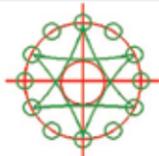


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Solar trailer provides camping power

by Mario Santini,
Rainbow Power Company

Woody Head near Iluka, NSW must be one of the most popular campgrounds on the North Coast. Nestled inside Bundjalung National Park it features beaches, coastal rainforest, wildlife, rock pools, a boat ramp, and much more.

It is no longer a secret that Woody Head is a great destination for a family holiday. During peak season the campground is taken over by swarms of kids on bicycles, and the smell of wood-fired meals fills the air from early till late.

Many campsites feature creative tarp constructions and/or inventive kitchens that would have made MacGyver blush with envy. All mod-cons are left behind except for solar lights or other small solar kits for a genuine off-grid-living experience. There is, however, one item that no-one likes to leave behind – the precious ‘smart phone’.

A mobile phone fits into any pocket and there’s no reason not to bring it (reception is good), but there are no powered sites. Of course, smart phones can be recharged in the car, but the toll it takes on the vehicle’s battery is often underestimated. According to



the local roadside assistance mechanic, at least one service call-out per day is due to flattened car batteries at Woody Head.

During the 2016 spring break, Rainbow Power Company placed a solar powered trailer in the middle of the campground and opened it for public use. The trailer features 10 lockable compartments, each equipped

with 2 USB outputs, powerful enough to charge smart phones and/or tablets. The keyless lockers work like a hotel safe and were accessible for campers and day visitors free of charge.

The response was overwhelming. The lockers filled up within minutes every morning, and remained booked out for the greater part of the day. The service

was provided on a “first come, first served” basis but as most people want their phones back ASAP, a locker would sooner or later become available.

The charging station was particularly popular with teenagers, some would hang out and check the battery level every 15 minutes. Rainbow Power Company truly hopes that any parents’ plan to wean off their offspring from electronic devices wasn’t thwarted.

On the other hand, no-one had to miss out on the daily Snapchat Challenge. Let us know if you do (or don’t) want to see the solar trailer back at Woody Head for the next spring break at: rpc.com.au

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Colour revolution for Christmas?

by Gi Linda

Christmas is a commodity, and God manifests as a pocket dog bringing fun, food, fiestas and fantasy.

Christmas songs in shopping malls lull consumers into a comfortably numb trance, as money bleeds from wallets into corporate coffers. Love of money spawns a festering greed that erodes integrity, destroys faith and corrupts nations. Love of money translates into power, privilege and profit for the hidden wizards feeding off the powerlessness, deprivation and exploitation of the rest.

The faithful with glazed eyes revere filthy lucre as a fake saviour. World leaders tango on the brink of apocalypse and barter their souls to ascend the pyramid of power. As Paul Craig Roberts said, “Money corrupts everything, and capitalism turns everything into a commodity that’s bought and sold. In capitalist regimes, everything is for sale: honour, integrity, justice, truth. Everything is reduced to the filthy lucre.”

Former Canadian minister of defence, Paul Hellyer, warned that a cabal of transnational cartels that crush countries economically has been running the US for the last fifty years. “The end game is a world government, the New World Order, unelected and accountable only to them.”

FoxBusiness, slathering at prospects of ‘robust’ holiday spending, dubbed the brightening economy as the “Trump rally”. Watching the political reality show from the peanut gallery Down Under, it’s evident that America’s president is the witch’s bitch.



After Hillary Clinton’s election defeat, Australia quietly announced the severing of all official ties with the pay-to-play Clinton Foundation that lists Australia as having contributed \$88 million of taxpayers’ money to the globalist cause. But the wizard punts with a buck and a claw either way, continuing to fill war coffers by fuelling conflicts in Syria, Iraq, Libya, Ukraine and Yemen.

President-elect Donald Trump wants to “make America great again”, but we should expect that a populist, alt-right nationalist promising to drain the swamp, disenfranchise the unholy huddle and break the power of the militarist elite, would quickly be assassinated or hobbled.

Eager to assist in dismantling Trump’s brash challenge to globalist control, billionaire globalist financier George Soros is collaborating with intelligence agencies to trigger an American revolution under the banner of fighting ‘misogyny, racism, Islamophobia, and

xenophobia.’

Soros is also seen bankrolling the European immigrant crisis, and he has been exposed as the driving force behind several globalist ‘colour revolutions’, including Georgia’s ‘Rose Revolution’ and Ukraine’s ‘Orange Revolution’. The new ‘Purple Revolution’, instigated by the Clintons and Soros-affiliated organisations, is now financing street protests and fomenting economic turmoil.

This political agitation is intended to destabilise the American nation and maintain it under globalist control, while eroding hope that the advance of globalist savage dominion can be stopped.

Globalists live by their golden rule – gold rules; but authentic Christian sentiment reminds us of a better way – as Jesus said, love truth and justice and give grace, then relationships, families and nations can be transformed, healed and restored.



'You're in our sights'

The police helicopter spent a day flying low around Nimbin at the end of November, as part of the annual Cannabis Eradication Program in the region. Police do not disclose the cost of the program, but it has been estimated to run into the millions of dollars. Due to the early start, their return this year is likely to be low, with one grower saying, "It's not really the growth season at the moment."

HEMP HEADLINES

Petition: Give dying patients back their right to access cannabis [Change.org]

"I can't express how disappointed I am with the Federal Government in their treatment of patients who use medicinal cannabis for control of serious and debilitating health conditions. The Federal Legislation passed in February 2016 was hollow victory indeed, and Dan would certainly turn in his grave. His legacy appears now to be a sham. Sussan Ley, you told me that you understood how I felt as a mother watching my son battle cancer... clearly you do not. You have turned your back on the people you should feel privileged to serve. I implore you and your Government to stop putting up road blocks to sick people who are fighting for their lives... Please reverse this disastrous decision immediately and put patients first." – Lucy Haslam

Cannabis as Medicine Survey 2016 [The University of Sydney]

Have you used cannabis for medical purposes in the last 12 months? Do you currently live in Australia? Are over the age of 18? If so, you are eligible to participate. Sharing your experiences will help give a better understanding of how cannabis is used for medical purposes and help develop better cannabis based medicines. Your information will be anonymous.

Leading neurologist calls on UK medics to recognise cannabis as medicine [Cannabis Law Reform]

In support of a cross-party group of MPs, Professor Mike Barnes, scientific and medical advisor to CLEAR, has called for the Royal Colleges of medicine to introduce guidelines for the use of cannabis as medicine. In a new initiative, Professor Barnes has written to the presidents of several Royal Colleges proposing the development of guidelines around the use of cannabis as medicine.

Smoke's negative effects should guide marijuana and tobacco policy [Policy Options]

Canada is in the process of introducing increasingly stringent measures to discourage use of tobacco, while simultaneously moving forward with a plan that, regardless of its intentions, tacitly legitimises the recreational use of marijuana through its legalisation. These two very different approaches to smokable leaf products fail to give due attention to a crucial similarity between smoking tobacco and smoking marijuana: the smoke.

Where marijuana is the doctor's orders, will insurers pay? [The New York Times]

Early this year, a disabled former automobile body worker named Greg Vialpando explained to lawmakers in New Mexico how medical marijuana helped his chronic back

pain. State legislators were considering a bill backed by workers' compensation insurers that would have exempted them from paying for medical marijuana. But Mr. Vialpando and another patient described how smoking the drug let them escape years of stupor caused by powerful prescription narcotic drugs known as opioids. The lawmakers ended up dropping the bill, and Mr. Vialpando's expenses for buying marijuana are covered by insurance.

Reining it in [Vice]

The Canadian government is slashing the limit on how much veterans can be prescribed under federal rules, from 10 grams per day to just three, and putting a hard cap on how much marijuana should cost, at \$8.50 a gram. That brings the rules in line with Health Canada recommendations, and may help curb runaway costs for the Veterans Affairs Canada drug insurance program.

As more states legalize marijuana, investors and marketers line up [Southern California Public Radio]

The smell of money is in the air. "Support for legal cannabis was one of the few mandates voters in both red and blue states delivered," said Brendan Kennedy, CEO of the marijuana-focused private equity firm Privateer Holdings. Since the passage of the eight ballot measures, he says there's been a surge of interest from investors "who recognize that the end of cannabis prohibition is inevitable."

Medicinal cannabis stocks to list on ASX [The Australian]

Medicinal cannabis is generating a buzz in Australia's investment circles with two new "pot stocks" set to hit the local bourse but the market is still undecided if this is the next bubble. Zelta Therapeutics, a biotech developing medical cannabis therapies, is set to relist on the local market tomorrow. The company, which is doing a backdoor listing through junior miner Gleneagle Gold, raised \$4 million for its listing, with the funds to be used for preclinical and clinical trials. Zelta is developing medical cannabis therapies for a range of issues, including sleep disorders, dermatology conditions and cancer.

Marijuana market now almost as big as spirits in Washington state [Independent]

Sales of legal marijuana have almost overtaken hard liquor in Washington, which was one of the first US states to legalise cannabis for recreational use. The second quarter of 2016 was the most profitable so far for the Evergreen State's legal weed industry, with residents and visitors for the first time spending more than \$200m on marijuana and marijuana products.

For more Hemp Headlines, go to: bempembassy.net

Wake up, it's a medicine!

by Michael Balderstone

This is a letter received at the HEMP Embassy. And we get them like this quite often.

My name is Danielle Simpson and I am writing to you regarding my son Christopher Simpson. I just wanted to let you know of another story regarding medicinal marijuana.

I have a serious chronic pancreatic condition which is very painful to me. My son learnt how to make medicinal marijuana (in the oil form) at home to give to me for my condition and two friends of his who have cancer. The difference it made on managing my pain, to weight gain and simple daily things was so much better, it was truly amazing. My family and friends are so happy with the change in me.

Unfortunately, he was visited by the police and was arrested. He is still in jail at Arthur Corrie Correctional Centre here in Qld, and has been since March this year. The police were quite mean and spiteful to him, despite him telling them the reasons for doing this. The making of it was not dangerous in any way, but they are coming down quite hard on him.

We have a lawyer through legal aid, and as much as I respect their profession, he is very unenthusiastic and negative. We are still awaiting the court case.

Chris is 37 years old and in jail for greatly helping his mother. It is such a sad and unhappy time for me and all his family.

My doctor of 20 years is putting me on the medicinal marijuana program when it comes through in March next year.

I just wanted to let you know about a great son who is in a hell-hole because of helping me. If there is any advice you could give me, my phone number is enclosed. I have great respect and admiration for your party.

Thank you so much for taking the time to read my letter.

*Yours sincerely,
Danielle Simpson.*

I called Danielle, who told me Legal Aid never answers her messages and there is no hearing date set yet. They said her son will probably get a couple of years in jail. The police searched her place soon after her son's arrest, took a small amount of medicine from her fridge and charged her. She was fined \$100 by an apologetic judge. She visits her son every weekend and talks to him every day on the phone. She was happy for me to reprint her letter.

Just when you thought it was getting legal! I see no

sign of it, in fact the opposite in Nimbin where it has never been harder to score pot, with the main street live on camera to the cop shop and nine permanent police, in this one-pub village, keenly hunting pot sellers! How come when people have been coming here for their medicine for fifty odd years, the police come in so hard now? Just when they are accepting cannabis really does have great medical benefits? Just what do they have to prove in their enthusiasm to arrest? Who or what is driving them? It's embarrassing enough for everyone that they've been barking up the wrong tree for fifty odd years, but much worse if they keep on doing it now we all know... it's a medicine!

My thinking always returns to the simple truth of what we have in common, which is we're all just trying to enjoy our lives as much as possible. And drugs are part of it and always have been. The average Aussie gets up in the morning, makes a coffee, takes some pills and heads into the day. Then it's tea or coffee all day plus quite likely more pills, then quite likely alcohol to relax in the evening. All legal drugs and all designed to try and help you enjoy the day as much as possible.

Meanwhile, all around us is a huge war going on trying to stop people using any other drugs. Drugs that haven't been passed by the all-powerful Pharma-controlled TGA, the Therapeutic Goods Administration. Health and profit-making should be separated somehow.

Despite the phenomenal changes in America, here it has got harder and harder for cannabis users with first the sniffer dogs but now the saliva testing of drivers. Many, many long-term tokers on the North Coast have ceased their evening smoke and replaced it with, usually alcohol, but also other drugs that aren't tested.

Country people are very dependent on their drivers licence. Many who have stopped smoking are more stressful and angry, and of course worse drivers because of it. I'm not convinced the saliva drug testing hasn't actually increased the danger on our roads with long term smokers now reticent to use their usual medication and if they do, they're anxious about being tested.

The saliva testing sure hasn't helped car accident statistics in the area, with local police saying recently, "It's been a really bad year for us. A lot of local people have been dying on our roads."



Two of last year's carollers at the school: Scott and Nathalie

Christmas Carols galore

Nimbin Central School will host Christmas carols from dusk (7.30pm) on Wednesday 7th December, with a barbecue from 6.30pm. All welcome.

Along with community singing, the programme will feature school choirs, Vocal Minority, the Sledge family, Williamina Bowers, Steve Smith and many other beautiful voices.

St Marks Anglican Church in Cullen Street also invites the community for Christmas carols on Tuesday 20th December at 6.30pm. Stay for Christmas cake and a cuppa after the carols service.



Inspired trio from Auckland

Occupying an inimitable position in the trans-Tasman musical scene, the Auckland Trio is a dynamic and versatile ensemble with an innovative approach to style and repertoire, exploring the realm between classical and other genres to create an inspiring musical fusion.

The Trio's imaginative programs draw from classical, traditional Irish, Gypsy, Tango and world music, to create a unique listening experience for all audiences.

As their name suggests, the Auckland Trio is a dynamic and versatile music ensemble based in Auckland (New Zealand). Established by husband and wife team of Russian violinist, Dr Elena Abramova and with Australian violist Greg McGarity, the Auckland Trio embraces an eclectic mix of projects and performances.

This concert in Nimbin, on Wednesday 14th December will be their first at the venue, and will interest musicians from a wide range of instrumental backgrounds. Tickets to the concert are \$10 and are available online, at the door, or from Phoenix Rising Café next door, which will be open from 6.30pm for dinner.

For a relaxed meal before the 8pm show, we suggest that you arrive and order early – you can enjoy the tranquil twilight besides Mulgum Creek, and while you wait for your meal, you may even spot a platypus!

More info available online at: www.nimbinbushtheatre.com/events

Worldwide video-art project marks International Human Rights Day

On 10th December 1948, the UN Council adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Each year this date is commemorated by International Human Rights Day.

To mark the day, Dutch organisation 'Global Village Artists Network' (stichting White Cube) has created a truly worldwide project. Not only have video-artists from all over the globe contributed, we have also arranged for *Global Videos* to be shown simultaneously at 16 venues worldwide.

Stimulating cultural exchange between artists and the public is the key factor in Global Village Artists Network (stichting White Cube) productions. The group is best known for its biennial art-project *Global Village*, which began in 2010. 'Meeting' is the central theme: artists from all over the world meet each other and the public.

Every two years, about 65 emerging artists are selected. To date, *Global Village* exhibitions have taken place in the Netherlands, France, Germany, Denmark, Azerbaijan and Macedonia. Stichting White Cube also organises other exhibitions and projects within the EU.

Global Videos is a daughter project of *Global Village*. With the *Global Village* project we were faced with various logistical problems, such as transport costs, visa, customs, etc. which prevented many artists from attending our exhibitions. Artists from Africa, the Middle East, Latin America and Asia especially found it difficult to get visas or to transport their art.



'If Mars Were A Woman' from Neil Howe's 'When I Grow Up'

With *Global Videos* we have found a way to receive art-videos from each part of the world by internet; no visa, transport or customs problems. The internet also allows us to send the videos gathered back into the world to reach audiences outside our regular exhibition circuit.

2016 is the first year we have organized *Global Videos*. Our aim is to build up audiences in the coming two years, so that in 2018, when the Universal Declaration of Human Rights celebrates its 70th birthday, we can organize *Global Videos* at 70 locations around the world (on all continents) with 70 art-videos made by artists from each corner of this earth.

Thanks to our partners, the 28 art-videos featured

in *Global Videos 2016* can now be seen on 5 continents, with screenings organized in the Netherlands, Denmark, Canada, Finland, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Israel, Pakistan, Poland, Nepal, Macau, Italy, Scotland, Macedonia, Brazil and Australia.

In *When I Grow Up*, a featured art-video by Northern Rivers' artist Neil Howe, a collage of animated digital images and 21st century news reports, paints a very grim picture of the world today, as primary school children from Lismore and South Africa optimistically say how the world will be when they grow up.

This video won the Metropolis Award at the 2010 Madrid Festival of Contemporary Audio Visual

Arts, the Audience and 2nd Place Awards at the 2011 Blue Banana Video Festival in Bavaria, and was nominated for Best Byron Film at the 2012 Byron Bay International Film Festival.

As the Australian venue for this worldwide art-video exhibition, Lismore's Serpentine Community Gallery is pleased to invite everyone to the screening of *Global Videos* on International Human Rights Day – 10th December 2016. Doors open at 7pm, *Global Videos* starts at 7.30pm. Length: 2 hours including a short intermission. Light refreshments will be available.

The gallery is located at 17 Bridge Street, Lismore. For more info: (02) 6621-6845 or: www.serpentinearts.org

NYE comedy night of bling

This year's New Year's Eve Big Gig Comedy show features international comedy star Gordon Southern (pictured).

MC and Bling Queen Mandy Nolan is thrilled to be hosting what she says is "the most iconic comedy gig on the coast." She believes that moving to a more intimate location at the Ballina RSL Bowling Club is going to make the night even more exclusive, so it's a better reason to get those tickets quickly!

"For the first time we have an International comedian headlining, Gordon is a regular at the London Comedy Store, so comedy lovers are in for a treat," she said.

Gordon Southern is the International world clown. His upbeat and energetic delivery combined with his fantastically funny observational comedy and quick-witted improvisation has secured his place as an audience favourite all over the world. Gordon



is a regular at many of the top clubs including the famous London Comedy Store.

A talented actor and award winning writer with critical acclaim for numerous projects that he has worked on, Southern has written for some work memorable comedy shows of the last decade. Gordon

is an international headline comic spending several months each year abroad, performing in Australia, and as far afield as Afghanistan, the Falkland Islands and Kosovo. He's sold out a 700-seat theatre with a

solo show in Mumbai, and performed a two-hour long one-hour show in Jakarta.

He headlined the first ever Serbian comedy festival and regularly tops the bill in Singapore, Dubai, Cyprus and New Zealand. Gordon made his Edinburgh debut in the highly respected Comedy Zone in 1997 and has since gone on to take up several successful and acclaimed solo shows including sell-out runs at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival for two years running.

Joining Mandy Nolan and Gordon Southern is Big Gig favourite, Greg Sullivan, one of the most in-demand acts on the increasingly popular comedy cruises. Laid back, insightful and impossible not to love, Greg Sullivan never fails to bring home the comedy bacon.

So make the night something special, wear your finest blingiest bling, and be part of the comedy sparkle this New Year's Eve!

The best show in town is at the Ballina RSL Bowling Club on Saturday 31st December. Doors open 6.30pm, show 8pm. 18+ show. Tickets \$30, available at the club or online at: <https://ballinarsl.com.au>



Join the Orkeztar!

Orkeztar Lizmoré invites musicians to join its weekly rehearsals.

"Bring any melodic, chordal or percussion instrument, even a kazoo or cowbell. Tell your family and mates to come along and current, past and new members are welcome," conductor Pietro Fine said.

The Orkeztar is currently working on learning a street performance repertoire. The Orkeztar plans to memorise as many as possible, for gigs where charts aren't appropriate. The charts being worked on are available to members via a folder in the Orkeztar's dropbox.

Weekly rehearsals are now held on Wednesdays in the back room at the Tatts Hotel in Keen Street, Lismore. Arrive early to start at 6.30pm. Parking is available at the back of the hotel. Contact Julie on 0417-518-442 for more info.

Weather gods play first at The Channon

by Rayzor

Our last Open Mic for 2016 got off to a shaky start. I made the mistake of believing the weather report – "70% chance of rain" – not good, but "Expected rainfall 1mm" – no problem.

Alas, the storm hit just as we were completing the set-up. We got the 1mm in the first minute followed by another 18mm, a light fall of hail and some worrying gusts of wind.

Then came decision time – do we move everything under the veranda or persist with the outdoor venue.

Fortunately the decision to "tough it out" proved to be the right one, with a perfectly sunny afternoon eventuating.

By the time we had dried everything off and finished plugging in we had a lawn full of audience and a queue of performers that took us through 'til almost dark.

All of our performers were local, with the exception of Tony and Les who had to jump the queue so they could get back to Jiggi before dark to feed their horses.

Highlight of the afternoon was a performance by The Channon Public School Choir conducted by Julie Wattus.



The Channon school choir

A willing team of helpers ensured the pack-up was swift and painless.

I wish to thank all those who supported the Open Mic throughout the year by performing or being part of our audience.

I invite you to join us again from 3pm on 26th February for another fun afternoon.

I hope your Christmas and New Year is full of music.



Peter



Part of the appreciative audience

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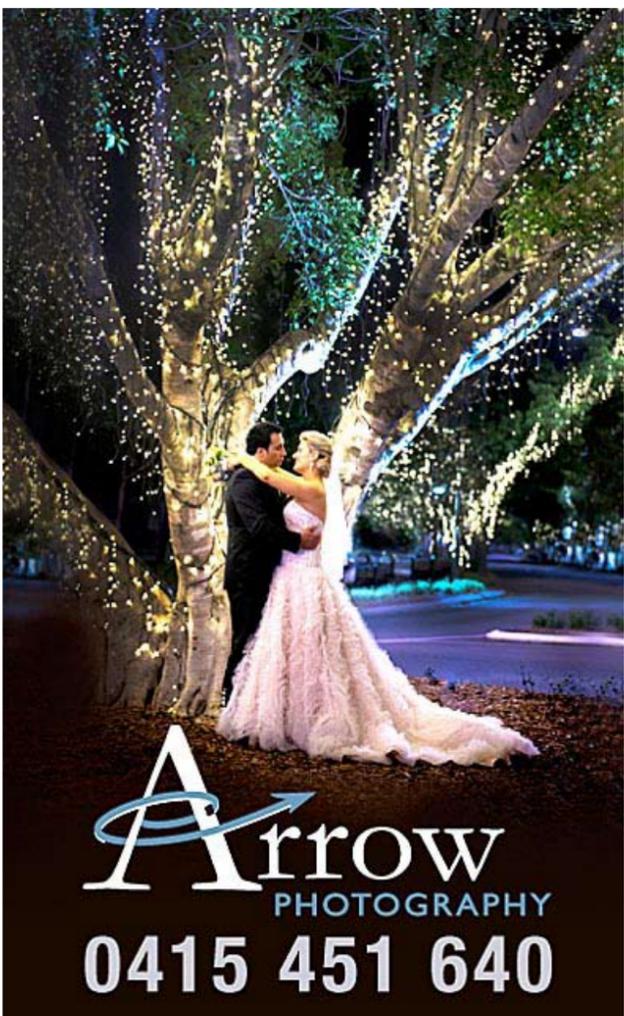
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Summer Solstice

A Summer Solstice celebration will be held at Hanging Rock Hall on Sunday 18th December from 5pm.

Celebrate the longest day of 2016 and the Summer Solstice, and join with us as we once again connect with our beautiful people and this amazing planet. This is a family event with games, music and performance.

All are welcome to participate in simple ceremony as we acknowledge the Summer Solstice with circle dance, a mystery play at dusk, singing and music.

These natural quarterly celebrations are dictated by the movement of the Earth and Sun and provide us with an opportunity to give energy back to the cosmos, an opportunity to speak back to the stars.

This seasonal mystery play is about the evolution of the



'Purification' by Gery Mews

earth through the elemental forces – angels if you will. The sun is at its peak, earth energies are streaming out, the cosmos streaming in and magic is everywhere.

Donation entry. Bring a plate to share and socialise at the dusk performance and into the evening.



Photo: Kira Pendergast

Mullumfest Magic

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FRI 9 DEC	DINNER & LIVE MUSIC	FROM 6PM
MELB. DUO SODA EAVES & JORDAN IRELAND	BY DONATION	
WED 14 DEC	DINNER / LIVE MUSIC	FROM 6.30PM
NZ ENSEMBLE	AUCKLAND TRIO	\$10 8PM
FRI 18 DEC	DINNER / FILM	FROM 5.30PM
U.S. DOCO + Q&A	'VAXXED'	\$15 8PM
SAT 31 DEC	DINNER / NYE PARTY	FROM 6.30PM
JURASSIC5's AKIL THE DJ + FUTURE ROOTS DJ'S		9PM
FRI 6 JAN	DINNER / FILM	FROM 5.30PM
MOVIE 'HUNT FOR THE WILDERPEOPLE'		\$10 8PM
SAT 14 JAN	ALL-AGES YOUTH FEST	3PM-12AM
HIP HOP & MORE	THE NEW ANCIENTS CREW	\$15 ENTRY

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www.phoenixrisingcafe.net/events
www.nimbinbushtheatre.com/events



Hat Fitz & Cara



Funk/rock of American band Allensworth



Ajak Kwai



Henry Wagons

Review & pics by Melissa Williamson

The magic that is Mullum Music Festival was on again Nov 17 – 20, with its usual diverse array of international and home-grown acts performing at the various venues that host festival stages.

The backdrop to the whole festival is the town of Mullum itself, with busking, circus and theatre filling the streets with lively vibrancy (and some great local talent). Whatever your music tastes you'll find much to please at a Mullum Fest – pop, roots, rock, world, reggae, hip hop and funk all being served up (alongside choirs, orchestras, comedians and music and dance workshops).

Personal faves this year included the quirky, eclectic funk of Tek Tek Ensemble; Russian gypsy/punk of Vulgargrad; the rocked-out roots of Henry Wagons and the Only Children;

Nattali Rize and her Jamaican band; the afro/rock of Ajak Kwai; the powerhouse blues/roots of Hat Fitz & Cara; the amazing soul/blues voice that is Claire Anne Taylor; the funk/rock of American band Allensworth; and of course the ska/rock/hip hop of reformed Skunkhour.

There was though, unusually, a little minor grumbling from some long-time festival regulars about the programming (over-repetition of some acts, some acts perhaps not the quality standard expected, and a little too country/roots heavy for some); and it was a little disappointing that for the first time some of us didn't discover that previously unheard-of act that became the 'wow' top talked-about highlight for many festival goers.

Still, for a festival that is consistently 'absolutely great' a slight slide to 'great' doesn't detract; rather maybe it just

shows the amazing standards the Mullum Fest has become recognised for. The organisers really do an outstanding job. Kudos too, to the crew that transforms all the venues and outdoor areas into such fabulous spaces.

Mullum Music Festival remains my favourite annual festival – it's relaxed, quirky, vibrant, fun, all-age friendly, entertaining, and has the diversity of great music to please all ears.

This year was a sell-out for the most popular day of the festival, so make sure you get in early for next year's festival, which will be the 10th anniversary. Put yourself on the mailing list at: www.mullummusicfestival.com and make sure you experience the gem that is Mullumfest.

For many more photos of all that you missed out on at this year's festival, go to: www.facebook.com/NimbinMusic

Open mic a big night at the Bowlo

The Nimbin Bowlo Open Mic is always a big night of diverse music from local and visiting acts. You really never know who's going to turn up and what they're going to play – but it's always worth being there to hear.

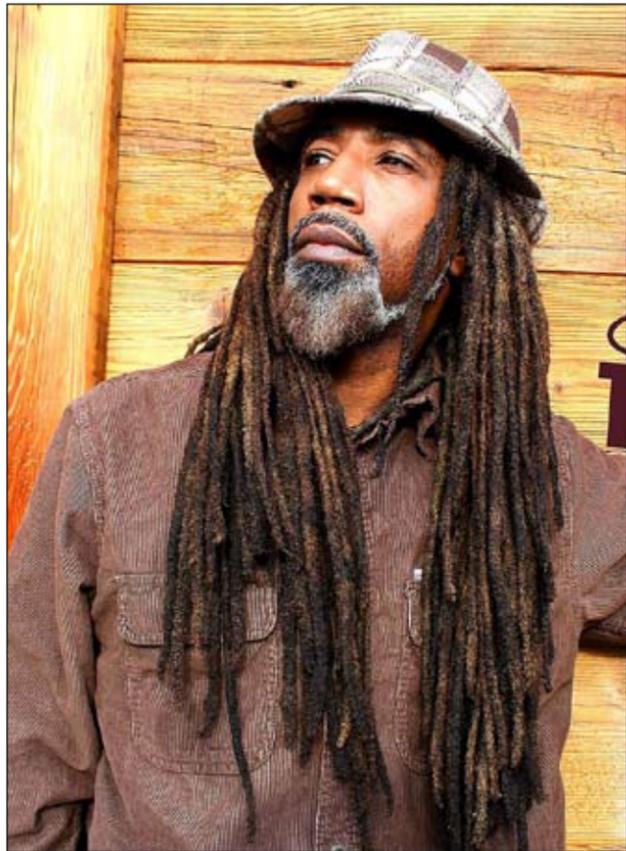
All are welcome to come down and put your name on the board, bring your instruments and/or voice – drum kit provided. There's also usually a bit of a house band available if you're solo and want some company.

Usually open mic is held every second Wednesday, from December there will be a slight change and it will be held the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month, to make it easier for everyone to remember which weeks it's actually on.

December Open Mics will be on the 14th and 28th at the Nimbin Bowlo. www.facebook.com/NimbinBowloOpenMic



Yvan and Nina Photo Mel Williamson



NYE with AKIL

AKIL the DJ (from Jurassic 5) comes to the Nimbin Bush Theatre on New Year's Eve as part of his world tour. This MC, songwriter, producer, DJ, youth mentor and Hip Hop community activist is bringing his Hip Hop Afro beat sound to Nimbin for a one-off unmissable gig, *Thrills in the Hills* to celebrate the end of the year and to bring on 2017 in Hip Hop style.

AKIL the DJ (Dante Givens) was one of the six founding members of seminal LA Hip Hop group the Jurassic 5, whose alternative take on Hip Hop cemented them as one of the backbones of this artform and as having a huge influence on its evolution.

They released many albums in the nineties and early noughties which all changed the face of Hip Hop and brought radical and political issues into the public forum via their musical messages, which were groundbreaking and catchy as all get out.

The band remains part of the history of Hip Hop, having split in 2007. Most founding members of the group continue to make and release music today, including AKIL the DJ who vows he "can't stop, won't stop!"

This is an opportunity to witness some of the finest most authentic Hip Hop and Afro Beats music in the world in the presence of an elder of the movement and a living legend in the history of Hip Hop.

Joining AKIL the DJ will be the relentless AfroBeat Crew from Melbourne, Melbourne Hip Hop collective Future Roots (featuring Nui Moon) and DJ Klever.

The Nimbin Bush Theatre will be aglow in lights and splendour for a special evening on NYE. The Phoenix Rising Cafe will be open from 6.30pm for meals, with booking encouraged on 02/ 6689-1111. BYO is permitted. Show starts at 8pm.

Tickets are limited and are priced \$45 online (with a special Nimbin locals price of \$40), and are available at: www.popupticketsstore.live They will be \$50 on the door, but booking ahead is highly recommended.



DJS MIX IT UP

Nimbin DJ Club began earlier this year to bring together some of the many talented DJs we have in our midst, along with the people who like to dance to them.

Starting off small, a good local DJ collective is forming, with new talent popping out of the woodwork (or perhaps around here, more accurately, the hills) every time. All welcome to come and put your name on the board for a set.

The last DJ Club night for this year will be on Friday 24th December, 5.30 – 11.30pm at Djanbung Gardens. Abundance Cafe will be open for dinner.

Nimbin Flix presents???

This month will screen a 'Mystery Film' chosen by Belinda. "It's fabulous and very, very Nimbin," she assures punters and it will be shown on Saturday, December 10th, at Birth and Beyond. Doors open at 7pm for a 7.30pm start, with cake and tea and coffee available to purchase.

This is the last film for the year. The next film will be in February 2017. Memberships are only \$25 until May 2017.



sphinx rock café

3220 Kyogle Rd, Mt Burrell NSW 2484 P (02) 6679 7118 www.sphinxrockcafe.com

Sunday Gig Guide

December 1pm start

4th Willy McElroy & The Immigrants

An exciting new band from Byron Bay. Their music is a fusion of Celtic, Soul and Folk. The passionate lyric deals with contemporary struggles of oppression, love and kindness while rooted in a deep mythological past.

11th The Romaniacs

Original music inspired by Gypsy, Folk, Latin, Celtic, Spanish and Eastern roots grooves.

18th Mantlepeace

This music showcases an original blend of influences from classical, folk, jazz, rock and ethnic world groove combined with unique uplifting vocal styles. Mantlepeace create an adventurous, poetic, intimate and dynamic genre all of their own.

Nimbin Hotel & Backpackers

53 Cullen Street, Nimbin. Ph: 6689-1246

December Gigs

Friday 2nd	7pm	Rumble Jungle
Saturday 3rd	7pm	Wet Cement
Sunday 4th	5pm	Slim Pickens
Thursday 8th	7pm	Jessie Morris
Friday 9th	7pm	Stuart Harcourt
Saturday 10th	7pm	Kiara Jack Trio
Sunday 11th	5pm	Guy Kachel
Thursday 15th	7pm	Brommers
Friday 16th	7pm	Q
Saturday 17th	7pm	Mistram
Sunday 18th	5pm	Ben Purnell
Thursday 22nd	7pm	Surf Report
Friday 23rd	7pm	Rumble fish
Saturday 24th	7pm	Eastwood
Sunday 25th	5pm	Closed

All Gigs are Free of Charge

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The quality of this work is worth seeing

The Blue Knob Artists' Choice

This annual exhibition is not the usual themed one and artists can bring in whatever work they choose to exhibit. It is always a surprise every year that the show is so cohesive without a central theme.

When the team that hangs the exhibition takes a look around at the end of the day we often say this one is the best ever, a bit like closing night at the Olympic Games. It often feels like it. The quality of work and the artists who continue to support this gallery make it what it is.

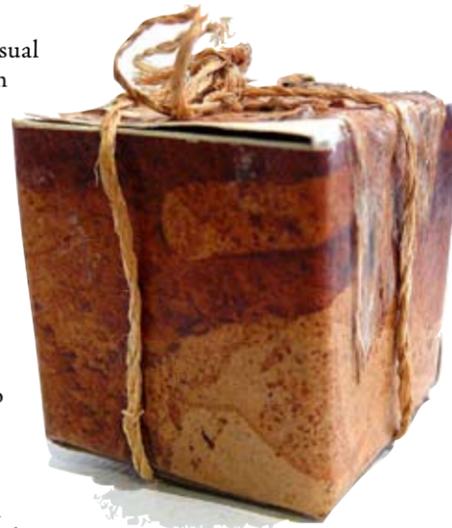
The opening night for the exhibition was held on Friday 18th November with a great turn-out and catering by volunteer Paul Scott and members, with guest musician Andy Walker also playing for the evening.

The imagination and the creative minds of the individual artists are interpreted here in a great variety of mediums. They express and interpret the world either inner or outer, in ways that always brings delight, amusement, beauty and sometimes a challenge.

Art often asks us to see the world through the eyes of another and in a different way. It can bring such enrichment to our lives and to have a place where we can find those things that inspire and support us to continue to be creative, is so very valuable.

Matchbox Magic Fundraiser

The Matchbox Magic Fundraiser has inspired some great little pieces, and each piece is selling for a minimum of \$20 but we would be very happy and welcome for any offers above that. There are more pieces coming and we're looking forward to them going out and coming in over the next few weeks.



'Rust' matchbox by Pauline Ahern

Paul Roguszka cabinet

Paul Roguszka has donated his beautiful cabinet 'Escarment' to the Gallery for a raffle. It is an exquisite piece of Paul's craftsmanship and we feel more than honoured to be graced by such a donation. We can only say thank you to Paul for his generosity and support of the Blue Knob Hall Gallery and community, it is greatly appreciated and as always, Paul's work can evoke such feeling and is an inspiration to all of us. Tickets are for sale at \$5 each or 3 for \$12 and are available at the gallery until the New Year.

Blue Knob Cafe

We would like to welcome Rebekah Webster and Simon Lionnet who will be the new Blue Knob Cafe operators in the New Year.

We are very excited to have this local dynamic young couple taking on the Café here at the Gallery. Rebekah and Simon will be around helping out in the

Cafe and refurbishing until they officially take over the premises from beginning of January.

The Cafe at the Gallery will continue to open on Saturdays 8.30am - 2pm and Sundays 10am - 4pm with volunteers and members under the guidance of Paul Scott. Paul has done this as a fundraising adventure, and the support has been fantastic, so a big thank you to those who have been helping in the kitchen, serving, washing dishes and donating their time.

Christmas /New Year dates

Blue Knob Hall Gallery will be closed from Monday 19th December until Thursday 5th January 2017, opening for two Saturdays only on 24th December for a special Farmers Market, and Saturday 31st December.

Blue Knob Ceramic Studio will close from 19th December through to 12th January.

Artists & Friends Lunch will continue in the New Year on the last Thursday of the month and we will notify about upcoming dates for those.

We wish everyone a relaxing and safe holiday season and look forward to seeing you out at Blue Knob in the New Year.



'Pomegranate' by Eric Smith

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Nimbin Community Centre, Room A2
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Saturday & Sunday 10am - 4pm

Roxy Gallery

143 Summerland Way Kyogle
Phone 6632-3518

Opening Hours
Tues - Fri: 10am to 4pm
Saturday: 9.30am to noon

- Promoting local and regional arts;
- Providing emerging artists with opportunities to display and market their artworks in a professional exhibition space;
- Fostering cultural experiences for community and visitors to the area.

Email: roxygallery@kyogle.nsw.gov.au Web: www.kyogle.nsw.gov.au

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Serpentine tenth anniversary celebration

From 7th to 24th December, members of the Serpentine Community Gallery will present the group exhibition: 'Miniatures'.

A miniatures exhibition is a great opportunity for local artists to showcase a variety of their works, or to create a series/group of works about a particular idea or message.

It's also a great time of year for our Northern Rivers' artists/crafters to make beautiful and unique miniature gifts to share with the world (and for you to show someone how much you love them).

The opening celebration will take place on Friday 9th December, from 7pm. Everyone is welcome. Light refreshments will be available.

As the Australian venue for 'Global Videos', a touring international video

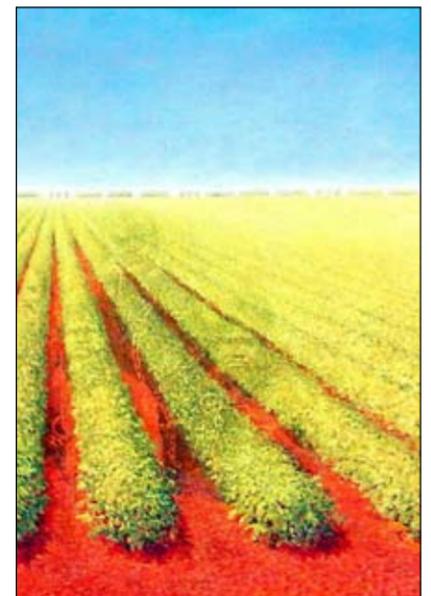
'Civilisation 1' (top left) and 'TeraniaValley' (top right) by Fiona McConnachie

'Gaia in Chains' oil-on-canvas, detail by Michael Clifton (right)

art exhibition of works on human rights, the Serpentine gallery is pleased to invite everyone to a screening on International Human Rights Day, Saturday 10th December.

Doors open at 7pm, 'Global Videos' starts at 7.30pm. Length: 2 hours including a short intermission. Light refreshments available.

The Serpentine is located at 17 Bridge Street, Lismore. For more information, phone (02) 6621-6845 or visit: www.serpentinearts.org



FEATURE ARTIST - DARMIN CAMERON

by Peter Warne

Darmin Cameron (pictured) has been exhibiting his photographic giclee prints for some years now, so regular visitors to the Nimbin Artists Gallery may be familiar with his work, usually renderings of trees or water scenes in rich greens and blues.

He describes himself as an impressionist photographer, which he means in a very literal sense. His artistic story goes back to his childhood in Scotland, where he spent a great deal of his time with his photographer artist father, spending many of his weekends in the darkroom. This was the school where he acquired his love of everything related to photography – including the aesthetic possibilities and the technical details.

A turning point in his life came when he visited an exhibition in Rome, entitled *The Lens of Impressionism: Photography and Painting Along the Normandy Coast, 1850-1874*. This exhibition explored



the vital connection between photography and impressionist art, revealing how the early development of photography wove closely into the Impressionist art movement. It came as a thunderbolt to Darmin, who with his love of photography and art was ready to see how the impressionists attempted to capture the 'new' way of perceiving that was revealed by the camera.

The crucial element in this meeting was the realisation of the



importance of light. Darmin works from the concept that all of our visual perception is a matter of light reflected off different surfaces. What we see is the result of the interplay between the quality of light, the way it falls on surfaces, the different properties of the surfaces (colour and texture), and how we process all this into

images. In this way, seeing is a creative process where the viewer assembles and interprets all of the visual data which presents itself. Darmin's subject matter is mostly natural scenes, views of trees, water, seascapes, and recently birds in their natural setting. The quality of light at the moment of taking the shot is critical – he describes how

he goes out 'image hunting' almost exclusively in the first hour or the last hour of daylight, saying that the intensity of light is most apparent at these times. He then engages with his subjects in an attempt to capture their appearance as the shadows of the night either clear in the morning or deepen at night.

Any one of the images in Darmin's display is a selection from hundreds; it's only for a fleeting moment that the perfect image can be caught, and he cannot tell this until he gets back to his studio and reviews the images from a field session. Having chosen an image, he furthers the dramatic effect with a certain discreet digital enhancement, in such a way as to emphasise the rhythms of light that are picked up by the tree trunks in a forest, or the waves of the sea under a sunset sky.

On show this month you will see some fine examples of Darmin's art, as well as some smaller archival prints of the same and other works. Definitely worth a visit and a look.



Whale unveiled

Artist Gito von Schlippe, (pictured), a supporter of Sea Shepherd, has created a three dimensional artwork of a whale, for people to "touch, love and save" the whales.

Gito said that he undertook his 'labour of love' to draw people's attention to the plight of the whales, and to bring attention to Sea Shepherds' cause.

The sculpture was unveiled on Wednesday, 16th November.

You could hear the sounds of humpback whales in the alley, together with music and an auction of whale paintings.



Ceramic artist ponders mass production

The inspiration for this exhibition came from the rubbish bin, when Pamela Billington thought about a discarded paper plate. She wondered where it came from, and whether the object has any aesthetic merit. Can she make art from this discarded object from the production line?

The cheap labour that makes all of that disposable stuff, like the paper plates, has been reimagined in Pamela's exhibition 'My Lost China'.

After a few artist turns, she has moulded and reshaped the porcelain slipcast handmade plates. Each work is unique and authentic, and definitely not disposable. These are a political commentary on the manufacturing industry, and reference the dominance of mass production over individual craftsmanship.

Pamela will also show four gigantic moon jars, once a symbol of Confucian simplicity, which have now deliberately been altered to refer to the changing traditions now evident in China today. This show literally breaks the mould. Her work questions and reframes China's role in the world economy and how these changes affect the Chinese people.

China has created a market for the western world at the expense of their own traditional lifestyle. Pamela says, "I was very moved to express the drive of the Chinese in earlier times on the goldfields, which was part of my heritage. The modern factory life of the workers has driven the country in an unhealthy way with their environment, and the traditional lifestyle. The striving for consumer goods is pushing their standard of living beyond the workers' means and creating a need for goods that we really don't want."

Pamela's exhibition opening will be at Byron School of Art Gallery, 112 Dalley Street, Mullumbimby, on Friday 9th December, 6-8pm. Complimentary ticket on entry for door prize! The work can be viewed from 10am to 2pm until Wednesday 14th December.

Array of Sunshine

The last month of 2016 sees the final exhibition at the Roxy Gallery which will see the gallery into the first month of 2017.

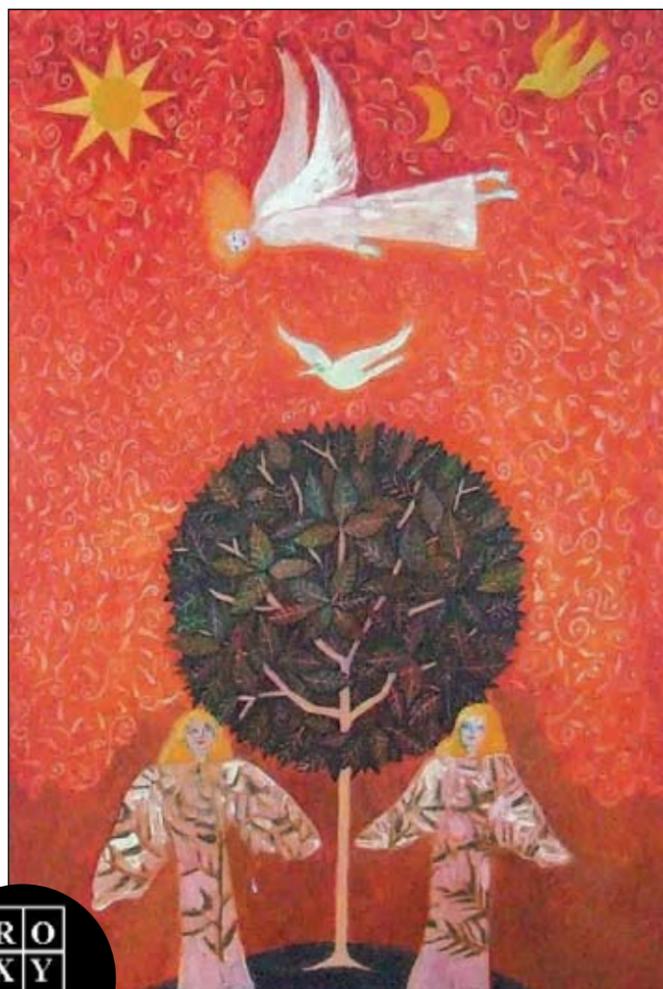
May we all once again say, "Boy, Christmas comes around fast! What happened to 2016? Where did all that time go?" Well, the director at the Roxy Gallery knows where it all went. Installations, exhibitions, viewing public, art sales, ideas moulded, future paths laid and many volunteer helpers.

The annual Christmas/New Year exhibition promises to be an 'Array of Sunshine' and it is hoped this exhibition lets a lot of light in.

The Roxy Gallery provides enormous opportunity for up-and-coming emerging artists to exhibit their creative talents in a professionally managed exhibition space. It may not be anything like the MONA in Hobart or the GOMA in Brisbane; however it is a hallmark in the Northern Rivers Region and the end of year exhibition is the key to inspiring local artisans to market their works for local and visiting people to purchase, and by doing so support the arts in our bit of paradise.

'Array of Sunshine' will open to the public on Wednesday 14th December and be on display until 28th January. This exhibition will change throughout the course of its showing time. Works purchased can be removed from the gallery prior to end-of-exhibition date and the gallery will fill the space with some more art by a local artist.

The Roxy Gallery will be closed from 4th December until the opening of 'Array of Sunshine' for all such needed gallery cleaning. After some, some 6000 people have been through the doors since the start of 2016. Wow, that is a lot of footprints.



'Tree Of Life With Angels' oil by Anthea Moffatt