



THE NIMBIN GOODTIMES

Far out and FREE

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Ring out the old, ring in the new

by Andy Gough

Blazing infernos and police raids have done nothing to dampen the spirit of Nimbin, and business is booming.

Tourists continue to target Nimbin as a popular holiday destination, flocking to the town by car, bus or hitching. Struggling to find a parking space, NGT braved the masses and took to the streets to assess the vibe of the town at the dawn of the new year.

Mim at the Oasis Café told NGT that business had been "hectic" and that it was "always like this at this time of year". She said that every café in town had been run off its feet and that it was "beautiful" that the Pot a' Gold café had evolved and prospered.

Having been open scarcely four weeks, proprietor Jodi told NGT that there had been a few hiccups, but "nothing too serious". Jodi was the former proprietor of the Rainbow Café, which she says was "underinsured" and she has had to borrow more money in order to start up the Pot a' Gold. Jodi said she had been overwhelmed with the lovely local support she had received.

Kim the clairvoyant told NGT that people are getting back on track now, and "wanting to kick down the stable doors" at the end of the year of the horse, as we enter into the year of the goat, which she says will be "good for everyone," particularly after the new moon on 22nd February. Let's hope so.

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Tourist buses arriving, loaded with happy visitors keen to check out the local art, and more.



Jodi and busy staff at the Pot a' Gold



Luke and Flozzy, from 'The Cosmos,' said Nimbin was "a great place to learn and grow" and they feel a sacred connection here. Luke says he has quit his roofing job to stay in Nimbin after hooking up with Flozzy on New Years Eve. They have been weaving baskets from the palm fronds in Cullen Street. Luke plans on doing some fire twirling, while Flozzy is keen to make some banksia seed necklaces.

Mim, of the Oasis, says the silly season has been "mad" for businesses, but welcomes the tourist trade and smiling faces.



Yann and Fiona from Mornington visit the Environment Centre



Chiara (left), from Italy, chose to set up her glassblowing and art studio here in Nimbin. She says after the fires and the police raids business was very slow with "only undercover police" visiting her store. Now she says she is happy with the improvement in trade.



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