

The Alternative Journal of the Rainbow Region



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Lanterns lift those winter blues

Lismore's solstice event set to bring light to the heart of the community



Photos by Natsky

The centre of Lismore will erupt in a fusion of illumination on Saturday night, 20th June, and the invitation is out for all revelers to join this iconic festival and parade with its amazing, crazy, wild and wonderful atmosphere loved by thousands over the years.

This annual outdoor celebration has become embedded in the city's psyche after 21 years, and this year's Lismore Lantern Parade is set to reach new heights. Spectators and participants alike will be rewarded as they make their way to lantern

central to bring in the light for the year's longest night.

The theme this year, 'Love a Parade – festivals of the world' promises to showcase so much more than a parade, and will show off fabulous new lanterns and nine bands.

The parade will hit the streets after a day filled with energy and creativity focused on bring the community together to celebrate all things light and bright.

The city centre will come alive with great arts and crafts market stalls, music, lantern workshops and food.

The central village green offers a chance to sit and absorb the festive ambience.

The Conservatorium hosts Courtyard CONcerts, stalls and Buskers' Space, the Carrington Carnival Stage hosts bands.

The Vikings are back in town and seem to have invaded the CBD with a Hunting Party outpost near the Environment Centre.

If you want to sit in comfort and watch the full parade and the fabulous Fiery Finale, tickets for Oakes Oval are now available online at: www.lanternparade.com or from Powermax in Woodlark Street or the Lismore Visitor Information Centre (1300-878-387) for the fiery finale at

Oakes Oval.

Gates open there at 4pm for pre-finale entertainment with performances by musicians, dancers and big screens following lanterns. There will be a spectacular Viking Battle re-enactment, hot food and plenty of illuminating entertainment. Audiences can boogie in the warm glow of the bonfire after watching the fireworks and listening to great music.

The Lismore Lantern Parade is produced by LightnUp Inc. in conjunction with partners, Lismore City Council, business and community sponsors, and the support of thousands of volunteers.

Environment Day festival fun in Murwillumbah

Food production impacts our planet more than anything else we do. Three planetary support systems – diversity of life, nitrogen balance and climate change – have been overstepped, threatening all life on earth. In the next 40 years we need to produce as much food as we have in the previous 500 years, as populations grow and demand for meat and dairy products increases, but current agricultural systems cannot meet this demand. Science now reveals that a global plant-based diet will have a profound impact, healing our natural environment, our health and our children's future.

Murwillumbah's Caldera Environment Centre (CEC) is

set to hold a family fun festival to celebrate this year's World Environment Day.

The environmentally-friendly event, at Murwillumbah's Knox Park on Sunday 7th June from 10am to 3pm, will be high on energy but low on waste. Council's Bushland Officer John Turnbull said Council stalls would focus on sustainable agriculture, waste minimisation and water saving.

Entertainment on the day will include live music from Bunya and Luna Junction and further entertainment will be provided by The Pitts Family Circus, a kids' activities tent and a performance and workshop with Hoopla kids Circus.

Tasty food made from local produce will be available from the Caldera Environment Centre stall.

Early in the day there will be a facilitated solar energy experts panel/discussion /Q&A session. Three presenters will each speak for 10 minutes about solar energy generation and storage including solar thermal plants, battery technology and rebates. Afterwards, They will be available at their stalls.

There will be talks on organic growing, sustainable land use and the changing climate impacts on local food production with three scientists, growers and educators.



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