

**find them HOT**  
Nimbin Emporium

**in the freezer**  
Fundies Lismore  
Fundies Byron Bay  
IGA Mullumbimby

**FUNKY PIES**  
Vegan

made with organic ingredients where possible  
Call 0451 944 404 to be a stockist

**Nimbin Village Laundry**

Brighten Your Day

Contact Maria Batistatou 0431 576 255  
nimbinvillage@yahoocom 45 Cullen St, Nimbin

**Sunsparks Electrics**  
Solar Power Professionals

Design, sale and installation of solar power systems

16 years specialisation in renewables, grid connect or stand alone power systems

Shannon Lacy  
Phone 6679 7167 or Mobile 0418 228 117

sunsparks@gmail.com  
www.sunsparks.com.au

**NATIVE LANDSCAPES + GARDENS**  
BUSH REGENERATION  
WEED CONTROL  
TREES PLANTED

Richard Burer  
0266891411  
Native vegetation specialist  
Right tree Right place

**SOLAR PANELS**

250 watt 8.3amp

**\$110 each**

Call 0412 715 805

**NIMBIN BUILDING MATERIALS**

OPEN Mon-Fri 8am-4pm  
Saturday 8am-12 noon.

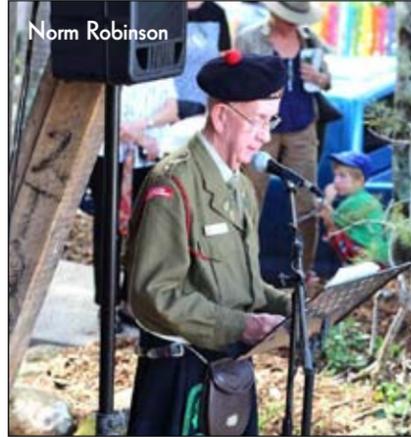
50 Gungas Road Nimbin NSW 2480  
Ph: 6689-1206  
A/H Ralph Mob: 0429-048-808

For a broad range of new and new seconds at very competitive prices

Hardwood	Poly Pipe & Fittings
Decking & Flooring	Structural Steel
Pine Framing	Sand & Gravel
Roofing & Guttering	Cement
Doors & Windows	Plumbing
Cement Sheeting	Stock Feed
Architrave	Granite & Marble
Plywood	Gardening & Plants
LVL's/Smart Beams	Elgas Supplier
Hardware	

Delivery Available  
email: sales@nimbinbuildingmaterials.com  
www.nimbinbuildingmaterials.com

# Nimbin honours ANZACs



by Paul le Bars

Thank you to everyone who attended the ANZAC Day march and dawn service at the Nimbin District Memorial. The turnout for the dawn service gets better each year, with 60 people attending.

It was a moving service, with the commemorative speech given by Iraq veteran, Brooke Vogler who spoke of the veterans' experience when returned home,

and the sobering fact that the loss of life in the veteran community from suicide exceeds that on the battlefield. Brooke's speech reinforced the fact that we as a community have a duty to recognise and support our veterans in their time of need.

The service was followed by a free Gunfire Breakfast at the Nimbin Bowling Club, thanks to Carlein Lindh at the club's restaurant and the club's Patty, Don, Sharon and others.

The numbers for the march were down on last year, however the congregation at the memorial was well attended. The march was led by the piper, James Alexander, followed by the flag bearers, Nimbin Bushfire Brigade's Brad and Greg Soward, Nimbin Veterans led by Norm Robinson, Nimbin Central and Coffee Camp Public schools, then individuals and families of veterans.

The morning service *Call to Commemoration* was conducted by Max Pike, with Rev. Grant Andrews, giving a reading and prayers (both services), followed by the poem *For the Fallen* read by Bob Dooley (both services). The commemorative address was given by Norm Robinson (a Nimbin lad) and he gave a local perspective and a history lesson into Nimbin's military experience and was very well received.

Then the *Piper's Lament* was performed, during which flowers were laid on the memorial. This led into the *Ode* followed by the *Last Post*, one minute's silence and *The Rouse* performed by our local bugler Petria Dean. It was a solemn and very respectful event and testament to our community's resolve not to forget the sacrifices of our veterans and their families. Thanks to Farren Hogan and brother Marc for help in setting up, and thanks to Heidi Glover and the Jungle Patrol volunteers for managing traffic control.

Following the service there were light refreshments at the Nimbin Bowling Club, provided by the Nimbin Ladies Bowling Club, with the bread donated by the Nimbin Bakery. There was also "two-up" at the Nimbin Hotel and a good time was had by all.

Huge thanks go to AJ and Emerald who sold over \$400 of the \$638 raised by Nimbin for the Legacy ANZAC appeal. Thanks also to Nimbin Hotel and Nimbin Bowling Club for their sales.

Again thank you to all who attended and those who contributed to the day. You did Nimbin proud. Just remember "a veteran is never far away, let's all help with the battle".

"Lest We Forget."

# RPC's largest ever solar install

by Rebecca Ryall

Rainbow Power Company this month completed its largest ever install, at the Goonellabah Sports and Aquatic Centre in Lismore.

The GSAC was fitted with 360 solar panels, with a 93.6 Kw capacity – a massive array by any standards.

This was undertaken in collaboration with Lismore City Council, working towards their Renewable Energy Master Plan – a grand vision of reliance on 100% renewable energy by 2023.

Rainbow Power has previously installed grid connect systems on other Council buildings, including Oakes oval, Goonellabah Community Centre, Lismore library and the Wyrallah Road Council facility.

This latest installation is expected to have paid for itself in five to seven years, and puts Lismore City Council well on the way to meeting their admirable target for renewables.

Rainbow Power Company is proud to support Lismore Council, and acknowledge the importance of the solar industry locally, and the economic flow on effects of big jobs like these.

Council is currently undertaking feasibility



studies, and calling for quotes for installation of further grid connect systems, on their facilities.

Looking around Lismore, at all that roof space, and large publicly-owned buildings, such as Southern Cross University, Lismore hospital, the new Regional Art Gallery, it is not hard to appreciate the scope and potential for making a positive statement, and real environmental impact, through taking control of energy consumption and generation in the public sector.

Council's action serves as a terrific example of the feasibility of large-scale commercial solar

installations. Commercial premises represent the ideal scenario for grid-connect solar solutions. Peak demand for power occurs during the day, when everyone is at work, using lights, computers, air conditioning etc.

Coincidentally, during the day is when the sun can usually be found in the sky, and solar energy is there for the taking.

In most commercial premises, power consumption drops significantly during the night, when solar is not available, and the grid-connected system can then draw power through the mains.

There is no real need

for battery storage in this scenario, however battery storage is still an option if there is a likelihood of harvesting excess power during the day.

Rather than diverting all of this electricity to the grid, it is possible to use some of the excess energy to charge batteries, which will always be useful in times of peak demand, or when blackouts occur on the electricity grid.

Commercial grid connect systems are generally designed to pay for themselves in around five years, making solar power a cost effective alternative for large scale commercial premises, as well as the everyday household.

# 25th MardiGrass is optimistic

by Michael Balderstone

The 25<sup>th</sup> MardiGrass began on Monday for the serious enthusiasts with the traditional May Day march from the Lismore Court House to the office of local NSW Member of Parliament, Thomas George.

Mr George has been our representative in Sydney for a long time and we're all very disappointed at how rarely we see him and how heavy the police have been in Nimbin in the last twelve months.

About fifty people have been banned from the village in the last year for allegedly selling cannabis and the big impact on our tiny community has not been well received. And this in a time when cannabis is globally as well as at home being given real recognition for its medicinal properties. He should be apologising to us but instead he's raiding us and we don't get it.

The police have an impossible job in Nimbin and need the community's support and in the last year they've lost a lot of that. We have strangers turning up in the village now filling the holes left by locals who are forbidden to be here.

Across Australia, cannabis users feel ripped off big time after endless announcements from our politicians telling us at last they agree the plant is medicinal and they're legalising it. Well, clearly not for us in Nimbin and neither has anything changed for 99% of the country's users which is seriously unfair.

Trials are underway for epileptic children and some terminal patients but freedom to use this medicine of old is as distant as ever.

Also, everyone now knows carrying



2017 May Day Protest at Lismore courthouse

and using bulky and smelly cannabis is the easy bust for police with their saliva testing, sniffer dogs and sophisticated technology. Hunting stoners has dramatically changed the country's drug culture and it's no wonder we have an ice problem.

This year's MardiGrass has seen support coming from unexpected quarters, with a local church promising to ring its bells at 4.20, a Christian group praying to end the war on cannabis, and a choir in the Sunday parade. It's almost just the police and the politicians left supporting this war on us, and everyday now around the planet, other countries are backing off, so this year's protest has a lot of optimism.

Guest speakers are flying in from Canada and America and every aspect of the plant will be discussed, as well as the usual highlights like the HEMP Olympix, Hemposium, Kombi Konvoy, 420 Blaze, Pot Art and Poetry, Sunday's

Rally and Parade, four stages of music, Stoned Chess, Weed Laughs, and so on, but some new events also like the Hillsong Skip and a Ganja Wedding.

I'm looking forward to the Hillsong Skip on the big hemp rope to celebrate the end of a NSW Police Commissioner's era which showed no understanding of or compassion for drug users. This event promises a gold medal for the last man and woman standing.

While other countries are having success in every way regulating, taxing and legalising cannabis, here in NSW, we're spending a billion dollars on new gaols every year for the next four, thanks to our recently departed leaders.

Tickets, and the very full program still growing, is on: [www.nimbinmardigrass.com](http://www.nimbinmardigrass.com) and printed copies are distributed on the North Coast, if you are lucky enough to score one.

For more info, phone the HEMP Embassy in Nimbin (02) 6689-1842.

therapeutic effects.

It may take six to eight months for all States and Territories to amend laws and attend to all the formalities. Industry leaders have begun winter plantings and are working towards getting a set of Industry and Trade Standards implemented.

Mr Kavasilas explained, "We want to approach this a bit like the Australian Olive Oil industry did. We want to ensure that consumers know exactly where the seed was grown, processed and packaged, without tricky words used to mislead."

"We just want to create a fair and level playing field to ensure a truly healthy and sustainable industry."

## Hemp foods almost nearly legal

• continued from page 1

Minister Blair said, "Low THC hemp is a healthy choice for consumers, containing a near perfect ratio of Omega 3 and Omega 6 and high levels of protein. It is now time for Australians to reap the benefits."

Mr Kavasilas said, "We couldn't be more ready, we've been breeding and developing specific varieties for their growth, stature, yield, conformity to existing infrastructure, all to help improve its viability as a crop. We have much to learn as the industry and

product range expands, but the future looks very healthy for Australians."

Consumption trials undertaken as part of the approval process have overcome earlier concerns that consuming low THC Hemp would have an effect on roadside drug testing, finding it highly unlikely.

The decision to amend the Food Standards Code also imposes strict limits on the levels of THC and cannabidiol (CBD) in hemp foods, and strict guidelines around the marketing and labelling of the foods, preventing any suggestions of psychoactive or

## Greens welcome hemp seed approval



### "Great news for farmers and consumers"

The Greens welcome the decision to allow the sale of hemp food for human consumption which was made today by the Australia and New Zealand Ministerial Forum on Food Regulation at a Council of Australian Governments (COAG) meeting.

The Greens have campaigned for this rule change for many years as a key to making hemp cultivation viable for Australian farmers and providing consumers with a good source of nutrition.

"A year and a half ago I admitted in parliament that I occasionally eat hemp seeds on my breakfast cereal – effectively breaking the law. It is pleasing to see this silly law has been dropped and Australia has joined with the rest of the world in accepting hemp food consumption," said Greens MP and agriculture spokesperson Jeremy Buckingham.

"This is a big win for farmers, consumers, and the Greens. Finally COAG has stopped dragging its feet, got beyond the stigma, and recognised hemp as a crop and food product with enormous potential.

"Allowing farmers to sell both the seed and the fibre will make hemp a viable crop for farmers to grow and potentially create a new export market for Australia.

"The Greens look forward to working with the government to pass any required legislation to implement this decision."

Poster by Elspeth Jones



Open 7 days

8am - 5pm weekdays

11am - 4pm weekends

Ph: 6689-1010 fax: 6689-1210 email: [nimcand@bigpond.net.au](mailto:nimcand@bigpond.net.au)

## POT A' GOLD CAFE



OPEN 7 DAYS  
TIL 8.30PM

6689-1199

1/45 CULLEN STREET, NIMBIN

## Eco Creation Milling

Portable Bandsaw Mill

Slabs, Posts, Beams, Resaw, any dimensions up to 30 inches

Matt  
0421945335

Hannah  
0423768832

Qualified Arborist

Tree Services - Pruning,  
Felling, Climbing

Free quote & assessment

[ecocreationmilling@gmail.com](mailto:ecocreationmilling@gmail.com) [facebook.com/ecocreationmilling](https://www.facebook.com/ecocreationmilling)

## I PAINT HOUSES

NIMBIN &  
SURROUNDS

RING BEN'S PAINTING:

0409 352 102

## Dreadlocks Naturally

Mobile dreadlock services  
for Nimbin, Byron shire & Lismore!  
Dreadlock Creation - fixed price by quote  
Dreadlock Maintenance \$40 / hour  
Kelly 0405 760 422 [f dreadlocksnaturally](https://www.facebook.com/dreadlocksnaturally)  
[www.dreadlocksnaturally.com.au](http://www.dreadlocksnaturally.com.au)

## NIMBIN CIVIL EARTHWORKS

- Roads
- Pads
- Drainage
- Gravel delivery
- Rockwalls
- Service laying
- Fully insured
- Lic no: 221255C

No job too big or small!

CALL: 0447 652 767

Nimbin, Lismore, Kyogle and surrounds...

# Three corrupt sectors that distort our economy

Capitalism has its many flaws and neo-liberalism even more so as it reduces our environment, our communities and our cultures to mere commodities with tradeable values.

Probably the greatest generic error of both theories is their abject failure to align themselves with the observable and known laws of basic physics.

Climate change is only the first and most obvious sign of an economic and legal system that defies science and physics. In ignoring the carbon cycle we have ignored one of the known constraints within which life itself operates, we ignore earth's other life maintenance systems at our own increasing peril.

Chief among the terminal algorithms of modern capitalism and neo-liberalism is the religious like attachment to the Ponzi scheme logic of perpetual economic growth. We know it can't work but we have created a system so afraid of its own inevitable collapse that it cannot look beyond the vicious cycle it finds itself in.

Capitalism is a flexible and complex adaptive system, which is why it has been able to adapt to many of the challenges thrown at it by the left, over the last couple of centuries, commodifying rebellion, and outmanoeuvring governmental regulation at

every turn. As a system that is flexible enough to allow old and dying business models to wither and new vibrant ones to flourish and take over, it has held out a promise of an adaptive economy that can maximise innovation and enterprise. Yet when we look at modern day Australia we see that even this modest promise of capitalism and prevailing neo-liberalism is not being delivered.

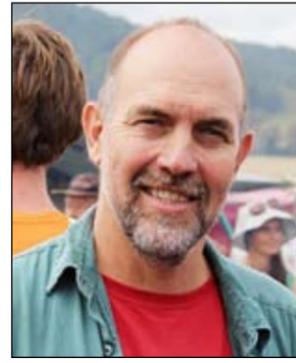
We don't even have actual capitalism and neo-liberalism, what we have is an economic and political system in this country crippled by systemic corruption. Whilst our politicians and business leaders like to talk the talk of free trade, open competition and an absence of subsidies and protectionism, the reality is very different.

There are three big industry sectors in Australia that are so corrupt that they are daily distorting our economy and heading us toward social and environmental catastrophe. These three are the mining sector, the energy industry and the housing market.

The mining sector is a giant sophisticated and cashed up lobby group that has spent over 60 years penetrating and corrupting the major parliamentary parties so that regardless of who is in power, no government ever seriously challenges their power, privileges, subsidies and favours. Through political

patronage in the form of massive donations to both Labor and the LNP, through a revolving door of pre and post parliamentary careers, the mining industry exerts overriding influence on our parliaments. One only has to look at what happened to Gough Whitlam when he tried to tackle them in the 1970's and the more recent example of the instant fall of Kevin Rudd when he proposed a super profits tax, to see their influence in action. Despite the rantings of neo-liberals the mining industry is massively subsidised and usually gets to virtually write its own legislation. Our nation's incapacity to formulate a meaningful response to climate change is a direct result of this industry's powerful influence. The current debacle over domestic gas prices is another key example. The mining industry word for democracy is 'sovereign risk' thankfully movements like Lock the Gate have begun to restore some balance with recent campaigns but there is a long way to go.

The energy sector is closely related to the mining industry and is also running on an outdated business model kept alive by political patronage. The sector's model of centralised power distribution continues to be based upon a fossil fuel model of power production and actively resists



by Aidan Ricketts

the emergence of cheaper, cleaner and more efficient renewable energy. It is backing itself into a corner by exploiting homeowners who install solar panels, increasing connection fees to the grid and as a result, driving incentives for household batteries. Batteries may be part of the solution but they should be community infrastructure rather than individually owned and it is encouraging to see the moves currently afoot in the Northern Rivers for a community based battery purchase model.

Systemic corruption of mining and energy policy in this country is what is driving policy paralysis on climate change and hindering the transition to renewables. In the place of innovation we get lies, subsidisation and protectionism of old business models and endless obstacles to a job rich clean energy future.

Finally there is another completely corrupt sector but this one is so widespread that it involves and deeply implicates a large swathe of the population and that is the housing market. Supported by a generational wealth disparity, and manipulated by a cynical system of tax concessions we have a housing market that delivers little more than speculation, high prices, homelessness and injustice.

The vast majority of politicians throughout Australia as well as a huge proportion of the population over 50 have their noses in the trough of investment properties. So widespread is the vested interest that no sensible policies to address housing affordability see the light of day. In their place we get cynical schemes like first homebuyers' grants and the recent suggestion to raid younger people's super savings to enable them to pay inflated house prices. These kinds of schemes are nothing but further subsidies to vendors, pushing up prices and further impoverishing younger generations.

There is only one real way that housing affordability will be addressed, that is by the haves taking a big hit on the value of their many investment properties, paying their due of taxes and support for government schemes to massively increase spending

on social housing. The tax lurks, the negative gearing and the capital gains tax exemptions must end, and houses need to become homes again. The corrupt state of the Australian housing market is an intergenerational crime.

So for all of the talk of politicians about lifters and leaners, and market flexibility, and the pretence that we don't embrace protectionism, what we actually have in Australia is a systemically corrupt system of protectionism and favouritism hiding behind the incomprehensible babble of neo-liberal market speak.

Thankfully here in the Northern Rivers we are a resilient community and we have promoted practical and viable responses to all three corrupt models. Our resistance to the fossil fuel cartels is well known, our promotion of community owned energy projects is rapidly gaining momentum and our historic experimentation with multiple occupancy communities has locked in large swathes of land that offer low cost housing opportunities and take land permanently out of the exploitative market place.

We should be proud of our community's efforts to resist the corruption that surrounds us and continue to search for novel solutions that deliver equity and sustainability for a better future.

**THE ADVENTURES OF**  
**Reckless Rita, Freddy Foolhardy &**  
**Captain Competent**

**#5**

Hey Freddy! I can't believe you knocked that poor dude out when you punched him last night.

It's no biggie Rita. I didn't mean anything by it. I was drunk and didn't know what I was doing!

**BUT WAIT FREDDY! BEING DRUNK IS NO EXCUSE!**

Only YOU are responsible for your actions. You can be arrested and charged for violent behaviour & any injury or damage you cause, even if you were drunk. Avoid the regrets and stay in control of you. Only ever drink what you know you can handle.

Brought to you by Nimbin Community Drug Action Team (Nimbin CDAT)  
 c/- NNIC P.O. Box 20168, Nimbin NSW 2480. [www.nnic.org.au](http://www.nnic.org.au)

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

**JACQUI**

**12 SALES IN 6 WEEKS!!**

You can't beat THAT!

All the best from your friends and clients on such a wonderful result. You deserve it!

Want to LIST your PROPERTY? Call the woman who sells and loves Nimbin

**JACQUI SMITH**  
 0439 156 666  
[jacqui@nimbinhills.com.au](mailto:jacqui@nimbinhills.com.au)

**Nimbin Hills REAL ESTATE**  
 02 6089 1498

**JACQUI SMITH**  
 0439 156 666

**NIMBINHILLS.COM.AU**  
 FREE Appraisals NO Obligation

"An agent with a heart and honesty that goes far beyond just a sale" - Saskia and David W

"Jacqui is a fabulous agent who was patient with my indecisions and still rocked my world with a successful sale AND purchase" - John L

Read the many reviews from Jacqui's clients on our website  
[www.nimbinhills.com.au](http://www.nimbinhills.com.au) - 'TESTIMONIALS PAGE'

by Stewart James

## AGM

It's that time of the year when NEC has its AGM for members to elect the new committee that will steer NEC for the next twelve months. This year's meeting will be on Wednesday 10th May at 5pm at Birth and Beyond in Nimbin. Everyone is welcome to become a member and vote for NEC's new committee.

After three years, I've decided to step down from the role of President and allow someone else to take the reins. I'd like to sincerely thank everyone for listening to and hearing me, and most importantly by working cooperatively with me. I think we've made a very good team overall.

It can't go unmentioned that we now have three wonderful Environment Centres; in Nimbin, Casino and Lismore. Many caring and aware people, over many years, have rolled up their sleeves and made each Centre what it is today.

Nimbin Environment Centre played a pivotal role in supporting the newer Centres in their early days. I applaud everyone's input, from having the vision in the first place to volunteering, being on the shopfront floor and bringing about awareness and education to the public about the many environmental issues that we face today.

Our volunteers frequently demonstrate the capacity to come up with an idea and follow it through to completion – creating very powerful actions indeed.

It never ceases to amaze me the extent and thoroughness of environmental knowledge and the precision and care that our volunteers inject into the organisation.

## Future directions

After talking with many people in NEC about the suggested direction and focus for the future, this is what people have suggested are the important environmental issues for us to focus on:

- Think global, act local on climate change (i.e. support the Galilee Blockade action against the Adani Carmichael Coal mine);
- Biodiversity in forests;
- Coal and gas in the Pilliga;
- Spraying of herbicides on public lands by local councils (glyphosphates);
- The Casino to Murwillumbah railway line – reinstatement of a regular commuter service;

## Activities in the past year

NEC and its centres undertake a number of projects and activities beyond the info and retail shopfronts, as well as providing donations to individuals to travel and participate in a range of environment related activities and events. Here's a quick roundup of many of the activities we've supported over the last 12 months:

- Supported the NR Railway Action Group to promote reinstatement of local commuter rail service.
- Organised Nimbin leg of March Against Monsanto on 21st May 2016 including a rally in Allsopp Park.
- Formed a subcommittee and liaised with Lismore City Council on phasing out roadside spraying of glyphosphates.
- Organised a non-violent compassionate communication workshop for volunteers from Nimbin, Casino and Lismore Environment Centres commencing this month.
- Attended community information sessions and workshops and co-ordinated local submissions to NSW government's biodiversity legislation review, including getting 2,000 letters signed, making a formal submission and meeting with Thomas George MP.
- Attended a meeting in Ballina to discuss NSW Government's new container deposit scheme, due to come into force from July.
- Signed a letter of support on the Regional Forest Agreement as organised by NEFA.
- Met with Geoff Provest, MP for Tweed, on biodiversity, fire management and local fire policy.
- Supported a GetUp! organised event at Lismore City Hall to get to know the environmental and social policies of candidates in the local government election. Volunteers handed out GetUp/Greens how-to-vote cards at polling places.
- Assisted the printing, promotion and distribution of the book *Gasfield Free NSW Northern Rivers* by Richard Deem.
- Worked on an idea to brand local products with a logo denoting gasfield free production status.
- Hosted and promoted a premiere screening of *The Bentley Effect* movie at Nimbin Bush Theatre in November.
- Provided a number of small donations and sponsorships including to a Youth Film Festival, the NSW Environmental Defenders Office, materials for the Nimbin whale and eagle wall mural, the Nimbin Garden Project, for a defendant to attend a court hearing over the Cedar Point quarry battle, and sponsorship to MardiGrass and Nim-FM.
- Provided financial assistance to allow individuals to attend events and environmental protests.

## World's tiniest nation bans metal mining

by Warwick Fry

Whether the Adani disappointment might be due to fanatical community *activista* action in Australia is something for Australians to decide for themselves.

I would like to think that the refusal of international investors to touch coal and the Adani project might also have had something to do with the ten-year efforts of the Salvadoran FMLN (now a minority government) to ban any mining whatsoever in their country. This is due to local activists who had to endure far more than most Australians can imagine. Marcelo Rivera's mutilated body was found stuffed down a well (and later, that of his pregnant wife).

I am not presenting this as a simple horror story of a third world country. I am presenting it as an example of the extent the ruthlessly greedy will go to get their 'wants' when they think they can get away with it.

Marcelo Rivera was a community activist who resisted the efforts of Canadian company GoldCorp to mine gold on one of El Salvador's last remnant water table (drinking water has to be delivered by truck around the *barrios*



Lawyer speaking in front of mural of Marcelo Rivera

"... the federal and Queensland governments, which both support the proposed mine, are becoming increasingly isolated as businesses and international investors refuse to touch coal and the Adani project." – Ketan Joshi, *The Guardian*

of San Salvador – and paid for...). Open pit, kilolitres of scarce water to sustain suspect cyanide leaching ponds... you get the picture. And of course, privatised security services, whose actions the company can't be held responsible for, because security is 'outsourced'.

To continue the story; Canadian company Goldcorp (once Barrick Gold – remember them?) had a dummy office (shelf company) that enabled them under the free trade agreements to take the Salvadoran government to an international court for shutting them down because of Goldcorp's failure to comply with environmental agreements.

They sued the Salvadoran government for \$390 million of 'lost profits'. They sold the shelf company to Australia's 'Oceana Gold' for a peppercorn – basically passing on the risk to whoever bought it up in the hopes that the case would be won. The case has been going on for three years (see Nim-FM radio for archives of my interviews with Pedro Cabezas who was prosecuting these cases). And against all expectations, the Salvadoran government won!

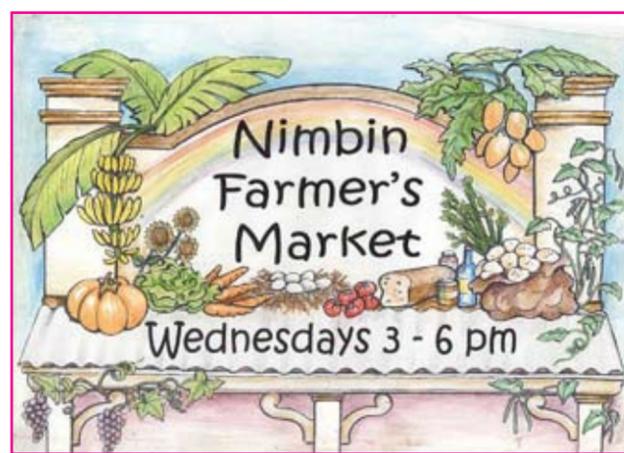
And this is the real story. If El Salvador, one of the tiniest countries in Central America (*El Pulgarcito* – the 'Little Toe' of Central America) could win this case, there was hope yet.

(Of course, this case was so outrageous we should shy clear of Great Expectations).

During the course of the international legal shenanigans, the Province (read 'State') of Chaletango's government imposed a blanket ban on mining of any kind. The vote for the FMLN minority government to ban mining absolutely is an indication that support for progressive policies from the smaller parties are moving from the obstructionist far right.

And a victory for the environmental activists who see a political process that prevents environmental rape as part of community action. I say this mindful of the community radio in the region which resisted bribery, death threats and financial and legal pressures to keep the campaign going in the name of Marcelo Rivera, and of the lawyer Pedro Cabezas, who resisted threats to his family and himself to keep the issue under the nose of the right-wing affiliated Attorney General over so many years.

Let us hope that the Salvadoran legislative and legal victory provides an inspiring precedent.




### Next Market

## 14th May

9am – 3pm

**Main stage:**  
Koby & Mo'Fyah Band

**Buskers stage:**  
Loa

**Charity of the day:**  
The Channon Public Hall

Enquiries: 6688-6433

"Make It, Bake It, Grow It"



## Blue Knob Market

### Farmers : Fibre : Fermenters

Every Saturday 8.30am to Midday  
Blue Knob Hall Gallery  
719 Blue Knob Road, Blue Knob, NSW  
(10 mins north of Nimbin)  
Enquiries 0448 685 925

Love it!



## NIMBIN ORGANIC FOOD CO-OP

Fresh Certified Organic & Local Spray Free Produce

Organic Groceries, Treats & Speciality Foods

Member & Volunteer Discounts  
Great Value in Organics



## Grey Gum Lodge

### 2 High Street Nimbin

[www.greygumlodge.com](http://www.greygumlodge.com)  
[stay@greygumlodge.com](mailto:stay@greygumlodge.com)  
02 6689 1713 – 0408 663 475



## Lillian Rock FIREWOOD

### 66 897 313

Split & Seasoned Quality Hardwood



**Nimbin Optical**  
**6689 0081**

**Tina Fuller**  
**OPTOMETRIST**

Eye disease can sneak up on you. Have your eyes checked regularly every 2 years.

Quality Diagnosis  
Honest Advice

66 Cullen Street Nimbin  
Next to Real Estate



**NIMBIN NUMBERS**

- BAS Agent – Electronically lodged
- Bookkeeping – Using MYOB / Quickbooks
- Tax Returns prepared

**Jayne E. Alleman**  
Adv.Dip.Acc., Dip.Acc., BAS Agent # 98777003  
11 years experience  
**Phone 0457-497-011**  
Email: jayne@nimbintax.com.au

**Nimbin Bakery**

**52 Cullen Street**

- Nimbin's own Aquarius Loaf baked fresh daily
- Sourdough bread and rolls including white
- A range of Spelt breads baked daily
- Huge range of pies and pastries, including vegetarian varieties
- Salad rolls, sandwiches and hamburgers made fresh all day
- Quality Botero coffee served all day, every day
- Loads of cakes, slices and treats
- Order your birthday and special occasion cakes

**Happy MardiGrass to all locals and visitors**  
**OPEN MONDAY-SATURDAY at 6am**  
**Phone 6689 1769**



**Mr BOBCAT**

6689 0044  
0427 946 823

• 4-in-1 bucket • trencher • auger • 4 tonne tipper

**• NOW WITH EXCAVATOR •**

Terry Brevington

**PLASTERIN' NIMBIN'**

0427 891626

**Gyprock walls and ceilings**  
**New work or renovations**

Lic. No. 100169C

**Did you know?**

All our links are clickable in the web edition. Visit [www.nimbingoodtimes.com](http://www.nimbingoodtimes.com) and click away!

## Kyogle Labyrinth Day

World Labyrinth Day is an opportunity to 'Walk as One' and join with others around the world to promote peace. Join the Kyogle Friends of the Labyrinth to support world peace on 6<sup>th</sup> May at 1 pm at Alcorn Park near the Kyogle Tennis Courts. Come to learn about labyrinths and join together in promoting world peace.

A temporary labyrinth will be created on the site and the Semitones choir will lead us in walking the labyrinth. Other music will be provided by Linnie Lambrechtsen. It will be a special celebration to build on our intent to create a community labyrinth in Kyogle. Everyone is welcome.



[www.nnic.org.au](http://www.nnic.org.au)

## In your neighbourhood...

Nimbin Neighbourhood and Information Centre News

### Vale Burri Jerome and Dick Hopkins

The NNIC team was saddened to learn of the passing of Burri and Dick last month. Both men had longstanding relationships with the Centre and are a significant loss to the Nimbin community. Our condolences go out to their many family members and friends.

### Flood recovery relief

People needing support to recover from the floods may be eligible for a number of different financial assistance and other programs – if you are struggling to find out what you may be eligible for or how to apply for it drop into NNIC or call us, for an appointment with our community worker to help you figure it out.

A big thanks to everyone who donated food, clothing and bedding for people in need...all of those donations have been distributed and were received with much gratitude.

### Nimbin Community Drug Action Team (CDAT)

We hope you see us out and about at MardiGrass. The next meeting will be at NNIC (Elmo room) at 2pm

on Thursday 11th May. To join Nimbin CDAT contact: [admin@nnic.org.au](mailto:admin@nnic.org.au) or just come along to the next meeting.

### NNIC staffing updates

You may be aware that Cat and Vicki have been backfilling our Front of House and Community Worker roles for the past few months. Recruitment for these positions has now commenced. (See the ad in this ed. of NGT). Vicki will be finishing up the backfill role mid-May. This means that we will have no community worker on deck for about four weeks while the recruitment process takes place. We will do our best to cover the situation and apologise for any inconvenience.

### OEH energy efficient appliance replacement offer

NSW Office of Environment and Heritage is offering discounts on new energy efficient fridges and TVs so you can replace your old inefficient models. New appliances can cut your energy bills, improve your household and family living costs and help protect our environment. 40% discount

on fridges and 50% on TVs.

For more info and to apply on line, see: [www.environment.nsw.gov.au/households/appliance-replacement-offer.htm](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/households/appliance-replacement-offer.htm)

### Sustainability Alley Nimbin Show September 2017

Brainstorming meeting – join the team to help us develop and implement ideas for Sustainability Alley 2017 on Monday 22nd May at 3.30pm to be held at NNIC in the Elmo Room. Contact Guy at: [guy@nnic.org.au](mailto:guy@nnic.org.au) or just turn up to the meeting.

### Are you struggling with unpaid fines?

You may be eligible to apply for a Work Development Order which enables you to pay your fines down by doing volunteer work at NNIC. Drop in or call us to make an appointment to find out if you are eligible.

### Mental health tip for May

Are you getting enough sleep? Lack of sleep can cause stress, moodiness, physical exhaustion and other health issues. Most people need an average of 8 hours sleep each night to function at their best.

Try going to bed when you

are tired, drinking a glass of warm milk and turning off the TV and other electronic devices at least 30 minutes before you go to bed.

[www.potential.com.au/new-blog/2014/10/10/mental-health-week-ten-tips-for-1010-from-mental-health-australia](http://www.potential.com.au/new-blog/2014/10/10/mental-health-week-ten-tips-for-1010-from-mental-health-australia)

### Did you know?

NNIC is a registered charity and donations to our general services and activities (excluding Sibley Street) are tax deductible. You can also make tax deductible bequests to NNIC. To donate and receive a tax deductible receipt, or for information about how to include your local charitable organisation in your Will, please contact Nat at NNIC.

*Nimbin Neighbourhood and Information Centre (NNIC) is run by locals for locals and our job is to support people in need and the community in general to achieve their aspirations. Everyone is welcome at NNIC. If we can't help we probably know who can. You can also find lots of useful local and other info on our website. For appointments call 6689-1692 or just drop in between 10am and 4pm weekdays.*

## Nimbin Hospital information

### Child immunisation clinic

For 0-5 year olds held on second Tuesday of the month. Next Clinic: 9th May. Phone 6620-7687 (Lismore Community Health Centre)

### Early childhood nurse

Every Tuesday. Baby checks, weighs, post-natal support. For appointments phone 6620-7687.

### Women's health nurse services

One Thursday a month. Confidential service, pap smears, breast checks, contraceptive advice, post-natal checks, general health information. Phone 6689-1400 for appointment.

### Wound clinic

Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8am. For self-referral, phone 6689-1288. Referrals also from Nimbin Hospital and GP clinic.

### Cannabis clinic

Every Monday. Confidential counselling. Phone 1300-664-098 or 0427-465-708.

### Drug and alcohol counsellor/psychologist

Every Thursday. For appointment, phone 6620-7634 or mobile 0428-109-474.

### Nurse practitioner clinics

• Diabetes Clinics: third Thursday of the month, next is 18th May.  
• Respiratory Clinic: second Tuesday of the month, next is 9th May. Phone 6630-0488 for appointments.

### Community Registered Nurses

Monday to Friday, 8am-4.30pm. Assessments, wound care, referrals, advocacy, provision of palliative care in the home, medication support. Phone 6689-1288 – leave message, will return call swiftly.

### Nimbin NSP

Needle and Syringe program open Monday to Thursday. Arrangements can be made to see Community Registered Nurse.

### Health advice line

Phone 1800-022-222 if you have a health issue. 24-hour, seven days a week free service. A Registered Nurse will assess whether you need to go to an Emergency Department.

### Nimbin Hospital Auxiliary

Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at the hospital, at 10am. Next meeting: 10th May. New members welcome.



# New physio for region

**BUNK Health News**  
by Noelle Lynden-Way

The three MPS (Multi Purpose Hospital Services) in the Northern Rivers – Urbenville, Nimbin and Kyogle – share the services of Physiotherapist, Lewis Grove, Bachelor of Applied Science and Clinical Doctorate in Physiotherapy (pictured).

Physiotherapy is one of the integrated health and aged care services provided by MPS in our area as part of a joint initiative of the Commonwealth and State Governments. Lewis practises each week at Kyogle MPS on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, Tuesday at Urbenville and Thursday at Nimbin.

Recently BUNK Health News has featured a few articles about residents in the RAC (Residential Aged Care) in Kyogle and there will be more in the future about Urbenville and Nimbin RAC.

The reason is to educate people about events that can be precursors to moving into aged care and how people have adapted to this change in their lives.

To have a fall and perhaps injure yourself is one of



Lewis Grove in his gym at the MPS

the difficulties for humans and particularly so as one grows older. Recently, as a preventative measure, Lewis Grove organised with MPS management to have an April Falls day at the local Council shopfront on Summerland Way in Kyogle. The general public were invited to come and do a simple test to check their balance, answer a few questions and be assessed as to whether they might have a

fall in the future. Sometimes people have had a fall at home and are fearful of having another and Lewis gave them an opportunity to talk about this and gave some advice and exercises to do at home.

As a follow up to this day there will be a Falls Prevention workshop in June to evaluate if the participants' balance and confidence can improve with education about awareness and specific

exercises over a five-week period. The size of this group will be limited but there are plans for future workshops.

All hospitals have to adhere to the 10 National Standards in order to keep their accreditation. Standard 10 is about "Preventing Falls and Harm from Falls and provides systems and strategies to reduce their incidence" So education such as this workshop is very important for our community.

Next month BUNK will feature a short biography on Lewis Grove who has worked as a physiotherapist in Australia, UK and the USA and explain more about his work and availability at the three Northern Rivers MPS.

## Health Advice Line

Remember to call the Health Advice Line if you have a health issue. It's a 24-hour 7-days-a-week free service on 1800-022-222. A Registered Nurse (RN) will speak to you and assess whether or not you need to go to the Emergency Department at your local MPS. Read more information about this service on: [www.healthdirect.org.au](http://www.healthdirect.org.au)

# Carers, don't you deserve a break?

Do you regularly care for a family member, friend or neighbour who is frail aged, or has dementia, a disability, mental health issue, or a chronic or terminal illness?

If this has or will continue for at least six months and is unpaid, you are eligible for short term or emergency respite. You may need to take a short break to recoup your energy, for a family event, a hospital appointment, a funeral, etc, or you may need some extra support in your caring role.

Nimbin Aged Care & Respite Services offer short term and emergency respite under contract with Commonwealth Respite & Carelink Centre (CRCC). Our experienced, skilled and friendly local workers can temporarily take over your caring responsibilities so you can have a break – perhaps for a couple of hours or up to a few days depending on the urgency of the situation. This can include emergency respite at short notice.

If you would like to find out more, please contact Rose at NACRS to discuss your situation confidentially, and Rose will help you take the next step, involving a one-off 40-60 minute assessment with CRCC. We can then arrange respite that suits your individual needs.

People who are in a position to make a



Denise Braidwood, Mary Moss and Cedar Crompton enjoying a delightful morning tea at the Seniors Celebration 2017 at the Nimbin School of Arts.

small contribution towards the cost of the service are encouraged to do so by CRCC; however, service will not be refused if someone cannot afford to contribute.

Contact Rose Cubis, NACRS Co-

ordinator on 6689-1709, or email: [coordinator@nacrs.com.au](mailto:coordinator@nacrs.com.au) or pop into NACRS at Bottlebrush Studio, the rainbow coloured building opposite the Oasis Café.

## Social Activities at NACRS

For all elders and carers in our local communities

- ♦ **Drop-In** at Bottlebrush Studio, Nimbin, Monday-Friday 10am-2pm, for a cuppa, a chat, internet, computer, a quiet sit down.
- ♦ **Nimbin Social Groups:** Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 9.30-1pm at Bottlebrush Studio, Nimbin, with morning tea and light lunch, small fee, plus free computer tuition on Tuesdays.
- ♦ **Craft Group:** Monday 3rd June 11am-1pm at Bottlebrush Studio (1st

Monday each month) Explore a variety of crafts, share your own!

- ♦ **The Channon Social Group:** Thursday 18th May, 11.30am-2pm, The Channon Tea Rooms or Pub for lunch, all welcome, phone for info.

- ♦ **Koonorigan Social Group:** Monday 22nd May, 11.30am-3pm, Bring a Plate Lunch, Koonorigan Hall, all welcome, phone for info.

- ♦ **Bus Outing:** Tuesday 9th May,

morning tea Annie's Tea Garden, picnic lunch Crams Farm Dam, bring your own picnic or pre-order NACRS picnic lunch \$10. Booking essential to reserve seats.

- ♦ **Home Visits** for company or a break, phone or pop in to discuss.
- ♦ **Respite for Carers** – if you are a Carer in need of a break, phone or pop in to discuss your needs – we may be able to help.

Phone 6689-1709



# NIMBIN BOWLO



25 Sibley Street  
Phone 6689-1250

## What's On in May?

- **Friday 5th** – Flem's Karaoke
- **Sunday 7th** – Visiting Club: Tweed Heads
- **Sunday 14th** – Mothers Day Lunch & Dinner
- **Sunday 4th June** – Visiting Club: Burleigh Camels
- **Open Mike Nights** – Wednesdays 10th & 24th, 7pm
- **Social Bowls** – Sundays, 9am
- **Courtesy Bus** – Enquire at Bar



On the Green  
at Nimbin Bowlo

- Lunch & Dinner Wed-Sun
- Takeaways available
- Ph. 6689-1473



Home of the Big Bowler

# Nimbin

# Computer

# Support

[www.nimbin-computer-support.com.au](http://www.nimbin-computer-support.com.au)

Computer Repairs  
Hardware / Software  
Desktop Publishing  
Printing  
IT Help

81 Cullen St  
(In the Nimbin Community Centre)

0487263816

# CROFTON'S

Retreat

# MOTEL



02 6689 0030

0427 610 549

360 Crofton Road NIMBIN



# Johnny Mc Towing

Lic No. 10004

- Any Old Cars
- Caravans



- Any Old Metals
- Batteries

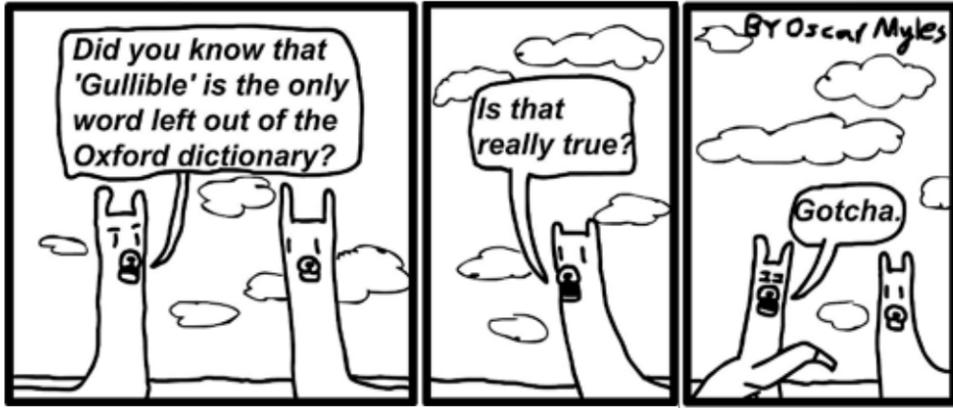
Ph: 66897 322 Mob: 042 99 44 571

**SPECIALISING IN UNWANTED CARS**

# TREEFELLAS

Timber Felling  
Tree Climbing  
**BLUE KNOB**  
Mob. 0429 897 234

Shenanigans and Smarties – Ep #2 – Oscart Studios



**Australian values?**

Our current Australian government proposes that tests will be required for people to have a good working knowledge of Australian democracy and social norms before they can become Australian citizens.

How about a similar test for candidates who want to become politicians in Australia? Currently anyone who has the rat cunning to get nominated by a major party can become an MP and then make the rules - and they may have little knowledge of how the laws will affect our country and our world.

I am not joking; I really think prospective candidates should be required to demonstrate basic understanding of how our society works. We should have better political leaders and less incompetence / corruption.

I look forward to your reply.  
Scott Sledge  
Lillian Rock

**Power to the people**

I regret not hearing Jeremy Tager at Mullumbimby. Hayo van der Woude (NGT Letters, March 17) says that Jeremy suggests the planet is governed by a capital driven monster with three heads – corporatism, government and media.

I see that such an entity exists, but I doubt the planet is governed by it. As usual the planet is governed by the communal attitude of the people or the zeitgeist.

The communal attitude continues its pre-human or primate habit of handing its power over to a boss – in this modern period, the three-headed monster.

Power is not taken from the people. The people give it up.

It is suggested the people engage in three-headed people power of movement away from technologies, movement toward egalitarianism and movement toward ruralisation of population rather than urbanisation.

This begins the reversal of an environment crisis. Capitalism and Monsanto disappear when no one subscribes to them.

The power of the people is non-existent when each person points to something,

nimbin.goodtimes@gmail.com

NGT welcomes letters and other contributions received by email or post prior to deadline. Letters longer than 300 words may be edited for length, and articles for accuracy. Please include your full name, address and phone number for verification purposes. Opinions expressed remain those of the author, and are not necessarily those of NGT.

or someone else, and says, "that is responsible for the removal of my power."

At the present moment most people think their power is in the hands of others. Those who think their power has been taken by others have not yet found the planetary work that is best done by themselves rather than someone else.

Geoff Dawe  
Uki

**Swear on the Bible**

It's MG in a minute. After a year of the cops trying to destroy our peaceful town and taking away our peace-keeping force, they let the love out and the heroin, ice and dopey dealers in.

The cops haven't stopped annoying the rest of town and the rain and flood tried it's best, destroying multiple bridges, property and of course crops. A sad time for everyone in the Rainbow region but I'm still glad I'm here in Nimbin rather than anywhere else in the world right now. But it's not the same, we have lost so many good people from our town for no reason, or the wrong reason. Most recently Burri Jerome, a great elder and one of our muralists. And Cheech Marin! Both legends in my lifetime... may their spirits rest in peace.

It won't stop and neither will the police. Recreational smokers are criminals but it will be OK soon if you are really sick, not just sick of the law. It seems to be the month for dopey drug dealers, with one inviting the police to inspect his crop on FB; one losing a pound giving credit to a known thief and another dopey dealer losing two

pounds on two separate 'grab a stash and run' occasions!

The list does on...just the tip of the rip-off iceberg. There might be a lot of people looking for Scott Green this MG. What a hard time this remarkable little plant has had after doing so much good for our world and continues today with medical breakthroughs all over the shop.

It's time to stand up and be counted for this beautiful gift from Mother Nature. In Genesis, it says God put all the seeds and plants here for us to use. Thank God for that! Long Live MardiGrass.

Ant  
Nimbin

**Plateau project doubt**

The controversial North Lismore Plateau housing proposal by the Winten Property Group from Sydney involves developing 440 lots on culturally sensitive land.

They can follow all the protocols that the Office of Environment and Heritage require, and gain approval from Lismore City Council, but are they following the lore of the land and its custodians, and showing respect?

The only thing property developers respect is wealth.

I would like to know how developers got their greedy hands on the plateau land in the first place. Did LCC or the State regime put their hands out to entice them, or was it some old farmer that was made an offer that he couldn't refuse?

I support Mickey Ryan in his legal claim on the plateau for his culture. Once the bulldozers start ripping in, things could get heated. I hope it doesn't come to that, and sanity will prevail.

Onya Mickey, and good luck bro.

Paul Brecht  
Murray Bridge

**Seeking peace and love**

Many ancient religions believed that the ritual of human sacrifice was needed to gain favour and appease god's wrath. Every Easter I am reminded that Christian belief is founded on the sacrificial slaughter of a human male virgin.

The Bible says sin must be punished. Anyone who bears unforgiven sin faces a

**Get Northern Rivers back on track**

The people of the Northern Rivers need public transport! We are one of the very few regions in NSW that has little public transport, and we are one of the fastest growing regions in Australia.

In fact, we are the 3rd most visited region in NSW after Sydney and the Blue Mountains for tourism! So, how does it make sense that we no longer have a rail service along our railway line, which runs through the heart of this burgeoning region?

We are convinced that the actual cost of implementing a regular commuter service on our line would not be prohibitively expensive. A train service between North Byron and Byron Bay has been assessed at a cost of \$1 million to reinstate three kilometres of track. At this rate the whole Casino – Murwillumbah line would cost only \$44 million.

Our group has been involved in assessing various parts of the line and, especially if extended to the Gold Coast, we are convinced it would be extremely popular. This would open up our region for more jobs and the local economy would be very much enhanced.

Our rail line could also be extended to Ballina, where there is a large elderly population that would make great use of a handy, easy to use train service.

Regular commuter rail, serviced by a fleet of small mini buses connecting the many towns and villages in our region with the central spine of the rail line, would provide the many commuters and tourists who visit the Northern Rivers with a means

of accessing the many and varied unique towns along the line which would enhance their shopping, health, educational and recreational experiences.

There are 50,000 car movements into Lismore every day and a large proportion of these travellers would utilise a train rather than face the long sometimes dangerous journey on the road, thus cutting down on pollution, stress and road accidents and wear and tear on our overused roads.

The Commonwealth Games are to be held in 2018 and if our line were to be connected to Queensland it would be a huge boost to our local economy, as well as a great means of travel for many from more southern areas, including Sydney, Canberra and Melbourne.

We realise that the best process would be to open the line incrementally, starting from the Casino – Lismore section, as well as extending from the soon to be completed Byron section through to Mullumbimby and beyond to Yelgun, where the now famous Splendour in the Grass Festival attracts many thousands of visitors each year. Along with the Blues Festival, these sites are very near the current railway line and would benefit hugely from a service that decreased the huge number of car movements to their door.

We ask that you look into the options for our region to have this much needed service again.

All the very best from the Northern Rivers Railway Action Group and Trains On Our Tracks.

Lydia Kindred  
Lismore

horrifying eternal prospect. Under Moses, it was believed animal sacrifice only delayed god's wrath and that only human blood could cleanse human sin forever.

Christians believe the Easter Jesus sacrifice washes away our sins and saves all Christians from judgement, so they don't have to fear eternal hell.

Locally, regionally and globally, the news is becoming more and more confronting. I think relying on human sacrifice to solve our problems has failed and we should all look to find a different way to peace of mind.

David Norris  
Pottsville

**Vale Bill Williams**

A fond farewell to Dr Bill Williams, who passed away peacefully in his sleep, at home in Torquay, coastal Victoria, 12th September 2016. The world will miss Bill, but his spirit and determination as a human being, will inspire generations to come.

A keen surfer, GP and passionate advocate for the rights and health of First Nation Peoples. We first met Bill and his partner Gisela and their two daughters, Daisy and Lily in Melbourne 1983, when we were all active for the vision of a "Nuclear Free World".

Our relationship grew, whilst planning a trip into the South Australian desert, home of the Kokatha people, and site of the British nuclear weapons testing (Maralinga 1956-1963), to join them in their

opposition to the proposed uranium mine (Roxby Downs/Olympic Dam).

It was a huge learning experience. Whilst working in the months preceding our trip, with Bill, Gisela and a small number of other passionate souls, to build a strong affinity group, with a commitment to trust, which truly paid off, as we were confronted with many extreme situations, on our two week 'blockade', whilst we challenged the mining interests of B.P. and Western Mining.

Thirty-three years later, Bill was still passionate on the 'No Nukes' campaign. Bill was co-founder and chairman of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), a past president of the Medical Association for the Prevention of War and former councillor of the Nobel Peace Prize winning International Physicians for the prevention of Nuclear War. Early in 2016, he joined a historic United Nations working group meeting, on nuclear disarmament in Geneva, and was thrilled by the progress made towards a

nuclear weapons ban treaty, which he helped propel.

Sadly, Bill didn't live to see the world free from nuclear weapons, in fact there are more being built as we speak, but the progress continues. Early April negotiations began at the U.N. with 132 countries participating, including community members from the Kokatha people of Roxby Downs. A number of countries opposed the meeting, and the idea of a ban, Australia and the USA included. In Australia, 52 faith based organisations gave their support.

The Senate supports Australian involvement in the negotiations. And, now that the Pope has given his voice to a complete ban, can we now hope, that the Prime Minister and his fellow colleagues, and possibly all Catholics, raise their voices in support of same?

The negotiations will continue at the UN from June 15th-July 7th 2017, thanks to the courageous efforts of beautiful human beings like Bill Williams.

Deborah Stacey  
Ocean Shores

About us

Editor Bob Dooley  
Assistant Editor Sue Stock  
Layout Andy Gough, Peter Chaplin, Bob Dooley  
Photographers Sue Stock, Peter Chaplin  
Distribution Peter, Coralie, Andrew, Sue, Bob, Rob and Lisa, Dominique, Aengus, Soul Kindle (Bellingen)

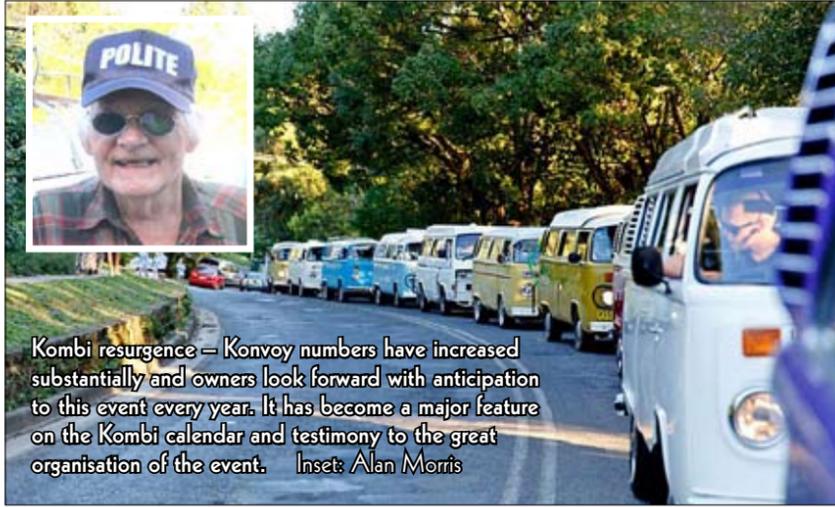
Bookkeeper Martha Paitson  
Web www.nimbingoodtimes.com  
And find us on Facebook

NGT is auspiced by Nimbin Community School Co-op Ltd., 81 Cullen Street, Nimbin

**NEXT DEADLINE:  
Wednesday 24th May**

Email [nimbin.goodtimes@gmail.com](mailto:nimbin.goodtimes@gmail.com) or put stuff in our pigeonhole at the Nimbin Community Centre.

# Kombi Konvoy honours founder Alan Morris

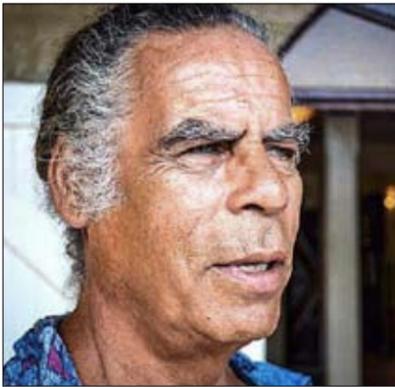


Attendees of the annual Nimbin MardiGrass will line the streets anticipating the arrival of the Kombi Konvoy. Much organisation goes on behind the scenes to assist Kombi drivers who make the pilgrimage from far and wide to attend the festival. Since its inauguration, with humble beginnings, there has been one man driving this tradition, Alan Morris. Due to ill health and his business in Carrington Street, Lismore being devastated by the recent floods, Alan has had to step aside this year. The Kombi Konvoy will weave its way from Byron Bay and through Lismore on Saturday 6th May and will arrive in Nimbin at 4.05pm.

Kombi resurgence – Konvoy numbers have increased substantially and owners look forward with anticipation to this event every year. It has become a major feature on the Kombi calendar and testimony to the great organisation of the event. Inset: Alan Morris

## Burri Jerome

8/6/1953 – 21/4/2017



Obituary by Maxx Maxted

**K**enneth Gordon Jerome, 'Burrigan', or 'Burri', as we called him, was my best friend. He was also my guitarist, my intellectual sparring partner and a true friend. He will be missed by many people. It has taken me a week to write this. I have been too stunned at the loss of a

truly great man, who always considered others before himself. I first met Burri shortly after I moved to Nimbin in the misty past. He was sitting in the shade of a tree along the fence-line behind the Rainbow Cafe. He was playing a Robert Johnson song on an old battered acoustic guitar. The guitar vibrated with the power of the music, Burri had released the spirit within the wood. It sang. I had my belt of harmonicas with me, they have been around the world a few times and are always happy to ring out their brass notes at any time. We played for an hour together and became musical partners of nearly twenty years, sometimes playing in a band set-up under the name 'Blue Mango' with various other musicians. I later found out that he was a respected painter in the European Scenic tradition. He was working on a momentous task of painting the origins of the species for the Nimbin Museum. The magnificent work, sadly now destroyed, was a modern Sistine Chapel; the breadth of his Classical

European and worldwide Indigenous knowledge, not just his voluminous knowledge of Australian Dreamtime myths as well as anthropological enquiry was unsurpassed. Burri spent a lot of time painting in his beloved landscapes, capturing wattle in bloom or the craggy shorelines of his ancestral land around Hat Head. At the time of his passing, he was preparing for an exhibition for the Warwick Regional Gallery and was even planning a trip to Florence, which I knew he would never make, all his spare money went to support his kids. I met Burri for lunch at the Phoenix Rising Cafe on the Wednesday before his passing. Our dear friend Kyah was trying not to look as if she was fussing too much, but we both knew he was on the slippery slope. Burri ordered an avocado, smoked salmon on focaccia, which he shared with me. It turned out to be a 'last supper' because he was gone the next day. He will be greatly missed. "Heaven dot com, another Blues singer back home."



## Richard Carrol (Dick) Hopkins

9/1/1947 – 26/4/2017

**M**uch loved husband of Gill Jones, loving and loved father of Marama and Noni, step-father of Phoebe and Jake, loving and loved Pop to his step-grandchildren, Louie, Pearl, Theo and Jarrah, dear friend of many, Dick has sadly and peacefully passed away after a short battle with cancer. Dick was a much loved and

significant member of the Nimbin community, where he had lived for over 40 years. He had many roles in the community and was significantly involved in a change of guard within community organisations in post Aquarius Festival Nimbin. He left us while overlooking the valley he loved, in his new home in Jarlanbah. A very precious man. An obituary will follow in the next issue of the *GoodTimes*. Rest in peace, Dick.

# Nimbin Community Centre news

**Aboriginal Culture Centre**  
We would like to acknowledge and thank all those who are supporting our local Nimbin Aboriginal Culture Centre. The Culture Centre has hosted several workshops recently including weaving, art and dance. Help will be needed over the MardiGrass weekend when the Centre will be open for visitors, providing coffees and snacks. Ongoing, there are many ways to provide support. If you would like to be involved with Friends of Nimbin Aboriginal Culture, please contact: [nimbinaboriginalculture@gmail.com](mailto:nimbinaboriginalculture@gmail.com) All donations help to keep our local Centre open and growing. Donations

can be made at the local Summerland branch. The Nimbin Community Centre, Aboriginal Cultural Centre account is BSB 728 728 acct 22269889. Nunuhyn.

**Grant applications**  
The centre has recently applied to NSW Clubs for a grant to run a series of meetings to take place at our local Aboriginal Culture Centre. We will have the chance to listen and learn about Aboriginal law, heritage and culture. The meetings will include a welcome and bush tucker catering. Fingers crossed for the success of this grant application and for these not-to-be missed meetings. The expression of interest

for the Nimbin Rainbow Walking Trail has been submitted. Funding is being sought from both "Rebuilding NSW, Regional Growth – Environment and Tourism Fund" and "Department of Industry, Innovation and Science – Building Better Regions Fund". The Rainbow Trail will link together many interest spots around town and include the use of modern technology to present local cultural information. The Rainbow Trail will encourage a longer stay for visitors to Nimbin and this will provide a boost for local small businesses.

**Aboriginal dance classes**  
Now that the rain seems to have eased back a little, we are hoping to resume the

Friday afternoon Aboriginal dance classes in the grounds of the centre, on the grass just behind the rainbow coloured Aged Care building on Cullen St. All the workshops for dance, weaving and art are made possible by a grant from the Regional Arts Fund (NSW).

**Work opportunities**  
Nimbin Community Centre is able to engage people needing to fulfil Centrelink obligations for volunteer hours and work for the dole. We currently have need of additional gardening help, cleaning of buildings externally and some internal cleaning work. Please email or phone us if you'd like to find out more or you'd like to suggest something that you could help us with.

# Notices

## For Sale

MegaTone complete drum set kit. As new. \$550. Gold Coast area. Phone Reg on (07) 5525-1721.



## Wildlife rescue training

**WIRES** is recruiting! Your local branch of NSW Wildlife Information, Rescue and Education Service is an all-volunteer organisation that needs new members throughout the Northern Rivers region. WIRES offers a basic training course that will teach you how to safely rescue and provide emergency care for injured and orphaned wildlife. If you would like to join WIRES and participate in our RICC on 28th May, please contact us as soon as possible. Call our 24-hour hotline on 6628-1898 or see our website: <http://wiresnr.org/Helping.html>

## Al-Anon Family Groups

Is your life being affected by somebody else's drinking? **Al-Anon** Family Groups can help. Meetings are held in your district, for more information visit: [www.al-anon.org.au](http://www.al-anon.org.au) or you can also phone 1300 ALANON (1300-252-666).

## One Day Al-Anon Rally

Saturday 13th May at the Richmond Room, 5 Regatta Avenue, Ballina (behind the library), \$10. Registration from 9am until 3pm. All welcome, lunch, tea, coffee and cold drinks will be provided.

## Free notices

Keep it short, not for profit, and of interest to our readers, send it by deadline and we'll run it for you for free.

## Correction and apology

In the April edition, there was a contribution from Elliot Knight, titled "Sacred Mountain of Wollumbin has a powerful history". Unfortunately, the attribution to Mr Knight incorrectly stated he was a Githabul/Ng'Arakbal elder. He is in fact a Githabul/Ng'Arakbal elder. We apologise to Mr Knight for any hurt he has suffered as a result of our production error, and assure him that no offence was intended.

## Nimbin Neighbourhood and Information Centre Inc (NNIC)

NNIC seeks suitably qualified and experienced people for the following PAID positions:

- 1. Community Case Coordinator:** PPT, SCHCADS Level 3, 4 days/21hrs/wk.
- 2. Community Access Worker – Front of House:** PPT, SCHCADS Level 3, 4 days/24 hrs wk.

**Applications close: Friday 19th May 2017**

- 3. Assistant Vacation Care Co-ordinator – Casual – max 15 days per year in school hols – Children's Services Award, LDC Level 6.**
- 4. Vacation Care support staff – Casual – max 25 days per year in school hols, Children's Services Award, LDC, CCW 1.**

**Applications close: Friday 16th June 2017**

All applicants MUST address the selection criteria in the relevant Job Kit, available from Nimbin Neighbourhood and Info Centre at 71 Cullen St, Nimbin, (02) 6689 1692 from 10-00 am til 4-00 pm Monday to Friday, or by emailing: [admin@nnic.org.au](mailto:admin@nnic.org.au)

NNIC also seeks energetic people for the following VOLUNTEER positions – send EOI's setting out relevant qualifications, experience and interest in the below positions to The Manager at NNIC: [admin@nnic.org.au](mailto:admin@nnic.org.au) or PO Box 20168 Nimbin NSW 2480.

- 5. Assistant Co-ordinator – Sustainability Alley Nimbin Show 2017.** Join our team to help us run this vibrant community event – an excellent opportunity to gain valuable experience in event management and community collaboration.
- 6. Volunteer Drivers – CONC Food Rescue project – drivers needed to collect and deliver food around the Northern Rivers region.**

*NNIC is an EEO employer. Indigenous applicants are encouraged to apply. Successful applicants will be required to undergo the Working with Children and relevant Police checks.*