



Nimbin Youth Film Competition "It's My Life"

Youth Connections North Coast Inc (YCNC), in conjunction with Nimbin Film Festival invites entries for "It's My Life", the 2010 Nimbin Film Festival Youth Film Competition. Competition finalists will be screened as part of the 2010 Nimbin Film Festival at Nimbin Town Hall on Saturday 30th October.

The competition is open to young people aged 14-20, living within 40 km of Nimbin. Films must be 2 to 12 minutes in length in any category - documentary, fiction or music video - and must be locally produced by the entrant within the last two years.

Prizes: \$200 first prize, \$75 second prize, \$50 third Prize. Entries will be judged on these weighted criteria by two local independent filmmakers: audio quality 10%, editing 10%, production values 10%, entertainment value 30%, narrative/story 30%.

Entries must be on standard DVD and be able to be played on a standard DVD player, no other formats are acceptable. Entries will not be returned, so please submit copies only.

Entries must be received by mail or be hand delivered by 5pm Tuesday 19th October,

with official entry form (attached). Mail entries to 'It's My Life' Nimbin Youth Film Comp, PO Box 1005 Lismore NSW 2480, or drop off to Nimbin Neighbourhood Centre. Entry forms available in the *Nimbin GoodTimes*, at Nimbin Neighbourhood Centre and at YCNC, 17b Keen Street, Lismore.

Special section 'It's My Life - A YouTube Moment': Produce an original and local short video, 1-3 minutes in duration, made using a mobile phone, iPod, webcam or digital camera. Best "It's My Life" Nimbin YouTube Moment - \$100 prize, all entries to be in MPEG 4 format and emailed to info@turtlefilms.net

Training: If you live in the Nimbin region are aged between 14 and 20 and not attending school, training or education and would like to gain video and film production skills, contact Darmin on 0427-217-919 or email darminc@ycnc.com.au

The Nimbin Youth Film Competition is sponsored by YCNC, with the support of the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations, in partnership with Nortec Youth Services and Byron Youth Services.

Film festival set to amaze and entertain

by Roy Radle

It's Nimbin Film Festival time again, and we're hoping for an avalanche of local films as well as some big names from an international smorgasbord.

We have extended the submissions deadline until the 15th October to cater for those who weren't quite ready or who hadn't heard about it.

Already we have David Bradbury's new film "When the Dust Settles" starring Mandy Nolan and Austin Tayshus as the Sparkles, a family enticed into the wonders of magic money-making at the uranium mines until their son Dylan played by Dylan Bradbury comes up with some facts garnered from the Internet.

For Nimbin viewers who may have

missed Lismore screenings we have the historical film from the 1970's "A Place In The Sun"; where the early years of alternative lifestyles plays out amongst a deeply conservative background of old-fashioned Lismore.

Two "Spirit of Woodford" winning films are showing, including the most recent winner "The Chai Tent At The End Of The Universe" by local filmmaker Darmin. Jane Treasure and Gary Mimlich's "Definitely Not Having a Good Day", a finalist from the NSW Nurses Association short film competition will be there. Paul Tait is entering a local production but we need more.

Who else is hiding their creative gold in the hills? We want to show it for the 6th annual Nimbin Film Festival, to

be held at the Nimbin Town Hall on the last weekend of October, being the 29th, 30th and 31st. Make a night out of it, lots of yummy local catering

Don't forget the Saturday matinee "It's My Life" Nimbin Youth Video Competition, dedicated to the youth filmmakers of the region, many of whom have been participating in a recent workshop held at the Youth Centre building in Nimbin.

The Nimbin Film Festival aims to promote local independent filmmakers but also present interesting and provocative content from all over the world.

Interested filmmakers can email nimbinfilmfestival@gmail.com or download an entry form from the website www.nimbinfilms.co.cc

Crook road raises ire



Photo: Charlie Wood

Concern about the state of sections of the arterial Blue Knob/Nimbin Road is fuelling renewed pressure for greater road funding.

Cycle riders are especially critical of the degraded surface of the road, in particular on corners such as the one near the "donut dam" (pictured), the scene of numerous accidents.

One motorcyclist described the corner as "a death trap". A spokesperson for Lismore Council said that,

although pot-holing repair works are scheduled to start this month, no major reconstruction of the road is planned for this financial year - before July 2011.

Council is preparing its application for grant funding for roadworks for next financial year.

Residents have the opportunity to lobby local roads committees and councillors, to ensure Blue Knob Road receives a high priority.

Choices Cafe's baptism of fire



Suzanne and Michael

Choices Cafe in the main street of Nimbin has changed ownership.

For two months now, it has been in the hands of Suzanne Visser (Dutch) and Michael Sims (USA) (pictured). It's much cleaner and brighter. The food is good, the specials change on a regular basis, the staff (13 young people from Nimbin) are happy, and the locals are coming back to sit on the wide verandah.

"And this is only the beginning," said Suzanne. "We will keep working at it."

On the 10th day of their ownership, the kitchen burned. Five fire engines hurried to Cullen Street.

Since then, all the equipment, big and small, has been replaced or repaired, so that the staff is safe now and has good equipment to work with.

A big yellow rising sun has been painted on the back wall to symbolise a new

beginning.

Sauces like mayonnaise and BBQ are hand-made, burgers are packed with fresh ingredients, old Milk bar style. Unusual specials like Portuguese leek soup, Indonesian Curry and Belgian Beef Stew (remember that one from the Bush Theatre?) are on the menu.

Open daily from 7.30am to 4pm.

The Secret Tea Room

Next door to Choices, on the verandah, Suzanne and Mike are opening "The Secret", an indoor Tea Room away from the hustle and bustle of the main street.

Art, books, magazines, good quality drinks, a bite to eat, Japanese artefacts....

Teas are of high quality and brewed with good water. Cakes, scones, bread and tarts are baked on the spot.

Come in and say g'day! Open daily from 10am to 4pm.

Entry Form: 'It's My Life'



Nimbin Youth Film Competition October 2010

Title of Entry:	
Duration:	
Name:	
Address:	
Phone:	
Email:	
Postal Address: (if different)	

Conditions of entry

Entries must be received by mail or be hand delivered by 5pm Tuesday 19th October 2010, with official entry form attached. Films must be 2 to 12 minutes in length in any category - documentary, fiction or music video - and must be locally produced by the entrant within the last two years. Entries must be on standard DVD and be able to be played on a standard DVD player, no other formats are acceptable. Entries will not be returned, so please submit copies only. The Judges decisions will be final and no correspondence will be entered into.

I am (we are) the legal owner(s) and copyright holders of all the attached entry materials detailed above. I/we have read and understand the entry form conditions and agree to abide by them. I / we are fully responsible for using the images and voices and locations that appear or are heard on the production, all permission has been granted to the producers of the production to use the images, voices and locations that appear in the productions. Youth Connections North Coast and the Nimbin Film Festival will take no responsibility for the material that is presented all. All responsibility lies with the producers and owners of the entries.

Name/s Age/s.....

Signed.....

If under 18, Parent or Guardian.....

Date:.....

Nimbin Music Fest cancelled

The music festival advertised for the October long weekend at the Nimbin Showgrounds was cancelled due to difficulties with meeting the requirements of the approval process.

Organiser Mick Greco said, "Council requested additional reports that would have taken weeks to prepare. I wouldn't have got the DA in time.

"There were also issues with the licence for the bar. All the issues have been dealt with now," he said.

"I apologise to everyone who has been inconvenienced in any way - bands, stallholders, stage hire - but I didn't want to cancel at the last minute."

Promotion of the event was well underway when it was cancelled. Mick said, "I've lost a fair bit of dough by it, but I'm looking forward to doing it in 2011. It will definitely go ahead."



At
Choices Cafe
the first customer of
the day gets her/his
drink for free
Open daily

Benny in NYC for 350.org Ecofest 10/10/10

by Benny Zable

I begin writing this story today on 11th September as New York commemorates 9 years since those planes smashed into the World Trade Center twin towers.

It was here in September 1979, during the Terania rainforest actions, that I was in New York City protesting the Nuclear Industry and signed up to help manage the No Nukes concert rally. Then it was a land fill from the building of the WTC twin towers.

The concert rally had a most profound influence on the future of my style of art activism.

Now 31 years on, at the most picturesque Battery Park City Hudson riverside Esplanade Plaza, New York's 22nd annual Ecofest will be taking place. It is at the end of Liberty Street, that runs from the WTC Ground Zero's descent, now under construction, to the Esplanade Plaza, at the North Cove Marina, framed by the World Financial Center and Plaza overlooking Hudson River, to the Statue of Liberty.

On October 10th 2010, we will be a major



Benny with Bill McKibben

fixture for the 10/10/10 global work party 350.org climate action events in New York City. A highlight being planned for the day will be the arrival of Pete Seeger and hopefully Congressman John Hall upon the sloop *Clearwater*. John Hall, who was a major player at the No Nukes concert in 1979, will sing "Warm Power Of The Sun", if all goes to plan, for the first time since then.

Go to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L3T60RC04yA&feature=related> for a preview.

In the evening, we are part of New York City's first Green Legend Ball at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel nearby. This is to become the

equivalent to the Oscars for Environmental Achievers.

A major campaign for 350.org 10/10/10 is to get thermal solar panels installed on heads of states buildings. We at Ecofest met up with the 350.org creator, Bill McKibben as he dropped by "Solar One" in New York City with his roadshow to install one of the thermal solar panel arrays that Jimmy Carter had installed on the White House also some 31 years ago.

Likewise Get Up! in Australia called for a similar request to install thermal solar on Parliament House Canberra in June/July this year. In spite of Washington and Canberra ignoring these requests, an increasing number of heads of state have responded to this request.

Now that the Federal elections are over in Australia, I ask you all to get behind this action and contact either your local member, The Greens or the Prime Minister to install on October 10th, solar thermal (hot water) panels on either Parliament House or The Lodge, better still both, and the Governor General to install them on Government



The Ecofest team

House.

If Australia does it, America could well follow. With right wing conservative backlashes in both Oz and the primaries for the US mid-term elections, we have an obligation to keep at it. Let them know this action will restore a bit more faith in their leadership, which could make the difference in the next round of elections.

Let your elected representatives know – "There is no environment out there and we here: We ARE the environment."

– from *Force Of Nature*, the David Suzuki Movie.

Global Day of Eco Action

As part of the Global Day of Eco Action to reverse human induced climate change you are invited to come along to the Lismore Community Gardens on Sunday 10th October, from 10 am to 1pm to promote community participation for reversing greenhouse and turning waste to wealth, at home, on the farm and in our communities.

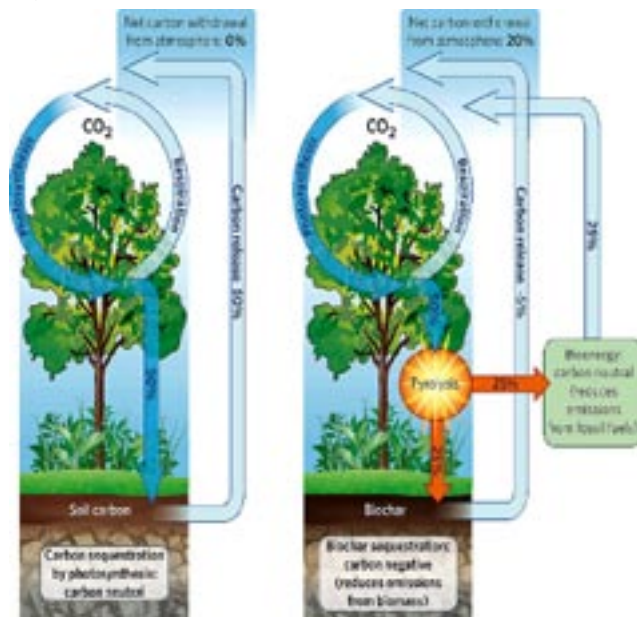
Learn about biochar

Trees and plants take up carbon from the atmosphere and store it in the plant. However 99% of that carbon is returned to the atmosphere by way of natural rotting.

Biochar from farm and city waste that goes to the tip can be turned into stable carbon via Pyrolysis, and stored in home and farm soils. This increases soil carbon and the health of soils, and locks up atmospheric carbon for up to 1000s of years!

Pyrolysis basically turns woody waste into charcoal which is added to the soil as natural stable carbon. The greenhouse gases from the process are burned to produce clean green energy. A win/win for humans and Mother Nature!

On the day, two small family sized no-dig gardens will be established, one using Biochar and one without. The gardens will use the same soil, organic fertiliser and plants



for research purposes.

We will also give a talk on Biochar and compost tea brewing to charge the Biochar with beneficial bacteria and fungi.

Be part of the solution. The

Lismore Community Garden is located on the corner of Brewster and Magellan Streets, Lismore.

For more details contact Peter Luckett on 6624 5213, or email contact@rrcf.org.au

Rainbow Dreaming at Channon market

To celebrate 10/10/10, the global day devoted to climate change solutions, the Rainbow Dreaming photo-documentary exhibition will be on show at the Channon market on Sunday 10th October, next to the Rainbow Chai Tent. The exhibition will be opened by Lismore Mayor Jenny Dowell at noon.

Co-curator Harsha said: "This exhibition is about the sustainability movement in the rainbow region. This is one of the most distinctive cultural movements to sweep this region in the last forty years. It's contribution to the global debate on sustainability and peace is significant. It's appropriate to celebrate the achievements of this grassroots movement on a day like 10/10/10 and it's also appropriate to do it at the Channon, the region's original 'hippie' market."

Organisers hope to form a human mosaic on the day,



The exhibition at Westfest

spelling out the number 350. Scientists say that 350 parts per million CO2 in the atmosphere is the safe limit for humanity. More on 10/10/10 and the global day for climate change action at www.350.org

Rainbow Dreaming represented the region at the 40th anniversary of Woodstock in the US last year. Next year, this exhibition has been invited to tour Japan.

Organisers have applied for arts grants and will be contacting local businesses for sponsorship. More on the project at www.rainbowdreaming.org

This project is supported by Byron Community Centre, Island Quarry Inc, Lismore Regional Gallery, Byron United, Nimbin Chamber of Commerce, Nimbin Neighbourhood & Info Centre, and Byron Neighbourhood Resource Centre.

Nimbin 350 Climate Change Event

The Nimbin Aquarius Foundation, in partnership with the Bush Theatre, is organising a 10/10/10 Global Work Party.

From noon on the Sunday, there will be a visioning to focus on climate change, to be held at the Nimbin Bush Factory and along Mulgum Creek.

More will be revealed at the Bush Theatre on Saturday night 9th October, John Lennon's 70th birthday.



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Nimbin Neighbourhood Centre News

Nimbin Food Security Project

Food Security Working Party meetings are every last Thursday of each month at NNIC at 6pm. All community members welcome. Come along and participate in this great project.

Current Food Security Project Activities

Come along to the free series of Food Resilience Workshops by renowned Robina McCurdy – October 14, 16 and 17th. Don't miss this once in a lifetime opportunity! Contact NNIC for info and bookings.

Commercial Kitchen Survey

We are surveying community needs in relation to setting up a commercial kitchen for post-harvest food processing. Contact NNIC by email or drop in to get a survey.

Nimbin Community Solar Project

The first arrays have now been installed at the Bowlo, Tomato Sauce Building, Town Hall and Blue Knob Hall. Check em out! (Not yet live).

Nimbin Social Inclusion Day

Thursday 25th November at Alsopp Park. All community members welcome to this all inclusive event. Anyone interested in performing or speaking on the day contact NNIC. Come along and celebrate an inclusive community.

Nimbin Annual Women's Dinner

Wednesday 17th November



Megan James at the NNIC Food Security Project stall at the Nimbin Show.

– get this date into your diary. Ticket and program details in the November Calendar.

NNIC Community Calendar to go on-line

Shall we scrap the current paper format? **We want your opinion.** NNIC will be launching our new website in November 2010. There will be a Community Calendar on-line, where NNIC members will be able to log on and put up their own Nimbin community events. Any community members will be able to become members of NNIC and receive a log-in password to enable you to access the new on-line Community Calendar.

We are wondering whether to replace the hard copies of the Community Calendar with the online facility, ie whether to scrap the Calendar in its current hard copy form? We would like to hear from anyone who objects to this idea and would prefer to see us keep the hard copy of the version

going. We are considering replacing the Calendar with a one page quarterly newsletter for NNIC members. To contact us drop in during our opening hours, or send us a letter to PO Box 20168 Nimbin 2480 or email us: nimbinnic@yahoo.com.au

Nimbin Murals Restoration Project

The Chamber of Commerce has taken up the challenge of fundraising for the purpose of restoring and maintaining our street murals. The murals are central to Nimbin's identity and the various artists who have been doing the murals at their own cost and at risk of life and limb climbing all the roofs, need proper funding support.

To donate funds contact: peterwise@live.com, au or Peter Hughes at accountant@nimbintax.com.au or drop money into the collection tins around town.

This project is sponsored by The Nimbin Chamber of Commerce, Nimbin Aquarius Foundation and Rainbow Power Company.

Nimbin Park edging closer

by Monika Boenigk

Whilst you may not have heard too much about the park campaign lately, things are quite busy behind the scenes.

There has been an on-site meeting with a private consultant to look at various options regarding zoning and use of the land, and I met with a planning officer from Lismore Council to look at the plans and discuss possibilities also.

It will soon be time to think about approaching some individuals or organisations for donations towards the purchase of the land, and we have been putting our heads together to nut out our options.

Before embarking on this, we are currently feeling out Council regarding the ownership/maintenance/insurance issues as we feel that it is important to have a well-considered and well-supported approach. We have also finalised our vision as the group looking after this project:

Friends of Nimbin Village Park is a group of local residents who feel passionate about establishing public parkland in the village centre.

The parkland is envisaged



In the above image of the proposed parkland, the spillway from Aquarius Village can be seen entering the lagoon on the left, where the rocks are. Right: another part of the land.



as a non-commercial, peaceful and quiet space, reflecting the atmosphere created by the surrounding majestic rainforests.

A space nurturing samples of indigenous flora and fauna and reflecting the cultural and historical heritage of this area.

A space that caters for the common good of everyone and where diverse community groups can join together.

In short, a space expressing the very ethos of Nimbin, to be cherished by residents and visitors long into the future.

Under the auspices of the Nimbin Community Centre and in consultation with the local community, Friends of Nimbin Village Park will be instrumental in all facets of design, development and custodianship of the park.

Our next meeting is on Thursday 14th October at 6pm at Birth & Beyond. All welcome. You can contact us on 6689 7490 or by email: m.b@idl.com.au

Another year of the Nimbin Community Centre

by Richard Hopkins, President, Management Committee, NCCI

The Nimbin Community Centre has had a very active year managing the Centre, Markets and Nimbin Peace Park. The most important achievements this year have been:

- Launched a new website for Nimbin Community Centre, Markets and tenants
- Completed significant landscaping and site works, including a new sandstone wall on Cullen St and major capital works to Nimbin Health & Welfare building
- New tenants: Mim Handley, Nimbin Health & Welfare, Tina Fuller Optometrist, Wayne's Gym.
- Title of Nimbin Peace Park returned to Lismore Council
- New Centre Coordinator appointed: Nicola Garnsey

FUTURE/ONGOING PROJECTS

- Nimbin Website Project: developing a Community Services and Organisations website for Nimbin after receiving a \$5,000 grant and securing www.nimbin.nsw.au
- Men's Shed Project: seeking support and funding for a men's health, welfare and

workshop space.

- Sustainable Community Centre: continuing to source funding for sustainable projects such as; water tanks, energy efficient lighting and waterless gardens.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Nimbin Community Centre is scheduled for 6pm, Thursday 28th November, at the Dance Studio, Nimbin Community Centre. Nibbles provided.

If you would like to get involved and take part in the future of Nimbin Community Centre, please mark this date in your diary. Perhaps you'd like to also consider standing for the 2010-11 NCCI Management Committee?

There are many other ways to be involved with Nimbin Community Centre, so please feel welcome to come along to the AGM and express your interest.

2010-11 Membership fees are also due: \$15 (adult), \$10 (seniors over 60) and \$5 (youth). Membership can be paid on the night of the AGM, at the Community Centre Office.

KIMI HANDYMAN



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by Peter Wise, President

It's been a very busy month for the Chamber, with a number of initiatives gaining momentum.

The Nimbin Murals Project is going well, with tin donations coming in at a steady rate. Great to see the people of Nimbin and that includes its visitors, are right behind the project and thanks for your ideas, suggestion and donations.

Having said that, the Nimbin Murals Project is entering its next phase, which is the finalising of a Strategic and Action Plan. With that plan, the Chamber will approach all levels of government to garner their support for the project and show to the business people of the Region the value of getting involved with the project.

The Murals Projects is crucial because it will re-vitalise the face of Nimbin and that requires a lot of consultation and planning... but it does have the community behind it, judging by the support so far.

I had a lengthy and very productive meeting with Pieter Verasdonck, the State Governments Community Economic Development Manager for Enterprise, Small Business & Regional Development Unit at Lismore. His understanding of the issues affecting Nimbin and the bigger picture of the Rainbow Region is quite astounding as is his ability to find solutions which make social, economic and creative sense.

One of the things we discussed in depth was the creation of the Nimbin Creative Industries Hub. With Helmut Katterl, the initiator of the project there as well, we covered a lot of ground and we agreed comprehensively on several things. The Hub has to be project driven. It has to have sustainable social and economic benefits.... and it has to showcase the enormous talents of the Region.

The next phase for the Hub is to focus on a limited number of projects across the creative sector of the Rainbow Region, develop and plan them to a stage where public or private sector support can be sought.



Currently, a music publishing setup to develop and encourage original music and performance is on the drawing board, as are several film projects showcasing Nimbin and the Rainbow Region, some very worthwhile ideas for the visual and performing arts. Some of it in multimedia, some live, some of it web-based. Helmut is pleading for patience from the many people who have shown interest... he's not getting any younger, you know.

By the way, the 'Hub' is looking for a place to operate from in Nimbin. All offers will be considered.

And last but not least, Transport – that never-ending issue for Nimbin residents relying on public transport to get to places like Lismore. The cost and flexibility of public transport, to be more specific. As it stands at the moment, both are a big concern for locals and tourists.

Finding out exactly what and how big those concerns might be, has been the task Eugenie Stephans has set herself. She has left no stone unturned and she has done what must always be done with public initiatives like transport... consult.

After numerous discussions with members of the public and the public sector, including Sustain Northern Rivers (NCAHS), Lismore City Council's Road Safety Officer, the Transport Development Project Officer from the Social Development Council and meetings with the Transport NSW's Northern Rivers coordinator, Eugenie has extended her consultation to the wider community.

Copies of her questionnaire into local transport issues are available at The Nimbin Visitor Information Centre, Nimbin Neighbourhood Centre, Nimbin Community Centre, the Nimbin Post Office, Nimbin Environment Centre, the Emporium, Nimbin Hospital, Central School, the petrol station and a number of stores in Nimbin and Lismore.

Timeframes for Community Reference Group extended

During an Information Session recently held to inform Nimbin community members about the formation of a Lismore City Council Nimbin Community Reference Group, feedback was provided to Council to slow the proposed timeframes for the formation of the group.

The group advised Council that, to ensure sufficient opportunities for the community to engage with the proposed consultative process, wider publicity and promotion needed to be conducted.

A presentation on the Community Reference Group will be delivered as part of Council's annual Nimbin community meeting which will be held at the Town Hall on Monday 15th November, 2010.

The scope of the group will be to provide

Council with advice on methods of consultation, emerging community issues, community development and planning, evaluation and the prioritisation of projects

Nomination Forms for community members interested in lodging an Expression of Interest to join the Reference Group are available at the Nimbin Post Office, the Nimbin Neighbourhood and Information Centre, the Tuntable Community Centre and on Council's website www.lismore.nsw.gov.au

If you require assistance to complete the form or have any further questions please contact Annie McWilliam on 1300 87 83 87.

The deadline for Expressions of Interest to be lodged with Council will be by close of business on Friday 19th November, 2010.

Input needed on public transport

Nimbin residents and visitors are a major step closer to getting better public transport, with the State Government considering a trial service to and from the town.

The one year trial, to be funded under the Transport NSW Regional Transport Coordination Program now needs community input and involvement for it to be implemented.

Co-ordinating this community input is Nimbin resident Eugenie Stephans, who took up the transport issue after several random case studies and discussions with locals. She continued her consultation with Sustain Northern Rivers (NCAHS), Lismore City Council's Road Safety Officer, the Transport Development Project Officer from the Social Development Council and with Transport NSW's Northern Rivers Co-ordinator.

Following this consultation process, it was decided that a one year trial service be considered - providing the specific needs of the Nimbin communities are clearly established.

"There are many issues which can be traced to inadequate transport facilities, like safety, health, education and of course cost," said Eugenie. "We have many Nimbin people who work out of town in places like Lismore, for whom a flexible and more frequent bus services is a major lifestyle issue – you miss the bus coming home and the rest of the day could turn topsyturvy."

"We have students who need flexibility of service. There are pensioners and other disadvantaged people with medical issues and appointments, for whom an affordable and frequent bus service is essential to both their health and to their pocket. And of course we have high numbers of tourists, who would benefit from extended services to and from Nimbin and ultimately those benefits will flow on to the residents of the town and the Region," she said.

Public transportation plays a significant role in addressing the numerous challenges facing our community, according to Eugenie. It promotes economic

development, creates jobs, reduces pollution and energy consumption, lessens traffic congestion and provides access to work, health care and social services, education and training, and recreation.

"Now that the government has agreed to look at this trial seriously, we have to provide facts and figures so they can implement the trial service, she said.

To do that, Eugenie has launched a survey, with the support of other local organisations including the Visitor Information Centre, Nimbin Neighbourhood Centre, Nimbin Community Centre, the Nimbin Post Office, Nimbin Environment Centre and others, where copies of the survey are available.

"I really urge as many people as possible to participate in the survey - the findings will impact on the social and economic well being of the people of Nimbin," Eugenie said.

Any organization, business or individual wanting to support this with letters of support or by distributing the survey can email Eugenie at eugenie@hotmail.com

Great Koonorigan fete

The annual Koonorigan Fete, held on Saturday 25th September, proved to be another successful demonstration of community goodwill.

Despite the overcast weather, the fete was well attended by locals, a few visitors, and even a notoriety or two – such as our esteemed Mayor Jenny Dowell.

Many stalls offered freshly grown produce, home-made delicacies, and pre-loved wares. The Channon circus, JJ, Rena and Nick entertained all with their comedy capers and acrobatic feats. The three blind mice episode was particularly enthralling for the young audience.

Horse-rides were available for the children through Shanti and Raven and the trusty steed's father and son duo: Arnold and Truffles.

Live music added to the festive vibe. The rollicking revelries of the Roving Skillet Jug Band had many toes tapping, and hips swishing. The day ended with a traditional tug-o-war, and



Shanti and Mary



Organisers Susie, Janet, Gail, and Maria

we're not sure which side won!

Special thanks to Susie Godden, Jane Pengilly, Alma and Max Graham, Pete Jackson, Deb and Graeme and the whole community who enabled this fun-filled day to manifest as enjoyably as it did.

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Nimbin Central School

Year 12 Farewell Assembly

Nimbin Central School's Class of 2010 was farewelled with speeches, awards, poetry, song and video. The 10 students' response was, "Dare to Excel!" Their gift to the school was a birdbath and garden clock.



Public Schools funding for a Drama Evening

On Tuesday 8th September Chris Dockrill from the Mid North Coast arrived at the school to audition Year 11 Drama students for a special evening of performances at the Star Court Theatre on 22nd September.

Chris had received a \$5,000 budget to stage two nights of performance for primary and secondary students. He auditioned three students from the Year 11 Drama group, Sapote Hudd, Mahalia Jackson and Luke Asi, and all three were selected. He was impressed with the skills of these students, and praised them for their maturity and eagerness to perform.

Year 11 Drama Teacher, Gaill Hart said, "This was a great opportunity for public schools to showcase their work. It was lovely to see so many staff and members of the community at the theatre supporting our students."

"Hopefully this will be an annual event and public schools will be given the opportunity to perform without having to fund the expense of hiring the hall."

Students create mural for water tank

On 13th and 14th September, all Year 9 and Year 10 students volunteered to paint the school's new water tank.

All students had a really great opportunity to learn spray painting and mural making techniques from Zac Price, an ex-student and local artist.

Zac worked with the students for two days, and the group created an amazing mural with a water theme (pictured) to make the school grounds a more colourful, creative place.

Kirsty Barnett is the Volunteer Co-ordinator for Nimbin Central School, and she is assisting Year 9 and Year 10 students achieve eligibility for the

NSW Premier's Student Volunteering Awards.

This program is an initiative of the NSW Department of Education to promote volunteering in the community.

Any local organisation that may have opportunities for Nimbin Central School students to volunteer, please contact Kirsty Barnett on 6689-1355.



Sapote Hudd, Mahalia Jackson and Luke Asi



Nimbin Open Learning Centre re-opens for Term Four



Nimbin Community School will re-commence its Open Learning program in Term 4, after a winter recess.

In its new program, there are classes in Drawing, Writing, New Enerqi Gong, and Astrology.

Beginners and advanced classes are available in both Astrology and Drawing.

A new offering is "Myth and Folklore", to be run by Creative Writing tutor



New Co-ordinator, Christine Strelan

Christine Strelan (pictured).

The classes run for eight weeks, beginning on 20th October. Enrolments will be taken on Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th

October, 10^am to 3pm at the Community Centre, 81 Cullen Street, Nimbin.

For more information, phone the Community School office on 6689-1477.

Rainbow Living – A Holistic approach to Health

Where do you sit on the spectrum of Health and Wellbeing? Don't know? Then come find out!

On 3rd November from 10am to 1pm, Nimbin Nurse Practitioners, Nurses, and many other supportive services are bringing health care and screening to Rainbow Lane.

This mini-health fair will provide Tuberculosis, Blood Pressure, Blood Sugar screenings as well as sharing many preventative health methods. It will provide the Nimbin community with an opportunity to access these health promotion and disease prevention strategies.

Opportunities like this will enable the community

of Nimbin to take control of their own health and to set up healthy patterns of living for themselves and future generations.

To reach a state of complete physical, mental and social wellbeing, an individual must be able to identify and to realise aspirations, to satisfy needs, and to adapt to their changing environment.

Health is, therefore, seen as a resource for everyday living. It is a positive concept emphasising the use of social and personal resources, as well as physical capacities.

Therefore, health promotion is not just the responsibility of the health sector, but through combined efforts with the individual to promote healthy lifestyles

in order to attain complete wellbeing.

This health fair is a collaborative effort of many facets of the Nimbin community, including representatives from the North Coast Area Health Services, including Indigenous Health, Cannabis Clinic, Needle and Syringe services, Community Health nurses and the Nimbin Integrated Services.

Also involved are the Nimbin Neighbourhood and Information Centre Welfare services, New Horizons Rehabilitative services, NSW Police Community Information and more!

The health fair will give Nimbin residents the chance to gain advice and ask questions in regards to their health and general wellbeing.

Venture down Rainbow Lane on Wednesday, 3rd November, 10am to 1pm, for your health.

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Food security project

There are signs going up around communities and all over town for the bioregional food self reliance workshop with Robina McCurdy.

The workshops will explore the wonderful world of food around Nimbin. We will look at staple crops, fruit trees, vegetables, water, transport, meat and dairy to get a look at the whole big picture of food security in our bioregion.

We are going to map these, find the connections that can be strengthened and fill the gaps. Learn more about where your food is coming from and share what you know!

We will discover who has surplus, where it is and see our region's strengths. Get a sense of the abundance we have through collective participation!

This local food self reliance process will start with an inspirational slideshow on Thursday 14th of October at 7:30 pm at Djanbung Gardens. The cafe will be open and you will see demonstrations of different models of full local food self reliance including meat and dairy.

Robina McCurdy will take us round the wide world of her experiences. She will present real working examples where communities have established co-operative food processing capacity for value adding and food preserving for full year-round abundance.

After you've got a taste for some of the models, we will follow up with workshops to apply our collective creativity, technology and willingness to make it work here.

The workshops start with an informal information session at the fabulous Blue Knob farmers market on Saturday the 16th from 8 am till 12 noon.

After lunch at 1 pm we will really get started and all contribute to create an interactive 3d resource map. There will be presentations about local soils and food. Connecting the commercial and garden food growers; Refining the skills of local food growing and produce materials; Exploring potential for established food producers to become educators and more. Interactive and participatory processes continue until 8 pm. Dinner will be provided by donation.



If you are a producer and can only attend one session, this is the one to come to!

Sunday's Workshop will be at the beautiful Tuntable Falls Hall. There we will zone our map and do a bioregional food resilience plan. We will find those who know how to grow, those that want to and those that don't. We will learn about wild harvesting too.

Nimbin is famous for self reliance. We will work out how we come together as a community and what is going to work for us to get 100% of our food needs met locally. That means identifying barriers, overcoming obstacles and planning to make this happen for us here and now. Lunch will be provided by donation.

If you are a food consumer and can only attend one session, this is the one to come to!

On Monday we will be having an open planning and strategy meeting at the Neighbourhood Centre to review all the information from the workshops and get this going.

The workshop sessions are all connected. If you are able to attend them all nothing will be repeated, and we will be able to go into greater depth.

You have the local knowledge so come and help match the surpluses with the deficiencies.

Participate in your local food self reliance. If you eat, you're involved!

Bookings through NNIC at 66891 692 are essential. The outcomes of these workshop will be co-ordinated and followed up by Guy Stewart, Food Security Project Worker at NNIC.

Wednesdays 8-9.30am. Suitable for all levels of experience, beginners welcome, contact April: 6689-7539.

RaRa Youth Theatre

Term 4 Drama Classes in The Channon Hall
 • Preschool drama and music: Mondays 9.30 – 10.15am, 6 weeks \$50
 • 5-8 year olds: Wednesdays 3.30 – 4.40pm, 10 weeks \$120
 • 8-11 year olds: Tuesdays 3.30 – 4.40pm, 10 weeks \$120
 • 11-15 years: Wednesday 4.45 – 6pm, 10 weeks \$120
 Discount available for full payment in week one. For bookings or enquiries, call Tamlin 6688-6551. Adults class ready to start when we have 8 enrolments. Two great plays will be performed 10th and 11th December at The Channon Hall.

Coming Events

Folked Up

Nimbin Folk Revival production, Saturday 16th October at Nimbin Town Hall, 7pm, entry \$10. Kylie's Kitchen opens 6pm.

Living Together Gathering

The 6th Living Together Gathering will be held on 23rd – 24th October at beautiful Eagle Farm, Tyagarah. The Gathering is a platform for the community's sharing of knowledge, skills, projects and creativity that contribute to a sustainable, community-based future. Get more information and register at www.livingtogethernetwork.net and/or ring Katharine Dawn on 0411-345-834 or Dudley Leggett on 6685-3719.

Yoga Classes

Lillifield Community Hall, Tuesdays 9 – 10.30am, Thursdays 9.30 – 11am. New class starting 13th October, 10-week term,

Spring Arts Exhibition

Nimbin's 20th annual Spring Arts Exhibition draws to a close on 10th October, after a two-week showing of 300 of the best in local fine arts by over 50 artists.

"Some of the artists have been with us since the beginning, plus there are new artists, some of whom are newly resident," said David Hallett, chair of the Nimbin Hall committee which presents the exhibition.

A large crowd of artists and friends attended the opening night, and expressed their appreciation of the range and quality of works on show.

CEO of Arts Northern Rivers, Tony Duke presented the inaugural ACE North Coast Community Colleges



Opening nighters admire Granny Breath Weaver's baskets.

award of \$500 to Granny Breath Weaver.

"ACE recognises that Nimbin has a high ratio of artists living in the area, and we hope to assist the

development of exceptional art by providing this award to show our support and ongoing commitment to artists in our community and broader region," he said.

Old Cullen Bridge – Asset or Liability?

by Monika Boenigk

Since I started lobbying for the preservation of the "old" Cullen Bridge over Mulgum Creek at the Northern entrance to Nimbin Village where a new concrete bridge is currently being installed, a lot of water has washed under (and over) bridges in the recent Victorian floods.

This has opened a totally new, previously not considered perspective for my continued involvement with the preservation process.

The old "Gentle Annie Bridge" (pictured), an old wooden bridge across King River at Whitfield near Benalla in Victoria's North East, collapsed under rising waters and was washed up against the 18-month new concrete bridge right next to it by the pressure of the flood waters.

According to the owners of the adjacent camping ground Graeme and Margaret Butt, Gentle Annie Bridge broke up about 6 hours before the flood peaked. It was almost underwater and there were huge logs crashing into it, due to undermining of the river banks upstream.

The remains of the bridge then crashed into the new bridge. An excavator came in during the night and pulled the remains of the bridge and the build-up of logs away from the pylons of the new bridge, but by then the river had changed course and washed away the eastern abutment of the new bridge for more than 10 metres.



Photo: Graeme & Margaret Butt

Now that the river has dropped again, its new course near the new bridge is about 20 -30m east of where it had been flowing before.

The bridges were quite close together — 20m apart on the western side, converging together at the road on the eastern side.

I was quite shocked by this story and started researching any previous floods in Nimbin and the wooden bridges' behaviour during those events. I discovered that the bridge got swept away in the 1954 floods and had to be rebuilt. The bridge has been under floodwaters a few times since then, but held up to the pressure.

Cullen Creek flows from east to west, potentially contributing to a flood event

as occurred in Whitfield.

I then contacted engineer Steve Bennetts from Lismore Council, who is involved with the construction of the new bridge. He advised that the new bridge, which will be higher than the old one and built to a 20 year flood level, will withstand substantial water pressure due to its design, and said while it may not get substantially damaged by the old bridge ramming into it, there may still be abutment damage or erosion of the embankment if the old bridge were to drift away.

Now I am really struggling with my decision to try and save the old bridge, as exciting as it would be to see it remain for our enjoyment, the risk of significant damage and inconvenience to residents and tourists is quite real.

Before I continue with the campaign, I would like to hear other people's comments and thoughts on this matter. Please contact me on 6689-7490 or m.b@idl.com.au

Phone Damian 6689 1428 Mobile 0458 491 428

Interested stallholders contact Peter 6689 7004

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