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Nimbin Artists Gallery

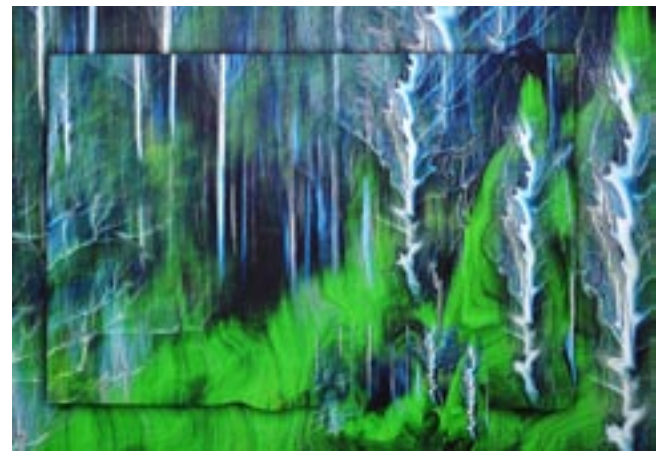
by Peter P.

Now you may think the Nimbin Artists Gallery's meetings are quiet affairs attended by mature Nimbinites sipping tea and holding peaceful and respectful discourse.

Nothing could be further from the truth. They are full of robust discussion about all sorts of important issues. Sometimes we even talk about art. Fortunately Doctor Dan has yet to be needed at a meeting, but with ladies armed with crochet and knitting needles and others with a sharpened number 2 pencil or sculpting tool, you cannot let your guard down.

Speaking of sculpting, having been refused a permit to open a quarry outside Nimbin to source stone for his sculpting work, our Rod Johnston has turned his hand to steampunk art. And with great success.

All of his pieces at the recent Spring Arts were sold, so we're pleased to have



Darkness Descends
by Darmin Cameron

some new work on display after our recent hanging. I'm sure they're worthwhile investments in their own right just because of the amount of copper used in them.

As always, it was a good hanging. When you visit you can see some striking digital art from Paris Naday and Darmin Cameron, Granny Breath Weaver has some of her intricately woven baskets on display, and we have another of Helena Herendi's lovely silk and felted wool wall hangings.

Our regular artists are well presented, as always, giving us our usual full gallery of 2D, 3D and wearable art.

By all means visit the gallery and enjoy the art, but upset the benign looking volunteer behind the desk at your peril.



Ms Hawk by Alana Grant



Homage To Love Letters
by Helena Herendi



Jarrah Mini Cannon by Rod Johnston



Flaxed Tracks by
Granny Breath Weaver

Blue Knob Hall Gallery



Tongue to Toad by Alana Grant

The current exhibition at Blue Knob Hall Gallery is titled 'Pandora's Box'.

Based on the story from Greek Mythology, Pandora was given a container – with instructions not to open it under any circumstance. Her curiosity overcame her and she lifted the lid which released the miseries and evils of mankind over the earth.

Some colourful and innovative interpretations of this theme have come in from the members and artists making it an exhibition worth looking at.

Blue Knob Hall Gallery and Cafe is open from 10am to 4pm from Thursday to Sunday. Lunches are available until 2pm. So please come and enjoy the art and the food.

The exhibition runs until November 24th.

Artists and friends lunch

Our popular Artists and Friends lunch will be held on Thursday November 28th at 12.30pm. Cost is \$15 per



And I too walked in paradise by Paul Roguszka

person for set vegetarian mains with a choice of desserts. It's a really great way to spend time with friends, so if you'd like to come along, please book your place with the Gallery on 6689 7449.

Silver Service Sunday

Our next Silver Service Sunday will be held on Sunday November 10th at 1pm. Cost is \$25 per person for a choice of either vegetarian or meat mains and a choice of desserts. Bookings are absolutely essential, so please ring the Gallery if you would like to come.

Nosin' Around

with PAC

This is how the Rock Valley post office used to look – very rustic and a very blended into the environment look. This shot was taken in the mid 1980's when I lived at Coffee Camp and used to cycle around all the

lovely valleys we have in the area. In the latter part of the life of the PO it was moved not too far from its original position on the corner of the Rock Valley Road, to its new spot next to the Rock Valley Hall. Last year it burned down, and has just been rebuilt anew from scratch.



Creative activism around New York



by Benny Zable

As my journey to the Big Apple comes to an end, looking back, I have observed and experienced an increase in creative activism in public places around New York.

Some of the most outstanding work is from the Reverend Billy and the Stop Shopping Gospel Choir, and the community signage project... 'We Will Not Be Silent'. The March Against Monsanto produced some most artistic presentations. There are the legendary activist elders Pete Seeger (pictured, left), the Raging Grannies and Yoko Ono out there more than ever, strutting their stuff.

The Occupy movement is far from dead. *Occu-Evolve*, which is also on Facebook, meets every Friday down at the Atrium on Wall Street. I have seen them visible at all the actions here. It is diverse and connected more than ever, with a myriad groups and individuals taking to the streets of New York City.

Even spiritual groups are in on the act now. On Saturday 19th October, there was a mass turn-out around New York for the *globalfrackdown*. There is an offshoot from the Hari Krishna movement doing meditations for the water in public. The wonderful thing is the collaborative approach of Occupy, with its '99%' imaging. There are these folks on a tricycle who project slogans and logos around town called The Illuminators, who also do dance parties.

I am now convinced that whoever is in power has to take notice of this fun movement. Some of the high profile mainstreamers here speaking at forums I attended were Ralph Nader and Rupert Reich, former minister and advisor to President Clinton, at a star studded 'What's after Fukushima?' forum. Both are very much connected to the political heirarchy in the USA.

You can follow me, with my activist friends that I have made in New York, on Facebook.

Remember: You may fool all the people some of the time, maybe most of the time, but you can't fool all the people all of the time.



Weaving's many glories

by Nina Boddenberg

Weave and Mend 2013 was a lovely weekend for all involved. Although there was not a huge crowd attending, those who came along were very keen to learn.

Diverse workshops were held this year, with everything from crochet string-bags to bamboo and palm-leaf screen making. It was great to see the fabrics and natural fibres on display, as well as incredible hand-crafted baskets, mats, hats and more.

For me, learning to weave has been an incredible journey – it has changed my life.

There is a purpose to the name Weave and Mend, for most things woven can be mended – and the deeper meaning is the mending of ourselves, each other, our relationships, our community. Sitting together, on earth and under sky, we are weaving the future we dream.

The most difficult part of the weaving process

is the first step – the collection of materials. We use a variety of natural fibres in our weaving from native and introduced plants.

The collection of these materials teaches a deep connection to land and environment, a connection that comes upon you subtly over time as you walk the earth to collect her gifts.

This begins to give a new view of nature, a way to really see what plants are around you wherever you go. For many weavers, gardening and weaving go hand-in-hand and we grow many of the plants we use.

It has also empowered me on a practical level, as I make many of the ordinary everyday objects needed for my home. I never lack for gifts for my loved ones; instead of being a consumer for all the yearly presents, I weave something original and unique. I feel that when I sit and weave for someone, my love is woven in.

Every basket, mat, bag or hat tells a story. I



find the act of sitting weaving to be meditative, spiritual and healing. Around me are friends, and as we create together we tell stories, we counsel each other, we encourage, we share our unique views and skills, we inspire each other and are inspired.

The community I have found has become a vital fibre of my life, a network of relationships that sustains me and helps me grow. It is in the company of fellow weavers that the process of mending is realised.

Thanks to the Aboriginal weavers from Arnhem Land who gave us the knowledge of these techniques and permission to weave with them, all the weavers involved in the festival, the Nimbin Community Centre, the Hemp Embassy and the Nimbin School of Arts.

A big thank-you to Bill and Ryan for keeping the hearth going, and a special thanks to Granny Breath Weaver for organising the whole festival, for sharing all her knowledge and wisdom, and for holding space in Nimbin for weaving.

The sound of silence

Class 5&6 Rainbow Ridge school camp to Canberra and the Snowy Mountains

by Anja

At Rainbow Ridge School we embark on a class camp every year. We have hiked through National Parks, camped near beaches and ventured to a farm and horse-riding place. All our camps were great but the 2013 class trip to Canberra and the Snowy Mountains was always going to be a very special event.

We travelled safely through the night to Sydney by train, and from there straight onto Canberra by bus.

Canberra surprised us with lovely, warm weather, blue sky and very friendly people. The first stop was the New Parliament House and after that the Old Parliament House, or Museum of Australian Democracy as it is called now, and on Saturday we visited the Australian War Memorial, Questacon and the Art Gallery. Every place was an adventure in itself.

On Sunday morning we travelled to the Sports and Recreation Centre at Jindabyne, our base for the snow camp, where the staff gave us a warm welcome, provided us with boots,



helmets, skis and all the necessary waterproofed clothing, and then introduced us to the skiing program that would become our daily routine for the next five days.

On Monday morning the ski tube took us all the way past Perisher up the mountain to "Blue Cow" where we stepped out of the train, exited the station through glass doors and here we were, Class 5&6 of Rainbow Ridge School, looking at pure white snow. What a wonderful sight it was, to see the earth covered in a white blanket of snow.

To see the smile and the expression of wonder on our faces! In that moment, when all chatting, laughing, crying and shouting stopped, we heard the sound of silence in this truly peaceful environment.

Every morning from Monday to Friday we would have a two-hour lesson, followed by a hearty warm lunch and then two and a half hour lessons of practising our newly acquired skills. Every day we achieved more, and our instructors took us to new slopes, double and quad chair lifts or T-bars. Of course there was also time to build snowmen and snow-women, throw snowballs at each other and slide down the hill on our bottoms.

As if we were not exhausted enough from the whole day of skiing, the Sports and Rec staff also organised activities for the evenings. We had games night, Mini-olympics, movie night and rock climbing. All of it turned out to be enormous fun.

As all good things come to an end, so did our snow camp. When we returned from the ski fields on Friday afternoon, two of our local bus drivers greeted us with a big smile and a bus big enough for us and all our luggage. They drove us home safely, most of us sleeping soundly through the night, dreaming of the welcome home that our families and friends had in store for us.

Many thanks to the people who helped us with our journey – you rock!

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Poolosophy

The 12-year old fingerlime which pokes through my toilet wall has finally got fruit on it.

The thorny bush is littered with nests of firetails and I can watch them coming and going whilst sitting still on my throne. The fuss they create whilst building their nests is equal only to the contempt they show when they abandon them entirely. Their purposeful and committed behaviour gives way to detached complacency. Detachment is the art of letting go. Every time I visit my loo, I practice the art of detachment. I was committed to the food I ate, which my body duly processed, created a by-product, and now I can let it go. It feels great to have this process take place, and one definitely leaves feeling lighter (enlightened!) and

freer.

Since the election, I have had to practice the art of detachment in a completely different way. Coalition policies have me riled and raging on many fronts, not the least of which is the "open for business" mentality and transfer of environmental planning powers from the federal to corrupt state jurisdictions.

The secrecy surrounding the stop the boats policy is also hugely concerning. This sort of governance reeks of Nazi Germany and their lies to the world about the Jewish ghettos and death camps in Poland. We have camps full of refugees where even the Commissioner for the Rights of Children has been disallowed. Rumours of unrest and riots go unreported and even the cabinet ministers are gagged from talking to the media



View from the loo
by Stuart McConville

without express permission from the "Abbott".

My first reaction to all this was to bury my head, and carry on as an "inactivist". My optimism came to the rescue, and I realised that the only way I can cope with the situation is to become committed, but not attached to social change. Then I heard a radio show about Iranian activists who have been trying for years to reform Iranian society, without much luck. The activist was asked how it felt to be on the back foot in the

face of such overwhelming odds. He said that their freedom is the path towards the goal, not the goal itself. Their freedom is an internal experience, something that is driven by their ability to live true to their ideals. Many activists become burnt out or disenfranchised by the apparent lack of progress towards a fairer more transparent society. Many more people don't even get active because they cannot see an outcome that looks like success. If we are to really put up a good fight against this type of governance, we need to enlist all those people who don't think they can make a difference, but are similarly outraged by bullshit policies. The realisation is that while winning or losing is not important, it is the soul's freedom in expressing our love for the planet or brothers and sisters that will keep us going and ultimately win the war.

Plant of the month

White Bottle Brush *Callistemon salignus*

by Richard Burer

This tall shrub or small tree is very common in the area and it is found from ridge tops to dry/ moist forests and wetlands. White Bottlebrush is very hardy and it is one of more common species I have planted at home and in the area.

Attractive with a current crop of cream flowers, this tough species is a favourite of nectar-eating birds and

is also favoured by bees; however the flowering is quick and as this goes edition goes to print the flowering will be replaced by a stunning flush of new pink growth, though a good rain will be needed here.

In the garden, this tree is an excellent screen plant and looks good in large clump plantings with associated understory plantings such as native ginger. One downside is that this tree is fairly flammable.

For your restoration plantings, it can just about go anywhere, it also can handle some grazing from stock, though its growth rates are moderate.



Note: More modern field guides will refer to this species as *Melaleuca salignus*, due to a recent re-classification.

Blindness of industrialised care of country

by Geoff Dawe

Perhaps the main argument proffered for chemical bush regeneration, is that it is quicker than chemical-free bush regeneration. However, there is not enough scientific data of long term effects. In Byron shire at the present moment, the National Parks and Wildlife Service wishes to carry out extensive spraying of Bitou even though their poison of choice, Metsulphuron-methyl is advised not to be used near bulbous plants. It can be expected that the bulbous, threatened Pink nodding orchid is in there somewhere because a chemical free group working nearby, has so far uncovered 40. The presence of the Bitou makes them difficult to find. The NP&WS will not spray if they can find an orchid in the spray zone, but since none has been found they intend to spray. It is a self-fulfilling prophecy. Spraying will potentially make the orchid less likely to appear in future, which provides the NP&WS with self-permission to keep spraying. Since our grandparents caused a major environmental catastrophe in the clearing of

Australia, it is mostly ego that thinks it should be repaired quickly with technologies; with the use of long term safety-unproven, synthesised chemicals, when there is argument that the camphors, lantana and other successful biomass producing plants, are raw materials for efficient use of energy for extensive repair. This repair is not particularly in seeing to the comparative short term increase of native species, but of the long term: of air, water and soil; the three bases of life. All to some extent begin healing with sequestration of soil organic carbon from plants, often "weeds", that are particularly successful with the production of biomass. The need to see koalas and parrots return in our lifetimes rather than say, over 200 or 500 years or whatever, is an issue of concern for the comparatively short life-spans and individual mortality of humans, combined with conscience-prodded materialistic lifestyles that have compromised habitat. The comparative short term of human lifetimes is currently matched by a short term view of nature that wishes to be able to see the return of native

species in a human's lifetime. The view appears to not notice that methods of short term technological recovery of species, inefficiently provides for the less able to be seen improvement, and long term recovery, of soil, water and air. Poisonous sprays, for example, can be readily seen to potentially threaten all three of the bases of life. This is easily seen for example, where continual spraying of the understory herbaceous layer bares and mobilises soil. Moreover, in terms of efficiency of energy use, and given the current tendency of the society to ravage energy sources, the means by which energy is conserved and provided by nature itself, as opposed to human-produced technologies, is more important than ever. The use of biomass-efficient immigrant species for long-term environmental repair is an example of nature delivering repair services cheaper than technologies. Professor David Lindenmayer, in his book *On Borrowed Time* writes, "While the neoclassical economist will argue that everything has a price, ecological economists are revealing that ecosystem

services are in fact almost priceless and that nature itself can deliver them far more cheaply than human interventionist technology." It is not as if nature cannot provide earth healing services comparatively cheaply. It is that humans have disorganised themselves in urban dependency, in hanging onto an economic system that cannot understand that nature is finite, in attempting to fix symptoms of habitat loss, rather than causes, and in a refusal to use the unique human ability to consider the long term rather than the short. The implication by Paul Roberts and Julian Cribb with their books, respectively *The End of Food* and *The Coming Famine*, is that industrialised agriculture cannot supply long term food security. There is a positive side to this. Individual humans can shift their focus from an emphasis on attempts to directly supply other animal's needs by negating weeds, to an attempt to supply their own with a comprehensively populated gardening culture that makes use of "weeds". In doing that, habitat as a side effect, begins its healing.



Care for the creek

The primary focus of the Tuntable Landcare Group is to regenerate the land running alongside Tuntable Creek, clearing weed infestations and planting protective vegetation, including koala habitat trees.

The group is helping to make healthy creekbeds that hold their banks through heavy rains and flooding, with plantings that act as a filtration system to mitigate the polluting effects of human habitation.

The goal is a clear-flowing creek to support the platypus, fish and other creatures that call Tuntable Creek their home.

Australia is the driest inhabited continent on earth, so we need to care for our waterways.

If you live along the creek, join your local Tuntable Landcare Group.

The AGM will be held on Thursday 14th November at 5.30pm at Eternity Springs Art Farm, 483 Tuntable Creek Road, Tuntable Creek. Phone 6688-6385 for further information.

Grants

The Northern Rivers Catchment Management Authority 2013-14 Small Grants Program provides financial assistance between \$2,000 - \$10,000 to the community to undertake works to maintain and restore their natural resources to sustainable levels.

Applications close on 6th November. Application forms are available from Northern Landcare Support Services, phone 6632-3722 or visit: www.nlss.com.au



Claire the pig

Claire has become an identity around the school. Her favourite pastimes are rolling in her wallow pit and trailing students with the prospect of a belly scratch.

During the recent school holidays, Claire also had a break and students were surprised when they arrived back to find their cute little piglet had grown into a fat pig.

Claire will eventually become dinner and the students are happy that Claire will have had a happy free-range life, being able to express her "Pig-ness". This contrasts with the life of a factory-farmed pig where most of our pork is produced.

Nimbin Central School agriculture students have been enjoying the company of Claire the pig. She was adopted at one week of age, and discussion raged about what we were going to name her. "Babe" and "Wiggum" were shortlisted before her name was agreed upon.

NIMBIN ENVIRONMENT CENTRE NEWS



by Philippe Dupuy, President

Nimbin Environment Centre

The fight against CSG is hotting up. Metgasco is planning to drill on a property at Bungabee Road, Bentley. Residents have been discussing and organising and NEC is helping out. A regular protest is being held twice weekly on Tuesday morning and Thursday afternoon at Naughtons Gap intersection. Call us if you need a lift to get there.

NEC also supports the Food Not Bombs event held every second Friday on Cullen Street. Please come and join this great initiative by James Creagh.

A big thank-you to Phil Mitten who has kept at his post at the Enviro Centre for many many years now. Phil has had to cease volunteering at Nimbin Environment Centre because of family commitments. We wish him the very best.

Casino Environment Centre

Metgasco has an ally at the Richmond Valley Council. He is none other than the general manager. Although the council has many elected representatives, the GM seems to be the one representing Richmond Valley whenever important decisions have to be taken. Our democracy has been slowly metamorphosing into demockery, and what more blatant evidence than seeing the GM run the monthly council meetings.

Commentary

The gloves are off, and the NSW government along with Martin Ferguson, now head of APPEA, and Ian MacFarlane, federal resources minister, are intent on destructive industries such as new open-cut coal mines and unconventional gas extraction.

Many people come to our centres at NEC and CEC disheartened, throwing their arms in the air and conceding defeat. I say to those people: do not despair, because that is exactly what they want you to do. They are afraid of the power of people informed and united. This is why they lie and fabricate and invent crises

like: there is a gas shortage and NSW will be left in the dark; the price of gas will skyrocket; the gas industry will create thousands of jobs. These are all proven lies: a look at what independent pundits are saying and a little research will quickly expose these myths.

As for the assertion that "most people in Casino want the gas", here is the result of some unusual statistics taken at demos in front of Metgasco's office in Casino. Tallies of toots vs fingers (people who honk or wave in support of our anti-gas stand and those who make rude gestures) show a consistent 87-90% against gas. So if you don't believe us (that includes Mr Walker, Henderson and company), come join us and see for yourselves. In the end, people power will return democracy to its rightful place in spite of bullying by big corporations, the Feds and the Rum Corps of NSW. *Viva la revolution!*

People needed in The Pilliga

A carload of us from the Northern Rivers met with indigenous landowners in the scrub last week. From the meeting it was resolved to set up a base camp to operate from. This we proceeded to do that evening and since then, the camp has expanded, and a kitchen and toilet are in place.

Some tents are there, but protectors should be self-sufficient. The locals are bringing water and some food, but it is early days yet. The site is amongst trees, beside a dam. Because it is isolated and near water, numerous birds, wallabies, kangaroos and other wildlife come to visit daily.

Santos had an article in the local paper referring to "The Pilliga gasfield" last Thursday. They are clearing and drilling right now. The locals need help and they need it now. They will welcome people and/or donations of money and equipment.

This is a unique and extremely valuable forest. Please help if you can. To my knowledge, people came to Doubtful Creek from WA, Victoria and Queensland, so I think we can manage to travel the eight hours or so to The Pilliga. - Don Durrant

Koala Kolumn

by Lorraine Vass

Bushfires and the damage they inflict are on our collective mind right now. Thankfully it wasn't our turn, but it could well be any time soon.

Wildlife rarely gets a mention when human life and property are at risk, so I'd like to acknowledge the tremendous work that wildlife rehab groups have been doing in the fire zones and the caring that many of their members will be engaged in for the weeks and months ahead. The effort I've followed most closely has been in the Port Stephens area because of its koalas. Over half a dozen animals have been brought in and I hate to dwell on the number that perished.

Raging, wind-driven fire is disastrous for koalas because they simply cannot get away. The long-term consequences are increasingly being recognised as a key factor influencing population viability. Steve Phillips attributes the attrition of the Tweed Coast koalas to the frequency of fire occurrence over the past three koala generations, particularly the impact of the extensive fires in 2004 and 2009. The trouble is that fire removes a proportion of the breeding population at a rate faster than the time required for the loss to be replaced. High intensity fire also removes the food resource for survivors and they eventually starve.

In last month's Kolumn I referred to the impact of Private Native Forestry (PNF) on our koalas and other threatened species. With the Whian Whian outrage still fresh in mind, I had drafted a motion to put to the Nature Conservation Council of NSW's (NCC) recent Annual Conference, urging Minister Parker to impose a moratorium on PNF property vegetation plan approvals until the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has developed a scientifically robust method of identifying and protecting koala habitat under the PNF Code. A second part called on the NCC to develop a campaign to raise public awareness of the impact of PNF on koala habitat and of the urgency for finalising koala management issues in the PNF Code.

NEFA's Carmel Flint dubs the more than four million hectares of forests on private land across NSW 'the forgotten forests' - out of sight and out of mind. From Taree to the Queensland border 280,000 hectares of predominantly tall, moist forest are under PNF approvals. Maybe half to 60% of the area is harvestable; that information isn't available. PNF approvals last fifteen years and allow multiple harvesting. An OEH staffer I spoke to recently said he'd been called in to inspect a property undergoing its second harvest within five years.

Whian Whian was one of those rare occasions when a PNF operation was brought to public attention. Indeed the regional media, including this newspaper, covered the issue reasonably well, with *Echonetdaily* giving it a very good run. However the Sydney media, as usual, didn't pick it up at all. The intent of the second part of Friends of the Koala's motion is to harness the NCC's access to Sydney's media. Given that the North Coast Environment Council's vice-president, Jim Morrison, is convener of the NCC's Forests Working Group we'll have a good



One of the more fortunate fire victims in care with the Hunter Koala Preservation Society. Other koalas they've admitted will be in care for months. Dressings need changing twice a day under sedation. After burns have healed, nails need to grow back.

chance of achieving that. Whether it'll help or not is another matter.

At writing an incredible fellow named Mark Selmes (aka Cranky Koala) is in the 22nd day of his hunger-strike outside Parliament House, protesting against PNF and other destructive regimes impacting on forests. Mark is from Mount Rae in the Crookwell district. He plans to maintain his hunger-strike until protections for the endangered Gang-Gang Cockatoo are added to the PNF Code.

The Greens have moved a motion in Parliament to recognise Mark's longstanding commitment to environmental activism and in particular his campaign to raise awareness about the impact of insidious PNF operations on native wildlife. The motion will be debated during November. The NCC Conference also passed a motion recognising Mark's campaign (he's a former NCC Executive member).

Environmental warriors come in all shapes and sizes. While Mark Selmes is somewhat slimmer than he used to be, our own Trees Officer, Mark Wilson has been awarded the 2013 NCC's Ziggy Megne Volunteer for the Environment Award. The award is given to the most outstanding and inspiring individual who has voluntarily contributed his or her time for the cause of conservation and the environment over the past year. While addressing Mark's current work the nomination outlined his enormous 20+ years' contribution to koala conservation in the Northern Rivers.

Don't forget The Great Koala Count coming up from 7 to 17 November. For more information go to: www.koalacount.org.au

To report a koala in trouble, or a sighting (live or dead), please ring Friends of the Koala's 24/7 Rescue Hotline: (02)6622 1233. For information about koalas, their food trees, how you can assist koala conservation visit: www.friendsofthekoala.org email: info@friendsofthekoala.org or phone 6621 4664. You can also follow us on Facebook.

Environmental incidents, including removal of koala habitat should be reported to the 24/7 Office of Environment & Heritage Enviro Line: 131 555.

If you would like to donate, go to: www.hunterkoala.com/donate.html

Happy koala spotting and please remember to put out water bowls during this hot, dry weather.



by Thomas Rose

Well, it is that time of the year when the rewards of all that dedication of time and energy are starting to show their results, in a thriving and blossoming garden display of colour and fruits. It is harvesting time at Tunttable Falls primary school garden.

The place is buzzing with produce; the energy is – literally – tangible. The children love to come into

this inspiring space and are full of admiration and awe for the offer in front of them: we were able to harvest sweet peas to add to Zeem's potato and pea curry for our school lunch. We also picked some of the spinach to create spinach and fetta triangles for the next day's lunch.

All the diverse varieties of garlic that we harvested were plaited and are now decorating the rafters in our kitchen, enough for a year's cooking (and some seeds for

What to plant in November: Aubergine, beans, beetroot, capsicum, carrot, celery, corn, cucumber, lettuce, melon, parsnip, zucchini, tomato, silverbeet, radish and pumpkin.

next year's planting). The most awesome purple(!) artichokes are still waiting for their fate to be decided: some will definitely end up on our plates, and we might leave some as well to display their spectacular flower for us to admire.

We are still planting leafy greens, corn and tomatoes for the next two months to feed us before we get the garden ready for our long absence over the summer holidays. More about that in the next NGT edition.

Until then, my advice to all the 'radicals': get off the barricades and get into your community garden.

are growing; try some from our newest stall 'Small Plates on Crates'. While you're at the market, try my personal favourite, the mulberry okara cake, perhaps washed down with a bottle of water kefir from Levity Gardens.

As always, we are looking for any interested stallholders, so give a ring or come by and have a chat if that's you. Consider the Backyarders Table if you only have a small selection of produce.

Over the past six months (yeah, can you believe we are six months old?) I have seen many of you down supporting us at the market, I look forward to seeing you again and I hope to see the rest of you soon! Come every Wednesday, 3pm 'til 6pm between the Green Bank and Post Office.

Many thanks for supporting us and welcoming the market as a part of our community. Any inquiries contact Jason, 6689-1512.



by Triny Roe

Loving the recent Spring rain which dampened the bushfires, washed off the dust, watered the earth and stimulated another crop of weeds! It doesn't take much rain for a new round of germination of the many and varied opportunistic, overgrowing and naturalising species that have made their homes in and around our homes.

This list of these plants is long but surprisingly small. Of the over 28,000 plants bought to this country by settlers from other parts of the world since European occupation, only 3,000 of them are currently listed as weeds. There are another 3,000 species present in Australia that have weed histories overseas. Some of these have potential to be problematic in the future. Some weeds are currently active in only certain areas of Australia but could become a nuisance in other regions if introduced there.

Climate change is predicted to be a bonus for many weed species. If cold has previously been a limiting factor, as temperatures increase the potential ranges will also increase, bringing new weeds into new areas.

Pond Apple, *Annona glabra*, is related to custard apple, soursop and cherimoya. Making the exclusive WONS list – Weeds of National Significance, this tree has recently been discovered in the Northern Rivers region.

Traditionally used as rootstock for custard apple in commercial orchards in wetter areas, pond apple is salt tolerant and likes boggy soil. These days better alternatives are available for rootstock.

As a declared Class 1 noxious weed, pond apple must not be grown and landholders are required to eradicate any occurrences. It has an ability to spread rapidly, form dense stands and damage ecosystems.

If custard apples grafted onto pond apple rootstock are not maintained, root suckering

will often occur and suddenly you have pond apples as well, or maybe instead of, if the custard apple part dies.

Escaped from the orchard, pond apple now infests 20,000 hectares of the Wet Tropics bioregion in North Queensland, causing damage to riparian zones, mangrove and Melaleuca wetland ecosystems.

As a pioneer species it can readily colonise damaged areas after cyclones and tropical storms. It can also invade undisturbed areas and can be found making its way along fence lines, creeks and riverbanks, displacing native species as it spreads.

Pond apple is a native of Central and North and South America. In the swamplands over there they call it alligator apple because it's a favourite food of the caiman. Though according to reports, it is not very tasty for people.

A woody semi-deciduous plant that can reach 15 metres, it more commonly grows from 3 to 6 metres. The creamy yellow flowers have a red centre, two sets of three petals and are 2 to 3cm in diameter. The 5 to 15cm fruit resembles a smooth-skinned custard apple and could be mistaken for a cherimoya but the flesh is orange at maturity instead of white. The 100-200 pumpkin-like seeds in each fruit are spread by floodwaters and wildlife. The actual plants are spread by humans.

We don't need any more weeds in the Northern Rivers. There are enough species with taking-over tendencies here already to deal with. Watch, as the weather warms up and rains come, giant devil's fig, privet, lantana, camphor, cassia, crofton, (the list goes on) seedlings appearing. For those who love it, time to get weeding.

If you think you have a pond apple or several pond apples on your place, or any new plant appearing that you need help to identify, please contact Far North Coast Weeds on (02) 6623-3833.

Happy weeding.



Have you noticed a hive of activity on Wednesday afternoons next to the Nimbin post office? That's us, busily creating a small group of local food producers called the Nimbin Farmers Market. And do we have a selection for you...

Fresh fruit such as black sapote and jaboticabas have been fantastic this year. With any luck stone fruit, bananas and mangoes will be on their way soon.

Other choices include free range pork and beef products

of every description, organic seedlings (tomato and capsicum are fantastic ideas for the dry weather right now!), vegetables of many descriptions, purple garlic, tofu made from biodynamic soybeans grown near Kyogle, local cheeses and milk (do try that Saint Billie cheese from Nimbin Valley Dairy), wood-fired sourdough breads, honey, eggs, homemade chocolates and an endless array of chutneys, jams and fermented vegetables.

Take-home dinner options

Blue Knob Farmer's Market – November workshops

by Jim Arachne

Wow, this is one of our busiest months yet for talks and seminars!

Saturday 2nd November, 10am: Grow Your own Fingerlimes for Biodiversity – Andrew Readford

Wild Australian fingerlimes have been growing here for thousands of years and its only in the last 15 years that they've started to become commercialised – leading to inevitable loss of genetic diversity as fingerlimes become bred and cloned for the restaurant trade.

However, there are still new local varieties to be discovered and preserved. If you have wild fingerlimes on your property, would like to grow some for biodiversity or to cross-breed for new varieties, then come to this talk.

Andrew has worked extensively in Landcare, bush regeneration and native produce industries and has taught natural area restoration and native plant propagation. He also has heaps of local fingerlime seedlings for sale.



Saturday 9th November, 10am: Seed Saving for the Home Gardener – Mel Edwards and Jim Arachne

Learning to save our own non-hybrid seed puts gardeners out of reach of giant chemical companies like Monsanto who currently own more than half of the World's

seed stock. It also means we're not dependent on overseas multinational chemical companies for our food.

Learn how straightforward and fun it can be to save your own seed.

Saturday 9th November, 12pm: Nimbin Seed Exchange get-together

Open to anyone who's interested in saving and exchanging seeds for the community. Learn the basics of seed saving and join this grassroots movement.

Saturday 16th November 10am – 1pm: Make Your Own Household Cleaners – Ela Gold

NOTE: Registration cost \$19. Would you like to become independent of the supermarket for your household cleaning products? Ela Gold will show us how to make: Washing powder, Fabric Softener, Dish-washing Liquid, Mould, Floor, Toilet and Window Cleaners and lots more.

Plus you'll have the added benefit of getting rid of some serious toxins from under your kitchen sink!

Ela is from the Vitalis Health Wellbeing Centre in Murwillumbah.

Registration is needed via Ela's website. Go to www.vitalishealth.com.au – click on "Events" and pay and register there.

Sunday 17th November, 9am – 3pm: Keeping Native Bees – Steve Maginnity

NOTE: Registration needed – Not at Blue Knob Market. Cost \$35. Native bees are well proven pollinators of commercial crops such as avocados, macadamias and blueberries. They're also better at repelling the introduced pest, the small hive beetle.

The day will cover all the basics you need to get started with keeping native bees or making more habitat and room for them in your orchard or garden.

Steve Maginnity has been working with native bees for many years and provides native bee pollination services to farms on the North Coast of NSW and beyond.

For more information or

to register, email Jim at: uloborid8@gmail.com

Saturday 23th November, 10am: Basket Making Using Natural Fibres – Cherie and Fiona Shadwell

Learn how to make your own baskets from natural fibres. Use leaves from flax, red hot pokers, iris, day lilies and many other plants to make a variety of useful, hardwearing and attractive containers.

Craft-sellers wanted

Next month we're looking for craft-sellers to take part in our Summer Solstice and Xmas Market on 21st December. If you make your own craft work (using local raw material is even better!) and want to be part of this one-off market, please contact Jenny on 0488-009-808.

Blue Knob Farmers Market runs every Saturday, rain, hail or shine, 8.30am to noon, on Blue Knob Road near the corner of Lillian Rock Road, 8km from Nimbin in the grounds of the Blue Knob Gallery.

A year in the Tuntable Falls kindergarten class

by Deborah Williams

As we move towards the middle of the last term of the year, I can't help reflecting on the growth I see in my Kindy class.

I remember well the first week as the children arrived so full of anticipation and nervous excitement. Who would not be filled with nervous excitement? For me, as their teacher, they were embarking on a new lifelong journey and I was a fortunate participant: at the helm leading them forward. Or so us teachers like to believe – there are actually many occasions it does well to let them take the helm!

For the children, the prospect of a long journey was of course not foremost in their mind. It was (and is) a rite of passage, a demarcation of one end of childhood and the beginning of the next. It is an event of great magnitude!

As the school year draws to a close,



The worm checkers

I have seen the quiet, reserved child open up splendidly to commanding a group discussion, the bossy child begin to listen to the viewpoints of others and the reluctant child learn to have a go, to name only a few examples.

As a group they have learned that a shared responsibility is effective for the end result (cleaning the classroom) and that listening is as important

as speaking. The joy of children recognising their first phonemic sound or word, writing a difficult letter and then getting it right for the first time, is a very tangible moment for everyone in the classroom: a shared and palpable joy!

I have witnessed how important this safe and caring environment has been for my class of littlies, how comfortable they are with each other as well as the older children, and how well they have adjusted to school over the year.

I can say that as the Tuntable Falls Kindergarten teacher, I feel so privileged to have participated in this very special journey. I will have a mixture of sadness and happiness as I pass them on to the next class, but by that time I will be embarking on the next exciting journey!

The class is open every Thursday for transition (2014) Kindergarten children. Enquiries can be made to the school office on 6689-1423.

Coffee Camp dazzles



by Kirrily Owen, P&C Secretary

Coffee Camp Public School ended Term 3 with two evenings of class plays and concerts. The Kindy and Year 1

classes started with a special version of Goldilocks and the three bears. Many bears, three Goldilocks and lots of porridge were put together to make a wonderful performance.

Year 2 put on a beautiful play based on dreamtime stories explaining how the birds got their colourful plumage, with wonderful homemade costumes.

Year 3 and 4's fairytale-style play, which was written by the class, told the story about a family's survival thanks to the wily young son who tricked the naughty north wind. It was an exciting story involving the sun, lots of villagers, a very large family and some masterchefs.

As always, the Year 5 and 6 play was a showstopper involving pirates, beautiful maidens, and buried treasure complete

with a number of memorable songs. All the performers did a great job, but special mention goes to the two who persevered despite having the wrong music track.

Coffee Camp students have been busy achieving great success in external competitions as well – Public Speaking competition, Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Competition, Aerobic Gymnastic National Titles and the Youth Connections North Coast Nimbin Youth Film Competition. Well done to all of you.

NAPLAN results are in and Coffee Camp has achieved far above average results in numeracy, spelling, reading and grammar.

Great work everyone.

Artworks a hit at preschool

by Kylie Kingston

Frequently preschool walls are adorned with government propaganda. This can range from the latest information about government Quality Standards and Assessment, to Immunisation and Literacy and Numeracy posters, all produced by various government departments and aimed to "educate".

It is already compulsory for preschools to display information on the walls of their services regarding things like – who to see if you have a grievance. If we were to put up all of the literature that we receive from various Government departments (intended to go on display), you probably wouldn't be able to see any of the walls. Where then would we be able to display the words, ideas, theories and works of the children?

Earlier this year, Nimbin Preschool received by donation, three amazing sandstone sculptures from local artist Rod Johnston. Recently Rod had a sell-

out show at the NSA's annual Spring Arts. (You may remember his steam-punk creations.) The sculptures now live happily in the preschool yard where the children, families and staff are able to enjoy them daily.

In 2011, local Nimbin artists donated enough works of art for the preschool to raise thousands of dollars when they were auctioned. These artists are the parents, friends, relatives, colleagues and acquaintances of the children who attend the preschool.

To me, a preschool should reflect the community, not the government. When I see the works of art that adorn the preschool in one way or another, whether made by a child or donated by a community member, I am grateful. Grateful for this community and grateful for our autonomy.

Coming events

• The Clothes Swap is on in the Nimbin Town Hall, 5pm on Friday 1st



Ivy and Amelie using Rod Johnston's sculpture

November.

Nimbin Preschool cordially invites the Nimbin community to welcome the construction of our new building and to celebrate our journey into the future. All past, present and future preschool generations and family and friends are welcome to be a part of this new chapter in the history of Nimbin Preschool. Saturday 30th November from 2pm at the preschool in the Showground on Cecil Street.

Rainbow Ridge – a creative kindy

Rainbow Ridge Kindy offers a safe and creative place to learn and develop for children turning 5 and 6 in the calendar year.

We offer a beauty-filled, nurturing space, and a program based on the development and needs of the children.

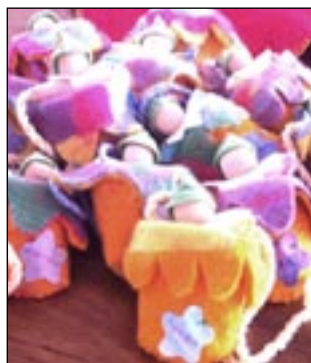
Our play-based curriculum means that children have an opportunity to explore interpersonal relationships, boundaries and co-operation, as well as their physical bodies and the space around them.

As they play, they discover much about the world and how it works, and can create for themselves "lessons" around natural and man-made environments, the physics, biology, PD/H/PE, literacy and numeracy that is particularly relevant and meaningful to them.

They also practice the use of both gross and fine motor skills. Our program is language rich, creative and artistic, and also includes many life skills, such as baking and handiwork.

Our Kindergarten offers children a wholesome education, where children can learn through their head, hearts and hands.

If you have a child who is turning 5 or 6 next year and you would like to experience our beautiful kindergarten, then please come to our Kindy Orientation morning on Saturday 9th November from 9.30 to 11.30am at the school, 279 Lillian Rock Road, Lillian Rock. You and your child will enjoy a morning of play, craft and songs, followed by a shared morning tea. Please bring



along two pieces of fruit to share.

If you are planning to come please phone the school and let us know, on 6689-7033. www.rainbowridge.nsw.edu.au

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3rd Prize: remaining tix

Tix \$5 each

\$20 and 50 books also available. Tix avail from NNIC. Ph 66891692. admin@nnic.org.au

Drawn: 13th December 2013



I have a pathological problem with football. I would love to be like the rapturous fans enjoying tribal warfare from the safety of their lounge room, but I just don't get it. Men running after a weird-shaped ball, trying to get it between two big sticks? I'm all for a mudpack facial, but I'm not into being given one by a thug using his foot

The world according to...
Magenta Appel-Pye

to rub my face in the dirt. I know my husband prefers the latter. Recently, trying to be a good wife, I attempted watching a game with him. Admittedly the muscular

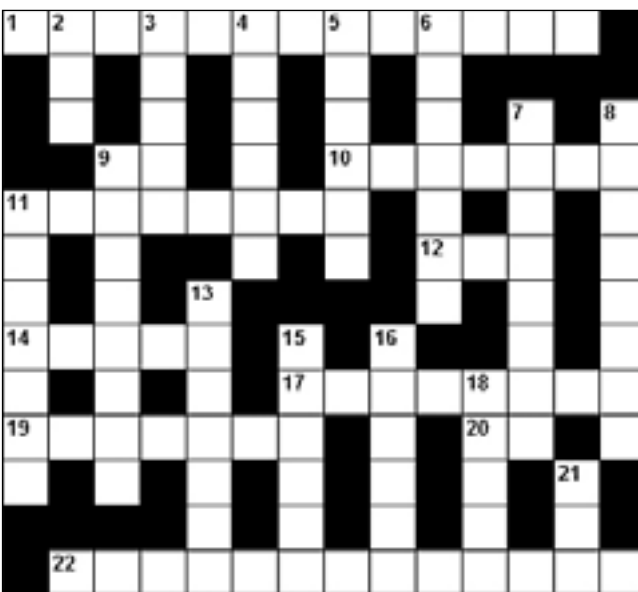
thighs and callipygian buttocks straining under tiny shorts entertained me momentarily. Boy, they must need tight undies to keep their jewels from spilling out! But what they

really needed was a streaker or two. And it was amusing whenever the Chooks (I mean Roosters) scored a goal, seeing Norm kicking his legs in the air and yelling like a balding, pot-bellied cheerleader. But I know I was no fun. I cried when Danny Buderis was carted off on a stretcher. Such a sad exit for a hero's last game. Then I got into trouble when I started barracking for Newcastle. It didn't seem fair to lose so badly when they had come such a long way. The Libran in me would love to see every game a draw and all go home winners. "Fuck them!" he said. I tried to distract him sexually but to no avail, so I skulked off to read my book. At the end of the match, after he'd stopped jumping up and down, screaming in glee because somehow he was vicariously living their glory, he informed me he was going to watch the Grand Final at his mate's place. Good!



UFO-shaped cloud snapped at Mt. Burrell by Sara McCafferty

Nimbin Crossword
2013-11
by Synic



Across

- 1. Built again?
- 9. Emergency ward (init.)
- 10. Double Entendre?
- 11. Stretch? Phrase
- 12. Federate nation, capital Abu Dhabi (init.)
- 14. See 4 down.
- 17. Evil protagonist? (4,4)
- 19. Gods who roam the earth? Digital personae
- 20. Pertaining to
- 22. Ocean-going carrier for non-bulk cargo (9,4)

- 3. Byte? Eight-piece band
- 4. (And 14 across) Your local music shop (6,5)
- 5. Disease - causes hydrophobia
- 6. Fluffy clouds
- 7. Agnosticism?
- 8. Galah, for example
- 9. Citizen of Iberian principality
- 11. Carnie
- 13. Attack
- 15. Radish relish
- 16. A snooker ball that isn't a solid
- 18. Freight train nomads
- 21. Life force

Down

- 2. Observe

trivia@thebowlo

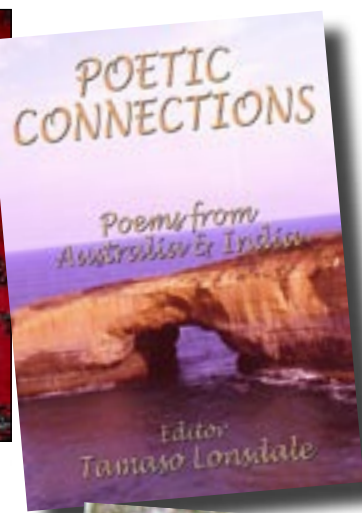
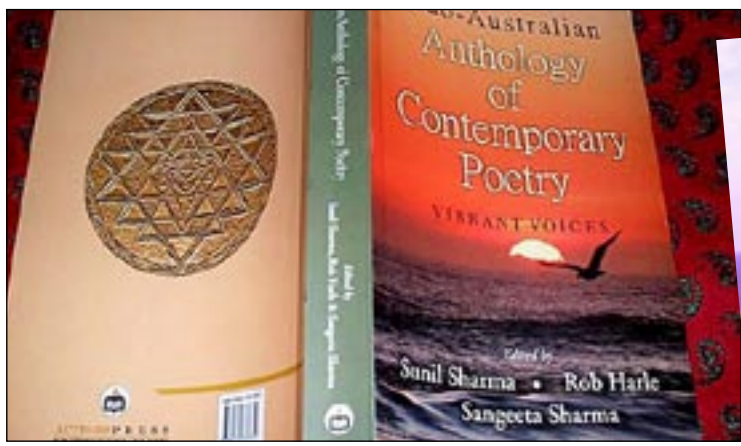
Devised by the Nimbin Bowlo's Quizmaster, Marty

Questions

1. Of all the world's capital cities, which is the closest to the equator?
2. What plant is known as 'The Trumpet of Death'?
3. What colour are the spots on a dalmation dog?
4. What position does Jesus Christ hold in Islam?
5. Who was the oldest Beatle?
6. Name the revolutionary killed with an ice hammer in Mexico City.
7. What is a Thangka?
8. Who is generally accepted to be the founder of the frozen food industry?
9. How many wheels are driven at any one time on a two wheel drive car?
10. Who was the second man on the moon?

Answers

1. Quito, capital of Ecuador. They don't call it Ecuador for nothing, senior.
2. Datura. A good source of the drug Atropine, well known for its psychotropic affects and low OD quantity.
3. Black or brown (more accurately "liver"). Liver is quite rare and very pretty (just ask Sophie the Stringworks dog).
4. He is a prophet. I'd insert a smart arsed comment here, but I'm not that brave or foolhardy.
5. Ringo. They once asked Keith Richards if he thought that Ringo was the best drummer in the world. He replied "He's not even the best drummer in the Beatles".
6. Leon Trotsky. It didn't pay to cross Uncle Joe. 10 million dead Russians can't be wrong.
7. A Chinese/Tibetan religious painting often featuring Buddha. Free Tibet I say. Just don't give it back to the monks so they can enslave the people again.
8. Clarence Birdseye. He learnt the trick of fast freezing food from the Inuit.
9. One. The differential send a power to the wheel that is easiest to turn. Without this cars would have problems turning.
10. Buzz Aldrin. He also took what is the best selfie of all time when he was reflected in Neil Armstrong's visor when taking Armstrong's photo. No correspondence will be entered into concerning the alleged fakery of the moon landing. Some things aren't worth the energy.



India verses Australia

Nimbin poets feature in two books featuring Indian and Australian poets that will be launched at the Lismore library on Tuesday 12th November at 5.30pm.

Featuring in both books are Rob Harle and Nathalie Buckland, both from Nimbin, and Laura Shore from New Brighton.

The first is *Poetic Connections: Poems From Australia And India*, edited by Tamaso Lonsdale. The second, co-edited by Rob Harle, is *Indo-Australian Anthology Of Contemporary Poetry, Vibrant Voices*.

Also featuring in the second book are David Hallett, Barbara Taylor, Max Ryan, Peter Mitchell, Mark Scrivener and Robin Archbold. Other well-known names include Les Murray, Dennis Haskell and Kit Kelen.

There will be a launch for Nathalie's recently published collection of poems at the library book event. Several of the poets will read their work. The purpose of these books is to combine ideas, emotions and cultures of two very different countries, thereby building bridges and creating synergies.

Natalie Lord's arty adventures

Spring has sprung in Bundjalung. And at Natalie Lord's Creative Space. When I'm not posting about art or the environment, I'm posting (easily replicated) family projects, including our unique, recycled seedling bay and harvests from our ever-growing gardens. We're swimming in farm fresh eggs and mulberries at the mo, and we're planting for our future – more interesting foods like purple carrots. And there's more on the go. Drop by Natalie Lord's Creative Space on Facebook. I've posted more arty adventures, to Ocean Shores and Goonellabah, and during Koala month I posted like mad, including my own selection of 10 creative ways to help save our koalas. I even had a real life koala rescue in the process at my creative space. (We have another 100 new followers @ 1 CreativeSpace on Twitter now too!)



ASTRO FORECASTS BY TINA MEWS WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE HEAVENS

November

We have reached the deep probing sign of Scorpio in our yearly cycle around the zodiac. Scorpio combines the fixed quality with the water element indicating that individuals who are under its influence can have very intense and powerful emotions. A focused direction of purpose, and the ability to penetrate to the deeper significance of life with great inner strength are also Scorpio's strength. Once a goal is identified as desirable, the Scorpio ruled soul will pursue it with undeterred strength and passionate determination drawing from any resources that are available. Scorpions are said to have a mysterious and secretive nature, great recuperative powers and can miss out on light-heartedness. More than anybody else they are driven to get to the bottom of things, not leaving a stone unturned. Scorpio likes to dig for the subterranean riches including the truth and is not afraid to expose reality for what it is. Therefore, Scorpio energy is transformative and its owners can use it for helping and influencing others in a positive way. Nevertheless, their wilful nature, resilience and determination remain a power to be reckoned with. On the downside, Scorpio can hold onto his/her grudges far too long with a tendency to contemplate revenge. On the physical level this can lead to an accumulation of toxins, which then requires the body to move through a process of purging, transforming and healing.

Pluto, the mythic Lord of the underworld and ruling planet of Scorpio, plays a very important role in the current cosmic drama. We are in the midst of a 'planetary death and re-birth cycle', not really knowing the outcome. November 1 sees another stressful exact square between rebel planet Uranus in the warrior sign of Aries and determined Pluto in the financial and business sign of Capricorn. As mentioned before, Pluto is associated with the energies of destruction and rebuilding, indicating the collapse and need for renewal of global structures and systems. The Solar eclipse on November 3 in Scorpio might open new pathways, end old patterns and programs or demand our attention in some way. A solar eclipse is a powerful New Moon, a portal that opens us to different frequencies. We experience 2 eclipse seasons a year, with a solar eclipse following a lunar eclipse within a fortnight or vice versa. (The lunar eclipse took place on October 19!) The weeks around eclipses are very eventful and force us to deal more deeply



with subconscious as well as collective forces. At times, flashes of insight and unexpected opportunities may awaken us to new possibilities. However, an eclipse can trigger sensitive spots in our own personal and/or collective memory bank which can either deplete or intensify our will to act in a coherent way. This current eclipse conjoins Saturn, the planet ruling our deepest fears. In the sign of Scorpio Saturn provides the resourcefulness and strength of mind necessary for getting in touch with our vulnerabilities and perceived weaknesses.

Since November 2012 eclipses have taken place on the Scorpio-Taurus axis, the 2 signs in the zodiac associated with money issues. The years when eclipses are in these signs tend to coincide with critical years in finance (until 2015). We are urged to take responsibility for our spending habits and live within our means thus becoming more self-sufficient; it includes growing our own food and turning backyards into veggie patches. Mercury, the planet ruling the rational mind, is still retrograde in Scorpio until Nov 10 signalling perfect timing for reflecting on what we really need and what we can discard. Mars, the second ruling planet of Scorpio, gives direction on how to apply our energy during this month. Mars is in the practical sign of Virgo until December 7 and motivates us to fix what is at fault or out of order. Jupiter enters its 4-month retrograde phase of the year on November 7 (until March 5, 2014). The Jupiter retrograde phase is associated with times of restricted economic growth. The cosmic energies will be more suited for journeying internally to work on our soul development during these months.

The Full Moon on November 18 falls in the sign of Taurus. Taurus is an Earth sign and signifies the goods and resources we need in life in order to feel comfortable and maintain stability, while Scorpio, its opposite sign, indicates what we need to let go off or prune back so that life can change, transform and renew itself.

For Personal Readings, contact me 6689-7413 or 0457-903-957, via e-mail: star-loom@hotmail.com or visit my web page: <http://nimbin-starloom.com.au>
Astrology Classes at Lillifield Community Centre
Wednesdays: Advanced Astrology: "Rulership, disposition and reception: understanding the deeper relationship between planets". 10am-1 pm.
Thursdays: Astrology for Beginners: "The astrological aspects: Weaving the pattern of the chart". 10 am - 1pm. Please contact me for further details.

Aries

The Solar eclipse on Nov 3 offers the potential for a fresh start if you are willing to explore your own psychological depth and resourcefulness clearing the path for new inspirations. Look for opportunities to express your energy in a self-disciplined way and make self control a part of your tool kit.

Taurus

The unpredictable energies of the moment might play havoc with your needs for stability and a peaceful existence. Allow yourself to be shaken up and moved by events over which you have no control. Challenge your beliefs about chaos and order.

Gemini

The dramatic current cosmic energies might be strenuous for your nervous system. Too much mental energy is buzzing around your head and you could miss important details by focusing on facts instead of listening to your intuition. Try to read between the lines and the truth will be revealed.

Cancer

The call for adventure and change has been out for a while and you have witnessed others going through transformative processes. More than anything it is time to be inspired and allow your 'inner child' to come out and be playful without too many outer or inner restrictions.

Leo

Endings and new beginnings will take place especially concerning your domestic life which might impact on your goals and ambition for the future. Keep an open mind and nurture new ideas and thinking models. Once you have moved beyond resistance you could feel inspired to alter your everyday living arrangements.

Virgo

Events in your everyday life might force you to re-evaluate the things that you took for granted. There are certain challenges to existing methods which might require some adjustments. Be aware of difficulties in communicating your thoughts and feelings until Mercury moves direct again on November 10.

Libra

You are asked to re-assess your values

and attachments to people, things or ideas. Old dreams may have to be dissolved to make space for new possibilities. Nov 13 - 17 may bring powerful changes to your likes and dislikes while your personal patterns and preferences could shift onto a deeper level.

Scorpio

This Solar eclipse in your sun sign offers opportunities for re-defining your concept of self. Do not fight the old, rather focus on building the new. Those of you who have their birthday in the first week of November will be most affected by the energies of the eclipse and might find the necessary tools and techniques to resolve their current tests and trials.

Sagittarius

Right now it is difficult to make plans and long-term goals. Important information may be hidden making it impossible to be clear about the right direction. Adjust your urge to start new projects and focus your energy on finishing off old ones. New ideas will be flowing in soon.

Capricorn

Use the energies of the moment for clarifying and strengthening your most important goals and objectives. Venus, the planet of beauty and harmony, enters your sun sign on Nov 6 adding structure to relationships. Venus will remain in Capricorn until early March, bringing the need for balancing and adjusting your contracts with others into your focus of attention.

Aquarius

Take the time to consciously reflect on your place in the world. What changes are realistic and which ideas are out of touch with what is going on around you now? Make sure not to get lost in your own world and understand the impact you could have on others.

Pisces

Open up to new discoveries about yourself and the world through study, travel or meditation. Allow fresh insights to inspire you. Avoid narrow-mindedness based on the assumption of already knowing it all. Instead, of retreating into old habit patterns, work on consciously shifting your idealism to serve the greater whole.