

Weddings, Parties, etc..



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February Sunday Gigs

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Nimbin socialites seen out and about in January: Brian Thomas came as a desert isle to the South Sea Island theme Aquarian birthday party, where aquarians Teena and Jeff were celebrating with Gail and Zoe (left column); Dick Hopkins' 60th was a splendid bash (top); Franca had a stall at the historic first-of-many Nimbin Stock Exchange (middle), and part of the crowd listening to Antibodies playing "on the green" at the season debut of F-troop social bowls at the Bowlo (above).

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Clever cabinet-making

Andrew Kavasilas has no formal training in woodwork, yet he sources remarkable timbers to produce unique pieces of furniture worth thousands.

It was while Andrew was working in Darwin 20 years ago that he started making furniture, as a reaction to the flimsy, mass-produced items that were commercially available at that time. Alarmed at the wasted timber from conventional saw-mills, he started collecting salvaged and recycled materials, and when quotes to have furniture made up from it proved prohibitive, he taught himself how to do it.

His love of wood continues to this day, particularly African mahogany and ironwood, a combination that he still uses in his furniture, and he has accumulated a serious collection of timber.

"It's really like slow motion," he explained. "It sometimes takes two or three years to air-dry the slabs. The longer the better. I've got timber that was cut in the 1980's."

These days, Andrew uses ebay to source exotic timbers not available in Australia, but with caution. "You've got to be mindful of where you're sourcing timbers from. I don't use large mills with unsustainable practices."

Andrew has been quietly producing nine or ten pieces a year for the past three years. He builds his furniture at his home in Crofton Road, Nimbin, then transports them to a shed he rents behind the Oasis café on Cullen Street to apply the finishing coats.



At present this unprepossessing shed is a treasure trove, housing four large finished pieces:

- an art deco dresser made from red cedar and white beech with coachwood interior shelves and backing;
- a Queen Anne style ladies' writing desk of red cedar and huon pine with bird's eye huon pine crest;
- "Mambo" cabinet, with re-growth red cedar top, camphor laurel shelves and sides, blackwood backboard with purple heart accents;
- "Three Oaks", a tall dresser made of fishtail oak, forest oak and silky oak.

Marketing of his work is not something that over-concerns Andrew. "They usually sell just by word of mouth. They're in the \$1,000 to \$4,000 price range, and after someone buys one, I often get enquiries from people they know, who've seen it and like it."

He enjoys exhibiting at the Nimbin Arts exhibitions, but not just to showcase his work to prospective buyers. "It widens the connection with other woodworkers," he said.



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TANTALISING TEXTURES

Blue Knob Gallery
Exhibition open 10am-4pm
Wed-Sunday until 1st April

'Tantalising Textures' includes works of wood, clay, hebel, fibre, paint and mixed media, and is the first of the exhibition programs for 2007 at Blue Knob Hall Gallery.

This is Sharonne Solk's first chance to exhibit in the region, and her stunning textural oils on canvas depict her artistic journey into a new medium. In particular, her large work titled 'Phthalo Blue, Zinc White and Lemon Yellow I' shows a thoughtful, yet structured exploration into colour.

Sue Boardman continues to explore her interest in random patterns in nature, bringing to the viewer's attention details that might otherwise be overlooked or lost in the broader landscape. Her large paperbark, bangalow palm and acrylic work 'Vortex' is a particularly strong piece, and shows the fabulous colours and textures of nature.

Robin Moore's large felt wall hanging titled 'Rainforest Pathway' highlights the beautiful textural qualities of our rainforests, while Shirley Miller's mixed media wall pieces have developed into larger, more complex works.

Enid Taylor's 'Travels in Texture' are an incredible collection of 21 luggage tag sized works of hand-dyed, hand-printed, fabric, paper, machine embroidery, hand-embroidery and beading, and are exquisitely presented as an installation.

I am always intrigued as to what goes on in Christopher Macartney-Filgate's mind and 'Topiary - Green Man' puts an interesting slant on the term 'being a Greenie'. His life-sized bust complete with glasses is best described as a very clever work of shrubbery!



Temptations. Christopher Macartney-Filgate "Topiary - Green Man" Mixed media (above left), Sharonne Solk, "Lemon Yellow Phthalo Blue and Zinc White I" Oil on canvas (above), Sue Boardman "Vortex" Paperbark, bangalow palm, acrylic and glue (right).



Lydia Redl from Byron Bay, also a first time exhibitor at Blue Knob, has used plaster mixed with paint to create some very textural wall works of landscapes and birds.

These are just a few of the outstanding works at Blue Knob Hall Gallery's latest exhibition. Other artists include Mac McMahon's beautifully textural hebel sculptures, Anthea Moffatt's oil on canvas 'Box of Tricks', Len Martin's mounted macro photography of textures in nature, Dracsilla's digitally manipulated photographs and more.

The Gallery is open Wednesdays to Sundays 10am-4pm and this exhibition will run till April 1st 2007.

New logo

Things are really moving ahead with the Gallery since our second birthday in September, and we are very enthusiastic about our new logo (see our ad), which

will now be incorporated into the development of our promotional material. We are planning to launch our new image more widely in the next few months, which in turn will help to showcase the amazing artistic talent we have in the region.

Coming Gallery events

Cinema at the Gallery

The 'Cinema at the Gallery' evening program at Blue Knob Hall Gallery will run every two months, and we are planning to feature arthouse, documentaries from throughout the world, indigenous, foreign, animation and more!

The first 'Cinema at the Gallery' will be held on Thursday 8th February 2007, and the title is 'An Inconvenient Truth' - the controversial Al Gore movie on the true state of our planet today.

Time: 7:00pm for 7:30pm
Cost: \$12 (includes film, coffee

and cake). Please phone the Gallery on 6689-7449 if you would like to come (for catering purposes).

Artists and Friends Lunch

We will be continuing our popular regular monthly lunches for \$12/head this year. These will be organised for the second Thursday of each month at 12.30pm at the Gallery. However, the lunch in February will be held on Thursday 15th February at 12.30 pm due to a prior booking in the café. This has proven to be a fantastic way for artists and friends to enjoy a great meal and lively conversation, so please contact the Gallery on 6689 7449 to book your place.

2007 Exhibition Program

We have developed our 2007 Exhibition program to include interesting and challenging themes, and we are inviting all artists, who would like to



exhibit in any of these shows to please contact the Gallery on 6689-7449 for exhibition details.

• Voyages of Discovery- An Artist's Journey, 4th April - 3rd June.
• Fibre Fantastic - Fibre works

6th June - 5th August.
• On the Wild Side - Wildlife Art, 8th August - 14th October.
• Looking Out - Looking In - Landscapes of Life 17th October - 2nd December.
• Myths and Magic, 5th December - January 2008.

Letterboxes

For some reason, some people take a lot of trouble with their letterbox. No-one knows why, despite exhaustive research.

These creative examples were seen beside the roads at (left to right) Lillian Rock, Goonengary and Main Arm.

Have you seen an interesting letterbox in your travels? Take a snap and email it to us. There could be prizes. Send to us at: goodtimes@nimbinaustralia.com



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