



# THE NIMBIN GOOD TIMES

Joyous and FREE

Lily Pilly Edition  
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## Social inclusion: Be part of it!

Nimbin's Social Inclusion Day, held in Allsopp Park on 25th November, attracted about 150 people.

The good folk from MultiTask and Mulgum House attended, along with the Families Centre crew, Nimbin Neighbourhood Information Centre crew and community members.

Speakers for the day included Jany Levy from ACE, Gail Warid from the Nimbin Families Centre and Jen Bongiorno, self-appointed Mother of the Year, all of whom gave insights into the issue of social inclusion.

Reiner Glasker put forward some excellent suggestions on ways to improve wheelchair access around the village, some of which will hopefully be addressed in the coming



year.

The Families Centre crew brought down their Jingi Walla board (to be hung up outside the Centre)

and people placed their handprints on it.

There was a hotly contested game of people-bingo, which got everyone

mingling and chatting.

Thanks to Gail M. Clarke for organising the food, and to the Nimbin police for bringing down the barbecue.



## Third-time lucky – Nimbin nets tourism gold



The Nimbin Visitor Information Centre has taken the gold award for Visitor Information and Services in the 2010 State Tourism Awards.

The centre took the top award along with its sister centre in Lismore. Andrew Walker (pictured), the co-ordinator of the Nimbin centre, said it was a timely victory, coming on the heels of two bronze awards.

"The NSW awards cover 125 visitor centres," he said. "The win shows we're running more effectively in the contemporary measure." The centres welcome 130,000 visitors each year.

"We won the bronze award for the last two years, so it's certainly third time lucky for us," added the Lismore City Council's tourism services co-ordinator, Mitch Lowe.

Andrew said the Nimbin centre has put in a good deal of effort to ensure information about the region's attractions and trails are available in hard copy and downloadable form.

"The award is a credit to our dedicated and dynamic tourism team," said Mitch. "It... proves that you don't need a beach, a winery or an oversized novelty icon to provide great visitor experiences."

Mitch said the judges were impressed with the centre's

application and its attention to detail, as well as the way they serve and represent the community.

Jyllie Jackson and the crew from the Lismore Lantern Parade were bronze award winners in the Events and Festivals category, and Uncle Mick and Aunty Thelma from GunnaWannaBe Aboriginal Café, Gallery and Learning Centre in South Lismore won the bronze in the Indigenous Tourism category.

Lismore Mayor Jenny Dowell said the awards put Lismore on the map of places to visit. "(They) will certainly assist in marketing our wonderful region and raising the profile of Lismore, Nimbin and our villages."

The Nimbin and Lismore Visitor Information Centres will now represent NSW as finalists in the Australian Tourism Awards, with the winners to be announced in Perth in February.

Andrew said the winning trophy – a glass pyramid – is in Nimbin for everyone to have "a sticky beak" before it's returned to the Lismore City Council for safe keeping. What happens to it then?

"That's a bloody good question," he laughed. "It'll probably be filed away somewhere."

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