

Aquarian posters

On behalf of the executive and members of Aquarian Archive Inc., I wish to place on record our sincere thanks and gratitude for all the support and work which Margaret McLaren, Christine and Gerard gave us during our "Rainbow Posters 1973 - 2003" Exhibition at the Nimbin Regional Gallery. Thanks also to you and Sue for your coverage of the Exhibition which was a very successful show.

Graham Irvine, Nimbin

Peace Memorial

A new war memorial for Nimbin maybe something contemporary, a statue of a legless child crippled and maimed by another kind of war memorial left scattered about the countryside by departing 'war heroes'.

If you wish to remember war, turn on your television any night, look to your personal relationships, what we need is a Peace Memorial - I'm beginning to forget a peaceful existence.

Harry Neville, Nimbin

It's Time

Why would you vote for the Liberals, let alone the Nationals? Do you really think that the people in Lismore and Grafton and Ballina and Kyogle and Lillian Rock are actually going to have their lives improved by a return of John Howard and then Peter Costello? Can you actually believe that a team which includes Tony Abbott and Alexander Downer has the energy and ideas and creative policies to lead this

nation for three more years?

The National / Liberal coalition just assume that you will vote for them, yet they are so far out of touch. They simply don't know what ordinary families in the seat of Page are going through and what ordinary families need.

Families around here struggle with huge mortgages and rents. We face difficult petrol, food and childcare costs. Our working families are beaten down with the evil Workchoices legislation which reduces overtime, penalty rates, holiday pay and a myriad of other working conditions.

Doesn't Mr Howard realise that we actually remember the GST, children overboard, WorkChoices, Iraq, David Hicks, Telstra, the Wheat Board, interest rates and "sorry"? What king of people do they think we are?

Mr Howard's time has passed and his attempts to buy our votes will not be successful this time. Nor will his attempts to frighten us. This time we are sick of it, we see through it. We say it's time for a change.

The only attractive promise Mr Howard has made is that he won't be there.

Peter Lanyon, Lillian Rock

Negative attitude

I applaud Mr Causley's concern about our hospitals and the elderly. But how about our young people, who face a very uncertain future? Stringent emissions reduction targets could help: where are they?

Mr Causley's adverts show a negative attitude towards green power. Coal power

About us

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 Thanks to all contributors and sponsors.

NGT is auspiced by the Nimbin Community School Co-operative Ltd.

Responsibility for election comment is taken by R. Dooley, 88 Cullen Street Nimbin.

Next deadline: Wednesday 28th November

Email: nimbin.goodtimes@gmail.com or put stuff in the ComSchool's pigeonhole in the Nimbin Community Centre.

is cheaper at present, but if government subsidies were transferred to renewables, the playing field would be even. And 'cheaper' is misleading. The current impacts of global warming (drought, hail, etc) are costing Australia billions of dollars.

As Alain Belda, CEO of Alcoa has said: addressing climate change involves risks and costs, but much greater is the risk of failing to act.

In terms of clean energy, the short-sightedness of the Nationals is against the interests of regional economies, who benefit the most from supplying renewable power. In these challenging times, visionary leadership is needed.

The money for schools' hot water and tanks looks good on paper. But in reality, for a government that supports expansion of coal power, it's a furphy. To use a Queensland example: a 750-megawatt coal fired power station will, in one day, eliminate greenhouse gas savings from the state's Solar Schools Program.

After three days, it will eliminate gas savings from the Government ecoBiz program. After eight days it will

eliminate the greenhouse gas savings from the Townsville Solar Cities program and after 93 days it will wipe out the greenhouse gas savings from the 13 per cent Gas Scheme.

It's time to get real and catch up with the times. Thanks for your service to the Page electorate, Mr Causley. Let's hope Chris Gulaptis is more far-sighted.

N. & S. Pomroy, Kyogle

Promises

There are some promises that the Coalition will keep if they remain in government at this election and when ever they are re-elected.

We will have a nuclear power industry with reactors along the eastern seaboard and next to our rivers. we will have a nuclear waste industry with highly radioactive materials stored on this land forever.

We will have more unjustifiable military adventures with the USA-Iran being the next most likely fiasco.

We will have industrial relation laws even harsher than "Work Choices" with lower wages for the youngest

and least skilled members of the community. Overall, working conditions will be worsened with less leave and less rights at work.

We will see the coalition continue to reduce funding to the States so that they can then attack with a centralising federal agenda when the States have difficulties meeting their responsibilities.

We will continue to see infrastructure run down so that the coalition can entice votes with more paltry tax cuts at election time.

And we will see the Liberal Party continue to ignore the National Party held seats so that they can further marginalise the Nationals within the coalition until they are totally powerless.

"Promises that sound nice cannot be guaranteed".

Eric Kaiser, Kyogle

More Letters

Correspondence received about the Bush Theatre has been placed on page 8.

Meetings

A&I AGM

Nimbin A & I Society AGM Tuesday 13th November at 6pm at the Showgrounds.

Aquarius AGM

Nimbin Aquarius Foundation AGM, Tuesday 13th November at 4pm,

Community School room, Nimbin Community Centre

NCA AGM

Nimbin Community Development Association AGM Thursday 22nd November at 7pm, Nimbin Community Centre.

All community members are welcome to attend.

Labour Branch Meeting

The Nimbin Branch of NSW Country labor will meet next on Monday 12th November, 5.30pm at the Nimbin Bowling Club.

Visitors, supporters, donators (?), prospective members and others are welcome.

Notices

New phone number

Northern Rivers Wildlife Carers have recently changed their 24 hour wildlife rescue telephone number. The new number to call is 6628-1866.

Please amend our number in your community or emergency services listing.

We would like to thank the community for their continued help.

Brackets 'N' Jam Nights

Coming to the Nimbin Oasis Café on the 3rd Thursdays of the month. All musos invited to do a bracket of performance or jam at end of night. First-timers welcome.

In fond memory of Ken Fry
 1922 - 2007
 MHR 1974-1984
 "A humble backbencher"



ADVERTISEMENT

VOTE 1 SLEDGE FOR RICHMOND



Authorised by S. Sledge, 50 Gabal Road, Lillian Rock NSW

Marginal electorates get the most attention. Nimbin is back in Richmond and Richmond is marginal. We can send a message: We need more and better infrastructure, for health, education and transport.

In 1990 Dr. Helen Caldicott shook the political establishment by coming within a whisker of taking Richmond from the then Federal leader of the National Party. The whole country took notice of her anti-nuclear campaign. It's

time to shake the bastards up again. Both major parties are failing us.

The Federal Coalition is wasting the mining boom surplus. The Labor government in NSW wants to sell the electricity network. They have closed our rail service and refuse to contemplate the growing need for public transport in this region. Murwillumbah Hospital is neglected. People can't get their teeth fixed. And John Howard says we've never had it so good!

For 30 years the Democrats have worked to Keep the Bastards Honest. The bastards have worked hard to get rid of us. In July 2005 the Coalition gained control of the Senate and rule without effective opposition. Let's bring back the Senate as a proper house of review.

If the Democrats, Greens and independents hold a "balance of reason" in the Senate we can stop unpopular policies and bring back services. We can dream of a better future where politics serves the people ...

and make it happen.

Democrats believe in sustainable development for a healthy environment, and oppose uranium mining and all aspects of the nuclear madness. John Howard has promised nuclear reactors as a "cheaper" source of electricity, but what about the ultimate costs? Even if there is no accident (like Chernobyl) we'll have intractable waste storage problems: ticking bombs which will require

heavy policing to prevent "terrorists" getting at them.

Don't give politicians a mandate for nukes! We can't trust either of the major parties to resist the drift into nuclear madness. Labor supports increased mining and export of uranium. Now more than ever we need the Democrats.

Vote for a Nuclear Free Future : Vote Democrats



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Department of State and Regional Development

Nimbin's broken column to be fixed

Nimbin's war memorial is badly deteriorated, and local man Paul Le Bars wants to do something about it.

"The memorial needs to be properly assessed as to what reparation to the render, stone and marble work, and maintainance, such as a flagpole repaint, is needed," he said. "We'll also need quotes for cleaning and preservative applications."

The 'broken column' style cenotaph, built after WW1



to honour those fallen in battle under the Australian flag, has been the focus for increasingly well-attended Anzac Day observances in recent years, as more ex-service personnel and their families have moved to the region.

The Department of Veteran Affairs has funds available for the restoration of memorial sites across Australia, through their Commemorations Program, but to qualify the project

would have to meet stringent guidelines.

"We have to be able to show that the cenotaph plays a vital role in the community, and that it's valued," Paul Le Bars said.

"Letters of support will be needed from local community organisations, and any support from the small business community would be of great benefit. I am willing to co-ordinate the project, but would like to put out a call for volunteers to assist."

At present Paul is putting together the grant application with assistance from the Parks and Gardens personnel of Lismore Council.

Paul can be contacted by email at <paullebars@hotmail.com> or by mail c/o Nimbin Post Office.



Lismore Council Jottings

by Cr. Jenny Dowell

6625-2206 email Jenny.Dowell@lismore.nsw.gov.au



Community Consultation

At Council's October meeting, McLeans Ridges residents filled the gallery. Just in case Nimbin residents might think developments on the other side of the LGA don't have too much relevance to local concerns, let me explain why I think they do.

The issues up for debate at the meeting concern the basic right of residents to have a say in the development of their locality. Unfortunately Council's view of community consultation is that Council comes to its position on a development, advertises it obscurely and in small print in one local paper using 'planning speak' and then, after 28 days, considers the handful of letters of objections or support before final approval is issued.

Now that doesn't seem like consultation to me.

My alternative process is to talk with all sections of the community and to reach a consensus view of how McLeans Ridges, or any other area, would look in 5, 10, 15 years time. But that was regarded as 'a dangerous precedent' by senior staff. Are we so afraid of the people that we don't talk to them about the most important thing in their lives - the community in which they live? We need to trust our community; to engage with them, allow all voices to be heard and to arrive at a concept plan that will meet the needs of this community into the future.

I am convinced that by doing so, not only would we get a better outcome for McLeans Ridges but it would help us as we engage with other communities in other localities throughout our Council area. Unfortunately a majority of my fellow Councillors would not support such a radical proposition.

They did support a staff recommendation to reject the rezoning applications for the two proposed developments and to issue new directions to the proponents. In other words 'Go back to the drawing board and tweak this a bit'. Stay tuned for the next instalment.

Rural Housing Strategy

Part of the problem for residents from McLeans Ridges and other areas including Nimbin, is that Lismore's Rural Housing Strategy has not been updated since it was produced six years ago.

While that doesn't seem too long, the content is based on 1996 census figures with some figures being more than 15 years out of date. This is despite the assurance in the document that the strategy would be updated every five years in line with new census data.

It is high time that the whole strategy was reviewed as originally intended.

Lock it Up

Council ignored community opinion and plans to lock up Crozier Field during daylight hours. Earlier this year a public hearing was held to take comments on the Plan of Management for Lismore Park - that vast area of playing field between Lismore CBD and the Lismore Square.

No-one in the community wanted Crozier Field locked up and the independent consultant who chaired the meeting recommended that it should remain open, but Council knows best so the locks go on.

Money Money Money

A serious underestimation of the costs to provide a better sorting operation at the Wyrallah Road Waste

Facility resulted in the call for \$565,000 additional funding.

While most Councillors support an increase in our capacity to divert material from landfill, there were serious questions about how we got the calculations so wrong. Fortunately the extra money will come from reserves that have been accumulated in the Waste area.

Of better news was the decision by Council to join the Sustainable Choice purchasing program run through the Local Government and Shires Associations to assist Councils to buy products and services from suppliers who adhere to environmentally sustainable practices.

Outstanding Budget matters

Several months ago I requested a report on the 06/07 budget's outstanding projects. The resulting six pages indicated approximately 60 budget items that are incomplete. The list gave a status report for each item including why and how and when they will be delivered.

The Nimbin specific items include:

- Sibley St footpath, footpath extension and pedestrian bridge \$90,000 - the developer is yet to complete the works.
- Nimbin Market research \$8,000 - final research sample was expected to be undertaken in October and the final report expected in early 2008.
- Nimbin caravan park manager's residence \$56,000 - on hold pending review of the manager's contract and further works on the building. Additional money was allocated this year.

The views expressed in this monthly column are mine and are not intended to be a reflection of the Council as a whole or of other individual Councillors

Rivendell DA on show, if you can find it



RIVENDELL MASTERPLAN
www.rivendellvillage.com

The Development Application for "Rivendell Village" was advertised in the NR Echo on 1st November.

It is a significant development for the village with 28 lots and associated infrastructure, the centrepiece of which is a large atrium building incorporating a guest house, interpretation centre, shops, offices, a restaurant and cafe, opening out onto a Village Square.

The plan is open for comments until 16th November. However, to view the DA proposal requires a trip to Goonellabah, as the only inspection copy is at the Council chambers.

It is hoped that Council will make a further copy available at the Nimbin Neighbourhood Centre for inspection and possible comment by Nimbin residents.

Cooler Computing @ Nimbin CTC

The CTC's internet/public access space in the Nimbin Community Centre has been such a success that our professional centre, in the old CTC room, is back online. Classes are happening again and new bulk usage packages are now available to make computing more affordable than ever.

Why sit at home alone,

with a computer that won't do what you want, when you can use ours in air-conditioned comfort and enjoy the friendly help of our volunteer staff?

With the yuletide festivities just around the corner, there has never been a better time to visit your CTC. We're not just a community IT resource

centre, we are also able to produce unique and personal Gift solutions.

For collectors of old VHS classics we offer VHS to DVD+R burning (and DVD to VHS). A4 and A3 photo enlargements are a great way to share and relive treasured memories and how about your own Yuletide cards for a really personalized touch?

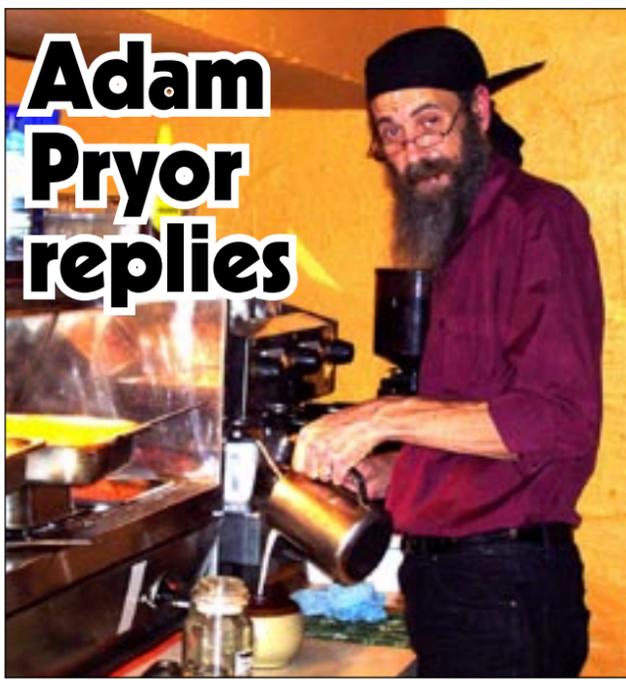
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at the Nimbin Family Centre, which is located in
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Flashback. Adam Pryor at work at the Bush Theatre last year.

Reply to letters "Bikie Threat" and "Spirited Defence" NGT Oct 2007.

I seem to have been given a right royal slaving at the hands of those who work at the Candle Factory. Good on them, it's a free media, but let's not get free and fair mixed up.

Craig, you insinuate that I have some deep connection with bike clubs and made threats to you. Don't turn it on and don't ever accredit me with threats that never happened. I have no bike licence or club patch. Got it? Did you report these perported threats when they happened or do you just like a public forum from which to do a little soap boxing? Dare I say simply, wake up.

Sep and Lisa ask, "Who are you and where do you come from? Have you been associated with our school community, or any other part of our community." In response to this attack and four part banal question, I am Adam Pryor, (first part of that 4 in 1 question answered) where I come from should have no bearing as discrimination based on place of origin is simply wrong, however, I originally come from Sydney (part 2 done) but have been an active part of Nimbin

and the alternative community for more than 25 years. I'm an ordained priest. Don't ask me to espouse the virtues of religion... there aren't many. Indeed I have been associated with our school community, my daughter having attended Nimbin school and I hosted the farewell to the school's much loved principal Margie Hayes (3 out of 4 answered).

I have over the years been deeply involved in the community. I was an inaugural member of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML) campaigning for those who partake in the humble herb. I was arrested roughly thirty times for my efforts whilst attempting to enlighten the State Premier, Neville Wran, Prime Minister, Bob Hawke, the public, the clergy and some people's mums. I helped roll the world's longest joint at a Premier's Conference and helped organise May Day rallies in Martin Place, Sydney culminating with marches to parliament house to voice our displeasure to the laws we then found ourselves subject to.

I aided the campaign to lessen the effects of the original draft of the Drug Misuse and

Trafficking Act to alleviate its harshness. I was editor/publisher of "NORML News" and was once arrested for having "green vegetable matter" on my shoes. I was a writer and distributor involved in Maggie's Farm magazine, born from the Aquarius Festival, offering alternatives to the system's tight constraints. I have both written and helped lay out Nimbin News and Nexus magazines and was editor/publisher of the first national "freak" magazine "Imagine" and fortunately have had my work recognised and enshrined for posterity in the Rainbow Archives housed in the State Library of NSW.

Moving to the north coast I was involved in the North East Forest Alliance (NEFA) campaigning to save old growth forests. For NEFA my task was simple, attempt to coordinate a diverse group of activists to keep 150-180 police and forest workers out of these sensitive forests while our legal team ran the cases through the Land and Environment Court. It transpired that we were justified in our opinions winning six out of seven court cases saving substantial areas of forest for our collective children.

I've run a rainforest nursery and planted 240,000 rainforest trees. (Just about covers point 4 of that little ripper of an original question.)

My last effort at a type of public service was attempting to save the Bush Theatre from being auctioned, which would have seen its end. With no offer from either community or people like Sep, Lisa or Craig Fry, an offer was made for the theatre by a partnership of which I was but one. The money intended for the purchase "disappeared" shortly after a deposit was paid. It takes no imagination to figure out whence the money disappeared. Daily the culprit Lounges Soundly in Nimbin's complacent attitude to its Bush Theatre. Due to legal constraints I can not elucidate Nimbin folk at this time, but rest assured when legally allowed Nimbin will know exactly why the Bush Theatre is no more... bit of a "dreadlocks and the three bears story." All in the fullness of time.

Sep, Lisa and Craig, if I might broach that toilet problem you have? It's hard to believe that you want me to go through this publicly but you pose the question. I have previously informed you the toilet in question is connected to the theatre. When we bought the business we bought the cleaning, water rates, power

etc associated with your toilet problem. This is a disabled toilet, hang on, the toilet isn't disabled it's for disabled people's use. When left open, this toilet was often trashed and misused. When asked for a key for your staff and customer use you were given one on the proviso that you assume responsibility for its cleaning, though there were other facilities in the complex at your disposal. Sick of requests for you to clean it and finding loosed sanitary napkins and general yuk, we changed the padlock. Perspicuous enough?

Enough of your potty problems. You are simply potheads calling the kettle black. Please ensure the dark cloud to which you refer isn't one of your own making. Time for some serious stuff.

You call on me to return the contents of the theatre as if I were a common criminal who had stolen them. Again legal constraints prohibit me from open discussion, but when lifted the story will appear in this wonderful rag of Bob Bloody Dooley's making.

Sep and Lisa I'd suggest you put your literal money where your proverbial mouths are. Were I but independently wealthy I would gladly gift the theatre to the community, however finding myself in a financial position far less than that which I would like to become accustomed, I simply can not. Noting your serious interest I would call on you to be the first with a substantial donation to reinstall the theatre. Sixty thousand is what is needed and I'll part with that to which you refer, why not kick it off with ten K, candle folk? Ask me for the bank details for the save the theatre fund any day. Not a problem sport, only to happy to help.

Last nit-pick. Your sanctimonious diatribe questioned, in noxious terms, my community involvement. Familiar with this one? Think globally act locally. Your candles, although likely made with some skill, are made primarily of paraffin wax, are they not? Paraffin is produced by the catalytic fractionation of crude oil and whilst producing candles you add further to greenhouse gasses.

The adage tells us that you can't burn your candle at both ends...not for long anyway. If you would cease to feed the petrochemical industry and stop polluting the Planet it would probably be good for all. The biosphere would likely appreciate it. Craig, Sep and Lisa, logic suggests that you convert to beeswax or cease

production if you're serious about your community, local and global.

I look forward to your donation to save the theatre and thank you for your community interest.

Adam Pryor

The following related letters were also received - Ed.

Angelic Babes

I would like to offer my thanks to the women who run the Centrelink office annexed to the Nimbin Neighbourhood Centre.

I recently had the opportunity to experience their help first hand, after having issues arise with Centrelink and being given information from the different phone staff, based elsewhere, which consisted of misinformation and blatant untruths, the ladies at the Neighbourhood Centre waded into the fray to my defence.

Julia and Natalie went well out of their way to do whatever it took to see sensibility reign. After roughly three hours of what can only be described as active debate with those on the other end of phones, sensibility indeed did see the light of day and finally reign supreme.

If you've had your benefit cut off unfairly by Centrelink, if you've been suspended or penalised for a reason you consider unfair, help yourself by helping these invaluable women.

Natalie has recently made submission to the Commonwealth Ombudsman pointing out the gross deficiencies inherent and running rampant in the Centrelink system. This action is designed to aid us common folk. If you can help by adding weight to her submission by making your complaints known, please do.

Visit <www.comb.gov.au> and submit an online complaint detailing your own shocking experience with Centrelink or write a letter to the Commonwealth Ombudsman's office and voice your opinions and bad experiences.

I would urge all to remember these ladies are part of our community working hard for your rights. Please try to remember this next time things aren't entirely going your way.

Please, try not to abuse them physically or verbally, and if you feel like you need a machete to convince them of your point of view, like one dropkick has previously, please think again.

Adam Pryor

Rude host

Is Adam Pryor the tall man with a ponytail often seen on

the streets of Nimbin who was last running the Bush Factory?

My experience with him one night, while I was accompanying my young teenage daughter to a movie that was supposedly going to run, must make him go down in history as one of the rudest hosts of a local establishment I've ever come across.

He had "Pirates of the Caribbean" advertised and my daughter mistakenly thought it was the most recent one. She rang up a couple of days beforehand to check if it was going ahead, as the events at that time advertised were often predictably unreliable.

On ringing, she found out it was the previous one, so most of her classmates who were planning to go backed out. We still decided to go together. A couple of hours beforehand she rang up to make sure it was still on, and was assured it definitely was.

We arrived at the required time to a locked door. We knocked, and he barrellled out abusing us both for the lack of support shown to his establishment by the people of Nimbin. He then went on to launch a manic diatribe against the whole town. I thought this to be an outrageous thing to do in front of a young girl.

His plans for the Bush Factory were nothing to do with what the town or the other tenants of the Bush Factory wanted; a dance party scene rather than our wanted and reliable theatre.

The background to this ghastly turn of events for the Bush Factory surely lies in the hands of the multi-national film distributors. To have rights for current movies a theatre must show them an outrageous amount of times a week.

This makes the Bush Factory a hard proposition for anyone wanting to carry on its tradition.

Lynne Oldfield

Stripped

I have only recently learned that the Bush Theatre has been completely stripped of all valuable fittings. How could this happen???

I have been here for 23 years and for most of that time, the Bush Theatre has been a fantastic movie and live performance venue, an absolute asset to the community. How somebody could even consider stripping such an historic Nimbin icon, is totally beyond me and surely worth investigating.

Is this for real?

Tarang Bates

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Menzies said War In 3 Years, Howard goes to war, but there is an alternative

by Arthur Pike

In March 1951, a few months after Australia followed the U.S. into the Korean war, Sydney's afternoon newspaper *The Sun* ran a bold front-page feature on the Prime Minister's announcement of 'vast preparations for war', including an attempt to get an extra 90,000 men into the army, 7,000 more trained men for the Navy, many thousands more in the Air Force.

Scene of the future war, Menzies forecast, would be Western Europe and the Middle East. "The possibilities are so real and so serious... that Australia cannot with justice to herself and her Allies grant herself a day more than three years in which to be prepared."

P.M. Howard and Treasurer Costello assert that Menzies was Australia's 'best prime minister'. It seems nothing has changed. We're still party to imperial policies. Menzies was a man who resigned his commission in the Melbourne University Regiment at the beginning of the First World War; who, like George Bush and John Howard, never went to war himself, but sent young men to war.

Menzies' Director-General of Recruiting was Lt. General Sir Edmund Herring. In the 'War in 3 Years' front-page spread

Herring declared 'many youths and parents were thinking of excuses for keeping out of the Army.' In pre-WW11 days Herring had been White Army second-in-command to Police Commissioner Thomas Blamey in Victoria. The White Army was a secret equivalent of the neo-fascist New Guard in NSW.

The Howard/Costello present-day policy includes a 'security' pact with Japan, commitment of Australia's highly competent defence forces (much praised for their peace-keeping roles) as combatants in distant battlefields.

This policy has resulted in our country's adoption of an obsequious adherence to U.S. imperialism. And, what has our alliance made Australia a party to? Robert Fisk's **The Great War For Civilisation – The Conflict In The Middle East** includes many references to the terrible misfortunes inflicted upon the Iraqi people. The U.S. occupation resulted in a country deprived of electricity, sewerage disposal, non-polluted water, adequate hospitals (staff, beds, equipment, medicines, ambulances), schools, public transport, petrol supplies and other urban and social amenities.

By the end of 1993 UNICEF reported that a million Iraqi children would die as a result

of sanctions. In Nov 1997 UNICEF reported that 32% of children under the age of five, 960,000 children, in Iraq were chronically malnourished – a rise of 72% since 1991.

"U.S. troops sat back and allowed mobs to wreck and burn the Ministries of Planning, Education, Irrigation, Trade, Industry, Foreign Affairs, Culture and Information. They did nothing to prevent looters from destroying priceless treasures of Iraqi history in the Baghdad Archaeological Museum and in the Museum in the northern city of Mosul, nor from looting hospitals."

But the Americans put hundreds of troops inside two Iraqi ministries that remained untouched – The Ministry of Interior, with its wealth of intelligence information on Iraq, and the Ministry of Oil. Archives and files of Iraq's most valuable assets, its massive oil reserves, were safe and sound, sealed off from the mobs and looters, safe to be shared as Washington almost certainly intended with U.S. oil companies.

"...They could now spare 2,000 soldiers to protect the Kirkuk oilfields, containing probably the largest reserves in the world, but couldn't even invest 200 soldiers to protect the Mosul museum from attack.... Never, in all my dreams of destruction, could I have imagined the day I could enter the Iraqi Mosul Archaeological Museum to find the treasures defiled... having endured

every siege of Baghdad, every invasion of Iraq throughout history – only to be destroyed when Americans came to 'liberate' the city."

America's project in Iraq was going wrong faster than anyone could imagine. The army of 'liberation' had turned into the army of 'occupation'.

Just as Menzies assumed the role of cold war warrior and promoted McCarthyism, so have his present-day admirers taken our country into foreign wars, added their chorus to the mantras about the so-called 'war against terrorism' and adopted rules, regulations, and legislation to silence dissent.

Such is the direction we've taken. Halliburton, of which U.S. Vice-president Cheney was C.E.O. and many other like corporations make millions in war profits, as do the arms makers...

Just imagine what sort of a world it would be, if we ended the wars and allocated those war resources to peaceful pursuits. Instead of a security pact with Japan, we could engage in a wide range of exchanges, joint projects, medical and educational research... Ponder the possibility of reviewing and renewing advancements the Arab World, China and other civilisations contributed to our Western beginnings; and, an independent Australia. Well?

The Nimbin Financial Times

Repeating Intervals: 1987 - 1997 & 1997 - 2007

by David McMinn

Amazingly for the US stock market, the intervals between 1987 - 1997 and 1997 - 2007 repeated very closely for the summer highs, the autumn highs, the spring highs and spring lows. From this finding, the 1987 and 1997 October panics looked as though they would also repeat in 2007. This was not to the case. Even so, the intervals between 1987 - 1997 and 1997 - 2007 market intervals are of considerable interest.

NB: The index used was the Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA) closing value. Northern hemisphere seasons were adopted for the text.

The Intervals: 1987 - 1997 & 1997 - 2007

Summer Highs in 1987 (Aug 25) and 1997 (Aug 8) were separated by an interval of 3634 days. Guess what the interval was between the summer highs in 1997 (Aug 8) and 2007 (Jul 19)? Yes you were correct 3634 days.

Autumn Highs

The interval between the DJIA autumn highs in 1987 (Oct 2) and 1997 (Oct 7) was 3658 days. Amazingly, this interval repeated almost exactly (3657 days) between the autumn highs in 1997 (Oct 7) and 2007 (Oct 12).

Spring Highs. The interval between the spring highs in 1987 (Apr 6) and 1997 (May 27) was 3704 days. This compares with the 3705 day interval between the 1997 spring high (May 27) and the 2007 summer high (Jul 19).

Spring Lows. There were 3614 days between the spring lows in 1987 (May 20) and 1997 (Apr 11), which was virtually identical to the 3615 days recorded between the spring lows in 1997 (Apr 11) and 2007 (Mar 5).

Low Between The Summer & Autumn Highs

Market lows in 1987 (Sep 21) and 2007 (Aug 16) occurred between the summer highs and the October highs. The interval between these two lows was 7269 days, which was almost the same as the 7268 days between the summer highs in 1987 (Aug 25) and 2007 (Jul 19).

The low in 1997 (Aug 29) did not fall midway between the corresponding lows in 1987 and 2007. This was unusual given that the other 1987 - 1997 and 1997 - 2007 intervals worked so precisely to within one day. (The ideal date for the 1997 low would have been September 3, 1997 so it was only four days out.)

Peak – Crash Intervals

In 1929, 1987, 1997 & 2007, DJIA lows were experienced between 23 and 31 days after the summer record highs. The ensuing autumn highs for 1929, 1987, 1997 and 2007 happened in early October to be followed by a crash two or three weeks later in 1929, 1987 and 1997.

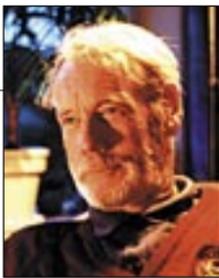
No October Crash

The assumption has been that intervals for 1987 - 1997 would repeat for 1997 - 2007, a view that held up well for the summer and autumn highs, as well as the spring highs/lows. However, this did not extend to an October panic, as this failed to occur in the current year. How such intervals behave over extended periods remains enigmatic. The 2007 panic could extend to November 5, but this would be very unlikely as the US stock market has never experienced a major one day fall (>4.20%) in November since 1885. Back to the drawing board.

For full tables, see <www.davidmcminn.com/pages/2007intervalsngt.htm

Commonsense Human Values

Seventh in a series by Laurie Stubbs



Last article showed that over 4.8 billion years life developed itself. and asked whether this idea could help with humanity's present confused and conflicting value sets.

You'll see just how confused values are from examples below. The first is taken from a slim book by Robert Fulghum, "All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten" Here is his list of essentials. Even these 'fun' rules you'll notice, are mostly about what not to do -Share everything, -Play fair, -Don't hit people, -Put things back where you found them -Clean up your own mess, -Don't take things that aren't yours, -Say you're sorry when you hurt somebody, -Wash your hands before you eat, -Flush, -Warm cookies and cold milk are good for you. -Live a balanced life — learn some and think some and draw and paint and sing and dance and play and work every day some, -Take a nap every afternoon, -When you go out in the world, watch out for traffic, hold

hands and stick together.-Be aware of wonder. Remember the little seed —; the roots go down and the plant goes up and nobody really knows how or why, but we are all like that; goldfish and hamsters and even the seed in the cup — they all die and so do we. And then remember the Dick and Jane books and the first word you ever learned — the biggest word of all — LOOK.

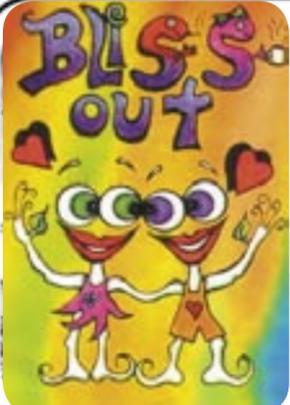
What do we see as desirable values? These are my personal choice - some of us will see them as TARGET values. -Do unto others as you would have them do unto you -Use compassion, sympathy, and understanding in your relationships. -Use gentleness, avoid use of force, brutality, and violence. -Make enough effort so that you feed and take care of yourself by your own work, then do a little more for others. -Keep the race going: replace yourself with children -Hold the land, the earth, in trust for your children -Do good for the sake of goodness alone.

But — let's acknowledge the actual values we use each day in the world of hard knocks. Those we really use are

different to those we say we use You'll recognise some of them. -Look after yourself first, if the other person has a problem, - well tough. -Convert your effort to money: use any means to get money. -Accumulate goods and other valuables: s/he who has most is best -Tread on the other person, take his/her valuables — just don't get caught.. -Live for pleasure now and don't think of the future. -People of different race or of different place are not really people -Violence and brutality is OK, as long as it isn't someone you know -Leave your rubbish for someone else to cope with.

I'm sure you'll know this snap shot of values --- and the obvious conflicts. But we've left out religious, commercial, financial values. Dense populations, different countries, nationalism and power --- and more all lead to values people live by. This a pattern in the make up of the vast mish-mash of different values which backgrounds these articles.

Next article will take another slant on humankind and our basic nature. We need to put ourselves and our abilities into the framework.



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