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NCS in top 20 NSW schools

by Mazz Webb

Nimbin Central School achieved fabulous results in literacy in 2016 as shown in the national NAPLAN results. The school is in the top 20 schools in NSW for improvement. It was a fabulous team effort by staff, students, volunteers and parents which boosted the confidence and literacy skills of students. Specific booster programs are offered to students and activities such as visiting writers and story writing competitions extend experiences for keen creative writers.

A recent donation of an Indigenous reading kit called Honey Ants is making a difference for Aboriginal students who enjoy culturally rich stories (see photo of volunteer Lee Duncan and Mundarra Hudson).

A debating team is in training with Trevor Hodges the new Principal. The aim of debating is to sharpen critical thinking and persuasion abilities.

The Library offers an extensive, diverse range of books but is now offering free ebooks for high school students to broaden their choices even further.

Nimbin pre-school is making regular visits to learn about libraries and to share books and songs together.



Volunteers are always welcome to assist with reading activities so that our children continue to value and build strong reading and writing habits as early as possible to strengthen their overall development. If you have an interest in this work then the school will welcome your phone call.

Literacy at Nimbin Central School is in a very exciting place and anticipates an exciting future.

Prestigious award for Barb

by Diane Wilder

Nimbin Preschool educator, Barb Mills has just been recognised for her work in Early Childhood Education through Wollongbar TAFE NSW.

Barb is the recipient of the Award of Excellence for Outstanding Student Achievement in the Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care Course. Barb received her award at the official ceremony on 5th April.

Barb has had and continues to have, a long history and association with Nimbin Preschool as a parent, and as a staff member for the last 14 years. Barb brings so many positive dispositions and beneficial experiences to the preschool and the children.

Of particular note is her strong interest in education through nature, including the rights of animals and the sustainability of the environment.

Barb infuses the philosophy of care and right action within the teaching of young children at Nimbin Preschool every day, carefully documenting the interactions our children have with



Barb Mills with preschool children Kwanzaa, Arleyah, Tate and Samaya.

nature using photography, and in encouraging these children to have a voice through specific actions.

The staff, children and parents

congratulate Barb on such an outstanding achievement, and we feel blessed that she is a member of our preschool and Nimbin community.

Forming and firming relationships

by Leanne Logan
Cawongla Playhouse educator

Term 1 at Cawongla Playhouse is very much about relationships. Fundamental to the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) – that underpins everything we do in early childhood – is a sense of belonging, being and becoming. As the EYLF states: "From before birth, children are connected to family, community, culture and place. Their earliest development and learning takes place through these relationships ...".

So at preschool this term, we have been firming the relationships we started last year by extending on the children's emerging interests, while at the same time we are forming relationships with new children – preschoolers and playgroupers alike – whose job it is to gain that all important sense of belonging.

We are also developing our relationships with new and old parents and the wider community. Our recent Trash'n'Treasure saw people come back to preschool who had not been here "since the kids used to come here, years ago." How nice was that collaboration.

As a staff, our relationships are fluid, as we as individuals grow and



Amelie's drawing for Natasha

change. Our much appreciated director, Natasha, is currently away due to injury. So we talked about our feelings and what it means to miss someone. The get-well cards we have been making show our affection and the depth of our relationship with Natasha. As Casper

(4) wrote: "We could wrap a pretty necklace in wrapping paper and take it to her house and give it to her. It will make her happy."

Three-year-old Amelie's card was also to the point – it depicted Natasha and Amelie and a big orange heart.

nimbin.goodtimes@gmail.com

Meet the new principal at Nimbin Central



by Trevor Hodges

I'm delighted to be writing an article for the *Nimbin GoodTimes* for the first time as the principal of Nimbin Central School.

I was told about three months ago that I'd been appointed to Nimbin and I was extremely pleased at the time. What I've learnt about the school since has only built on this initial reaction. The staff and students have given me a very warm welcome and I've found them to be friendly and open. One of the staff members told me I was in paradise, and who am I to dispute this assertion?

I'm now in my 32nd year working for the Department of Education. This is my second school as a principal, having spent the past four years at Bonalbo Central School in the upper Clarence valley. Before that I

was at Trundle Central (86-88), Gorokan High School (89-99), Guyra Central (99-2004), Warren Central (05-09) and Tweed River High School (10-12). I've loved every minute of my career as a teacher with the Department of Education, and I have a deep and abiding commitment to Public Education and to the children at our schools.

I'm a trained English/History/Drama teacher, and the one thing I miss due to being a principal is working with students in the subjects I love. The students I've met in my short time at Nimbin have been articulate, friendly and quite precocious. I'm currently assessing the needs of our school to see what needs support and where we can build on the great initiative undertaken by Ms Pell.

I'm very aware of the fact that I've got some very big shoes to fill, and

I feel lucky to follow someone who did so much outstanding work with the school and its community. In this she was obviously ably assisted by Ms Marshall and a great team of staff, and I know that this will stand me in good stead over the coming years as I work at Nimbin Central.

2017 looks to be shaping up to be a great year and I'm really looking forward to getting to know the school and its community better. I would encourage any parent or member of the community to ring and ask to speak to me, or make an appointment to come in to discuss any concerns you might have or suggestions you might like to make.

I would also encourage any member of the community to become actively engaged with the school either as a volunteer or as a member of the P&C.

A little help goes a long way for school children in Kenya

by Rob Fisher

The founding father of Taoism, Lao Tzu is credited with saying "A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step". Likewise a \$US100 donation to a poor school in Kenya marked the beginning of a journey helping a community in one of the poorest provinces in Kenya.

Agolomuk Primary School is located in remote south-west Kenya near Lake Victoria and close to the border of Tanzania. Almost 400 children are enrolled but 50% are orphans, having lost one or both parents (often to HIV/Aids). All orphans are taken in and cared for by relatives or other families in the community. Students spend eight years in primary school followed by four years at secondary school, if they can afford the fees... most cannot.

At the school we were given an

enthusiastic welcome with singing and dances performed by the children. The head teacher Richard showed us around and introduced us to everyone. Richard's office was simply the corner of a tin shed with a dirt floor. The shed was used to store building materials.

Back in Australia, I approached the Nimbin Central School to suggest a letter-writing program between the children in each school. The staff responded warmly to the idea and letters are now being exchanged between the pupils of Agolomuk Primary School and Nimbin Central School.

Last year five solar panels used to pump water to the school vegetable garden were stolen. This was a major problem as the school's vegetable garden was an important food supply. The only available water was six km away in Lake Victoria so the vegetable garden was abandoned.



We decided to help Richard replace the solar panels. To our surprise we later learnt that not only was the school able to reinstate the vegetable garden but some 2,000 households were now able to access water locally. Access to water is a huge problem for many Africans.

Our goal is to raise \$30,000 to connect the other three water kiosks and supply water to a further 6,000 households in the Agolomuk community.

My wife suggested we establish a sponsorship program so "bright, needy students" could continue their

education. Just \$30 per month pays for a student's secondary school fees, textbooks, writing materials and uniform.

In February, Kenya Kids International was incorporated. A committee of management is in place and all workers are volunteers. This means 100% of all donations go directly to the work in Kenya to support four different projects.

Plans are underway for a small work party to visit Kenya in February 2018 to provide practical support to the Agolomuk Primary School. Volunteers will assist by helping in the classroom and undertaking maintenance and repairs to school buildings and equipment.

If you would like to help in "Giving Kenyan children a brighter future" please email Rob at: kenyankids7@gmail.com or telephone him on 0409-413-248.

Holiday Club Autumn program

Date	Program	Cost
Tuesday 11 th April	Nimbin Community School, Park and Skate Park Art/Craft, DVDs, Games, Music and more We will be visiting the Autumn art display at the Nimbin Gallery to get inspiration for our recycled and found objects art project Recycled and found objects Art (we might get messy)	\$12
Wednesday 12th April	Excursion – Lismore ten pin bowling and pool Come tenpin bowling, then we will have lunch at the park, then cool off with a swim at the pool. Please bring lunch, water, a towel, swimmers or a change of clothes	\$25
Thursday 13 th April	Nimbin Community School, Park and Skate Park Art/Craft, DVDs, Games, Music and more Library craft making masks and drama games Drama day	\$12
Wednesday 19 th April	'The Pitts family circus' workshop The Pitts family circus is coming to visit us and teach us some tricks Art/Craft, DVDs, Games, Music and more. Circus Workshop	\$20
Thursday 21 st April	Nimbin Community School, Park and Skate Park Art/Craft, DVDs, Games, Music and more. If you have a musical instrument bring it along, because we will be making lots of noise Music day	\$12

Nimbin Holiday Club are operating from the Nimbin Community School, 81 Cullen Street, Nimbin and on excursion days please meet in the Nimbin Central School car park at 9am.

The day runs between 9am and 3pm, for children aged 5 – 12. Please read the dates and venues carefully and book to avoid disappointment. To book, phone NNIC on 6689-1692 (between 10am and 4pm) or text

Kylie on 0487-576-281. Please note that the basic fee is \$12 per day, and more on excursion days. Parents must sign consent forms for any excursions.

Please ensure that your child wears appropriate clothing, covered shoes, brings a hat, and has adequate food and drinks for the day.

This program is funded by NSW DEC.

Undiagnosed pain and Bowen Therapy

by Tonia Haynes

Some years ago I was invited to a conference on the Sunshine Coast. It was an extremely expensive event and attracted the crème de la crème of cosmic gurus and healers from all over the globe.

It was certainly outside my price range, but in this case the facilitator, a good friend and mentor, probably hoped that after being exposed to such wisdom I might mend my wicked ways.

The night before the conference began I stood on a darning needle, which I quickly extracted with a yelp and a whimper.

For the next three days my foot screamed in protest and it was difficult to concentrate on little else but the pain.

Many at the conference cleared, energised and diagnosed the problem. The final decision of all was that I simply did not want to move forward on the path of enlightenment and basically, I just wanted to remain a naughty, ignorant girl.

A week later I was still limping around, silently flagellating myself for not wanting to be good, when a colleague and excellent homeopath snapped. "This is ridiculous! I'm taking you to the hospital."

Long story short, I still had a centimetre of needle in my foot that required surgery under anaesthetic. It was a very long darning needle.

Coming back to the physical world, which I do dabble in now and again, thanks to friends who keep me grounded, I'm sometimes exposed to people who complain of a deep pain in their right or left side that remains undiagnosed by medical testing.

There are few worse situations than knowing there is something wrong with you and no-one can tell you what it is. Often we just grit our teeth and hope that it will go away.

In the case of a deep pain in the side, it may well be a muscle, in this case the Psoas, which for a variety of reasons has stopped functioning

correctly.

The Psoas hooks off the lower spine in our back, travels diagonally through the body and attaches to the front of the thigh bone. One of its services, amongst many, is to lift the leg.

It can be a major cause of back pain and because of its location, can also interfere with our digestive system. Flatulence, bloating, bad breath, allergies, etc.

It may also encourage shoulder and neck problems.

One needs advanced knowledge in order to remove problems from the Psoas, because it is difficult to get at. My early courses in massage and Bowen Therapy gave little mention of it, which I personally feel to be a mistake.

It is one of the most important muscles in the body, and every body-worker should have knowledge of its potential dysfunctions and how to rectify them near the beginning of their training.

Tonia is in clinic in Nimbin on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Phone for an appointment on 0439-794-420.



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The world according to Magenta Appel-Pye

The Karma of Invitation
I embrace the Karma of Invitation. If invited to do something new, I believe that, on some level, I am capable of rising to the challenge. If they believe in me, so must I.

This doesn't mean I feel obligated to accept every request, I have free will and some things are better left undone. However, over time I have noticed common elements that indicate it could be a life-enhancing experience.

The process stretches my mind, abilities, and sense of self. The invitation often comes when something has just ended or been released. The project requires learning new skills or expanding old ones. I'm unsure whether I'm good enough or up to the task.



At times I feel like giving up, but I keep going and thus develop strength and resilience as well as increasing my abilities. And I always grow from the experience, no matter the final result.

Often I have accepted a project and worked hard for a long time, only to walk away, be dismissed, or become ill just before it became successful. I had to reconsider my concept of 'success'

lest I decide to give up and no longer try new things.

By letting go of pre-conceived judgements of the 'perfect' outcome, I found the lasting gifts were what I learned on the journey. I now realise that the true meaning of failure is rejecting everything and staying tightly closed to new and different experiences.

Playing it safe and not taking risks results in stagnation and no further growth.

Keep your eye out for your next Karma of Invitation and give it good consideration. If it feels right, be courageous, feel the fear and do it anyway.

"If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster and treat those two imposters just the same..." – Rudyard Kipling

Musings on matters of mousses

The Imbibers Ark

by Thom Culpeper

The mousses are a family of French cuisine techniques that incorporate air bubbles to achieve a light fluffy or a creamy texture.

These methods were little practised outside of France and Russia before the 60s. The advent of the food processor and mechanical whipping made their preparation much simpler. Pounding ingredients to a 'fine sieve' in mortar and pestle was a little trying for others than those of the Gaelic obsession with intricate matters of food and its presentation.

Mousses and mouselines requiring careful blending, poaching, in the cases of savoury mousses, and cool setting in the case of the sweetened and or fruit preparations.

Here is an example of a savoury mousse.

Salmon-avocado mousse

Ingredients for four:

150 gms fresh salmon skin-free fillets
50 mls of fish stock (made from the skin and bones of the fillets)
250 mls of fresh cream
1 ripe, but still firm avocado
4-5 egg whites
2 tbsp of double cream
2 tbsp of cream cheese
50 mls of lemon juice
10 grams of powdered gelatine or 6 sheets
Garnish of choice

Preparation

Pat dry and finely chop the Salmon fillets. Freeze for about 30 minutes.

Make two bowls of gelatine, 5gms per bowl. Whip the cream and refrigerate, puree the chopped salmon, add fish stock and fold in 1 tbsp of the double cream. Drain the gelatine and stir into the salmon mix, fold in half of the whipped cream season



with salt blended pepper.

Free the avocado flesh, puree with cream cheese, season.

Add the other gelatine (5 gms or 3 sheets), fold in the other half of the whipped cream.

Rinse four moulds with cold water, fill with the

mousse, the avocado being the bottom layer. Refrigerate for 3 hours.

De-mould to a plate and garnish. Serve with watercress and a green salad.

A horseradish mayonnaise or grated Daikon radish is a fine accompaniment.

She says HE says

with Aunty Maj and Uncle Norm

She says

Dear Ms Vinner, picking your nose is something we all do but it's not one of those things we consciously think about during our morning toilette. It's only when you're driving along to work or to the dentist that you realize, "I'd better pick my nose." Seeing someone else digging for gold behind the wheel often stimulates the desire to clean the nasal cavity.

Your boyfriend is taking the initiative of cleaning himself, which is a good thing. It's much worse when it hangs out his nostrils so that anyone talking to him cannot bear to look him in the face, and runs away at the first convenience. Perhaps you could buy him a big man's handkerchief, (tissues in a men's hands are mere sieves and create more mess than they mop up), and put it in the side pocket of the car. Hopefully he'll use it. My friend, whilst cleaning out the family car, was grossed out when she happened upon a snot-mine under the driver's seat where her husband had been thoughtfully depositing his boogies for years. Rather than expressing remorse, he was quite proud of his personal midden.

I'm guessing you're not used to being in a relationship with the male of the species, because this is Basic Revolting Behaviour 101. If you are in the early stage of your relationship, he'll still be on his best behaviour. You'll have to toughen up because it gets much worse. I don't want to nauseate you, so I won't tell you all the disgusting things I have to put up with from Uncle Norm. TMI! It would make your nose hairs curl and you'd be happy with a bit of pick, lick, roll and flick.

My boyfriend is lovely except that he has this disgusting habit of picking his nose whilst driving in the car and flicking it out the window. I told him I think it's revolting but he just laughed at me. I was shocked. What can I do? – Pica Vinner

He says

Dear Pica, it's a sad fact of life that our human bodies have a few design flaws. One of these is orifices. We've got them everywhere, and they collect all sorts of detritus that cause a lot of annoyances and blockages. So, excavating dried mucus and gawd knows what else from the nasal passages might be a disgusting habit to you, but to him it's part of a healthy lifestyle.

OK, so he does it in the car. Where else do you expect him to do it? Cars aren't just for getting around in, you know. Blokes do all sorts of things in their cars, nose picking being the least of them.

Why doesn't he do it in the bathroom? Well that's where the really disgusting practices take place and a bro doesn't want to stick his finger up his nose after where it's been in the bathroom. You need not know more than that.

At least he's not flicking his boogers at you like my older brother used to do to me – and still does! Hopefully he's flicking them at someone using a mobile phone while they're driving. All jokes aside, your best course, as always, is revenge. Stick your finger up your nose, all the way, pick a winner, and show him. "Check this out, Babe!", and watch him puke like the sick puppy that he is. Worked on me.

"You can pick your friends and you can pick your nose, but you can't pick your friend's nose." – Unknown

Send your relationship problems to Norm and Magenta:
normanappel@westnet.com.au

My online chats with Ali

by Brendan (Mookx) Hanley



Back in the days before Facebook, the social interactive Internet option was the chat room. One day I stumbled into a chat site, entered "Treefrog" in the name box and joined the elite of early web chatters... meeting interesting, mainly Northern Hemisphere folks, the odd Aussie... and in particular a little girl called Alecia... whose nom-de-chat was initially *****alec*****, but I'll call her Ali.

I got a message from her in her virtual pidgin English, enquiring as to whether or not I was actually a frog... to which I answered "ribbit!" This drew a "LOL" response (the first time I had ever seen "laugh out loud" in webspeak), and kicked off a friendship which was to have far-reaching implications as time rolled by.

Despite warnings from well-meaners in the chat that this was obviously an FBI trap to catch paedophiles, I could tell from her text-body-language that it was a real kid and began to look forward to virtual meetings with her on a daily basis.

I learned that she was an extremely bright six-year old Indigo child living with her popular mural-painter Uncle Matt and Auntie Alison in Dublin. She had been abandoned to nannies since birth by her rich, cosmetic-surgeon Russian mother and her French father who lived in Dubai and sold very expensive Arab horses to billionaires... having once been a vet and having moved into a much more lucrative racket along the way.

She claimed to have been on the chat since she was four... hiding under her blankets at night and typing her own patois on a pink computer (everything she owned was pink!). She was extremely gifted. Spoke four or five languages, and could accurately and instantly tell you what day of the week any date you mentioned was. She saw spirit figures

(including a wolf that would sit at her front door). One day on Skype she said there was an old man standing behind me in a blue shirt. The elderly previous tenant who died in that house fitted her description.

I began to realise that she was awake and online nearly all night, every night... and that she was too terrified to go to sleep in her own bed. I also twigged in her chat talk the occasional reference to male anatomy that a kid of her age should not have known about. One day she let something slip and I jumped on it like a dog on a bone (or should I say Frog on a bug?...) demanding to know what she was referring to... even threatening to unfriend her if she wouldn't tell me what was going on. I still have the chat log where I levered the story out of her about her Uncle Matt's friend Adam, who came to stay lots, and subjected her to years of atrocious sexual abuse from an extremely early age.

I got her Uncle Matt's email addy from a mutual chat friend and sent him a note detailing all that I had been able to glean from the little one. Within a week I received a reply that had the following amongst the full text.

"I must have read and re-read your mail 100 times and still it's hard to let something as horrendous as this to actually sink in. Your findings were indeed very true. Lexie has been taken to the hospital. It has been confirmed that she has been abused many times and it has been going on for some time now. My so-called friend Adam will be taken care of accordingly. As time goes

by I hope perhaps she will open up to me as she has done for you. You must be very special to Ali if she felt she could confide in you. I also just want to let you know, that regardless of the fact that I do not know you in person nor have any connection with you that I regard you as a blessing, in fact in my eyes you are a saint. You have made the first stepping stone to changing one little girls life forever. It is terrible when a child is so terrified they cannot tell the people close to them. Without you I may have never known about the awful things that were happening to my precious niece. I thank you from the bottom of my heart and will be eternally grateful for the step you took to inform me. You are a wonderful person and I am happy that Ali has a friend like you."

She was removed from her Uncle's "care" and placed with a couple of junkies... accurately describing to me them "hitting up" and burning her with cigarettes because she would not obey them. I dobbled them in and put an end to this shit too!

All the time I knew her, her parents had her in and out of expensive hospitals... throwing fortunes at her inability to eat properly or to assimilate with other kids. They fitted her with a pacemaker, a feed tube direct into her stomach... all sorts of shit which was to compensate for the entire lack of interest, let alone love and care from these two selfish rich bastards of parents... who she hated.

In my mind there was nothing wrong with her except her little broken heart and longing for parental love. I'm sure she would have happily swapped her pink bedroom and 100+ Barbie dolls for a moment or two of real parental love and care.

She disappeared off the radar several years ago and myself and all her chat friends are of the opinion that they demised her with medical overkill. We may never know.

mookx@mookx.com

Plasma science will save the world

by Neil Howe

A grassroots revolution is quietly sweeping the world that is the paradigm shift we have been waiting and praying for. We are moving from the nuclear age into the age of plasma. Plasma is the fourth state of matter and the basic force of the universe, our sun, our planet and the atom.

Several decades ago nuclear engineer Mehran Keshe made some fundamental discoveries about the nature of gravity, magnetism, light and plasmas. Realising that this knowledge belongs to the people of the world and not just one government, he formed a foundation, patented the practical applications he had discovered, then in 2012 released that knowledge free to all nations.

Most governments buried this, as it threatened the global capitalist structure and would put all nations on an equal footing. After surviving several assassination attempts, Keshe, frustrated by the lack of government action, began releasing the knowledge to the public and set up a free online teaching network that is now in its third year.

Within this short space of time many hundreds of self-help groups have sprung up in most nations across the planet, all developing and sharing their discoveries online. In health, testimonials are appearing from Africa that Aids, Ebola and other viral diseases can be neutralised by water in an energetic plasma state.

Pain can be managed simply without



any drugs, using plasma patches and copper coiled devices. Cancer trials are now underway in Tokyo University that demonstrate when a certain magnetic and gravitational field strength is achieved, all cancerous cells revert back to normal cells within minutes.

In agriculture, significantly higher yields can be achieved with plants having greater resilience to pests, disease and temperature variations. In Italy it was shown that soaking seeds in water in a plasma state reverts GMO manipulation back to the seed's original state.

To free the world's people from centralised corporate power companies, the Keshe Foundation developed the Magrav, a simple copper coiled device that can generate power for home

application. The beauty and elegance of plasma science reveals that it is a fundamental replication of what occurs everyday in nature. It does not require a laboratory, or years of intense study or a massive budget. A few domestic chemicals, seawater, some plastic tubs, copper wire, copper and zinc plates, and you are well on the way to producing all that you need to change your life.

Now in its second year, the Northern Rivers Plasma Group holds regular workshops and tutorials in this region. Among its members are students, grandparents, teachers, medical staff, farmers, scientists and tradespersons.

Newcomers are taught the basics; how to nanocoat a copper plate to produce a superconductive coating that will generate the plasma fields in a tub of seawater that creates the Gans (gas in a nano state) materials. They are then shown how to use these Gans materials to create plasma charged water that is used in health and agricultural applications. Tutors also teach how to make your own Magrav for power, and copper coiled pain pens.

For further information on the Keshe Foundation there are numerous Facebook groups, or: www.keshefoundation.org Workshop teaching videos may be found on YouTube and are broadcast weekly. To arrange a local workshop, contact Irene Brown at: irene@castleonhill.com

The author, Neil Howe is a retired research biochemist, lecturer and currently a documentary film producer.

Seniors photos on-line



The Snap My Community photo competition is an initiative of Nimbin Aged Care & Respite Services made possible by a small grant from Seniors Festival 2017 and huge input from wonderful volunteers.

It was for photographers aged 50+, who were asked to capture something they particularly value about their local community in a photo, and explain in a few words what that photo means to them.

The entry by Gail Wallace (pictured with Jenny Dowell, who presented the awards) was judged most Outstanding, and also voted People's Choice Award.

Titled 'Celebrating Wisdom, Wit & Wrinkles', the black and white photo of Graham Ferguson falling asleep with a copy of 50 Shades of Grey on his chest was taken in an attempt to dispel the myths, stigma and stupidities around ageing, and counter the forces of ageism.

Gail said, "What I value in my community is the acceptance and celebration of the diversity of various cultures including the culture of aged. Every age can be enchanting... provided you live within it!"

Len Martin's photo of an Aboriginal reconciliation march in Nimbin was judged second most Outstanding,

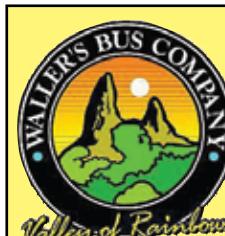
"This 2007 photograph epitomises the continuing respect and compassion that our Nimbin community shows for our indigenous members – something my partner Kay and I are very proud to be part of," Len said.

Also receiving a prize as Outstanding was Annie Heitmann's evocative action shot 'Before the Fire – Friday night drumming outside the Museum with many of my friends.'

All 29 entries can be seen on the Nimbin Aged Care & Respite Service facebook page.

Nimbin Crossword Solution

From Page 29



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Normal Mon-Fri Week

Leaving	Arriving	Leaving	Arriving
Lismore Transit Centre	Nimbin - Main St. (Park)	Lismore Transit Centre	Nimbin - Main St. (Park)
7.00am	7.30am	8.00am	8.30am
8.00am	8.45am	12.00pm	12.35pm *
12.00pm	12.35pm *	2.35pm	3.10pm
2.35pm	3.10pm	5.30pm	6.00pm
3.20pm	4.15pm		
5.30pm	6.00pm		

Leaving	Arriving	Leaving	Arriving
Nimbin - Main St. (Park)	Lismore Transit Centre	Nimbin - Main St. (Park)	Lismore Transit Centre
7.52am	8.50am	9.00am	9.35am
9.00am	9.35am	12.45pm	1.15pm *
12.45pm	1.15pm *	3.25pm	4.10pm
3.25pm	4.10pm	6.05pm	6.35pm
4.30pm	5.15pm		
6.05pm	6.35pm		

No Public Holiday Service

Wheelchair access available

Some buses connect in Nimbin for operators to Murwillumbah

* Mondays & Thursdays Only

Centenary of the Nimbin District War Memorial

by Paul Le Bars

A call to commemoration

ANZAC Day Tuesday 25th April. All are welcome to attend.

The Dawn Service will be at the Nimbin District Memorial from 5.30am. For the ANZAC Day March, please muster at the Nimbin Hospital before 10.35am to start the March at 10.40am to the Nimbin District Memorial for the commemoration service to begin at 10.45am and finish just after 11am.

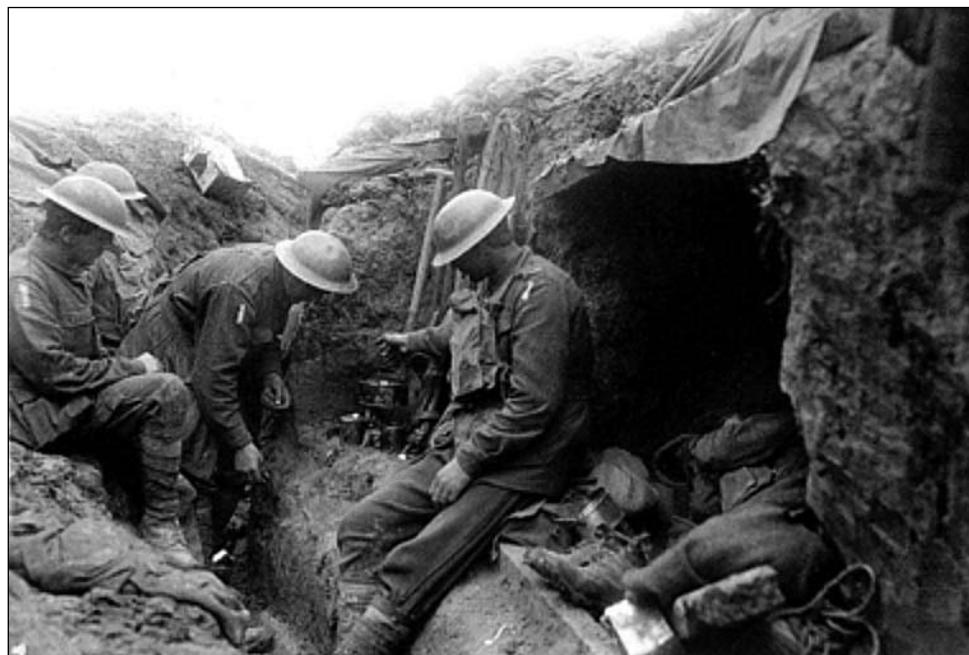
Stalemate in the trenches, 1917

After Gallipoli, the AIF was re-organised and expanded from two to five infantry divisions, all of which were progressively transferred to France, beginning in March 1916. The AIF mounted division that had served as additional infantry during the campaign, remained in the Middle East.

In July 1916, Australian infantry were introduced to Western Front combat.

The plan given to Australian commanders for the First Battle of Bullecourt (10-11 April 1917), relied on a "surprise concentration" of tanks that would lead the infantry advance without the support of artillery bombardment. In the event, not all the tanks arrived and those that did were quickly knocked out. Amazingly, the Australian infantry broke into the strong defences of the Hindenburg Line, but not surprisingly they were unable to hold their gains.

The Australian war correspondent Charles Bean, who was assigned the role of official historian during the war, wrote: "Bullecourt, more than any other battle, shook the confidence of Australian soldiers in the



Bullecourt Centenary: Australian soldiers use a candle to warm a mess tin of tea during the fighting near Bullecourt, France, 19th May 1917

capacity of the British command; the errors, especially on April 10th and 11th, were obvious to almost anyone."

The Second Battle of Bullecourt fought between 3rd and 15th May 1917, and was a continuation of the British 1917 spring offensive north and south of Arras. The aim of the spring offensive was to support a major attack further south by the French under General Robert Nivelle. As the British had at the opening of the Somme in 1916, Nivelle sought a breakthrough of the German lines followed by swift defeat of the enemy on French soil.

The French attacked on 15th April 1917 but failed. However, both British

and French leaders agreed to continue operations, one of which was a combined British and Australian attack on the Hindenburg Line around Bullecourt where the Australians had failed so disastrously on 11th April 1917.

The infantry of the Second Australian Division advanced east of Bullecourt village at 3.45am on 3rd May 1917. The left flank, close to Bullecourt, was pinned in the wire but the right and centre, partly sheltered by a half-sunken road, seized and cleared the first two lines of enemy trench.

At dusk on 3rd May, the Australians held most of its first objective. Only the Canadians in the north and the Australians

in the south made any progress on 3rd May. The Australians extended their narrow foothold in the Hindenburg Line until it was like a mushroom on its stalk, with the head deep in enemy territory connected by a single long communication track.

At dawn on 6th May, after 18 hours of bombardment, the Germans launched their sixth general counter-attack, but stubborn defence by Australians prevented any German gain. Part of Bullecourt was seized by the British on 7th May, and ten days later all the ruins were in their hands.

On 15th May, the Australians fought off a final German counter-attack and the enemy decided to leave this piece of the Hindenburg Line to the Australians.

www.awmlondon.gov.au/battles/bullecourt

Indigenous service in WWI

Over 650 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people served in practically all branches and units of the AIF: infantry, light horse, artillery, engineers, and even the flying corps (though not as airmen). They saw action in the Middle East as well as on the Western Front.

The casualty rate (those killed, wounded, gassed, sick, or taken prisoner) among "black diggers" was proportionally as heavy as the whole of the AIF's.

Indigenous men won a number of decorations for gallantry in the field, including four Distinguished Conduct Medals and 17 Military Medals.

Some reached non-commissioned rank, and Alfred John Hearps from Tasmania briefly served as a second lieutenant until he was killed in 1916, making him probably the first commissioned officer of Aboriginal heritage. www.awm.gov.au

"Lest We Forget"

WALK AND CAMPING WEEKEND AT TOONUMBAR N.P.



by Deborah Lilly

The blessed cool of the rainforest graces our arrival at Toonumbar National Park for the NBC weekend bushwalking camp.

Set on the volcanic high of the Richmond Range, our lovely local relic of Gondwanaland sub-tropical rainforest has old growth giants; Red Cedar, Rosewood, Flooded Gum, Figs and the infamous Stinging Tree (take sticky tape to remove the barbs). This is a World Heritage hotspot of biodiversity.

Members of the Club shared yarns, skills and knowledge; Ian and Don identified plants, Kathy traditional Aotearoa basketweaving, Craig gave bushfire tips, everyone contributing something, giving the group a growing connectedness.

The forecast rain held off until Saturday night. Lying warm and cosy just inches below the smashing raindrops on the tarp above my tent, I enjoyed the sounds and the experience.

Then I thought I should dig a trench to avoid inundation. My only tool was a dessert spoon, and I soon understood the futility of my efforts as the tent site, being lower than the surrounding trees, turned into a watercourse. Luckily the rain eased off and I awoke with bellbirds and innocent sunshine.

Why is the rainforest cool and moist while all around is hot and muggy? Because vegetation generates rainfall and cooler temperatures, according to Dailan Pugh's excellent article in the February 22 edition of the *Byron Shire Echo* on page 20, which illuminates the science and is a brilliant read.

It makes me want to preserve our remaining rainforest even more so. I wrote to Premier Gladys Berejiklian asking her to revoke Baird's unjustly severe landclearing laws before they come into effect in July.

NBC gives us the opportunity to experience firsthand, appreciate and learn more about our most precious places.

Nimbin Bushwalkers Walks Program

Sunday 23rd April

Mount Nullum

near Murwillumbah

Leader: Bill Potter 0428-737-747

Grade: 3 Walk up fire trail to a mountain plateau with panoramic views over the Tweed Valley to the east and in the west to Mount Warning. About 5 hours return.

Meet: 9am at 887 Kyogle Road if coming from Murwillumbah before Mount Warning Road turn off just past the roadside fruit stall. Bring: lunch, water.

Fri. 5th to Sun. 7th May
Rummery Park Campground
Whian Whian SCA

Leader: Bill West 0429-933-544

Grade: 2 – 3 Varied walks around Minyon Falls and bushwalks to Bill's special spot. Meet: at the Campground, contact Bill for details re booking camp sites. A lovely sheltered camp site for camper trailers, tents and vehicle sleeping. This should be a great time to visit there will be plenty of water over the Falls but dry enough for some good bushwalking.

Camping: basic facilities recently refurbished. Site fee \$24 per night for 2, we may be able to organise a share, day walkers welcome; walks will be starting about 9am.

NIMBIN
LISMORE
BALLINA

Lifestyle
real estate

Phone (02)
6689 1305
www.nimbinrealestate.com.au



12/1091 STONY CHUTE ROAD, WADEVILLE
\$ 155,000

- It boasts a northerly aspect with commons land between the share and Websters Creek.
- The site has plumbing set up to the community water pumped from the creek and drinkable.
- Very importantly, it has mains power that is fully connected to the site.
- The caravans and other belongings can be left for new owners if they want them.

Note: No cats are allowed on the community, and banks will not finance this transaction



20 ZOUCH ROAD, NIMBIN
\$ 570,000

- Unique hexagonal mud brick home on 100 rolling acres.
- The home features 4 bedrooms plus a loft, main bedroom with en-suite and built-ins.
- 4 dams, horse paddock, 4WD access tracks and a 2 bay lock-up machinery shed.
- Telstra phone reception and a landline.
- Modern kitchen has bamboo flooring and gas cooking overlooking established gardens.



25 FARAWAY ROAD, CAWONGLA
\$ 600,000

- 4 bedrooms, main with ensuite, absolutely private and only 5 minutes to Cawongla.
- A studio sits off the main house for additional accommodation.
- Approximately 97 acres surround the home.
- Swimming pool, various fruit trees and a 4-bay machinery shed with 2 lockable bays.
- Two water tanks, 10000g and 5000g.



39 BASIL ROAD, NIMBIN
\$ 399,000

- Approximately half an acre under a mature rain forest canopy.
- The main bedroom is roomy and light with walk-in robes.
- The second bedroom / study could also be utilised as an office.
- A third bedroom is upstairs and has a built-in wardrobe.
- A fan-forced wood heater provides warmth in the cooler months, and all rooms have fans.



345 BLADE ROAD (WEST), STONY CHUTE
\$ 765,000

- On approximately 90 acres, with views to Blue Knob and the Border Ranges.
- Low maintenance tropical gardens surround the home, which has verandahs on two sides.
- Inside, there's 3 double bedrooms and a spacious combined lounge and dining area.
- A wood heater is located in the lounge room to heat the house in winter.
- There's also a colourbond shed with garage doors and carport, and 2-bay stable.



5180 KYOGLE ROAD, CAWONGLA
\$ 395,000

- The land is approximately 15 grassy arable acres with a dam, creek and swimming hole.
- A large council-approved colourbond shed in the process of being converted to a funky home.
- Currently open plan, with only 2 rooms (one for the bathroom) and a mezzanine.
- There's a 3KVA solar system with 14 panels, and solar hot water with gas back-up.
- Includes shed, 2-bay carport, and 2-bay garage, and all building materials currently on-site.

CONTACT

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GRANT ROSSITER - 0427 531 951

JACQUI SMITH - 0439 156 666

NIKKI J LONG - 0467 481 246



NEW LISTINGS



Sold by Grant & Jacqui

1 Thorburn Street, Nimbin

- Great corner block w/ dual frontage, excellent visibility for home business
- Renovated 3 - 4 bed home; original features e.g. picture rails, timber floors
- Reverse air-con in open plan kitchen/ living room. Walking distance to town



Sold by Jacqui

3/4 Wallaby Road, Nimbin

- Fantastic community share only 10 mins to Nimbin. 7 tranquil, private acres
- Mostly cleared; beautiful forest around of tall timbers, palms and tree ferns
- 2 creeks & connection to share of communal dam. 2 bay lockable cb shed



Sold by Nikki

28A Mountain Top Road, Georgica

- Palatial Two-Storey Mud Brick Home. 5 x beds + office. Peaceful, private
- Ample storage facilities. Huge back-to-grid Solar pack, inground pool
- 15 acres, 3 x storage sheds, creek plus 2 x spring fed dams. VALUE!



Sold by John & Sam

10 Thorburn Street, Nimbin

- Stunning valley. Close to town; creek with swimming holes. 15 acre farmlet
- 4 x bed home + large apartment + 2 smaller dwellings, all w/ covered walkways
- Main house w/ sweeping verandahs, expansive use of timber & designer glass



Sold by John

19 Alternative Way, Nimbin

- New home situated in the most recently established side of Nimbin town
- Potentially returning an easy \$360 per week with a booming demand for rentals
- 3 x bedrooms, 2 x bathrooms, carport & covered north facing deck. Great views



Sold by Chris

61 Hayden Road, Nimbin

- Very clean 130 acre farm. Sensational views, gentle undulation, 3 x dams
- Decades of labour from expert Horticulturists & 3rd gen Cattle Farmers
- 4 x bed, back to grid solar, quality new kitchen, deep verandahs, Huge shed

FEATURE PROPERTIES



Contact John

483 Davis Road, Jiggi

- 102 acres VALUE at this \$\$; flat to gentle slopes. Regenerated rainforest areas
- 5 x bed home almost complete; open plan living, 2 sides verandahs + studio
- Private oasis w/ 5 clear acres. Solar pwr & hot water. 4 generous dams + shed



Contact Grant

Lot 2, Alternative Way, Nimbin

- Amazing Air B&B potential. Enchanting forest with babbling stream : 25 acres
- Contemporary double brick home. unique & spectacular 3 x beds, lofted ceilings
- Attached 2 x bed apartment w/ glass turret. Enjoy daytime scenery & stars by night



Contact Grant

144 Bertoli Road, Jiggi

- Massive price drop makes this property fabulous value! 15 acre beauty
- Private 2 x bed dwelling laden with windows to allow maximum natural light
- Totally powered by stand alone solar system - NO ELECTRICITY BILLS!

APRIL SPECIAL #1



Contact John

494 Crofton Road, Nimbin

Once in a lifetime opportunity to secure your own pristine paradise 3 bedroom farmhouse on 277 acres.



APRIL SPECIAL #2



Contact Chris

20 Zouch Road, Nimbin

Unique 4 x bedroom mud-brick home in pretty Stoney Chute. On 100 acres w/ extensive underground piping & large shade houses

For more information, see
www.nimbinhills.com.au

"Head For The hills"
66 891 498

or visit our friendly staff at
74a Cullen St, Nimbin