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Nimbin celebrates in the merry month of May

by Katie Love Cawcutt



With the blessing of the traditional owners, Nimbin Aquarius Foundation invites the entire Nimbin community and fellow travellers in the Rainbow Region to participate in a month-long 'Celebration of Colour' for the 45th Anniversary of the 1973 Nimbin Aquarius Festival.

We will honour elders past and present, and we will celebrate the

new generations, as we share and showcase 45 years of work, community building and sustainability, in peace, harmony, communication and creativity.

We are looking for local musicians, groups or individuals, and performers, especially circus, and fun children's activities.

There are lots of stages and venues around Nimbin, and we are planning a

colourful ball on Saturday 26th May in the Town Hall, so start planning your costume.

If you would like to participate in these events, or create more, link up and connect with us on Facebook "Nimbin Aquarius Foundation Inc", email to: aquariusnetworking@gmail.com or call in to Aquarius HQ at The Bark Hut in the Nimbin Community Centre.

You can offer to donate money or resources, share your skills and creativity, or just come in for a chat.

Aquarius 45th anniversary sharing

by Benny Zable

Following MardiGrass, the Nimbin Aquarius Foundation will be hosting a series of events in Nimbin to mark 45 years since the Australian Union of Students (AUS) facilitated the Aquarius Festival that changed Nimbin forever. Not to be missed.

Nathan and Shelli of the Woodstock Museum will be back, sharing their labour of love from interviews and documented events of past and present day history of the region. Also gems from the Woodstock Film Festival. Not to be missed.

I came to the Nimbin Aquarius Festival with a group from Melbourne, calling ourselves the Metaphysical Magic Show, with a multi-media show based on HG Wells' *Time Machine*. We played this story with light and dark forces for playing with the audience.

We did one show only in the Buttery space, which is the auditorium of the Nimbin Bush Theatre. Sam Angelico was our Magician, who played as executioner for the Morlocks, the industrial force of darkness who lived



underground in this story.

Tarni James, dancer/actor/radio presenter, led the ELOI community of loving playful people who lived in paradise. Tom the (World) Poet was our improvising narrator with a band of musicians. and I played the Time Traveller.

The show was performed on scaffolding that was set up in this space by some AUS organising folks, we believe. On the scaffolding a white sheet was attached up high, where I shadow-danced in a light show. We had costumes that you turn inside out from white to black.

The beautiful people

played and danced with the audience, sharing fruit. Then the beautiful people turned the costumes inside out to become the Morlocks who took people up to Sam Angelico to perform his spectacular illusionary guillotining act.

Tom would spin the story accompanied by the poetry band, as we played out the story. The Time Traveller gets back behind the screen to shadow dance in the light back to the present. In a living theatre style of presentation, we dance jammed with the audience through the foggy night of the big bust, as we

discovered later.

I ran movement and mime workshops in the Nimbin Hall each morning during the festival leading up to the show each morning over the 10 days. We jammed occasionally with the White Company, and interacted/danced throughout the festival with different performers.

After the festival, I stayed on to help with the land purchase of the Tuntable Falls Co-ordination Co-operative. Then we were asking for \$200 a share. With Paul Joseph, we travelled with a busload of Nimbin knights to perform in Sydney and Melbourne to attract shareholders and spread the vision of Nimbin Aquarius: love, harmony and understanding.

I would hitch between Melbourne and Nimbin, dropping in on Paddington doing the ongoing outreach and networking for Aquarius dreaming. What an amazing, meaningful journey it all has been since.

May the longtime sun shine upon you, all love surround you, and the pure light within you guide your way on.

Vital Conversations for Nimbin

by Katharine Dawn, aka Feather

The community of Nimbin Village, and the encompassing Northern Rivers Region, is warmly invited to participate in a new series of Community Action Forums to be held every second and fourth Saturday in Nimbin's Bush Theatre and grounds, beginning on 14th April, 10.30am-5pm.

The Forums are open opportunities for the community to channel our various interests, passions, knowledge and experience into vital initiatives that further our community's excellent local and regional sustainability plans, and bring in the exciting global perspective of sustainability and "real democracy" movements and advocates worldwide.

For the local level, we have the *Sustainable Nimbin Community Plan: 2016 to 2021*. It is a fantastic, authentic, ever-evolving local community plan for achieving sustainability.

We also have the *Sustainable Nimbin Community Plan: Report on Progress - from 2009 to 2015*, which provides inspiring documentation of the achievements of the Nimbin Community (as of late 2015).

Download the documents from the Nimbin Neighbourhood and Information Centre's website: www.nmic.org.au and/or drop into the Centre to

view in hard copy.

We also have the Sustainable Living Hub Project - with site-work now begun on the community-purchased block near the Nimbin village centre. See: www.SevenOnSibley.com.au or pick up an informative flier at the NNIC.

For the regional level, we have the *Northern Rivers Regional Development Plan: 2013 - 2016*. A not-for-profit committee funded by the state and federal governments, Regional Development Australia, Northern Rivers is steward of a truly remarkable, extensively researched, responsible plan for the long-term sustainability and well-being of the regional community. See: www.rdanorthernrivers.org.au for more information and to download the plan and associated plans and profiles.

And for the global level, we will look to the Earth Holocracy Proposal, a six volume compilation of the aspirations, best practice solutions, relevant science and working models of sustainability and "real democracy" movements and advocates worldwide. Visit: www.earth-holocracy.world to download volumes and articles of interest, and to participate in the site's online 'Vital Conversations', visit: www.earth-holocracy.world/vital-conversations. Also see Facebook - Earth Holocracy.

The day will start at 10.30am with

a three-part Opening Ceremony: a Welcome to Country; co-creation of a Community Art Piece; and a Collective Attunement - 'Harmonic Toning' with members of the Nimbin and Lismore's 'Healing Voices' Choirs.

At 11.30am, we'll hold a Deep Listening Circle, where participants name the ethics and social protocols we wish to see upheld in our community.

After a lunch break, the two purposes and tri-level framework for the forums will be introduced, and I will provide a brief introduction to the forum's global perspective of popular aspirations and solutions for sustainability worldwide.

Small group Open Space sessions on different sustainability goals will be held, reporting back at 4pm.

The second Nimbin Community Action Forum will be held on Saturday, 28th April from 10.30am to 5pm. In this forum we will initiate open public dialogue, debate and consensus-reaching on core issues of our pivotal time, achieving sustainability in time.

A pre-event organisational meeting will be held on Saturday, 7th April between 1 and 3pm at the Bush Theatre Cafe. All interested in helping with set-up, documentation, live-web-streaming, scribing, children's activities, etc, are most welcome to attend and to join the Nimbin Community Action Forum organisational group.

Now is the time, and this surely must be the place.

New doctors for medical centre

Nimbin Medical Centre is very pleased to advise the community that two new GPs have recently joined our team.

Dr Syed Javed and Dr Venugopal Vemula have joined Dr Lisa Lloyd, Dr Felicity Chapman and Dr Mohammad Tarawneh, bringing the medical team to five GPs and two practice nurses.

Nimbin Medical Centre has a strong community focus and our goal is to provide patient-centred care based on the principles of preventative medicine

and allied health support. Some of the services we offer include skin checks and minor skin procedures, immunisations, health checks, chronic disease management, pathology and psychology.

The medical centre is also very committed to providing appropriate out-of-hours medical care for our patients and the wider community. In the spirit of this commitment, three of our GPs provide a visiting service

for the Nimbin Hospital emergency department most days of the week.

With this growing team of medical professionals, Nimbin Medical Centre is happily taking on new patients and there is only a very short waiting time for an appointment.

Nimbin Medical Centre is open Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm. To arrange an appointment, please contact the reception team on 6689-1410.

One Year On – flood anniversary event

Lismore City Council is hosting a community gathering – One Year On – at the Lismore Quadrangle on Saturday, 7th April from 2pm, to mark one year since the March 2017 flood.

The afternoon will give people a chance to share stories and connect with one another while honouring the resilience and strength of the Lismore community.

There will be live music by Luke Vassella, Lady Mondegreen, Blakboi and The Button Collective, a barbecue, community arts activities and stalls by emergency services and community organisations.

At 6pm there will be a special performance of *The Overtopping* – a site-specific multi-sensory theatrical experience based on stories of the 2017 flood and its aftermath.

The Overtopping is a creative investigation into disaster, recovery, trauma and resilience based around cyclone Debbie, which showcases some of the best emerging and professional artists of varying abilities working in Lismore. It includes dance, puppetry, sound art, projection, creative lighting, live storytelling and water art.

The work was developed by post-disability arts company RealArtWorks, a community group whose own studios were filled with floodwater during the March 2017 disaster. Originally commissioned by Regional Arts NSW as part of Artstate Lismore in November last year, RealArtWorks hopes to remount the work in other towns and cities in the context of art playing a role in natural disaster recovery.

“It is an incredibly powerful piece of work and I am so excited that *The Overtopping* will be performed at this anniversary event. It encapsulates so many emotions and feelings in one piece of engaging physical theatre,” One Year On organiser and Lismore Councillor Elly Bird said.

“It is both moving and mesmerising to watch, and one of the great pieces



Musicians Kate Stroud and Luke Vassella with (rear l-r) organiser Elly Bird and performers from *The Overtopping*: Mike Smith, Tom Kelly, Chris Wilkinson, Zeb Schulz and Sunita Bala.

of live theatre that has come out of Lismore in recent years, with a narrative that is unique and very close to our community’s heart. I encourage everyone to join us for an afternoon of music and community connection, and to stay for this very special performance to mark our one-year flood anniversary. “Lismore showed such amazing community spirit after the flood and that community spirit is what this event is all about. It’s an opportunity for us to come together and acknowledge the journey we are travelling together.”

A free courtesy bus will be provided to and from the One Year On community event, and people are encouraged to bring the family and picnic rugs to spend the afternoon relaxing in The Quad.

Community members are welcome to purchase food from the CBD and bring it along, enjoy the barbecue provided for a gold coin donation, grab something from Slate bar and café (which will

be open all afternoon) and stay for dinner at one of Lismore’s many CBD restaurants.

Free courtesy bus timetable

Pick-up at 1.30pm, 2.30pm and 3.30pm
Loop starts from Goonellabah
Drop-off leaving The Quad at 5.30pm.
6.30pm and 8pm Reverse loop to Goonellabah

Bus stops:

Goonellabah – Oliver Avenue bus stop in front of Council;
Rous Road Shopping Centre – Pleasant Street;
Wyrallah Road Shopping Centre;
Lismore Square – Uralba Street;
Trinity College – Leicester Street;
Quad drop off – Magellan Street;
Union Street – Railway Station;
South Lismore Primary School – Phyllis and Wilson Street;
Terania Street – Northern Rivers Hotel;
Molesworth Street – Transit Centre;
Quad drop off – Magellan Street.

Support needed for Nightcap Monuments Project

by Trevor Reece

The Monuments Project Steering Committee next meets in early April for the project’s next planning stage. The project committee is waiting for feedback from National Parks to guide its next planning steps.

As part of the projects education plan, we would like to invite primary and secondary school teachers from the region to give feedback and assist with educational program ideas for students in 2019. Its aim is for students to become more aware of this element of their local history, possibly through some local school projects, curriculum activities in subject learning areas.

The Nightcap Monuments Project Display both at the Channon and Mullumbimby Markets needs help. The project needs some local helpers to set

up the display on market mornings. The market managers have a busy day and need some help to set up and for short periods in the day supervise the display.

Hopefully a number of people locally will be able to volunteer a little extra time when visiting the markets to assist the community history display. The display is self-explanatory but it would be an extra asset for some volunteers to be able to relate to visitors to the area of the significance and legacy of the historic Terania and Mt Nardi logging protests and environmental protection actions.

This is a project to help keep community history alive especially leading into the 40th Anniversary of the historic Terania rainforest protection protests. It helps to educate visitors and younger generations to the foundations of the now World Heritage listed Nightcap National Park. The display

can be set up at most markets with some local help. Please contact your local market or just pop down next market day to register and offer a little time to help the community display along.

If you can assist the Channon Market, email: admin@thechannonmarket.org.au or phone (02) 6688 6433. If you can assist at the Mullum Market, contact Brunswick Valley Historical Society: bvhs84@yahoo.com.au or phone (02) 6684-4367.

The project also aims to participate at the Aquarius Festival in Nimbin in May. If you have some time to assist with the project display in Nimbin for the festival please contact Trevor. As soon as we have an update to the project from National Parks we hope to send out the next email newsletter. Contact the project co-ordinator Trevor Reece: treece545@gmail.com to discuss or contribute to the education program aspect of the project.

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Nimbin, Lismore, Kyogle and surrounds...

The forest wars are back, time to mobilise

Our region has a proud history of standing up to protect our precious environment. We pioneered direct action for environmental protection at Terania creek in the 1970's, literally wrote the book on forest activism in the 1990's with the successful old growth forest campaign by the North East Forest Alliance (NEFA), and became the first regional community to successfully resist the combined force of the state and the fossil fuel industry when we fought to keep the Northern Rivers Gasfield-free. Our region is contributing to the fight to stop gasfields in the Pilliga and to the campaign against the reef-destroying Adani mega mine. But once again our forests are calling us to action.

The North East Forest Alliance has nearly thirty years experience as the watchdog and defender of our region's forests, but it needs our support in big numbers once again to resist the crony capitalism that continues to propel forestry policy in NSW, particularly under Liberal-National Party (LNP) governments.

When the old growth forests were placed into a reserve system in the early 2000's we were all told the forest industries would not survive, but they struggled on with the benefit of politically motivated Regional Forest Agreements (RFAs) and their associated

by Aidan Ricketts

Wood Supply Agreements (WSAs) that falsely allocated more timber to the industry over several decades than the forests were ever going to be able to produce sustainably.

The biggest WSA's in the north east allocate timber to the large Boral corporation until 2028, and other contracts in the north east expire by 2023. The state and federal governments are rushing to extend these unsustainable wood supply agreements out of fear that future changes of government could, and rightly should, put renewal of these destructive WSAs in doubt. NSW Labor has at least committed not to renew them prior to a comprehensive scientific and economic assessment.

These wood supply agreements are crony capitalism at its worst. They guarantee live trees out of native public forests decades into the future at taxpayers' expense, and have already led to major compensation payouts to industry because the timber cannot be supplied. It is literally a case of the LNP governments trying to set up a massive public subsidy to forestry corporations that is aimed to defy democracy (and ecological sustainability) for many decades to come.

Apart from the ecological destruction being waged against our forests, endangered species and our



waterways, the economics of logging in NSW simply doesn't stack up.

A 2016 report by the Australia Institute (www.nature.org.au/media/213736/160320-money-doesnt-grow-on-trees-nsw-forestry-final.pdf) found "Native forest logging by the Forestry Corporation of NSW generated losses of \$79m over the last seven years... discontinuing the practice could deliver significant benefits to the state of NSW... In response to declining volumes, the native forestry industry has increasingly lobbied for forest waste products to be sold to biomass electricity generation plants as a feedstock. However, given that native forest logging currently struggles to generate a profit, that demand is declining, and that supplying biomass

power plants will not provide the uplift required, potentially the highest economic use of native forestry would be to leave the trees standing."

Stacked against the economic stupidity of continuing to subsidise an unsustainable and doomed industry is the even more important ecological consideration. The record of the current LNP state government is nothing short of appalling, having presided over years of non-enforcement of and winding back of logging regulations, winding back of land clearing laws, proposals to introduce extreme new technologies to allow logging on steeper slopes, proposals to burn forest products to produce electricity, a crisis in koala populations, and a massive forest dieback problem.

Here in the Far North vast tracts of state forest are being degraded by logging-induced dieback. Disturbed forest areas become infested by lantana which encourages colonisation by bellbirds that cause the death of the remaining trees over time. Over 100 000 ha is already seriously effected with up to two million ha remaining vulnerable. The state government and the industry have known this for years but have failed to ever address the causes of dieback.

The forest wars are back for two principal reasons, firstly the deals that secured the first round of RFAs were based on political expediency rather than science or economics and have resulted in a crisis in our public native forests. Secondly, the current state and federal governments are rushing to

compound the problem and the cost to the public purse by locking in further massive subsidisation to logging companies decades into the future.

Our remaining native forests are more important to our collective survival than they ever were. Their role in sequestering and storing carbon is crucial, they provide irreplaceable refuge for a large range of endangered species including koalas, and play a massive role in maintaining water tables and water flow that our region's environment, farms and economy depend upon.

The forest wars are back, and it is going to take a lot to turn this cronyism around. The state election next March is a key focus for political lobbying. It will be hard to change the mind of the LNP but the ALP opposition is at least offering to look at the science and economics of the RFAs. There's also a chance that the Greens could pick up enough seats to gain a balance of power in the lower house, particularly if they can win another seat in this region, but elections are unpredictable. The Northern Rivers knows how to fight either side of elections and our forests are calling to us once again.

To find out more, offer your support or follow the action go to: nefa.org.au and: www.facebook.com/NorthEastForestAlliance

Don't ask what your planet can do for you...

In February this year, a third of the sea ice in the Bering Sea melted in just eight days and it was Winter!

Global warming is a reality and the truth is we can no longer guarantee that the future will provide basic resources such as soil, water and clean air for our survival.

These are the facts:

SOIL: In 2013 the World Economic Forum concluded that because of soil erosion and degradation the planet's topsoil will only last approximately 65 years. The reason for this is that 40% of the world's agricultural soil is classed as degraded or seriously degraded. Soil is being lost at between 10 to 40 times the rate that it can be naturally replenished which means that 70% of topsoil for growing is gone.

WATER: By 2025, 2/3 of the world's population (5.3 billion) will suffer from a severe shortage of water or none at all. In the last decade, 800 major lakes have completely dried up just in Africa alone and this is now happening to all of the world's lakes. The planet's top 10 river systems are drying up or ebbing away; Yangtze, Salween, Danube, La Plata, Rio Grande, Mekong, Ganges and our own Murray-Darling are just some of them.

AIR: Our target of 350 parts per million of carbon couldn't be

by Bernadine Schwartz

further off track with NASA's latest measurement in February this year being 407.61. In 2005 it was 380.

FOOD: by 2050 our population will have reached nine billion. Productivity would have to increase by 60% to 100%. To achieve this increase in food we would have to clear what remains of our rainforest and savannas. Nitrogen usage would also have to increase creating a bigger rise in greenhouse gases, more pollution of our water and extinction of many species. We currently have over a billion people hungry or malnourished so reaching that target doesn't seem probable, especially with dire predictions for our future water supply.

Now many claim that they love their children and grandchildren dearly and I'm not questioning that. We all love them but here is where I get confused. Why then the reluctance to change? Don't ask what your planet can do for you but what you can do for your planet and our children!

The simplest, yet most effective contribution that an individual can actively do for our environment is reduce your consumption of meat products and dairy or if possible give it up completely. As I write this I can hear people protesting that meat is a necessary part of



their diet but there are many other foods that provide protein and iron and they use far less of the planet's resources. I'm not going to mention the unethical procedures that this industry operates under but instead just concentrate on the environmental statistics.

Globally, 70 billion animals are slaughtered every year and the natural resources that are needed to keep this industry operating make it the number 1 unsustainable industry on our planet. According to the UN, the livestock industry is responsible for 18% of the world's emissions. This is roughly 40% more than the entire transport system on this planet. 26% of the planet's ice-free land is used for grazing and a staggering 33% of crop lands is used for livestock feed. Brazil has lost 70% of its rainforest for cattle grazing and this destruction still continues. In Australia 47% of our

land is used solely for cattle and also contributes 10% towards our emissions.

For every one litre of milk, 1,000 litres of water was needed and for every calorie produced in meat, 50 times more water was used compared to potatoes and other crops.

A new study called 'The Sea Around Us' calculated how much fish is really being caught each year and the figure was 109,000,000 metric tons with 40% being bycatch. The tuna and prawn industry are especially guilty with statistics that are sickening. The prawn industry contributes 2% to global seafood but is responsible for 33% of global bycatch and this includes over 160 different species with many highly endangered. Sea creatures such as seahorses, dolphins, turtles, dugongs and sharks are just some of the species being trapped with 90%

of them being thrown back into the ocean dead or dying. Up to 320,000 sea birds die every year because of fishing practices with many endangered or highly endangered.

I don't believe any rational person would think that the above statistics are justified all in the name of meat on your plate or milk in your fridge. This is just insanity at its worst and it's still allowed to continue on, even with the full knowledge of its devastating results on our planet!

For us, everything has always been measured in monetary terms and job growth has always stood strong as a valid reason but these kinds of values are why we are all facing an unknown future.

When we hear or read about human tragedy, many of us have difficulty imagining it could happen to us but global warming doesn't discriminate.

When you consider the hardships many in this world have to face and over a billion people starving, eating less meat products doesn't qualify as a sacrifice. Our children and grandchildren will want answers and they will definitely ask questions. What will you say, "Sorry, how could I have known?"

I doubt they'll believe you, especially when the world has been talking about global warming for how many decades now?



NIMBIN ENVIRONMENT CENTRE NEWS



Koala protest outside state MP Thomas George's Lismore electorate office. Photo: Chibo Mertineit

by Cath Smith, President

Welcome to Autumn and the rainy season! As usual, there have been many goings-on in the world of environmental activism.

The Northern Rivers was well represented at recent actions in Sydney. On International Day of the Forests, 21st March, about 50 people, (including three police), gathered on the footpath outside the environment minister, Gabrielle Upton's office in Double Bay. The consensus of the range of speakers participating was the need to encourage the government to establish the proposed Great Koala National park, by preserving a large tract of native forest against logging.

In this vein, the NSW government's latest assessment is that logging is the primary initiator of Bell Miner Associated Dieback (BMAD) and their mapping of 46,000 hectares as badly affected north from Taree reveals this fact. In response, the North East Forest Alliance (NEFA), is calling for an immediate cessation of logging of forests affected by, and susceptible to, this logging-induced dieback.

The North East Forest Alliance (NEFA) report released on 21st March, 'Bell Miner Associated Dieback in

the Border Ranges North and South Biodiversity Hotspot – NSW Section' reviews recent data on the extent and cause of this issue, and NEFA's failed attempts to get the NSW government to take action in the Border Ranges over the past nine years.

The Time2Choose rally and march on 24th March drew even more NR people: about 200, including many from the Knitting Nannas. The theme was that Australia needs to change from a dependence on fossil fuels and turn towards non-polluting renewable energy systems.

The organising body, the Nature Conservation Council, is an umbrella for all environmental groups, which NEC will shortly join. Unity is key!

Regarding the Stop Adani campaign, Adani wants to cancel Wangan and Jagalingou's (W&J) Native Title over the portion of their land that he wishes to mine for coal. Four days of hearings in the Federal Native Title Court in Brisbane ending on 26th March resulted in a postponement of judgement until June or July. In the meantime, Adani has no Indigenous Land Use Agreement, and W&J are optimistic because even if the judgement is against them, their legal team is already claiming strong grounds

for appeal. NEC donated \$500 for the W&J legal battle.

Finally, if you're interested in learning more about some of the pressing issues of our time, visit the NEC shop and ask for a copy of a DVD which includes documentaries such as *Stop Adani: A Mighty Force* (shown recently by NEC at Birth and Beyond); *Disruption* video trailer; *Do the Math* by 350.org; *Solidarity and Resilience*, the global climate march in 2015; *Guarding the Galilee*, a Stop Adani video; a Stop Adani roadshow opener video and *Introduction to Divestment* video.

In addition, there is ample reading material, such as *The Adani Files*, a 16-page document compiled by GetUp, relating a short history of corruption, destruction and criminal activity; *Carmichael in Context – quantifying Australia's threat to climate action* by The Australia Institute; *'Renewable Energy Superpower'* by Zero Carbon Australia; *'Licence to Kill: Commonwealth environmental approval for Adani's Carmichael coal mine project'* by Australian Conservation Foundation; and *'Australian Sustainable Energy: Zero Carbon Australia Stationary Energy Plan'*, a ten-year roadmap for 100% renewable energy, affordable for ordinary households.

1918-2018: Centenary of the final campaigns

ANZAC Day, Wednesday 25th April – Nimbin District Memorial

- Dawn Service from 5.30am
- The ANZAC Day March: please muster at the Nimbin Hospital before 10.30am to start the March at 10.40 to the Nimbin District Memorial for the Commemorative service to begin at 10.45 and finish just after 11am.

In 1918, first the Germans and then the Allies launched major offensives on the Western Front, ending years of stalemate and initiating a war of movement that favoured the Allies' superior numbers, vast industrial capacity and hard-earned tactical knowledge.

At the beginning of 1918, few on the Allied side imagined that the war would be over before the year's end. On 21st March, the Germans launched the first in a series of major offensives that they hoped would bring them victory before United States troops could reach the front in sufficient numbers to affect the outcome.

For a time it seemed that they would succeed. The German advance through the Somme valley, across ground won by the Allies at great cost in 1916 and 1917, threatened to carry them to the vital transport hub at Amiens and split the French and British armies.



Over the next month, Allied troops fought a series of defensive actions, including the little known but vitally important encounters at Hébuterne, Dernancourt, Morlancourt and Hazebrouck, in which the Australian Corps played an important role.

On 25th April, British and Australian soldiers drove the Germans from the town of Villers-Bretonneux. It proved to be the limit of the enemy's advance.

A series of limited scale actions over the following months, including at Hamel on 4th July, consolidated the Allied line. Australian and United States troops seized the town of Hamel in a battle lasting just ninety-three minutes. Then on 8th August outside Amiens,

the Allies launched a massive offensive, spearheaded by Australian and Canadian divisions advancing behind a wall of artillery fire and supported by tanks and aircraft.

For the Germans it was a devastating blow, famously described by General Erich Ludendorff as "the black day of the German army in this war." From then on, the Germans were under unrelenting attack, always falling back and unable to regroup, facing threats first in one sector and then another.

In September, Australian troops seized Mont St Quentin and the nearby town of Peronne, in fighting that has been described as the "crowning achievement" of the Australian Imperial Force.

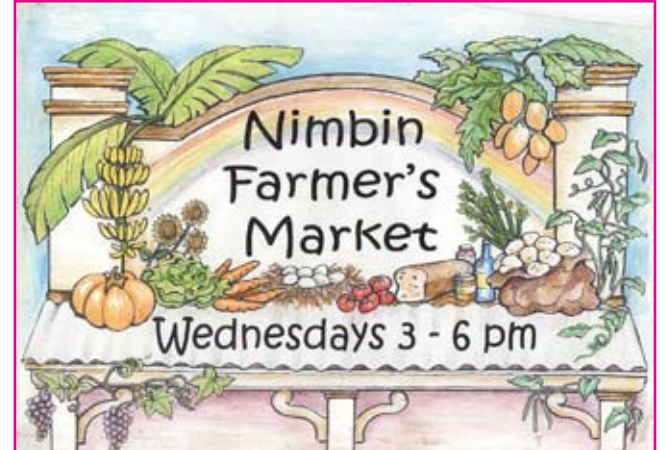
Over the following weeks, Australian and British troops advanced on and then broke through the formidable Hindenburg Line.

The Australian Corps fought its final infantry battles of the war during this phase, alongside United States troops at Bellicourt on the St Quentin Canal in late September and early October, and at Montbrechain on 5th October, after which the much depleted Australian divisions were withdrawn from the line.

They were returning to the fighting when the war ended on 11th November 1918. "Lest We Forget"

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Nimbin Neighbourhood and Information Centre News

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Sustainable Alley meeting
Monday 9th April 5.30pm

This meeting will discuss the future of Sustainability Alley and how to organise the event for this year, or failing that, for early planning for the following 100th Anniversary of the Nimbin Show Event in 2019.

We need more people to get involved if this event is to continue. Now is the time to throw your hat in the ring. To attend, simply rock up and come around to the back steps of NNIC. Feel free to invite people who you think might be into it!

Nimbin Holiday Club
aka Vacation Care

The funding for this valuable program is at risk. We are looking for letters of support from any families who have participated in the program over the past 14 years, which we can use to assist us in our fight to save this service. If you feel you can contribute, please contact: admin@nnic.org.au

Nimbin Community Drug Action Team (CDAT)

The next meeting is on Thursday 19th April at 2pm, at NNIC. We are still looking for more volunteers to help us carry our banner and placards in the MardiGrass parade on Sunday 6th May. Interested? Contact: admin@nnic.org.au

Rhys' SuperDog Treats

Are available for purchase at NNIC on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, plus at the Nimbin Weekly Farmers market (about once a month) plus NOW also available at the Pet Pantry in Lismore.

Many thanks to the Pet Pantry for supporting Rhys' enterprise. Rhys also recently donated some SuperDog treats to the Animal Rights and Rescue Group in Lismore.



Captain Competent and his wrangler, Community Case Co-ordinator Vicki Bright at the 2018 Alcohol and Drug Foundation's CDAT conference in Newcastle during March

Have you got what it takes to be a Super Hero?

Nimbin CDAT (Community Drug Action Team) is looking for people with an interest in Drug and Alcohol harm reduction to train up as volunteer superheroes... need to be of slim build and medium height to a max of about 6'. Acting skills (and special powers) an advantage. Also recruiting volunteer Superhero Wranglers, who assist our Super Hero when he is out and about in public. Contact: admin@nnic.org.au

Crankfest is on again

Saturday 28th April at Main Beach carpark Evans Head from 8am. Captain Competent and Nimbin CDAT will be there.

15th Annual Nimbin Women's Dinner and Comedy Gala

Thanks everyone for yet another successful Nimbin Women's dinner. Thanks to: Kath, Gail, Heidi, Margi,

Vicki, Biko, Inez, Rachel, Rosie, Mim for all their help on the night. Sue and Pauline for banners and set-up. Bev, Judy, Betty and Dave for the cakes. To all the fabulous performers: Triny, Sue, Michelle, Maire, Devi, Simone, Grace, Kaychu and Jasmine. To Steph and crew for the food. To Disco Sista for the sound and lights and to everyone who came along to enjoy a night of laughter and fun. See you all again next year! Plus many thanks to everyone who donated raffle prizes: Pauline, Green Bank, Candle Factory, Pot-a-Gold cafe, Barbara, Hemp Embassy, Hemping Around, Susukka Trading, Mandie and Alice. Thanks soooooo very much!

April Mental Health update

The Mental Health Commission of NSW is inviting people to share how communities can work together towards improving wellbeing and preventing

suicide.

You can find a link to the survey on our NNIC Facebook page: www.facebook.com/Nimbin-Neighbourhood-and-Information-Centre-316382298537853 or via the Commission's website: <https://nswmentalhealthcommission.com.au/wellbeing-and-preventing-suicide>

Struggling with household bills? Got unpaid fines?

We may be able to assist with electricity and telephone bills, and you may be eligible for a Work Development Order enabling you to pay off your fines via volunteer work.

Phone us on 6689-1692, or just drop in to make an appointment with Vicki, our Community Case Co-ordinator.

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.

[www.facebook.com/pages/Nimbin-Neighbourhood-and-Information-Centre-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-cant-help-we-probably-know-who-can-You-can-also-find-lots-of-useful-local-and-other-info-on-our-website-For-appointments-phone-6689-1692-or-just-drop-in-between-10am-and-4pm-weekdays](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Nimbin-Neighbourhood-and-Information-Centre-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-cant-help-we-probably-know-who-can-You-can-also-find-lots-of-useful-local-and-other-info-on-our-website-For-appointments-phone-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: 10th April. 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 19th April.
• Respiratory Clinic: second Tuesday of the month, next is 10th April. 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 first Wednesday of each month at the hospital, at 10am. Next meeting: 2nd May. New members welcome.



External review of quality

by Noelle Lynden-Way

During March, each of the four Multipurpose Service (MPS) in the Northern Rivers (Bonalbo, Urbenville, Nimbin, Kyogle) hospitals underwent an external review of the quality of care and services offered at their facilities.

This Accreditation process is a review of performance against the National Safety and Quality Health Service (NSQHS) Standards. The primary aim of the Standards is to protect the public from harm and improve the quality of health care. It is also a way to publicly recognise that health care facilities like our MPS/s have met the national quality standards.

So what can you expect from an Accredited health service?

The answer is that when you, or someone you care for, visit your local MPS you can expect to receive care that is safe and you can trust that you will be well looked after.

The NSQHS Standards and the national Accreditation scheme started on 1st January 2013. The aim is to support healthcare professional organisations and policy makers who work with patients and carers to achieve a consistent level of high quality care.

The fact that a health service organisation has been accredited does not guarantee that no-one will ever experience unsafe care, but it ensures safety and quality systems that promote safe care are in place. These systems help to identify risks and manage them.



In November 2017, the second edition of these NSQHS Standards was issued, and one of the revised Standards is 'Partnering with Consumers', which recognises the importance of involving patients in their own care and providing clear communication to them. This leads to a more positive experience for consumers, carers and families, better quality health care and improved safety.

For you it will mean that staff at your local MPS will support you or the person you care for to understand information about your health and treatment options, to ask questions and share decisions, so that the care you receive is right for you.

The second edition of NSQHS Standards also addresses gaps identified in the first edition including mental health and cognitive

impairment, health literacy, end of life care and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health.

The following is some practical advice that may assist you to become more involved in planning and decision making for your care when you visit your doctor and other health providers:

- Ask questions;
- Find good quality and reliable health information;
- Understand the risks and benefits of medical tests, treatments and procedures;
- Keep a list of all the medicines you are taking;
- Confirm what will happen before your operation or other procedure;
- Ask about your care when you leave hospital;
- Know your rights;
- Understand privacy and accessing your medical record; and
- Your feedback helps improve

healthcare safety and quality. Click on the Questionbuilder website for assistance in preparing a list of questions to take to your next appointment with a doctor or specialist so that you have the information you need to participate in making decisions about your own care: www.safetyandquality.gov.au/questionbuilder

The Australian Charter of Healthcare Rights describes your rights to take an active role in your health care and participate as fully as you wish in decisions.

See: www.safetyandquality.gov.au/national-priorities/charter-of-healthcare-rights

Another big year for Nimbin School of Arts

by David Hallett

In its main aim of fostering the arts, the past year has seen another series of successful events for the School of Arts. Both the Autumn Arts Extravaganza (managed by the Nimbin Artists Gallery) and the Spring Arts Exhibition have welcomed thousands of visitors together with record sales for artists. The Spring exhibition paid over \$10,000 to Nimbin artists.

The three Blue Moon Cabarets have been of exceptional standard, and continue to be very popular events, and significant fundraisers.

The School of Arts remains the venue for the Nimbin Performance Poetry World Cup, the Nimbin Youth Film Festival, Nimbin Women's Dinner, the annual Fantasies Cabaret, plus for many performances at MardiGrass and the newly established Roots Festival which has become a major music attraction in the past two years.

It is also wonderful to have the Nimbin Fashion Show back on the cultural calendar, fostered by the NSA.

The NSA continues to sponsor the Nimbin Performance Poetry World Cup, the Nimbin Youth Film Festival, and annual Weave and Mend Festival, while giving hall hire assistance to various arts and community events. The increasing popularity of karate classes by two different instructors has also seen a significant increase in hall hire, along with the long-

term music tuition hirers.

The highlights of the cultural calendar are nonetheless brought down to earth by the wear and tear and ageing of Nimbin's 114-year-old town hall. Costly water leaks from the toilet block, roof leaks and auditorium ceiling damage, ongoing leaks and ceiling damage in Perceptio, along with major electrical upgrades, have all taken a bite out of hall finances and necessitated considerable attention from hall management.

The installation of a new oven, switching to Enova as electrical supplier, repainting of the foyer and auditorium, and some refined work on the grand piano have all been significant additions to the hall, while extensive reroofing work is anticipated in the coming months.

The School of Arts is well served by the ongoing management of a small dedicated team, and it is most pleasing to welcome new members of the committee Tony Coiffet and most recently Sam Burcher. A special thanks to Perceptio staff for all their assistance,

It is also pleasing to acknowledge personally that Tony Gibson has been working with me in the management team of the School of Arts for 30 years now, through major fundraising, rebuilding and extensions, plus the genesis of art gallery, grand piano, festival and performance programmes, and generally in sustaining Nimbin's grand old hall.

The last word - your will

People, get ready. Do it for those you love – and for yourself. The end of life experience will be so much easier to deal with if you are prepared and have planned for it.

It's challenging to contemplate losing our life, property and capacity for independence – but it's even more challenging to deal with these issues at a time when emotions are running high and everyday life may be intensely complex and demanding.

First: Write a will. If you have any kind of property, your family will have to pay considerably extra in legal fees if you die without a valid will. Make sure anything you want given to specific people is included.

A solicitor may charge several hundred dollars to help you, but there are online forms available, or you can buy a form from the post office for \$20.

The Red Cross, Salvation Army and other organisations hold regular Wills days, where local solicitors offer their services for \$50 – \$100.

Second: Appoint someone you trust with an enduring power of attorney, who will be able to manage your financial affairs should you lose the capacity to do so. Forms for this are also available online and from a solicitor.

Third: Complete an Advanced Care Directive that will make sure your wishes with regard to medical treatment (and your right to refuse it) are respected. Forms are



The Mourning News

by Megan James

available online.

Fourth: Appoint someone you trust as your enduring guardian, to ensure your Advanced Care Directive is followed should you lose capacity. Forms are available from solicitors and also available online.

Fifth: Write your wishes for any other end of life matters – whether you prefer to die at home or hospital, who you would like to be there, your spiritual needs, what music you might like played. How you would like your funeral or life celebration to be, whether you want to be cremated or buried – and where.

Get creative. Zenith Virago, local death and dying counsellor, has forms you can follow – or write your own.

Sixth: Make copies of all these documents and give them to your close people. And then relax and live life to the full! You've earned it by facing your mortality in a way which shows much care and appreciation for those you love and for yourself.

THE ADVENTURES OF Reckless Rita & Freddy Foolhardy

Featuring: Clued-Up Claudelia & Captain Competent

Look Rita...Bob over there looks like he is losing it on too much acid or something!

Quick Freddy! Let's give him a bong to calm him down.

BUT WAIT RITA! PEOPLE ON TOO MANY DRUGS DON'T NEED MORE DRUGS!

Cannabis can increase anxiety and paranoia and enhance psychosis. Try taking the person somewhere quiet and safe and away from loud music, lots of people and other stimuli. Offer your friend water and something easy to eat like slices of apple or a banana, or a cup of warm soup. If they keep getting worse call 000 for help.

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

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.

Mourning news appreciated

Quietly sitting in the local cafe, sipping on my coffee I picked up your rag (NGT March 18) to have a wee peruse.

On the very first page I opened (p.7) was an article highlighted in blue which instantly took my eye: 'Today is a good day to die'. As I began reading, I kept hearing my inner voice saying, "Yes, yes, yes".

Megan James, your words were heartfelt and incredibly honest, being familiar with universal connections and the powers of individual manifest.

Myself, I was only just having a very similar deep-rooted conversation with a dear friend earlier this morning so not only was your piece an absolute pleasure to read but to me, it was also another incredible little gift from the universe to show me that today as always, I'm living life in total synchronicity.

We create as we speak, so keep creating and keep connecting.

Nova Perry
Nimbin

Trouble in paradise

Like many residents of the Northern Rivers area, I was attracted here by the spectacular natural beauty of the region. I was also drawn by what I perceived as a general consensus among local residents that conservation and the ideal of living in harmony and balance with nature and our fellow creatures were important principles.

I am profoundly saddened by what I believe is an increasing emphasis on the investment value of property.

I bought my share on an intentional community in 1989, willingly embracing the ideal stated in our constitution. I have worked hard and built a productive, peaceful home for myself and my daughter. I have always sought to achieve self-sustainability in a way that leaves as small a footprint as possible.

But recently this balance, peace and harmony have been challenged by increasing numbers of people who arrive with an entirely different

agenda. They appear to have the intention in mind, and the requisite retirement capital to reshape their surroundings as they please.

Trees are seen as a nuisance that must be eliminated to access enough room and sunlight for power – power to sustain the modern lifestyle they enjoyed in the city. Some are only concerned with the re-sale value of property, and move on after making a profit, leaving behind fallen trees in gullies and creek beds, and areas of common land cleared or badly damaged.

Letters from our Directors go unheeded. Recently, signs were erected high up in the trees to warn contractors that they are on communal property. Now the trees have been poisoned, probably just to create a view.

I thought Nimbin was an active hub for alternative living and conservation. Have our values changed so much over such a short span of time?

Martha Bakhiari
Stony Chute

Globalisation

Corporate mass media seeks to influence opinion for global and local agendas of capitalism. Softened up, governments are readily exploited for massive subsidies and favourable policies.

The political divide is well maintained by a polarised media, united only in cheering capitalism. Take the SMH editorial of March 6. It spruiked competition, free enterprise and democracy. Then, to paraphrase, "The US since WWII is the benevolent world policeman providing stability for economic development, democracy and peace".

That contradicted my theme (NGT February) and below, that USA Deep State deliberately sought world domination from that time (from the research of Noam Chomsky), destroying democracies to smooth the way for corporate exploitation.

Fast forward to a new world of corporations freed from borders and restrictions, larger in number and turnover than most nations. All governments are manipulated by such virtual nations. It is unclear what their alliances are in their secret competitive wars for survival of the fittest. Humanity cannot thrive in this climate.

Who are the largest owners, in effect controlling nations? How do they go about destroying the competition in the shadowy world of share ownership, and appointments of directors to influence or spy?

Globalisation by corporations spells too many eggs in the basket



David Shoebridge MLC and the Young Greens say "Sniff Off" to drug dogs at music festivals – see page 11.

of civilisation. Free trade agreements mean secret deals favouring unrevealed corporations, and efficient utilisation of the 99% for profit. The single commandment 'thou shalt maximise profit', translates to 'thou shalt serve the god Mammon'. These are the lore and the profits.

Consider co-operatives of nations like the EU and NAFTA. President Trump is recognising that regional co-operation between the USA, Canada and Mexico is putting America first. He is distinguishing between regional and foreign-based corporations, detrimental to local workers.

A unified continent can be a defence against globalising corporations or rogue nations. Secretive 'free trade' agreements are code for enhancing the freedom to exploit humans by virtual nations.

A united African continent would be a powerful bulwark against resource exploitation, and is potentially a shining example for other regions, since it is not burdened by old conservative institutions.

To look at China in a more positive light, it could form the core of a strong continental economy, together with India, Pakistan and

Japan. The Belt and Road Project is readily converted to regional and intercontinental trade.

The true history of the USA's evolution as the most powerful, deadly regime ever, has been masked by propaganda. It starts with mass slaughter in Korea and Africa under Eisenhower, who eventually realised: "Beware the military industrial complex."

The global killing machine must now contract to home base. A gradual evolution of human consciousness is evident. Colonialism is out, and outright military conquest almost so. Universal recognition is dawning that commerce and trade are superior, and more powerful than war.

China wisely chose economic might to counter US militarism. Its autocracy and the Korean saga will eventually end.

Innovative thinkers must plan continental unions, with contingencies for all peoples to join.

There are many ways to seize control from Mammon's servants. Meanwhile they can be softened up with exposures of their deficient ethics and methods.

Hayo van der Woude
Mullumbimby

Notices

Byron Harmony Day call-out

Byron Harmony Day is moving to Mullum this year for the first time, and will be held on Saturday 28th April, 11am-9pm at Mullumbimby Civic Hall. Please get in contact if you would like to book a stall, perform, hold workshops or volunteer to help co-ordinate. Phone Judith Shelley on 0405-463-663.

Monthly Crypto Currency Seminar

The next monthly crypto currency seminar at the Nimbin Bush Theatre will be on Saturday 7th April at 11am. Free Entry. These meetings are suitable for both beginners and experts, and are held on the first Saturdays.

Indonesian Conversation Club

Are you interested in Indonesian language, culture, business or study? You are invited to Klub Ngobrol – Indonesian Club, a group for people interested in practising Indonesian language, sharing ideas and learning more about Indonesian culture. Meetings every third Friday at Byron Services Club, phone 0405-463-663.

Annual General Meeting

Tuntable Falls Community School will hold its AGM on Friday 25th May at 9.30am at the school.

Al-Anon family groups

Is your life being affected by somebody else's drinking? Al-Anon Family Groups can help. Meetings held in your district. For more information: www.al-anon.org.au or phone 1300-252-666.

Free notices

Keep it short and to the point, and if your notice is not-for-profit and of interest to our readers, get it to us by deadline and we'll run it for you for free.

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Assistant Editor Sue Stock
Layout Peter Chaplin, Andy Gough, Bob Dooley

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NGT is published by the Nimbin Aquarius Foundation, 81 Cullen Street, Nimbin

NEXT DEADLINE: Wednesday 25th April

Email nimbin.goodtimes@gmail.com or put stuff in our pigeonhole at the Nimbin Community Centre.





95% of Page strongly opposed to Adani

by Nan Nicholson

Stop Adani Lismore interviewed over 1000 people in the Page electorate in the past few months. This survey confirms that the majority of Kevin Hogan's constituents want him to take a stand against the mine and to support a transition to renewable energy.

A delegation from Stop Adani Lismore delivered the results to Hogan's office.

These are the questions that Stop Adani Lismore wishes Kevin Hogan to answer:

1. Do you accept the scientific consensus that humans are causing global

warming by emitting greenhouse gases?

2. Do you acknowledge that human health and fossil fuels are fundamentally incompatible and that climate change is the biggest threat we face to human health.

3. Do you know why there is so much opposition to the Adani mine?

4. Will you publicly oppose the Adani mine by pushing for the federal environmental approvals given to the mine to be revoked and by voting accordingly in Parliament?

5. Will you support a transition away

from fossil fuels to renewable energy in Australia and vote accordingly in Parliament?

6. Will you support a ban on all new fossil fuel development and infrastructure (including rail lines and expansion of existing mines) and vote accordingly in Parliament?

7. Will you vote for the removal of all fossil fuel subsidies (direct and indirect)?

8. Will you vote for a ban on donations from fossil fuel corporations to political parties to avoid a perception of conflict of interest?

Boogle bare (thank you): 'Pay-the-Rent'

by Saskia Kouwenberg

Thank you so much to the people who are donating towards paying the rent of the Wailbal Nimbin Aboriginal Cultural Centre.

The 'Pay-the-Rent' campaign started on 26th January 2017 as a political concept. It is one of the ways to walk our talk when we, non-Aboriginal Australians, say: "We are on Widjabal Land – always was, always will be – and we recognise Bundjalung Elders".

It is not meant to be welfare, not intending to make dependence. It is a way to support the cultural centre without claiming to have a say in how it is run.

Richard Trudgens – a white fellow who worked a lot in Aboriginal communities – explained it in this inspiring way: "There are already enough dominant culture-controlled places around, such as hospitals, schools, workplaces, courts of law."

Indeed, it never ever ends. Virtually any aspect of – public and private – life



in Australia is run by the dominant culture. Imagine what would happen if we – relative newcomers to Australia – were to be invaded this week by people with a culture very different from ours.

Imagine those newcomers would not even try to understand us, would never learn our language, not respect our culture, not recognise our laws.

Imagine losing (virtually complete) control because these invaders would overrule every aspect of our lives. And then imagine being told all the time that you should get over it and get your act together!

We, in Nimbin, know better how this would feel than average Australians, because most of us are here trying to escape the harsh aspects of the dominant

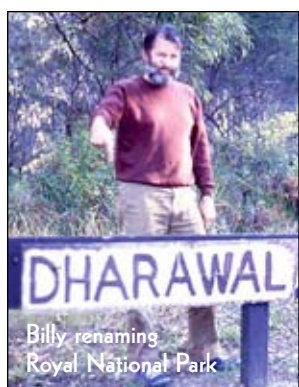
culture (consumerism/materialism and individualism). So, for 'Pay-the-Rent', the Wailbal Cultural Centre is a tiny contribution towards creating more sovereign spaces for First Nation People.

It is also a way to express that we want to walk together. And walking together definitely does not mean that we all will be only walking the dominant way! It is walking together WITH our differences!

The biggest challenge for non-Aboriginal people seems to be to stop dominating and make internal space for the wisdom and strength of other cultures, as well as to make real space by preparing for treaty and sovereignty.

So, if you want to walk together this way in 2018, you are very welcome to join the 'Pay-the-Rent' campaign. We invite you to make a monthly payment that suits you, however small or large. Boogle bare!

Bank details: Nimbin Summerland Credit Union, BSB 728728; 'Pay-the-Rent NAAC' account, number 22314081.



Billy renaming Royal National Park

RIP Billy Snow, 1938 – 2018

Billy Snow was an avid campaigner for peace and the environment but was best known as one of the founders of BUGA UP (Billboard Utilising Graffitiists Against Unhealthy Promotions).

Billy was born on January 31st 1938 and grew up in Drummoyne. He attended Fort Street High School before taking off on a

decade-long adventure sailing around the world. He married Rosemarie Gosling in 1967, their daughter Emily was born in 1972. After separating from his wife in 1979, Billy moved to Bundeena, a village within Sydney's Royal National Park.

He teamed up with Geoff Coleman and Ric Bolzan to form BUGA UP. Billy, accompanied by his partner Danielle Kluth, re-faced countless billboards and was arrested on numerous occasions, spending time in gaol on principle rather than pay a fine.

In 1984 he set up the 'BUGA UP Embassy' at North Sydney opposite the Leo Burnett advertising agency (the creators of the 'Marlboro man') where he displayed his collection of cigarette butts collected from sacred places around



Australia.

In the 1980s Billy was active with the Sydney Peace Squadron, protesting against nuclear armed ships in Sydney Harbour. He was always generous to fellow activists and the many causes he cared about. He funded Burnum Burnum's trip to England in 1988 where Burnum planted the Aboriginal flag at Dover to claim Britain on behalf of the Aboriginal people.

Billy continued to campaign tirelessly

throughout his life, addressing new and current issues in a creative way and adapting his protests for new audiences. He was a frequent visitor to Nimbin and the Rainbow Region where he enjoyed the company of like-minded spirits.

Billy died of a ruptured aorta on 8th March 2018. He is survived by his daughter Emily, his sisters Joan and Dorothy, and former partner Danielle.

by Lachlann Partridge



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Involvement with Meditation



All out there who are concerned about the telecommunications take-over of the scenic hills of Nimbin, and the possible effect on wildlife and two-leggeds, are invited to meditate for harmonious resonance near the proposed (very scenic) site at Stony Chute.

Meet at fire station cnr Stangers Road, April – every Saturday – Sunset 5pm.

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