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## More taste, less waste this Christmas

With the Christmas season fast approaching, now is the time to book your spot in the free Christmas Cooking Workshop in Nimbin on Saturday 10th December.

Presented by Love Food Hate Waste, chef Daniel Lange will teach people how to make festive food in the home kitchen while saving money and reducing waste.

Linda Tohver from North East Waste says workshop participants will learn how to make Christmas meals from scratch without the waste.

"The festive season is a wonderful time of celebration, preparing food and entertaining with family and friends. But the spirit of sharing can mean we end up buying and preparing too much food – a lot of which ends up being thrown away despite all good intentions," said Linda.

"Food waste is a huge cost not just to your pocket but also to the environment. NSW householders throw away a whopping \$2.5 billion worth of food each year, most of which was edible. There are some easy ways to cut down on waste and save money while still celebrating in style. With an abundance of local and seasonal produce in the region, this workshop will show you how to get creative in the kitchen. Whether you're an experienced cook or kitchen beginner you'll enjoy hands-on learning as we get into the festive spirit," Linda said.

Chef Daniel Lange (pictured) will share delicious recipes for Christmas entertaining, as well as leftover makeover ideas. There will also be tips on shopping, food storage, meal planning and portion sizes for parties, along with the chance to enjoy tasty samples throughout the workshop.

Daniel trained in Sydney and London learning from the renowned Tetsuya, Kylie Kwong, Luke Mangan and Jamie



Oliver. After working in kitchens for over 16 years, Daniel's specialty in cooking is a combination of European and Asian cultures, refined by French cooking techniques. Daniel owns 100 Mile Food Group catering business, and is also a teacher at North Coast TAFE.

The Christmas Cooking Workshop is on Saturday 10 December from 10am to 12.30pm at the Nimbin School of

Arts. Bookings are essential. To secure your spot visit: [www.newaste.org.au](http://www.newaste.org.au) or contact North East Waste at: [linda@newaste.org.au](mailto:linda@newaste.org.au) or phone (02) 6685-3651.

The Love Food Hate Waste workshops are co-ordinated by North East Waste on behalf of its member north coast Councils, and funded by the NSW EPA's Waste Less Recycle More initiative.

## Memorial mantras for peace



by Paul Le Bars

Thank you to all who attended the 2016 Remembrance Day commemorations at the Nimbin District Memorial in Allsopp Park. It was a generous attendance for a little town.

A very special thanks must go to veteran Brooke Vogler for stepping in to read Ruthie Shinn's moving recollections of the Vietnam War and the lasting effects it had on her father and his family. Thank you Ruthie, it was deeply moving.

Thanks go to Reverend Grant Andrews for his prayers, and Bob Dooley for the heartfelt reading of Dylan Thomas' 'Death Has No Dominion', and a final big thanks go to Coffee Camp Public School and Nimbin Central School for their continuing and committed attendance at these commemorative services.

Many of those who attended then joined in the OM for peace at the Imagine mandala.

"Lest We Forget"

### Excerpt from 'A Pittance of Time' by Terry Kelly

Read the letters and poems of the heroes at home  
They have casualties, battles, and fears of their own  
There's a price to be paid if you go, if you stay  
Freedom is fought for and won in numerous ways  
It takes courage to fight in your own war  
It takes courage to fight someone else's war  
Our peacekeepers tell of their own living hell  
They bring hope to foreign lands that the hate mongers can't kill  
Take two minutes, would you mind?  
It's a pittance of time  
For the boys and the girls who go over  
In peacetime our best still don battle dress  
And lay their lives on the line.  
It's a pittance of time  
In Peace may they rest, lest we forget why they died.  
Take a pittance of time

# Tragic accident rocks town

by Rebecca Ryall

Just a couple of weeks prior to her untimely death, Simone Rutley instructed her family and loved ones that when her turn came, she wished for everyone to dress in yellow when laying her to rest. She also nominated the Monty Python song, *Always Look on the Bright Side of Life* to conclude her funeral service. She said that she didn't want people to be sad, and would like to lighten the occasion.

Gazing out into a sea of yellow at the Nimbin Cemetery last Saturday was surreal – it felt like Bentley revisited. The diversity of the crowd was phenomenal and, as with Bentley, it seemed to be a community united – testament to Simone's ability to network, and bring people together.

In colour therapy, the psychology of yellow is uplifting and illuminating. It is said to inspire original thought and inquisitiveness, and is the colour of the practical thinker. Yellow is known as a great communicator, a talker and networker. If I was called upon to designate a colour for Simone, I could not think of a more appropriate hue.

Simone possessed an insatiable fascination for the human condition, a never sated desire to understand people. She never met an opinion which didn't hold interest for her. She was a solid and pragmatic person, a rational thinker who didn't hold any deep spiritual beliefs, but was fascinated by what other people believed, and always encouraged others to mine their own souls and determine what it was they believed in.

For more than a decade, Simone and Jon home schooled their four kids. This put them in touch



**Simone Rutley passed away following a two vehicle crash on 10th November on Nimbin Road near the intersection with High Street. A Landcruiser was involved in a collision with a northbound Toyota Hiace van being driven by 49-year-old Simone, who subsequently died as the result of her injuries.**



Laura, Jaiden and Evie, I wish to acknowledge the great strength of the Nimbin community, and the care and concern with which we hold one another. I feel so strongly that what we do here is right, in caring for our own, the way in which we uplift each other, and our desire to support one another in ways big and small.

It is the fervent and heartfelt wish of this extraordinary family that this

support, understanding and compassion be extended to all in our community, including the driver of the other car in the collision which took the life of their wife and mother. It is their hope that this person, also, feels supported by a loving community at this time. I join them in acknowledging that what took Simone from us was a trick of fate, and it could have been any one of us behind the wheel of either of those cars. Blame or retribution will never change the outcome.

Let us accept the legacy of this remarkable woman – the power of engagement, compassion and curiosity – and always seek to know and understand one another.

education of her children, and their involvement with Tunttable Falls, Nimbin Central and Rainbow Ridge schools provided greater connection for the whole family. Simone joined the boards at both Tunttable and Rainbow Ridge, as well as the Nimbin Headers, her enthusiasm and insight a benefit to all. Barely a fundraiser went by without Simone and her kids organising or waitressing. She was not a shirker, and willingly rolled up her sleeves and got down to work, whether that work was endless meetings and discussions, or the dirty work of digging drains or slashing. On behalf of Jon, Tessa,

with others living the same philosophy, and also connected them with families pursuing extracurricular activities for their kids, such as music, art and soccer. All of these interest areas were represented at her funeral, as Simone made meaningful connections wherever she went.

In her mid-forties, Simone went back to work as a social worker, gaining employment at Lismore Base Hospital in the oncology ward. Past and present patients and workers alike paid respect to her and her family, honouring her deep sensitivity, humour and authenticity.

Working again required Simone to outsource the



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- Lennox Head: 8 Dec, 6pm - 8.30pm
- Nimbin: 10 Dec, 10am - 12.30pm

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\*This project was supported by the Environmental Trust as part of the NSW EPA's Waste Less, Recycle More initiative, funded from the waste levy\*

# Greens reform drugs policy

Leader of the Australian Greens, Dr Richard Di Natale, has announced that the party has reached consensus on a major reform to its drugs policy at its national conference in Perth.

"For more than half a century we've been pursuing a series of failed policies that criminalise a health problem and have only succeeded in making it worse."

"Working as a drug and alcohol doctor I've seen our punitive approach embolden criminals, tear families apart and destroy the lives of thousands of ordinary people who have used drugs."

"The time has come to completely rethink our approach to drugs and treat it as a health problem which is why the Greens have decided to change our policy to one that focuses on minimizing harm and saving lives."

"The old parties don't have the courage to take this on, and only the Greens can lead



the way on this important national debate."

The policy now includes three new principles:

- The current punitive approach to drug use has failed to stop illicit drugs use.

- The legal framework for drugs and other substances used for non-medical purposes should be informed by evidence of the extent and nature of the harm likely to be caused.
- Education is a vital tool in

reducing both harm from and demand for drugs, including legal drugs such as alcohol and tobacco.

A key aim is the establishment of a national regulatory authority to look at ways to best reduce the harm associated with drugs.

The Australian Greens recently held their National Conference in Perth. As part of this conference, they updated their National Drugs, Substance Abuse and Addiction Policy, with changes including removing principle 8: "The Australian Greens do not support the legalisation of currently illegal drugs."

The change itself is a big step forward for the party and for Australian politics, as this will kick off a national Greens-led drive for reform of the way Australian governments frame drug and substance use – from criminalisation towards evidence-based harm minimisation.

## Drug dog searches target Aboriginal population

Disturbing data has come to light which shows a strong correlation between the number of Aboriginal people living in an area, and the number of searches by police drug dogs. Analysis obtained by the Greens compares data on search numbers obtained through Parliament with ABS census data for the relevant local area commands.

The startling finding is that drug dogs are more likely to be used in areas where they have lower rates of finding drugs, if those areas have a large population of Aboriginal people. It also shows the clearest explanation for large numbers of drug dog searches in an area is a higher population of young Aboriginal adults.

The drug dog program is invasive, expensive, ineffective and

discriminatory and it is time it ended.

Greens MP David Shoebridge said, "This data confirms a long running suspicion about the police drug dog program, that it targets those communities where more Aboriginal people live."

"The police have never been able to explain why a train station like Redfern, with a high population of students and Aboriginal people, is constantly hit with drug dogs despite having one of the worst results at finding drugs. We now see this isn't an isolated case."

"The more young Aboriginal adults who live in an area the more searches the area gets using police drug dogs. Yet this has nothing to do with finding drugs with well over 50% of the police

searches turning up empty.

"For every 2.5% that the number of young Aboriginal adults in a police command increases you can expect a 10% increase in the number of drug dog searches. This may not be intentional, but it is real, it is systemic and it is discriminatory."

"Drug dog searches are next to useless at stopping the drug supply and only work to destroy what are often already frayed relationships between young aboriginal people and the police."

"This is no fringe civil rights issue, this is about the systematic and discriminatory application of police resources directed at those communities that contain some of the state's most vulnerable communities," Mr Shoebridge said.

## Poem for Simone

*Simone's death was brutal.  
So out of character  
Kind, generous, loving, caring  
Always time, always making everyone feel  
special  
She listened, she questioned, she challenged  
Always questions  
A never ending supply of curiosities  
I have been broken by her passing  
And I am not alone  
Grief  
Anger  
Love  
I have looked for meaning  
Some way to understand?  
In a prescient discussion with family and  
friends  
Simone gave guidelines for her funeral  
Yellow and Always Look On the Bright Side of  
Life/Death  
At the cemetery, with pride  
We witnessed the trickle and stream and river  
of yellow  
Golden people from the village  
Golden people from the valley  
Golden people from the city  
Golden people from the land  
Simone, ever encouraging and always modest  
Dare I say it sweetheart?  
Maybe you got it wrong?  
Gold is what you gave us, not yellow  
In everyday conversation  
Gold is what you showed us  
You were always special  
Gold is what you shared with us  
Hiding your golden light  
Your death is  
Like a crystal shattering  
And golden fragments  
Have coloured and touched  
Embedded in our souls  
And brought out the best in us  
Thanks Simone  
Thanks for the Gold  
That will be with us forever*

– Frank Taylor

## Remembering Fidel Castro and Cuban permaculture

by Wayne Wadsworth

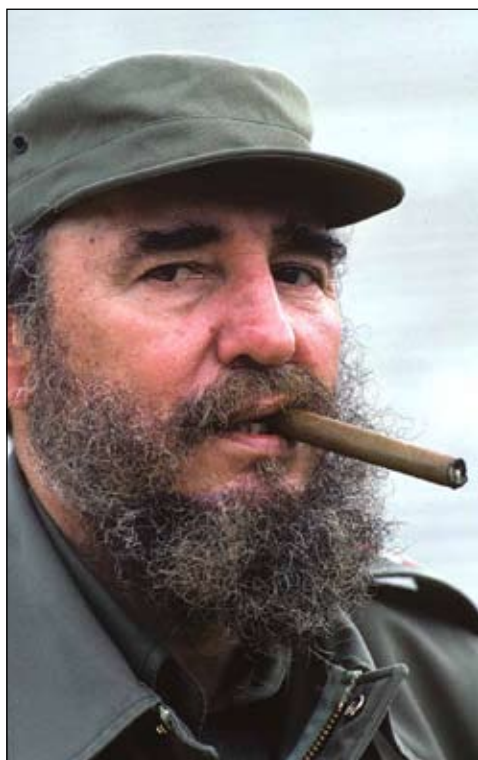
Fidel wasn't a pot smoker, however you can get pretty high on a good Romeo and Juliet Havana Cigar.

With a good bottle of Cuban rum and a beautiful Cuban lady, life can be very nice in the tropical paradise of Cuba. Until recently it's one of the very few places on the planet where you didn't find American tourists rabbiting on about how rich they are.

My friend (unfortunately I never met him) Fidel has gone to be with Che. Two very brave and honourable amigos. Che means 'friend'.

Fidel's relationship with the American elites was, at best frosty and at worst very close to a nuclear war. The American ruling elite and the mafia hated him and conspired with the CIA to bump him off his perch, they were unsuccessful. Fidel firstly retired as president on his own terms and did so in death without US involvement or permission!

My first visit (with my partner) to Cuba was in 1989 where we were part of the Australia-NZ work brigade. Basically the work brigade visits Cuba every year during the Christmas break. The brigadist's stay at a farm camp. Apart from a bit of work, you get to meet many different strata of Cuban society, from peasants to politicians. It's a great way to see the real Cuba and enjoy some good Cuban cigars and velvet Cuban rum, yum yum.



We made many Cuban friends on the first Brigade. On our return to Oz, we joined the Cuban Friendship Society. I became secretary of the Melbourne branch for a couple of years and was also the founding member of the Green Team which took permaculture to Cuba.

I stayed in Cuba several times and ran the first design certificate course in Havana with Roberto Perez.

In the early 2000's the Russian economy collapsed and Cuba was left without a powerful friend and worse still, no oil! The American elites were ecstatic and they were starting up real estate shops in Miami to sell Cuban land.

I was told Cuba was finished and Fidel should follow the Gorbachov example. Thank god he didn't. What did in fact transpire was the biggest shift to organic farming in the history of agriculture. Cuba became a very fertile ground for permaculture mainly in Havana where we helped set up working model systems for urban food production. We also ran lots of workshops and education programs.

When Chavez came to power in Venezuela, he helped the Cubans get cheap oil which in reality set back the drive for creating a sustainable economy based on the energy that Cuba could produce.

### Fidel's legacy

I worked with Cubans who regularly met with Fidel as part of their job. They were quite open about their differences with Fidel, and would often put their case strongly to him without fear or favour.

The Murdoch press will bleat about Fidel the dictator, but my experience of Cuban

democracy is that it was real and sometimes very frustrating as everyone had to have their two bob's worth, which meant projects could take months to get off the ground.

I used to get so frustrated that I would take my bat and ball, and my bicycle, and go off to work with other organisations, mainly doing school gardens.

Has socialism worked in Cuba? Well yes and no. Almost all young Cubans have access to free high quality education. Housing is guaranteed, food is becoming more plentiful, and the standard of happiness is pretty good. Racism is almost non-existent and people inter-marry without fuss or favour.

On the negative side, the bureaucracy can be stifling and the government controls many parts of Cuban daily life.

Cuba was certainly the best example of socialism working. I don't think single party systems work, as power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely. Fidel survived because he was incorruptible and he always stayed true to his belief that only socialism could build a better and fairer system for all. History will be the judge.

For me, I love Cuba and the Cubans. They're sorta crazy in a beautiful way. Who else has thumbed their nose at the evil empire and got away with it for so long?

Goodbye Fidel my friend, and hope you are enjoying a rum and Romeo and Juliet cigar with Che.



## Merlin's magic raffle

by Annie Heinemann

Merlin Post (pictured), six-year old son of Nimbin Market co-ordinators Helena and Currawong, has leukaemia. In order for Merlin to receive treatment, this large and loving family (aka the 'Little Big Mob') have had to relocate temporarily to Brisbane.

Raven, our stand-in market co-ordinator and I have been raising funds to support them. We are running a raffle which will be drawn at 1pm on Sunday 18th December at the market. (Note the early date.)

There are several baskets and bags of goodies and vouchers to be won, including vouchers for tattooing, building materials, meals, massage and a roast chook, plus CDs, leatherwork, bone carving, wine, toys, hats, a medicinal tea set, yummy organic treats and more.

Tickets are \$2 each or three for \$5 and are available at the Food Co-op, Bakery and Blue Knob Gallery.

Many thanks to all the Nimbin businesses and individual folk who have donated prizes and money. As they say, "It takes a village to raise a child."

# Nimbin Hills 'century' milestone

From humble beginnings, operating with the two partners John Wilcox and Chris Clarke, Nimbin Hills Real Estate quickly grew to the bustling office it is now, with eight staff: four full-time permanent and four part-time permanents.

"The Hills" opened its doors in Cullen Street in April 2015 and reached the milestone of selling 100 properties in record-breaking time, within their first 18 months of operations. They are now well on their way to the '200 Club'.

Asked what was the secret to their success, John quickly answered, "Two things really: the overwhelming support of the community of Nimbin and its surrounds, and the energy, enthusiasm and dedication of this well-balanced team. It makes coming to work the highlight of your day."

"We owe a great debt to many in the community – to so many who have trusted and promoted our work. In turn, we have provided seamless transitions for those who wish to move on from the area, and matched new owners to properties, energising the wonderful culture of this great town," Chris added.

The team is a mix of professionals who have engaged with the



Nimbin Hills Real Estate opened in 2015 and now employs eight members on its team. Pictured above are (l-r) Grant Rossiter (sales), Di Edwards (office), Jacqui Smith (sales), Samara Burcher (rentals), Denny Thornborough (marketing), Nikki Long (sales), John Wilcox and Chris Clark (owners and sales).

community at many levels. Those responsible for this milestone are:

**John Wilcox:** Licensee and owner, John's 38 years of experience earns him the title "Mr Real Estate" in the local area.

**Chris Clarke:** Owner and salesperson. Chris brings a wealth of business and customer service experience to the team, and is the dependable all-rounder.

**Nikki Long:** Brings over 10 years real estate experience to the team. The true spark – always full of energy and enthusiasm. Works relentlessly for her clients with a huge smile.

**Jacqui Smith:** A local for 12 years, Jacqui brings warmth and heart to the sales team. Committed to the ethos of this area, Jacqui has an understanding of community living.

**Grant Rossiter:** The big-hearted rural specialist and office 'wag'. Nobody knows the land like Grant.

**Samara Burcher:** The fairest property manager you could ever meet and a joy to deal with. The "affable social secretary".

**Denny Thornborough:** The office guru – Denny is a 'people person' who brings a wealth of experience in education and media to the

team and makes it all run smoothly.

**Di Edwards:** The newest team member is the second office guru. Experienced and willing, Di complements the close-knit team perfectly.

Not only does Nimbin appreciate the employment opportunity for a large staff at Nimbin Hills, the "locals first" ethos of the group boosts our local economy from tradespeople to retailers to local professionals.

The team at "the Hills" enthusiastically support our unique culture, and the sea of green roadside signs tell an amazing story of local success.

## THE ADVENTURES OF Freddy Foolhardy & Captain Competent



Substances react differently when mixed together than they do when used on their own. They may cancel out each other's effects or make you very sick. You could end up in hospital or even dead! Avoid mixing your drugs and stay safe.



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# Kyogle manifesting dreams

Around 80 people turned up for the Bright Ideas Night at Kyogle Cinema in November, where 10 people presented their bright ideas for the future of Kyogle.

"There was a great range of ideas on show," said Graeme Gibson, who helped organise the event. "They included ideas by school students for a greater range of educational and recreational opportunities and ideas from the community gym and the pony club for improved facilities which will benefit the whole community. Kyogle Mountain Bike club's plans for track development in the forest around Kyogle was also presented."

Apart from the bright ideas to stimulate thinking, people were entertained by local singer Camilla Warner and well fed. The event was sponsored by Growing Kyogle, a not-for-profit association that promotes economic development that supports the whole community, and who also provided the catering.

Kyogle local government area has more wooden bridges than anywhere else in Australia, and one of the more



Harmony Walsh's bright idea is a proposal to build a labyrinth.

creative ideas was to change the way people think about our wooden bridges and value them for their history and their beauty. Like other places, Kyogle has social problems, and one of the ideas was to provide a mobile shower for homeless people.

A highlight of the night was the People's Choice Award which went to Harmony Walsh whose bright idea is for a labyrinth to be built on a suitable area of land in Kyogle which Ms Walsh has identified. She sees the labyrinth as a whole community project with possibilities for public art installations.

"My idea is to build a low cost, low maintenance labyrinth. Unlike a maze, a labyrinth is a single path leading to a central point and out again. In modern times walking the labyrinth has been recognized as a powerful tool for personal, psychological and spiritual transformation," Ms Walsh said.

"In mainstream facilities such as hospitals, aged care, palliative care and prisons, labyrinths are used as a treatment for post-traumatic stress, depression, anger management and dementia. Schools find that using labyrinths increase creativity and concentration and support troubled youth."

"Feedback on the event has been encouraging," Mr Gibson said. "People liked the opportunity to hear ideas for the future of Kyogle and discuss those ideas. This might happen again."

# SEFR halt illegal logging in Tantawangalo State Forest

by Sarah Antill

Forestry Corporation (FCNSW) contractors arrived for work at Tantawangalo State Forest, near Bega in southeast NSW, at 7am on 22nd November, to find their logging machinery cabled to an occupied treesit.

The 30m high sit was suspended in the tree by over 150m of steel cable that fanned out through the forest to a harvester, a snigger and a log loader.

Luckily, members of conservation group South East Forest Rescue (SEFR) - including a Northern Rivers contingent - were camped nearby. They ensured the contractors knew that using the machines would endanger "Possum", the occupant of the treesit.

The contractors left the site and logging stopped for the entire day.

Earlier that week, SEFR discovered evidence of illegal logging by FCNSW contractors in several compartments in Tantawangalo State Forest.

"The logging contractor has been caught red-handed parked right next to [an illegally logged area]", SEFR stated in a media release. "Forestry Corporation has logged what should have been an exclusion zone around a rocky outcrop. SEFR has also identified several other probable breaches [of the Forestry Act regulations] that need to be further investigated."

Mr Scott Daines, SEFR spokesperson said, "These regulations have been in place for 18 years. They are simple



Attempts by police and FCNSW to bluff "Possum" out of the treesit by yelling threats of arrest were unsuccessful. Treesit is top left.

to follow and yet they are being broken regularly. The EPA has tried 'education', warning letters, it's tried fines, but nothing is working. These forests belong to the people of NSW. To you and me. But FCNSW is trashing

them, and citizens can't even take FCNSW to court."

A number of locals turned up to support the treesit action. Some brought home-made muffins and fresh garden vegies for the protestors.

Police Rescue arrived from

Wollongong at 6pm. They released the machines from the treesit cables, and left "Possum" free to descend in her/his own time.

Following the action, the EPA agreed to visit the site for a two-day inspection.

# 'No Fracking' Faeries visit Fairymount Festival



by Kathleen Green

The Kyogle Fairymount Festival took place from Friday 18<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> November with many activities for all the family.

My favourite display was the flock of radical, activist 'No Fracking' Faeries in the front garden of Kyogle environmental activist, Harmony, known for her displays of 'No CSG' signs and delightful characters.

Harmony gathered her friends, who eagerly brought along their faerie friends to set up a peace camp to continue spreading the message that fracking is not good anywhere, and all

the CSG licenses in NSW still need to be cancelled.

The display succeeded in putting the message out and putting a smile on people's faces, who waved, tooted, stopped and took photos, and gave the thumbs up.

There was a Knitting Nanna faerie, a tripod faerie (who got the sharp end of the stick and was somewhat grumpy), a faerie sloth still suffering from trauma after being kidnapped the last time she was in Harmony's garden, a faerie riding a bush turkey, and sheepdog faeries who couldn't help rounding up any faeries breaking ranks.

There was a refugee faerie from a fracked planet, a wicker faerie towering over all faeries, a leprechaun faerie, a rooster who wanted to be a faerie, a mixed herd of animals, and a gang of trolls.

A Sioux Indian faerie made the long journey from Dakota, to spread the story about the oil pipeline through Native American land. Sadly, this scenario is happening in many countries on Earth.

But, peaceful and determined people from all backgrounds are standing up together to protect water, land and air. Citizens to Activist, they have awoken. In doing so, they

inspire others to join them and the 'power of the people' brings about the change we want to see in the world.

May the faeries be with you, and the force be somewhere else, now and always (and watch out for trolls – they turn up in the most unexpected places) and many thanks to Harmony for inviting the faeries to Kyogle.

## Standing Rock solidarity

by Benny Zable

An all-day program to raise money for the Standing Rock protector's community took place at the Bush Theatre on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November and raised \$1,892.35.

They are taking on the Dakota Access Pipeline, (the black snake described as that demon in prophesies) and now digging in with supporters to a sub-zero severe winter. This has grown into a global action which has united indigenous folks from around the world with their allies. #NoDAPL, #WaterIsLife.

A big thanks goes out first to David (Bringabong) Hyatt, the proprietor of the Bush Theatre and to the staff, who worked hard facilitating and feeding us all. To Nick Hanlon, the producer of the benefit, for preparing this amazing program and the media release. and to Judy Hale who installed her tipi for the occasion.

A special thanks to Uncle Cecil Roberts welcoming to country and Uncle Gilbert Laurie for the smoking ceremony: together with Lewis Walker and the mob they came out to greet in the traditional way to welcome and introduce the Sundancers Wopila Badhand from the Lakota Sioux and Alec Doomadgee, tribal leader who shared with us song and story-telling. It was a most significant sharing from our locals and guests.

And a thanks goes out to the local indy Sisters and Aunties who are the backbone for the men to do their work. The ceremonies and prayers were the main feature of the program. Thanks to Iris Nunn who prepared an offering of flowers to the waters that flow past the Bush Theatre.

A big thank you to Neil Liddell Kanai/Seneca First Nations Sundancer, who



helped with the signs and physical work and took care of logistics and ceremonial needs of the elders and guests. A big thanks to Peter Bowden, Earth shamanic medicine man, for the sunset ceremony incorporating a sage smoking ceremony, sacred songs in Apache and Cree language and leading us a four-directions prayer ceremony.

Not forgetting the artists who performed for us, beginning with Davey Bob Ramsey who was the opening heartfelt act, to Sarah Stando, Jolanda Moyle, Az Is, Robyn Francis, Bo Kahn, and to the headliners, Blakboi and Mantlepeace and Pagan Love Cult who performed into the evening.

A thank you to Annie McGovern and the Nimbin Environment Centre who organised the raffle with a \$100 voucher prize. And to all those who turned up and donated and helped make this day.

There was a good response to the

benefit and show of solidarity from Sacred Stone (Oceti Sakowin) camp and Indigenous media organisations.

Donations can be sent to the Nimbin Woodstock Native American Connection at the Wittenberg Center for Alternative Resources, who would like to know where you would like the funds go to: food medical, shelter etc.

Routing# 540040106, Account # 005761034733, Bank of America, Woodstock, New York 12498 Account name: Wittenberg Center for Alternative Resources, 17 Jonet Lane, Bearsville, NY 12409.

There is also the main camp: [PayPal.me/OcetiSakowin](https://www.paypal.com/ocetisakowin) and this one: [www.gofundme.com/waterissacred](http://www.gofundme.com/waterissacred)

The Nimbin Environment Centre has now an account to accept and send donations through to Standing Rock: Summerland Credit Union 728 728; Account 2222 5070.



## Abundance Cafe restructures program

by Melian, Andrew and the Djanbung team

From January 2017, the Abundance Café at Djanbung Gardens will no longer be open every weekend, but will be open for events, functions and private bookings.

The Café will continue to host regular community gatherings, including occasional interesting café days with workshops, meetings, Repair Café, DJ Club nights and other fun stuff.

We want to thank everyone in the greater Nimbin community who have supported the weekend cafes, and especially the musicians and artists who have performed and volunteers who've helped out. It has been a great pleasure to host the DJ Club and the Mend and Weave Festival, and these represent our future direction.

We look forward to seeing you all here for a great program of 2017 events and functions. Feel free to contact us if you are interested in booking this beautiful space for a party, wedding, work function, workshops, meetings and community festivals. Phone 02 6689-1755 or email: [admin@permaculture.com.au](mailto:admin@permaculture.com.au)