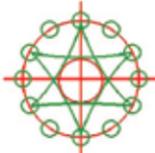


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# Nimbin Action Group protest rally

by Sophia Hoeben

On Saturday 9th July, the Nimbin Action Group staged a rally to protest against the violent arrest of the laneway boys and their subsequent banishment from their homes and town.

The police confiscated their phones, money, cars and other personal possessions in the raid, leaving them homeless and couch-surfing on their release on the Monday following the protest. Around a hundred Nagers made their voices heard as they walked down Cullen Street towards the police station with the chant of "Free the boys" and "Bring them home".

But of course, the cops weren't there, as they "weren't there" the last time we objected to their obnoxious behaviour in our town. A couple of us even rang the Eagle phone to Lismore Police, only to be told that the Nimbin Police Station was not a "24/7 station". No, obviously not when the public wants to talk to them.



Sophia Hoeben addresses the protest rally. Photo: Roger Collinson

It's not just the overkill of numbers of police that upset folks, it's their gung-ho attitude that many find offensive. Their behaviour is that of an enemy of the people, not a servant of the people. What was originally called the 'Police Service', is now a Police Force to be reckoned with.

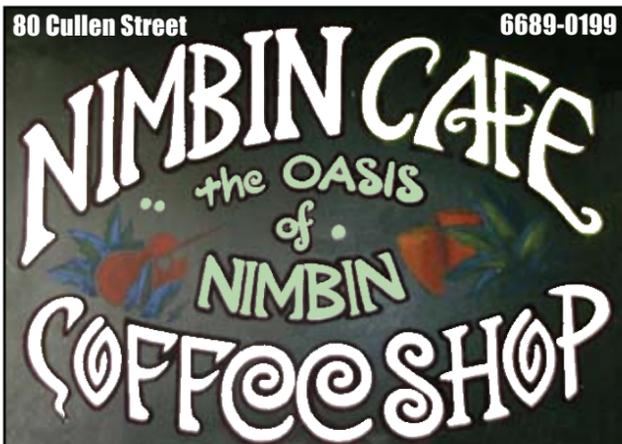
The speakers on the day told of similar experiences in their encounters with police, and the value of herbal medicine

over chemical nightmares. The rally was successful in both bringing the community together and supporting the boys. Every time we stand up to what is just not right, we grow stronger as a community.

In the aftermath, the now banished boys still seek to come home following their court cases in September, when we hope for a favourable outcome for them. It's a long time to be homeless.



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# Revitalising the town square

by Hellena Post

What started out as an act of solidarity and support for the laneway boys, and their unfair police harassment, in the form of a street party on the 1st of July in the heart of town, Mingle Park, has rapidly become a movement of celebration and sovereignty.

To celebrate the diversity and sustainability of this incredible bio-region, and to continue in the tradition created during the Aquarius Festival, of crafting an artistic future to walk into.

To be on the other end of the rope, in the eternal tug of war between power structures in this world, is to be endlessly against things, but to craft our future is to take a step towards empowering us to step off the treadmill, draw a line in the

sand, and overgrow the system by creating our spaces.

The middle of town has been empty, largely since the fires burnt down the museum and the Rainbow Cafe two years ago or so. People that inhabit the lonely spaces easily fall prey to predators. So a number of folk around town would love to help fill that space, along with the caretaker, who's been there a long time, with community, and gardens, and art, and bamboo structures, and interactive performances and workshops.

We could put raised garden beds on wheels, and bathtubs that are movable on the old museum site, and create a grassroots outdoor museum and food forest. We could grow food and tiny homeless shelters, with palettes and bits

and pieces that folk find or donate, and put photocopies and pictures from the museum collaged on the outside and laquered, so they're mobile museum displays. As well as housing our homeless and elderly, so they can retire in dignity. We could even build a tiny bathroom on a trailer, with a shower and toilet in it, so our homeless and those in need can have their basic needs met.

We could build beautiful woven structures from some of our sustainable fibres and bamboo to house the spare food and excess fruit and vegetables that people donate for those in need, following the global Food Is Free movement. We could put a shelter with clothes hangers for the clothes and blankets that people no longer want, for those in need

to take as a generous gift. We could gather in spontaneous and self organised celebrations and organic workshops, showing whoever is around how to weave, and make rope, and create shade and shelter from local materials. We could create varied musical expressions all over town, and overgrow the dreariness of a world gone mad.

Many people have been dreaming about the middle of town, and how we could fill it, and a lot have talked about a fountain, or water in the middle somehow, to be able to look at and admire Nimbin Rocks more, and to potentially build all over an interactive, playground-esque, sustainable, fibre artistic celebration of our town, showcasing all the gifts we have to give the planet at this powerful time.

# Nimbin raid exposes neocon agenda

by Nijesh

The latest offensive in the NSW Government's war on drugs happened in Nimbin on 28th June when a large hit-squad of police attacked our heroic 'lane boys' on the front-line of this stupid war. According to eye witnesses, they were violently thrown to the ground while being arrested. This is yet another affront to the people of Nimbin – and especially to those who witnessed such offensive action by our fanatical regime's use of their religious jihadists – the NSW Police Force. No doubt it was payback for losing the Tug of Peace at the MardiGrass...

However, repeated attacks over many years by these jihadists confirms that their aim in the war on drugs in Nimbin is to destroy the villages' unique culture and its thriving economy. This is not only tantamount to terrorism on the part of our government, but their reprehensible action also shows how the state's rabid opposition to cannabis clearly demonstrates its decline into a police state – where war is their only response to every problem of their own making.

In the medical industry there are iatrogenic casualties, which are casualties caused by medical

intervention itself. Similarly, the drug laws are iatrogenic laws, created by the intervention of the government at the behest of useful religious fanatics like Fred Nile and Police Commissioner Scippione (a Baptist), they are laws which have caused, worldwide, over a million deaths and cost over a trillion dollars. What a catastrophe!

If the state was serious about effective drug law reform, they would completely legalise the use of cannabis immediately. This would prevent a large number of people who can't get supplies of the healing sacred weed, resorting instead to dangerous drugs.

Thanks to America, the zeitgeist of the day is the neocon agenda of violence, chaos, war and destruction; the war on drugs is part of their 'New Weird Order'; Full Spectrum World Dominance; whether it's by maintaining the CIA's control over the opium crop in Afghanistan, gum Arabic (an essential ingredient of CocaCola) in Somalia, or the oil of Libya, Iraq or Syria, America is prepared to bomb and kill millions of innocents for as long as it takes to steal it – and to hell with the survivors of their ruined nations, and the European countries they are fleeing to in their millions. Showing her unique compassion,

the US State Dept's Victoria Nuland, organiser of the fascist coup in Ukraine, put it plainly, "Fuck Europe!"

Australia's government, whether Liberal or Labor, is always a willing subordinate to this travesty of US policy. The war on terror is in reality a war of terror, and we are the real terrorists by helping to bomb countries like Syria and Iraq, two longtime trading partners of Australia. All this is done to give some fake validity to the daily atrocities being committed in the Middle East by our American masters using their CIA/Mossad/MI6 trained, supplied and controlled proxy attack-dogs – ISIS – who in turn, like the UK, France and the entire western mainstream media, are controlled by the now unprecedentedly powerful Zionist neocon criminal cabal. Like it or lump it!

So it's time to fight back against the tyranny responsible for all this horror – including their war on drugs. It will require some inventive asymmetrical tactics, but as always, I'm sure good will prevail, and the magical people of Nimbin will help to vanquish these criminal psychopaths who are destroying our world, and bring them to justice for their crimes against humanity. And then we can let the good times roll!



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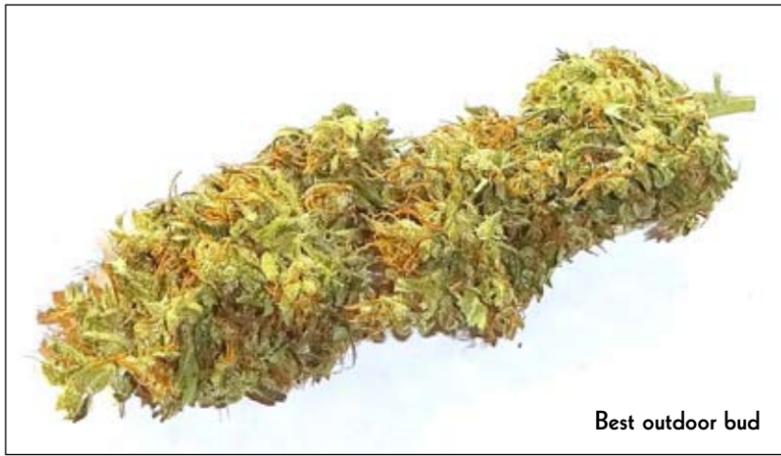
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# Cannabis cup winners 2016 – a pictorial



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Best extract



The prizes



More samples

# Consorting to destroy Nimbin

by Dionne May

We lost Tommy Price (pictured), one of our boys, in a tragic road accident on Saturday night 30<sup>th</sup> July... he can never come home. Once a young boy regularly seen socialising in town, he became a successful restaurant owner and chef in his beloved town. With his ever-stoic and supportive mother Inez, Tommy served Thai food from his famous Spangled Drongo for nine solid years and only sold the business last week. His dad Al drives the local bus and his brother Zac and sister Erin are true children of this wonderful little village. The tragedy and loss is harrowing at a time in Nimbin's history that stands as truly fucked up.

Consorting laws have more than fifteen local boys barred from town until court appearances, and almost daily more are being called in to 'talk' with the police. With local police trapped squarely in the foreground of Nimbin's ongoing dedication to the fight against the prohibition of the plant cannabis, it seems the only avenue left to target our boys was to paint a picture of consorting criminals.

A facebook photo of four 'wanted' boys and police profiles were posted on the RLC (Richmond Local Command) facebook page. It was quickly deleted with a small apology, prior to the media-covered, high profile raid last month in Nimbin. But Google any of the boys' names if you know them, and the police photo is the first thing to appear... defamatory, unethical and grossly irresponsible of a police force that is more intent on notching up arrests than caring for our community and the future prospects of our boys.

Defamatory headlines of "gangster" lifestyles, weapons and 'Ice' found were splashed over local newspapers and TV, with little thought or attention to facts. The only weapons found were a rusty old rifle and a plastic pellet gun... no charge has been laid. And the "Ice" found? "That's a 100%

lie," swears Doug, one of the local lads not arrested in the raid. "I know everyone arrested and the houses raided, and no Ice was found... and no charges have been laid. It's such bullshit," he tells me.

So, consorting laws... evidence... footage taken of the boys in the pub together after a local soccer game, surveillance footage of these boys together on the streets of their town, our town. Breaching bail is as easy as waving hello to your mate on the Gold Coast, as was the fate of our Benny. He is in maximum security on consorting charges right now.

Will any of these mates be allowed to attend Tommy's funeral? The answer is no. "Not even my funeral if I die," says the mother of one of the boys arrested. "They will be arrested."

Doug's worried. Intelligent enough to realise their predicament clearly... the law, society and even some Nimbin locals are against them. Some say they were breaking the law, they were showing off in their big fancy cars, flaunting their self-made lifestyles. Tax-free money... the scourge of the hard working class Australian! They know how much it must piss everyone off that it is tax-free income. So now our boys face this tyranny alone and generally unsupported.

The Nimbin Laneway Boys. A name. A brand. But just where did the term come from? The boys themselves are 100% sure that the label was first given to them by the police. At first it was merely a description of any young male on the streets of Nimbin, but particularly the regular boys meeting in the infamous Laneway between the old museum and Rainbow Cafe. It was a broad term with a large net that helped create the myth that now threatens to incarcerate our local lads... the very name The Nimbin Laneway Boys... consorting gangsters.

"Look, we didn't make the name NLB. Sure, our facebook page was dumb, and sure in the old days some of the young guys liked the tag, but most of us that have been there



Photo courtesy yantraseeds

Dedicated to Tommy... another local boy gone.

for a long time just know who we are and that we are just local mates living our lives."

"And why the raid in town?" he asks. "They knew our names, addresses and phone numbers. The photos on the facebook page will now always fuck up any chance of future employment. Don't they care?"

We all know how people treat you if you say you are from Nimbin. People with Nimbin addresses know that we are targeted now for saliva testing. Our youths took the worst of the stereotyping in local schools. Branded as outcasts, criminals, hippy kids, you name it, every one of us knows what it means.

Doug says, "We didn't make the name, but in the end it did help flip the stereotype. Instead of arriving at parties in the worst cars, we worked hard and arrived in the best cars with the best clothes. In this consumer culture where you are judged on your material possessions, all young people are like that, we

were proud of ourselves," smiles Doug.

So the Ice epidemic looms large and ugly over our town. Doug is worried. As a boy used to seeing the best and worst of life on the streets, he shudders at what Ice has and continues to do... and all the boys are totally united on this true demon, true drug that we are all witnessing, damaging some beautiful local souls in a way no other drug has in the past, not heroin and definitely never cannabis. But all focus continues to rain down on our local boys.

The enemy isn't the police force... the enemy has always been Australians' complacency in the face of self comfort and endless distractions, in our terrible ability to live with intolerable injustices and no longer stand up for each other. In all of human history it has always required the courage of the silent witnesses to unite and find voice... against each injustice large or small and against all odds, rise up and demand a more ethical and loving world.

By taking away our local boys' mates and community, the authorities create the very same toxic brew of isolation and depression that is killing the youths of every suburb and town and community in Australia... they aren't turning to ice and suicide and rage punching for no reason. We as a society must stand up and demand justice for our beloved boys, neither blinded by media or indoctrination, and as a mother I call your bluff on "consorting" and so should every citizen of Nimbin and Australia.

Bring our boys home... for Tommy, for the boys and their families, for all of us. Our close knit family of Nimbin continues to suffer silently no more. We will fight these unjust and barbaric consorting laws as every Australian should, for it is our fundamental right to meet, greet and socialise with every member of our community, in our community.

The hearing dates are set for 5<sup>th</sup> September. Prohibition laws have destroyed lives... consorting laws will destroy Nimbin.

## Rare jazz fusion gig

Lismore Jazz Club is presenting a rare local performance by the Bart Stenhouse Quartet.

They play mostly original compositions, combining Jazz, North Indian classical and flamenco influences with some re-arranged standards.

The band features some of the best up-and-coming jazz and fusion players in the country: Cleon Barraclough on keyboards, Pat Farrell on electric bass, Trent Bryson-Dean on drums, Ben Byrne on tenor sax and Bart Stenhouse on electric and flamenco guitars as well as electric mandolin (played in the South Indian style).



The Bart Stenhouse Quartet is playing at the new Tattersall's Hotel on Sunday 7th August.

## Remembering Reggae Dave

The life of singer-songwriter David Rawirri Gnibi Day (pictured), who died in a car accident on Gungah Road in July, was celebrated at the Nimbin Bowlo open mic night on 27th July.

Fundraising took place on the night for Dave's newborn daughter Alice, who was born with medical challenges.

All the musos who performed played a reggae-tinged song in memory of Dave. Thanks to the Bowlo bar staff, Pat, Wayne and Jo, who put in a long night, and the club members who put on a free BBQ.

The night raised \$750, and the fundraising is not over yet. Dave's CDs are still for sale and will be available at the next open mic night on 10th August.



There is also an acoustic Tanglewood guitar being raffled, donated by Richard Genovese – tickets will be available at the next two open mic nights, and the draw will take place at the open mic on 24th August.

Rest in peace, Dave.

## Weekend of poetry

by Gail M. Clarke

The 6th and 7th August sees an absolutely fabulous weekend of performance poetry that is the Nimbin Performance Poetry World Cup 2016 take over the Nimbin Town Hall.

Heats are held all day Saturday from 10.30am and happen approximately every 1½ hours. There will be a cafe on the veranda open all weekend to quench your thirst or hunger during the breaks.

This is the day you can have your say and vote for your favourite for the People's Choice award, this year sponsored by the Nimbin



Hemp Embassy.

Sunday sees the semi-finals from noon, and at 2.30pm, and from that we end up with the eight finalists who will perform on the Town Hall stage from 7.30pm.

Dinner will be available from the Tumble crew from 6pm, so come along early and get your seat, get ready to be stunned by the amazing performances from these talented folk.

Tickets available at the door all weekend, \$15/10 students/concession.

Thanks to all the wonderful sponsors and the village for their continued support. See you there.

## Bluegrass at Bangalow



Wayward Angels

The Bangalow BBQ & Bluegrass Festival celebrates authentic local food, music and old-time entertainment.

It kicks off with loads of laughs at the Old Time Variety Show at the A&I Hall on Friday 19th August, 6-10pm (MA15+), with over 70 artists performing and a great barbecue available for purchase. With limited seating, it's sure to sell out fast again this year.

A full Bluegrass line-up will perform on Saturday 20th August, 10am-5pm at the Bangalow Showgrounds. Artists include the Stetson Family, the Cartridge Family, the Hillbilly Goats, Honey and Knives, Owl Valley Bluegrass, Innes + Present Company and Wayward Angels.

The festival also includes a BBQ cook-off, with a \$1500 first prize; a Pickers Competition for guitar, banjo, mandolin and fiddle players, with a first prize of \$250; and kids games all day.

This is a not-for-profit event supporting local arts and cultural initiatives. Earlybird tickets (until 18th August) on sale now: \$58 adult, \$78 family. Website: [www.bbqbluegrass.com.au](http://www.bbqbluegrass.com.au) Facebook: [www.facebook.com/bbqBlue](http://www.facebook.com/bbqBlue)

## SAE Byron Bay opens its doors to aspiring creatives

The School of Audio Engineering Creative Media Institute in Byron Bay will throw open its doors to aspiring animators, audio engineers, designers and filmmakers on Saturday, 6th August.

Students, career changers and anyone contemplating a creative career is invited to take a campus tour, sit in on a studio session, watch a live outdoor film set in action and chat with SAE staff and students about study options.

The jam-packed open day will feature:

- Live drum recording sessions in the new Studios
- Showcase of student graphic design and animation work, from sketches and storyboards to magazine and website designs and 3D modelling work
- Live outdoor film set demonstration
- Green screen and live keying demonstration
- Live local music and DJ on the campus lawns, operated by SAE sound students
- Multimedia demonstration combining sound and visuals (think 3D projection mapping triggered by



electronic music and sound effects).

There will also be an opportunity for visitors to experiment with Maya animation software, Illustrator and Wacom tablets.

The institute will also host seminars throughout the day on Animation (11.30am), Design (midday), Audio (12.30pm) and Film (1pm).

With a sausage sizzle, giant chess board and plenty of space for kids to run and play, it's a great day out for the whole family.

SAE Open Day is on Saturday 6th August, 11am – 3pm at their Byron Bay campus. Register to attend at: [www.sae.edu.au/events](http://www.sae.edu.au/events) and go in the draw to win a GoPro Hero 4 Black.

## Stuart Coupe talks roots music

by Nick Hanlon

Stuart Coupe (pictured) has worked as a journalist, author, editor, manager, record label director, radio presenter, publicist and tour promoter.

He is one of the judges for the Australian Roots Music Awards being held at The Nimbin Bush Theatre on Sunday 18th September.

I asked Stuart some questions about Roots music.

1. How do you define "Roots" music.

It's always a hard one – you know it when you hear it. Authentic, unpretentious, not fad driven, from the heart. Usually but not always with elements of country, folk and blues musics.

2. Why do you think that Australia needs a dedicated Roots Music Awards?

I'm not thinking of a good reason why not. We have many many roots music radio shows on community radio around the country – plus a dedicated roots music magazine in *Rhythms*, so I think it's way overdue for an award. There are literally hundreds and hundreds of Australian performers who identify as 'roots' music artists. More often than not they combine to varying degrees folk, country and blues elements, but they meld them together in a fashion that means they are 'roots'

– not simply 'blues' or 'country' etc.

3. What are you looking for as a judge of the Australian Roots Music Awards?

The same thing I look for whenever I'm asked to judge an award. To hear some music that makes the hair on my arms stand up, something that hits me very strongly emotionally. I've never cared much about technique - either vocally or instrumentally so that's not a big thing for me. It's the power of the musical statement

4. Who are the Roots musicians that currently inspire you?

Golly – where do I start? I had Emily Wurramara on my radio show on Saturday and I think she's amazing. I love Tracy McNeil and The Good Life, who are a country leaning band from Melbourne. I recently interviewed Michael Franti from Spearhead and his new record is astonishing. I'm loving the new Dexy's album of Irish country soul. Liz Stringer's new album is pretty cool. I present two hours of roots orientated music every week on Dirt Music, the first hour of which is syndicated nationally via the CBAA, and I never have trouble finding two hours of great, mainly new music to play every week.

5. How would you describe the challenges and opportunities facing independent artists in our current music industry?



I think this is a great time to be a musician. Just so long as you play live a lot, enjoy that and hopefully are kinda OK at it! Recording is comparatively cheap, you as the artist are the main outlet for physical CD sales. And you can do your own publicity and promotion fairly easily and cheaply. Having said that, mainstream media outlets are getting few and far between. Streaming doesn't return much for digital and it's very very tough if you don't play live and do it a lot. But people gravitate to great live music and there's more of that around in 2016 than at any other time ever. I seriously believe that.

6. Have you been to Nimbin before? Sadly no, but I'm hoping I'll get an invite for the awards presentation.



# Blue Moon Cabaret sure to please

The Nimbin School of Arts' second big cabaret event for the year is on Saturday 20th August. The show is yet another fast-paced carousel of a stunning smorgasbord of the performance arts.

As always, the evening will present a mix of local artistes and visiting performers, including the popular globe-trotting duo the Hussy Hicks, and the new band fronted by Willie McElroy, The Immigrants, plus jazz singer Sharny Russell, Spanish singer Tania Balil, and Essie Thomas who has just released her new album *Hertrs on the Table*.

Acrobatics will be on display from Frankie and Darcy, the United Tuntable Falls and React Circuses, polecat Candice Leigh and tissue aerials from Rindi Harradine; feature guitarists will be Bevan Cuthbertson and Manu Winkler, comedy from Fiona McGary and Brisbane's Michael Toon, plus Hearts of Venus dancers and poet/host David Hallett.

Doors open for the Blue Moon Cabaret at 6.30pm for dinner and drinks.

The evening is fully catered by Barefoot Affair, and there is the cabaret bar (no BYO). Bookings are essential, as



Tania Balil

the cabaret shows always sell out. Tickets and table reservations are available at Perceptio bookshop (phone 6689-1766).

The cabarets are major fundraisers for the School of Arts which has just invested considerable expenditure in the installation of a powered extraction fan and ducting system to alleviate the hothouse hall conditions during the long summer months.

The third cabaret for 2016 will be on Saturday 29th October, with bookings available at Perceptio from early September.



The Hussy Hicks

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# The Most Komikal Kabaret

RealArtWorks.Inc's The Most Komikal Kabaret Friday September 9th advocates for social change through social inclusion.

Each year emerging and professional artists with and without disability perform circus, dance, spoken word, song and more to an audience of over 400 people. The event has featured Lismore's first flash mob community song and last year over 100 people joined in the flash mob dance.

The night brings a diverse community together. Money raised from the night, pays the Kabaret performers and is also put towards funding local community arts projects.

The Most Komikal Kabaret is a unique opportunity for people of all walks of life to come together and this year looks to be an even bigger event.

Why The Most Komikal Kabaret? For the next five weeks, Queen of Comedy Mandy Nolan will be working with a group of aspiring comedians to be paid performers at the Kabaret. The



Photo: Natsky

all-inclusive course includes a young man with cerebral palsy, a woman undergoing chemotherapy, a blind musician, and people from all walks of life. The comedy is funny, raw, real and

not to be missed.

Komedy Director Sunita Bala is still looking for pre-show acts. It's a great opportunity for emerging performers who haven't been on a big stage to have some exposure and build their confidence. This year, we are excited that Ability Links FNC have come on board as sponsors, which means that there are opportunities for pre-show acts to be paid also.

The Most Komikal Kabaret will have a free glamour parlour, photobooth, glamour ushers, raffle, and prizes for the most comically dressed. Most importantly, the event is fully Auslan signed and family friendly.

MCed by Jimmy Willing and Mandy Nolan, including acts from Sapphire Von Wilde, Phil Blackman, Sprung!! and more, the Most Komikal Kabaret is a night of fantasy and fun, guaranteed to flip your switches.

Doors open 6pm, show starts 7pm.

Bookings and information: [sunita@realartworks.org](mailto:sunita@realartworks.org)

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## Nimbin Flix presents...

Nimbin Flix movie night is on Saturday 13th August at Birth and Beyond. The doors will open at 6pm and the movie will start at 6.30pm. Delicious food is available for purchase on the night. The film is \$10 on the night or free for members.

This month's film is *The First Day Of The Rest Of Your Life*, a French comedy-drama about a family, one we can all relate to. The portrait of this family of five is sketched out over 12 years, through five key days; five days that are more important to each of them than any other day.



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## Offbeat cinema at the Bush Theatre

Friday 12th August, 7.30pm  
**The Lobster**  
(2015, dir. Yorgos Lanthimos, rated 'MA/15+')

If offbeat cinema is your thing, or you like to see people stand up to the status quo, then the Bush Theatre's August films are for you.

First up *The Lobster* (2015, directed by Yorgos Lanthimos) – a dystopian comedy-drama set in a quaint hotel in the Irish countryside with woodlands nearby that uses absurdity to create a deadpan satire mixed with romantic fable.

Upon learning that his wife has left him, David (Colin Farrell) is escorted to a hotel where the manager reveals that 'singles' have only 45 days in which to couple else they'll be turned into an animal. David's brother has already stayed at this hotel in the past and is now a dog. David decides to choose an animal with a short life-cycle: i.e. a lobster! However, he's still got 45 days to find a mate before such a radical transformation is imposed upon him.

There are many odd rules and rituals to be followed in this hotel: masturbating is banned but sexual titillation provided by the hotel's maid is not; singles must find a partner who has a trait in common with them;

residents are able to extend their deadline if they can somehow subdue and capture a 'native' or 'loner' from the nearby forest. Thus, much intriguing courtship takes place before David opts to find something more promising in the adjacent woodlands.

*The Lobster* won the Jury prize at 2015 Cannes Film Festival, was selected for special viewing at Toronto, and has been described by film critics as being a new way of storytelling. Come and see for yourself what disquieting absurdity ensues – what animal would you choose to be, if you had to?

Friday 26th August, 7.30pm  
**Ai Wei Wei – Never Sorry**  
(2012, dir. Alison Klayman, rated 'M')

Next up on Friday 26th August is a very contemporary documentary about internationally-known Chinese artist, Ai WeiWei.

Journalist and budding filmmaker Alison Klayman first met the artist while she was working in television and radio in Beijing circa 2008. China's most famous international artist, Ai WeiWei is considered to be that country's most outspoken critic on domestic matters. He has been called a 'dissident for the digital



age' because he blurs any lines between politics and art in order to present his commentary on Chinese internal policy for a national and global audience. A critic in the film refers to him as being "Beijing's Andy Warhol" – but Ai WeiWei's subject matter and methods seem much deeper than Warhol's and the stakes are clearly much higher.

Gaining unprecedented access to the artist and his life, Klayman's film has been made amidst a backdrop of strict censorship in which Ai WeiWei uses social media to communicate his work, as art and as protest – Chinese authorities, in turn, shut down his blog,

beat him physically, bulldoze his studio and hold him in secret detention. This film is a nuanced portrait of one of China's most compelling public figures.

\$10 tix are available at the door or online ([www.nimbinbushtheatre.com/events](http://www.nimbinbushtheatre.com/events)), while the Theatre's café (Phoenix Rising Café) serves dinner, drinks and desserts on Movie Nights from 5.30pm before the movie starts, with cuppas and sweets during intermission.

For further info and tix, go to: [www.nimbinbushtheatre.com/events](http://www.nimbinbushtheatre.com/events) or call Venue Manager, David Hyett on (02) 6689-0095 or 0418-824-598.

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SAT 20 AUG	BEETLE JUICE	12.30PM
SUN 21 AUG	DINKUM BOHOS	12.30PM
FRI 26 AUG	MOVIE NIGHT / DINNER	5.30PM
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[www.phoenixrisingcafe.net/events](http://www.phoenixrisingcafe.net/events)  
2 Blue Knob Rd NIMBIN (02) 6689-1111

# Cabaret 360 now in eighth year

Cabaret 360 returns on Friday August 12 and Saturday August 13 2016 to the Uki School of Performing Arts

Uki's annual Cabaret 360 is now in its 8th year and has established a reputation as an amazing showcase of local performers from the rainbow region. The show incorporates professional, semi professional and amateur performers and is held in Uki at the soulful old hall – The School of Performing Arts.

This year the team of director Michele Thomas and Marlena Bassler have created a rich exploration around the theme of "Nothing is what it Seems". Centred around the theme of a wardrobe the show delves into the mythical landscape of the subconscious dreams that are "hidden in the closet" – exploring and celebrating the expression and liberation of our fears, hopes and secrets.

The show draws on elements of magical illusion, characters from sideshow alley, the play between



No Frills Twins

revealing and concealing, shifting realities and the trick of the eye.

Last year audiences had an opportunity to see the No Frills Twins (pictured) headline, who have since signed an international recording contract and are tipped to be stratospheric in their success. This year's headliners, The Bellafontes likewise have exciting developments happening in their professional journey. Cabaret 360 delights in letting local audiences experience our world class talent, just before they become less available due

to a flurry of international touring, so be quick.

The Bellafontes, are three well known local singers Andrea Soler, Nadia Sunde and Parissa Bouas, combining their voices in a feel-good tribute to the songs of the Calypso era, with gorgeous three-part harmonies and a large dose of playful hilarity. The Bellafontes will be joined by a range of impressive performers covering a broad range of genres. Nimbin poet David Hallet returns after making a deep impression on the audience last year and is joined by acrobalance

superman Li Pawson, LED hula hoop artist Asta Godden, international festival stars Dandyman and Ruby Rubberlegs with their distinct brand of physical comedy, the silliness of Poly Amorous, puppetry by Gabriele Griffin, local legend of circus Sue Hird, the Origami Theatre, dancers, singers, magic tricks, shadow play and more. The magic of theatre in all its mystery will be celebrated in an original, fun, thought provoking and unmissable show.

The sideshow alley performers will be out on the street to welcome the audience into the show from 6.30pm. The doors open at 7pm, and the show starts at 7.30. Tickets are \$35/\$30 concession and are available at the door on the night. Presales are available at The Uki Supermarket in Uki, or the Sugarmill Studio in Murwillumbah.

Refreshments will be available on the night in the hall.

Cabaret 360 incorporates adult content and is rated M for mature audiences only.

**sphinx rock café**  
3220 Kyogle Rd, Mt Burrell NSW 2484 P (02) 6679 7118 www.sphinxrockcafe.com

## Sunday Gig Guide

### August 1pm start

#### 7th Raku O Gaia

Raku has an uncanny ability to engage the very soul of an audience with a wonderful energy.

#### 14th Reilly Fitzalan

Reilly has been independently developing as a singer songwriter, captivating audiences with his alternative rock and folk music.

#### 21st Bassix

Keeping it simple, lovin' the bass, telling stories and letting it all out, is what the Bassix are about.

#### 28th Phil & Trudy Edgeley

Phil and Trudy have created a magical brew of folk, blues and roots.

#### Sept 4th Craig Atkins

Craig can gain inspiration from anything and everything, it's all sound. He breaks down the walls between genres.

## Open Mic at The Channon

by Ray Flanagan (Rayzor)

Another successful afternoon on Sunday 24th July. The Tavern had offered an inside venue (near the fire) if the weather was chilly like last month. However, there was no argument – it had to be outside in the perfect winter sunshine.

We were off to a slow start (it seems no-one wants to be first on the board), so we asked Toby to break the ice. Although few people wrote their names on the board, we had a steady flow of eclectic performances throughout the afternoon, ranging from acapella to poetry to rap to the more traditional singing and guitar playing – what a great afternoon.



Late jam session

The afternoon culminated in a jam session with three of the individual performers.

Our August Open Mic is on Sunday 28th. Feel free to join in the fun and

don't forget the Tavern restaurant is open for lunch from noon to 2.30pm and dinner from 6 to 8pm and snacks in between.

Wishing you sweet music.

## tenori

The Kyogle and District Arts Council will present a high quality afternoon of music with Tenori, at the Kyogle Memorial Hall (KMI) on Sunday 21st August.

Tenori employs the talents of three of Queensland's powerhouse singers: David Kidd, Craig Atkinson and Andrew Pryor. With a combined sixty years' international experience in the industry, these polished professionals know exactly how to put on a dynamic, uplifting and hugely entertaining show. They bring their sense of fun and sophistication to classics from the worlds of opera, music theatre, jazz and everything in between.

The three met while touring internationally with the Ten Tenors. After some time apart working with Opera Australia, Opera Queensland and many of the country's finest



orchestras, they are back together doing what they do best.

Individually, they have beautiful voices. Together they sing like the band of brothers they are, with the camaraderie and precision that more than a decade of harmonising together can bring.

Tickets will be available at the door on the day, which will open at 1.30pm for a 2pm start for the show. Prices for the show are: Adults \$20, children under 18 \$5 and family (2 adults and 2 children) \$40. Make it a date and support the arts in our community by joining Tenori in their performance.

## Nimbin Hotel & Backpackers

53 Cullen Street, Nimbin. Ph: 6689-1246

## August Gigs

Friday 5th	7pm	Rumble Jungle
Saturday 6th	7pm	Papa Funk
Sunday 7th	5pm	Wendy ford
Friday 12th	7pm	Justin Bannister
Saturday 13th	7pm	Swamp Stompers
Sunday 14th	5pm	Guy Kachel
Friday 19th	7pm	Q
Saturday 20th	7pm	Eastwood
Sunday 21st	5pm	Surf Report
Friday 26th	7pm	Drift
Saturday 27th	7pm	Cliff Flecher Band
Sunday 28th	5pm	Scott Dalton

All Gigs are Free of Charge

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# MACROCOSM/MICROCOSM

The macro and the micro have landed at Blue Knob Hall Gallery with a bang. Not the big bang, but the interpretations by the artists of their world, the universe and everything in it.

I'm not sure we have seen anything in this gallery that speaks to us in a way that Rebekah Seriah Webster's installation 'As above, so below' does. It already had us talking, examining and marvelling how the 'universe' can just walk in the door one day and leave us with our mouths open and questioning – what's it all about?

A work of art or the installation of a sculpture such as this piece has the ability to do this for us, take us away from the known, the ordinary, and open our minds to something bigger than ourselves.

Along with this piece, the exploration into a sense of the cosmos, from the macro to the microscopic, the ordinary and the extraordinary has been taken up by the artists. They have created works that express the theme that was given, and in doing so have rewarded us with another great exhibition.

This exhibition runs until Saturday 17th September.



'As above, so below' by Rebekah Seriah Webster

## Ceramic studio

Our first specialised workshop since we opened in March will be the Mosaic Tile Making Workshop which is running over three Saturdays in August. There are so many people keen to do this workshop that we will be running it again in September and October with only a few places now left in October. Cost is \$65 for members of the studio and \$75 for non-members. Cost includes all materials and firing. Please contact Heather at the Gallery if you would like more information.

## Moore Workshop Space

Encaustic workshop: 27th & 28th August

After the enthusiasm for the last workshop, Mo Godbeer is running another one in the Moore Workshop Space on Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th August. The cost is \$250 for two days (this includes good quality materials, boards, wax, tools, etc). All you need to bring is your lunch and an apron. Please contact Mo on 0412-817-651 to book your place. Or you can email Mo at: [mo@godbeer.com](mailto:mo@godbeer.com)

## Artists & Friends lunch

The next Artists & Friends lunch will be held on Thursday 25th August at 12.30pm with a main meal which includes dessert for \$19 (vegetarian) or \$24 (non-vegetarian meat dish). Please contact the Gallery on 6689-7449 if you are planning to attend.

## Cafe Blue Knob

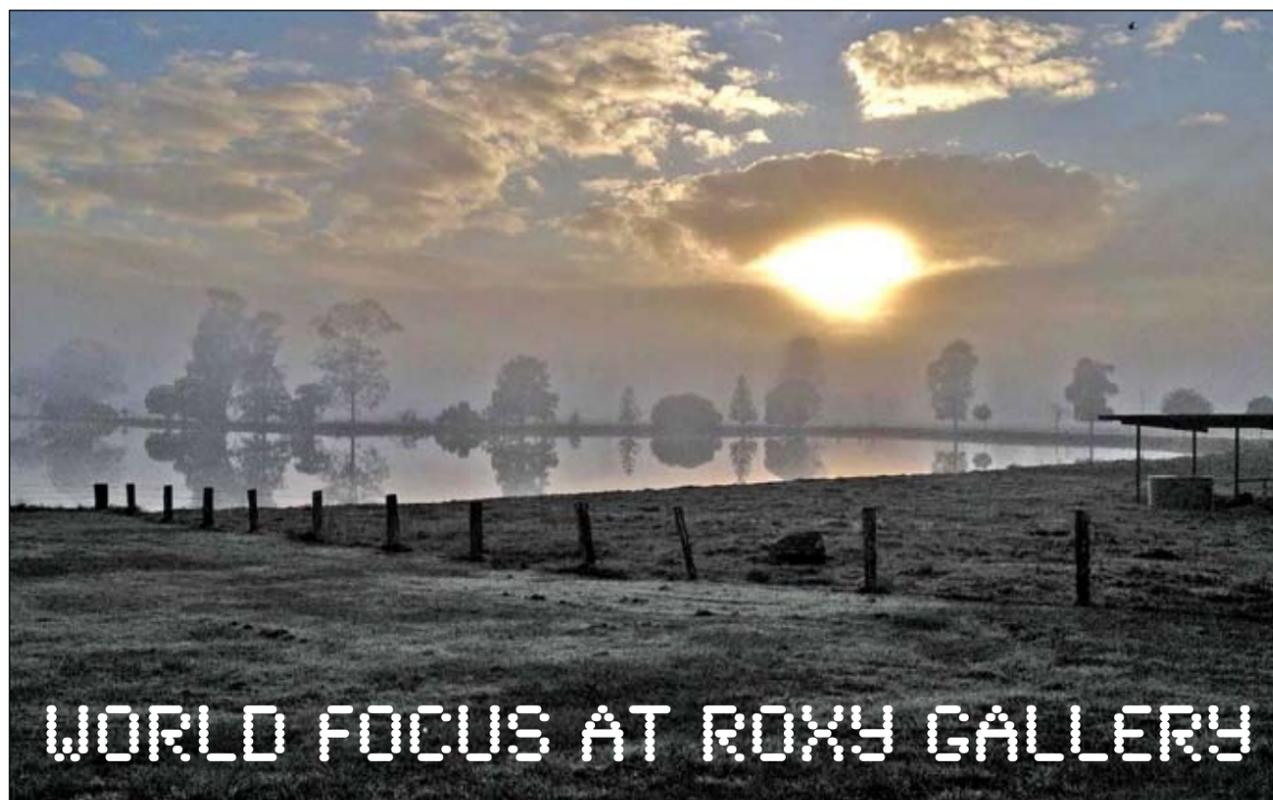
After careful consideration, Cafe Blue Knob's current Manager Joline Shervy will step down and discontinue



'Peacock Spider II' by Ian FitzSimons

running the cafe by the end of this year. Due to health and other reasons, she needs to move on to new adventures. To everyone who enjoyed Cafe Blue Knob she says, "It was a pleasure to run the cafe for you these two years, and it was a platform to meet the most amazing people. Having been part of this community by creating events, and cooking and baking for anyone who appreciates it has been worth all the hard work, health and business challenges."

Expressing her gratitude and wishes to the Blue Knob Hall Gallery and the Blue Knob Farmers Market for this period in her life, she now is excited to create new ways to participate in the Nimbin and Blue Knob community from 2017 on.



## WORLD FOCUS AT ROXY GALLERY

The Kyogle High School is exhibiting at the Roxy Gallery until 3rd September, a collection of student's art works that reflect the title of the exhibition 'Our World Focus'.

Take a journey with Kyogle High School and view inspirational student artwork and artistic creations. Also in this exhibition will be student hand-made lanterns that were made as part

of the school's ongoing support for the Lismore Lantern Parade.

Students in Year 8 will present an installation of work in line with their learning about climate change, threatened habitats and ecological sustainability.

Also included in this exhibition will be the entries into the annual Geo-Photography competition, featuring

photographic works that focus on our local world of plants, animals, landscapes and foods that may go extinct: honey, chocolate, corn, coffee beans. People visiting this exhibition will be asked to vote on their favourite Geo-Photograph.

This exhibition will be a perfect opportunity for visitors to the gallery to see and experience the art of our local youth.

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# Artist of the month – David Carroll

by Peter Warne

For the month of August, the artist of the month at Nimbin Artists Gallery is a guest artist – David Carroll from Maclean on the North Coast. We are showing a selection of works from the exhibition he held recently in the historic town of Cowper. To introduce Dave, we have some extracts taken from the review of the exhibition written by the multi-disciplinary Northern Rivers artist, Scott Harrower.

“A self described landscape painter, Carroll breaks from tradition to present an exhibition that “addresses memory in abstract painting, in relation to affectivity.” The works’ titles, such as ‘Confronting the Inevitable’, ‘Broken Promises’ and ‘Punishment and Play’ suggest to the viewer the latent musings of Carroll’s mind. By observing the artist’s colourful, complex and seemingly benign compositions, I get an inkling of the hidden depths of the works.

“He informs me that ‘muscle-memory’ is a significant aspect of his arts practice: This suggests that even in the process of painting, the repetitive actions of the body and mind will establish an intrinsic personal signature, informing what I depict, and shaping my own, and the viewers interpretations. As I dwell on the works I become aware that they can be viewed as an unravelling of long held memories that contain the formation of a boy’s, but also of a man’s identity.”

Raised in a strict household by a returned POW father, Carroll



'Linked together'

holds the significant events (within his paintings) close to his chest, feeling that it is better for the viewer to superimpose their own meanings within his contextualised memories. However, his works present a tableau of contradictions; that of a state of stillness marred by the incomplete, as though none of our recollections are ever fully resolved, but rather, a realisation that memory is forever evolving; encoded in plasticity; changing over time. It is apparent that the artist’s pondering for meaning has brought clarity with age: “I have come to regard memory – like my processes of abstract painting – as never fixed, always in flux and infused by the multitude of present moments of recollection.”

Carroll’s initial text, ‘Confronting

the Inevitable’ establishes the set of revisitations, laid bare with a raw consciousness: a teenager braces for the impact of his father’s death; an abstract, void of definition except for the darkness that surrounds the war-torn figure awaiting his ascension to another plane. A youth just home from the Club stands at the front gate, drawing on one last cigarette to steel himself for the impending doom; the hesitation of re-entering a house of rules and regulations; a punished innocence of a childhood lost; is he dead?

“The Persistence of Eau de Cologne’ foretells the permanence of death and the attempts made to disguise the stench of the inevitable passing. Carroll suspects his audiences’ fear of morbidity



'Playing for Keeps'

in his work, however this belies the moments of insightful joy he couples with his melancholic sentiment. His colourful solemnity offers a calming strength to the brutal telling of difficult memories and the honest purpose of his “creative investigation into the way affective experiences are brought to bear upon personal memory”. And staring into the shattered vortex of ‘Broken Promises’, Carroll’s emotive teenage self facilitates the revisitation of grief, rage and disappointment; the feelings of being let down by a punishing father, which he displays for those who dare to feel into his work and allow themselves to be affected by strong personal memories of loss.

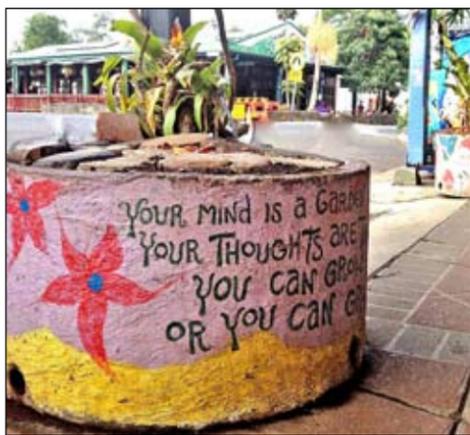
Carroll continues his dialogue his narrative with ‘Reluctant

Accomplice’, informing me it was the last painting he completed. A darkened figure drifts in a sea of softly muted red; appearing outcast from an entwined “nest”.

He explains that as a boy growing up in rural Wales, he and the other boys would play in the woods, while laundry flapped in the wind, on the clotheslines in the house-yards below. One day an older boy found a bird’s nest and threw its eggs against a tree. “That memory has stayed with me ever since.”

Call in to Nimbin Artists Gallery in August for a face to face encounter with David Carroll’s works. I think you will find it an affecting artistic experience. You will also be offered a copy of Scott Harrower’s complete review, from which these extracts were taken.

## Planter boxes to get facelift



The Nimbin Chamber of Commerce is seeking local artists to repaint the village’s planter boxes on the main street of Nimbin.

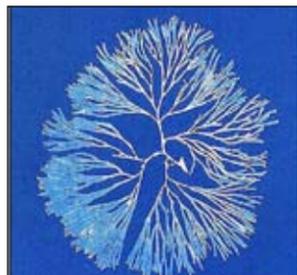
This is part of the Nimbin Chamber of Commerce Action Plan 2016, which includes street-scape beautification.

Happy High Herbs Nimbin have agreed to match the funding available for the project (\$500). All paints and materials will be supplied.

If you are a local artist and would like to make your mark on the iconic Cullen Street planter boxes, please contact Jane on 6689-1004 or email: [janemariacohen@gmail.com](mailto:janemariacohen@gmail.com)

## Cyanotype workshops with Raimond de Weerd

Cyanotype printing is a long forgotten 19th century photographic printing process invented by Sir John Herschel (1792–1871) in 1842. Also known as shadowgraphs or blue prints, this relatively simple process produces prints that are cyan blue.



visual artist and educator with 20 years’ experience teaching visual art at Charles Sturt University and Southern Cross University. His work is found in collections in galleries around Australia and in Europe.

His workshops will show students how to make

photograms from flowers, plants, pieces of lace and objects. In previous workshops, people created 6 or 7 prints to take home.

The cost is \$70 for the four-hour workshop, which includes the supply of the cyanotype solution, brushes and a cup of tea and biscuits. Students need bring their own paper, which can be bought at a discount from Crethar Art supplies in Magellan Street, Lismore.

To book, go to: [www.eventbrite.com/e/cyanotype-making-tickets-26835666200](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/cyanotype-making-tickets-26835666200)

Thursday 18th August – Lismore  
Sunday 28th August – Tweed River Gallery  
Monday 29th August – Byron School of Art

## New mural shines



Nimbin School of Arts is pleased to announce the completion of the wonderful new mural on the main street facade painted by Gilbert Laurie, with special thanks to the Nimbin Chamber of Commerce for funding assistance in the project. Photo by Len Martin.

## Artist supports WIRES



Vicky Swift (left) presents a cheque for \$200 to WIRE volunteer Marion Nel.

The local artist generously offered a percentage of profit from sales of her works in a recent exhibition at the Serpentine Community Gallery in North Lismore.

WIRES is always in need of more volunteers, and offers training

Call the Hotline on 6628-1898 with enquiries.

Photo: Julie Marsh