

ASTRO FORECASTS BY TINA MEWS

YOUR MONTHLY REVIEW OF WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE HEAVENS

December

Since the Sun's entry into Sagittarius (Nov 22nd) the cosmic energies have shifted to the fiery realm of mental exploration and expanding horizons.



Sagittarians are said to be the creative thinkers of the zodiac; they like to know, and have to follow their goals, but they can also be dogmatic.

We can make use of the current celestial influences and contemplate the power of the mind. Our thoughts and beliefs are responsible for our emotions and consequently, our emotions determine the quality of our experience. Energy follows thought. We are called to question old beliefs and to explore new perspectives. Uranus, the planet of liberation and futuristic ideas, turns direct on December 5 and new areas of experimentation could suddenly open. On a more down-to-earth level, Mercury, the planet associated with short journeys and communication, turns retrograde on December 10. Extra patience might be necessary, because there could be delays, misunderstandings and all sorts of computer problems. Special care needs to be taken in regards to driving, cars and any form of transport; this includes air traffic (until December 30).

We are about to enter the 2nd eclipse season of the year, with a total Lunar eclipse (Full Moon) that takes place on the 21st, followed by a Solar eclipse (New Moon) early next year on Jan 4th. Eclipses are known for being harbingers of change, especially affecting people (or countries) who have natal planetary placements close to the eclipse points. The Lunar eclipse coincides with our summer Solstice, which is marked by the entry of the Sun into the sign of Capricorn. On a personal level, we can expect to feel a bit erratic and tense during this powerful Full Moon period. Unfinished business might suddenly surface, stirring up emotions and clouding our perspective. It might be difficult to understand our feelings at this potentially difficult moment in time. Therefore it is crucial to release any negative emotions and focus on the bigger picture.

So, let's keep breathing and avoid getting lost in old dramas. It helps to observe the needs of others and remain in touch with the here-and-now. A portion of heightened awareness might be required for successfully navigating through the approaching end-of-year celebrations.

Aries

The energies of the moment inspire you to move forward and pursue your goals. Just keep in mind that not every idea has to turn out as a success. Try not to push ahead when unexpected obstacles block your path. Concentrate on what is possible and you will find that others will support you

Taurus

As an earth sign, you like ideas to be practical and tangible. Personal experience is essential. Nevertheless, the powerful energies of the lunar eclipse/Solstice (21st/22nd) might initiate lasting shifts in your value system. Once you have accepted the changes, you will find them liberating.

Gemini

At this moment in time you are asked by the cosmos to focus your attention on your relationship dynamics. Contracts and agreements might need adjusting, if they fail to reflect their true purpose. Use the Mercury retrograde period (Dec 10th - 20th) for ordering your financial affairs.

Cancer

The greatest stumbling block on your path of becoming is your attachment to the past. Use the creative energies of the moment and replace traditions, which have lost their relevance with your own kind of rituals that have the power of innovation and can add new meaning and excitement to your life.

Leo

Sagittarian solar fires combine well with Leo's strength of will. During the first three weeks of this month endless amounts of creative energy seem to be available to you. Make sure that you remain open for the input of others, or else you might burn out when the shadow of the Earth moves between Sun and Moon at the Lunar eclipse (21st).

Virgo

It is always helpful to know when to leave 'good enough' alone. Not everything can be planned to the final detail. Remain focused on the bigger picture, because there might be some unexpected twists and turns that upset your order at the very last minute

Libra

At the moment you need to be on the move following your urge to explore far horizons. Be aware that Mercury is retrograde for three weeks (Dec 10-20) and could interfere with your travel plans or communication

devices. After the Lunar eclipse (21st) it becomes more important to strengthen your foundation and build new structures that are nurturing for your soul.

Scorpio

For most people it is not that easy to really understand you, because you keep many of your feelings and impressions to yourself. Use the mind-expanding energies of the moment to communicate and share with others. If the Lunar eclipse (21st) triggers your defenses, be prepared and guard your tongue.

Sagittarius

There is a strong possibility that you have changed a lot over the last six months. The very depth of your being has received new impulses, which have to be incorporated now into your conscious reality. Explore the character of these inner developments and remember: it is you who has changed, not 'the others'!

Capricorn

Use the energies of the moment and reflect upon your recent past. Whatever you once considered as 'real' might have turned into something else. Instead of trying to reinforce the rules, you could play a different game; as a result a new and more perfect order will develop.

Aquarius

Friends are very important to you; however, try not to lose your perspective when others do not live up to your ideals, or their views differ from yours. Instead, exercise emotional give-and-take in your relationships, which will assist you in maintaining the balance between head and heart.

Pisces

Currently you might feel inspired to look at things from a totally different angle. However, this is quite challenging, because you could feel torn between your need to be free and independent and pressing social obligations. Examine your life's goals and release whatever needs to go. Listen to your intuition for guidance.

Personal transit readings for 2011 are available. For bookings or info please ring Tina on 6689-7413, email star-loom@hotmail.com or visit my web page <http://nimbin-starloom.com.au> Learn Astrology: Classes will start again early February 2011. Contact me for more information.

Lunar Phase and US Presidential Deaths

by David McMinn

Several unusual anomalies arise for the seasonal deaths and births of US presidents and vice presidents, which are not commonly recognised.

- Of the first five US presidents, three died on July 4 (Independence Day) with two on the same day (July 4, 1826).
- Of the first 22 US presidents, 12 died in June - July (about 3.7 expected by chance).
- Of the first 22 US presidents, only one was born in the five months from May to September (significant $p < .001$).
- Of the seven vice presidents who died in office, four died between November 21 and November 25.
- Of the five men who served as vice president and died in July, all died one or two days before a new Moon.

Between 1840 and 1960, all Presidents elected in a 0 ended year died in office. Only one president died in office outside this 20 year death cycle (see below) - Zachary Taylor in 1850. President Reagan was shot in March 1981 and would have died without modern medical intervention.

President Elected	Died
1800 Jefferson	Survived: Died July 4, 1826.
1820 Monroe	Survived: Died July 4, 1831.
1840 Harrison	April 4, 1841. Pneumonia.
1860 Lincoln	April 15, 1865. Assassinated.
1880 Garfield	September 19, 1881. Assassinated.
1900 McKinley	September 14, 1901. Assassinated.
1920 Harding	August 2, 1923. Food poisoning.
1940 Roosevelt	April 12, 1945. Stroke.
1960 Kennedy	November 22, 1963. Assassinated.
1980 Reagan	Survived: March 30, 1981 Assassination attempt. Died June 5, 2004.
2000 G W Bush	Survived.

Anomaly: President Zachary Taylor was elected in 1848 and died in office on July 9, 1850.

Additionally, there have been 15 presidents and vice presidents to die in office, which revealed an interesting seasonal distribution.

Season	Total Number US leaders died	% died in office
Apr 1 - 21	5	100
Nov 21 - 25	5	100
Aug 1 - Oct 30	8	50

Anomaly: Zachary Taylor died on July 9, 1850

Lunar Phase

If you assess the full sample of the 66 US leaders who have died to date, no lunar phase significance could be produced. However, if you break this sample down by season, then excellent correlates can be realised. Of the 25 US leaders to die between January 18 and June 4, 20 had the lunar phase in the 095 to 275 A° half circle (significant $p < .01$). No leaders died with lunar phase from 005 to 095 A° (significant $p < .01$).

Of the 26 US leaders to die between June 5 and November 18, 21 had the lunar phase in the half circle from 260 to 080 A° (significant $p < .01$). Only one leader died with lunar phase between 80 and 170 A° (significant $p < .01$).

Some 29 presidents and/or vice presidents died between April 1 and July 31, of which 23 took place when the lunar phase was in two ranges of about 70° approximately 180° opposite in the angular circle (significant $p < 10^{-4}$).

Taken separately, the various anomalies discussed in this article could be easily dismissed as mere coincidence. Put them all together and it makes you wonder if the deaths of US leaders were really random.

Most importantly, lunar phase could be correlated with the deaths of US presidents and vice presidents, but only if the full sample is broken down into seasonal subsets. The prevailing scientific paradigm would suggest that the deaths of US leaders should be random and unrelated to lunar phase or seasonal effects. Thus the findings completely contradict the expected outcome.

No clarification can be offered how the Moon and Sun could possibly influence the longevity of US leaders, and the findings remain very puzzling.

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Film Review: Fair Game

Reviewed by Stephen Wright

It must be a weird experience to go through a major life drama and then have it played out on screen by Naomi Watts and Sean Penn.

This has been the experience of Valerie Plame and her husband Joe Wilson, after Plame was outed as a covert CIA agent in 2004 by the *Washington Post*.

Wilson was a former US Ambassador in Africa, and the week before his wife's cover was blown, he had criticised the Bush administration's claim that Saddam Hussein had obtained a huge amount of yellowcake from Niger for use in nuclear weapons.

That claim was one of the justifications for the Iraq invasion. It was a false claim, and the US government knew it was false. Wilson did too having been sent to

Niger to find out, and said so. A week later his wife, who worked in the area of counter-proliferation, was out of a job and being smeared by whatever cronies could find.

Fair Game is a sustained attack on Bush and Cheney and their elaborate construction of the transparent lies that led to the invasion of Iraq. Their duplicity and hypocrisy keep unravelling throughout the course of the film, and their power and the potential for destruction they commanded is sketched out in many ways.

It's not often that Hollywood produces a mainstream film with serious political critique. More often than not they pull their punches, as *Green Zone* and *Wall Street 2* both did.

Fair Game does an excellent job in being both something of a political thriller, and a heavy hitting exposure of real

life corruption. Sean Penn and Naomi Watts do an excellent job as Plame and Wilson, and all praise to them for taking

on two roles that you'd have to think a lot of Hollywood A-listers would run a mile to avoid, and probably did.

The Iraq war has marked American life in ways that even Vietnam couldn't reach, and *Fair Game* is in some sense at least an attempt to come to terms with that. The film stumbles a little at the end when Penn as Wilson is given a platform, very similar to the one Michael Douglas was given in *Wall Street 2*, in which to lay on the line the stupidity and brutality of war-driven economies.

Penn's political peroration becomes pretty much a dumbed-down advocacy for



Americans to be responsible citizens, to speak up about lying in government and about pot-holes in their streets. As laudable as this is, a lot more is probably going to be required to rewrite American political structures, that can spend trillions on wars, but nothing on public health or on measures to fight global warming.

But still, *Fair Game* is a strong film and worth catching. The worst thing about seeing it was that some of the extended dialogue between Penn and Watts was backgrounded by the thunder of Hogwarts exploding, in the cinema next door, for the packed-out screening of *Harry Potter*.

Reviews from the Crypt

by Stephen Wright

Rock'n' Roll with the Modern Lovers: Jonathan Richman and the Modern Lovers (1977)

The more time that passes, the odder Jonathan Richman seems. In 1977 when *Rock 'n' Roll* was released, Richman's songs about Ice Cream trucks, angels, rockin' leprechauns and roller coasters looked like one of the odder and more ironic spin-offs of punk and new wave. *Rock 'n' Roll* sounds exactly like it was recorded in a bathroom, and that's because it was. The echo effect takes some getting used to.

Jonathan Richman was, and is, a one-off, a songwriter who doesn't just wear his heart on his sleeve but has it tattooed on his forehead and plastered all over the walls as well. Not afraid to appear foolish,

he often has appeared foolish, but when he carries his bravado off he does so with great poise. He has pretty good rock and roll credentials too, his two-chord song 'Roadrunner' now a standard for covers. Johnny Rotten once said that he hated all music, except for Roadrunner.

Rock 'n' Roll is a collection of children's songs directed at adults, mingled with love songs that are a mix of Richman's simplicity and acute observation. Richman also throws in a cover of 'The Wheels on the Bus', and somehow gets away with it. In fact he probably gets away with a whole lot of things musically, because he is so obviously having a good time doing what he does.

These days Richman, pushing 60, is something of a legendary figure among musicians for his chutzpah and originality. *Rock 'n' Roll with the Modern*

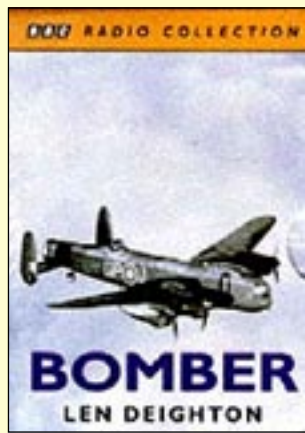


Lovers is probably one of the most original albums you'll ever hear, and it will either enrage you and be consigned to the wheelie bin, or go into your collection of music you can't quite bear to be without.

Bomber: Len Deighton (1971)

If Len Deighton hadn't written *Bomber*, he'd probably just be remembered as a writer of capable novels, a kind of wannabe John Le Carré who couldn't quite recreate Le Carré's grim European atmospheres. *Bomber* is a magnificent achievement that Deighton never surpassed, and now that he's in his 82nd year, it's unlikely that he ever will.

Bomber is a kind of docu-drama, meticulously researched, that recounts the events of a massive RAF bombing raid on a German city on the night of the



fictional 31st June, 1943. As the day progresses and the Germans and the British both prepare, we are introduced to multiple characters on both sides, and the scene is set for

an epic narrative told from many perspectives as the bombing raid begins.

Bomber is a novel that weaves in a political perspective to its gripping storyline. The historical question as to the justification of the RAF bombing campaign, and whether it was even militarily effective is now openly debated. But when Deighton wrote *Bomber*, such questions were just not asked.

When one of the novel's protagonists, the Lancaster bomber pilot Sam Lambert, begins to question the whole idea of obliterating civilians in firestorms he is labelled a communist and doubts raised as to his 'moral fibre.'

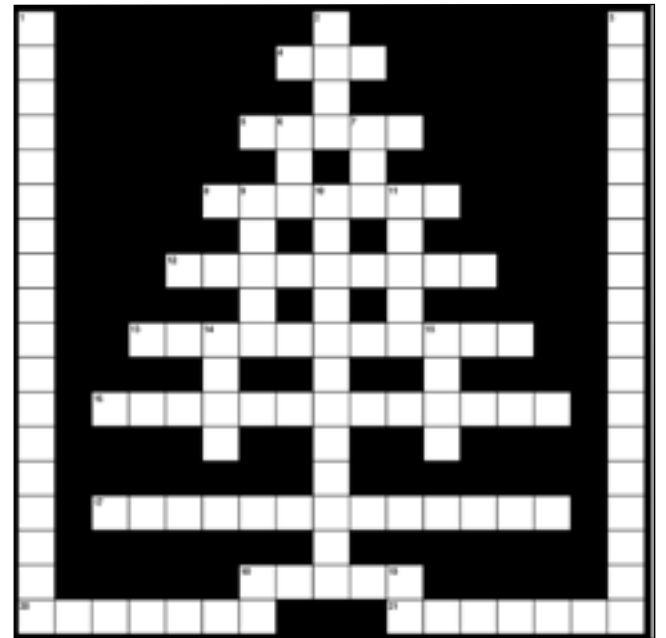
England's abhorrent class system also comes in for some stick, as Deighton begins to lay bare the remorseless machinery of the war, and the workings of the bizarre, psychopathic and sinister Nazi party bureaucracy. In the end our sympathies are with those with any kind of moral sensibility, whether they be English or German aircrews or German or English civilians.

Bomber doesn't let up for 500 pages, and by the end of it you've started to feel not just that Len Deighton has done a very good thing in writing *Bomber*, but that great novels – and *Bomber* is a great novel – can be found in the most unlikely places.

Nimbin Crossword

2010-12

by 5ynic



Across

- Drill point? Piece
- Large glass (for lager)
- Fighting era
- Excerpts from the news? Tips to plant out
- (5,6) Background characters in classical theatre – they provide the comment
- Evaporated cows milk with sugar added
- (9,4) Tradition in some NZ and Oz towns and households – yule in June?
- These were the traditional European centrepiece to the christmas spread

- Said to be a white Christmas if it was
- Photocopies?

Down

- Yuletide singers
- Miss? Softwood
- (7,11) Uprisings to restore the old regime?
- English sports car
- (any) Maori tribe
- NT city
- (4,8) Analogue recording medium
- Seasonal fruit
- Whirl? Theodore
- Kiwi hardwood
- Quentin Bryce (init.)
- Previous partner?

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Those furkin' lurkin' turkeys: The REAL Conspiracy Theory

by Brendan Hanley

Everybody I meet is going beserky about furkin' bush turkeys! The feathered food foragers, larder looters and garden grabbers are everywhere! It's an epidemic of turkostraphic proportions. It's the REAL bird flu!

Stories abound, of the feral, feathered ones destroying countless vegie gardens and trees and invading kitchens... even opening containers to get at sugar, grains and whatever else they fancy. They're known to jump up on picnic tables and make off with a loaf of bread, a pound of butter impaled on an upright beak or even a plastic bag with four rubber stubby coolers inside. What the furk are they going to do with stuff like that?

They dig and scratch and uproot and invade and steal. They render self-sufficiency impossible for the average wannabe Greenie Gardner, Permaculture Puddler, Trendy Treechanger or Hopeful Horticulturist. If you've got two legs and no feathers, they will zone in on you like guided nuclear missiles. You are the enemy! Your survival is at the no-mercy of their relentless search-and-destroy capacity and dedicated targetting of your support system.

They are increasing in numbers on a par with China... and like the Chinese, they seem to be all blokes. Unless the girl turkeys have turned fashionable and started wearing the gold necklace, then what I'm seeing the turkey equivalent of Red Army. It's either that or it's gay-male turkey capital up here. Turkey-wise, (now there's an oxymoron for you!) it's a man's world. And it's the lads that do all the damage! Sound familiar?

Actually I'm not a Conspiracy Theorist ... I'm just fundamentally paranoid about absolutely everything. I'm so paranoid I'm still waiting for 1984 ... and Y2K! So with the turkey thing I smell a rat. I can't help but wonder where the furk all these lurking, feathered destruction-dodos might be coming from?

And it's them or us! It's war! No two ways about it! They gotta go!

I know... I know! They're a protected species. They really NEED to be! Otherwise lots of people I know would be seeing them a bush-tucker menu item for sure. I don't care how tough they're supposed to be as food, if you

boil anything long enough you can eat the furker! Turkey Jerky sounds like a winner to me! Can't be any worse than that beef crap they sell (mostly in service stations).

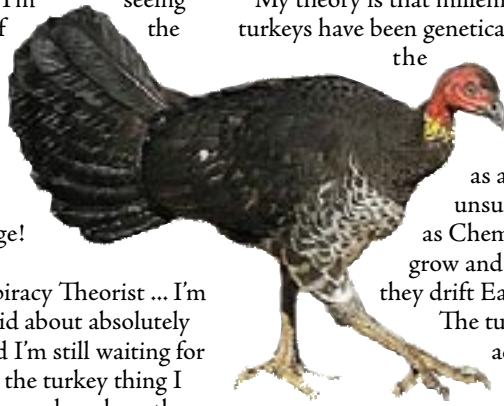
My theory is that millennium-model bush turkeys have been genetically engineered by the people who make the Terminator movies, and that they are sprayed as a DNA mist on an unsuspecting population as Chemtrails which solidify, grow and metamorphose as they drift Earthwards.

The turkeys touch down as adult birds. They have digital chips in their pea-sized brains with New World Orders to remove hippies and other thinking humans from the global equation. They use GPS technology to home in on the smallest crumb, seed or grain of tucker within their allocated territory. They are programmed to attack local food sources and supplies wherever they have landed and to send the human population to early graves or madhouses... whichever comes

first. Does that sound like a conspiracy?

Wake up sheeple! Never mind your New World Order, Illuminati, Bilderberg, Rothschild, Rockefeller, Bohemian Grove, Skull and Bones, Da Vinci Code, Merovingian Dynasty, Depopulation Agenda, Monsanto, BP, Corexit, Gulf of Mexico, Carbon Tax, RFID Chip, Airport Radioactive Body Scan, HAARP, Global Warming, Ozone Depletion, Sun Storms, UFOs, Alien Invasion, Project Blue Beam, Nibiru Planet X, 9/11 Deception, War on Terror, Nuclear Proliferation, Codex Alimentarius, Fluoridation, Bank Global Foreclosures, Deforestation, Species Depletion and Extinction, Genetically Modified Extermination, Weather Warfare, H1N1 Flu Pandemic, Mandatory Injections, FEMA Concentration Camps, Melting Icecaps, Cetacean Slaughter, Dying Oceans, Inundation, Dried-up Rivers, Hydraulic Fracturing, Toxic Dumping, Tectonic Plate Disturbances, Bee Depopulation, Increasing Seismic Activity, Global Pollution, Agenda 21, Armageddon, Nuclear Threat, 2012 Prophecy, Zionist, Fascist, Satanic Global Domination ... it's all kids' stuff compared to what we're facing right here in the green land of promise.

Get those furking turkeyssssssssssss!!!!!!



My Mother is a Crazy Dog Lady

by Beau, as told to Caroline Ladewig



Beau's crazy mother is a volunteer carer who brings home all sorts of foster 'kids'.

Pippa

A couple of quiet weeks went by after Ruby left us before Mumma C came home with Pippa. Pippa was very high energy, a good match for Jackson.

Everyone thought Pippa was very cute and I thought she was going to be adopted by another staff member at the gym. Unfortunately the potential new owner didn't pass ARR's strict pre adoption screening. The people at ARR have to make sure that all of the dogs that go through their centre are sent to only the very best loving and safe homes so that they do not end up abandoned or unwanted ever again.

Pippa wasn't desexed so Mumma C had to take her to get the operation. That gave me some peace and quiet for a few days while she recovered. The downside was there were no trips to the beach while Pippa had her stitches.

It wasn't too long before Pippa was back to her usual springy self. She had several people interested in adopting her but because she could jump so high, most people did not have fences high enough. This meant that I had to put

up with her for what seemed like months.

Trips to the beach were once again all about the cute little bouncy dog, and not me. And I thought I had a hard time with the puppies! At least no one stopped to pat Jackson, so there was no jealousy when it was just him around.

A lovely old couple decided they could give both Jackson and Pippa a permanent home on a farm. Off they went one day with their new parents. It lasted a few days and I am not sure if it was Jackson or Pippa who caused trouble, but Ma and Pa returned both of them. They never told me what they did, but they both seemed very happy to be back with me and my mummies.

Finally the right family came for Pippa. I think Jackson was starting to get a complex. Like me he had now seen quite a few other dogs come and go, but he still didn't have a permanent loving home. He was enjoying a pretty nice temporary home though, especially with a sister like me!

Animal Rights and Rescue Group is a registered charity formed in 1995, to help the unwanted, injured and neglected animals. They are at 135 Three Chain Road Lismore, phone 02 6622-1881 or online: www.animalrights.org.au

Fruit of the vine

by Terry Beltrane



Mother Earth's Gift

Historians vary in their opinion about the origin of wine, with some postulating that wine was first made in Persia (Iran) and others claiming China; but all agree that there is evidence of wine being made over the last 5000 years or so.

Each berry on a bunch is a single fruit and if you were to make wine from each individual berry from one bunch of grapes you would end up with several subtly different tasting wines depending on the location of the berry on the bunch; the outer side of the bunch having more exposure to the sun and therefore more ripe, or from the bottom or top of the bunch.

Regardless, anyone can make wine, as Mother Nature has provided everything needed to make the stuff without interference from humanity, other than crushing the fruit and exposing the outer skin of the fruit to the juice contained within.

When you closely examine a berry you'll notice a whitish, powdery film on the skin known as the "bloom" which is not a residual spray but a layer of yeast cells, genus *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*. If you rub the berry with your finger you'll find the skin under the bloom is quite lustrous. Put some grapes into a bucket, crush them with your feet and the yeast will commence fermentation of the juice converting the natural grape sugars into alcohol, the process taking

less than a week. Fermenting grape juice is called "must" as it is no longer 'grape juice' nor is it yet 'wine'.

Grape juice is colourless in all but a minuscule number of grape varieties, as the colour pigments in grapes are contained within the skin of the fruit. In making red wine, the skins of the fruit must remain in contact with the juice and depending on the contact period, the resulting wine will become increasingly darker in colour.

The skin also contains anthocyanins, mainly comprised of tannins, the component of the fruit that leaves you with that dry mouth feel from drinking red wine. The skin also, being closer to the sun, is high in flavanoids and the juice in close proximity to the skin is also higher in flavour than the juice from the centre of the fruit, just as you find with, for example, apples, the exterior part of the fruit being sweeter than in the centre.

So, longer skin contact time with the juice will result in wines deeper in colour, of greater depth of flavour and more full bodied and tannic as a result of the extraction of these soluble solids from the skin. Want a lighter bodied, more elegant wine? Then less skin contact time is the go.

"Finings" are used to remove traces of bitterness, which may be present in the wine, the most commonly used for reds being egg whites. The egg whites 'combine' with the bitter compounds and settle to the bottom of the tank. The wine is then pumped off the settlings ("bottoms"), a process called "racking".

In making red wines, skin contact time can vary from a couple of hours for Rose styles to keeping the finished wine in contact with the skins after fermentation is complete, fermentation

taking from one to two weeks. Once the skins are separated ("drained") from the must the skins are "pressed" to maximise extraction, the resulting liquid being exceptionally high in tannin and flavour. This can be added back to the wine or used to increase flavour and colour for 'bottom end' wines such as cask wines commonly referred to as "goonies" in deference to earlier years when wine was sold in glass 'flagons'.

The same rules apply for white grapes/wines, though white wines are meant to be delicate and free of tannin and bitterness. The common practice these days is to separate the juice from the skins immediately by crushing the fruit and then draining the "free run juice" to individual fermentation vessels where the must is kept cooler than for red wines so as to retain the delicate aromatic flavours of the fruit juice. The skins are then pressed to maximise juice extraction and this is fermented separately and added to bottom end wines to increase flavour.

These are the wines you find in 'goonies' labelled as "Dry White" or something similar. The "body" of white wine is determined in part by the grape variety in conjunction with, but mostly, by the alcohol content. So, a 'full bodied' Chardonnay will have up to 13.5% alcohol while a light bodied delicate wine, like Semillon or Riesling, will have alcohol levels of 11 - 12%.

Fining agents for white wines are most commonly milk powder, which remove bitterness or astringency and settles to the bottom of the tank, after which the wine is 'racked' off the sediment. In any case, the permutations for all wine styles are endless, which is what makes making wine so interesting, challenging and fun.

And all this from a little berry!

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Nimbin Bushwalkers conquer yet another peak

View from Mt Chincogan

by Len Martin

Amazingly, despite the weather's continuing tendency to rain, we completed three successive walks in the dry – all associated with local mountains, but only the last involved us ascending the peak.

Saturday 30th October saw 13 intrepid walkers stride out along the old forestry road that leaves the bitumen some hundred metres or so downhill from Mt Nardi car park. Over recent years this old road has gradually become reforested and one now walks most of the way under complete canopy – the lantana has lessened and mist weed largely disappeared, though native raspberry flourishes in parts. Downhill to Pholis Gap lookout, then ever upwards, along the main ridge towards Mt Neville.

Approaching that peak, an old forestry road branches to the left, leading down onto the southern slopes below the peak. The grades are gentle, but the old road is completely canopied with no clear track

and lots and lots of vines, including lawyer vine! There is complete canopy on both sides of the road, remarkably weed-free, but mostly secondary growth – an indication of the intensity of the forestry carried out in the area.

There are at least four large timber bridges on this



Lower Portals pool

particular road. We saw two of them, constructed of huge logs. At the second, we left the road and scrambled a few hundred metres down beside the creek to a fine small

waterfall. Below this another creek joins and we continued down to the top of a cliff face and even bigger waterfall.

This part of the walk was through old growth forest, with many magnificent trees including a pair of huge Brushbox just above the second falls. I wasn't the

kookaburras, but others were less enamoured.

Next morning, a short drive, with magnificent views of Mt Barney, to the Lower Portals car-park where our numbers swelled to 14. Yes, as our leader had said, it is an easy graded track, though with a couple of creek

Yes, this was the day when 12 of us made the ascent of Mt Chincogan. We are very grateful to our bare-foot walk leader, Dr Liz Elliott for providing access to the peak, as well as a super morning tea, coffee and biscuits before we set out.

The first part of the ascent was across open grassland, thence onto loose rocky scree with rainforest remnants, followed by a steep rocky section with magnificent grass-trees and glorious views to the coast and across the ranges to the Mt Warning caldera. The peak itself is flat with Eucalypts, large grass trees and, right beside the Trig station, a big goanna, marooned up a tree, as we sat enjoying lunch.

Some followed the same route down, needing to return to Nimbin in time for the Women's Dinner. The remainder continued with a traverse of the knife-edge ridge to the peak at the northern end, after which they returned to Liz and Wayne's place, where they were treated to more tea and

hospitality. For me, another memorable feature of the walk was the large number of butterflies, sometimes in small swarms – remarkable!

Many, many thanks Dr Liz for organising a truly wonderful day, and for the invitation to the club to do it all again. I know I shall.



Clarrie at the falls, Mt Neville

Walks Program December

Saturday 11th December (Members Only)
Doon Doon Saddle – Nightcap

Leader David Holston (6672-5071 after dark)

Grade 3, 5hr – two return walks. Walk 1: 3km return to Doon Doon Bluff (via Historic Nightcap Track) with a number of spectacular lookouts along route and possible 1km return extension to the historic sleep tree.

Walk 2: after lunch at the saddle we will walk the opposite direction along Mt Jerusalem Rd towards Mt Jerusalem and its Trig Station (distance will depend on time available), again views at lookouts are spectacular.

Meet 8am Nimbin carpark, 8.45am Cnr of Doon Doon Rd and Mt Jerusalem Rd, Doon Doon. Final access to Saddle by 4WD only (or an extra 40 min walk at start and finish).

Bring 4WDs, lunch and water. Walk will depend on weather conditions over preceding days.

This is the only walk in December. There will be none in January, so Happy Pagan Festivals. We look forward to you joining us in February 2011 for more fabulous walks.

<http://nimbinbushwalker.byethost7.com>

only "senior" on the trip, a distinguished Nimbin elder also completed the 18 km – including the scramble to the falls – but we agreed that our legs felt like jelly on the final few hundred metres "gentle" ascent to the cars.

Our October walk to the Lower Portals below Mt Barney was aborted because of foul weather, as described in my last report. With it rescheduled for 13th November, the Martins once more set off the day beforehand to camp beside the Logan River at Flanagan's Reserve. A grey, cloudy day, not good for photography, but a pleasant surprise on reaching the Flanagan's campsite – a superb view of Mt Maroon. On our previous visit, the cloud base had been so low, there'd been no hint of this. Four other club members joined us for a very pleasant Friday night camp. We quite like Flanagan's, which is quiet, dog-friendly, with many photogenic dragonflies and

crossings. For much of the way the bush is sparse, but with many grass-trees and graceful Kangaroo Grass.

Close to The Portals the bush is lush – and with more lantana! Barney Creek was in good flow. To reach the main swimming hole one had to squeeze through a small gap between two massive rocks. I managed it, with some difficulty, some couldn't. Most made it through to disport themselves in the cold water. I confess I chickened out on this.

Some of the younger, fitter members then went off-track, via steep and rocky bits to explore further up the creek. Others, like us, returned slowly via the main track, for the long drive home. A great trip and well worth it.

Wednesday 17th November was another grey cloudy day. Alas, not good for photographing the magnificent views we were about to enjoy, but great for keeping temperatures down as we went mountaineering.



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Nimbin Garden Club Notes



Words and pictures by Gil Schilling

End of Year Lunch

Nimbin Garden Club recently finished the year with a pre-Christmas lunch at the Blue Knob Gallery café.

President Michael Vaughan and his hardworking committee had arranged an excellent event, with a wide range of dishes catering for all tastes, together with wines and other beverages.

As usual the food, lovingly prepared by Heather and Stephanie, was first class. A nice touch was the decorative potted Celosia and giant Lillypilli fruit (*Syzygium erythrocalyx*) for each guest to take home and plant.

From now until the third Saturday in February 2011, the Garden Club takes its annual break. Members should receive advance notice about the next meeting in the first newsletter for 2011.



Rachel and Bruce



Nana and Hetty

Club Members' Supper

Members and partners are invited to attend an end of year candlelight supper hosted by Janet and Graham Carthew at their home (first gate/driveway on the left on Crofton Road) on Saturday 11th December, from 6pm (note later starting time than previously advised). BYO plate to share and drinks.

Please also note that as the supper is an open-air occasion, it may be cancelled at short notice if raining.

For more information about the club, please contact either Michael (6689-7193) or Denise (6689-9324).



Dick and Gillian



Hendrik and Janet

Twilight — all right on the night

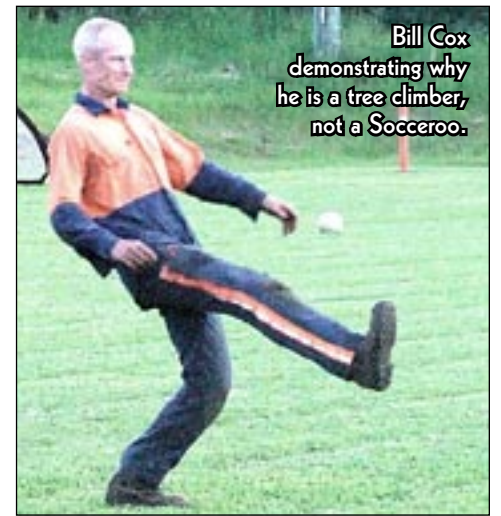
Words and pictures by Simone Rutley

The time and travel necessary to play soccer during the official season is a commitment many of us are unable to make.

Some of us spend all our weekends ferrying kids to their various soccer games, and all of us have busy schedules. That's why Friday night twilight soccer is perfect for those who imagine themselves as a maturing Lucas Neill, or Melissa Barbieri (captains of the Socceroos and Matildas respectively, for the non-soccer fanatics out there).

Of course there is always the weather to contend with, and as most of us are by now aware predictions indicate it's going to be wet until Christmas. In five weeks of playing we've only been rained off once. Not too bad.

There's a good mix of ages and skills, and some controversy over the minimum age limit of 11 years. The kids are so keen to play and a couple of younger ones have had a game – which seems incredibly unfair to those who have been told they can't play. But the minimum age limit, instituted for safety reasons, remains in place.



Bill Cox demonstrating why he is a tree climber, not a Socceroo.



Gordy King in action (He's the one lying down)

Twilight soccer is very casual. While there is a core group making up three to four regular teams, there are also a number of people who come and go. For some this is part of the attraction.

Last week, a visiting player from Melbourne praised the fun nature of the club. "There is nothing like this in Melbourne," he said. "It's great, well done". There are three weeks left, so head on down: Friday nights, 6pm kickoff, gold coin donation.

Anyone who's been near the club in the past three weeks will have noticed the building going

on at the clubhouse.

As part of the Nimbin Neighbourhood and Information Center's (NNIC) solar farm project, the building is getting a new roof. This has truly been a partnership-in-community project. Funding has come from the NNIC, Rainbow Power and the Nimbin Hotel and Backpackers.

All the labour has been voluntary. Jon Bell has managed to pull together a workforce from within the club and from the wider community.

Thus far this has been the project's strength. Everyone involved has been heartened by this show of support.

It is the foundation of many of Nimbin's assets, and the town's character.

The solar panels will be installed during December however the roofing project is not due for completion until the new year. Here's to a new look club house to begin the 2011 season.



Lishia and Paul O'Reilly and their girls enjoying the fun.



Continental Carnival

Photo: Paul LeBars

Nimbin Bowling Club's annual Continental Carnival in November lived up to its reputation as being one of the best club carnivals around.

The single green, packed to capacity with 64 players plus many local spectators,

provided a great weekend's entertainment for the visitors, who had come from as far as Yamba to the south, and Warwick to the north.

Needless to say, all who attended the Carnival booked in again for next year.

The green took the wear well, and thanks to the tireless attention of greenkeeper Ray Nugent, it will not need the major surgery it required last summer, and will only be closed from 12th December to 16th January.

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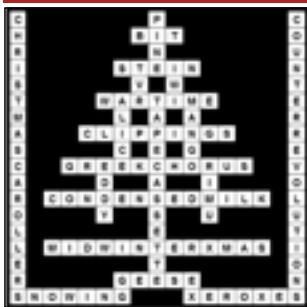
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Nimbin Crossword

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See Page 23



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Great Fighting Fish



Justin, Wazza, Strats and Mazza

by Pixie
Fishing reporter

Once again, you need a bit of luck with all the bad weather, to be able to find a day good enough to go to sea.

We had been planning on leaving on the Saturday, drive to Wooli and fish all day Sunday. On the Friday afternoon, the seas are 5 to 6 metres with a howling 30 to 40 knot SE wind, and everyone we talk to says we are mad or, "Wake up to yourself, you will never go to sea in this weather."

But away we go, determined to go fishing, and we get to Wooli on Saturday afternoon and the wind is still pumping, but turning into a westerly. If you ever want the seas to drop, a westerly is what you order from Huey the weather god.

By 5am Sunday morning, the wind had blown itself out and the seas had flattened out to about one metre. Yee-hah, we're going fishing!

So the Nimbin Heads Fishing Team had

picked the right time again, with Pix, Shane, Winga, Ashley and Simon and the Lismore connection of Strats, Wazza, Justin and Mazza heading out to sea on a perfect day. All we needed now was to find some fish.

We started fishing for snapper on the shallow sand banks, only about 1km out. You often pick up a couple of honkers close in, but not today. The snapper were there, just a nice eating size, with Winga hooking one of the bigger ones before he started burleying for us, keeping the fish on the bite.

We landed a dozen nice snapper before we pulled anchor and headed out about 30 clicks to look for some bigger snapper. We were now fishing around 100ft deep, with Strats and Simon back into hooking snapper, and Ashley landed a big parrot fish. Winga was still burleying for us, then Justin and Shane decided to give him a hand, and with plenty of burley in the water we were now hooking up on pearl perch around 2kg.

After catching a nice bag of snapper and pearlies, we decided to go and look for some

sampson fish and do some jigging in the deep water. First drop with 6 jigs and we have 6 big fighting fish on, all the guys having their own battle, and then we have one big tangle under the boat, but still we land five 7kg sampson fish.

Then Shane, after having a great fight, lands a 10kg kingfish, followed by Strats, Mazza and Simon, each with an 8kg kingfish. We land eight kingfish between 6kg and 10kg, and all were good fighting fun.

The sampson fish kept hitting the jigs, and these great fighting fish went mad for about an hour. Winger stopped burleying long enough to hook onto a good fight with a big sampson. All the guys experienced hooking onto great fighting fish, and the smiles were all around, with Shane taking the kitty for the biggest fish of the day with his 10kg kingfish, a personal best and a fight he won't forget.

The fishing was so full-on, some of the guys grabbed some shut-eye on the way back in, to recoup some energy from a great day's fishing.

For you guys signing up for Fraser Island next year, there are only 192 sleeps to go.

Tight lines, guys.



Ashley



Winga



Mazza & sampson fish

Short and Sharp Beach workout suggestions

by David Hoffman,
David's Health & Lifestyle Studios, Lismore

With the sun out (some days) and everyone looking at getting into the weather while it lasts, a good majority of us will be looking at the beach as an alternative to the same old we may have been exercising over winter.

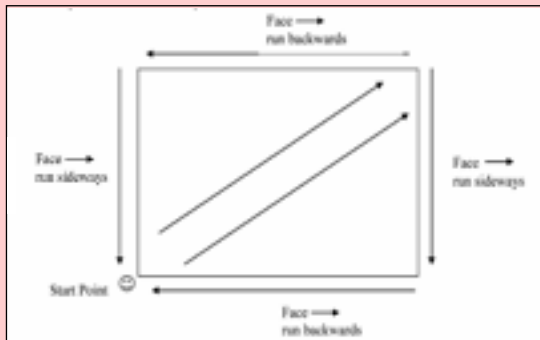
When we hit the beach, instead of just running and swimming, here are two great suggestions that can be walked through, jogged through or sprinted through to get a short sharp 20 minute interval workout.

Exercise one

- Mark out a square that is 10 meters each side with a combination (if possible) of soft sand, harder moist sand and the surf.

- Warm-up with a jog or walk for a few minutes on the beach then some jogs forwards and rearwards from one side of the square to another.

- Start on either of the corners furthest from the water. Slow jog or walk three sides of the square (any direction) then sprint the last side to the start point. Repeat this step, but increase the sprint or



faster section to two sides, then three then all four.

- Have a one-minute breather then repeat this in the reverse order, from four down to one. Walk a complete lap of the square to finish.

Exercise two

- Using the same square, choose any corner to start on and walk, run or sprint in the below sequence:

Run diagonally to the top corner, then backwards, then sideways to the start. Repeat this for the opposite side, for one completion. Complete this twice through without stopping, then three times through. Repeat going from three back to once through.

To increase the intensity

- In exercise one, have an exercise to do at the start point before you go onto the next lap

- Increase your speed

- Complete it in the soft sand only

- In exercise two, hit / touch the ground at every corner either with a knee or going fully down to the ground flat on your stomach.

These exercises are a great way to have a quick session, get the heart rate up and really make use of the combination of soft hard and unpredictable elements.

Hope you have the opportunity to try these. Have a great festive season and enjoy the surf and sand.

Discover Fitness presents Zumba



Zumba is a fun and exciting combination of Latin dance and fitness movements, integrated into a combination of fast and slow rhythms that will tone and sculpt the body as well as maximise cardiovascular improvements.

Over the next few weeks, Cassandra Jeffreys will be conducting Zumba classes at the Physical Activities Centre at Nimbin



Showground, where clients will be learning the basic steps, preparing for more difficult blends in the new year.

Sessions will be held on Mondays at 5pm (30 minutes), Tuesdays at 5.15pm, Thursdays at 9am and Fridays at 9.15am (45 minutes). Charges are \$6 for each half-hour session and \$8 for each 45-minute session.

This is an opportunity to check out this new approach to exercise that is taking the world by storm. Phone Cassandra on 6689-1405 for more info.

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Timetable

Pickup Points	Nimbin Central	Nimbin Main St.	Coffee Camp	Goolmangar School	Goolmangar Store	Blakebrook Interchange	RRHS	Lismore Transit
Nimbin - Lismore	7.50	7.52	8.03	8.10	8.14	8.20	8.35	8.50
Mon - Fri	8.55	9.00	9.10	9.15	9.18			9.35
	3.22	3.25	3.35	3.40	3.45			4.10
		4.30	4.40	4.45	4.49			5.00
Mon. & Thu. Only		12.45	12.55	1.00	1.05	1.15	1.17	
School Holidays		9.00	9.10	9.15	9.18			9.35
		3.25	3.30	3.40	3.44			4.00
Pickup Points	Lismore Transit	RRHS	Blakebrook Interchange	Goolmangar Store	Goolmangar School	Coffee Camp	Nimbin Main St.	Nimbin Central
Lismore - Nimbin	7.00		7.10	7.14	7.25	7.30	7.30	4.20
Mon - Fri	8.00		8.23	8.25	8.35	8.45	8.50	
	2.35	2.40	2.45	2.48	2.55	3.00	3.10	3.15
	3.20	3.35	3.50	3.55	4.00	4.05	4.15	4.20
Mon. & Thu. Only	12.00	12.03	12.10	12.12	12.15	12.25	12.35	
School Holidays	2.35		2.48	2.55	3.00	3.10		
	3.25		3.44	3.50	3.57	4.00		
Pickup Points	Gwynne Road	Mitchell Road	Oakey Creek Interchange	Blakebrook Interchange	RRHS	Trinity Bay 2 Interchange	Lismore Transit	
Georgica - Lismore	7.43	7.51	8.00	8.20	8.35	8.40	8.52	
School days only								
Pickup Points	Lismore Transit	Trinity Bay 2 Interchange	RRHS	Blakebrook Interchange	Oakey Creek Interchange	Mitchell Road	Gwynne Road	
Lismore - Georgica	3.25	3.35	3.50	3.50	4.15	4.28	4.36	
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Lismore - Georgica								

Town Service - Wheelchair access available upon request, 24 Hour notice required
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MOUNT BURRELL \$625,000



Views to Live For

If breathtaking views are top of your list, then this property is sure to excite! Set on 18 very usable acres at Mount Burrell, the council approved home has incorporated wrap-around bi-fold doors that lead onto the decks to ensure the views of Mt Warning, Sphinx Rock and the Border Ranges are always on show! Large dam on the property provides water for any irrigation needs, 20,000 litres of rainwater storage and grid power. ADSL broadband on site for all your communication needs, makes it possible to work from home. Under an hour to the Gold Coast and spectacular Tweed beaches!

Ref.#1338



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DOON DOON \$490,000



100 acres at Doon Doon only 20 minutes to Uki offers you total privacy and seclusion. Access roads allow you to easily traverse this undulating block with Mt. Warning and Doughboy as a backdrop. Various options present themselves as possible building sites. Remnant rainforest, 40 years regrowth and selective plantings including around 1000 cabinet timbers make this an irresistible block for that weekend getaway or to build a beautiful family home. Access to water is available at the boundary from Doon Doon Creek as is the access to power. Minutes to Clarrie Hall dam and all it has to offer with fishing, canoeing and sailing all at your doorstep. Escape the rat race today and come live in "God's country"!

Ref.#1326



BURRINGBAR \$875,000



Peace and Privacy is the order of the day on this secluded 100 acre lifestyle property. The house is unique in design to take in the views and breezes. Set in a tropical garden setting and feeling like a Balinese hideaway, you can while away the hours on the spacious undercover decks perfect for entertaining your friends. You could be miles away but you are only 7 minutes to the pretty township of Burringbar and highway access to both the southern beaches of Byron (only 30 minutes away) and our northern beaches from Pottsville to the Gold Coast. There is enough usable and very fertile land for a huge veggie garden and orchard. The property has the convenience of mains power, a spring fed dam and 44,000 litre rain water tank, huge machinery shed and undercover parking. Escape the rat race and live the tree change!

Ref.#1331



NIMBIN \$355,000



Nimbin Investment Opportunity!

Are you seeking that perfect investment in Nimbin village? Then you should consider this option. Make this circa 1920 timber dwelling your home now, or invest and generate rental income. Sited on the fringe of the main commercial precinct, proximity to the Nimbin CBD will deliver future commercial possibilities (STCA). This comfortable 4 bedroom home with shady gardens on 522 square metres has original features including VJ walls, timber floors and 11-foot ceilings. The kitchen opens to a small patio, and a wood burner provides warmth during the chilly times. All services are connected, the garden is established and is perfect for outdoor living. Complete with shed. Seize your chance to secure this rare opportunity in a rarely traded street. Currently rented for \$350 per week.

Ref.#1342



TYALGUM \$390,000



Land – Certified Organic

Rare opportunity exists here on this 5 acre parcel of land, to build the country residence you have always wanted. Situated on the Oxley river, and only five minutes to the charming country village of Tyalgum and 15 minutes to Murwillumbah. Approved building pad already in place, electricity, approved sewerage plan, phone on site, current bore and irrigation licence in place. All the hard work has been done! Certified organic, this land has all the opportunities for a small market gardener, or for those wanting to live the self sustainable lifestyle. Perfect for animal lovers of all types.

Ref.#1336



CAWONGLA \$520,000



40 Hectares Cawongla

Your options are endless on this 101-acre property. "American Style" steel barn council approved dwelling, with mains power, septic and phone line connected. Seasonal creek and spring fed dam and gullies make water in abundant supply. Beautiful views of Billen Cliffs and Mount Burrell. 3 bay workshop with extra toilet plumbed in. 2 x 5,000g water tanks. Located minutes to the quaint village of Cawongla, 10 minutes to Kyogle and 18 minutes to Nimbin, sealed road, good entrance. Great for a getaway, to live in or start up your own retreat! Good mix or timber and cleared paddocks.

Ref.#1347



LILLIAN ROCK \$385,000



A Complete Home

Want to get away from it all on a lovely relaxed community at Lillian Rock? This home has it all... 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, with timber features throughout on a garden setting of 3 acres with a glorious in-ground pool and entertainment area where you can while away the summer months in comfort and privacy with friends and family. Cathedral ceilings dominate the living areas, lovely functional galley style kitchen and 2 sumptuous bathrooms make this a home you will love to live in. Heaps of rainwater storage and access to water from a community dam means you will always have supply. A handy double cabin also sits on the land making ideal extra accommodation for relatives or friends. Only 10 mins. to Nimbin and around 7 mins. to the Mt. Burrell shopping precinct for all your daily needs.

Ref.#1341



NIMBIN \$395,000



Country Living Village Charm

Come and live on a lovely property with all the benefits of rural living without the maintenance of larger acreage. Set on 2 and a half park-like acres with rural views, this charming 3 bedroom 2 bathroom home is ready to move into, no work to do! Many features of the property include reverse cycle air conditioner, ceiling fans, fully screened security windows and doors, built in wardrobes, the master bedroom has walk in robe and huge ensuite. Well-appointed kitchen with gas cooker and oven and large pantry. Many fruit trees abound and plenty of room for a veggie patch, 44,000 litres of water storage means that you can live a self-sustainable lifestyle. Enjoy the birdlife as you sit on the wrap around verandah glass of wine in hand and just chillax!! Just a few minutes to all the amenities of Nimbin!

Ref.#1337



NIMBIN \$159,000 – \$259,000



The Ridges

Take your pick of a new estate in Nimbin. Located minutes from the village in a quiet cul-de-sac with glorious sweeping views of Nimbin Rocks, Sphinx Rock, Blue Knob and Lillian Rock.

These blocks have kerb and guttering, underground power and phone included. Sizes range from 3448m² to 1.206 hectares. Don't hesitate and you will have the choice of the best of the views out of the 14 blocks, many with a creek that meanders beautifully through the property.

Ref.#1340



DOON DOON \$849,000



This restored and modernized, spacious three bedroom farmhouse sits on rare small acreage of 11 acres at Doon Doon, 55 minutes from the Gold Coast Airport, and 20 minutes from Uki, surrounded by landscaped gardens with outstanding views of Mt Warning. A converted self contained Cow Bails offers additional space, with 2 large rooms currently used as an office and an artists studio and gallery, together with a commercial kitchen, its own bathroom and large studio. Irrigation licence for 11 megalitres from Doon Doon Creek, which forms part of the western boundary. The property is connected to the grid but solar hot water and power systems ensure that there is constant supply. There is a productive small orchard bush food species. THE POSSIBILITY EXISTS TO PURCHASE THE ADJOINING 100 ACRES

Ref.#1333



UKI \$ E.O.I.



The Uki Cafe is a very well known and extremely popular licensed restaurant located in a prominent position in the hub of the iconic Uki Village at the base of Mount Warning. A 10-minute drive from the bustling Northern Rivers country town of Murwillumbah, this well established business is for sale on a freehold basis and includes all current stock and equipment. Comprising a full commercial kitchen with gas range and cool room, front service counter, spacious internal and external seating areas, washrooms, separate office and ample parking for the frequent local and tourist traffic. The current owners have established a very healthy trade catering for walk-in-business, special functions and regular tour parties travelling through this gorgeous village. This is a rare opportunity to purchase such a successful going concern in one of the most beautiful parts of the Tweed Valley. Ref.#1346

