



# THE NIMBIN GOOD TIMES

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FREE!



## Faerie Queen greetings for Merry Mardi Grass

Meet this year's Ganja Faerie Queen. She's Angie Perpignano from The Channon, who is seven and a half months pregnant with her second child.

"I haven't done anything like this before," she said. "I'm a little bit nervous about leading the parade on Sunday, but I'm getting lots of support from the Ganja Faeries."

Angie and her family have lived in the district for 12 years, and she is excited about being this year's Queen.

She was approached at the Exodus festival in Tenterfield in January by Ganja Faeries who asked her to take on the role.

"It's a privilege to celebrate Mardi Grass, with all its significance," Angie said, acknowledging the symbolism of her role. She said the heavily pregnant Queen represents the re-birth of the seasons, and perpetuation of the movement to bring about cannabis law reform.



## More than just another hippy festival

As the village of Nimbin prepares for its fifteenth annual MardiGrass, the cannabis law reform rally and gathering that swallows the village every first weekend in May, Michael Balderstone (pictured), explained why the event attracts so many people.

"If only half the people who ever smoked pot came to the Rally we'd have a traffic jam to Byron Bay and beyond, then maybe someone would notice," said Michael, spokesperson for the MardiGrass Organising Body (MOB).

The weekend program features "Just Say Know" forums on all matters cannabanoid: law reform,

medicinal and industrial uses of cannabis, legal issues, psychological impact. In attendance will be State Greens MP John Kaye, Professor Michael Dawson from Sydney on saliva testing, Steve Bolt on legal matters, local identity Paul Recher (Saturday only), the infamous Andrew Katelaris and historian John Jiggins.

Two Canadian guests, authorised medical cannabis user Remo and renowned activist Professor Puff from Vancouver, will give a perspective on the enlightened Canadian laws.

"We guarantee an educational and enlightening weekend," said Michael.

For diversion, bands playing at half a dozen venues include: Wild Marmalade, Charlie McMahon, Invisible Friend, Legless, Kaptan Reefer and the Kone Scrapers, Dick Desert and the Shotgun Country Club, The Utopians, Spoonbill, Azzadoota, Baron Samadhi, The Hoochers, Lordz of the Fly and The Antibodies, Paranoia Club.

"The Rally to change the cannabis laws on Sunday afternoon is the main event, and never has it been more important to stand up," said Michael.

"We've been assured by Commander Lyons there will be fewer Police this year," he added.

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15<sup>th</sup> NIMBIN  
Mardi Grass  
May 5+6  
CANNABIS LAW REFORM RALLY AND GATHERING

Look for the Mardi Grass Program

