

Artist takes to the streets

You may have seen local artist Rikki Fisher (*pictured*) in the streets of Nimbin with paint brush in hand, capturing a slice of nature on canvas. Often you would find her working on a masterpiece on a Saturday in Rainbow Lane.

"Taking your art to the streets, you get a lot of comments from people", she says. "One recurring comment has been, 'I wish I could draw,' to which I reply 'You can.'

Rikki Fisher insists anyone can draw, that is, provided you have the desire to learn.

Rikki's theory came from her experience of learning to play a musical instrument as an adult. She says, "As an adult I wanted to learn to play a musical instrument, so I overcame the hurdle 'I can't do this' and booked myself into some private classes. My teacher took me back to the basics and taught me to read music and I chose an instrument, a Bass Recorder.

"I've never looked back, I had a hunch learning to draw could work the same way."



Rikki put her theory to the test by offering adult 'Absolute Beginners' drawing classes while living in Melbourne. The results were very encouraging, with students amazed at what they could achieve and coming back for more lessons.

Rikki says, "I teach skills of observation and drawing techniques. A lot of the skill is learning to really 'see'. We often make assumptions about what we see and we draw that, rather than what is

in front of us.

"I also teach techniques; tools for the drawing toolbox to set you on your way. I get a lot of pleasure in sharing information and seeing people get excited about what they can do."

Rikki is starting 'Absolute Beginners' art classes for adults on Wednesday afternoons from 15th October, running for five weeks. If you would like to know more about her classes, give her a call on 6689-0001.

Black Sheep Farm Pottery

Twenty-five years ago Mac established Black Sheep Farm Pottery, and it has been working consistently making ceramics mostly for the local area.

In the beginning Stoneware was produced and after five years, colours were introduced. Nowadays he and Suzanne make a large variety of hand painted earthenware.

The first years he used only a kick wheel and wood fired kiln, but eventually when power was laid, the electric wheel took its place and a large gas kiln was bought.

For the last 15 years Mac has run classes for locals and offers courses for six persons only at a time. This way



everybody gets enough hands on time and can develop skills on the pottery wheel, hand building, using moulds, decorating (especially with bright colours) and simple mosaic making.

The next five-week course

will start on the 17th October running for five full Fridays (9am-4pm). We will have morning tea and lunch together, so bring something to share. The cost is \$150 for tuition plus material cost.

Call Mac on 02 6689-1095.

Art blossoms after Japan visit

A Memoir of Cherry Blossom

Sho Wakejima

Serpentine Gallery, 17a Bridge Street, North Lismore (02) 6621-6845
Opening Thursday 23 October 2008, 6-8pm
Showing until Tuesday 4th November 2008

The cherry blossoms - the national icon of my birth country of Japan - had just begun blooming as I started the trip in Japan in March this year.

It had been 12 years since I visited there last time. The purpose of this visit was to attend my Italian friend and his Japanese partner's wedding party, as well as to see my mother, brother, other relatives and friends. Those were very exciting moments, however, I also found them very emotional sometimes. The cherry blossoms accompanied my trip all the way through. That was so symbolic and had a powerful impact on my psyche deeply for its value in traditional Japanese culture.

I thought that using the cherry blossoms as the theme would be subtle but powerful



enough and it also would fit the very demanding traditional Japanese cultural and artistic criteria perfectly, which strictly require an emotional and seasonal scent with the works.

I also decided to use the female portrait format mainly for the project, inspired by the traditional Japanese 'ukiyo'e' master, Kitagawa Utamaro. Some of the works were influenced by Japanese Manga comic style while others were western.

Knowing that they were not necessarily traditional Japanese media, I used oil and mixed media on canvas, ink and charcoal pencil on paper. I also experimented with locally made ecologically friendly paint on some of the works.

I have been a resident of Terania Creek for about 8 years, and have lived in Australia for over 20 years. So my works were the result of all of my experience and influence, mixture of Japanese and Western, traditional and contemporary. I think this is very much like me now.

- Sho Wakejima

The hills are alive

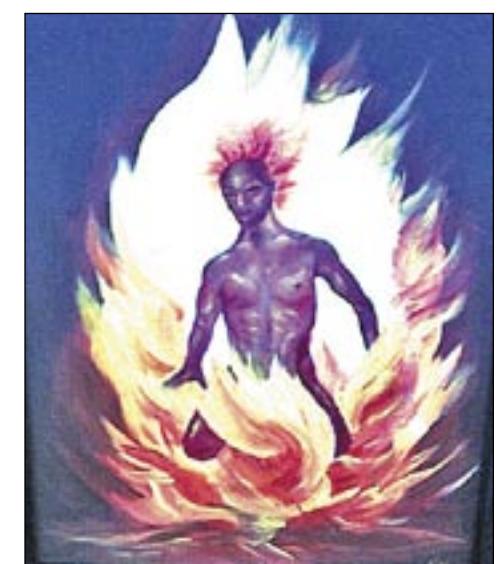
What does one expect to find in the hills around Kyogle and Nimbin? Amazing artistic talent of course.

And to prove it, four female artists from "The Bush" are travelling to Ballina to exhibit their fine collection of artworks. Ranging from stylised prints and botanical drawings to spiritual paintings and sculpture, this collection covers all tastes and budgets.

Local Nimbin artist Natalie Nottle is joined by Kyogle artists Carol Fickling, Julie St'Aubyn and Johanna Kempff.

The artists will be present to discuss their artworks at a Soiree at the Northern Rivers Community Art Gallery on Sunday 2nd November 2008 from 2pm. Everybody is welcome.

Pictured: "Master of Fire" by Natalie Nottle



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The cutting edge of fashion



Sneak Preview. Making a big impression at the Byron Fashion Week shows were collections by Judy Who (left and right), Pol (centre) and also Christina Chester (shown on Page 1). They were capably assisted backstage by Nimbinites Ushi von Sabler and Sam D'Aprile.

Photos: Thorsten Jones

This year the Nimbin Fashion show is looking to broaden its vision.

With Christina Chester, co-organiser and designer of the previous shows, and new co-ordinator Judy Who on board, fashionistas are looking forward to an excellent show this year.

Judy is a local and international designer, with extensive experience in organising fashion shows Australia-wide. Now Judy

is back in town and very excited about being chosen to be part of this fabulous production of the Nimbin community.

This year there will also be helpful modeling and choreography training available for the young designers with Jaz Who, an experienced model. With fresh enthusiasm and new ideas, this year's show is well on its way to lifting the production to new heights.

Dates for the shows are

Friday 14th and Saturday 15th November 2008.

To make the shows efficient and professional, the organisers need all designers to supply their names and contact details as soon as possible. Please phone Christina on 6689-0205 or Judy on 6689-0136.

Christina said, "We're really looking forward to working with all the great talent in the district.

"Get into it for a big new bold show."

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Bad taste films

Trasharama A-go-go, Australia's nastiest short film festival, is screening for one night only at the Nimbin Hotel, Saturday 18th October on the big video screen from 8pm. Free entry.

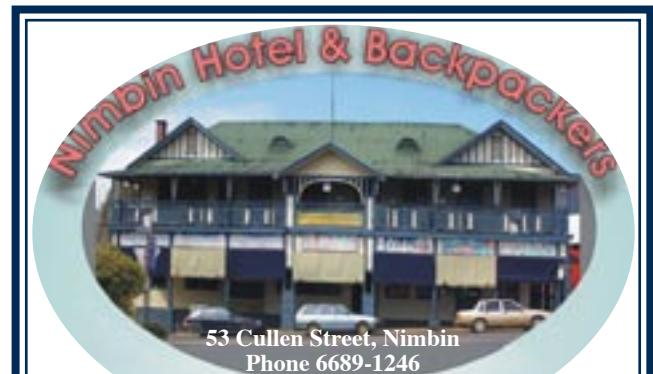
Featuring dogs who fart fire, singing transvestites, box monsters from space, post apocalyptic honeys, dodgy Thailand prostitutes, probing aliens, crazy grind-

house trailers, Michael Jackson impersonators and lots, lots more.

Organiser Tim Tonkin said, "People thought the last Trasharama was bad – this one's a shocker. You'll love every minute of it."

Come and witness B-grade Horror, Cheesy Sci-Fi, Sick Animations and Bad Taste Laughs on the glorious Big Screen.

You know you want to.



53 Cullen Street, Nimbin
Phone 6689-1246

October Gig Guide

- | | |
|---------------|----------------------------------|
| Friday 3rd | Rocwater |
| Sunday 5th | Nervous Wreckers 1.30pm |
| Friday 10th | Mojo Ju Ju & Snake Oil Merchants |
| Friday 17th | The Re-Mains |
| Saturday 18th | Trasharama Film Festival |
| Friday 24th | Dan Rumour & The Drift |
| Friday 31st | Saritah Friday gigs start 7.30pm |

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A taste of Africa at Sphinx Rock

Sayon Souare has recently immigrated from Guinea Conakry, and has lived, taught and performed in Gambia, Senegal and Australia. His mother and father were both artists in djembe and dance.

He has been playing dundun, sangban and djembe with some of the old drum masters of Guinea since the age of 12 at traditional ceremonies, festivals and celebrations and has accompanied some of the most popular Guinean musicians and singers on djembe, bolon, and gongoma.

Sayon was a member of several ballets in Conakry dancing and playing lead djembe, drum and other instruments. He was a member of many Sabar groups playing at sabar parties around Conakry.

Sayon plays Gongoma, a traditional instrument originally from Sierra Leone but very popular in Guinea. He is self taught in Bolon, a traditional hunters' harp of the Manding and Bambara tribes. He plays his original compositions on these instruments and sings.

He was a member of Circus Baobab where he played drum and danced and gained some circus skills, juggling and acrobatics.

Sayon has made his own instrumental groups called "Groupe Yoli" and "Taforiyoge" ("All the rubbish of town"). They played Sayon's compositions on traditional instruments and were very successful. Sayon sang, played drum and danced. Sayon is developing a new group here in Australia called "Bolonbato"

In Gambia and Senegal he has taught drum,



dance and gongoma to students from all over the world, both children and adults. He has also taught many African students. He has been performing and teaching drum and dance at schools, festivals, street parties, and clubs here in Australia since his arrival.

Catch him at the Sphinx Rock Café on Sunday 12th October, 1-5pm.

Progressive jazz trio in Byron

Misinterpretato are one of Australia's most inventive contemporary music ensembles.

The Brisbane trio, comprising Sean Foran (piano), John Parker (drums) and Pat Marchisella (acoustic bass), return to Australian audiences in October for their only performances in 2008.

Pianist Sean Foran says, "It's the largest tour yet for the trio, made even more exciting by the fact these are our first gigs this year! There's a heap of new material we'll be debuting plus tracks of the Variations album (released August 2007) will be getting some serious workouts."

Much loved by the intensely creative Brisbane music scene since forming in 1999, they are so much more than a traditional jazz trio. The group skillfully blend dense, exciting improvisations and delicate atmospherics, conjuring up sounds



of modern jazz, ambient music, avant garde rock, free improvisation and contemporary classical music.

Don't miss this exciting act, at the forefront of progressive jazz, when they play their only north coast gig at Blue Birdy @ Liquid, Byron Bay on Wed 22nd October at 8:30pm.

Nimbin Bowlo
Sibley Street Nimbin, phone 6689-1250

What's On in October?

Sunday 5th October

Boogie Nights featuring Gigi – 1-4pm

- Social Bowls Wednesdays 1pm, Sundays 9.30am
- Members Happy Hours – Tues-Wed-Thurs 5-6pm, Sundays 1-3pm. Social Membership only \$5.
- Continental Carnival – 31st Oct-2nd Nov Booked Out



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Fair Dealing

I am most concerned with what has appeared to be illegal dealings happening in a broad spectrum of establishments around Australia.

My son has informed me that he is able to purchase drugs at his high school on the Gold Coast. When I have bought this up with my various nieces and nephews who are enrolled in schools all over Australia, both private and public, they all echo the same information, that drugs are being dealt in our high schools.

I have heard that drugs are also available in jails throughout Australia and in my travels I have noticed that drugs appear to be able to be sourced in every pub.

Under the laws that have seen two of Nimbin's major tourist attractions closed down. Is it possible that we can also close down all of our schools, pubs and jails?

Concerned citizen
(Name and address supplied)

Nimbin Show judging

Half the fun of the show is working out what to enter for the show each year and

the other half is the judging. Especially in the culinary section, where for the past four years, entrants have been encouraged to join in the tasting of the baking and jams sections. This gives entrants clues as to what a judge is looking for, how your food compares with that of others and a bit of fun as well.

As a keen supporter of the culinary section, a frantic two days before deadline time is spent shopping, planning and baking as much as possible with the expectation of being able to see and taste the results at judging time. This is a much anticipated event, and is usually a lot of fun and much lively discussion ensues.

However, this year was different. Returning at the start of judging time as was usual for the last few years, and being told that only judges, stewards/officials were allowed in during the judging took away the joy, excitement and expectation previously had in other years.

If the Nimbin Show Society wants the community to participate, support and grow our local show, it won't happen if the above is

anything to go by.

The Culinary section judges/stewards should be encouraging as many people to come and watch. Make an event out of the tasting of the goods entered. If judge impartiality is an issue, rope off an area for the judge, let a steward hand around the winning products for tasting.

Make it an event to be anticipated, joined in and talked about. Even Sydney Royal lets you watch the judging and hear the judges comment on class entries.

Nimbin Show 2009?
Probably not.

Jan Schilling
Nimbin

TV Program Wanted

Does anyone have a videotaped copy of Prime Television's 'The Force' program which featured cannabis raids in the Nimbin area and is believed to have aired on September 9, 2008?

Some local residents are concerned that they may have been defamed by an item which featured film footage taken during a police raid on the Tuntabaweedoo Community last year.

The Seven Network's legal representative has been

approached and asked to provide a copy of the program in question to verify the context and content of the images. He has refused to do so, despite the company being bound by the same laws and regulations as any Australian media organisation.

The Seven Network can dispose of the evidence in the near future, as it only has to keep copies of aired footage for a certain period. Time is of the essence.

Any help in obtaining the footage that was aired that night would be greatly appreciated.

Please call Paul on 6689-0478 or Hal on 6633-7379.

The Williams family
Nimbin



MUDMAP
Contributed by Pixie Barrett

Notices

Room to let

Nimbin News are looking to sublet an office space of 11.6 sq. m. at the Nimbin Community Centre. \$35 per week. Contact Gloria 6689-1884 or 6689-0394.

Wanted

Caravan, up to \$1000, unreg OK, phone Phil 6689-1900

Coming Event

Welcome to Country for Githabul people, Hanging Rock Hall, 22nd November. Watch for more info.

Meetings

NCCI AGM

Nimbin Community Centre Inc. 2008 Annual General Meeting, Thursday, 27th November, 6pm, Nimbin Community Centre Dance Studio.

CTC AGM

The Nimbin CTC Annual General Meeting, Thursday, 30th October, 1pm, in the Green Room, Nimbin Community Centre. New and old members welcome.

NimCoC AGM

Nimbin Chamber of Commerce Annual General Meeting, Tuesday 21st October, 6pm, Rainbow Café (rear entrance).

Free Listings

Send us a short Notice (under 50 words is good) and if it's non-commercial and looks like it would be of interest to our readers, we'll run it for you for free.

About us

Website: David McMinn
www.nimbiningoodtimes.com

NGT is auspiced by the Nimbin Community School Co-operative Ltd. and completely produced by volunteers.

Next deadline:
Wednesday 29th October

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



POSITION VACANT SCHOOL CHAPLAIN

Position Information

Nimbin Central School has been granted funding under the National School Chaplaincy Programme to employ a School Chaplain for two days per week in 2009.

A school chaplain is a person who is recognised:

- By the school and its community as having the skills and experience to deliver school chaplaincy services and
- Through formal ordination, commissioning, recognised qualifications or endorsement by a recognised or accepted religious institution or a State/Territory government approved chaplaincy service.

At Nimbin Central School the school chaplain would provide support to:

- the school's anti-bullying program
- improve student understanding of respect and responsibility
- support students to explore their spirituality
- provide guidance to students on issues concerning human relationships

- support students in case of family breakdown, loss, grief, trauma and/or illness
- provide guidance to students in ethical matters
- the school's welfare programs

Position Criteria

- Excellent communication skills
- Demonstrated ability to work with students and staff in a K-12 setting
- Ability to offer pastoral care and/or spiritual guidance as agreed by the school community
- Commitment to abide by the National School Chaplaincy Programme Code of Conduct and
- Able to meet relevant child protection checks.

Applications close on Thursday 23rd October 2008.

An information package is available at the school for any interested applicants.

A written application outlining experience and/or qualifications can be sent to:

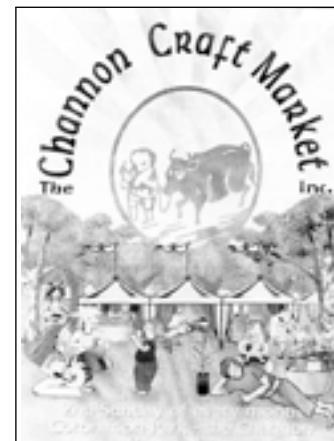
Ms Christine Grieves
Relieving Principal
Nimbin Central School
23a Thorburn Street
Nimbin NSW 2480

Any queries regarding the position can be made at the school on 66891355.

Applicants who are successful in gaining an interview will be informed of the interview time within 5 days of the closing date by phone and/or letter.

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Next Market 12th October

The Channon market is an alcohol and pet-free event

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80 Cullen Street Nimbin
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nimbin@lismore.nsw.gov.au

Much anticipated Wedding at St Mark's, Nimbin

Local identities Jonathan and Amanda Spain (nee Collien) were married on Saturday 27 September at St Mark's Anglican Church, Nimbin.

Family and friends from Nimbin and interstate gathered for the ceremony conducted by Rev. Alan Shaw, and all enjoyed the afternoon tea created by Benny at The Rectory following the service.

Guests also relished a superb reception dinner at Sphinx Rock Café. Warren Nugent from Aquarius Bakery provided the amazing jaffa and white chocolate wedding cake.

Visitors to Nimbin for the wedding enjoyed their stay with Nimbin Rox YHA,



Greygum Lodge and Albie and Eugene at The Rectory. Thanks also to bell-ringers

Hudson and Riaan, and to all the local musicians who added to the celebration of

the marriage of Mr and Mrs Spain.

Photo:Pat Rowe

Swimming pool faces maintenance issues



Nimbin's unique circular pool is now open, right through to April next year, and it's free. Get into it.

An early task for the new Lismore Council will be to sort out the on-going infrastructure problems with the Nimbin pool and the neighbouring caravan park.

Inadequate sparging has meant the recent pool painting is already deteriorating, and the access road is in a terrible condition.

Council still has not replaced the caravan park manager's residence, despite having budgeted for it in successive years.

Locals are wondering whether there will be any money left for villages at all, after the 'edifice complex' spending in Lismore.

And now, a word from our printers



The GoodTimes editor (centre) chats with paper supplier Bruce Burgess (left) and Adrian Holzwart, print manager from APN Mackay.

It was a suit-and-nametag affair when newspaper printers APN officially opened its new \$6 million plant in Ballina.

Re-elected mayor Phil Silver did the honours, and everyone sipped and nibbled their way around the new Manugraph while John McRae and the day

shift ran off a Lismore Cup wraparound.

Along with improvements like laser-controlled colour registration, the new press uses 100% recycled paper.

APN Press execs distanced it from APN Publishing, which controls 111 mastheads.

BRUCE MCLELLAND

Born 1916, died 28th September 2008
(82 years old)

Born and raised at Blue Knob, Bruce lived all his life in the Blue knob and Lillian Rock areas, apart from a few years in retirement in Goonellabah.

Being a dairy farmer, agriculture and activities associated with rural pursuits always interested Bruce, as did the Nimbin Show Society. He was a member for over forty years, to a great extent involved in the dairy cattle section, where he showed his prize winning Jerseys and later in the beef ring, as well as a volunteer in any other section where help was required.

Over the years, Bruce held the positions of Chief Dairy Steward, Chief Beef Steward and Senior Vice President of the Nimbin Show Society, and in later years, was awarded life membership. Around seven years ago, the cattle arena was named in his honour.

Being a great volunteer, Bruce was nearly always first at the weekly Wednesday work days at the Showground.

He was also involved in his church, Legacy, Lifeline, Blue Knob Hall and numerous other district activities.

Thanks Bruce.

Phillip Williams
President, Nimbin Show Society

From the Mayor's desk

by Jenny Dowell
Mayor of Lismore
phone: 6625-2206 email:
Jenny.Dowell@lismore.nsw.gov.au



My New Role

As readers might imagine, I am still getting used to my new position as Mayor of Lismore. The settling in period is made a little difficult because the election of Councillors has just been declared as the NGT deadline approaches. The successful Councillors in the order in which they were elected are Isaac Smith, John Chant, Neil Marks, Vanessa Ekins, Ray Houston, Graham Meineke, Peter Graham, David Yarnall, Simon Clough and Gianpiero Battista.

There is a 24 hour period in which a challenge to the result can be lodged but it is anticipated that this will be the make-up of Lismore City Council for the coming four years. I have contacted each of the newly elected Councillors to express my congratulations.

Councillor Orientation

As a result of the delay in knowing the result, the planned introductory session for the new Council has been postponed until Friday September 26. The first meeting of the new Council will be held on September 30 for the election of the deputy Mayor and for delegates to external committees and County Councils.

Finances

One of the first challenges for the new Council will be to come to grips with our finances. The collapse of Lehman Brothers Holdings in USA has cast some serious concerns over LCC's exposure through our investment in various securities where Lehman Brothers is the portfolio manager. Council is awaiting advice from an independent investment advisor but is inclined to hold our current investments until maturity to minimise any losses. When that advice is available, Councillors will be informed as usual through the regular reporting at each Council meeting.

Nimbin Show

One of my first invitations as Mayor was to attend the Nimbin Show. It was a beautiful day and as I strolled in the shade with a gelato, I met lots of friends and enjoyed the chat of election results and the likely make-up of the new Lismore Council.

The Nimbin Show is a lovely relaxed country show complete with children's art work, vegies, raffles from the hospital auxiliary, cavies, dogs and, thankfully again, horses. It is a day that all of the community can come together, meet up with old friends and take a break from the every-day.

Other Duties

My first duty as Mayor was to judge the Oral Reading competition for about 30 finalists at South Lismore Primary school. The children, aged 4 to 12, read alone in front of the whole school, a large group of parents and grandparents and a table of three judges, pens in hand. The children's confidence was amazing! I'm sure among them we will have several community leaders of the future.

Other events that I have attended include the opening of the Northern Rivers District Women's Bowling Association three-day carnival, the Lismore Cup ball and a moving film 'Unfinished Sky' as a fundraiser for the local Zonta club. These are all wonderful events that celebrate community engagement and build friendships through socialising and activity. Just like the Nimbin Show!



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