

Back In The Highlands Again George John Forsyth



Born 5th May, 1948
Died 16th December, 2009

Nimbin lost one of its legends, when George Forsyth, known as George Scot by Nimbinites, passed away on 16th December as a result of lung cancer.

George joined the Royal Air Force in 1966 and was stationed in Cyprus in 1967. It was here that his professional singing career was instigated by chance when a West Indian musician approached him to join his band.

After two years in Cyprus, George realised the Airforce was not for him and he followed his dream and sang his way around the world.

He first arrived in Oz in the early seventies and stayed for three years before heading off to the USA, Europe, Middle East and Asia, honing his singing and guitar skills.

He returned to Oz in 1977 via Fremantle W.A., where as a result of a minor hashish bust, he changed his name to George Scot and place of residence to Nimbin.

For the next 32 years, George's amazing voice reverberated from Nimbin to Byron Bay, Cairns and Kuranda forging a legion of 'Fons and friends along the way.

His prowess on the soccer field was matched evenly by his prowess with the ladies and as a result he fathered five beautiful children, Jordy, Pearl, Lara, Tam and Fiona.

George will be dearly missed by all, particularly his children and his former wives, Rhonda, Sue and Christine.

Goodbye my friend, you live in the heart forever.

Grahame Ward

Below: George with (l-r) Julie Oliver, Lena Eve, Brendon Hanley (Bebop) and Sara Mitchell in 1993.



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Reviving the old Bush Factory

by Benny Zable

After my globetrotting of late, I have moved back into the Nimbin Bush Theatre studio behind the café and theatre. The theatre is still closed and up for sale. A number of us are interested in energizing this wonderful gateway, events and studio space.

During the May 1973 Nimbin Aquarius Festival the then dormant Buttery was converted into a performance space. I performed with our then Melbourne Metaphysic Theatre Company, a multimedia experimental hippy version of H.G Wells' Time Machine.

When Bob Marsh retired as the community police officer after the Nimbin Aquarius festival, he converted the Nimbin Buttery into a pet food cannery. A few years later Terry McGee, a former founding member of Tuntable Falls Co-ordination Co-op, facilitated for a group of shareholders in buying the former Nimbin Buttery/cannery.

Terry, along with share holders and volunteers, were instrumental in building the Bush Theatre, at which a couple of his one-off musicals premiered. The theatre was also wired up to Bush Traks for recording live concerts, believed to be a first in



Australia. Later on, Sandy Wise bought the theatre and cafe and has managed it ever since converting it into a regular movie house to help pay its way.

Consecutive groups have since leased out the space to make a go of it. Over the years, the cost of running this place has risen considerably. To creatively help solve this problem, I wish to discuss with interested people about co-opting the use of this space again for regular consciousness-raising events. This requires sorting out binding financial and management agreements.

Some proposed ideas

- Co-opting management of the Bush Factory

- Developing a structure/plan for establishing agreements in taking care of the Bush Theatre.
- A place for peace and environmental gigs.
- Planning, investing, funding in lowering the carbon footprint of the Bush Theatre.
- An ongoing shared property maintenance response.
- A permaculture design for the whole property including river bank.
- Community Garden.
- Bush tucker vegetarian, vegan cuisine.
- A home for the Nimbin Film Society
- Recycling and compost station.

Code of ethics: To manifest love, care and gratitude, to consume less and share more.

Nimbin Dance Studio

by Satya McVeity

The Dance Studio in the Community Centre in Nimbin has been operating for the past 12 years and dates back to when the Community Centre was born in Nimbin. This all came about after The Visions of Nimbin festival in April 1997. \$30,000 was raised at this festival which was the deposit for the C.C.

Many of the events that happened at the Visions of Nimbin were dance events that helped raise these funds. Many dancers and performers volunteered for the cause in the true spirit of Nimbin.

After the C.C. was purchased many of the Nimbin dancers i.e. Inez, Bobbin, Poppi, Deborah, Chantico, Biskit, Pammy, Danielle, Janie Treasure and others, leased the studio for \$120 per week.

When they first took over the studio, the mirrors had been taken out by the Nimbin Central School (who owned it previously). The dancers retrieved them and put them back in place. The bar



was made by John Wright and put in place (and what a good stretching bar it is too). The carpets were pulled up and the walls painted and all with voluntary help mostly by the dancers themselves.

Many years later, some further fundraising by the dancers bought the sound system, TV and DVD player. These were installed in the studio for all to use. After some time, the dancers ceased leasing the studio and it was offered to the broader community for use on a Casual Hire basis. That still is the case now with rates of \$11 per hour being very reasonable.

There is a very real possibility that we could lose this wonderful asset in this community simply because it is not being used enough. Consequently, the NCDA is considering renting it out for office space and getting funds for the C.C. that they say they need for running costs. This would be an absolute shame.

The hire of the dance studio always fluctuates. It generally is busier in summer and quieter in winter as is the rest of the town. Bobbin, who is usually here in the summer, offers all sorts of classes for ages ranging from Primary school to teenagers and beyond. She has always been a great inspiration to us all with her dance and costuming.

Regardless of her absence this year we still have a wide range of classes happening in the dance studio. These range from Tribal Bellydance to Hip Hop to Qi Qong. Adult Education classes are also held in this space and



meetings as well.

For a young person growing up in this area, there aren't many facilities. We don't have a skatepark YET, and the youth club is not used by the youth. If you aren't into playing sport then you don't have many other ways to express yourself physically.

Dance is a great way of doing this. It is good for the soul. Not only is it a way of working off those excess calories, it is fun and interactive and is really for people of all ages. Yes and it would be great to see more of our elders coming to use the studio as well. This is something that really hasn't been explored in the studio as yet. Quicksteps, foxtrots and waltzes could add a whole new dimension to our beloved dance studio.

Having used this studio for a good ten years myself, I can only sing its praises. However, like our own bodies, we need to use it or lose it. So come check it out! You might find a class you want to do or offer one yourself.

It will be a sorry day if we have to take the colour and rhythms that flow out of this beautiful space and turn it into just another office space.

Happy dancing!



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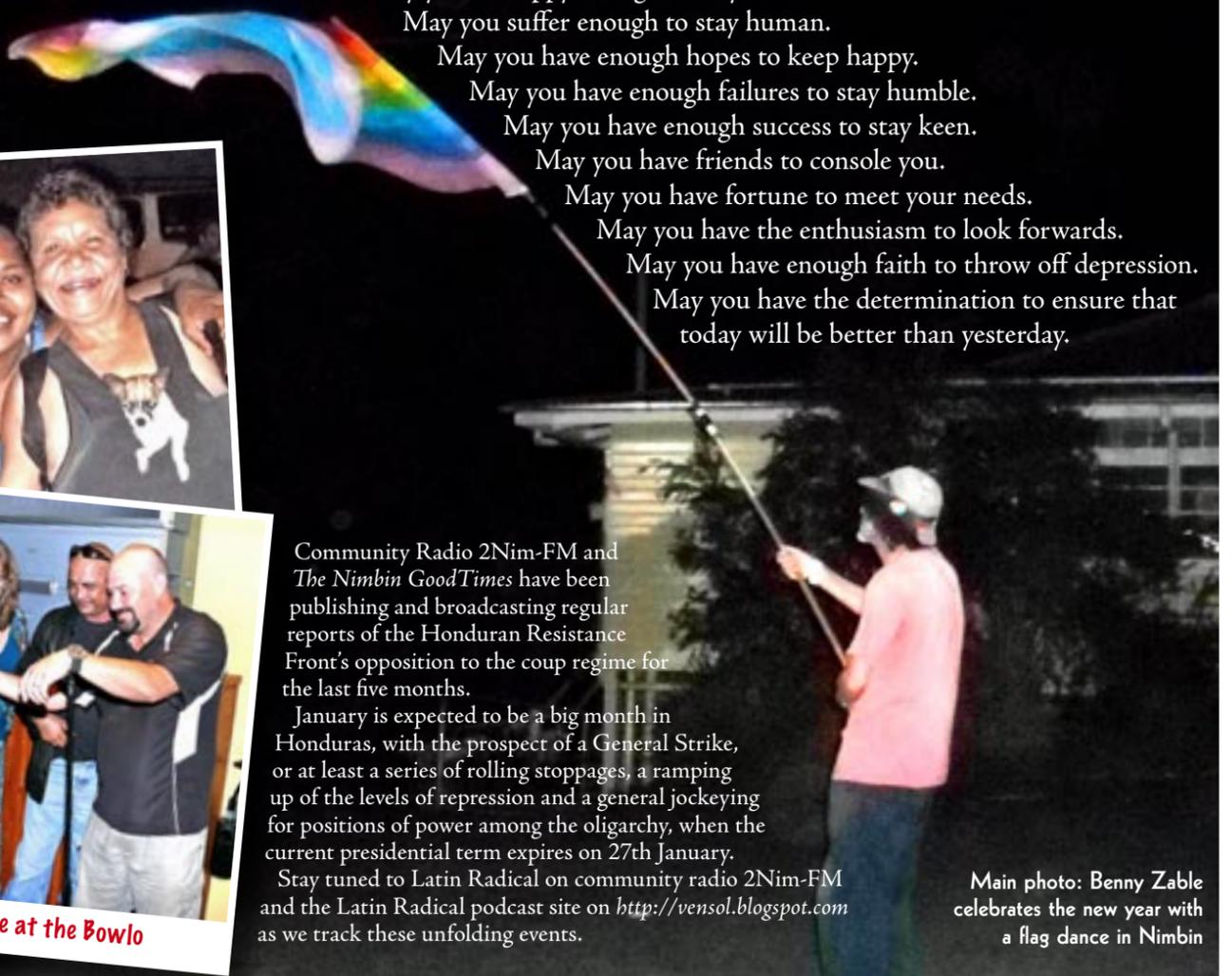
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Happy New Year

A new year message from the Honduras Resistance Front

(translated by Warwick Fry)

May you be happy enough to stay sweet.
 May you suffer enough to stay human.
 May you have enough hopes to keep happy.
 May you have enough failures to stay humble.
 May you have enough success to stay keen.
 May you have friends to console you.
 May you have fortune to meet your needs.
 May you have the enthusiasm to look forwards.
 May you have enough faith to throw off depression.
 May you have the determination to ensure that today will be better than yesterday.



Main photo: Benny Zable celebrates the new year with a flag dance in Nimbin

Community Radio 2Nim-FM and *The Nimbin GoodTimes* have been publishing and broadcasting regular reports of the Honduran Resistance Front's opposition to the coup regime for the last five months.

January is expected to be a big month in Honduras, with the prospect of a General Strike, or at least a series of rolling stoppages, a ramping up of the levels of repression and a general jockeying for positions of power among the oligarchy, when the current presidential term expires on 27th January.

Stay tuned to Latin Radical on community radio 2Nim-FM and the Latin Radical podcast site on <http://vensol.blogspot.com> as we track these unfolding events.



Aquarian NYE at Noel's Shed

NYE Karaoke at the Bowlo

Court costs fundraisers

No Rally Group

As a result of secret deals, the New South Wales government passed special legislation to allow Repco Rally Australia to run a series of the World Rally Championships in the Tweed Valley and Kyogle areas in 2009 and every second year to 2017 (with the option of a 10 year extension).

Events NSW committed about \$6 million of taxpayers' money to rally organisers, as well as "in-kind support."

The 2009 rally promised \$30 million "economic benefit" to the region, but there is so far no sign of any net benefit at all.

The No Rally Group was formed by local residents to fight the proposed rally and protect the Tweed Valley from damaging uses and inappropriate development, working closely with residents of Kyogle (7th Generation).

The No Rally Group will screen *The Age of Stupid* on Wednesday 20th January at

the Murwillumbah Regent Cinema to raise money to help Tweed Shire Councillor (Greens) Katie Milne pay legal expenses incurred while trying to get a Federal Court injunction to stop the stupid Repco Rally last September.

A \$20 donation for the evening includes a vegetarian meal from 6pm.

At 7pm local filmmakers Harmony Church and Sam Dawson will present their Repco Rally doco entitled 'Consultation or Control' followed by *The Age of Stupid*, a full-length feature film from the UK by McLibel director Franny Armstrong.

Advance sales of tickets at the Regent Cinema and Caldera Environment Centre in Murwillumbah. Donations can also be sent directly to a/c 1027-8397 Commonwealth Bank BSB 062-580.

For more info contact Daniele and Sledge on 02 6674-5213 or 6689-7466.

Rainforest Information Centre

Nimbin Enviro Media Office (NEMO) and the Rainforest Information Centre are holding a fundraiser in support of the defendants in the Gunns-20 court case in Tasmania.

It will be held on Saturday 16th January at Nimbin Town Hall, starting off with a Book Stall in the front of the Hall at 1pm.

This will be followed by games of Bingo, Music, Food, Poetry, films and raffles.

More details will be on fliers around town.

All proceeds will be going to help pay for court costs.

Anyone wishing to play music, sing, read poetry or donate books for this fun-filled fundraising day, please contact Jak at the Hemp Bar or phone Venessa on 0447-013-130.

Long wait for the train

Richmond MP Ms Elliot turned the first sod of the Banora Point Pacific Highway upgrade on 16th December.

Ms Karin Kolbe, President of Trains On Our Tracks said, "TOOT would like to know how long we need to wait for Ms Elliot to deliver on her 2004 election promise to get trains running on the Casino-Murwillumbah line?"

Also during December, Queensland opened another 4.1km of rail and a new railway station at Varsity Lakes.

With the extra 4.1 km of rail, 7000 car trips per day will be avoided, according to the Final Assessment Report by Parsons Brinkerhoff.

"The Federal government is happy to spend billions on new roads and \$375 million on the Gold Coast light rail, but our rail gets nothing," she said.

"Over 86% of the residents in Lismore and Byron Shires live within 5km of the railway line, according to the ABS Census in 2006. So clearly

the Casino-Murwillumbah line is a vital asset for both tourists and residents to move around and access the resources of the area," Ms Kolbe said.

Federal Infrastructure Minister Anthony Albanese said in March 2009, 'We need to encourage more people out of their cars...'

Providing a commuter rail service on the north coast's currently disused rail line would go a long way towards achieving this goal.



RIP 'UNCLE'

aka Ian Hooker

Died 14th December 2009 at Nimbin Hospital, aged 50.

Memorial gathering Saturday 9th January, 2pm Allsopp Park, Nimbin

Gold coin donation, proceeds to Nimbin Hospital.



Cruise the beautiful Tweed River on Krystal - 2-6 berth or Stacey Lee - 2-4 berths Weekend, Midweek or Weekly plans 219 Riverside Drive, Tumbulgum

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Alesco School future bright

Axel Nelson enjoyed doing his school certificate at Alesco School so much, he wants to go back and do it again.

"At first we didn't all get along," he said of his classmates, "but now we're like one giant jigsaw puzzle that fits together."

Isabelle 'Sparky' Rossiter was enrolled in 2009 and will be back this year to sit her School Certificate. She hopes to build a career in medicine and "find a cure for cancer".

"I love it, this place reminds me of home," she said. "It's much easier to work in this environment, instead of crowded classroom with 20-30 kids. I'm happy here."

Lismore's Alesco School has had much success turning around the lives of local kids, many who found themselves in trouble at a mainstream school or felt they didn't fit in.

Head teacher Marcus Peace said Alesco gave them options, a safe learning environment and the opportunity to discover and develop their individual talents and abilities.

"Individually, these kids may seem different or difficult in the mainstream schools," he said. "Here they are all on the same level. Their awareness of their similarities then brings a



Isabelle 'Sparky' Rossiter, Axel Nelson, Leigh Daley and Tyler Wortley are enjoying a break after a successful year of study

respect for themselves and others."

The school is approved by the Board of Studies and follows the Year 9 and 10 curriculum, just like a mainstream school. All the core subjects and key competencies are covered through community based learning projects which are integrated into their lessons.

"For example next year we're getting involved in Lismore's community garden," Keshet Cohen, teachers aide, said.

"It's a great way to teach them about sustainability and their place in the

community."

Marcus said many students learn to reconnect with their community through their studies at Alesco.

"They re-engage with the community through work, securing traineeships or continuing with study."

Best of all, the school gives them hope for the future.

"They come here having lost their dreams and goals," Keshet said.

"They seem to come out of here with an idea of what they want to do and a stronger sense of self.

They see that life can be good."

Nimbin Child Care Centre Welcomes enrolments



Hi, my name is Jennifer Woolley and I am the new Director at Nimbin Child Care Centre.

We are an innovative service which nurtures children from 6 weeks to 5 years old.

Our philosophy allows children to use their imagination and creativity to explore their environment and learn through play in a safe and nurturing environment. The children's age appropriate program builds on the child's interests, strengths and needs. We encourage the use of natural materials and allowing for a natural home rhythm within our daily routines, for example, children make play dough in the morning and sing a blessing song before sharing our fruit at morning tea.

The children also assist with packing away and cleaning up while we sing our tidy up song. This natural rhythm flows into outdoor play where we watch rainbow lorikeets in the fig tree, make cosy dwellings from cloths and dance to world rhythms.

If this is the home like rhythm you are needing for your child, and to allow you time to regain your sense of self as a parent,



please join us for morning tea and join in the children's play.

Join us at Play Group every Tuesday morning from 9am - 11:45am. Bring a sun hat and fruit to share for morning tea. We are closed for the Christmas period for 2 weeks, from 21st Dec- 1st Jan, Re-opening 4th Jan 2010. Please call if you require child care prior to preschools or schools resuming.

Blessings to the shining stars, our children.

Love & Light, From all the staff at Nimbin Child Care Centre, 81 Cullen Street Phone: 6689-0142

The Amazing Drumming Monkeys

This is an adorable little variety show aimed at 2-8 yr olds, and is also great entertainment for all ages.

The two monkey puppets (Bongo and Congo) play African drums, lead audiences in songs and dances, perform magic tricks and (low-tech) special effects gags.

The show also features beautiful positive messages. Catch the Amazing

Drumming Monkeys when they perform in Nimbin at the Town Hall on Thursday 7th January, or at other North Coast venues, on their way back from the Woodford Festival.

The Monkeys are perfect for kindergartens, childcare, drumming workshops, fairs and community events. See their website: www.amazingdrummingmonkeys.com



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Nimbin Vacation Care

A program of the Nimbin Neighbourhood & Information Centre

Fun holiday stuff for kids aged 5 to 12
Summer 2010 Program



DATE	PROGRAM	COST per child per day
Mon 11 th January	MPU - games & crafts, a swim at Nimbin Pool and a visit to Djanbung Gardens for a tour and activities, in the afternoon. April & Scott	\$10
Tues 12 th January	Excursion to Murwillumbah Cinema to see "Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs"(PG), followed by lunch at Sphinx Rock Café and Park. There is a small creek at the park, which the children will be allowed to swim in, and hot chips will be provided. April & Scott	\$11.50
Wed 13 th January	MPU - games & crafts, lunch at Mulgum Creek and a visit to Nimbin Candles, followed by ice candle making at school - please bring a clean empty milk carton for this activity. April & Scott	\$10
Mon 18 th January	MPU - A walk to Rainbow Power Company for tour and activities - a swim at Nimbin Pool followed by games, crafts & a parent approved video. April & Yvonne	\$13.30
Tues 19 th January	Byron Bay Lighthouse Tour, a walk inside the lighthouse! Please bring lunch & money for an ice-cream. Children will be allowed to paddle at Wategos but there will be no swimming in the ocean. April & Yvonne	\$15
Wed 20 th January	MPU - Gardening and Weaving at Nimbin Community Gardens (please wear a hat and closed shoes) - followed by a swim at Nimbin Pool. April & Yvonne	\$10
Mon 25 th January	Excursion to Macadamia Castle. Please bring lunch, a hat and a drink. April & Yvonne	\$13.00

Dear parents /caregivers and kids,

We warmly welcome everyone to the new Summer Holiday program. To book phone NNIC on 6689-1692 (between 10am and 4pm). Note: age acceptance for this program now begins at 5 years old.

Once again, we will be operating from Nimbin Central School. Meet us at the front of the MPU at Nimbin School, at 9am on excursion days, and please pick up your child no later than 3pm from the MPU.

Ensure that your child wears appropriate clothing, covered shoes, brings a hat, sun block and has adequate food and drinks.

Clay sculptures from previous seasons have been fired, and can be collected at the NNIC. Those not collected will be brought to the school during the program.

This program is funded by DoCS

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Chamber Chat



To end a successful year, the Chamber invited an inspiring speaker, Pieter Verasdonck, Community Economic Development Manager with the Department of State and Regional Development (DSRD) to its last meeting for 2009.

Pieter spoke about the role of the DSRD and exciting opportunities for Nimbin to tap into.

Pieter discussed how available opportunities could be utilised to promote Nimbin, strengthen our local economy and make us more resilient into the future.

Pieter is particularly interested in initiatives that tackle climate change at the local level and was excited to hear of creative strategies being taken up through Nimbin Neighbourhood Centre.



The government has directed considerable funding towards sustainability and opportunities for funding are diverse.

Areas of interest to Nimbin include transport (such as car pooling, extending bus services to meet the demands of commuting workers, bicycle lanes, and walking/horse trails), clean energy, promoting a local fashion industry, food resilience, and tourism initiatives such as mural maintenance, refurbishment and story telling.

It is important to consider the development, management and marketing needs required

to be a successful tourism destination and considerable discussion centred around concepts of a Nimbin 'branding'.

What is it that makes us uniquely Nimbin? How do we want to be viewed by the outside world? Can we reach agreement on such areas?

Community input is vital to determining these issues and to achieving positive and constructive outcomes for Nimbin, while future action will require community, industry and government collaboration.

The Chamber is looking forward to taking action on some of these issues early in the New Year and exploring opportunities for the Chamber to strengthen our role in the local business community while improving local business networks.

A touch of Indonesia



Story by Ricki Fischer, photos by Pam Bourne

Visiting Indonesian Christians (front): Alni, Riki, (second row): Kim, Felix, David, Nina, Jenny, Jamie, Belinda, Melia, Weny, Kendall, Natalie, Adi, (rear): Suha, Teddy, Fery, Nita, Arnold and Bob mix with Nimbinites.

On Saturday 5th December, 13 Indonesian young people descended on Nimbin for the weekend to meet the locals and encourage the local Church community. The group came from Bethany International Fellowship in Melbourne.

They started the day off by hitting the streets of Nimbin to check out the colourful village and meet the locals. In the evening they hosted

a gathering for believers in Jesus, where they tasted the delights of Indonesian cuisine, enjoyed singing and testimonies of lives changed through the love of Christ.

On Sunday morning a group were on Pam Pussycat's Christian radio program on Nim-FM followed by ministry at the Uniting Church where

they led the congregation in singing, showed a video and shared some teaching on Jesus. The meeting was well supported by the local community and visitors.

Following the service the Uniting and Anglican members hosted an Aussie BBQ for the Indonesians and other visitors.

Nimbin CTC hosts Broadband for Seniors

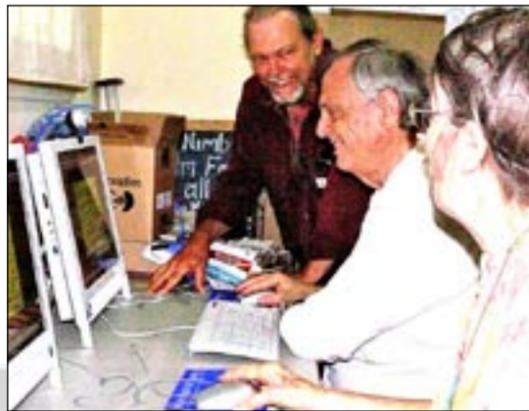
The Nimbin Community Centre is hosting a seniors kiosk that provides free access to computers, broadband services and training.

If you are 50 or over and interested in learning how to use a computer so you can stay in touch with friends and family drop in to the CTC in the Community Centre. Assistance is available from a friendly tutor.

You can send and receive emails, swap files and photos as well as meet other seniors who are venturing on to the internet for the first time at seniors club on Wednesday mornings. No prior knowledge is assumed and beginners are most welcome.

The kiosk is funded under the Australian government's Broadband for Seniors initiative and aims to provide older Australians with access to computers and the internet via free internet kiosks, and support to gain confidence and build skills in using new technology.

The program seeks to address the issue of older Australians feeling isolated and 'left behind' in a technological age, and to build community participation and social inclusion amongst older Australians.



A.I. and Joan by Rob Harle

Artificial intelligence
hum! hum!
the last myth of humanity,
Homo Electronicus – welcome.
I'm still alive though,
How?
Why?
but I live in contrivance mode
awaiting,
impatiently the silicone Messiah.
A life within society in particular
a Singularity in drag.
von Neumann, Turing, Shiva,
a virtual motion comic book
eating scattered electrons,
jumping across
quantum parallel pathways.
Joan – angel in heavy-metal armour,
perhaps she inspired those who executed her,
the biggest multi-national of history
the ultimate anthropomorphic patent attorneys,
Yes! They did her in!
in searing smoke
in bureaucratic blindness.
Soon the impression of an age
changing, turning, calculating
will maintain and reinforce
|
forever.

Rainbow Love Shop

It's surprising what you can find inside the tiny Rainbow Love shop on Nimbin's Cullen Street. Nestled between the rainbow Cafe and the Lifestyle Real Estate agency, the shop is an

Alladin's Cave of original artworks, artistic clothing, jewellery and unusual textiles and wall hangings.

As proprietor Peter Hughes pointed out individual items in the array of local and imported handcraft crammed into the space, he commented that the cloisonne earrings were popular. "Where else can you buy earrings for the price of a cup of coffee?" he said.



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Underground are ready to rock

Nimbin Underground are going all out with a mega gig on 26th January in the Nimbin Town Hall.

The gig, titled "Invasion Day", will showcase seven of the Northern Rivers' best garage, punk, grunge and heavy metal bands. Non-stop dancing will be possible from 1pm in the afternoon until late into the evening.

The line up includes: Nimbin's favourite, *Manifest*, who love to dress and paint up, playing their original invective country-punk ballads; *The Tendons*, a hard-rocking Lismorian outfit, who have just released their latest CD, "Cult Leader"; *Tanamera*, a heavy metal band from Alstonville, who really get heads banging; *Wine Slutz*, a two-man AC/



DC meets 50cents rock/rap combo; *Slug*, down and dirty, punk four piece, reminiscent of *Joy Division*; *Thunder Gods from Thora*, another wicked heavy metal band and *HyperNovae*, a Brisbane-based band, who love it hard, fast and rocking!

Never before has Nimbin seen so many hard core rock bands in one place on the same day. A rock'n'roll invasion.

The gig is FREE! Everyone is welcome. This is a great chance to support local live music and have a deadly time. For further details contact David Hyett at Bringabong, phone 0418-824-598 or go to myspace.com/manifestaus





53 Cullen Street, Nimbin
Phone 6689-1246

January Gig Guide

Thursday 7th	Fitzpatrick
Friday 8th	The Hipshooters
Thursday 14th	The Love Bus
Friday 15th	The Bakery
Sunday 17th	Mish – Market Sunday – 1.30pm
Thursday 21st	Jay Jackson
Friday 22nd	Redbelly Black
Thursday 28th	Neil Anderson
Friday 29th	Azzadoota

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Jon English - The Rock Show

by Pampussycat

Jon English was back in town December, and I caught up with him to ask about *The Rock Show*.

Jon said, "The Rock Show was a happy accident, it started off in January when Stuart Smith was asked to put together a show for the Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre. He decided he would do a rock show, and base it on the music from about 1965 to 1980. He

asked me to come along and be part of it, because quote/unquote I was there!

"The Rock Show is a group of extremely talented young musicians, ranging from 42 down to 17. They're all multi-instrumentalists and extremely talented. They sing, they dance, the whole lot! It is an exposition of talent if you like."

I queried that with the other musicians being so young, where did they hear this music, or was it new to them?

CD Review The Tendons: "Cult Leader"

Reviewed by Les Hogan

A few weeks ago I bumped into Glen from *The Tendons* at a Lismore gig and he handed me their debut CD. Glen (guitar, vocals) John (drums) and Guy (bass) are based in Lismore and have been gigging around the traps pretty much since they first formed about eighteen months ago.

This ten track (and one ghost track) CD is heavily influenced by 80's and 90's Aus rock. The hypnotic sway of "Big Guns" has a *Died Pretty* feel to it with wonderful layered vocals. The buzzsaw punk attack of "In your room" reminded me of iconic Aussie punksters X, and the swamp boogie of "King Brown" is not unlike early *King Salmon* and the *Scientists*. There are echoes



of *Buffalo Tom* in "Make Love" and the title track "Cult Leader" is reminiscent of Brisbane's *Custard* with Glen's vocals sounding similar to Dave McCormack.

On other tracks such as "Snow 2480" and "Red Cedar Man", you get that wonderful North Coast earthy feel which is important to local musos and listeners.

All in all, I think it's a great CD from the lads being recorded, produced and mastered locally in Lismore.

You can catch the guys playing live at Nimbin Town Hall on 26th January, along with six other hard rocking bands. So get along to the gig, buy a CD and support local music. You won't be disappointed.

Jon replied, "It's a funny thing! You'll find that with a lot of young musicians they're drawn to that period. I know, I've got a couple of them in the family myself! I think it was such a rich vein of stuff coming out, real diversification, real different stuff, that rang people's bells. And of course it was the baby boomers time. When we were all teenagers or young. We still represent, I think, the largest part of the Australian population by a long way."

The Rock Show has got a long and healthy lifespan for 2010. "It's been immensely popular wherever we have played."

I asked Jon about his many roles in theatre productions. He said, "I've done a lot of different stuff ranging from Andrew Lloyd Webber (*Jesus Christ Superstar*) to Gilbert and Sullivan. Actually, *Pirates of Penzance* was immensely popular 'cos we mucked around on stage a lot, and people thought that was good fun. I've done *Big River*, I've done *Eurhythmies*, ancient Greek theatre, it's nice to dip your hat to that once in a while. I've done *French Farce*, a lot of different stuff, because I just enjoy the medium. *All Together Now*, well, that ran for three years, about 100 episodes. That was a sitcom. They're a different animal altogether."

"But to be brutally honest, Rock 'n' Roll and music is my first love, that's what I started off doing."

I asked Jon about highlights in his musical career.

"Highlights? I was very lucky, as you don't really recognise history when it's happening around you. It's only later you realise and think Oh My God! For my fifteenth birthday my sister took me along to see the *Beatles* live at the Sydney stadium. That was a real turning point for me, cos I basically went home and told my dad guess what? I know what I want to be. He said oh that's good, what's that? And I said I want to be a musician! I want to be a Beatle! Gee, he bought me a guitar, and one thing led to another. That was one of my highlights.

"The other highlights were, oh a lot of the old shows they had at the stadium, where you get three or four bands for the price of one, like *The Who* with *The Small Faces*, you'd get on the one bill. We accepted that as being the norm. As opposed to paying \$200 a ticket to go and see *Brittney Spears*."

After *The Rock Show*, what does the future hold for Jon English? "I'm doing a lot of stuff with *Jona Road*, who are a big country band. They're kinda backing me, and they're doing their own stuff. The reason that exists is 'cos it's my nephew's band. It's the Partridge Family there! That's been great 'cos they're a good rockin' band. There's a couple of theatre shows I've been asked to do, and there's a TV show.

"I've got lots of stuff on the plate, but at the moment we're concentrating on *The Rock Show*, cos it's such damned good fun to do".

Lucky Wonders

The Lucky Wonders have just returned from a successful tour to Sydney via Bellingen to find that their debut single *Happy Pill* has hit No. 1 on JJJ Unearthed Roots chart.

In the last stages of recording their album and planning a national tour in April, the band has grown to include Brent Calcutt on bass and Anastassijah Scales on



drums, and is sounding great. Sunday 24th January sees them serenading Sphinx Rock Cafe with their insightful, beautifully crafted, award winning songwriting.

Nimbin Bowlo

Sibley Street Nimbin, phone 6689-1250

What's On in January?

- **Australia Day – Tuesday 26th January**
Social Bowls from 9.30am
Music from 1pm
- **Sunday Roasts are back!**
Every Sunday, 12-2pm
- **Friday Night raffles –**
Drawn at 7pm







• Air conditioned lounge, bar and dining room

• Courtesy Bus

• Lunch & dinner Tuesday - Sunday



Sphinx rock cafe

Sunday music January 2010
starts 2pm

3rd Monkey & the Fish

10th Bill Jacobi

17th Mick McHugh Duo

24th Lucky Wonders

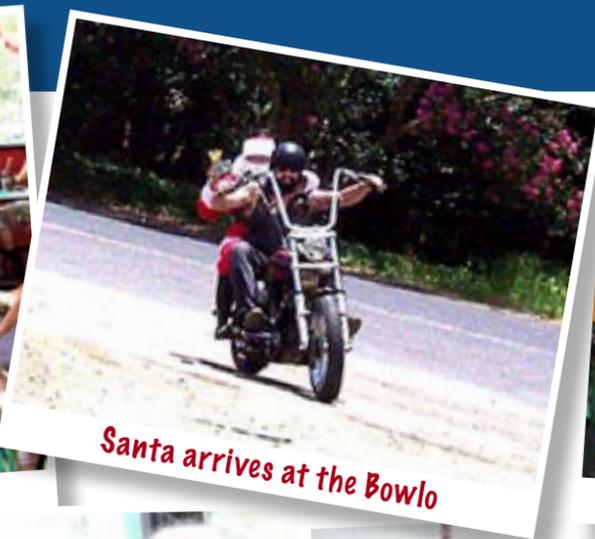
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www.sphinxrockcafe.com

CHRISTMAS 2009



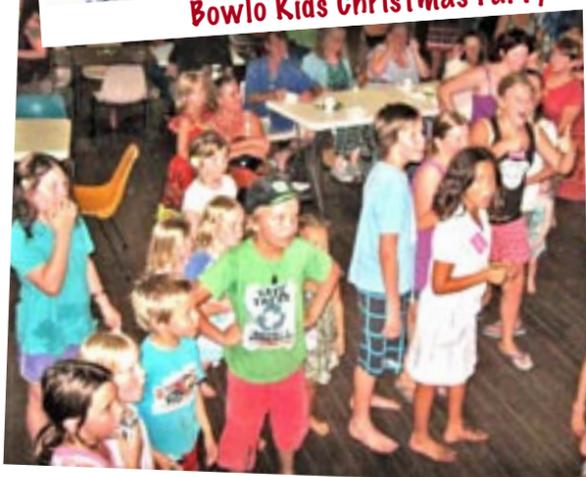
Bowlo Kids Christmas Party



Santa arrives at the Bowlo



Christmas Carols



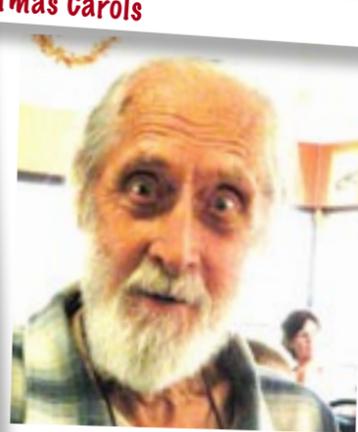
NNIC Christmas Party



Betty and Xmas pup



Tomaso Lonsdale and Mike Shegog



Uncle Len



Santa and elf bring presents (NNIC)



Jane and the raffle



Jennifer and Lesley with hamper



Garden display at Goolmangar



Carolling Choristers

PEACE AND GOODWILL TO ALL

The families at Nimbin Child Care Centre have been busy collecting non-perishable food items and toiletries for a special family in need this Christmas. We are fortunate to have a caring group of parents and interested community members who have donated willingly.

The hamper was donated to the Nimbin Neighbourhood Centre, a very valuable service within our Community which provides families with referral counselling services.

Thank you to everyone who donated and for supporting our community.

Pictured at left is Nimbin Child Care Centre Director, Jennifer and Lesley from the Neighbourhood Centre.



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