

John Adams*
 & ASSOCIATES
 *a.k.a. Sindhu
 Lawyers
 www.johnadams.com.au

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

VERSATILE EARTHWORKS
 SLASHING & CLEARING

- 110 Hp 4WD Tractor • Heavy Duty Slasher
- Spraying & Weed Control • Fence Lines
- Fire Breaks • Large & Small Acreage
- Property Improvements & Clearing • Roads
- Driveways • Dozer & Tipper Hire • Fully Insured

Phone: 0427 850 715
 A/H: 02 66 33 33 39

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	Geohex Supplier

Delivery Available
 sales@nimbinbuildingmaterials.com.au
 www.nimbinbuildingmaterials.com.au

IT MIGHT BE SMALL, BUT IT STILL GETS NOTICED!

For a limited time, you can buy this space for only \$50.
 Email: nimbin.goodtimes@gmail.com

It's never been easier to get into the GoodTimes

Fundraiser for facilities at pool

by Sue Edmonds

This year the pool has a lot to celebrate. In November it turned 40, now it's a grand old facility staunchly servicing the community with its clear, clean water, shadecloth and seats.

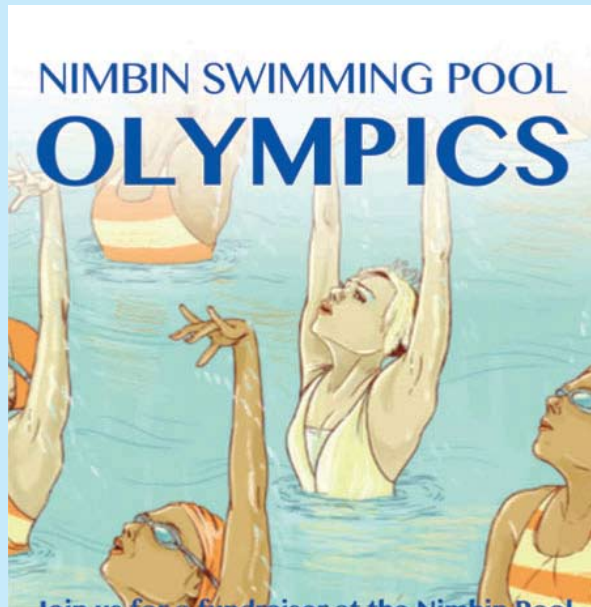
And to help the pool into another decade, the LCC decided to invest in it, repairing the filtration unit and giving the surface a complete botox treatment.

Now we have the annual Nimbin Pool Olympics to look forward to, on Saturday 26th January from 10am.

There will be the usual events of fashion parade, synchronised swimming, a marathon, racing on crocodiles and noodles, saving babies, rounding up ducks, and fast walking backwards and forwards.

This year the degree of difficulty in walking events is increased, with competitors having to keep their hands on their heads while racing.

NIMBIN SWIMMING POOL OLYMPICS



Join us for a fundraiser at the Nimbin Pool

Saturday 26th January, 2019
 10 am Start
 \$10 Entry (by donation)
 BBQ, cakes, drinks for sale

Synchronised swimming competitions, The Great Marathon Float, poolside fashion parade, fun races, and a surprise event.

And of course, there will be the World Championship Marathon Floating. The only rule in the float is no moving (except for breathing).

Each event has an amazing trophy for the winner. They are created by the local, well known artist Pauline Ahern.

Over the past eight years of the Olympics, these trophies have become precious collectors items, so if you want a piece of Pauline's work, start training now.

The morning includes a sausage sizzle, cakes and drinks, all this for a mere \$10 which goes towards incidentals at the pool.

This year the Friends of Nimbin Pool funded a new coat of paint for the seats, and new grass.

Hope you can squeeze the Olympics into your Saturday morning. Come along for a swim, wade, some sausages and fun and help keep our pool going.

Santa does Nimbin – in style



Photos: Heidi Glover and Tanya Bell

Action sought on dangerous road hazards

Long time local, Uri Ross was attending the annual local business breakfast at Nimbin Central School where he chatted with mayor Isaac Smith.

Uri let him know of two very dangerous hazards, the first being near the Nimbin Bowling Club where the footpath from Sibley Street does not meet up with Alternative Way (pictured right), which forces pedestrians to walk onto the road. It becomes extremely tight when there is a pedestrian and two cars coming from either way.

The second hazard is just south of Shipway Road (pictured far right), the first overtaking area on the way to Lismore where you can begin to overtake, and all of a sudden cars appear from below the over-hanging tree branches.

The mayor and Uri have been emailing each other, and the responses Uri received are poor: "Feedback on footpath.



Not great news for now, but I would think this is a prime location for the future cycleway funding. Any feedback on the road will take some time as it involves RMS and State issues."

Uri was furious. He said, "Fixing the tree branches blocking vision on Nimbin

Road is as easy as hiring some traffic control and an arborist and removing some limbs.

"As for the footpath, it is a little more extensive as a small bridge is required, but either extend 25m of extra footpath or have a tragic accident and then focus on it. "We all know this would

have never been passed in Lismore, so why has it been passed here? The LCC needs to stop neglecting Nimbin time and time again."

Residents are urged to inform Lismore Councillors of the urgency of fixing these hazards. Email: Isaac.Smith@lismore.nsw.gov.au

Nimbin CWA to form

by Moksha

Looking forward to a new beginning, coming together regularly as Nimbin women, as sisters together.

How did this happen? It happened when Terri, Chantico and myself (Moksha) went to the Kyogle CWA (Country Womens Association) meeting on 11th December to

investigate forming a new branch of the CWA in Nimbin.

We were delighted by these strong women, and by how many of them turned up that afternoon.

It's time to come together as one for our community, our elders, our youth, our children, aunties, sisters and our country.

We will be having our first CWA Nimbin Branch meeting on Monday 21st January at the Nimbin Hall, starting at 5pm for a 6pm meeting, for all our women who wish to participate. Please bring a plate to share.

Groups join forces to bring rail back to the region

by Lydia Kindred, NRRAG and TOOT co-secretary

Our local NRRAG (Northern Rivers Railway Action Group) and TOOT (Trains On Our Tracks) teams have always worked side by side, and are now even more linked in the fight to save our Casino to Murwillumbah line from destruction.

Recent AGMs of the organisations have brought volunteers into stronger cohesion and increased their determination to bring regular rail services for the young and old to our beautiful Northern Rivers region. We are united, in spite of a push to pull up this incredibly important infrastructure, exposing the rail corridor to sale and exploitation.

A simple bike path is proposed to take the place of the current line that served our Rainbow Region for 110 years, and which was at one point one of the most profitable regional railway services in NSW!

Changes to timetabling destroyed the popularity of the service when you could only use it late at night, which was of no use to locals and the ever-growing numbers of tourists to our region. Over two million tourists visit Byron Bay each year and they find it hard visiting other towns in the Northern Rivers without a train service.

We've recently been surveying local businesses and have received an overwhelming 90% support for wanting rail back on our tracks. If you have a business or know someone who does, please email the name of your business to: nrrailwayaction@gmail.com to join the list of local businesses who support regular passenger rail services (with possible freight as well).

We recently held a Rally for Rail in



Lismore and attracted 200 people after a rally in Murwillumbah the week before.

We had some wonderful music from Black Train, Cheryl and the Muffintops, Wendy Ford, Chris Fisher and Claire Charlotte's Soul Train – all train-related songs, too!

The speakers were excellent and included our own Beth Shelley, Greens candidates for the seats of Lismore, Sue Higginson, and Tweed, Bill Fenelon, who actively support rail services (pictured), Geoff Reid from River-FM, Royce Schubach, a train driver from the Pilbara and 17-year old Zara Willow, who recently organised a petition to Bring Back Trains to Byron Bay.

To top it off Brian Fisher, former Canberra track manager, has walked our whole line and assured us that the unbelievable \$953 million repair bill that's been touted by the government for years is wrong, and may really be as little as \$50 million! This includes \$25 million for restoring bridges, as most of the bridges and transoms along the line

are still in good condition. Most of the level crossings, platforms and signalling are also still in good condition.

Other costs would be \$25 million for interspersed concrete sleepers, while the current steel sleepers are tied very well, and around \$90,000 for removing the vegetation (which has not been done, even though John Holland has been given \$750,000 per year to do so).

Brian stated we could have the line open in no time flat: "The obstacle is not the track, it's politicians and red tape. Good transport infrastructure is a major point in achieving decentralisation... this line shouldn't be ripped up on a whim. We have the infrastructure here and it's a fantastic area to travel through on a train."

If you'd like to hear all the speakers visit Northern Rivers Railway Action Group Facebook page.

Please ask your local candidates in the upcoming elections if they support rail returning and if not, why not? We know it's going to help our environment, our economy and increase social equity.



Open 7 days

8am - 5pm weekdays

11am - 4pm weekends

Ph: 6689-1010 fax: 6689-1210 email: nimcand@bigpond.net.au

AERIAL PUNKIN
High Resolution 2d and 3d mapping of your property
Aerial Photography / Videography
0427 889 815 www.aerialpunkin.com

Nimbin Village Laundry
Brighten Your Day

Contact Maria Batistatou 0431 576 255
nimbinvillagelaundry@yahoo.com 45 Cullen St, Nimbin

I PAINT HOUSES
NIMBIN & SURROUNDS

RING BEN'S PAINTING:
0409 352 102

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

find them **HOT**
Nimbin Emporium

in the freezer
Fundies Lismore
Fundies Byron Bay
IGA Mullumbimby

Dreadlocks Naturally
NIMBIN
Mobile service available Uki - Lismore
Dreadlock Maintenance \$40 / hour
Dreadlock Creation - fixed price by quote
Kelly 0405 760 422 [dreadlocksnaturally](https://www.dreadlocksnaturally.com.au)
www.dreadlocksnaturally.com.au

POT A' GOLD CAFE

OPEN 7 DAYS
8AM - 7.30PM
6689-1199
1/45 CULLEN STREET, NIMBIN



NIMBIN MEDICAN WEEKEND

19-20 JANUARY 2019

11am - 4.20pm Sat & Sun

Bush Theatre, Old Butter Factory, Nimbin

Excellent food available on site at Bush Theatre Cafe

Topics:

Medicinal properties of cannabis, treating cancer & other illnesses, progress of legal access, roadside drug testing, herbal and hemp seed oil extraction methods, juicing raw cannabis, health benefits and the wonders of hemp seed as food.

Speakers Sat & Sun

Dr Andrew Katelaris, Dr Deb Waldron, Leah Bisiani, Andrew Kavasilas, Steve Bolt, Michael Balderstone, Radio AI, The Hemp Club, Australian Cannabis University, and other medical cannabis healers/users.

Sat & Sun demos

Herbal extraction methods and fresh hempseed oil crushing

ENTRY BY DONATION

www.hempembassy.net



Adam Behm
Electrician

0481 091 815

LICENCE: 1964120

**IT MIGHT BE SMALL, BUT
IT STILL GETS NOTICED!**

For a limited time, you can buy this space for only \$35.

Email: nimbin.goodtimes@gmail.com

It's easy to get into the *GoodTimes*



Nimbin Community Centre grant funding initiatives

by Therese Biscoe, and
Helen Lynne, Co-ordinators

The New Year dawns, and it feels like last year has just rushed by. We are all very busy at the NCCI office gearing up for a new year.

Every year the NCCI makes applications to various grants and manages some grant funding for volunteer community organisations like the NAG and Nimbin Chamber of Commerce who don't have the staff or infrastructure to easily manage projects for themselves.

Some grants are for community projects, some are to improve infrastructure and facilities at the Community Centre.

These capital improvements and infrastructure grants are very necessary as we have some pretty high operating costs and improvements largely depend on having extra funding sources available.

This year we have a few grant projects to complete.

We received a Community Clubs Grant in August last year to make improvements in the Rainbow seating area around the Nimbin Aged and Disability Care and Respite Service.

We have already painted and repaired the Rainbow seating, but are looking to install a table and seating above this area to create some accessible outside spaces for the service there.

Our other grant project is the development and installation of a bilingual sign to accompany the fantastic mural funded by Lismore Council and painted by local indigenous artists Gilbert Laurie, Oral Roberts and Lewis Walker.

While the mural was being painted, the NCCI worked closely with the artists and helped to manage the project through our office. We discussed the idea of a dual language sign with the artists at the time and we agreed to seek funding via NCCI for it.

We applied for and received an Indigenous Arts and Language Grant to do this great project. We will be working with the artists to



The Allsopp Park creation story mural, unveiled on 12th January 2018, will soon have a bilingual interpretative sign.

write the significant culture story contained in this mural and also provide a translation of this story in Bundjalung language.

When the work is completed we will be having an unveiling of the work with the story being told by the artists in language, this event will be filmed.

The film of the event along with copies of the mural image and the sign will then be uploaded to the Indigenous languages archive and contribute to this valuable cultural resource.

We are also managing mural funds on behalf of NAG and the Nimbin Chamber of Commerce. The mural above the Nimbin Tourist Information Centre has been completed and work will begin on the mural above the Nimbin Lifestyle Real Estate.

We are also partnering with the Nimbin Chamber of Commerce to complete the Light up Nimbin, under awning and mural solar lighting project.

The NCCI received half of the funding from a grant from the NSW Department of Justice, the Chamber of Commerce has contributed the rest of the funds from the Special Business Rate Variation Levy Fund collected annually by Council from the businesses in Nimbin.

Stage 1 has been completed which is the solar installation

and grid feed and Stage 2, which is the lighting installation, will be completed in the first part of this year.

We will also be seeking funding for grounds improvement projects that we are currently working on and finalising the details for, so that they may be ready for application over this coming year.

Projects we are currently developing for grant funding is our Quadrangle Community Art Project and a Disability Access Improvement Project for the NCCI grounds and buildings.

The design phase for the Quadrangle project has been completed and we are just completing our costings and planning stage.

We have already identified the grant that we are going to apply for and are working with local artist and designer of our plan Steph Seckold to be ready when the grant opens later this year.

Our Disability Access Improvement Plan is still in the planning stages but we have a fantastic volunteer who is a trained architect who has some great ideas and is preparing some design plans.

We are still looking at possible funding sources, so if anyone has any good advice we would love to hear from you.

We plan to again hold the Sticks and Stones Sculpture Exhibition that premiered

at our 20th Anniversary Celebrations in October last year.

We had fantastic feedback for this event and, even though there were only half a dozen artists who put in work this year, we have had many more enquiries from other artists and hope to grow this exhibition as an annual event.

We have a couple of rental spaces available for new tenants this year. We have some small spaces suitable for an office or studio and a large building that would be a great workshop/business space for the right enterprise.

Please direct any interest to the NCCI office and we would love to show you what we have currently available.

Many thanks for the feedback, support and cooperation of our wonderful tenants over the previous year.

The Community Centre was created to provide a space for the wonderful community services provided by you. We couldn't do what we do without you.

The same goes for our volunteers both on the management committee and in our grounds and maintenance crew.

Along with our staff, they often go 'above and beyond' to make a welcoming space for the whole community.

We hope 2019 proves to be a peaceful and fruitful year for us all.

BARCOO PLUMBING PTY LTD

PLUMBING & GAS FITTING SERVICES



OFFERING PROMPT, RELIABLE AND QUALITY SERVICES TO THE NORTHERN RIVERS REGION AND BEYOND.

- GENERAL PLUMBING & MAINTENANCE • BLOCKED DRAINS • ROOFING & GUTTERING
- SEWERAGE & STORM WATER DRAINAGE REPAIRS • HOT WATER SERVICES
- BATHROOM & KITCHEN RENOVATIONS • RAINWATER TANKS & PUMPS • GAS INSTALLATIONS & REPAIRS

IAN HARDIE 0427 445 555

KEERRONG RD, THE CHANNON

barcooplumbing@bigpond.com / barcooplumbingservices.com

LIC NO. 320695C

Don't panic, it's organic!



Everyone at the Nimbin Organic Food Co-Op looks forward to seeing you in 2019. Have a great New Year!

Check out the extensive range in the shop, opposite the Post Office in Cullen Street.

Transform your life with plants!

by Rob Lonetree

Commuters departing Nimbin on the Lismore road may have recently noticed two new advertising billboards on the bus shelter walls outside the Nimbin hospital.

The previous real estate advertisement has been replaced with a new sign that entreats the reader to 'Transform Your Life with Plants'.

This is a somewhat bold – but not intentionally provocative – sign to be placed, as it is, between a hospital and a police station. The apparent lack of any backlash is perhaps a sign of our changing times, with more liberal minded and informed opinions enjoying wider social acceptance.

A second new sign at the bus shelter reads: "Happy Healthy Herbs Nimbin is now home to Nimbin Herbs".

Nimbin Herbs is the natural evolution of the Happy Healthy Herbs shop in Nimbin, and, though independent from it, constitutes an extension of the existing endeavour.

Its purpose is to promote a more mature, informed and nuanced approach to the understanding of herbs and herbalism, and the complex relationships between humans and plants.

Elen Jones, proprietor of Happy



Lo-Arna Okan, Lynne Oldfield, Elen Jones, Neil Pike and Maria Burke

Healthy Herbs Nimbin and founder of Nimbin Herbs was recently asked about her new endeavour:

"In our media-saturated world people can be overwhelmed by the remarkable recent efflorescence of information about herbalism and medical plants, much of which is uninformed, sensationalised and politically motivated.

"The clear lack of mature, evidence based information and discussion surrounding the use of plant medicines informs my decision to found Nimbin Herbs.

"To this end, I have founded the Nimbin Herbs Learning Centre, which is currently being developed in the Nimbin Community Centre.

"Since September of this year there

has been a hive of activity at this location as my team and I create a world class teaching facility for online and face-to-face learning.

"The myriad therapeutic applications of Cannabis are well known to the Nimbin community, which has long been a pioneer and promotor of Cannabis as medicine.

"However, Nimbin has also long been a centre of herbalism and plant lore in a more general sense. Nimbin Herbs Learning Centre will focus primarily on online training as well as face-to-face workshops and classes.

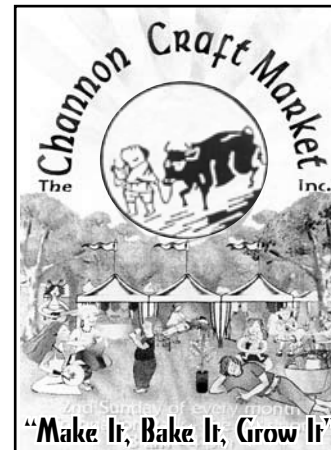
"In this way, it is hoped that the seeds of our Nimbin plant-use culture can be disseminated far and wide. Over the past two decades there has been a significant shift towards people choosing plants and herbs to assist with health and healing. This is set to continue – as is the trend towards on-line education."

In early 2019 Nimbin Herbs will launch an online store: nimbinnerbs.com.au selling a range of teas and other blends.

In the coming years this website will also offer online courses and feature interviews with presenters who will provide informative and entertaining discussions about subjects such as herbal teas and smokes, elixirs and aphrodisiacs, plant medicines, gardening tips, eco-psychology, shamanism, earth wisdom, environmentalism and plant activism. PS. Elen wishes to thank everyone who has been involved in the project thus far, with a special big thanks to Neil Pike for his wonderful billboard designs.



Handcrafted, Retro, Recycled, Fair trade, Locally made, Pop-up Art Gallery, Workshops, Music, Fashion, Food, & Family Fun! 8am - 3pm nimbinmarkets@gmail.com



Next Market
13th January
9am - 3pm

Main stage:

Elena B Williams & String

Charity of the day:

The Dunoon Mens Shed

Enquiries: 6688-6433



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
stay@greygumlodge.com
02 6689 1713 - 0408 663 475

All our links are clickable in the web edition. Visit www.nimbingoodtimes.com and click away!

NIMBIN ENVIRONMENT CENTRE NEWS

by Scott Sledge, President

The end of 2018 leaves a trail of issues pending. The shop at Nimbin continues to operate well with a dedicated staff of volunteers who provide information to visitors and a good place to buy ethical products and gifts.

All profits go towards the important work of protecting our precious planet. We recently have made cash donations to a variety of worthy causes such as the struggle to get trains for the Northern Rivers, Australian Youth Climate Coalition (AYCC), the campaign to Stop Adani, Tweed Water Alliance to help stop the greedy removal of groundwater, and North East Forest Alliance (NEFA - NR) aiming to change forestry and land clearing rules which are destructive to forests and endangered species.

During December, TOOT/ Northern Rivers Railway Action Group (NRRAG) held public rallies in Murwillumbah and Lismore with railroad experts saying local railway tracks are in a pretty good condition (although some bridges need to be re-built) and will cost less than politicians' inflated estimates to re-open the Casino to Murwillumbah line with fast commuter trains which could easily be connected to Queensland Rail to get passengers to and from the Gold Coast airport.

Greens candidates Sue Higginson (Lismore) and Bill Fenelon (Tweed) spoke of their commitment to rail at these events. For a taste of what's possible, people are advised to take the solar electric train between Sunrise and Byron Bay. We could avoid the traffic snarls, parking meters etc. if the trains connect our major towns and tourist venues in the future.

Teenage student Zara Pitman from Byron Bay told the Lismore gathering that young people want public transport and a reduction in fossil fuel pollution, and trains can help with that. Zara was part of a widespread student strike



calling for action on climate change. The young are justly worried about the state of the world for their future. Another school strike is being planned for 13th March.

Water mining update

Four companies are operating in the Tweed, and another extraction site has been approved at Rowlands Creek Road. The recent protest that stopped water tankers illegally transiting through Uki has motivated action, and NSW National Party and ALP have both called for a pause on approvals for more extraction licenses until a study has been completed.

NSW Minister Niall Blair asked the Chief Scientist to investigate and that office sent representatives to visit the Tweed and meet with concerned locals and other stakeholders early in December. Submissions are open and the public can comment via: water.review@chiefscientist.nsw.gov.au The preliminary report is due 1st February 2019.

Some are speculating that with demand for coal falling and prices likely to tank, the Adani company may be more interested in the free water being offered by the Queensland government as a sweetener: 60 years' access to

unlimited groundwater. Water is more precious than coal, and likely to be more profitable too!

The EDO of QLD has lodged a legal challenge on behalf of the Australian Conservation Foundation against the Federal Government in relation to Adani's North Galilee Water Scheme. Wangan and Jagalingu Traditional Owners Corporation have also lodged legal proceedings against the Land Use Agreement they say was falsely contrived by the Adani company. This action is likely to delay the start of Adani's operations in Central Queensland until May.

NEC sponsored a meeting in Nimbin to discuss ways that individuals can influence the outcome of elections pending in NSW (March) and Federal (probably May). It is a really good time to put our concerns to candidates. It is also important to help voters understand that we can get better representation by wise use of preferential voting. Failing to vote helps the bastards to stay in power. Put the Coal-ition last!

The Nimbin Enviro group meets regularly the second Wednesday of every month: all welcome. Next meeting will be on 9th January at 5pm in the Community School Room.




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



Jayne E. Alleman
Adv.Dip.Acc., Dip.Acc., Tax Agent 98777003

12 years experience

BAS electronically lodged with MYOB/Quickbooks (including cloud based versions)

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

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 Bressington

PLASTERIN' NIMBIN'

0427 891626

Gyprock walls and ceilings
New work or renovations

Lic. No. 100169C

NIMBIN DELICIOUS

Jams & Chutneys

In your neighbourhood...
Nimbin Neighbourhood and Information Centre News
Celebrating 40 years of service to the community in 2018

We hope you had a safe and happy festive season, and welcome back for 2019!

NNIC will be fully open for business as normal as from Monday 7th January.

7 Sibley Street

The 7 Sibley Grassroots Workshop series will commence in January, with the first monthly theme being Working with Local Fibres.

To see the workshops programs, check our Project website: www.sevenonsibley.com

There will be on-going gardening and other work to do at 7 Sibley Street. By mid-2019 we hope to have raised garden beds installed and lots more good stuff happening on site.

If you feel inclined to drop in and get involved, the best days are generally Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Many thanks to Nimbin Garden Club for their generous donation of \$500 towards gardens at the site.

Many thanks also to all the many folks who helped out with Stage One of the project. For a full list of contributors, see the above website.

The new Community Tools and Equipment Library will open for borrowing early in 2019, hopefully by February.

Details and info including membership and borrowing protocols and the full list of available equipment will also be posted up soon on the 7 Sibley St website.

Nimbin Community Drug Action Team

New members always welcome. The next CDAT meeting will be held on Thursday 21st February 2019 at NNIC.

Save the Date

7 Sibley St presents:

Grassroots Workshops
JANUARY 2019 Nimbin Fibre Artists

Mondays	Tuesdays
7th January: COTTON – Growing, processing, spinning with takli spindles. With Steph	8th January: Intro to SPINNING – Primitive stick spinning, drop spindles. With Sue
14th January: Intro to Basket making – TWINING local fibres provided. With Nicole	15th January: Intro to EMBROIDERY (2 hrs) – materials & instructions provided. Bring 20cm hoop and small scissors. With Eric
21st January: Basket making – COILING local fibres provided. With Nicole & Kerry	22nd January: Intro to SPINNING – Using a spinning wheel (provided). With Sue
28th January: Processing SILK from cocoon to thread (no worms harmed!) Materials provided or bring yourb saved cocoons. With Kerry	29th January: Meding garments (2 hrs) – Hand repair techniques, hand crank sewing machines. With Eric

Coming up in February: Knife sharpening, making hats, shoes, belts and shopping bags. Weaving with waste, make your own laundry powder, door mats, potting mix, weed mats and laundry powder.

\$10/hr Bookings: text 0475-135-764

Nimbin Women's Dinner & Comedy Gala: 7th March 2019 at Nimbin Town Hall, featuring award-winning musical comedian Sarah Gaul, as seen on ABC-TV's *Tonightly* with Tom Ballard.

Sarah was winner of the Australian National Theatresports Championships in 2016, and recently returned from New York City where she performed to sold-out shows at the Gotham, Broadway and Greenwich Comedy Clubs.

Also featuring the hilarious Mandy Nolan, plus Maire Barron, Vanessa Larry-Mitchell, Biskit and Janie, Katie Cooper-Wares, and more.

Tix available from 1st February at NNIC: \$30/\$25 for dinner and the show.

Nimbin Youth Film Festival

Congratulations to the worthy winners of our NNIC Sustainability Award with 1st prize going to Anya McPherson's 'Meat Revenge' and 2nd prize, sponsored by the Nimbin Environment Centre,

going to Kai Prikulis and Jovian Ubukata: 'Recycling Revolution'.

Congratulations also to all the entrants in the Party Safe Award – with two films sharing the glittering 1st prize of \$500 – being Journey Naday Ford's 'The Good Stuff' and Aisha Bergman-Smith's 'BB's Night Out'.

Well done to everyone who made a film... such talent on display... our future is in good hands!

Your summer mental health

The costs of a 'bikini body'
During the summer months there is an increase in advertisements and hashtags focusing on 'bikini bodies', 'shedding', 'summer bodies', dieting and exercising.

The relentless flow of images of people, their food, their lives and their bodies in the media and magazines can lead to unhelpful comparisons, pressure to achieve a certain body type and may contribute to body dissatisfaction.


Advertisements such as these may encourage

people to 'fix' or 'alter' their appearance, rather than seeking health professional advice, according to the Butterfly Foundation.


If you, or anyone you know is experiencing an eating disorder or body image concerns, contact NNIC for a referral into the NIS service for support, or alternatively you can call the Butterfly Foundation National Helpline on 1800-33-4673 (ED HOPE) or email: support@thebutterflyfoundation.org.au

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, phone 6689-1692 or just drop in between 10am and 4pm weekdays. www.nnic.org.au www.facebook.com/pages/Nimbin-Neighbourhood-and-Information-Centre

Nimbin Hospital information



Child immunisation clinic For 0-5 year olds, held on second Tuesday of the month. Next Clinic: 8th January. Phone 6620-7687 (Lismore Community Health Centre)	Drug and alcohol counselling services available For an appointment please contact 6620-7600. A trained professional will ask you a few confidential questions and will provide you with an appointment time.	Nimbin NSP Needle and Syringe program open Monday to Thursday. Arrangements can be made to see a Community Registered Nurse.
Early childhood nurse Every Tuesday. Baby checks, weighs, post-natal support. For appointments phone 6620-7687.	Nurse practitioner clinics • Diabetes clinics: third Thursday of the month, next is 17th January. • Respiratory clinic: second Tuesday of the month, next is 8th January. Phone 6630-0488 for appointments.	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.
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.	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 Hospital Auxiliary Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at the hospital, at 10am. Next meeting: 6th February. New members are always welcome.



Nimbin Youth Film Festival unearths budding talent

by Darmin Cameron, Organiser

As the 20th Century Fox theme music boomed over the front of house speakers of the newly refurbished Nimbin Bush Theatre and the red curtain parted an expectant hush fell over the audience and the 2018 Nimbin Youth Film Festival began.

Now in its ninth year, the festival attracted a huge audience and the Bush Theatre was full with standing-room only. There were young and old, from babies to grannies all supporting the young filmmakers.

There were fifteen films vying for the two thousand dollars in prizemoney and the chance to win a unique trophy.

This year saw the return of the special Party Safe Award worth \$500 and the Sustainability Award \$300. These two special sections attracted some very confronting films that were highly emotional, entertaining and all with powerful messages.



Alako Myles, 'Taking It Too Far'

These young filmmakers did not pull any punches, there was fantasy, animation, music videos, arthouse, horror and humour. The audience got to clearly see what's on the minds of the young filmmakers. Eleven-year old Aisha Bergman's film *BB's Night Out* was astonishing, the judges said.

"For her age this is an amazing production with a maturity of concept and execution and we all felt this would be very well received by her age group and older children. The message was clear and well presented with a large cast, well edited and the "party safe" message definitely gets through to the intended audience who we feel wouldn't turn off. The lead actor has a lot of screen presence. As with many films made with low budget equipment the sound could have had more attention. All in all a definite prize winner."

Journey, one of the entrants who tied for first in the Party Safe Award said, "It was really cool seeing your film on the big screen with an audience" and he said he now wanted to make more films.

This is what the Nimbin Youth Film



Jovian Ubukata, 'The Good Stuff'

Festival is about: celebrating young people and encouraging them to tell their stories through the medium of film.

The barriers to filmmaking have been removed, a film can now be made on an iPhone and screened in a cinema. The Nimbin Youth Film Festival has been riding this technological wave since its inception in 2010 where it offered a \$100 prize for the best film made on a mobile phone.

It was a difficult job selecting the prize-winners, but fortunately the judges Jeni Kendall and Paul Tait of Gaia Films have a strict judging rubric with 30 points for pure entertainment value, 30 points for the story/narrative and 10 points each for Direction, Editing, Audio which includes soundtrack, and the final 10 points for Camera technique.

From this complex process, the winners emerge. Some of the films were strong in the technical area of filmmaking others in the entertainment and narrative.

A satisfying story brings many of the films over the line, others may be clever, imaginative and technically brilliant but a strong narrative and sheer entertainment value are where the big points lie.



Teko Win-Win, 'Stoned Shitless'

Sometimes only one point separates the winners and the runners-up. Sometimes there is a tie. This is the nature of a competition.

The Mayor of Lismore, Issac Smith handed out the Awards and said, "I just can't believe year after year you come back and see films and you can become inspired by what young people can do."

"To me it is a wonderful medium. I studied



This year's winners

Film and Journalism at Southern Cross University, so I actually know how much time it takes to put something like that together. It takes a lot of effort, a lot of love and it takes a lot of passion and a lot of planning."

The \$300 first prize in the Junior section sponsored by the Nimbin School of Arts went to Jahvis Loveday for his film *A Rest Out of Time*. The judges said: "This is a nicely directed engaging and complex production about a young man who doesn't want to really join in life around him. Then life around him freezes and he feels free and in control. His mindset changes and everything becomes very interesting."

"This is very well done with a fantastic and profound premise, and amazing production values with big scenes, many locations, good acting especially by Jason Howath, well-conceived shots and sequences and real depth in the storyline. We think Jahvis shows great promise and talent as a filmmaker and we would like so much to encourage him to keep going in the future."

First Prize in the senior section \$300 plus a trophy was sponsored by Nimbin Artist Gallery and was won by Teko Win-Win for his film *Stoned Shitless*. The judges said, "This is a really clever and captivating film that has a cruel twist at the end that the audience doesn't really predict before it happens. It is very well-acted by the three people in a car, and the story as it unfolds is really well told, and highly believable. Camerawork, directing and editing are all well done. We really want to encourage Teko to continue with his fine storytelling."

Other winners were Runner-up Senior Section, Joshua Aprile for *Banana Story*;



Oscar Myles, 'Magic Film 200'

Second Prize Junior section Keisha King for *Absolute Magic*; and Third Prize Oscar Myles for the animation *Magic Film 200*.

The move to the Nimbin Bush Theatre elevated the whole Festival to a whole other stratum. Having a silver screen and cinema-sized sound and cinema seating just gave the festival the touch of class it needed.

All young filmmakers in the Northern Rivers should get started on their next film.

Thanks to Lismore City Council and all the sponsors for their on-going support.

This year's Festival was sponsored by Nimbin School of Arts, Nimbin Bush Theatre, Nimbin Neighbourhood and Information Centre, Nimbin Community Drug Action Team, Nimbin Artists Gallery, SAE Quantum Creative Media Institute Byron Bay, Nimbin Environment Centre, Nimbin Building Materials, Nimbin Apothecary, Nimbin Pizza and Trattoria, Nimbin Aquarius Foundation, Armonica Café and Restaurant, The Green Bank, Venuzi Pit Paste, Nimbin Hills Real Estate, Pot of Gold Café, and Gemtech Computer Solutions.

Films are available for viewing at the Nimbin Youth Film Festival YouTube channel

Nimbin businesses randomly targeted by fair work ombudsman

by Diana Roberts, president

The Fair Work Ombudsman is the statutory office holder responsible for ensuring compliance with the Fair Work Act 2009 and other Commonwealth workplace laws.

A number of businesses in Nimbin have recently been randomly selected by the Ombudsman as part of a national campaign to ensure employers have basic employee rights in their workplace.

Apart from randomly visiting businesses throughout Australia, the Fair Work Ombudsman is checking the time and wage records of businesses across a range of industries with a focus given to sectors where large numbers of vulnerable workers (casuals, migrants, students etc.) are employed.

Businesses known by the Chamber to have been targeted in Nimbin include those in the retail, service and hospitality sectors.



The Chamber's Executive thought it would be useful to share with all local businesses the information being sought by the Ombudsman so you can gauge whether your business complies.

For each employee the following is being requested:

- Names, date of birth, date employment started
- Employment status (casual, part-time, full-time)
- The relevant award or employment instrument
- The employee's level within the award
- Employee's position description

• Employee's timesheet and pay slip

If the business has over five employees, only a sample from different classifications is being requested.

Some of the breaches the Ombudsman is looking for include failure to pay correct base hourly, penalty and overtime rates and inadequate or non-existent record-keeping and pay-slips.

The National Employment Standards (NES) are 10 minimum employment entitlements that must be provided to all employees. The national minimum wage and the NES make up the minimum entitlements for employees in Australia.

An award, employment contract, enterprise agreement or other registered agreement can't provide for conditions that are less than the national minimum wage or the NES.

Employee entitlements covered by the NES include maximum weekly hours, requests for flexible

working arrangements, parental leave and related entitlements, annual and other leave, long service leave, public holidays, notice of termination and redundancy pay.

It is imperative that local businesses make themselves aware of their obligations as the potential penalties for contraventions are high. It is also important that local businesses keep abreast to changes to modern awards.

For instance, there have recently been some significant changes as regards casuals covered by the General Retail Industry Award (2010).

Be aware that changes made by the *Fair Work Amendment (Protecting Vulnerable Workers) Act 2017* mean companies involved in serious contraventions now face penalties of up to \$630,000 per contravention.

The maximum penalties for individuals are now \$126,000 per contravention.

The Act also doubled the

maximum penalty for failing to keep employee records or issue pay slips to \$63,000 for a company and \$12,600 for an individual, and tripled the maximum penalty for knowingly making or keeping false or misleading employee records to \$12,600 for an individual.

Membership of your local Chamber of Commerce entitles you to many free services from the Regional Chamber of Commerce. If you are a local business requiring assistance with employment conditions this could be very useful.

To join your local Chamber please visit our website: www.nimbinaustralia.com.au Our fees are very reasonable and the potential benefits considerable.

Assistance is also available from the Fair Work Infoline on 13-13-94 while The Pay and Conditions Tool (PACT) can be accessed at: calculate.fairwork.gov.au and provides advice about pay, shift, leave and redundancy entitlements.