

The evolution of the 1%

by Robin Harrison

It’s rapidly becoming evident to everyone that the way we live on this planet is unsustainable. More important is the increased understanding that unsustainable is terminal. One way or another it’s going to stop.

The wealthy and influential are eminently placed to ensure that their personal economic interests are well served. Unfortunately, the economic interests of most of the current crop are seriously unsustainable.

Over millennia the membership of the wealthy and influential has changed and will continue to do so as conditions change. Some have adapted along with conditions and prospered and some have been replaced as their economic interests became redundant and they failed to adapt.

If we are to survive, sustainable practice must not only be the environmental imperative, it must also be the economically obvious thing to do. The economic interests of the wealthy and influential 1% must be, overwhelmingly, in sustainable practice.

Let’s be clear this means sustainable practice must be able to decisively out-compete current practice economically and evidence from the energy transition we are experiencing shows a clear economic potential.

For decades almost our only argument for the urgent transition to renewable energy was the critical environmental need which was countered quite effectively from a

purely ideological stance. But now we have a much more powerful tool than ideology as the incredibly superior economics takes over.

Renewable energy generation infrastructure costs are rapidly getting cheaper than fossil fuel generation infrastructure and, once installed, the energy is free. That’s hard to compete with. Orders of magnitude more efficient electric vehicles are expected to reach cost and convenience parity with internal combustion vehicles in the next few years. We are rapidly approaching the end of the incredibly expensive ICE Age.

In our larger transition towards a sustainable future the energy transition is assured, as are new future members of the 1% such as Elon Musk, Wang Chuanfu etc, riding the wave of that disruptive technology. So, in our transition to a sustainable future that just leaves ‘everything else’.

How we humans live with each other and the earth, housing development, is undoubtedly a major element of ‘everything else’ and therefore has huge potential as a leverage point to radically enhance our chances of survival.

Development is dictated by our planning instruments which, in turn, are limited to the available options. All our currently available options are variations on the theme of suburbia which, with the greatest will in the world, can only hope to be a little less damaging but never sustainable, let alone environmentally beneficial.

What if sustainable, environmentally and socially beneficial options were, by far, the most attractive, affordable and prosperous options available in the housing marketplace? How would such products perform in a global marketplace with, effectively, zero competition?

We have the information to create sustainable development options with a large part of the knowledge coming from over 50 years of experimentation and practice in this area and a very few others around the world. This has been undertaken largely by educated, middle class people who have documented the journey and recorded the information, with much of it now being taught in the mainstream.

We have enough knowledge to create sustainable development models that have the potential to be more attractive, affordable and prosperous than anything else on the market.

Can we envisage a multi-national corporate organism making sustainable living the global mass market choice? A rapidly growing environmental, economic and social repair kit. There’s a certain poetry to it.

Do we have any members of the growing human tribe dedicated to a sustainable future with the skill sets needed to enable sustainable development and in the appropriate positions to execute? I’m sure we do, we’ve raised generations for whom there is no environmental debate. Our requirement for a healthy

On a walk the other day, I ran into a man who claimed to be from the 45th century. He was researching the origins of one of their historic legends. It told of a place known as the Rainbow Region which their research suggested could be somewhere near here. It was in a time when apparently the sign of the bear was on everything, whatever that meant, but it was reputed to mark the rise of the rainbow warriors to protect the earth and society.

Legend has it a rainbow warrior went on a decades long journey ’til he reached a position of influence in a place where environmental awareness came face to face with ‘the money’.

The rainbow warrior met ‘the money’, much of which was simply following established recipes, more or less by rote, and had no vision at all. Just old-world chancers. But then there started to appear 21st century entrepreneurs with vision and concern for the future. A generation to whom the need for a healthy environment was a profoundly obvious given. It starting in the energy sector with legendary heroes like Wang Chuan Musk and Elon Fu, who understood that the more sustainable you can be the better

economic sense it made. When it comes to energy, cleaner is cheaper by far and free has no competition.

Apparently people in the 45th century are fascinated to know how come we didn’t understand what, to them, is a profound example of the bleeding obvious. But the obvious is only obvious when you get it and he was here on a mission to determine exactly when we finally understood that unsustainable is terminal and sustainable equals economically smart. When did we finally ‘get it’?

Inevitably there were indeed 21st century entrepreneurs around who got it and this region became a fountain of sustainable living on a green and hugely abundant planet. He was not quite sure when that happened, but it was somewhere between now and the next 10 years.

The rainbow warrior succeeded, or so their legends say. How else to explain their universally prosperous garden world where they live in co-operation with each other, the earth they are a part of and the wave of life they are riding?

It doesn’t take an Einstein to work out, nurturing the earth and nurturing society is likely to be superabundant.

environment is obvious to them.

Do we have any 21st century entrepreneurs with a serious eye on the future and would they like to join people like Elon Musk, Wang Chuanfu etc amongst the wealthiest people on earth? Surfing the wave of the future?

Sustainable living, like renewable energy, may well be classed as a disruptive technology, the growth rate of which is always a steep S-curve leading to rapid takeover.

With any luck we can repair the earth faster than we’re destroying it.

One small point. We haven’t been destroying the potential for life on this planet, just the environmental conditions needed for any of that life to be ours. This is not a mission to save the earth, it’s a mission to save the humans and, with all our failings, we’re such a clever mob we could well do it.

Evolution isn’t steady state, it’s a response to conditions.

We must all stand together

by Bernadine Schwartz

It’s ten years since I bought my property, and it was covered in weeds with only three established trees.

Over time, my garden grew, and so did the wildlife with many making it their home. I look at my tiny creation and the life it sustains and think of Mother Earth, a garden on a much grander scale, that took billions of years to evolve into the magnificent planet that we now live on, with many species still undiscovered.

For decades we’ve been searching the heavens for probable life and we still cannot find anything, yet we continue to neglect our own planet.

It’s a tragic state of affairs, knowing that because of our umming and rrring we have painted ourselves into a corner with very little options remaining.

According to the IPCC, this year is our last opportunity to hold back global warming, but if the last two years are anything to go on, all I can envision is failure once again. The UN’s latest global annual emissions gap report, predicts a 10% rise from 2017 to 2030, instead of a decrease of 25%, that had been agreed upon in Paris.

In April 2018 the Mauna Loa observatory in Hawaii, registered the highest levels of carbon ever recorded, at 410 parts per million. These statistics scream trouble and what they reveal is we are going backwards as climate change gains strength and momentum.

Poland was a waste of time and money with conflict right from the beginning as America, Russia, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait refused to endorse a landmark report. Pledges are made and agreements signed but they aren’t even worth the paper they’re written on if there is no international body to enforce them. Our lives and the planet’s, rests in their hands and if this is the best they can do, then we’re all

doomed.

In the meantime, mining corporations have been given the green light to commence mining in the Arctic this year with the full support of nations who have attended these very summits. This includes Canada, Norway, Sweden, the US, Denmark, Finland, Iceland and Russia.

The technical expertise hasn’t been available but these challenges can now be overcome, especially when the ice is diminishing. The rising price of oil has made the Arctic a viable proposition and its estimated that it holds 5.9% of the world’s known oil reserves, with over 90 billion barrels of oil under the ground. There are also rich deposits of nickel, copper, coal, uranium, diamonds, iron and natural gas.

In 1980 the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge was designated a protected wilderness but Trump has now opened up this stunning area to mining, and exploration will commence this year. It covers a massive 19 million acres, that runs along the Alaskan coast and is one of the country’s most pristine and environmentally sensitive locations.

Changes in Nature’s behaviour caused the death of over 300 sea turtles last November, including dozens of Kemp’s Ridley sea turtles, the most highly endangered turtles in the world. They were found washed up on the beaches in Cape Cod frozen and among them was a precious 300 pound leatherback. These turtles originated in tropical waters and every year were carried north by the Gulf Stream but sadly, they were deceived by unusually warmer conditions and strayed further north, only to be killed by a sudden and severe cold front. It’s thought that over a thousand sea turtles lost their lives this way.

Last year, in North Queensland a prolonged heatwave caused the deaths of a third of the Spectacled flying foxes population, (23,000) as they literally dropped dead from the trees.

We’ve experienced unseasonable bushfires



as well as Europe, where droughts and fires occurred in areas where it was never thought possible. We also watched on as the Californian firefighters battled the most ferocious wildfires in history with many just too big to even attempt to fight. The California Fire Department has been in operation for 135 years and according to their records, the last few years account for more than 50% of all fires during that entire period.

The planet has 198,000 glaciers, where a quarter are found in the Himalayas with many receding more every year as snowfall decreases and temperatures rise. Mt Everest’s glaciers are no exception and have shrunk 13% in the last 50 years, forming lakes as long as two miles and one mile across, causing further erosion to the undersides of the glaciers.

The Swiss for the last eight Summers, have gone to great lengths to preserve their glaciers, by covering them with enormous white blankets to prevent further melting of the ice. We also have scientists and engineers exploring the idea of constructing a gigantic wall made from sand and stone, that would travel for miles deep beneath the Antarctic

Ocean. Hopefully this would prevent huge glaciers, such as the Thwaites Glacier, from collapsing into the ocean. All these ideas are ingenious, but they cannot stop climate change.

We, the people of the Earth, are the cogs that keep the world turning and there’s a lot of us, yet we continue waiting for true leadership from our governments but that may never happen. We need to learn to live within the means of our planet and emulate the heroic efforts of our parents and grandparents during wartime. Today the enemy is climate change, a far more ominous enemy, that threatens our very existence and the planet’s and time is not on our side.

This year it’s crucial that we elect a party with the environment at the top of their agenda. Many are speculating that the ALP will win, but this is the party that originally proposed the Adani mine and still continues to be silent about this very issue.

We have been living like kings and queens with a standard of living that never could be sustained. If you aren’t prepared to change, then you can hold yourself partly responsible for robbing our children and grandchildren of a future. Can you live with that?

Big heart, tiny home

by Diana Gosper

If you have a friend or relative who owns a property where you can temporarily, semi-permanently or permanently situate your tiny home on (be it on wheels, on stumps or on a permanent foundation), you might be able to seriously reduce not only your carbon footprint, but also alleviate financial strain and allow for a better lifestyle, with more time (and finances) for health and fitness, education, family, passions, hobbies, travel and whatever it is that's important to you at this stage in your life.

A tiny house (or container/yurt/shed/cabin/boat/tipi/caravan/bush shack/trailer home/permanent tent etc.) can be a more affordable option for some want-to-be home owners or those looking for a relatively affordable tree-change option and a move away from the day-to-day stress of city or suburban life.

Average house prices are sitting at close to a million dollars for Sydney, and half that for Brisbane, easily out of reach for a lot of Australians.

The average price of renting (\$427 p/w and rising) can quickly add up too, and before you know it, you have forked out enough 'dead money' to have owned over 20 cheap and modest tiny homes



costing \$20,000* (or up to 4 luxury/large 'tiny homes' with appliances and power already set-up, ready to move in).

In response to the current unstable and largely unaffordable housing problem- in the face of rising homelessness and increasing dependence on welfare- people are looking for creative solutions. There are countless active groups on Facebook (and many other places online) which are devoted to the growing tiny house movement, and if you are interested in embarking on a tiny house adventure, there is a lot of information, prices and even tiny house plans, available at the click of a button.

Powering your tiny home is a project unto itself, and one that you should entrust to a professional. In the end you want a system that suits your individual needs, that is reliable, and one that has quality components with long warranties and after-sales follow up care. The last thing you need is to contact the supplier of your panels/inverter (or complete

system!), just to find they were charlatans or were just in the solar industry for a quick buck.

For example, True Value Solar (who were once the nation's biggest solar installation company) have recently shut down their Australian branch, even though it has an international revenue of over \$A4 billion. Good luck to any of their Aussie customers wanting follow up service or after sales care.

RPC are experts in the field and have been operating for over 30 years; when it comes to solar power and renewable energy they really are the ones to trust (and they really do stand behind the products they sell!).

Something like the RPC Mini-Box (with one panel, regulator, battery, distribution box, cigarette lighter socket, dual USB outlet, digital voltmeter and Anderson plug for optional inverter), is customisable to your needs and starts at the low price of \$2036, all the while using quality products with premium warranties,

and accredited solar system designers.

A system like this can be used to run a few lights, a radio, phone, tablet and your laptop and a compressor driven chest fridge (or about 500Wh per day). The wall-mountable distribution box is mounted inside, but the batteries may be kept outside. The design is used for stationary applications (sheds, cabins) but can also be useful for mobile motor homes. Installation is quick and simple, no special tools required.

When contemplating power solutions for a potential tiny home, contact a reliable, professional and ethical company with a proven track record; contact Rainbow Power Company (02) 6689-1430, web: rpc.com.au

Considering that a new trailer base for a tiny home is generally around the \$10,000 mark, it is rare to find that something can be made for under \$20,000, but if second-hand materials are used, and free labour etc., then it has been heard of to create a tiny house for as cheap as \$10,000.

Bringing (solar) power to the people

by Dave Rawlins,
Vice President, COREM

Support for local community-owned renewable energy projects received a boost when Splendour in the Grass donated \$9,309 from its Carbon Offset Ticket Opt-In to COREM (Community-Owned Renewable Energy Mullumbimby).

One of COREM's key goals is to help transition Byron Shire to 100% renewable energy using the community ownership model.

It helps achieve this through a revolving fund where interest free loans are given to community solar projects – savings made from the solar electricity generation repay COREM and benefit the community association while growing the revolving fund.

This fund has now installed 55kW of solar PV over seven local sites.



The latest contribution from Splendour in the Grass brings the total available funds to more than \$22,000 for community associations wishing to fund solar installation on their host sites.

A Splendour in the Grass representative said, "In 2018 Splendour in the Grass shifted its Carbon Offset Ticket Opt-In to local initiatives within the region. This allows a more tangible and quantifiable outcome for the festival's long running Carbon Offset

program.

"We are proud to continue supporting local community groups like COREM to develop long-term sustainability solutions."

Community groups struggle to cover ever-increasing energy bills and this donation allows our organisation to fund four more local projects.

Instead of lining the pockets of big energy retailers who sell polluting electricity

COREM's revolving model demonstrates there is an alternative that works.

Once these projects are built, the entire revolving fund will return enough money to support another two projects every year without the need to fundraise, showcasing the power of community-owned renewables to recreate the local economy.

To apply to the COREM Revolving Community Energy Fund go to: corem.org.au



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Bush Theatre gigs



The Northern Rivers Massive 2019

Saturday, 5th January 12pm to 11.30pm
Entry \$25

The Northern Rivers Massive (NRM2K19) is back with a huge line-up of local and interstate acts set to rock Nimbin in a single day all ages festival explosion!

The annual boutique Music & Arts Festival is the brainchild of local musician Reilly Fitzalan and Bush Theatre owner David Hyett. Now in its second official year, the festival is full of fresh talent and vibey sounds.

NRM2K19 will showcase some of our local musicians who have travelled forth from the region and had great success nationally in 2018, plus a few of the musical friends they have made along the way.

This year, features are Melbourne-based Folk-Punk group TomGirl (pictured) and locally-based legends Nocturnal Tapes headlining a line-up of acts that includes Rainbird, The Button Collective, Harmony Byrne, Vamasi, Cafe Enema, Salt and Steel, Kate Stroud and Myki Jay, all playing in the best auditorium in the Rainbow region!

Last year the festival was packed out, so book early to avoid disappointment. Tickets are available online at <https://nimbinbushtheatre.com/events> or at the Nimbin Bush Theatre Cafe.

Summertime Live Music Sessions
There will be live music every day at the Bush Theatre until 12th January, 1-4pm.

Come on down to see and hear Wil Massey, Magpie Diaries, Coda Chroma, Minus One, Sonic Bliss, Arabesk, Sonic Fur, HER, Mona Lizard and Jolanda Moyle.

The Cafe is open, the water misters are on and the music is live.



Arabesk
Sunday, 6th January 1pm
Entry by donation

Arabesk will lift your spirits with a touch of tango, reggae rhythms and jazz-flavoured funky beats.

Australian songwriting award winners (2011, 2017) and finalists in the 2017 International Songwriting Competition, Arabesk have been bringing original Australian music with their own special brand of global grooves to audiences since 2003.

Comprised of four musicians at the top of their game, Arabesk are Rob Shannon (guitar/percussion), Veren Grigorov (violin), Tom Wade (bass) and Calvin Welch (drums), all of whom have made their mark on the Australian music scene.

In recent years, Arabesk have performed at major Australian music festivals including

Hobart's Clarence Jazz Festival, Manly International Jazz Festival, 2018 Takatsuki Jazz Street (Japan) and Parramasala.

Catch them on the outdoor stage for an afternoon of up tempo gypsy-jazz-world inspired music.

JimBob – Cabaret by Candlelight
Friday, 11th January 7pm
Entry by donation

A special Cabaret by Candlelight for those who like gritty alt-ol-timey country-blues.

Jimmy Willing and Davey Bob Ramsey are Jim-Bob, two well-travelled troubadours who have a right to sing the blues: not only do they have a right but they do it so damn well.

The two songsters, pranksters, raconteurs and outlaws will regale you with tales and stories from times long ago and yet to be.

Both have travelled the lesser-known byways on the dusty road to a Blues understanding, having a rich seam each of life's wonders from which to harvest their wild-spun sonic gold.

Come for a dinner and be entertained in an ol' fashioned cabaret style. BYO wine, beer or Moonshine.



Jimmy Bay and Kate Miller
Friday, 25th January 7pm
Entry by donation, BYO

Blues-folk vagabond JimmyBay is a multi-instrumentalist roots man, originally hailing from outback SA, who has captured audiences with his honest storytelling style and mesmerising live performances.

His off-beat character and intuitive

songwriting provide a breath of fresh air.

Joining him for the evening will be Kate Miller whose deliverance is a blend of sweet notes to a contrast of deep, earthy, raspy roots and a heavy warm soul.

Catch them on the Cabaret stage by candle light for an evening of gorgeous music with delicious food on offer to complement the sensory experience.



Survival Day
Saturday, 26th January 12pm
Entry by donation

One of the greatest honours we have as Australians is to live in a country that the Indigenous custodians looked after so well for over 60,000 years.

At the Nimbin Bush Theatre we choose to celebrate the survival, against massive odds, of this amazing culture and its people.

Starting at noon, we will have a traditional Smoking Ceremony and Welcome to Country with our local Elders. These ceremonies are very moving and powerful and are a chance to learn something from our original Elders, as well as a chance to be purified with the eucalyptus smoke.

At 1pm we present award winning multi-instrumentalist Craig Atkins. Atkins is a one-man band songwriter and performer based in the Byron Hinterland, with his set-up consisting of various acoustic guitars, lap slide, didgeridoos, harmonica, foot percussion and loop and effect pedals playing blistering blues with a huge heart.

The Cafe will be open all day serving great food with a bushfood twist, treats, snacks and yummy cold and hot drinks.

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Page 14 The Nimbin GoodTimes January 2019 nimbin.goodtimes@gmail.com

Bowlo Open Mic

by Mel Williamson

The fortnightly Bowlo Open Mic night has become a very popular and always diverse night of entertainment for locals and visitors alike.

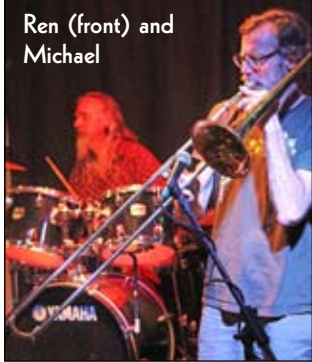
The Open Mic crew are very welcoming to newcomers, and will look after your stage needs.

It's not just for musicians; comedians and poets are always very welcome.

Kids are also welcome to get up on stage, school holidays being an ideal time to bring the whole family to support your budding star.

A drum kit is provided, along with the PA of course, but you will need to bring your own instruments and amps otherwise.

And if you're a little shy about getting up by yourself, there is usually an array of back-line etc musos who are more than happy to get up and support you.



Ren (front) and Michael

Open Mic happens every Wednesday fortnight, if you forget which fortnight check the *Nimbin GoodTimes*, the board outside the Bowlo, Facebook (Nimbin Hook-ups, plus our own page: Nimbin Bowlo Open Mic), or keep your eyes open for the fliers around town.

The wonderful and tasty Bowlo kitchen is open from 6pm, and music usually kicks off around 7pm.

January Open Mics will be on the 16th and the 30th.

Whether you're an



Ivan (front) and Robert

entertainer or just like to be entertained, Bowlo Open

Mic is always a fun night for all – see you there.

Entrancing Elena

Elena B Williams is an Australian-Samoan singer-songwriter currently living in Byron Bay.

She started her music career at a young age, at one of her dad's poetry readings in The Oxford Street Café, Perth. Poets have long inspired singers and songwriters, and Elena is no exception, with poetry finding its way into her improvised lyrics.

Inspired by artists like Nina Simone, Patti Smith, Bob Dylan and Tracey Chapman, Elena began singing and playing guitar at the age of 15, with no intention of making it a career, it was just a fun thing to do.

After three months of playing music, Elena was hooked. She says, "When you find a place of freedom, how can you ever leave it, that's music to me, complete freedom."

Elena's music is a unique blend of soul, folk, jazz, blues and alternative but really a sound all of her own.

With a powerful voice that hits you in the heart and honest lyrics that tell stories of life as it is, of human emotion, her Samoan heritage and a desire to celebrate the beauty of nature, Elena's songs will take you on a journey and connect you to yourself and the world around you.



Catch her at one of her gigs this month:

- Saturday 5th January, 4-6pm Fresh Cafe Byron Bay
- Friday 18th January, 7-9pm Fresh Cafe Byron Bay
- Saturday 19th January, 11am-1pm Lulu's Cafe Mullumbimby
- Friday 1st February, 5:30-7:30pm Sabi Sushi Ocean Shores



OK Karaoke

On New Year's Eve in Nimbin, the hottest gig in town was B&B's karaoke at the Nimbin Hotel.

With plenty of really good singers on hand, locals and visitors, as well as some whose enthusiasm substituted for technique, the room was rocking big-time with plenty of favourite tunes from across the decades.

It was hard not to get up and dance.



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- **Sunday 13th – Visiting Club: Cabarita**
- **Social Bowls – Sundays 9am**
- **Courtesy Bus – Enquire at Bar**
- **Social membership – \$5**

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT THIS MONTH

- **Open Mic Nights – Weds 16th & 30th, 7-11pm**
- **Friday 11th, 6pm Sayad Duo**
- **Friday 18th, 6pm Mish Songsmith**
- **Friday 25th, 6pm Brommers**
- **Friday 1st Feb, 6pm Kobya**



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FRI 4 JAN 7pm DONATION	Cabaret by Candlelight MONKEY & THE FISH Earth-lovin' & award-winning originals	
SAT 5 JAN 12pm - 12am \$25	All-Ages Festival NORTHERN RIVERS MASSIVE feat. TomGirl + Nocturnal Tapes	
SUN 6 JAN 1pm DONATION	Gypsy Jazz ARABESK [SYDNEY] Upbeat global grooves	
TUES 8 JAN 1pm \$10 PG	Bowie Birthday Film ZIGGY STARDUST & THE SPIDERS FROM MARS Music piped to gardens	
FRI 11 JAN 7pm DONATION	Cabaret by Candlelight JIM-BOB Ol'timey blues by Mssrs Willing & Ramsey	
SAT 12 JAN 7pm \$10	Special Film Screening NEARLY NORMAL NIMBIN [1995] Iconic documentary exploring Nimbin's Aquarian evolution	
FRI 18 JAN 7.30pm \$10 M	Movie Night THE MERGER Kicks goals/ Tackles racism	
SAT 19-SUN 20 JAN 11am FREE	Info MEDICAN SEMINARS by the Hemp Embassy	
FRI 25 JAN 7pm DONATION	Cabaret by Candlelight JIMMY BAY & KATIE MILLER Alt-country blues	
SAT 26 JAN 12pm	Survival Day SMOKING CEREMONY w/ local Elders CRAIG ATKINS Award-winning 1-man band	
FRI 1 FEB 7.30pm \$10 M	Movie Night THE BREAKER-UPPERERS Another NZ gem	
SAT 2-SUN 3 FEB 9am - 5pm DONATION	Cosmic Vibes MAGICAL MYSTICAL FAIR Psychics, Speakers, Info, Market Stalls, Dance, & more	

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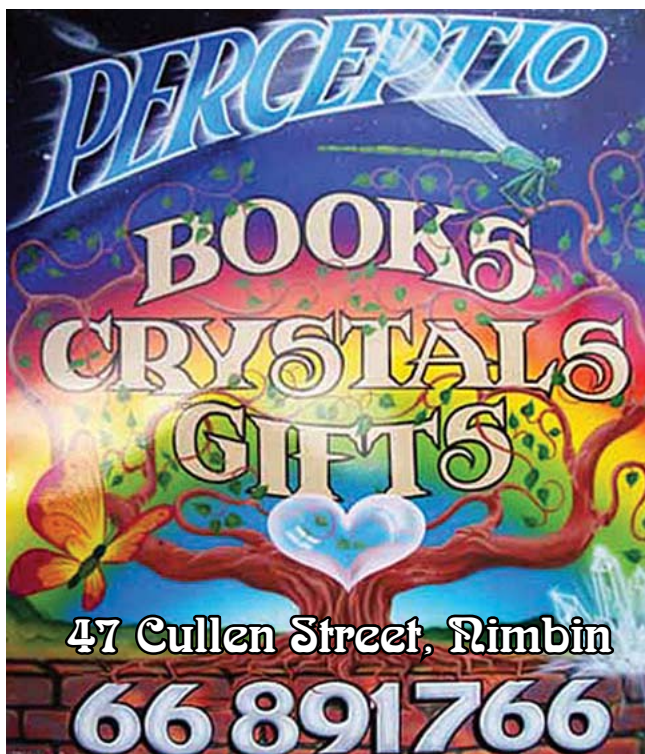
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Call Jeremy
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IT MIGHT BE SMALL, BUT
IT STILL GETS NOTICED!

For a limited time, you can buy this space for only \$30.

Email: nimbin.goodtimes@gmail.com



Movies at the Bush Theatre



Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars live at the Hammersmith

Tuesday 8th January, from 1pm

Entry \$10 Rated PG

In Honour of David Bowie's Birthday

Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars is a 1973 documentary and concert film by featuring David Bowie and his backing group The Spiders from Mars performing at the Hammersmith Odeon in London on 3 July 1973. The concert will be playing in the cinema on the big screen with the music being piped outside into the gardens. At this show, Bowie made the sudden surprise announcement that the show would be "the last show that we'll ever do", later understood to mean that he was retiring his Ziggy Stardust persona. The full-length 90-minute film spent years in post-production before finally having its theatrical premiere at the Edinburgh Film Festival on 31 August 1979. Catch the heady 1970's vibes of Ziggy in full flight as a way to say Happy Birthday to David Bowie, Inspiring us forever.

Cafe open. BYO. Dressing in Spandex Ok.

Nearly Normal Nimbin

Saturday, 12th January, 7pm

Entry \$10 Rated M

Nearly Normal Nimbin, the documentary, is presented as a trilogy. Part 1: Peace, Love and Burnt Rice,

(the Aquarius Settlers 1975-79). Part 2: Sects, Drugs and Rock 'n' Roll, (present day at the time of filming, 1993-95). Part 3: Sensitive New Age Guise, (exploring families and relationships).

This well thought-out journey explores Nimbin's glorious history and portrays the community that have made Nimbin what it is today, featuring many familiar faces from the past and present.

Directors Jeni Kendall and Paul Tait were previously best known for the environmental awareness documentary *Blowpipes and Bulldozers*, which ended up winning many international awards and being shown for years at eco events all over the world.

In 1993 they turned their skills to documenting the life and lives of Nimbin, resulting in *Nearly Normal Nimbin*, which garnered an AFI nomination and screened on SBS.

This is a great chance to catch this iconic documentary on the big screen with big sound and to delve deeply into the history of the magical town and culture that is Nimbin.

The film will be followed with a Q&A with the Directors. Cafe open for dinner. BYO.



The Merger – Friday Night Movie

Friday, 18th January, 7.30pm

Entry \$10 Rated M

The Merger is a feature film based on comedian Damian Callinan's critically-acclaimed solo show of the same name. It was directed by Mark Grentell and produced by Anne Robinson, with Callinan writing the screenplay and playing the lead role.

The township of Bodgy Creek has seen better days, the population is dwindling, jobs are scarce and litter has built up around the fading Tidy Town

sign. The next victim of the town's decline is the cash strapped Aussie Rules footy club. Barely able to field a team, the club is reeling from news that their clubrooms have been condemned due to asbestos contamination.

A left-field solution to their woes comes in the form of former football star Troy Carrington, who teams up with a nearby refugee support centre to recruit new arrivals to save the team.

An inspiring, humorous and insightful film that looks at rural Australia with a good-hearted approach to our refugee friends and their value in our society.



The Breaker Upperers

Friday, 1st February, 7pm

Entry \$10 Rated M

Written, directed and starring Jackie van Beek and Madeleine Sami, who play two women cynical in love who set up an agency to break couples up as a professional service. Produced by star of the moment Taika Waitiki, with his signature Kiwi irreverence and humour.

Fifteen years ago, Mel and Jen discovered they were being two-timed by the same man. Bitter and cynical they became fast friends and formed The Breaker Upperers, a small-time business breaking up couples for cash.

Now they're in their late-thirties and business is booming. They're a platonic, co-dependent couple who keep their cynicism alive by not getting emotionally involved with anybody else. But when they run into an old victim, Mel develops a conscience and their friendship is truly put to the test.

Hilarious and insightful, this film is a feel good New Zealand offering that will have you chuckling. The Cafe will be open, so come along early for a delicious dinner. BYO OK.

Workshops at the Bush Theatre

Kids Drama Skills Program 2019

Tuesday 15th, Wednesday 16th, Thursday 17th, and Tuesday 22nd, Wednesday 23rd and Thursday 24th January

An exciting school holiday Drama Program with experienced and enthusiastic facilitators Ellie Teatree & Al Mustapha Al Shahid, who have over 30 years' experience in stagecraft, performance, theatre production and improvisation.

They offer new skills and techniques in a fun, creative and inclusive setting to share with any interested young thespians, or even just those who want to have a whole lot of fun!

The program covers kids from 5-8, and 9-12 years old in different classes, with the option of being a part of a Thursday performance at the end of the weekly program.

These workshops promise to be great fun, to improve children's confidence and are a way to meet other fun kids!

5-8 year olds 9:30am – 11:30am (2hrs)
9-12 year olds 1pm – 3:30pm (2.5hrs)
\$10 each session/\$8 concession or multiple kids.

For expressions of interest or bookings, contact Elise Taylor: wordweave@gmail.com



Medican Seminars

Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th January, 11am – 4.20pm. Free entry.

See preview on p. 21.

The Magical Mystical Altruistic Wonderful Nimbin Spiritual Fair

Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd February, 9am – 5pm
A selection of Australia's best psychics, including Monica Ward (above right), Kym, Trizzie, Lizzie and Nimbin's own Jazmin Theadora (above) will converge on the Nimbin Bush Theatre in February offering spiritual and clairvoyant readings and bringing with them a caravanserai of magical and mystical practitioners.

With countless years between them of reading cards, palms, auras and energies



these women are the authentic mystical channels with wisdom to share. Enter the Fair by a simple gold coin donation and then decide who to see and what to discover next.

There is a lot to explore including mystical market stalls, a Chakra Energy Bed, Aura readings, speakers, storytellers, healers, spiritual book stalls, massages, belly dancers and supernaturally beautiful live music: Saturday at 1pm the acoustic soul of Sarah Stando; 10am Sunday the gypsy world sounds of Sonic Bliss; and at 1pm Minus One of E-tipi fame.

If you have a curiosity for the spiritual and metaphysical, come to the Fair, in a gorgeous setting by the Mulgum Creek. The Cafe will be open, serving meals, treats and drinks.

Returning home



by Marilyn Devlin

It’s a journey – and sometimes it goes deep. We’re more than just physical – layers of energy surround our body and move through it. They’re mostly invisible to the eye. I can see them. I have a natural ability and have been trained. Energy has form, colour, density and probably sound. I’ve yet to experience its sound.

I was curious at a very young age. Being a part of the Polio epidemic in 1951 I was thrust into the modern world of allopathic medicine. Like it or not. It shaped my beginning - and opened me up to different worlds. I often feel a deep well of tears yet to release... especially over this last year of diving deep.

I come from a family with an exceptionally high extra sensory perception... meaning they’re kinda psychic. I saw a lot. I recall seeing inside of people and knowing what they were thinking. And also if it was true or not.

It set me on a search for healing. Thrust into these worlds I became aware - at a tender age, of what doesn’t work. What doesn’t feel right, what doesn’t hold us in a place we need to thrive.

We set off on a journey to find our self... our wholeness, our completeness, our nirvana; our heaven, our peace. Yes, maybe my heightened perceptions enlarged my experience. But the journey is the same for us all.

2018 felt like a preparatory year... asking us to go deep. Uncover and release any barriers or blockages we have to moving forward. ‘Cause that great force of evolutionary power is moving ahead at great speed. A bit like the last stages of the incoming or out-going tide... it really starts to pull with some force.

Joseph Campbell’s Hero’s Journey - the call to adventure, entering the

unknown, challenges and temptations, slaying the dragon, death and rebirth. Where were you in that sequence of the journey during 2018? Where do you stand right now? What are the next steps? How can you nurture and soothe your body, psyche and weary mind... while it undertakes this ritual cleansing?

This cleansing is happening on a macro level as well... as if all cosmic forces are on board, to complete this last major chapter of evolution and usher the new one in. Yes we may appear awash in the ending, drowning under these monstrous waves. But below the noise and frenzied activity the new seed has birthed and is uncurling... her luscious tendrils of new life.

Death and rebirth can be the most intense stage of our Hero’s quest but it also means we’re close. Really close to completing this mammoth effort. This life journey of ours.

2019 will unfold... we’ll get to experience it. Of course if we’re still here. What will it hold? Many things I’m sure. I need to bring my focus closer in... closer, closer to the centre of my heart. The centre part of my universe. The most powerful and significant energetic portal in my body. My connection to everything, to all that is... to the great Life Force itself.

“Our hearts connect us to one another and especially to the hearts of others. Scientific studies on touch demonstrate that electromagnetic impulses of your heart affects the brain’s waves and heart rhythms of people around you. I suspect that the electromagnetic impulses of the heart also provide a path of interconnectivity between humans and all living beings. Animals are often even more sensitive to these field affects than humans.” – Transforming the Nature of Health by Marcey Shapiro, MD.

Nimbin Trivia Time

by Eclectus

Questions

- 1. Jesus Christ recently had a birthday. What language did he speak on Earth?
- 2. Who won the Commonwealth Games Netball gold medal at the Gold Coast in 2018?
- 3. How many astroblemes are there in Nimbin?
- 4. What is orange peel in a car? Hint: It’s not citrus skin. Bonus points if you can say why, among Teslas, only the red ones have it.
- 5. Who said, “Ask not what your country can do for you – ask what you can do for your country”?
- 6. Where will the 2019 Polocrosse World Cup be hosted?
- 7. Which recent legal judgement reads, in part: the exhibit “...smells like a cross between stale fish and vinyl. My associate thinks it smells like semi-fermented grass, revealing his more sophisticated nose. I have not tasted it, but I am prepared to infer that it would be very unpleasant to consume”?
- 8. Who took out most ARIA Awards in 2018?
- 9. What country recently elected a foreign born woman as its first female president?
- 10. Where can you walk 10 kilometres south then 10 kilometres west and then 10 kilometres north, only to arrive back at your starting point?
- 11. What was the New Year’s gift from Thailand’s junta-appointed National Legislative Assembly to the government and the Thai people?
- 12. What near-miss did we survive on the Saturday before Christmas?

Answers

1. Aramaic; probably a Galilean dialect as opposed to that spoken in Jerusalem.

2. The English Roses beat the Australian Diamonds 52 to 51.

3. None. Nimbin’s nearest astrobleme is the 128,000,000 year old, 55 km wide Tookoonooka impact crater in the Eromanga Basin of south west Queensland.

4. Orange peel is the term used for a spraypainting defect. It is the dimpled effect that you can see if you look closely. Most modern cars have had it for decades.

A Melbourne paint rep once taught all his customers how to paint without it, only to return and teach them how to put it in again when all bolt-on panels arrived from the factory with orange peel.

Even Tesla can’t say why only red Teslas have orange peel.

5. POTUS 35, John F. Kennedy, in his inaugural address on January 20, 1961. In a memorable start to the US Presidency, these words inspired children and adults alike, to see the importance of civic action and public service. In other words: contribution to one’s community. My, how the times have changed!

6. Warwick in Queensland, 22nd to 28th April 2019.

7. Federal Court Justice Nye Perram in Nature’s Care Manuafacture Pty Ltd v Australian Made Campaign Limited.

8. Amy Shark

9. Georgia elected took four awards. (posthumously) each and Gurrumul

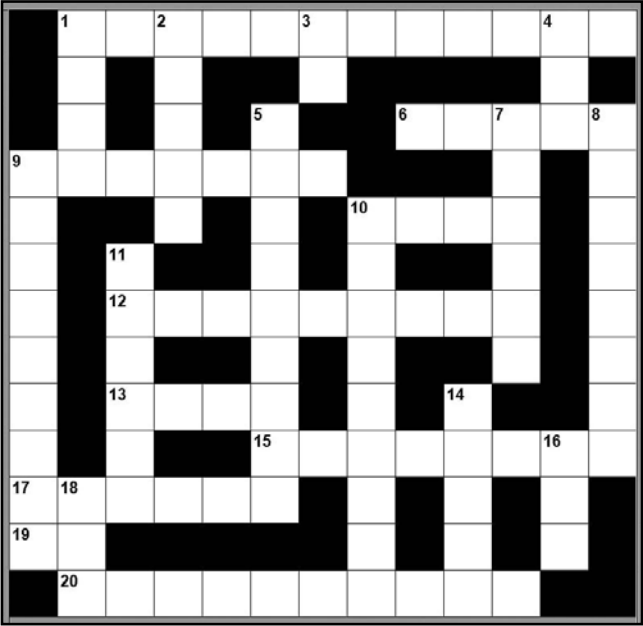
10. The North Pole. Do it irregularities.

11. The Thai parliament amended the Narcotic Act of 1979 to legalise medical marijuana use. The Thai people used marijuana to relieve pain and fatigue from antiquity until the 1930s when pressure from western governments caused its use to be outlawed. Many in Thailand now fear patent laws will allow companies to dominate the domestic medicinal marijuana market.

12. The asteroid 2003 SD220, which resembles a hippopotamus, passed within 2.9 million kilometres of Earth. Australia survived an August when Peter Dutton, who resembles a dinosaur, passed within a handful of votes of the Australian Prime Ministership.

Nimbin Crossword

2019-01
by 5ynic



Across

- 1. Largest body of water on earth (7,5)
- 6. Ceremonial sword
- 9. Game stalkers?
- 10. Adds up
- 12. (half sized) cup for espresso or café macchiato
- 13. Norwegian king? Disney snowman
- 15. Picked late?
- 17. Where you put away childish things
- 19. Proofer of books (init.)
- 20. Devotee? Hobbyist

Down

- 1. Paddington bear’s homeland
- 2. Hereditary classes (e.g. in Hindu society)

- 3. For example (init.)
- 4. French electro pioneers
- 5. Small polar predator (moults its coat to change colour twice per year)
- 7. Street performer
- 8. Seasonal opposite of 9 down
- 9. (Of a computer) suspend deeply, without state held in RAM
- 10. Long thin pasta
- 11. Stupidity
- 14. Green leafy, often grown on the windowsill
- 16. Seed
- 18. Song of praise

Solution: Page 22

More Trivia!

by Eclectus

Giant Bumper Holiday Quiz!
Something for everyone!!!

Come and get it before everyone knows the answers!

Questions

- 13. What is the highest officially-recognised Scrabble game score in English?
- 14. Which Australian film won 35 Australian and international awards, including 8 AFI awards and an ARIA, from 58 nominations?
- 15. Are the Illawarra Flame Tree and the the Australian Bottle tree related?
- 16. How did Mullumbimby get its name?

Answers

13. 830. Michael Cresta, a Massachusets carpenter achieved the feat on 12.10.2006. More remarkable is that, at 14. Lantana in 2001.

15. Yes. Both belong to the genus Brachychiton, his slow start around quickly when, on only his third play, he scored 365 points for quixotry on a triple-triple word score, bringing his total to 614.

Cresta and his opponent Wayne Xorra set three records that Thursday night:

+ most points in a game by one player: 830

+ most total points in a game: 1,320 and

+ most points on a single fern which grew there.

16. Mullumbimby means 'small round hill'; The name of this hill is derived from the Bandjalung-Yugambel dialect 'mubimbba' pertaining to a native

tree is Brachychiton acerifolius.

and the Illawarra Flame is Brachychiton rupestris

Guinea. The Bottle tree is the 128,000,000 year old, 55 km wide Tookoonooka impact crater in the Eromanga Basin of south west Queensland.

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