

Nimbin Garden Club Notes

by Gil Schilling



'Leno' Takes a Dive

For some reason or other club AGMs tend to be drab and unpopular events. It was perhaps with the intention of getting the event off to a lively start, that outgoing committee member 'Leno' Martin succeeded in upstaging the main event with an impromptu backward dive with pike off Ossie's verandah. The good thing was that the athletic silver-haired senior landed on his head and little serious damage was done, with both mouth and motor skills appearing undiminished.



AGM

With Len and his supporting clan off to outpatients for a few cranial sutures and a check-over by our football playing medico, the formal business of the AGM proceeded apace. For the record, a motion increasing club subscriptions to \$15 pa, while abolishing the meeting attendance fee was agreed. Last, with Ian MacDonald in the chair, a new club committee comprising the following members was elected:

President: Gil Schilling, Secretary: Hendrick DeVries, Treasurer: Ossie Osborne, Committee members: Richard Parsons, Jan Collar, Denise Braidwood, Rob Fleetwood.

Guest Speaker

Next, after all the early excitement, the good number of members in attendance were thoroughly entertained and enlightened by local orchid enthusiast Rick White, whose informative talk and demonstrations of orchid management were very much appreciated by all.

The meeting continued with an excellent afternoon repast, and the raffle of a young seedling grass tree and small orchid (generously donated by Gai Reid and Rick White, respectively) as well as the usual bottles of champagne. The eventful afternoon concluded with many members taking advantage of the remaining sunny conditions to take in the tranquil beauty of Ossie's garden before departing for home.

Survivor. Len Martin (top) bandaged, and (above) in happier times at BamboOasis.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at Tony and Lesley Trott's garden on the Nimbin Rocks Coop, 2345A Nimbin Rd (opposite the Shipway Rd junction). at 2pm on Saturday 16th August, 2008.

Since the club's last visit to this garden, Tony and Lesley have planted more herbaceous borders, extended rainforest plantings and re-designed the vegetable garden following permaculture principles. The garden also has forty producing fruit trees with about the same number of young olive trees coming along. Sustainability and ultimately self-sufficiency, incorporating several worm farms and compost areas are key components of Lesley and Tony's vision for their garden.

In addition there is a shade house packed with trees for landcare plantings, while wallabies and other wildlife abound, both in and out of their owner-built strawbale house. One of many interesting building features is Tony's experimental use of native Lomandra thatch roof lining. A visit to the Trott's is a treat not to be missed - see you there.

If you think you would like to join us or find out more, contact either Gil on 6689-0581, or Caroline, 6689-1945.

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View of Glennis' Chair

Nimbin Bushwalkers Scale New Heights

by Len Martin

Local aboriginal people prefer that you don't climb Wollumbin, but few non-aboriginal people respect the request. On Saturday 28th June, the car park was overflowing - hordes of people on the track, all shapes and sizes, some with radios playing, kids of all ages, infants, joggers - a constant stream - not a day of quiet respect for the mountain. We contributed a dozen. At the start, an Honours student surveyed walkers' responses to signage. Alas, on return, she wasn't there to receive comment on the many signs discouraging climbers from short-cutting across the steep slopes and causing erosion. For I had lost my cool at some teenage youths who, short-cutting, apparently couldn't read. I lost it even more, swearing horribly at a large adult accompanying the youths who suggested I shouldn't criticise them - "boys will be boys". I'm surprised there aren't frequent deaths on the climb (wishful thinking?).

Near the summit one climbs a steep rock face with chains to help. About half way up, a young kid descending at something approaching a run, tripped a couple of metres above us and became airborne, heading towards serious injury. Jenny, just in front of me, reflexly reached up grabbed him, pulled him down to safety - he barely paused before continuing on - no thanks, but Jenny too shocked to go higher.

On Saturday July 12 the only crowd making its way to Glennis Chair (a large rock perched on the slope up from the saddle east of Mt Lindsay) was 11 club members and 6 visitors seduced by leader Don Durrant's grading of the walk at 3! A beautiful day and Don had surveyed the track in (Old Mt Lindsay Highway) to ensure that our 4WDs, including a packed Landrover, could get in. The walk started at a locked gate in the border fence on the watershed ridge just east of Mt Lindsay. We headed east along the fence, first through open forest, then spectacular rainforest - ever upwards and seemingly ever steeper. Kay, still suffering from a knock on the knee she gained at Koreelah Gorge some weeks previously, wisely turned back about half-way up. I continued, but very slowly, several times wondering if I would make it. Some visitors found it heavy going too (but have become members) and our friend Tony Trott made it the whole way with an artificial leg! One's enjoyment is definitely enhanced by the sense of achievement - for me that I can still manage it! A flattish resting place before the final

assault, and a cheer as I arrived, then across and up a steepish slope to the rock proper where we had lunch. Only limited views of Mt Lindsay because of all those flaming trees. After lunch we found the ridge leading further up into open forest and a rocky promontory with fabulous views of Mts Lindsay, Ernest, Barney and the Main Range. Coming back, Don mentioned to me that the walk was much harder than he had remembered, and should have been graded 5 or 6. (had to be 5, I couldn't have done a 6). Back at the vehicles I forced a public confession of this from an embarrassed Don. So it was poetic justice that, with a packed Landrover, I took a wrong turning on the way back - was my face red. But oh what a walk - a jewel in the crown - one of the best. Thank you Don.

On Sunday July 27 another high spot, another jewel, but no hard climbing, courtesy of a car shuttle to the top of Mount Nardi - a packed Landrover and two other vehicles. Judy Hales led 15 club members and 4 visitors downhill from Mt Nardi to Wallace Road. A cold overcast start and the thought that I really wouldn't liked to have done this in the wet as Judy, Michael and Hilary did last month. But an overcast day is really good for seeing the forest and photographing it. Down the Pholis Gap track through magnificent rain forest, onto the Nightcap Track and round Mount Matheson on the edge of the escarpment with views of Brummies Lookout and Wollumbin, superb wet sclerophyll vegetation and grass trees. Down an old forestry road on to the edge of the Terania Creek valley and lunch where the Nightcap track turns north and we head south towards Wallace road. The forest here has been heavily logged and is mainly regrowth, but with complete canopy and for the most part is remarkably free of the dreaded lantana and mistweed. It is a spectacular forest with huge heritage stumps, numerous fallen giants and remains of old forestry bridges. Early in the walk we met some members of the Northern Rivers club, on their way to Dirangah Rocks. Some had met up with our club on the famous Stinson Wreck walk and remembered Don Durrant from that. You've got to be careful out there in the scrub.

For a second month we cancelled our mid-week Brummies Lookout walk because of rain and low cloud. It is a very short walk and its beauty lies in the views. So we are trying again in August featuring it as an extra mid-week walk. The proposed week's

camping on Moreton Island has been cancelled - lack of takers, but we have an exciting program for the months ahead with several new walks - details can be found on our web-page <http://www.geocities.com/nimbinbushwalkers>.

Walks Program for August

Sunday 10th August

Fairy Mount Kyogle then to Roxy Gallery Kyogle. Grade 2, 1.5hr return Leader Don Durrant (6633-3138 at night) Meet Nimbin car-park 9.15am or 10am Apex Park Kyogle, then drive to lookout for walk. Following walk, we are invited to the opening of Andrea Gustavsson's exhibition The Spirit of Things at Kyogle's Roxy Gallery. For this, would intending participants RSVP to Len Martin on 6689-0254 or pteropus42@smartchat.net.au by August 8th.

Wednesday 13th August

Stony Chute Hill (Members only). Grade 1 for first half - up to Grade 4 over second half; 2hr including time spent enjoying the great views along the walk and at the Stoney Chute trig point. Leaders Caroline & Ian Macdonald, 66 891 945. Meet Nimbin car park 9am or 9.15am at the junction of Whitney and Stoney Chute Roads. There is also the opportunity to enjoy a cuppa after the walk with the leaders at No. 1 Stangers Road - with more great views.

Tuesday August 19th

Brummies Lookout. Grade 3, 30 minutes return. Moderately steep rocky walk to lookout, 600m above sea level. Spectacular views of Mt Warning only 4km away, unforgettable place. Magic flora. Leader Len Martin, 6689-0254. Meet 9am Nimbin car park, then drive in convoy about 3/4hr along dirt roads (Cadell Rd past Mebbin camping area,) to start of walk; 4WD or good clearance adventurous vehicles needed for final section to Brummies - will not go if rainy with low cloud as the views are the point of the walk. May do additional excursion along Plantation Road in Mebbin afterwards Bring food for picnic and water.

Saturday 30th August

Mebbin Lagoons, Mebbin National Park. Grade 2, 2.5hrs return. Short walk to excellent piece of rainforest that is World Heritage listed - some huge fig trees and gum trees. Leader Ron Ronan (6633-7207, at night). Meet Nimbin car-park 9.40am, or meet leader at 10am at junction of Kyogle and Cadell roads. Bring food and water.

Nimbin's own gym is up and running



The official handover of Nimbin's PAC was completed on 23rd July at an informal ceremony at the Nimbin Showground before a goodly crowd of Nimbinites and representatives from Council, Sport & Rec, Health etc.

Everyone enjoyed a scrumptious morning tea prepared by Gail, Amanda and Mim, with help from Jenny, and Cass's class put on some superb displays of physical activities (pictured at left).

Four instructors, Cass Jefferys, Daniel Keszler, Sue Boardman and Rocky Riley, have programs offered for the current term. Details are posted on the Physical Activities noticeboard in the laneway beside the butchery.

Determined Demons face semi-finals challenge

by James Alexander

As the 2008 season draws to its final stages, the Nimbin Demons can reflect back on a tumultuous season with plenty of challenges.

The highest level of on-field success was a game early in the season against the powerhouse Ballina Bombers in which the Demons only lost by 3 goals in the last quarter of the game. The low point was a recent humiliating thrashing at the hands of the flag favourites, the Byron Magpies.

In between these high and low points, there has been game after game of courageous individual and team efforts. There is something special about a bunch of men who come together each week to take on vastly larger populations, powerful teams with more talent to choose from. The Demons were gutted mid-way into the season by the departures of some key players due to relocation and serious injuries. Fortunately, the team started with enough players to ride these losses, but the hopes of on-field success diminished with each key player lost.

On the plus side of the ledger, Dave Sleeth joined the Demons as co-coach with James Alexander. Dave has a lifetime of experience in Aussie Rules at very high levels, having played for Collingwood during the 1980's. He has brought a new level of professionalism and skill training to the team, and this will continue to be a major draw card for the team's future. Anyone considering joining the team, even at this stage of the season can look forward to fine tuning their skills under Dave's expertise each Tuesday and Thursday night.

Another plus has been the recent recruitment of several locals to the team at a time when they have been the most needed. Amongst these are Daniel, who played for Melbourne Demons U19s during the early 1990's. Daniel was Nimbin's second best on ground in the recent match against Lismore- this was his first game in around 15 years, and his first game in the red and blue, this time for the Nimbin Demons.



Frank Reid after the trouncing by the Magpies.

Shane and Paul have also recently joined the team and again are great reinforcements when most needed. Kenny McLean won the Demons 3 votes against Lismore in only his fourth match of Aussie Rules. This is a great effort from a young bloke who just loves playing footy, even when the team gets thrashed. In addition, the team has welcomed back Ken Roberts - his courage and skills have been sorely missed until now.

The Demons know that there are plenty more men in these hills with Aussie Rules backgrounds- the team needs each of them to get involved in any way they can, even at this stage of the season. There seems to be a faulty perception that local footy is just an excuse for a weekly punch up – nothing could be further from the truth. The Demons are a bunch of committed Aussie Rules enthusiasts who join in their love for the game and to represent their local community. They seek success on the field, but desperately need help in order to create it for the remainder of this season and for 2009.

Nimbin will play in the SAFL Semi Final on 16th August. It would be great to see an army of red and blue Demon supporters to cheer the lads on in this most important game. For details, contact James on 6689-1017.

P.S. The Demons are seeking the donation of a stretcher for use at home matches. Phone James if you can help.

Headers dominate on home turf

by Nigel Hayes

It's such a minor thing really... the Headers canteen has been broken into and about \$100 worth of stock is missing.

Sure, it's disappointing and it means removing stock and planning a workday to make the building more secure, it means different arrangements for our next home games on Saturday 9th August, it means a lot of things and all of them should have been unnecessary.

From such a windy beginning to our last home games, the day could only get better, and that was certainly the story. The breeze fell away, the sun shone, the crowd cheered and the players stayed true to the competitive spirit of the game. Our juniors continue to be led by the mighty Grade 10's who scored 5 goals in a fine team effort on the weekend. They are obviously enjoying their football and Simone seems to be having a good time coaching them to achieve as a unit.

The 12's also scored a couple of good team goals on the weekend and while they did not win, there was a bit of a buzz that suggested better times ahead. The 13's, 14's and 15's are also playing some good football at the moment while the 16's just don't seem to be getting the bounce of the ball to fall their way. Success as measured on the scoreboard might be limited for some of our teams this season, but there are many measures of success. The non-competitive grades don't 'actually' keep the score ... but when it is the Headers Naturals against the Headers Nitros in a Grade 9 home game thriller then goals are ... well, what goals have always been ... the aim of the game!

By all accounts this was a game worthy of the watching and if you want to know the result then just ask one of the Grade 9 parents and they will tell you in detail who scored when and how and what that meant in the course of the game. This



In possession. Headers players Jacob (above) and Alex Charles (below). Photos: Kathleen Longmuir

passion was picked up by the seniors and they ran with it in all three Divisions to deliver to the crowd an undefeated afternoon. The Sixth's had a great come-from-behind victory with goals to Chalkie and Narian. It was their first home win of the season and, given their depleted ranks and that four junior players backed up to play, a great team effort. Well done boys!

The 5th Division team did not find the net in their game but then again, thanks in part to a fine keeping display from (let's not be modest) Nigel, neither did the opposition. Another draw, another hard fought affair, another team that is low in numbers and thankful to be bolstered by junior players who show real ability. Player numbers were also low for the 4th Division game, so Miko and Vaughan from the juniors and Mark from the 6ths took to the field again. It was worth the effort for the 4ths consolidated their place in the top three by beating another contender in the race to the finals.

So, the highest team in the seniors, the 4th Division and the youngest team in the juniors, the Grade 10's, remain our top hopes, perhaps our only hopes, for finals competition and trophy success. We of the Headers community wish them well, just as we wish all other members of the wider Nimbin community except those who stole from us to also be well, to be happy and healthy. Our wish for those who broke into our canteen is that your hangover is severe and that you have a change of heart.

Volunteer! It's good for your health.

Crossword Solution

See page 21.



Leaving Lismore through to Murwillumbah

Normal Depart Times		School Holiday Times	
8:00	2:35	3:20	Lismore Transit
8:10	2:45	4:00	Goolmangar
8:20	3:00	4:15	Coffee Camp
8:45	3:20	4:30	Nimbin Ave
9:30	3:30		Nimbin depart
9:40	3:40		Blue Knob
9:50	3:55		Twin Bridges
9:53	4:00		Mt Burrell
10:10	4:20		Uki
10:15	4:25		Mt Warning turn
10:30	4:40		Murwillumbah
			8:00 2:35
			8:10 2:45
			8:20 2:55
			8:35 3:10
			9:00 3:30
			9:10 3:40
			9:15 3:45
			9:20 3:50
			9:40 4:10
			9:45 4:15
			10:00 4:25

Leaving Murwillumbah through to Lismore

Normal Depart Times		School Holiday Times	
7:10	1:50	7:30	2:15
7:20	2:03	Mt Warning turn	2:28
7:30	2:08	Uki	2:33
7:55	2:30	Mt Burrell	2:55
8:00	2:35	Twin Bridges	3:00
8:32	2:40	Blue Knob	3:05
8:45	2:50	Nimbin arrive	3:15
7:50	9:00	3:30	9:00 3:30
8:05	9:10	3:45	Coffee Camp
8:15	9:20	3:55	9:10 3:40
8:50	9:35	4:10	Goolmangar
8:55	9:40	4:15	9:20 3:50
			Lismore Transit
			9:35 4:00
			Murwillumbah
			10:00 4:25

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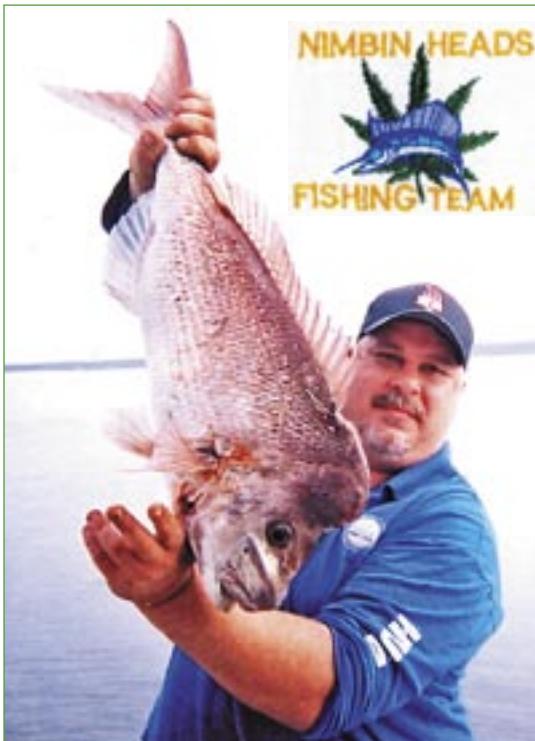
Fishing the Evans Head Classic



by Pixie, fishing reporter

Three members of the Nimbin Heads fishing team attended the Evans Head Fishing Classic this month. Pixie, Pete Ross and Kevin Tully fishing out of the 18 foot alloy hull "Pops Tiger". The competition was "spoilt" with good weather for the whole week and the bar being small and easy to cross every day. With around 900 competitors, the competition organisers had a half bag limit on all species of fish, which is good for fish stocks and an incentive of special prizes for all competitors involved in catch, weigh and release.

Fishing out of "Pops Tiger" for the first couple of days was to move around quietly and try to find out where the fish were. On Tuesday morning, the weatherman said one to one-and-a-half metre swell, 10-15 knots winds. So we decided to go south about 15 kilometres for a look see for what fish we could find. The weatherman got it wrong with under a half metre swell and a five knot breeze. It was just too good a day to catch fish but someone forgot to tell the fish. After a couple of drifts, and a couple of nice snapper, we decided to put down the pick and burlied a Pixie special brew for about four hours. Well, the fish went right



off, with Pete landing a five kilo snapper and a 3.7 kilo pearl perch and Kev landing a 4.5 kilo snapper. We also landed our share of two kilo snapper, flathead, trout and reef fish –just a good day at sea.

On Wednesday morning, the weatherman said the same – one to one and a half metre swell, 10-15 knots. So let's go south again. The fish weren't biting the same and the weatherman got it wrong again with winds gusting 20 knots plus a two to three metre swell, with white caps all over the ocean. After a couple of hours juggling around and not a lot of fish, we decided with a howling southerly to put out the sea anchor to hold us in one

direction and to drift back north.

We found quite a few schools of snapper and trout on the way back and they were on the bite in the big seas. Pete got tired of being thrown around the back of the boat and had a break in the cabin. Pix and Kev, oblivious to the big walls of water around, hauled in a good bag of snapper and trout until a wave came over the back of the boat and hit us waist-high and drenched us.

I've always said "Pops Tiger" is only a cork in the ocean and bobbing around on top of the waves had been a big part of our day, so we hit the bilge pump to pump out the water and decided with a good catch on board, it

The lure of the sea. 'Pop's Tiger' going to sea with the Nimbin Heads Fishing Team (left), Pete Ross with his 5kg snapper (centre), and Kev Tully with his 4.5 kg snapper (right).

might be time to pull in the sea anchor and fight the big sea for the rest of the trip back to dry land.

Eight kilometres later, we rounded Snapper Rock to calmer seas and back into the river for just another exciting good day fishing. Over a week of fishing we weighed in three fish in the comp, ate seafood, brought fish home and only won random prizes.

We had a good week.



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CHALET DELIGHT \$260,000



Set in Nimbin's best street is this charming western red cedar home. Nestled in gorgeous landscaped gardens with a rural backdrop and featuring mountain and water views, this home has a welcoming ambience. The home has a list of quality inclusions like lovely tiling, a rustic kitchen and leadlight windows.

ABODE OF PEACE \$895,000



Set at the end of a long driveway and perched on a gentle hill is a large Queenslander with sweeping verandahs. With 32 hectares of soil running from creek flat to rainforest and hills, the property lends itself to many uses. Originally set up as a riding ranch and motel, it has the potential to develop into a property with lifestyle and income plus. A truly beautiful place with unsurpassed potential.

BILLEN BEAUTY \$270,000



This 2 bedroom mud-brick home is surrounded by tropical gardens and situated in a quiet spot in the Billen. This home is in top condition and has many beautiful features like stained glass windows, a luxurious bathroom, a cosy living area and extensive use of natural materials. There is also a large double garage/workshop and the property has a lovely bushland outlook.

RIVENDELL \$240,000



This one bedroom property has that something special. Set on a gorgeous 2 acres of rainforest with its own mountain stream, this architecturally designed eco-friendly timber home is the perfect retreat. The home has a lovely bathroom, an excellent kitchen and a spacious lounge room, elevated bedroom and wonderful decks and verandahs, all with amazing forest views. Placed in a strata community only 30 minutes to Lismore and 2 hours to Brisbane, this is the ultimate getaway.

CHOICES CAFÉ \$145,000



Set right in the middle of bustling Nimbin is one of the busiest cafes in town. Choices has a large and comfortable undercover seating area (approx 30), so your patrons can take a break without missing a moment of the sights and sounds of Nimbin's unique street culture. The café comes with a long list of quality inclusions and has a huge potential for even more growth.

TANEKAHA \$595,000



A long leafy road leads up to a gentle hill where a turn-of-the-century Queenslander stands under magnificent giant hoop pines. There is an abundance of water from three creeks, the biggest with a deep swimming hole, surrounded by giant trees covered in staghorns. The home is big, graceful and authentic in style and character, with pressed metal ceilings, VJ timbers, wide flooring and stained glass windows. To this, add stunning views and an array of outbuildings, you have the complete picture-perfect property.