

The Alternative Journal of the Rainbow Region

THE NIMBIN GOOD TIMES

Libertarian and FREE

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Plantem Park: same message, fresh hope

by Michael Balderstone

It's always such a relief when we get to the Monday after MardiGrass without any major dramas.

This year especially, there was the guesswork about whether the new venue would work, and judging by the feedback it did – and maybe we now have a new outdoor performance site, right in the middle of the Nimbin village.

Three weeks ago, no-one imagined we'd be using the Sativa Stadium, as it had been raining two days out of three for months and it was frog heaven at the bottom of the amphitheatre.

Then it stopped raining. For two whole weeks, no rain – and on the Wednesday before the big weekend, we decided to go for it. Seventy volunteer backpackers and a few precious locals (who, importantly, knew the lie of the land and spoke English!) spent a frantic few days building and decorating the stage over the top of the wettest area. And it worked.

The weather gods shone on us and the privacy of Plantem Park, with its backdrop of trees along the creek, left us in a world of our own with the main street of Nimbin way behind us.

The area was alcohol-free with a good vibe from one end to the other, from Duuvy's hempcrete wall to the Green Banks' chill space. The Town Hall being in the same area made everything easier for those who managed to get an armband.

Maybe next year we could try doing a special deal for locals, \$20 instead of \$50 for the all-weekend pass. MardiGrass remains a protest, but the increasing costs to keep all the authorities employed gives us little option but to have an entrance fee for some events.

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Check out the
MARDIGRASS
PICTORIAL
CENTRESPREAD



Face off at the cop shop. Still protesting 21 years later.



Solidarity with jailed medicinal cannabis man Tony Bower was widespread.



Lismore's 23rd
Annual

Gemfest

2 Full Days: Saturday 18th May, 9-5 pm

Sunday 19th May, 9-3 pm

Lismore Showground

Venue:
Entry:

\$5 per adult, \$1 per child

(under 5 yrs free)

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