2:28
7:30	2:08		Uki	7:55	2:33
7:55	2:30		Mt Burrell	8:10	2:55
8:00	2:35		Twin Bridges	8:20	3:00
8:32	2:40		Blue Knob	8:30	3:05
8:45	2:50		Nimbin arrive	8:40	3:15
7:50	9:00	3:30	Nimbin depart	9:00	3:30
8:05	9:10	3:45	Coffee Camp	9:10	3:40
8:15	9:20	3:55	Goolmangar	9:20	3:50
8:50	9:35	4:10	Lismore Transit	9:35	4:00
8:55	9:40	4:15	Lismore Depot		

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**April Gig Guide**

Friday 7th	Boogie Nights ('70s)
Friday 14th	Good Friday (closed)
Saturday 15th	Bertha Control
Sunday 16th	Deb Bond
Friday 21st	Jimi Carr
Saturday 22nd	King Jack (Sydney)
Friday 28th	The Utopians
Saturday 29th	Grumpy Neighbour (Melb)
Sunday 30th	Acoustic Sundays with Melania

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