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Return of the Loon
by Laurie Axtens

Queen Gladys

Queen Gladys the Gormless is under pressure. The power providers that her ilk privatised are planning on another price hike. This year alone, our power prices are expected to rise on average \$200 per household.

She desperately needs a distraction. In Australia there is only one great distraction. One over-riding religion – sport.

Believe me, I'm an acolyte. I'll be glued to the television throughout our yearly humiliation at the hands of the All-Blacks. I'll be on the couch for the final, obviously stage-managed, "fairy tale" Origin series decider and I will be leaping for joy when the Soccerroos sneak into the World Cup finals. Fingers crossed.

Gladys knows this – and in her desperation she has dusted off the

cheque book and clicked on the golden Parker pen.

The sweetest of the middle class welfare on offer is a \$100 for every sporting girl and boy to assist them pay their fees.

Fabien and Gary, Nimbin Headers FC and other sporting clubs, gyms, dojos etc need to register for these moneys.

Here is the link: <https://sport.nsw.gov.au/sectordevelopment/activekids>

They also need to make sure their young charges fill in the rebate applications.

The cash starts flowing on 1st January, 2018.

Although it's not a direct increase in club funds, it could increase registrations and will make parents happier to donate to the greater cause.

Our gormless leader is going to make a lot of political mileage from this handout. Make sure we get as much of it as we can.

Chamber Chat



by Teresa Biscoe, President

Soon we will have better lighting in the main street at night.

The Nimbin Chamber has received the great news that we and the Nimbin Community Centre have been successful in our grant application for the under-awning and mural solar lighting project.

We are seeking contributing funding from Lismore Council via a community grant application and we are requesting some of the Special Business Rate Variation Levy Funds.

Michael Balderstone from the Hemp Embassy attended our last meeting and the chamber provided feedback regarding the last Nimbin Mardigrass. Members were unhappy with the widespread application of the no parking zones from the Wednesday before the event. The lack of disabled parking and access was also discussed.

The group felt that parking restrictions should apply from the Friday to the Sunday of the event weekend and should

only include Cullen Street. The need for more longer term, off street parking and an extension of pedestrian footways along Sibley Street was highlighted by this weekend event.

Plans from the museum site have been lodged with council, but word is the council is not completely happy with the current draft and will probably insist on several changes before it is ready for community comment. The Rainbow Cafe plans have been approved and work should begin on the site soon.

The Nimbin Roots Festival is now seeking sponsorship from local businesses for their event as they will be printing programs soon. This event has widespread exposure, and is a great advertising opportunity. Lou, the event organiser is expecting double the number of ticket sales from last year's event.

Stephanie Seckold, one of our new Chamber members, is developing an artisans skills display at the next Nimbin Show. She is seeking artisans who would be willing to share their skills in this great family

event. Send expressions of interest to her or to the Chamber.

We are re-initiating the mural restoration fund and distributing donation tins in businesses around the village. Please give generously so we can help building owners manage, maintain and create more of our wonderful and iconic street murals. The Chamber is also supporting the LCC grant application made by the NAG to restore the Allsopp Park Mural as a locally mentored youth indigenous arts project.

We reviewed a slide show from a local community resident around the poor quality of some commercial signage approvals in the village (examples given were the illuminated ATM sign and the advertising signage on the bus shelter). We are interested in engaging with LCC to create a process that provides community feedback on the style of signage that suits the community ethos and image.

The Chamber discussed strategies for reducing disposable non-recyclable rubbish in the village. Kylie

from the Green Bank, Stephanie Seckold and I are working together on creating a number of community strategies around these issues.

As part of this, Kylie and I met Gina from Yamba who has coordinated the Ecobag a tough recycled paper bag that effectively replaces the plastic shopping bag and can be reused many times. The bag is funded through a sponsorship advertising model and we are working on how this model translates to our smaller but more committed village.

It's time for our annual membership renewal so all members will be getting a reminder soon. If you're not a member and a local business, please consider being a part of your local chamber.

We hope to provide our community with a voice for the community with local government and state organisations like the NSW Business Chamber, to improve the facilities and infrastructure and opportunities in our wonderful village.

Nimbin RFS brigade report

by Marcus Mantschaff, Captain Nimbin Rural Fire Brigade

After farewelling some well-meaning, yet inactive members in the last few years, Nimbin Rural Fire Brigade has contracted to a membership of 21 operational and 13 reserve members.

The average membership age has dropped significantly in the past decade, and it is reassuring to see millennials stepping up through our ranks; developing and maintaining skills while playing an indispensable role within our village community. We meet the first Wednesday of the month from 6.30pm at the Sibley Street Fire Station, so please come along if you'd like to learn more about your local brigade.

This year we again welcome the support of Nimbin Central School for another round of the RFS Cadet



program to be run across Term 3. As in 2015, local brigade volunteers will introduce young people to NSW RFS firefighting operations; promote an awareness of fire behaviour, provide casualty assistance and offer some appreciation of the work our emergency services do every day.

Brigade volunteers who wish to be involved should phone the Northern Rivers Zone Office on 6663-0000.

Prior to the Bush Fire Danger Period and in collaboration with Nimbin RFB and local Northern Rivers brigades, State Mitigation Support Services are currently engaging with local communities to extend a one-off free service to reduce bush fire hazards for infirm, disabled and elderly residents. The AIDER program helps protect at-risk residents living in bush fire prone areas by doing basic hazard reduction work around their properties.

These works give people some peace

of mind throughout the hot summer months, so that if a bushfire does break out, these people and their homes are as prepared as possible. For more information, please look to the Nimbin RFB Facebook page and/or enter the text: RFS AIDER into your preferred internet search engine.

Fuel hazard reductions (HRs) are a high priority for the Northern Rivers again this year and local brigades look to their member's experience, local knowledge and communities to help identify 'at risk' areas. Northern Rivers residents (Lismore, Richmond Valley & Kyogle) can telephone their Fire Control Centre on 6663-0000 to discuss concerns on theirs and/or neighbouring properties; while Far North Coast residents (Tweed, Byron & Ballina) can phone 6671-5500.

Fire permits are not presently required, but those intending to burn are legally obligated to notify both their neighbours and local Fire Control Centre.

From the mayor's desk

by Cr Isaac Smith
Lismore City Council

It was really good to see so many submissions from the Nimbin area for our community grants scheme this year. While the results are not yet announced, I know many will be successful and provide a welcome boost to the community groups who make the village such a vibrant and positive hub for locals and visitors.

At last month's Council meeting we appointed two new members to the Nimbin Advisory Group. I would like to personally welcome Ian Brooke and Megan James, who will join the seven current members who are staying on for another tour of duty.

The Nimbin Advisory Group has officially taken on the role of community panel for the North West region which takes in Blue Knob, Stony Chute, Coffee Camp, Larnook, Georgica, Mountain Top and of course Nimbin itself.

So if you are from any of those areas, feed your ideas through to NAG members so that council can hear about your views on making the community better.

Council also agreed in June to resurrect our Nuclear Free Zone status by adding signs to our city entrances in Lismore. The signs were pulled down back in the 90's, but with new discussions arising about Nuclear power in Australia, there has never



been a better time to stand up and call out this industry for the fraud it is.

This month the long awaited changes to rural land sharing communities will come to the July council meeting. With this small but important change, current Multiple Occupancies and future Rural Land Sharing Communities (RLC) can now have much better control over titles.

This will allow each member of an RLC to have more ownership under community title and is acknowledged as a positive step forward in growing and promoting intentional communities.

The change to Community Title and Rural Land Sharing Communities is also in line with Council's Growth Management Strategy which identifies where these communities should be considered.

To limit the environmental and farming impact of future development, growth in our LGA is encouraged around existing community.

So if the village or locality has facilities such as a community hall, school or corner shop, it makes sense to encourage controlled growth in that location.

The more we limit green field expansion away from existing services, the better our overall impact on sustainability. So while we watch our state and federal governments flounder on climate change, Council is happy to incorporate this into everything that we do.

A development application has been lodged for the Nimbin Roots Festival in September this year. So it is currently on exhibition with a closing date of 17th July.

You can read the DA on council's website or at the Goonellabah offices and submissions are encouraged.

If you would like to know more about the festival visit: <http://www.nrfest.com/>

Finally I would like to put in a plug for Council's hit new show. With our live streaming of council meetings, we are finding that people are loving the high drama that comes with a side of political grandstanding on the second Tuesday of every month.

Our June meeting was so popular that the streaming company, who look after a lot of councils, asked us what our secret was. I said that it all came down to an active and engaged community.

To catch the next thrilling instalment, join us at 6pm on 11th July. <http://webcast.lismore.nsw.gov.au/>



Word of the Bird by Cr Elly Bird

This year's Lismore Lantern Parade was a poignant night for me, as it was the Lantern Parade that brought me to Lismore in 2002 and it was working on the Lantern Parade where I developed my love for and commitment to our community.

I spent many days working with community groups on the bigger lanterns and travelling around to all the small schools in the hills, getting to know the local kids and helping them make their lanterns. It was especially poignant this year as we continue to recover from the flood and thankfully it was a clear, starry night for us to gather in the streets and spend time with each other, celebrating who we are, and the things that make our community so precious.

I wrote my last *GoodTimes* column just a few days after the flood, and just before my journey with Helping Hands and the volunteer flood effort began. I spent the following weeks working all day every day with an amazing group of committed people at 'The Hub', which ran out of the Lismore Railway Station. It has been one of those life-changing, transformative experiences that catch you by surprise, and I will never forget being part of such an incredible outpouring of generosity to support people who had been impacted by the flood.

I haven't had a chance to thank some of the key individuals who made it all happen, so I just want to take a moment to acknowledge: Maddy-Rose Braddon, Mandie Kai and Katie Cooper-Wares (pictured with me) who were part of the initial Facebook group and who approached Council to see how they could help channel community volunteer efforts.

Also Jally Hawthorn, Ian Gaillard, Nan and Hugh Nicholson, Simon Clough, Robyn Kelly, Jacob Stone, Naomi Tarrant, Ruth Harlow, Suzie Coulston and Jenny Grogan, all veterans of Gasfield Free Northern Rivers and the Bentley Blockade, who were able to get The Hub up and running so quickly and organise the hundreds of volunteers who began to stream through the doors; Lia Hibner who took a leadership role caring for the wellbeing of the community; and Brent McAlister at Council who was right there with us every step of the way.

There are many other people who stepped into leadership roles at The Hub and I don't have space to list them all, if you are reading this you know who you are and what a difference your efforts made. It was an incredible experience and I am incredibly proud and humble to have been part of it.

Now that the immediate recovery phase is over, there is significant longer-term recovery work to be done which has shifted into research, Council support for small businesses, and working to capture our processes and learnings so

we can be better prepared next time. I continue to be astounded at the work that is being generated from the event, and the significance of the impact on our businesses and our community. It is incredible that a weather event that only really lasted 36 hours or so will continue to be felt for up to two years.

There are a lot of questions about how the event and the emergency response unfolded and I welcome the news that an independent review is happening, as there are clearly lessons to be learnt and things that could have been done better.

What is becoming most apparent to me is that community skills of recovery and preparedness are critical, and will become even more critical in the years to come. As climate change continues to break records every year, with higher temperature records and stronger storms, the need for real, effective, community resilience and recovery skills is all too apparent.

Important work needs to be done to help our community to recover and to help people be more prepared so they can move quickly and know what to do if a similar event happens again. Council business as usual has continued in amongst the flood response, and I am grateful to Council staff, who have worked extremely hard over the last few months to respond and who continue to do so.

The impact of the flood on Council's budget still hasn't been completely quantified but it is not going to be good. The NSW government has given some disaster relief funding but there will be a significant shortfall, we just don't know how much it will be yet.

Readers of the *GoodTimes* will know all too well the scale of the work ahead of Council to fix our roads, so please do contact Council if there are any particular roads that you are aware of that become unsafe or un-driveable as Council often relies on community knowledge if conditions worsen in particular places.

I also just want to let you know about a couple of significant motions which were voted through at the last meeting; firstly, that Council adjust its investment policies to allow increased divestment in banks that invest in fossil fuels and that we begin to work towards complete divestment; and secondly that Council reaffirm its support for Marriage Equality. Both are issues that are important to our community, and I was proud to support them.

Unfortunately, due to numerous Councillors declaring they had a significant conflict of interest, we were unable to retain a quorum to vote on Cr Lloyd's motion urging Commonwealth Bank to rule out funding the Adani Carmichael Coal Mine.

As always, I can be contacted for council or community matters at: elly.bird@lismore.nsw.gov.au or on 0418-639-927.



by Kevin Hogan MP Member for Page

My wife Karen recently attended the Nimbin Hospital Auxiliary's fashion parade and afternoon tea fundraiser (pictured).

She said it was a great event, with money raised to purchase medical equipment for the hospital. I would like to thank Maureen and the team who do such a great job for our community.

120 mobile blackspots across our community will be fixed with the construction of 20 base stations over the coming 18 months.

A new base station to be built at Coffee Camp will improve mobile phone coverage in Nimbin and the area west of the town.

Some of the other blackspots being fixed are at Green Pigeon, Koonorigan, Bean Creek, Collins Creek, Gorge Creek, Lower Peacock.

From the start of this month, any large multinational corporation that attempts to move undeclared profits overseas will be hit with the new 40% Diverted Profits Tax.

It is only fair that if a company makes money in Australia, it should be taxed in Australia. The additional tax collected will be used to provide services for our community.

This new tax on multinationals is on top of other strong measures already introduced including the new Tax Avoidance Taskforce, which has already issued bills of \$2.9 billion to seven multinational corporations; the Multinational-Anti Avoidance Law, which prevents large multinational corporations from claiming profits were earned overseas, when they were actually earned here in Australia; and doubling the penalty for large multinational corporations that try to avoid paying tax.



Equal status for women in Goju-ryu Karate-do

by Mish Songsmith

Rachel Whiting has been training in traditional Okinawan Goju-Ryu Karate for over 30 years. The martial art has an aim to cultivate its students not only to be able to defend themselves, but to create a sense of responsibility, justice, courage and personal awareness that they can uphold in their daily lives.

Rachel attended a grading for her 3rd Dan (level) black belt in early June. After a gruelling 3.5 hour session of every kata, (about 12) with practical applications to all of them (each belt level has a

sequence which needs to be passed at a grading to get to the next level), displaying and explaining to her chief instructors how she teaches a karate class, kicks and punches in the bag, and sparring a man twice the weight of her small 55kg body, she finally received her 3rd Dan black belt.

She came out feeling emotional, relieved, and smiling, yet she was also totally exhausted. The next day she was sore and sensitive as she moved a lot slower than her usual bounce.

Rachel is now in training for her 4th Dan and is on the lookout for

a strong male black belt to increase her strength and endurance and to get her to a place in her sparring where she is ready to conquer her next grading. I think I'll be taking a holiday that weekend!

Rachel continues to run her 'Wise Warriors' personal development school program. This develops physical and mental strength through the art of self-discipline and self-defence.

It combines karate techniques and ceremony, with mindfulness and meditation, building on the five qualities of self-discipline, respect, focus, humility and perseverance.

Rachel is currently delivering the program to 6-12 year old students at Tuntable Falls School, so if you'd like her to run it in your school or organisation, email: coolcalmconnected1@gmail.com

If you'd like to attend classes or are a black belt in martial arts who desires a sparring partner, call Rachel on 0427-778-837.

She trains in Nimbin every Tuesday and Friday afternoons to a buzzing hall of sweating and kiai-ing students. Class times are Tuesdays from 4-5.30pm and Fridays from 4.30-6pm at Nimbin Town Hall during the school term.

Carbon and energy policy creates uncertainty

by Rebecca Ryall for Rainbow Power Co.

Energy prices are set to increase by about 20% over the coming months.

Higher retail prices are due mainly to increasing prices of wholesale energy, but also due to lack of policy direction, and the closure of Hazelwood and Northern coal fired power stations, both of which cause uncertainty in the energy sector and directly impact on the level of investment in the industry.

Origin Energy last week announced increases in tariffs for both residential and business customers, of 16-19%, from 1st July. Energy Australia similarly announced increases of 19.9% for electricity, and 13.3% for gas. AGL customers also face increases of around 16%. All the major retailers point to uncertainty over carbon and energy policy at both the state and federal levels, as affecting confidence levels in the sector, and reduced investment.

Wholesale electricity prices have almost tripled in recent years. Australia now holds the dubious honour of having some of the most expensive electricity anywhere in the world.

A number of energy retailers are also involved in gas supply, which is also impacting on their ability to protect consumers from inordinate tariff increases. Wholesale gas prices have doubled in recent years, while exports to Japan and China have increased markedly, due to these countries' willingness to pay higher prices than Australian consumers. Many are predicting a critical gas shortage in the not too distant future.

On the global scale, Australia has committed to reducing carbon emissions by 26-28% on 2005 levels, by 2030, with a renewable energy target of 23%. A recent report into the energy sector, commissioned following the state-wide blackouts in South Australia last spring, has criticised the Australian government's lack of clear policy direction stating that there is no

provision of a 'clear pathway to the level of reduction required to meet Australia's Paris commitment'.

The good news for solar customers is that feed-in tariffs (for those operating grid-connect systems) are tipped to rise, in line with increasing wholesale costs.

The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal has recommended increases in feed-in tariffs from a range of 5.5c/kWh – 7.2c/kWh to 11.6c/kWh – 14.6c/kWh. While this is a far cry from the halcyon days of 60c/kWh, it does represent a doubling of the figure paid to households who currently feed excess energy into the grid.

With rising electricity prices, and increasing feed-in tariffs, investing in rooftop solar just gets smarter. Consuming less electricity from the grid means smaller power bills. And electricity prices are not going to drop in a hurry, so maximising your savings just becomes more important.

With increasing demand, and improving technology, prices of solar components continue to drop. The rationale for the financial investment in rooftop solar, for most people, tends to be about payback periods – being the amount of time before electricity savings have offset the initial investment. As electricity prices increase, and component costs decrease, solar systems will pay for themselves faster.

Rainbow Power Company continues to lead the way in providing cost effective and market tested components for both residential and commercial solar installations – stand alone and grid connected. We are taking advanced orders now for the Tesla Powerwall 2, which is the latest technology in energy storage, ideal for grid connected rooftop solar systems.

To discuss your energy needs, and the advantages of solar power to your family, drop in at 1 Alternative Way in Nimbin and/or visit our website at: www.rpc.com.au or phone 6689-1430.

Google changes algorithms

by Russell Lean
[web2trafficstrategies](http://web2trafficstrategies.com)

Google started rolling out some major algorithm updates last September, with Google Possum on September 1.

They then unleashed three Google Penguin updates in September/October and then three major unnamed updates in early 2017, concluding with "Fred" on about March 8.

Why is this important? Well, if you are a small business owner who relies on internet traffic and enquiries to your website from Google Search/Google Maps/Google+ and even Google Adwords advertising, these updates and some that are due in June and July this year may really upset you.

So what are Google up to? From our position in the Google Partners Program and as Local Guides Level 5 for Google Maps – what we can see by the chatter that is going on in Google as an organisation, and in the SEO world online, is that they are about to totally change the game forever.

Already if you look at a search result page (Go and search your business industry and the town you live in – Electricians Lismore for instance), you will notice that Google have allocated more space at the top of commercial results pages for paid ads. They have reduced the Maps



results from seven businesses to three and they have added some more Ad space at the bottom, doing away with sidebar ads almost altogether. The nett result of this is not great for small businesses who are trying to have a profile in search and on Maps. So what can be done to ameliorate this major change and those coming? Last year we discovered some really interesting things about Geo Location technologies and Microdata, and how these two things combined can greatly enhance a business's positions in Google search.

At first I was inquisitive yet skeptical, as I have heard over the years of technologies that were supposed to be a magic bullet for internet marketing. However, [web2trafficstrategies](http://web2trafficstrategies.com) has partnered with a company that develops these technologies and has been implementing them over the last eight months for clients around the country, in a number of niches including luxury apartments and accommodation, real estate, legal services, yoga and pilates studios and more.

Every website that has had

these technologies installed has risen in search results to high on page 1 within 7-10 days, and over a three-month period has ended up dominating Google Maps and Organic Search results totally, with multiple first position results.

It is often difficult to guarantee results in the ever-changing world of Search Engine Optimisation (SEO) and internet marketing. However, we now have a campaign process that absolutely guarantees #1 rankings in Google and Google Maps and not only that, what we are witnessing is that if certain other important things are done online, the rankings stick over time and do not seem to change.

If you are a local business whose Google and Google Maps rankings are not yielding you the level of traffic to your website you want and thus enquiries and sales – we can guarantee that if you do what we advise, you will outrank your competition and be industry leaders online.

Contact us on about a campaign to suit your business on 0468-382-600, email us at: web2trafficstrategies@gmail.com or visit our website: www.web2trafficstrategies.com.au Watch the video and fill out our contact form, and Russell will call you to discuss how we can get you ranking #1 in Google.

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AUSTRALIA **POST**

This month Nimbin Flix is screening *Dare to be Wild*, a wonderful film about Mary Reynolds, the youngest ever winner of the prestigious Chelsea Flower Show.

Mary grew up in rural Ireland, imbued with a love of the wild places. Her application to the flower show includes this memorable quote: "People travel the world over to visit untouched places of natural beauty, yet modern gardens pay little heed to the simplicity and beauty of these environments... those special places we must preserve and protect, each in his own way, before they are lost forever."

A talented landscape designer, she knew that she wanted to present a garden of only wild plants, but first she must overcome obstacles from securing funding to

getting the right group of people to make her dream a reality. They are a bunch of hippies who she meets making rock walls, but their botanist, Christy Collard, is the hardest to convince. He is vital to her plans and so begins a journey that takes her to Africa where he works planting trees.

Dare to be Wild is a film that rings true to the hearts of the people of Nimbin, in its message of the preservation of wilderness and the love of nature. It will be shown on Saturday 8th July at Birth and Beyond. Doors open at 6.30pm for a 7pm start and cakes and refreshments are available. Tickets are \$10, members free.

A friendly reminder that membership is due in July and is only \$40 for a year of monthly movies.



Margaret McLaren Art Awards



Photography First Prize Yr 12: 'Firefly' by Laura Rutley



Photography First Prize Yr 10: 'Blue Balloon Hat' Jerara Allan

The annual Margaret McLaren Art Award took place during the Autumn Arts Festival held at the Nimbin School of Arts over Easter.

As part of the Nimbin Central School art exhibition, generously supported by the Nimbin Artist Gallery, the Margaret McLaren Art Award is a privately sponsored competition with a series of cash prizes for Primary Art and Secondary Photography. The Award is aimed at encouraging and supporting artists from a young age to inspire them and nurture their talents.

The award is in its second year and as it becomes better known among the student body, more and more students are entering with an incredible show of talent and imagination. The judges, sponsors and gallery volunteers were all "blown away" by the excellent calibre of this year's entries.

Award winners were announced and presented with their prizes at a special assembly held at the school, attended by the whole school as well as special guests from the gallery. Very excited and happy prize-winners also had the opportunity to display and talk about their award winning works to the school community and their peers.

Nimbin Central School is already looking forward to the opportunity to participate in this wonderful Art Award next year, and would like to thank all involved for this generous and heartfelt support of our young artists.

Below: Painting First Prize 8yrs: Ivy Rowland
 Right: Painting First Prize 11yrs: Ayla Wakemans



BUSH THEATRE MOVIES IN JULY



Kubo and the Two Strings

Kubo and the Two Strings

Rated G \$10 Free popcorn
Wednesday 12th July, 11am
 Kubo and the Two Strings is a 2016 American 3D stop-motion fantasy action adventure directed by Travis Knight. It stars the voices of Charlize Theron, Ralph Fiennes and Matthew McConaughey. The film is set in feudal Japan and revolves around young Kubo, who wields a magical shamisen (a traditional 3 stringed instrument) and whose left eye was stolen by his power-hungry grandfather Raiden (aka, the Moon King).

Accompanied by a snow monkey and a beetle, Kubo sets off on an adventure to retrieve his missing eye from the Moon King. *Kubo and the Two Strings* premiered at the Melbourne International Film Festival and was released internationally to universal critical acclaim. The film won the BAFTA for Best Animated Film and was nominated for an Academy Award. The creation of the film using stop motion graphics has given the film a special authenticity that is hard to capture with digital animation.

The spell-binding art took inspiration from traditional Japanese mediums such as ink painting and origami. A particular influence came from the ukiyo-e woodblock style, with the director intending to make the entire film "look and feel as if it's a moving woodblock print". Don't miss this fantastical triumph of art meets animation.

T2 Trainspotting

Rated R18+ \$10
Friday 14th July, 7.30pm
T2 Trainspotting is a 2017 British comedy drama film set in and around Edinburgh, Scotland. The film is directed by Danny Boyle and written by John Hodge, based on characters created by Irvine Welsh in his novel *Trainspotting*, and its follow-up *Porno*.

A sequel to Boyle's 1996 film *Trainspotting*, *T2* stars the original ensemble cast including Ewan McGregor, Ewen Bremner, Johnny Lee Miller, Robert Carlyle and Kelly MacDonal. *T2* is deliberately self-referential, with film-clips, music and echoes from the first film. It has been 20 years since Mark "Rent boy" Renton stole the

money he and his friends had made in a drug deal and fled the country. He returns to Edinburgh to make contact with those in his former life. Daniel "Spud" Murphy continues to struggle with his heroin addiction, Simon "Sick Boy" Williamson runs the Port Sunshine pub he inherited from his aunt and terrifying uber hard man Begbie is serving a 25-year prison sentence.

With another cranking soundtrack worthy of a big PA, *T2* is another journey through the fear and loathing of the lives of the chemical warriors it celebrates.

Tickled

Rated MA15+ \$10
Friday 21st July, 7.30pm
Tickled is a 2016 documentary about "competitive endurance" tickling. Directed by David Farrier and Dylan Reeve, it has received widespread critical acclaim. In a review headlined "fetish documentary goes from giggly to grim", Nigel Smith of *The Guardian* gave the movie four out of five stars. New Zealand based journalist David Farrier stumbled upon a mysterious but fascinating tickling competition online that he decided to explore.

As he delves deeper he comes up against fierce resistance from those who create the underground tickling videos, but that doesn't stop him getting to the bottom of a story stranger than fiction. The film begins as a slightly tongue in cheek exploration of this niche industry, but soon turns into an engrossing conspiracy thriller.

The film-makers start to uncover a secret world, a world that does not want to be discovered. Bizarre threats are made by those involved in this sub-cult-fetish-movement. The film reveals a world of "ticklers", but more importantly a "Tickling



T2 Trainspotting



Taking Woodstock

Industry", one that is alive and thriving in the international community. This industry does not take kindly to the peccadillos they trade in being exposed by Farrier.

"As a look at the dark art of doxing and how money can enable pathological behavior and power trips, the movie is undeniably compelling." – *Rolling Stone*

Taking Woodstock

Rated MA15+ \$10
Friday 28th July, 7.30pm
Taking Woodstock was directed by Academy Award-winning Ang Lee – and it's a trip! It's based on the memoirs of Elliot Tiber who inadvertently played a role in making 1969's Woodstock Music and Arts Festival the famed happening it turned out to be. Featuring a standout ensemble cast, and songs from a score of '60s musical icons including The Grateful Dead, The Doors, Jefferson Airplane and Country Joe and the Fish – plus a new recording of "Freedom" from Richie Havens – *Taking Woodstock* is a joyous voyage to a moment in time when everything seemed possible. The film incorporates original footage from Woodstock, and Ang Lee has treated the era with reverence.

In the summer of 1969, Elliot Tiber has to move back upstate to the El Monaco in order to help save his parents' failing motel from being taken over by the bank. Upon hearing that a planned music festival has lost its permit from a nearby town, he introduces the festival producer to his neighbor Max Yasgur (Eugene Levy), who operates a 600-acre dairy farm down the road. Soon the Woodstock staff is moving in and half a million people are on their way to Yasgur's farm! Elliot finds himself swept up in a generation-defining experience that would change his life – and popular culture – forever. Lovingly

directed by Ang Lee, this is a flashback to a golden age that changed the world. Hear the music through the PA in the Nimbin Bush Theatre Auditorium and Believe!

Enter the Void

Rated M \$10
Friday 4th August, 7.30pm
Enter the Void is a 2009 English-language French drama film written and directed by Gaspar Noé, who described the film as a "psychedelic melodrama". It is simply unmissable on a big screen with big sound. Set in the neon-lit nightclub environments of Tokyo, the film explores concepts based on *The Tibetan Book of the Dead* – how the spirit of a dead person sometimes stays among the living until it begins to experience nightmares, after which it attempts to reincarnate.

The story follows Oscar, a young American drug dealer who gets shot by the police, but continues to watch subsequent events during an out of body experience. The idea for the film had been growing since Director's Noé's adolescence while under the influence of psilocybin mushrooms. Later, when the director was already planning the film, he tried ayahuasca in which the active substance is DMT. Noé described the experience as very intense, and "almost like professional research.". Noé had been working on different versions of the screenplay for fifteen years before the film went into production.

Principal photography took place on location in Tokyo, and involved many complicated crane shots and computer-generated imagery. The film's soundtrack is a collage of electronic pop and experimental music. This is a deep trip into the afterlife and an psychedelic exploration of the realms of the dead. A special experience and a visual masterpiece.



Enter the Void

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Sunday Gig Guide

July 12pm start

9th Daryl James
 Daryl combines original, creative and unorthodox guitar/mandolin playing with his distinctive vocals and spoken word.

16th Romaniacs
 Original music inspired by Gypsy, Folk, Latin, Celtic, and Spanish & Eastern roots grooves. Energetic, rootsy feel-good music.

23rd Luke Vassella
 A fulltime musician since 1998, Luke is well known as an inspirational performer

30th Elena B. Williams
 Elena B is an open vessel, and her spirit is aligned to sing in the collective consciousness of the moment - moment by moment!

6th Aug Monkey & the Fish
 Playing songs from their new album.

Nimbin Hotel & Backpackers
 53 Cullen Street, Nimbin. Ph: 6689-1246

July Gigs

TRIVIA NIGHT EVERY WEDNESDAY, 7pm

Thursday 6th	7pm	Bill Jacobi
Friday 7th	7pm	Kiara Jack Band
Saturday 8th	7pm	Salt and Steel
Thursday 13th	7pm	Surf Report
Friday 14th	7pm	KARAOKE NIGHT
Saturday 15th	7pm	Dirty Liars + Magnetic Drill Gang
Thursday 20th	7pm	Michelle Plozza
Friday 21st	7pm	Romaniacs
Saturday 22nd	7pm	Brommers Band
Thursday 27th	7pm	Kobya
Friday 28th	7pm	Connecting Souls
Saturday 29th	7pm	Eastwood

JOKER POKER EVERY THURSDAY EVENING

the mended drum
 Open for Lunch & Dinner Daily Specials

Andrea Soler and friends farewell Daniel and Belinda



Andrea Soler will be performing on the outdoor stage of the Nimbin Bush Theatre with a number of guest spots from various musical friends on Saturday 15th July from 1pm, as part of the farewell celebrations for local identities Daniel Soler and Belinda Marsh, who are moving to France in search of new adventures.

Since the release of Andrea Soler's debut album *Earth On An Axis*, she has become a local treasure, a festival sweetheart, and honoured as a Larmer Tree Festival favourite (UK).

She has performed in Australia at Bluesfest, the Woodford Folk Festival, National Folk Festival, Mullum Music Festival and has toured Europe, won the ABC North Coast Artist of The Week, 2012 Music Oz Awards Finalist and took out 2012 'Female Vocals' and 'Adult Contemporary Songwriter' categories at the 2012 North Coast Music Industry Awards.

Whether it's an intimate solo show or a packed out festival, Andrea exudes a warmth and charm that quickly envelops an audience – she has an uncanny ability to connect with people through music on a very genuine and intimate level.

The Phoenix Rising Cafe will be open, serving amazing meals and tasty treats, award winning Mountain Top locally grown coffee and blissful teas. BYO. Kid friendly.

Something Good

The Lismore flood has seen residents and business owners pull together yet again as the town recovers, and local musician Luke Vassella felt compelled to write the goodwill he saw in song.

'I was overwhelmed to witness the scale of the flood and inspired by the way my community came together', he said. 'I wrote these songs fairly quickly and was able to record them almost immediately.'

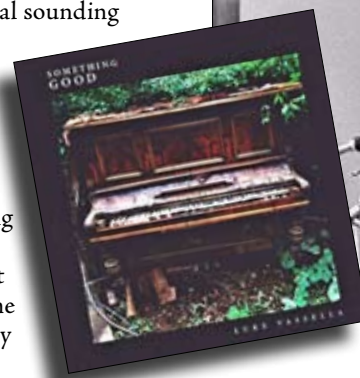
The resulting EP *Something Good*, is Luke Vassella's 10th CD release. Recorded at Southern Cross University by Steve Law, it contains three songs about the flood event in Lismore on the 31st March 2017.

'At the kind invitation of Prof. Barbara Rugendyke, I've recorded them at the Southern Cross University's

recently refurbished sound studio', said Vassella. 'It's a very natural sounding record, just voice and guitar with a little foot stomping.'

Luke says the recording process was very straight forward. 'The audio quality through the new SSL mixing desk is exquisite', he said. 'My talented friend Sam Kostevc has documented the studio process with three video clips of the songs, which have received thousands of views online.'

'The CD cover photo is of my friend's waterlogged piano sitting in the garden. It seemed to capture something



of the loss and devastation brought by the flood, yet at the same time convey a strange beauty.'

Luke has been a songman at the Lismore Car Boot market for the last 20 years, and celebrated the launch of the CD there in June.

Copies are available at Centrechurch Bookstore and Music Bazaar, Lismore. Profits from the sale of

the CD will be forwarded to Centrechurch Flood Relief Fund to help Lismore residents affected by the flood.

Online download information available at www.lukevassella.com and the video clips can be viewed at: www.facebook.com/lukevassella

Luke Vassella will be playing at the Sphinx Rock Cafe on Sunday 23rd July, 12pm-3pm.



Mitch Brown

Alt country is one of the most lively genres kicking around the touring circuit in Australia right now.

All over the country, good musos are making a living playing country halls and regional outposts, playing country music of a more bent variety.

Mitch Brown plays this sometimes haunting, raw storyteller music with a natural-born talent and instinct. In the words of Mitch

Brown himself, "There's something instinctive and visceral about howling through a microphone. Townes Van Zandt is my favorite songwriter and my biggest influences are the surrealist poets and dead country-rock idols."

Mitch Brown is performing on the outdoor stage of the Nimbin Bush Theatre on Saturday 22nd July at 12.30pm. Cafe open.

The Channon open mic

by Ray (Rayzor) Flanagan

Those who turned up for our last Open Mic on 25th June were able to take advantage of the beautiful clear day and soak up some warm winter rays while kicking back and listening to the musical offerings.

We didn't have a large number of performers so it was lucky that Bernie (pictured) was passing through on his way north from Victoria. His repertoire of popular folk songs combined with some sweet guitar picking was well received.

Vanessa and Raffa made their public debut and although a bit nervous they hit their straps with their second song performed in Raffa's native tongue, Spanish.

Village residents Norm and Kathy wandered down from up the road and rounded off the afternoon with some up-beat numbers and I joined them on drums (pictured right).

Our next Open Mic is on Sunday 23rd July. Performers are always welcome – we have a great sound system just waiting for your input, so why not take advantage of it?



Azrai (pictured) spent most of her early years sequestered in the remote wilds of North Eastern NSW, living off the land in deep bush.

She spent many fireside hours developing a song writing technique of such purity and clarity that listening to these songs is as refreshing as taking a drink of water from a wild mountain river.

Her songs are born from wide open skies, untamed places and anarchistic frontiers, and are sung by Azrai in a rootsy voice that radiates with an unfettered playful joy. Her tone calls to mind Ricki Lee Jones, Sheryl Crow, Macy Gray and other such earthy roots Mummas.

These bluesy folk songs are lovingly presented with accomplished musical support from the tasty trio she calls Az Is: the distinctively lyrical Stu Beaumont on guitar (The Pragmatics, Rebecca Ireland, Ilona Harker) and Jem Nichols on drums (The Meerdogs).

Azrai is a joy to hear, her songs are full of ear worms and are as catchy as all get-out.

Az Iz play Mount Warning Hotel on Sunday 16th July, at 2pm. Free entry.



Kiara Jack is back



Kiara Jack is a multi-instrumentalist, barefoot-gypsy and singer-songwriter whose music encompasses Blues, Roots and Folk. Take a dash of haunting melodies, sprinkled with a pinch of raw and organic sincerity combined together in a bowl of musical mysticism. Feast your ears on these delicious originals and covers with a tasty twist.

She will be performing free live shows with her alternative Trio at the Nimbin Hotel on Friday 7th July from 7pm, and solo acoustic sets on Bangalow Market Sunday 23rd July at the Bangalow Hotel from 1pm.

www.kiarajack.com



Dinkum Bohos

The Dinkum Bohos are multi-instrumentalists Vasudha Harte and Jem Edwards in a saucy sonic tryst.

Coming from a freewheeling bohemian tradition that's rooted in Australia's rustic heart, they exude and embrace the sounds of the mystical deep green hinterland and the stunning golden beaches of the east coast, presenting a melting pot of music for runaway romantics.

A musical tour de force, this synergistic pair have a depth of knowledge and years of experience playing several instruments and styles, and the combination can be breathtaking.

Dinkum Bohos have created a sound that is diverse and intimately their own, drawn from inspiration around the world. They have wowed audiences with their continual swapping of instruments, surprising changes of mood and humorous extravagant piano four-handers.

Catch them on the outdoor stage at the Nimbin Bush Theatre for an upbeat entertaining show on Saturday 30th July at 12.30pm. Free entry.

The Phoenix Rising Cafe will be open serving delicious meals and award-winning coffee. BYO. Kid friendly.



Betwixt & Between

*In a forest by the river, in the silver moon light,
Betwixt and Between veils are lifting, a glorious sight.
The seven realms will gather, fairies, goblins & sprites.
Maidens, monsters & wizards, dragons & brave knights.
To share of their craftings, of beauty & might.
Ambrosia and vittles, dare you take a bite?*

Full Moon Festival Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th August at Hanging Rock Hall, Wadeville.

Workshops for kids and adults, including bushcraft, handwork, dance and choir. Performance and locally made craft and food stalls.

Banquet Saturday night. Offerings from the seven realms... For more information, facebook: [betwixtandbetweenfestival](https://www.facebook.com/betwixtandbetweenfestival)



CELEBRATION FOR DAVE DAY

On Wednesday 19th July, Nimbin Bowlo Open Mic will be hosting a night to remember our friend, and open mic regular, Dave 'Rawiri Gnibi' Day.

This will also be another fundraiser for Dave's youngest daughter Alice, who has on-going serious health issues.

CD's of Dave's original reggae roots music will be available to buy on the night. It's a great selection of some of the wonderful music he

wrote and performed.

Open mic stage participants who may be getting up to play that night are asked to include a reggae flavoured song in their set, as a tribute to Dave.

The night will kick off at 7pm, kitchen open for (menu) dinner from 6pm.

For more info and a photo album of Dave at open mic over the years go to: www.facebook.com/NimbinBowloOpenMic

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Sat 8 July 8pm \$25/\$30	Spellbinding Show 'DANGEROUS SONG - BLUE' LINSEY POLLAK & LIZZIE O'KEEFE Live vocals & animal calls interwoven w/ beautiful underwater projections	
Wed 12 July 11am G \$10* *includes POPCORN	Skool Hols Film 'KUBO & THE TWO STRINGS' Fantasy/adventure	
Fri 14 July 7.30pm R/18+ \$10	Movie Night 'T2: TRAINSPOTTING' Choose life 20 years later!	
Sat 15 July 1pm FREE	Bon Voyage! ANDREA SOLER & GUESTS Farewell to Daniel & Belinda	
Fri 21 July 7.30pm MA/15+ \$10	Movie Night 'TICKLED' Competitive endurance tickling? A conspiracy unfolds ...	
Fri 28 July 7.30pm MA/15+ \$10	Movie Night 'TAKING WOODSTOCK' Back where it all began ... (based on a true story)	
Fri 4 Aug 7.30pm R/18+ \$10	Movie Night 'ENTER THE VOID' Visually intoxicating life beyond death (WARNING - STROBE FX)	
Sat 5 Aug 11am - 4.20pm	Info / Workshop MEDICAN ENQUIRIES TO NIMBIN HEMP EMBASSY	
Fri 11 Aug 7.30pm M \$10	Movie Night 'WE ARE MANY' 15million people can't be wrong ... stand up & be counted!	
Sat 19 & 26 Aug 2-6pm FREE	Battle of the Bands 'PASSPORT TO AIRLIE' HEATS 1 & 2 + more Heats & Finals in September	

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Fri 1 Sept - THE CLOWNS

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