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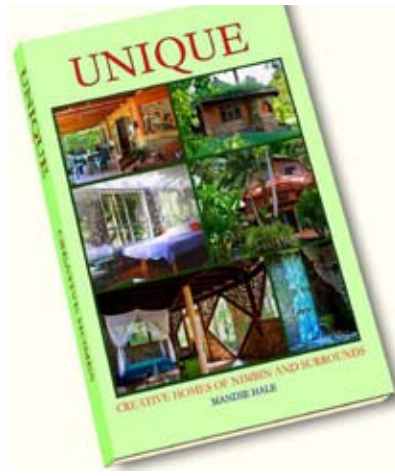
Book features unique local homes

A new book, *Unique*, featuring the creative homes of Nimbin and the surrounding area, will be launched on 12th May at Djanbung Gardens in Cecil Street Nimbin, from 3pm to 5.30pm.

Author Mandie Hale said, "My motivation for creating the book was to offer a positive and less stereotypical view of Nimbin and the culture that has developed in this area following the 1973 Aquarius Festival. This area is an owner-builder heartland and deserves to be more widely celebrated for that."

"I also wanted to raise funds for the Seven Sibley Street Sustainability Hub project, which I've been supporting in a voluntary fund-raising capacity," she said.

Unique opens the door into twenty-two homes. Ranging from earthy to boldly colourful, they have been built using a wide range of materials, including mud brick, sand/sawdust/cement, timber and hemp. Exemplifying



individuality, creativity and sustainability, they offer an alternative to mass-produced housing.

The book introduces the owner-builders as they speak about the challenges and rewards of undertaking a self-build.

Their houses show what is possible

when hard work, persistence and the willingness to learn new skills are paired with a dash of imagination and creativity.

Most of these dwellings were built on a modest budget by people who started out with minimal building experience.

The book provides an overview that places homebuilding and multiple communities within the context of broader social movements and briefly looks at the journey towards acceptance by local and state governments. With over 420 colour photographs, Mandie hopes that the book inspires others.

"It wouldn't have been possible without all the people who have generously shared their homes and stories. Thank you," Mandie said.

A minimum of 50% of profits from the book will be donated to the Sibley Street project from the first print run, and that will increase with any future runs.



Poetry winner

Nimbin's award winning performance poet David Hallett (pictured) has won the 2019 Reciter of the Year award at the National Folk Festival in Canberra held over Easter. Contested over three days at the festival with more than 50 poets in the mix David won the judge's decision with his epic Nimbin poem 'I speak of a village'. In May, David will be hosting the 300th show of Lismore's Live Poets.

Career experts wanted



Nimbin Central School will be holding its Careers Day on Tuesday 28th May, from 9.30am to 12.30pm, and is looking for "Career Experts" from local businesses.

Community Liaison Officer, Anne Bowden said, "Studies have shown that children are interested in what they want to be when they grow up from an early age."

"With this Careers Day, it is hoped to develop their interest in a wide variety of possible careers as they continue their schooling and think about life after school."

Year 5 and 6 school children from local schools will be joining the year 5, 6, 7 and 8 students at Nimbin School. They will be involved in introductory activities, and then be able to ask the "Careers Experts" various questions.

Years 9, 10, 11 and 12 students will visit the market after the younger students.

The school will provide a table and chairs for setting up a small display, and welcomes the distribution of handouts, promotional materials and goodies.

No payment is offered, but the school will provide tea and coffee on arrival and a light lunch at the end of the session.

Please RSVP to Anne Bowden by Tuesday 14th May, phone 0428-446-482 or email: Anne.Bowden9@det.nsw.edu.au

Trace your family history in Casino

The Casino & District Family History Group (CDFHG) is located in Room 5, School of Arts Building, 78 Walker Street, Casino.

It houses a large collection of resource materials to assist in searching for Australian and international family connections.

The volunteer staff are more than happy to answer questions and provide help and direction.

Open hours for the rooms are Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays: 10am - 2pm; Wednesday: 12pm - 4pm; Saturday: 3rd Saturday of the month, 9am-11.30am

Non-members pay a fee to use the facilities. Enquiries regarding membership can be made by either dropping in to the rooms, phoning or emailing for information.

Phone: (02) 6662-8114, email: casdfhg@australis.net Facebook: Casino



& District Family History Group Inc.

Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at 9.30am, followed by either a guest speaker or a

workshop.

Other information and training sessions are held throughout the year. All visitors are welcome.

Cops raid Embassy on MardiGrass eve

Was the raid on the HEMP Embassy political?

Is the HEMP Party running Senate candidates in all states a real threat? This has actually happened before during an election campaign.

Was it to scare people from coming to MardiGrass?

Whatever reason it was for, it did little to dampen the MardiGrass spirits, and though the Embassy was closed for a few hours while they searched the place, we caught up that night in our preparations.

The police were very polite and courteous throughout the raid and they copped a fair bit of abuse when they were leaving also.

Every now and then this happens, and hopefully not again for another decade!



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Call for action on dangerous road

by Tonia Haynes

Supported by a beautiful landscape, Northern NSW is still riding in the slip-stream of those who had the courage to demand a better world and has become an area where many desire to visit, and to live.

And Nimbin, where one could say it all began, is presently creating many new houses so that others also may come here to experience a new way of being. This means more people walking or biking on the roads, and many more cars.

One might say that the cart is trundling out of control, followed by a horse which, although it has always been willing to race off and rear on its hind legs against travesties such as the logging of rain forests, coal seam gas, or the destruction of the Barrier Reef, appears to still be a tad sleepy about the dangers that are now appearing in its own paddock.

Two weeks ago a well-loved local woman, who was doing no more than walking with a friend, was brutally killed in a hit-and-run on Cecil Street.

Cecil Street is the other main street in Nimbin. It supports a child care centre, the Showgrounds where many tourists stay when they visit, the soccer grounds and many residential homes.

It is about two kilometres long, and one hundred metres of that has a footpath on one side only. The rest of it has a grass verge in some areas and none in others.

The street is about nine metres wide and as usual for this area, the surface



There was a huge turnout for Tonia Jansen's life celebration at the Bush Theatre on 12th April.

level with its sink holes, etc. is appalling.

Further to this, just across the paddock a development of houses is being built. From what I have been told, they intend to extend a road from there onto Cecil Street, so there will be more traffic.

As it is right now, Cecil Street is a road that would attract any rev-head to have a good time. It begins straight, descends downhill for three quarters a kilometre, then becomes curvy and ascends up-hill for another three-quarters km.

Driving either way, up or back is a potential adrenalin buzz for the stupid.

The Council in their wisdom, because they knew something needed to be done, put in two traffic pacifiers, which narrowed the road even further.

The woman who died, did so five

metres from the second traffic pacifier.

I'd strongly suggest that if there had been a footpath for this woman to walk upon, speed bumps and decent lighting, she would still be alive today.

So, to those who are keen on protesting for right action, we need to protest for this, right now, because a caring community does its best to keep everyone safe, no matter what age, colour or creed they may be.

And to the woman's beautiful family: it's a hard one for those who wish to live peacefully, but I think you have a strong case for suing for public neglect. You might be assisting a much bigger picture.

The big boys don't like it when they're staring at forking out money for things they don't care about. Makes them get off their arses, real quick.

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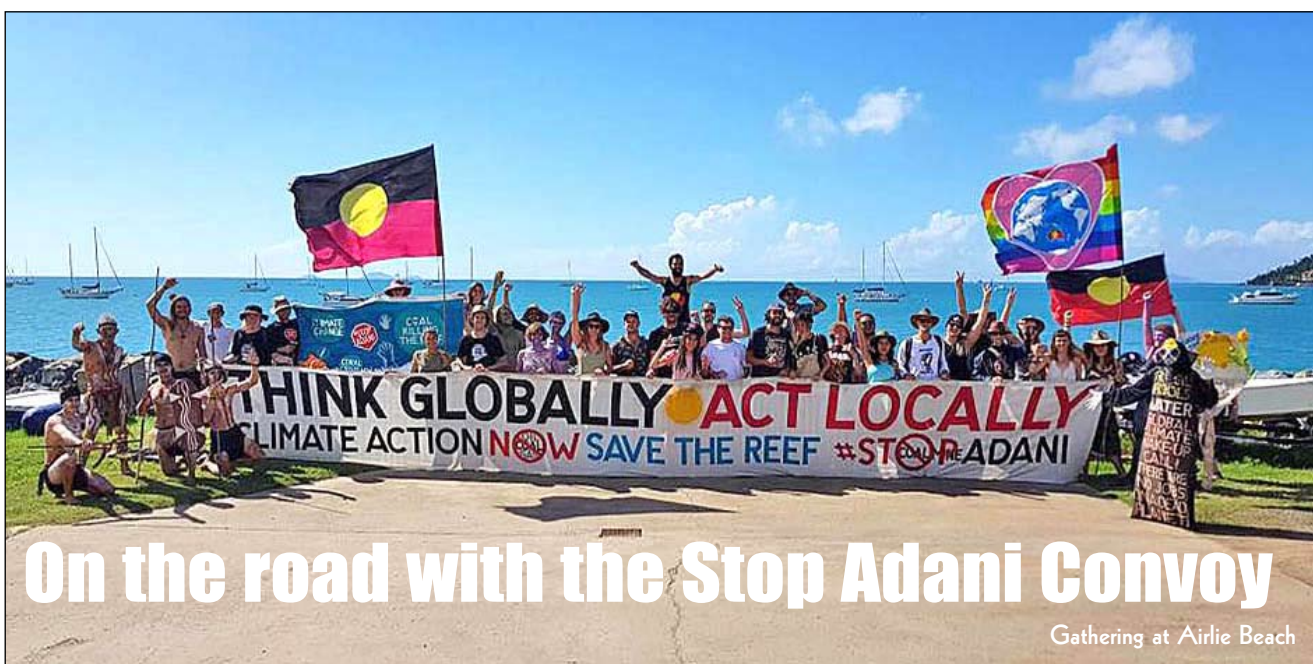
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On the road with the Stop Adani Convoy

Gathering at Airlie Beach

by Benny Zable

I travelled on Blockadia with Mystery Dingo Tours. Our thanks to Muzz of Mystery Dingo, Wildspace, Fossil Farms, Stop Adani Byron Shire, Affordable Wholefoods Lismore, Liz Elliott, IGA Mullumbimby and Santos.

Team members were Muzz, Benny, Sarah, Josh, Ness, Kiara, Tom, Lily, Layla, Pav and Juli.

When the Stop Adani Convoy/Bob Brown finished their presentation in Mullumbimby, our awesome group of 10 got on the road to join the Brisbane rally and march to the Adani headquarters where Bob did his thing. Then we trained out to catch up with Muzz and Blockadia, back on the road to set up camp at the Front Line Action on Coal (FLAC) site just inland from Bowen.

The FLAC camp was busy preparing for the rally concert at the Airlie Beach Whitsunday Sailing Club. We set up two stages in the morning. Bob Brown and convoy rolled in just after 10 am. Bob spoke with the Great Barrier Reef in the background on the shores of Airlie Beach.

Holding a soft toy of Nemo the clown fish in his arms, he spoke on the battered Great Barrier Reef asking people to all vote first for the Greens and Green Independents.

Following his talk, the day ended with a program of music and ceremony lead by traditional owner and Reef defender, Ken Peters Dodd and family.

Following the Airlie beach rally, many convoy participants made the journey to the FLAC camp. The camp crew welcomed 80-100 people with warmth and hospitality. The Camp was well organised and visitors were shortly cooks, artists, musicians, choir, story tellers and story listeners. What a fantastic, creative and energising vibe, a tasty feast, more stories and a movie night fuelling our activist hearts.

For Muzz, arrival into FLAC camp was big and emotional. After a year of not being there, it felt a lot like the camp at Laird, at Cliff Wallace's place. Same systems used; the shed, the kitchen... same beautiful feel with artwork and hand painted signs... a family feel. It was great to go to camp before Clermont as it gave us the grounding sense of family. Seeing all the mine sites reminded Muzz of the anger and rage from Laird State Forest, bringing back all the memories.

Left FLAC camp in a tight convoy for Clermont. We bore witness to horrid scars inflicted on 'our mother' in countless mines and the sheer scale of their effects; even supposed regenerated land which held stumps in place of trees as the toxicity had destroyed the soil for hundreds of years.

In the morning we left for the



Rally at Mullumbimby
Photo: Paul Guthrie



Rally at Mullumbimby
Photo: Sue Stock

Clermont show grounds. As we passed through Clermont, we were faced with green Start Adani signs and go home not welcome here signs, dotting the way towards the show grounds. Abuse was hurled at us from the sidelines as we moved through the township.

Arrival into Karmoo Dreaming – Water protection event at the Showgrounds. People set up camp, community grew, music spread, food was generously prepared, cooked and shared, conversation flowed: the same energy found at FLAC.

The show grounds was chockers with vehicles on the convoy. Earlier on in the day Bob Brown and many of the leading travellers in the convoy were confronted by a hostile drunken mob from the Central Pub where a meeting took place with Resources Minister Matthew Canavan, One Nation leader Pauline Hanson and United Australia Party leader Clive Palmer.

The next morning Adrian Burragubba welcomed us to country with dance and song. The theme of the day was Sacred Water, under threat by the Adani project. We heard first-hand from Adrian Burragubba and Wangan and Jagalingou people of their on-going fight to protect their country, and all our water.

It was a great moment and privilege to experience their culture in the two welcomes – an open embrace inviting us to celebrate our solidarity through the rhythms of song and dance, carried across generations. And then to be

invited to dance and sing alongside the First Nations people in an unexpected process of healing. Bob Brown and Adrian exchanged presents and spoke of each other's commitments to the Stop Adani coal project.

A man racing a horse into the midst of the programme on the stage, yahooped his way at full gallop through the entrance gates into the showgrounds to injure one of the convoy participants, when the horseman was chased out of the grounds. The police arrested the horseman and the woman was taken to hospital for a check-up and observation.

Bob Brown commented how sad he was for the chap who simply enacted the escalated angry energy of the previous day's Start Adani campaign. The day concluded with a smoking ceremony.

We departed back to the FLAC camp to pack up and leave the next day to continue on the road.

On Wednesday 1st May, I was dropped off at the Toowoomba golf club for the program with folk singer David Williamson and Bob Brown yarning together on the stage.

During the convoy, the leader of the British Labour Party Jeremy Corben had managed to pass a motion declaring the UK in a state of Climate Emergency.

This came after the BBC screened Sir David Attenborough's masterpiece *Climate Change – The Facts*, now available on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/0ypaUH57MO4>

Please check it out and share.

Refocusing on elderhood

"There's work to be done, and there's an old wisdom to be learned where there used to be the wisdom of the old."

With an ageing population, you would think the world would be benefitting from the accumulation of wisdom.

Instead, our environmental and sociopolitical systems are floundering,

The populace seeks solace and guidance from self-help gurus and bucket lists. And the ageing languish hidden in institutions, while being praised as sage simply for having survived a given number of years. Our collective unreconciled relationship with what an elder means has left our culture bereft of them.

Come of Age: Author Reading and Reportage at Tunttable Falls Community Hall, on Sunday 12th May at 6pm presents Stephen Jenkinson (pictured), writer, raconteur and activist, interweaving rich personal stories with insightful cultural observations to agitate for a refocusing on elderhood in a broken society.

As Jenkinson's seminal book, *Die Wise: A Manifesto for Sanity and Soul*



confronted the West's relationship with end of life practices, so his new work *Come of Age: A Case for Elderhood in a Time of Trouble* challenges our norms surrounding ageing and wisdom with incisive and lyrical insights.

Making the case for elderhood, not an easy agedness, Jenkinson, with masters degrees in theology from Harvard and

social work from Canada, draws on his years of experience in the medical and palliative care fields to question what has happened to the honour of ancestors and elders – and the responsibilities of society and individuals to meet the call.

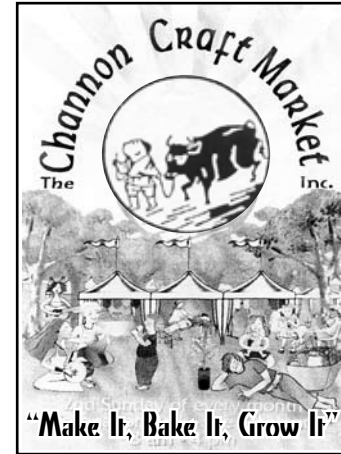
Presenting a radical reconception of what it takes to be an elder and the cultural risks of a failure to do so, his ideas dig into the roots of a social and familial system that is failing to provide the fundamentals for the future both to the disaffected young and the bewildered ageing.

Certain to enchant with his captivating storytelling, Stephen Jenkinson will educate and challenge all to face our cultural carnage and gather the courage and understanding to improve ourselves and what we bequeath to those who will inherit this troubled world.

"Elders are a sentinel species for humanness, and like other forms of life in our corner of the world they've mysteriously gone missing. Young people are, often involuntarily, looking for them, and they can't find them. How about this: old people are looking for them too..."



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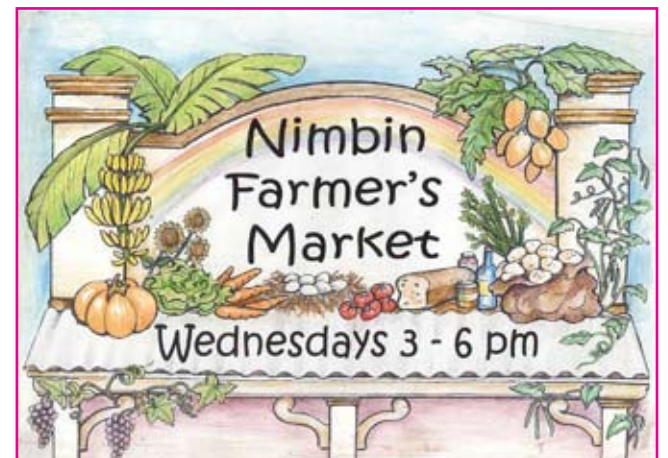
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NIMBIN ENVIRONMENT CENTRE NEWS

by Scott Sledge, president

This was meant to be the Climate Change election, and it may yet turn out to be now that Bill Shorten on 1st May declared it Labor's major election issue.

The environment is rated as the number one issue by more respondents to the ABC's VoteCompass web site polling than any other concern, at 29% – a massive increase from just 9% in 2016.

If you live in the Page electorate the incumbent is Kevin Hogan of the National party which is on fire to burn the planet as a proponent of destructive greed. They are joined at the hip with the Liberals in what is called a Coalition; thus Hogan is certainly not representative of the many people in our region who want a sustainable future. Better options are Fiona Leviny (Ind) Dan Reid (Greens) Alison Waters (Animal Justice) and Patrick Deegan (Labor).

Conservative politicians continue to ignore the pending problems of climate change which threaten us all. So a Labor-controlled government is the better option, and we could keep them honest by voting first for progressive minor parties and Independents.

When you vote #1 for candidates who are not in the two major parties you send a message about what is important to you. The Greens are a good option in the House of Representatives (the small paper). And please remember to vote Labor ahead of the Liberal/ National Party Coalition.

Voting in the Senate has changed, so here's an important heads-up. Voting only one above the line on the Senate ballot is no longer an option, because of changes to our election laws. Before 2016 Australians were often dismayed that preference trading by small parties without much support to combine vote totals could cause unpopular candidates to be elected to the Senate. From the AEC website: "The most significant



Photo: Tony Bachelor

element of the *Commonwealth Electoral Amendment Act 2016* is to implement optional preferential voting both above and below the line on the Senate ballot paper. Voters are now instructed to complete at least **six preferences** above the line or at **least 12** below the line.

The effect of this is that the preferences of voters who vote above the line now only apply to the groups that voters express explicit preferences for, leaving voters in control of how far their preferences flow. Group voting tickets no longer apply.

The Senate usually has many candidates, mainly listed as groups and so the ballot is a large piece of paper. Greens and Independents who have good policies for the environment may be vital for control of the Senate.

I like the Help End Marijuana Prohibition HEMP party (Group B) whose lead candidate is Andrew Katelaris followed by Nimbin's own legendary Michael Balderstone. Consider that hemp has many beneficial uses and could be used to make all sorts of materials currently sourced from fossil fuel – like plastics – and that hemp can replace wood

chips and pulp currently obtained by destroying our forests and eco systems.

Hemp cultivation is quicker and easier than most other sources of medicine, food and fibre and could be a valuable crop for agriculture if only the polities would give it a real go, instead of the half-baked, semi-legal situation now frustrating farmers.

If you want to vote Michael Balderstone #1 you will need to vote below the line. Number at least another **11** (or more) boxes for a valid Senate ballot.

If you want to vote above the line you must number **six** boxes. In addition to HEMP (group B) I suggest you consider The Greens (Group G) The Together Party (Group L) Independents for Climate Action Now (Group Q) Animal Justice Party (Group AC) Sustainable Australia Party (Group AG) Australian Democrats (Group AH) and finally Australian Labor Party (Group J)

How you vote will determine what sort of Federal government we get for the next three years. Remember : extinction is forever. So vote and vote wisely.




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What do you get when you cross a critic with a censor?

by Eclectus

The spawn of this unholy union is the Subeditor (*Rattus illiteratus*).

This simple yet destructive life-form is a problem worldwide, infesting publishing houses everywhere, inflicting immeasurable damage on the creative economy globally.

A recent OECD assessment struggled to quantify the damage, but estimated the cost to the global economy at hundreds of millions, if not billions, of dollars annually.

Telltale blue scratchings on literary work are a sure sign of infestation. This noxious pest slashes mercilessly with its blue proboscis, hacking at works of fine prose, erudition and comedic genius, much as the common rat will shred fine



hand-painted silk to line the narrow confines of its nest.

A few scintillae may glisten wanly from the gloom after the Subeditor has exhausted its wanton, lustful orgy of destruction, but soaring symphonic rhetoric is cast asunder, all trace of subtlety and nuance smashed to smithereens, all delicate filigree of insightful logic butchered beyond comprehension.

All is consigned to the ether in their eternal quest for context.

The destructive power of the Subeditor is clear proof of the Second Law of Thermodynamics. This single species, perhaps more than any other, is hastening the inevitable heat death of the universe.

Physical cosmologists have postulated that subeditors are the source of a significant proportion of the dark energy which makes up 68% of total energy in the present-day observable universe.

Many commentators have lamented the recent budget's complete lack of targeted funding to address the Subeditor problem.

There is money for Fire Ants, money for Yellow Crazy Ants and money for Argentine Ants, but the government has completely ignored the Subeditor crisis.

This is a cosmological catastrophe but the government is sitting on its hands, running scared of Subeditors!

It will require a popular movement to achieve action on this dire issue but don't waste any time writing letters to the editor. They will not make it past the Subs!

Write to your local Member of Parliament demanding action on Subeditors. Shout out on social media. Sign, at least, one of the many petitions in circulation and be sure to attend your community's next Subeditor Eradication Rally.

Finally, vote for The Greens at the upcoming Federal election. They are the only party with the gumption to hold the line on Subeditors with a strong policy position. Your cosmos needs you!



In your neighbourhood...

Nimbin Neighbourhood and Information Centre News

Wanted: Front Desk Assistant volunteers

Must have min Cert II in relevant field (e.g. Welfare, Community development) or be currently undertaking Cert II or higher qualification. Must be reliable and able to do at least one day per week (6 hour shift).

A great way to gain experience in the sector, connect with the Nimbin community and contribute to NNIC and Nimbin.

Please send CV to The Manager, NNIC admin@nnic.org.au (or drop it in). For more info, contact Kath at our front desk.

7 Sibley Street updates

Sibley Street is generally open on Mondays-Wednesdays – feel free to drop in and say hello to Steph. Workshops are continuing – check out the website for the latest details.

Welcome on board to Alan who is taking on the mowing job. We almost have enough for the electricricker. We need about \$1000 more. If you can donate contact us.

Meantime many thanks to Chris Kaleidoscope for setting up 12V solar-powered lights at Sibley St for Mardi Grass.

Be our super hero

Nimbin CDAT (Community Drug Action Team) is looking for more 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' (to fit in costume). 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

Rhys' SuperDog Treats

Now available with hemp seed from the Nimbin Hemp Embassy. Treats also sold at the first weekly Farmers Market of each month, and available at NNIC.

Got bills or 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 fabulous Community Case Co-ordinator.

Tools library

We are almost ready for borrowing to commence. We are just ironing out our new data base for the Library. WATCH THIS SPACE.

Did you know?

NNIC is a registered charity and donations to our general services and activities (excluding Sibley Street) are tax deductible. You can also make tax deductible bequests to NNIC.

To donate and receive a tax deductible receipt, or for information about how to include your local charitable organisation in your Will, please contact Nat at NNIC.

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

Nimbin Hospital information

Child immunisation clinic

For 0-5 year olds, held on second Tuesday of the month. Next Clinic: 14th May. Phone 6620-7687 (Lismore Community Health Centre)

Early childhood nurse

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

Women's health nurse services

Third Thursday of the month, next is 18th April. Confidential service, checks, advice, 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.

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.

Nurse practitioner clinics

• Diabetes clinics: third Thursday of the month, next is 16th May.
• Respiratory clinic: second Tuesday of the month, next will be on 14th May.
Phone 6630-0488 for appointments.

Community Registered Nurses

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

Nimbin NSP

Needle and Syringe program open Monday to Thursday. Arrangements can be made to see a 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 9.30am. Next meeting: 5th June. New members are always welcome.



Chamber Chat



by Diana Roberts, president

Buy Local campaign

We are fortunate in Nimbin that virtually all of our village's businesses are owned and operated by local residents.

Choosing to purchase locally ensures the ongoing viability of independent

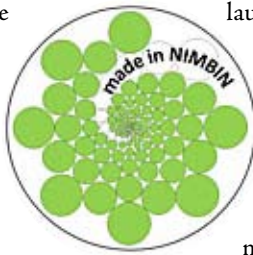
enterprise, supports employment, reduces our carbon footprint (and petrol bills!) and is one of the most effective ways to take back our purchasing power from corporate interests.

Did you know that money spent locally is three times more likely to recirculate within the local community? This encourages economic stability and prosperity at the local level.

In addition, service informed by local knowledge and experience is not only to be valued but is likely to lead to better service outcomes.

And we all appreciate how locally-owned businesses nurture community through their support of local groups and activities. They are deserving of our patronage and buying power.

The Chamber is launching a 'Buy Local' campaign at July's general meeting. Look out for the new 'made in Nimbin' logo on locally made products. Be inspired by 'The Economics of Happiness', a film to be screened by Nimbin Flix in June, and remember that by keeping



our wealth circulating locally we all benefit!

Nimbin Walking Trail

Of major concern at our April meeting was the decision made by Council to ditch the Nimbin walking trail as a budget saving measure.

The Chamber was informed through Council's publication, *Local Matters*. Given the extensive funding spent on the project to date – not to mention hours and hours of community energy – this is a very disappointing decision.

It is also a decision worth challenging as the community is willing to

source construction funds and explore maintenance options.

The right of way that the walking trail follows was established for the purpose of providing a safe pedestrian access from Cullen Street through to Alternative Way and the eastern end of Cecil Street.

Establishing it as a tourist trail provided a possible source of funding for construction.

Given the recent tragic loss of life on Cecil Street ditching the project is even more of a travesty and we, alongside other community groups, will be lobbying hard for its reinstatement.

Council issues

It is our intention to invite Council's General Manager to meet with us to discuss a range of important Nimbin issues including the ditching of the walking trail, future car parking plans, pedestrian access from the car park to Cullen Street and the impacts on the village water supply and sewage treatment plant by developments on the fringe of the village.

The Chamber Executive meets on the 1st Monday of the month and welcomes any issues you would like discussed. Please contact me on 0427-886-748 or by email: dianajanero@gmail.com

Big projects and grants

Community Centre News

by Teresa Biscoe, co-ordinator

This month at the Centre we are busy completing a couple of big infrastructure projects and doing a maintenance audit of both Community Centre sites.

The first big project is the ongoing replacement and upgrading of another section of the covered walkways around the centre. The section being replaced runs in front of the Nimbin Early Childhood Centre in the quadrangle area. This section had deteriorated quite badly and was identified as a priority to replace.

It has already been dismantled and our maintenance coordinator, Sam is busy getting it back up again. Depending on the weather, we are hoping it may be up by MardiGrass. Apologies to anyone inconvenienced by the work, we are working as hard as we can to get it done as quickly as possible.

The other major project being completed is the terracing and installation of a table and seating above the Rainbow seats in front of the Nimbin Aged Care and Respite Service (the Rainbow Building). We obtained some funding last year from the Lismore Workers Club (\$2000) for this project and the NCCI have also matched funds, but due to various other projects were unable to implement that year.

One of our Centre volunteers Paul Sims has taken on the project and the terracing will be completed before MardiGrass. This is creating a substantial flat area which will be great for stall holders who regularly use the area at markets.

Once MardiGrass is over, an outside table with bench seating will be installed to provide seating for the clients from the NACRS service with plenty of space and access for those with mobility issues.

We are currently working



on three grant applications for the Community Centre and Village.

We have been asked by Lismore Council to auspice a LCC community grant to replace the tables and benches in the Blister area which are looking very rundown. We have agreed to do this as it is an important focal space for the community and is in desperate need of some TLC.

We are also looking at making an application to the same fund for the purchase and installation of lighting for the quadrangle. This area will be the main site for the installation of the Sticks and Stones Sculpture Exhibition in September.

The other big project that we are looking at is an audit and upgrade of the disability access around the whole of the Community Centre Site. This fund is called the My Community Project Grant, funded by the NSW government. Once the application is submitted, projects will go up on a

website and local ratepayers will be able to vote for the projects in their area that they support. So once this is in we will be asking locals to get behind this project, we want our Community Centre to be totally accessible to all of our community.

Paul, our esteemed volunteer is also an architect, and he is busy at the moment checking over the whole site, identifying areas that need improvement and creating design proposals to address the identified areas.

Of course we have many more plans out there about ways we can improve our wonderful community space.

We will continue to seek funding for the centre and on behalf of the community for village infrastructure and services. We deserve great community spaces and proper services for the whole village community, so please support us and the other great community organisations who are working to support and improve our village infrastructure and services.

New doctor for Nimbin

Nimbin Medical Centre is pleased to welcome Dr Ash Collins (pictured) into our team and into the Nimbin Community.

Ash has been working as a GP in rural and city settings in Australia for the past 10 years. Most recently Ash spent two years in Mildura, Victoria but made the decision to come to Nimbin to be closer to family in the area.

Ash arrived just before Easter and is taking appointments Monday through Wednesday. He has been quickly absorbed into our team and he supports and encourages our patient centered, team approach to health care.

Within the team, Ash will offer a wide range of care



Photo courtesy Beaudesert Times

services. Ash's special area of interest is skin and he has a clinic every Wednesday morning.

Ash will also join the hospital as a visiting medical officer providing emergency, in-patient and residential aged care services to the community.

Ash will work on a

rotational roster along with Dr Sanjoy Dutta and Dr Venugopal Vemula.

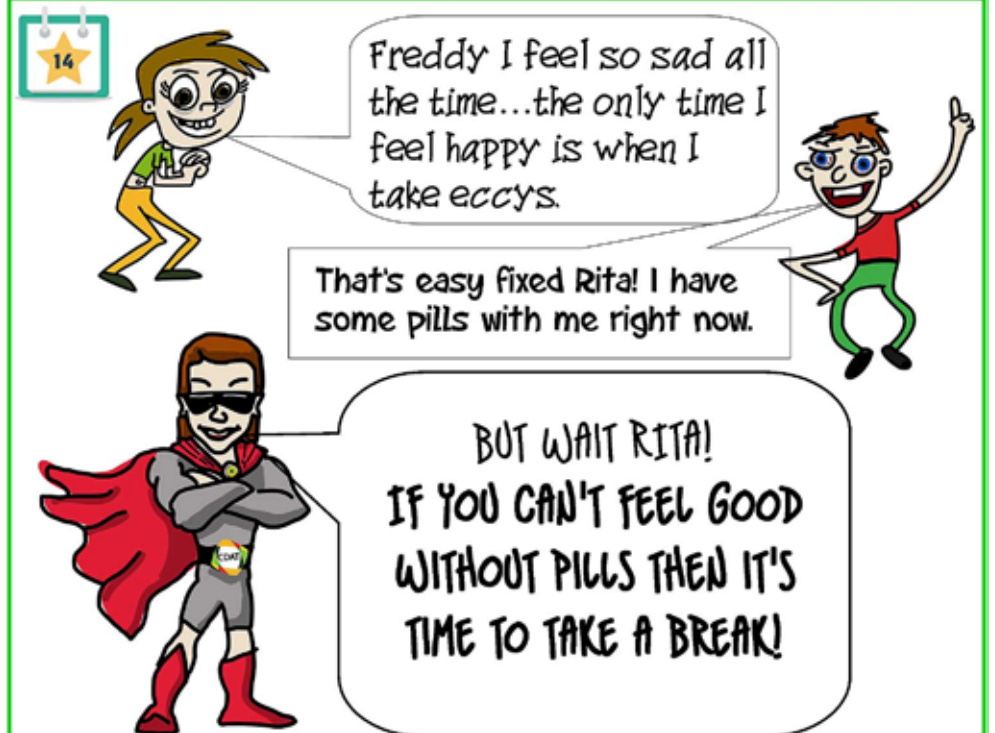
Between the three, the medical centre doctors will provide the Nimbin community with medical care 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Contact the medical centre on 6689-1774 to arrange appointments with our clinical team.

Nimbin Medical Centre staff are also excited to be sharing our space with accredited clinical exercise physiologist William Alexander, who will join us at the end of May.

Will is taking appointments on Mondays at Nimbin Medical Centre, and is Medicare supported under chronic disease management plans.

THE ADVENTURES OF Reckless Rita & Freddy Foolhardy Featuring: Captain Competent



MDMA exhausts the serotonin in your system and slows down and even PREVENTS your body from being able to produce it by itself. We need serotonin in order to feel happiness. Repeated use of MDMA can cause depression and the horrible feeling that you will never be happy again. Your body can recover if you stop using MDMA, or at least take longer breaks in between.

