

Memories of Childhood - calling all artists

The hard-working Nimbin Preschool fund-raising committee is at it again, with a call going out to the cherished artists of the community.

An exhibition of artworks loosely based around the theme *Memories of Childhood* is being assembled for an art auction at Blue Knob Gallery on Friday 26th August.

The organisers are hoping artists – of high and low profile – will create works around the theme and donate them to the exhibition. All money raised will go to the Nimbin Preschool.

Donated artworks will be exhibited alongside paintings by preschool students in what is expected to be a colourful and thought-provoking investigation into “what is art?”

Children’s art is precious, because it is generally unselfconscious and spontaneous. It can be a wonderful reminder to adults to be in the moment, to paint with reckless



Artist - Kach Perrott

abandon, and to allow those creative urges to flow naturally.

For the audience, the night offers a chance to come together and reflect on childhood over a glass of wine, and be entertained by celebrity auctioneer and art enthusiast Sue Edmonds. It will also be a chance to bid for the paintings on display.

Any art medium welcome, entries to be delivered to Blue Knob Gallery on Sunday 21st August between 10am and 4pm.

There will be a prize for the most popular entry on the night, as voted by audience.

The exhibition will take place on Thursday 25th and Friday 26th August, 10am to 4pm.

Time for rhyme and rhythm

The Ninth Annual Nimbin Performance Poetry World Cup is set for the weekend of 5th and 7th August.

After last year’s success, with 48 contenders vying for the Big Cup and part of the \$5000 in prize money, it has been decided to continue using the Town Hall for all the heats and semi-finals.

Heats are run all day Saturday, starting from 11am and continuing until the last poet has performed.

Until the applications are closed, it isn’t known how many heats will be needed.

The semi-finals kick off from 11am on Sunday, with the Grand Final at 7.30pm that night.

Last year’s performers provided plenty to think about for the many audience participants, and the People’s Choice award was a close call.

Once again, this year’s event is sponsored by The Village of Nimbin, yes all of you that buy a raffle ticket provide the gifts for the raffles. Thanks also to the major sponsors: The Oasis Poetry Crew, Nimbin School of Arts, Rainbow Power



Company and the Hemp Embassy.

Performers have eight minutes to impress the judges and audience during the heats. Application forms are available throughout the village, in Lismore at Caddies and the Tourist Info centre, and on-line.

This is a free event, (gold coin donation always welcome), but the final will cost \$10 entry fee, with the cafe serving great food and warm drinks.

The Oasis Poetry Crew will be featuring at this month’s market in Nimbin from 1pm. Come along and get a taste of things to come.

Gas heat on heritage area

Local residents fear that the proposed 145km Metgasco gas pipeline from Casino to Ipswich will damage agricultural land in the Richmond Valley and the World Heritage Border Ranges National Park.

“Metgasco plan to run this pipeline along one of the steepest and windiest roads in the region, the Lions Road through the Border Ranges National Park, and we simply do not believe that is possible without causing serious environmental damage,” said Kyogle shire resident and environmental scientist Boudicca Ceresse.

“The environmental record of Metgasco has raised alarm bells – if they can’t even properly remediate a water storage pond near Casino, then how can they be trusted to construct a major gas pipeline through a World Heritage area?”

Lions Way is a high slip area, with the road closed for weeks at a time after rainy periods due to the road falling away.

“This is an extremely sensitive area which will be severely damaged by the

proposed pipeline,” said Rural Fire Service volunteer Thorsten Jones.

“Construction activities may include blasting with explosives through rock and will lead to serious impacts on wildlife and vegetation from heavy machinery operation, noise, dust and erosion.”

“Further south from the Border Ranges, our local watercourse, Lynchs Creek, is one of the most pristine in the region and this may be placed at risk from sedimentation and erosion where the pipeline crosses the creek,” said Lynchs Creek resident Leah Hobbs.

“We are also concerned about clearing adjacent to the creek. Dairy farmers in the valley rely on this pure water to produce quality milk that is consumed throughout the region.

“We are calling on both state and federal governments to reject this pipeline. Not only will it do direct and irreversible damage, but it will open up the entire northern rivers to a massive expansion in coal seam gas production.

“Our local communities intend to fight this every step of the way.”

Quality pathology service

Situated within the Nimbin Hospital complex, next door to the medical centre, QML Pathology is proud to continue to provide a quality pathology collection service which the Nimbin community deserves.

After discussions and with support of the doctors and staff of Nimbin Medical Centre and the Nimbin Hospital, QML Pathology recognised the need for this important community service and promptly responded, opening Nimbin’s first pathology collection centre in September 2010.

Kerri Nelson (pictured) is the permanent pathology collector on site. Born in Lismore and a student of Richmond River High School, Kerri has over 10 years experience working within the medical profession. Having worked in major hospitals in Brisbane and Melbourne, and also local Northern Rivers medical centres, Kerri is well aware of patients’ needs and with her professional and



caring nature will be sure to look after you when attending the collection centre for your blood test.

With over 85 years’ experience in pathology, a Laboratory in Ballina and a network of collection centres in Northern New South Wales including Lismore, Alstonville, and the recently opened Goonellabah collection centre, QML Pathology Nimbin is a valued addition to our network and the local Nimbin community.

QML Pathology accepts all referrals. For any further information, please contact Kerri on 6689-1549.

Spotlight on housing

Lismore City Council has received a strong response to its Lismore Housing Strategy Project survey, with more than 600 local residents already taking part.

According to the strategic planning co-ordinator, Paula Newman, a number of initial trends have been identified.

“One message coming through clearly in the preliminary results is that the community sees a need for more affordable housing to be available, and for it to be located within easy access to services and jobs provided in the Lismore CBD,” she said.

“There also seems to be an interest in different forms of affordable housing designed to suit a range of needs including first-time renters and buyers, students, over-55s, young couples and young families.

Units, duplexes and townhouses have also been identified as types of housing in short supply.

“The survey is about

providing residents with the opportunity to have their say about the future of housing in the entire Lismore Local Government Area. While it is great to see a strong

response so far, we are continuing to encourage as many residents as possible to take part because the more feedback we receive from the community the better equipped we will be to make the best decisions for this community.”

The Lismore Housing Strategy Project survey takes 10 to 15 minutes to complete and results will be collected until Wednesday, 20th July.

To participate, go online to www.lismore.nsw.gov.au and click on ‘Have Your Say’, then select Lismore Housing Strategy Project, or call 1300-878-387 and request a copy.

A public information session is being held 3pm to 5.30pm at Nimbin School of Arts, on Wednesday 13th July.

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Nimbin's NAIDOC Week

by Amber Seccombe

The local Aboriginal community and staff and volunteers from Nimbin Aged Care and Respite Service organised a colourful, fun and creative celebration for NAIDOC (the National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee) week.

The celebration in Allsops Park on 28th June carried the theme "Change – the next step is ours" reflecting the work of Indigenous people across the country taking responsibility for their future and shaping the changes they want to see.

The day was warm and sunny with the vibe improving as people pulled together to clean up and decorate the park in the vibrant red, black and yellow colours of the Aboriginal flag.

The event was attended by a broad range of people from the community, including community elders and students and teachers from Tuntable Falls Community school and Rainbow Ridge Steiner school.

Entertainment was



Chris Phillips



Deb & Uncle Cec



provided by artists including Monkey and the Fish, local Bundjalung composer and singer Chris Phillips and a wild-card guest musician from South Australia.

Children and adults enjoyed painting mini-boomerangs and participating in other creative activities organised and co-ordinated by Gail from the Nimbin Family Centre.

Lunch was made possible by volunteers and contributions from the local pub, bakery and other community members.

The co-ordination of the day was made possible by Karyn Roberts and her family. Transport was provided by Simes Bus Company. Anyone interested in participating in future events please phone 6689-1709.

Photos by Shaddha Star

Get on the bus – and party!

by Natalie Meyer

The new Nimbin Bus extension starts up on Monday 18th July 2011 – and to celebrate a party will be held at the Nimbin Bus Stop (opposite the Newsagency) at 4.15pm, fancy dress recommended.

Be on time to get a seat on the once-only free fancy dress run, a 4.25pm return trip into Lismore – with the return from Lismore at the new time of 5.30pm.

Graeme Waller, from Waller's Bus Company, will be delivering the extra buses.

Buses will leave from/arrive at the Lismore Transit Centre in Lismore and the Nimbin Bus stop.

The morning bus during school times will also provide for school kids. Even so, the average travel time between Nimbin and Lismore is only 40 minutes. This is comparable to any train ride in a metro area and Graeme points out that it can take

Nimbin to Lismore

Mon – Fri, 4.25pm & 6.05pm and arriving Lismore at 5pm & 6.35pm.

Mon – Fri, 7.30am (school holidays only) arriving Lismore at 8am. There will be service during school holidays in time for people to get to Lismore for work/study etc.

Lismore to Nimbin

Mon – Fri 5.30pm arriving Nimbin 6.00pm (including school holidays).

A wheelchair accessible vehicle is available on request. (24 hours notice is preferred).

over 30 minutes just to travel from Lismore central to Goonellabah, because of pick-ups and set-downs.

All bus fares across NSW are set by the State Government and not by



individual bus companies. The current full fare between Nimbin and Lismore (one way) is set at \$13.80. Waller's is subsidising the fare by only charging \$9.00 each way. The concession fare is currently set at \$6.90. Waller's is charging \$4.50, again subsidising these fares. Waller's has not increased the fares for many years, remaining committed to affordable public transport. A multi-ticket can be purchased in advance charged \$7 instead of \$9.

Nine full fares each way are needed for the service to break even. The more people who travel by bus the less cars travelling and the lower the community's carbon footprint will be.

Byrill Creek dam review slammed

The Tweed Water Sharing Plan, which prohibited the building of the Byrill Creek dam, is to be reviewed by the coalition state government.

The decision, made on 31st June by National Party Minister for Primary Industries, Katrina Hodgkinson, was described by Joanna Gardner (pictured), co-ordinator of the Save Byrill Creek Campaign, as "an unnecessary waste of taxpayers' money, and a political move pressured by Nationals MP Thomas George and Tweed Mayor Kevin Skinner."

"A review will still come up with the proven evidence of the high conservation and biodiversity values of the Byrill Creek area," she said.

The Tweed Water Sharing Plan, legislated on 17th December by the former Minister of Water, Mr Costa, was based on scientific reports and research by experts, and decided after eight months of



deliberation by the Office of Water and the Department of Environment and Climate Change.

Report that were considered included the NSW Government's Stressed Rivers report, the Council-commissioned "Ecosure" assessment, a statement from Murwillumbah National Parks, "Biolink" Ecological Assessment, Northern Rivers Catchment Management Authority and assessments for Riparian repair and allocation of over half a million dollars for this work.

The Community Working Group and Council staff recommendations also placed Byrill Creek dam as the

last option, despite Tweed Council's decision on 1st December to go ahead with the dam, which followed speeches by local developers.

Minister Costa said of the Tweed water Sharing Plan, "The decision was based on the high environmental and world heritage values of the Byrill Creek area and the availability of other water supply options."

The lack of proactive measures for water saving (dual reticulation, water sensitive design and large tanks) by Council and the Dept of Planning in the newly approved Cobaki Development, and also Kings Forest (projected populations of 23,000) has become intertwined with the dam issue.

Joanna Gardner said, "If these measures were implemented, a dam would be unnecessary."

Details of the review are yet to be announced.

Bush bash (with apple crumble)

After years of frustration, the Nimbin Bush Theatre is finally alive again, with a celebration planned for the 16th July.

There is an air of expectation and positivity about town. The new proprietors, Daniel Soler and Belinda Marsh (pictured), say everyone remembers Sandra's apple crumble intermission, so after the first question – are you going to bring back the cinema? (The answer is yes, soon) – the next is usually: With the apple crumble at the intermission? Yes, of course...

The new proprietors are refugees from Blue Mountains winters who fell in love with Nimbin's people, scenery, rhythm and warmth. Cinema, music, theatre and visual arts are part of the plan, and the hall will also be available for hire.

The Burning Bush Cafe has been redesigned, redecorated and de-oranged with great delight and hard labour. A variety of lunches, delicious cakes, great coffee and tea are on offer, and meals will be served in the dungeon and also al fresco (weather permitting) on the banks of the mighty Mulgum Creek, with Mulgum Bridge rattling in the distance.



There will be a dual celebration on 16th July in celebration of the opening of the theatre and Bastille Day. The band Rapskallion will be performing that night. Put on your dancing shoes and dress up as Louis 16th, Marie Antoinette, Robespierre or any other French character, and enter in the best costume competition.

Light meals (from \$8-\$12) will be available from 6.30pm, and Rapskallion

will be on stage from 9pm. And yes, there will be apple crumble served at intermission, along with other cakes, coffee and tea.

Tickets to this event are available now from the cafe at \$20 (show only), phone 6689-1111 for more details.

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Checking out the henna at Paddy's market

City buzz for Year 12s

by Margaret Paddon

Eight lucky Year 12 students from Nimbin Central School were flown to Sydney by Sydney Theatre Company and given tickets to a Verbatim Theatre Production at the Rocks.

The production – dealing with the Cronulla Riots of 2008 – was riveting and very professional, enacted in a novel and meaningful way very relevant to current studies in the drama course.

Other activities for the drama, food technology and visual arts students included walking, night viewing of the Harbour lights at Circular Quay as they were played onto the “sails” of the Opera House, a visit to the Museum of Contemporary Arts, a

ferry ride at early evening around to Darling Harbour, Chinatown for dinner, the amazing Produce Markets at Paddy's at Flemington, the Art Gallery of NSW to view the recent Archibald Prize entries, and a short relax in the Domain, the city park. It is very beneficial for the students to experience some city life, the chance to use city buses, trams and ferries, and be part of the fast paced life for a short while. Overall, it was a highly successful if somewhat hectic two-day outing for Opal Wone, Possum Rose, Cody Robinson, Rebecca Johnson, Mahalia Jackson, Sapote Hudd, Noah Gentle, Luke Asi, Gaill Hart (drama teacher) and Margaret Paddon (food technology teacher).

Youth, camera, action

Here's a great opportunity for young people who want to learn how to make movies.

Free film workshops will be held at the Nimbin Youth Connections building, from Monday 11th July to Thursday 14th July.

The workshops for people aged 14 to 20 run from 11 am to 3pm daily to offer support and training for the Nimbin Youth Film Competition, 'It's My Life'.

There will be training in finding your story, telling your story, and filming your story. Call Darmin Cameron on 0427-217-919 to book your place, or just turn up on the day.

The program is being run by Youth Connections North Coast Inc. in partnership with NORTEC and funded



by the Dept. of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.



Café Central wows 'em

On a cold June night, masses of people piled into Nimbin Central School's Hall (or MPU) for the first Café Central evening.

The venue looked very inviting and fit for a major dinner show production: tables, with white tablecloths and flower arrangements, students' artwork and photography on display, Aboriginal paintings around the walls.

Guests quickly warmed

up, helped along by the hot vegetarian food on offer, and were treated to a host of performances, all introduced by a couple of very entertaining highschoolers.

The Djembe Drumming Group, the bands, singers, guitarists, pianists, choir... the talent just kept coming, with both students and teachers taking part. In every way, it was a very harmonious and enjoyable evening.



Cool night at school

Nimbin Central School recently held an SRC-run social based on a new Social Club format.

The event was held in a double classroom with a chill area, student-run canteen and an amazing light, laser and bubble show by Tim Tonkins.

The night was a huge success with a full house and

lots of fun.

Sapote Hudd and Oscar Bradley Gunn were crowned the King and Queen of Cool with Brocke Lindeman (Year 9) and Nathan Ruggeri (Year 7) taking out the dancing prizes.

Nimbin Central School SRC looks forward to putting on the next Social Club in the second semester.

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Nimbin Holiday Club winter program

Date	Program	Cost
Friday July 8th	Today we will be based at Nimbin Youth Connections Building. There will be arts & crafts and games during the day. A video will be played in the afternoon. <i>April & Ajita</i>	\$10
Thursday July 14th	Today we will be based at Nimbin Youth Connections Building. There will be arts & crafts and games during the day. A video will be played in the afternoon. <i>Kim & Marley</i>	\$10
Friday July 15th	Excursion to Ballina Flat Rock Beach exploring rock pools. There will be no swimming in the ocean, but children will be allowed to wade in the pools. Please bring a towel, a bucket and spade, a hat and possibly a change of clothes. Signing in and out at the Nimbin Central School Car Park. Kim & April	\$12

This season we will be operating from the Youth Connections Building again. However, on excursion days, please meet us in the Nimbin Central School car park as usual at 9^{am}.

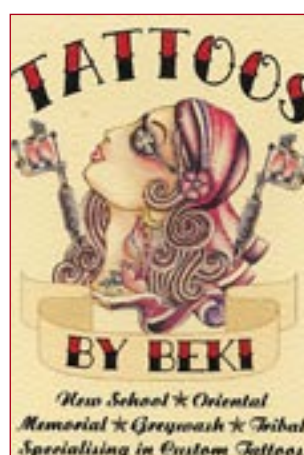
The program runs for children aged 5 – 12. Please read the dates and venues below carefully and book to avoid disappointment. To book, phone NNIC on 6689-1692 (between 10^{am} and 4 pm). Please note that the fee is \$10 for Vacation

Care, and please pick up your child no later than 3pm.



Please ensure that your child wears appropriate clothing, covered shoes, brings a hat, sun block and has adequate food and drinks.

This program of the Nimbin Neighbourhood and Information Centre is funded by DoCS and is an OOSH service. Don't forget to look for our Out Of School Hours care survey.



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One for the kids

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Little Big Shots is a film festival just for kids, started seven years ago by a Melbourne dad who wanted a festival that he could take his kids to. It's now the largest children's film festival in the Southern Hemisphere.

NORPA (Northern Rivers Performing Arts) is bringing Little Big Shots to the Star Court Theatre in Lismore. With animations, films by kids, documentaries and shorts, the festival shows some of the best offerings from around the world to appeal to younger audience members.

Little Big Shots will screen at the Star Court Theatre on Friday 12th and Saturday 13th August. NORPA is bringing select sessions to Lismore as part of their 2011 program. Screenings over two days are designed to suit pre-school and primary school ages.

Chloe Boulton, Festival director of the 2011 program, searches high and low, right across the globe, for the world's best films for kids,

about kids, and sometimes even by kids.

"We look for films that not only appeal to children but also offer a child's view of the world," she said. "Having a child protagonist doesn't necessarily mean that a film is suitable for children, or even aimed at children."

"We try and select films that show a child trying to make sense of the world and processing what's going on around them. That way, it is most likely that a young audience would find the film accessible."

With enough public support, this could become an annual event.



Free tickets offer, exclusive to the GoodTimes

Focus on ready-readers

by Tina Fuller, Optometrist

I was going to write about glaucoma this month, with a view to getting a grant to buy better testing equipment.

However, as I am still patiently waiting for that funding to materialise, I thought I would instead demystify another topic which people often ask me about: the ready-made readers (or magnifiers).



Are they proper glasses or just magnifiers?

The lenses in the ready-readers are the same type of lenses as the ones in prescription glasses, but without the quality control. They may not be of the exact strength specified, and they are sometimes warped or distorted. If the page appears to swim when you move your head from side to side, you have a shoddy pair.

Will they ruin my eyes?

They will not do any permanent damage to your eyes if you are over 20 years of age. However, they don't allow for any difference between your eyes, so if one of your eyes is worse than the other, it can gradually become 'lazy' because it isn't being used.

When using the readers for long periods, you may feel like they damage your eyes, for a number of reasons:

- If you have a more complex eye muscle problem (other

than just difficulty focusing on close objects), it will become more obvious with the ready readers.

- If you use a pair too strong for you, your eyesight will deteriorate faster than it would have otherwise.
- Lenses which are not correctly centered will strain the eye muscles and cause headaches or tiredness.
- Frames which are not adjusted properly can sit on the pressure points behind your ears and give you headaches.

If they are proper lenses, why do optometrists dislike them?

The main reason, for most decent optometrists, is not financial. People who use the ready-readers often do not have their eyes checked regularly, if at all.

This means that serious problems can go undetected until it is too late to treat them.

This is very frustrating for any health practitioner, especially if the consequences are irreversible and could have been easily prevented.

The final word on ready-readers

They have their purpose – they make great spares, and are OK for people whose eyes are suited to them, or who do very little close work.

But please, if you are going to use them, have your eyes checked as well!

Hope this helps. If you would like to know more, feel free to give me a call on 6689-0081, or drop in at the Community Centre on a Thursday.

Sunday 18th September

People interested in getting involved as stallholders, speakers or a demonstrators, please email Wendy Jansen at greendaybvps@gmail.com or phone Barkers Vale Public School on 6689-7202.

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Tina Fuller (B. AppSc - Optometry)

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Get your pixies dreaming



Katrina holds storytime as a sacred space at the new Pixies Dreaming group.

by Katrina Ross

Pixies Dreaming is a new group for children aged two to four and their parents to share the joys of play, music and movement in a gentle and supportive environment.

Gathering, playing, singing in a circle, moving together, playing instruments, joining in joyful finger rhymes and listening to stories and simple puppet plays that celebrate nature and the seasons are all part of a morning session at Pixies Dreaming.

I have worked for many years as a Steiner kindergarten and music teacher. It is my passion and a privilege to have brought the joy of open-hearted song into peoples' lives in group situations. By singing together we create unity and harmony. For children to share this with their parents is a wonderful gift for everyone.

Drawing on the gentle rhythms of the Steiner way, the children will sing songs to start the day, pack away, join the circle, give thanks for morning tea, begin storytime and say goodbye, as well as learning songs and finger

rhymes that capture the essence of nature. As the young child learns strongly through imitation they will be guided by their parents, and hopefully many of the songs will carry through into their daily lives.

Storytime will be a sacred space for listening and the children will be engaged by the use of small props or puppets to help tell the story. A mood of respect and reverence will be held to help the children to become part of the group activities in a peaceful and nurturing way. Most important of all we will join together to create a joyful and positive experience for ourselves and our children in our busy lives. This is a chance for us to just be together and have some fun.

Pixies Dreaming will start in Term 3 on Monday 1st August, and will run for seven weeks. It will be held from 9.30am until 11.30am at Lillifield Community Hall, Kyogle Rd. Financial exchange will be \$80 for the seven weeks to be paid in advance. Call me on 6689-7308 for more information and to book, as places will be limited.

In your neighbourhood...

News from the Nimbin Neighbourhood and Information Centre

by Natalie Meyer,
Team Leader, NNIC

Towards a Sustainable Nimbin

Thanks to everyone who came along – all 100 of you!

Thanks also to all who helped out on the day, including Stephen for the great food, Gail for general all round help, Wan for set up and pack down, Ian and Reg for helping with the desk stuff, Guy for helping take the media heat off Nat (and onto himself) as well as town crying, Paul and the Bowlo for the PA (some of you reckon Nat would have been loud enough without it!), Elspeth for the banner, Sue Ryan for loads of help with everything, Lismore Council and NSW Industry and Investment for the funds, and the many more hands on deck who helped us get this done.

If you missed out, or else came along but would like to contribute to one of the other Focus Areas, now is

your chance to put in your ideas/comments and suggestions. Also if you were there please have a look and check we got it all down correctly...the Draft Plan is posted on the website – go to the home page and click on the link.

Please use the **Feedback Template**

(also posted on web) to add your ideas/comments and suggestions and in particular to nominate yourself/your group/your organisation to be a partner or leader in relation to strategies identified throughout the Plan.

Community members have until Sunday 17th July to get your Feedback in to NNIC.

Potential Nimbin EV Community Bus Project

We are currently running a survey to gauge the need and interest of the community in a solar electric community bus project.

Before we spend many many hours working this project up, we need community feedback as to whether this project is a community priority, and if so, what we want a community bus for?



Please help by completing the survey available from NNIC or our website during July.

Nimbin Food Security Project

The Grain Mill is now in the process of rolling out.

It will be available for community access at this stage on Saturdays at the Farmers Market, Wednesdays at Nimbin Organics, Mondays at Zone One. Whole grains can be purchased from Nimbin Organics and Nimbin Emporium and some grains will initially travel with the Mill. The price for milling is 50cents per kilo.

Meetings are usually on the last Thursday of every month and we have changed the meeting time to 5pm for winter - at the Elmo Room at NNIC, 71 Cullen St – Come around the back steps. Food always welcome!



Guy and Nat start grinding

Upcoming Dates for your Diaries:

- **Nimbin Agricultural Show**
Saturday and Sunday 24th and 25th September – this year the show is sure to be the best one yet! Come along to support our local Ag industry.

- **Rainbow Living Health Fair**
Tuesday 11th October – more details soon.

- **Nimbin Local Food Day**
Saturday 29th October – a celebration of sustainable local food. If you are interested in helping or have ideas for the day, or are a local producer who would like to be involved in showcasing your produce, contact Guy on food@nnic.org.au

- **Nimbin Social Inclusion Day**
Thursday 24th November.

See our website for the latest info on all things NNIC: www.nnic.org.au

Birthday cheer at Blue Knob Market



On Saturday 2nd July, the Blue Knob Farmers' Market celebrated its first birthday – and to everyone's surprise, it rained.

Nevertheless the colourful stallholders and organisers pulled off a magnificent day. The market became a showcase for this area's abundant produce.

With entertainment on the stage and an art gallery filled with designer felt clothing, people were engaged for hours.

Jenni Kendell cut the huge birthday cake made by Non Such wood fired breads. It depicted a farmyard scene with its very own miniature yellow "Lock the gate" sign on the front fence.

Natalie Meyer officially launched the Nimbin Community Grain Mill, and the winners of the produce raffles claimed their baskets, with *The Bandicoots* providing the music.

A terrific first birthday celebration and a marvellous space for uniting community. Many happy returns!

Talks for July

- **Saturday 9th July 10am: Making a wheelie bin composting toilet – Bill McHenry**

Composting toilets make huge water savings and produce valuable fertilizer for your orchard trees. They allow independence from municipal sewerage system breakdowns, plus they're ideal for difficult sites. Bill will discuss setting up and demonstrate connection of some simple plumbing.

- **Saturday 16th July 10am: Solar cooker demonstration – Karen Welsh**

Solar cookers cost nothing to run, don't use fuel, produce smoke or heat up the kitchen on a hot day – plus they can be used outside during total fire bans. Karen will demonstrate the use of a solar oven and a parabolic reflector.



Rainbow Ridge school stall (above): Sonya (teacher) Moyla, Inika, Gypsy, Silvia;
Prize possession (left): Kiami and Hayeh with rabbit.

Official business (top): The cutting of the amazing cake is eagerly awaited.

- **Saturday 23rd July 10am: Choosing the right bamboo – Orion Hill**

Orion, from Bamboo Oasis, began working with bamboo 13 years ago. He'll explain the various uses of bamboo, from shelter to food, and guide participants in choosing the right type of bamboo for their needs and cover the basic growing, care and maintenance of bamboo plants.

- **Saturday 30th July 10am: Traditional nutrition, all-day workshop – Jenny Creasy**

Jenny is passionate about food and that food should create health for ourselves and our environment. Her main guide is the nutritional wisdom of traditional cultures. What is it about traditional foods that provided excellent health long before our current understanding of vitamins and diet? Registration Required. Contact Jenny 0488-009-808.

Blue Knob Farmers' Market is held 9am to 1pm every Saturday, rain, hail or shine. Corner of Blue Knob and Lillian Rock roads, 8km north of Nimbin.

Chamber Chat...



Nimbin
Chamber of Commerce

June's Chamber of Commerce meeting took place at Nimbin Rox YHA where owner, Liam Brehme greeted the Chamber.

Members were taken on a tour of the comfortable and friendly facility prior to sitting near a warm fireplace to listen to the "Zorbing" proposal. Liam's intention is to encourage the tourists to stay in Nimbin longer and thus bring business to the town. In winter especially, there is less activity in the region and "Zorbing" may bring more things to do during the quieter months.

There are two types of "Zorbing"; the wet ride (called Zydro) where you're in the globe with approximately 10-15 litres of water, and the dry ride (Zorbit) where you get strapped in – and no water. Both rides would be offered at the proposed facility. And there are two courses – a straight run of about 250 metres and a zig-zag run of about 275 metres. The development would entail building the courses, which are about a metre deep and 5-8 metres wide, plus the building of an administration centre with composting toilets.

Council has also received some unfavourable responses to the development application, and Liam is working with Council and neighbours to address their concerns. The Chamber supports Liam's initiative in bringing more

business to Nimbin including employment opportunities, and is hopeful that these obstacles will be dealt with appropriately.

Another highlight in June was "bringing Allsop Park mural back to life". The original artist Kathy Stavrou, Liz Johnson of the Kangoulu and Birridubbi people and her grandson, Andrew, Cec Roberts of the Widjabul people and many other locals assembled to watch the artists retouching this wonderful mural, which Liz described as a blending of symbols of traditional landowners with the Australia's European heritage. Rainbow Power Company and Nimbin Aquarius Foundation Inc are also working with the Nimbin Chamber of Commerce to get the Murals Restoration project up and running.

Celebrate the first 5:30pm bus-service from Lismore to Nimbin which will be operational from Monday 18th July. The service will kick off with a party gathering at the bus stop, opposite the Nimbin newsagency at 4.15pm followed by a free trip on the bus to Lismore to meet the once only free bus trip back to Nimbin at 5.30pm. It is important for the community to support the new bus services which will be trialled for one year. Hope to see you at the party.

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Turning point for Australian culture



On the west coast of Australia there is major protest under way which is attracting very little coverage in the mainstream media.

Woodside Petroleum has plans to build a \$30 billion Natural Liquefied Gas processing plant on the Kimberley coastline. One slight problem: the local communities do not want it.

The Kimberley region extends across 240,000 sq km with a population of only 40,000 people. There are many areas that are essential to the existence of the local aboriginal people as it is their past, present and future, the embodiment of their culture.

Kerriane Cox (pictured), a world renowned singer/songwriter, has been elected as chairperson of the Beagle Bay Community and instructed by her people and ancestors to take the message out.

Starting at the Opera House, Kerriane is touring northward through NSW and as well as conducting workshops in August. She will appear at the Sphinx Rock Café on 7th August.

She will be speaking to the audience on these important subjects and will back her words with song. She will meet with local aboriginal elders and families and with groups that are involved in the resistance to the coal seam gas mining.

For more information, email Marie Cameron: kerrianneonthecost@gmail.com.

Public Reserve?

by MA Rothwell and L Chong

We are seeking grassroots support to create a public reserve on land we currently own.

The proposed reserve would follow the creek from Cecil Street through to Peace Park and Sibley Street. A green space such as this would provide for non-vehicular access (pedestrian/bicycle/horse) away from the main street. The proposal is for us to donate the land (several acres) to an appropriate body ie. Lismore City Council, Local or Landcare Trust etc.

A right of way, which connects Alternative Way to the village over the creek to the rear of the School of the Arts already exists. This would cross and connect the proposed reserve.

Nimbin village is in the throes of early development. The take-up of land for housing construction is already underway along Alternative Way. Lismore City Council has already approved plans for a supermarket and residential blocks along the south side of Sibley Street.

We feel it is important, at this stage of village development, to retain and enhance the existing green space within the village and to put some thought into planning the infrastructure to provide a non-vehicular, all-weather network throughout this space.

The eastern boundary of the reserve is the Headers Sportsfield and the LCC Caravan Park. The western side joins our proposed development of three lots behind the Hospital, one lot behind the Old Bank building and the unused vacant lot attached to



the shops and carpark at the rear of 45 Cullen Street.

From Cecil Street looking north our land ends at the boundary of the Tomato Sauce building. Their neighbour, further to the north is the Nimbin Hotel and Backpackers. Both these narrow properties run from Cullen Street and abut the Caravan Park. In order to succeed in getting the reserve through to Peace Park, it would be necessary to persuade these two owners to give up or boundary adjust a small strip of land along the creek to give the public access to Sibley Street.

Comments, ideas and suggestions from neighbours and the public, on how to best make this scheme a success, are welcome. Phone during business hours 6689-7228 or write to PO Box 202, Nimbin.

What's up at Frog Hollow?

Some may have noticed the frog gate between the Rainbow Café and the Real Estate opened lately, revealing a new garden at the bottom of the lane.

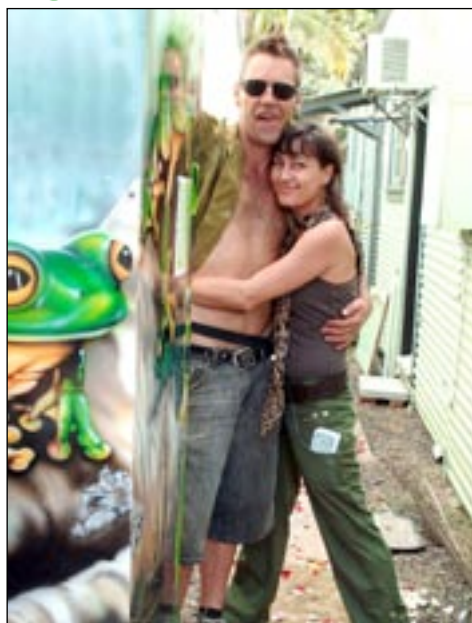
Shane and Steph are creating a sustainable living centre to promote the positive aspects of "alternative" low-impact living, called Zone One Buy Local.

There you will find quality organic veggie seedlings, herbs, fruit trees, aquatic plants, bamboo and rainforest trees to create your own piece of paradise on Earth, as well as organic fertilisers, pest controls, mulch, biochar, soil, compost and water inoculants, and non-toxic bio cleaners.

Zone One is also the Nimbin agent for Painted Earth sustainable paints and finishes, as well as for Alpacka Packaging, specialising in eco-friendly and biodegradable packaging.

With the concept of buying locally being a keystone of sustainability, Zone One Buy Local aims to support small local enterprises by stocking their products and promoting sustainable local services.

If you grow excess food, bring it to the shop to sell, or join the food-swap co-op. Leftover produce can be offered at the backyard table at the Blue Knob Farmers Markets on Saturdays for those not able to attend.



Sustainable skills workshops will start with a ferro-cement pond-making class in late July, to be followed by cob oven-building, sandbag building and clay rendering and bamboo construction, with other courses to follow later.

So take a break from the main street and check out the magic at the bottom of the garden next time you're in town.

In Memoriam



Ronald Walter Morley
aka The Colonel, The Heckler
1/12/1949 – 11/6/2011



Josephine Cassiano
(nee Troncone)
22/3/1936 – 25/6/2011



Ron's Cortege. The funeral procession for Ron Morley wound its way along Cullen Street, with stops at every café he had frequented so that his ashes could be taken for a final visit, until it reached the Oasis Café, where a moving memorial gathering was held. R.I.P Ron.

Rainbow Festival returns

by Pop Myban

The next Julinbah Yowarl Rainbow Festival is scheduled for September.

The music festival is sponsored by the Indigenous Community at Tabulum, under the guidance of Lewis Walker and Pop Harry Walker of Rio Mission.

Events with Lewis Walker's involvement have been successful over the years, even if the aftermath has left room for improvements. After the last festival last March, a community base has remained down by the Rocky River to continue to tend to the orchard planted at the festival. There is always someone at the Rocky River Festival site, no matter what.

All events have been 'goori' in nature, and all have been held with purpose, with all kinds of seeds sown to help people in their new understandings of their relationship with one another and the land.

The Bunjalung has been expanding to include all who wish to be included to belong to this nation. A new-found respect has been forming, and a knowledge that culture is being kept alive and well through all of us.

The last Festival marked a healthy culture by being a Rainbow Festival as well, though the following one is educational to us all, as we begin to ramp up our own spirits to a change in awareness.

The culmination of this (third) festival will occur one year after this event, in the geographical centre of Australia, in Papunya in the Northern Territory, on the Spring Solstice in September 2012.

For those wishing to volunteer, a get-together down at the Rocky River will happen for the planning of this festival on 15th July at the full moon rainbow gathering.

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