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Run in conjunction with the Blue Knob Gallery and

Café, the market began as a "one-off" in July but was so popular that it has run on the first Saturday of each month ever since, according to market co-ordinator Gail Wallace.

"Some interesting stallholders and objects have come out of the woodwork

during that time," Gail said. "We've even managed to sell the proverbial kitchen sink."

For the market on 7th December, stallholders will be adding pottery, preserves, crochet, and other gift items. A jewellery repairer will also be present.

The annual Artists' Choice

exhibition in the gallery, plus food and coffee on the veranda, makes the market a great way to catch up with friends.

Stalls are \$10, with proceeds going to the running of the hall, and can be booked through Gail on 0402-347-399.

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Nimbin Hospital Auxiliary thanks community for support

by Nicole Lindner, secretary

The Nimbin United Hospital Auxiliary (UHA) has had an eventful and productive year, with a variety of activities focused on supporting the Nimbin Multi-Purpose Service (MPS) and enhancing community engagement.

From cooking donations and fundraising raffles to the much-loved sausage sizzles, our volunteers have gone above and beyond to make a meaningful impact.

Our most recent event, the Nimbin Building Supplies sausage sizzle on 19th October was a fantastic success, raising funds to support vital initiatives at Nimbin MPS. We're grateful for the hard work of our dedicated volunteers and the support of local patrons who make these events a success.

Additionally, thanks to generous food contributions from community members and local businesses, the aged care residents at Nimbin MPS have been enjoying a variety of new cooking activities.

Donations from local businesses (Hanging Rock Farm, 3 Little Butchers, The Emporium and Mountain Top Coffee) and individuals – including regular contributions of meat, produce, and pantry staples – add a personal touch to the residents' daily experiences, enriching their lives and fostering a sense of community support.



Left: Peter Robinson on the tongs at the Nimbin Building Supplies BBQ. Above: New dining chairs for patients.

One of our latest contributions to enhance residents' comfort is the purchase of twelve new dining chairs, recently delivered to Nimbin MPS. These chairs, upholstered in durable ochre-coloured waterproof fabric and equipped with roller castors, provide easy mobility and added safety for residents, improving their overall dining experience.

The Auxiliary is thrilled to make these additions, knowing they will offer both practicality and a warm, inviting look to the dining space.

Looking ahead to the holiday season, our popular Christmas Raffle has just

kicked off! With three fabulous prizes totalling just over \$1000, we encourage everyone to purchase a ticket and spread some festive cheer.

The raffle will be drawn on 12th December, and funds raised will go directly toward supporting the on-going work of Nimbin UHA, including initiatives to bring comfort and joy to MPS patients.

Thank you to the Nimbin community and our dedicated UHA volunteers for your on-going support. Keep an eye out for raffle tickets and your chance to win while contributing to a worthy cause this holiday season!

Roots fest beset by admin problems



Busker in busker competition setting up outside the pub
Photo: Chibo Mertineit

Despite a formidable range of setbacks, the Nimbin Roots music festival three-day weekend attracted hundreds of people to the village to hear well produced world-class performers.

Among the difficulties besetting organiser Lou Bradley were a mix-up in the advertised camping fee and a sudden change of venue for the clothing-optional performances.

The naked parade may have been a stoned thought bubble. Don't do it in Mullum.

Myrtle State Forest lock-on

by Climate Justice Alliance

Early one Tuesday morning in Myrtle State Forest, forest protector Ashoka Joblin locked on to logging machinery.

She took this action to highlight the urgency and seriousness of the issue and the increase in logging, which is happening in many areas slated for inclusion in the Great Koala National Park.

Other activists with banners came to support this action and bear witness to the state sponsored destruction happening in Myrtle.

For these activists the protection of forests is imperative, and part of their commitment to this community and to the natural world we live in. They also took this action to honour the life of fellow activist Malveena Martyn.

Friend, Daisy Nutty explained the importance of the action to local forest activists, "Our beautiful friend and forest protector Malveena died last Sunday and her life celebration service was yesterday. We are honoured to take action today with our crew of protectors to stop destruction of wildlife habitat as a tribute to Malveena."

According to a spokesperson from Climate Justice Alliance, this latest increase in logging is also in contravention of the supposed rules that govern NSW Forestry practices.

"The NSW Independent Planning Panel are currently making a decision based on submissions into the 'sustainability of NSW Forestry practices. It is clear from the evidence gathered by ecologists and citizen scientists that native forest logging is taking place in forests with significant populations of endangered species including the greater glider."



Ashoka Jordan locked on to machinery at Myrtle SF

Surveys conducted by community citizen scientists, show that Government-contracted loggers have vastly underestimated the density of endangered greater glider populations in NSW forests.

The community conservationists documented more than 10 times the number of critical glider "den trees", and more than three times the number of gliders themselves, compared to those found by Forestry Corporation of NSW (FCNSW) in its mandated pre-logging surveys.

As bush regenerator MJ Johnston explained, "Native forest logging is not sustainable or even economic and if the NSW government claims it is acting to protect koalas and habitat, it definitely doesn't pass the pub test. It is clear that logging is actually ramping up in forests like Bulga."

Ashoka Joblin described the logging happening in Myrtle as, "an assault on our public state native forests. So many of these creatures rely on old growth trees and there are so few of these left. "I have visited most of our local State

Forests and witnessed the very degraded areas where logging has occurred. Climate change is already impacting the planet, it's time for the Minns NSW Government to act responsibly."

"Logging of native forests is accelerating the climate and biodiversity crises and causing worse bushfires. In northern NSW, the government is destroying critical habitat for endangered koalas, frogs and greater gliders. This destruction is paid for with your taxes. It's time to end native forest logging."

Now is the time for everyone to get involved and do what you can to protect what remains of the forests that are so essential to the ecology of this region and start the process of recovery of these critical habitats.

Logging in the name of profit, in a time of climate and ecological emergency is ecocide. Forestry Corps must be stopped.

Contact Climate Justice Alliance or Fridays for Forests at: www.facebook.com/groups/1933307190207489 for ways to help.

Save Bulga forest

by Susie Russell, NEFA

Bulga State Forest is situated 65 km west of Port Macquarie in NSW Australia.

Since 1st October, when logging began in the first of several areas planned for logging in the next year, the local community has been doing its best to slow down the march of the giant destructive machines.

Each week there have been arrests as individuals enter the forest before dawn and attach themselves, mainly using bicycle locks, to the 'harvester'.

It usually takes several hours for the police to organise to have them cut off and they are then arrested, transported an hour or so down bumpy windy roads in the 'dog box' to the police station, held several hours for processing and then released on bail.

Then begins the really hard part. Police have been piling a heap of charges, five to six of them, on each of the forest defenders. No doubt in an effort to intimidate others from doing the same thing.

Our advice is that several of them have no chance of being successful and proceeding with them is a waste of public money.

But hey, it's public money so, like the Forestry Corporation, the police don't



Susie Russell locked on to machinery at Bulga SF

care, it's not coming out of their pockets and they don't have to be accountable for it.

There have been some remarkable stories from people in the last couple of weeks as to why they took direct action. Like Mike Roze, primary school principal for 27 years who said, "All my working life I have tried to be the best role model I could for the young children in my care."

"Taking this action is, I believe, continuing to do that. I believe the law is clearly wrong and trying to prevent greater harm and peaceful civil disobedience is my civic responsibility."

"I have seven grandchildren, I wouldn't be able to look them in the eye when they ask me what I did to try and stop the cascade of ecological collapse happening

in our forests, if I didn't at least step outside of my comfort zone to send this urgent message to the premier:

"We grandparents are feeling desperate about the future. We need to give our kids hope that there will still be koalas and greater gliders in the forests they can show their kids."

"For more than 30 years I've taken young students on camping and hiking experiences in the forests of the north coast. In their pristine old growth state they create a sense of awe and timelessness, it's like going back to the age of the dinosaurs."

"During the 2019-20 fires I, along with another fire brigade member, set a back burn across the road (up Blue Knob) from this remnant glider habitat which helped to protect it from destruction. Absolutely heartbreaking to witness its destruction now."

"My father worked in the head office of the Forestry Commission in the 50's and 60's. My earliest memories were spending my school holidays with him on his work trips in the magnificent forests of NSW when they were properly managed."

"But I've watched the ongoing degradation of these same forests by logging and then bushfire and now more logging. It is pure insanity to think that what is happening is in any way sustainable," Mr Roze said.

Legendary forest defender John Seed said he believed that like Terania Creek, where he first was arrested almost 45 years ago, that Bulga forest will one day form part of a National Park and a World Heritage Area.

If you want to support the good folk of Bulga, making this strong stand for forests everywhere. You can donate to their crowdfunder: <https://chuffed.org/project/115308-save-bulga-forest>

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Women unite to reclaim the night

by Alice White, NORWACS

On Thursday 24th September, Northern Rivers Women and Children's Services, along with a collective of services including Women Up North, Interrelate, Zonta, Acon, Lismore City Council and Northern NSW Health District, together with Mandy Nolan and Deb Woodbridge, hosted a Reclaim The Night march in Lismore.

For the first time since 2017, the community took to the streets to march for women's rights and women's safety. The march was a beautiful and powerful ceremonial event and was very well attended and supported by community members.

It commenced with a rally at the Lismore Quadrangle, with a welcome to country by Jenny Smith, the Nini Nahri-Gali Aboriginal women's dance group, followed by speeches from Mandy Nolan, Paula Coghill, Jules Allen and speech and performance by Aine Tyrrell.

The group marched down Keen Street, Magellan Street, Molesworth and Woodlark, ending back at the quad. Indigenous elders, women, and children marched at the front, followed by domestic violence survivors and their children, female identifying allies, and men at the back.

We wanted to acknowledge the catastrophic rates of domestic and family violence this year and were marching for the 68 women and 14 children who have been killed due to male violence.

We remembered all those victims who we failed as a society. We marched to call for an end to the burden for women's safety to be put on us. This is a societal issue, a men's issue, and we were so grateful for our male allies who showed up.

Outreach program

The WORTH program is an outreach program who work with women across the Northern Rivers experiencing all



Photo: Chibo Mertineit



Photo: Tash Fuller

types of violence. We supported 279 women's last year, and the majority of them have experienced violence in their life.

WORTH supports women to go to police stations, when they're at a crucial point trying to access an AVO, and we find that the police are not responding, women are still being turned away,

Police are not coming to call-outs when women call for help, or they will come eight hours later. We were marching for women to be heard in police stations, for police to respond to domestic violence calls, and for women to be believed when they say they are not safe.

This march was about standing up to violence, and calling for safety on the street, safe communities and for more support from the police. It was a chance to come together and show how strong we are as a community and that we will

never give up until we feel safe in our homes, in our relationships and on the streets.

Women started Reclaim The Night marches in England in 1977, a time when a lot of women were getting murdered and there was very poor police response. We still often feel like police are policing women's behaviour rather than holding men accountable, and the onus falls on women. Unfortunately, little has changed in terms of our freedoms to walk the street at night or feel safe from violence since 1977.

The march was impactful and powerful. The collective felt very proud to have brought the event back to the Lismore community, and we hope to see the event continue.

For more information, go to: www.norwacs.org.au or visit: www.facebook.com/NORWACS

Benny prepares to say farewell

by Benny Zable

On Sunday 20th November, the most recent *Aquarius* movie was launched to a full house at the Nimbin Bush Theatre.

Pivotal initiator of '73 Nimbin Aquarius festival, Graeme Dunstan came up from Yass for this special occasion, to decorate and be part of a forum following the movie.

The movie was a ground-breaker, with newly found archives, especially with the giving of an historic "Welcome to Country", believed to be a first since the invasion.

The movie focused mainly on protesting aspects of Aquarius during and following the festival. There will be two more showings in Nimbin. Check with the Nimbin Bush Theatre for ticketing details.

Sunday 10th November could be my last Channon Market helping out at the Rainbow Chai Tent. The Rainbow Chai Tent more than ever needs new enthusiastic blood to help with setting up at the Channon Market.

Following Armistice Day commemorations, (11-11-11) at the Nimbin war memorial, there will be a circle around the IMAGINE circle. This probably could also be my last time doing a circle there.

I had painted a duplicate of the Nimbin IMAGINE at the recently opened Creative People's Collective



Photo: Chibo Mertineit

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

(CPC), resurrected partially after the flooding of the 333 studio spaces on Keen Street, Lismore. If anyone would like to replicate IMAGINE for their project/s, either contact me or Janelle Buckley, the creator of CPC@333.

The IMAGINE in Allsopp Park in the centre of Nimbin is in need of repair. *I advised a ring of bollards which I suggested Aboriginal community artists be employed to do.

Since the 'End of an Era' exhibition, some of my stuff has been relocated. Anyone interested in checking my stuff, you can always contact me through a phone call, email or on Facebook messaging.

I will be attending the People's Blockade at Newcastle's Horseshoe Bay towards the end of November, before venturing on to Melbourne to look for a new home.

Speaking of mushrooms...

On Saturday 7th December the Nimbin Hemp Embassy will sponsor a Psilocybin Symposium to be held at Nimbin Town Hall from 10am to about 5pm.

In Australia and around the world there is a groundswell of interest in psychedelic mushrooms. Why is this so?

Extensive research shows the beneficial effects of mushrooms for relief of a huge range of conditions.

Whether macrodose or microdose, people celebrate feelings of connection and enhanced well-being, ease from depression, anxiety, PTSD, pain, insomnia, fear of dying and migraines, the list goes on.

Mycologist, Paul Stamets, in his 2023 lecture said, "this is the message of psilocybin, Psilocybin teaches you that we are all one, we are all one people and we need to share this information together in order to protect this precious planet."

James Fadiman's research records, "When people are microdosing, their positive emotions go up and their negative emotions go down," (*Microdosing psychedelics*, com).

The Nimbin Psilocybin Symposium hosts special guest speakers and also



invites the sharing of experiences by those who wish to – we learn from each other.

With 20 years of experience as a medical doctor and certifications in Psychedelic Assisted Therapies, Psychosomatic Medicine, Neuro-Linguistics and Nutritional Environment Medicine, Dr Mario Alam integrates Western medical expertise with insights from spiritual leaders, shamans, and medical pioneers worldwide.

World Doctor, founded by Dr Alam, provides transformative health services focused on psychedelic medicine preparation, trauma healing and holistic well-being.

Liam James is a mycologist and ethnobotanist who is

passionate about the wider use of mushrooms and what they do for our microbiology and our health. He writes that "fungi are an important part of soil biodiversity, and this diverse group of organisms can help tackle global challenges, including climate change and hunger."

The program

- ♦ 10-10.30am: Welcome and introduction by MC's Louise Graves (registered nurse and long-time enthusiast of psilocybin for healing.) and Miss Guidance from Entheogenesis Australis
- ♦ 10.30-11am: Lawyer Steve Bolt will importantly speak on the legal status of psilocybin.
- ♦ 11-11.45am: Liam James
- ♦ 11.45am-12.30pm: Q&A

- and testimonials.
- ♦ 12.30-1.30pm: Lunch. Gillian Jay offers free bio-filled tuning.
- ♦ 1.30-3.30pm: Dr Mario Alam, who will share insights from his two decades of medical practice, exploring the transformative potential of psychedelics.
- ♦ 3.30-4pm: Q&A sharing from participants, experiences and stories.
- ♦ 4-5pm: Dr Mario Alam – a workshop presenting RESET, a ground-breaking method that simulates psychedelic states through advanced somatic practices to deliver a profound substance-free healing experience.

RESET employs aspects of the Ground/Transform/Expand methods to integrate physical, mental and spiritual dimensions, facilitating deep personal growth and transformation.

Conversations about psychedelics are happening and need to continue. Please join us for this unique event, we welcome and encourage a sharing of experiences and a stimulating Q&A.

Admission by donation. Healthy tucker, snacks and drinks will be available. For more info, phone Louise Graves on 0428-830-985.

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Entheogenic storytelling

by Michael Balderstone

The mushroom talks have been the most popular of all at the last few MardiGrass weekends, and so a Psilocybin Symposium in Nimbin Hall is planned for 7th December. People are invited to share their own entheogenic experiences as well.

My first mushroom trip was truly mind-blowing. I think it helped that I had no idea what I was doing! I had a ticket home after three years away, with a stopover in Bali.

At a farewell party in London I told someone that and they said, "You should try the mushrooms there, they changed my life." That's all I remember he said, but I knew I would after that.

Cows were grazing under the coconut palms along the beachfront at Kuta and there were only a few surfers staying there in the mid-seventies. They told me about a couple of young girls making shroom omelettes under a makeshift shelter, and I headed there early one morning.

The girls giggled and asked if I wanted a big one or a small one. The innocent country boy in me went for the big one and they mixed in a couple of handfuls of freshly picked blue meanies. I wolfed it down and naively expected to feel something.

The only drugs I knew at that time were alcohol, hash and cocaine we bought from the big black African cleaner at the HardRock cafe in London where I'd been working.

They all had a pretty instant effect, so for some unthinking reason I thought the omelette would also. After a while I felt nothing so went for a swim.



I was a fair way out swimming along when suddenly "I became the ocean". No other way I can explain it. I looked back at the land and saw Paradise.

The girlfriend I was with met me as a suited stockbroker several years before. She was understandably pretty upset at the changes in me, dropping out and becoming a long-haired hippy who loved hash. I'd promised her no more drugs and tried to hide what was happening to me but there was no chance.

It became a huge life-changing day. At one point I was standing out in torrential rain and couldn't stop laughing. My poor girlfriend was terrified. Balinese women understood and gently led her away.

We flew back to Australia the next day and it was like I'd been tipped upside down and everything shaken out. I had no idea who I was anymore, or what to do, but I did realise there was no turning back and I was off on a new journey to try and work out answers to those questions.

I soon discovered we had plenty of our own magic mushrooms in Oz, and so I arrived in the Northern Rivers. I ate a lot more over the following years trying to understand the non-understandable, but the same truths kept showing.

Seven years in boarding school with church and chapel every week had

taught me the story of Jesus well, but that one day in Bali showed me what it was all about. I was actually in the state of mind or state of being that Jesus was talking about.

It all made sense that day, like jigsaw puzzle pieces falling into place. All his mystical words made total sense. So this was love with a capital L. And we don't need to worry about death, or money! It all called for a major rethink on life and what it's about.

The other story I'd like to tell on 7th December is how Buddha got enlightened, as shown to me by a monk in Colombo. As history records, he'd been fasting for a month sitting under the Bodhi tree, which is a fig tree. Birds were feasting on the fermented figs the tree was dropping all around him, getting drunk and carrying on. Buddha ate some figs and got enlightened. Simple, and made total sense to me.

The old monk I'd befriended read me the story from an ancient Sanskrit book with drawings n all. I'd been telling him about mushrooms and he led me down into the bowels of the Temple to bring out the sacred hand-written book from a locked cupboard.

How's the sense of humour in the Creation? Find God in a brightly coloured mushroom. There's a very interesting book in the HEMP Embassy called the 'Psychedelic Gospels' arguing that Jesus was on mushrooms.

It would have been quite normal back then for holy men to smoke hash and eat psychedelics. The drug wars lies and propaganda have created a lot of confusion to say the least.

Come tell your story at the Psilocybin Symposium in the Nimbin Hall on 7th December, or just listen to others.

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Nimbin Community Care Team

A gathering will be held on Saturday 9th November at the Nimbin Showgrounds.

This is a chance to get together and re-connect with the project, talk about roles and opportunities in-between disasters, provide info to new members, ask and answer questions and hear from Paul Dodd about managing trauma.

All CCT members and anyone interested in joining up are warmly invited to attend. Refreshments provided.

Let's talk about Dying, Death and Beyond

Series of Info Sessions continues on Saturday 9th November, 10.30am-12.30pm, with Emma Beatty from Before & After Life – holistic approaches to grief. Come along and learn practical tools for being in and with grief. Venue: Church of Aquarius. For more info see the NNIC website: <https://nnic.org.au> (Death and Beyond tab).

Xmas Gifts Appeal

NNIC is beginning our annual gift-gathering for children aged 12 years and under, for Santa to give out at the annual Big Community Xmas Lunch. Donations of NEW items (NOT gift-wrapped please) or cash gratefully received.

New to Nimbin?

Drop by NNIC and pick up a Welcome to Nimbin Kit. Filled with almost everything you need to know to find your way and connect with the community. \$5.50 (to cover printing costs).

Loneliness

Thanks to everyone who participated in the online chat or the survey. We gained some valuable insights and are considering how we can do more to assist. In the meantime, volunteering is

Position vacant: casual relief community worker

We are looking for a suitably qualified and experienced person to become our Casual Relief Community Worker. This is a casual position, to provide relief for our permanent staff when on leave. SCHCADS Level 3.

Applicants MUST address the selection criteria in the Job Kit, available from Nimbin Neighbourhood and Info Centre at 71 Cullen Street, Nimbin, (02) 6689 1692 from 10am to 4pm Monday to Friday, or on our website:

<https://nnic.org.au>

Applications close: Friday 29th November 2024.

NNIC is an EEO employer and Child Safe workplace. First Nations applicants are encouraged to apply. Successful applicants will be required to undergo Working with Children and relevant Police checks.

a great way to form new connections and there are so many opportunities to choose from – not only at NNIC but many other community groups in Nimbin. Drop into NNIC to find out more.

Sustainable Nimbin Community Plan (SNCP)

The new edition of the SNCP is available to view or download it on-line at: www.nnic.org.au or hard copies are available for viewing at NNIC.

Some of the actions under the Plan are already well underway and some strategies have even been achieved.

You can get involved in the Food Security activities – join the Nimbin Food Security Facebook page to find out more; or the newly formed Nimbin Arts Collective – again, join the Facebook group for more info.

Passionate about Water? The Water Collective group has also commenced – for more info contact: sibley@nnic.org.au

Not on Facebook? Contact the above email address to get onto our SNCP email list for updates.

Many thanks to the Northern Rivers Community Foundation for the funding support.

Cost of living getting on top of you?

You may be eligible for some electricity bill relief via the EAPA vouchers scheme.

Make an appointment with our Community Worker, Elke to find out more (call 6689-1692 or drop in during our opening hours 10am-4pm weekdays).

Nimbin Neighbourhood Food Pantry

The pantry is open every Wednesday from 1pm in the Neighbourhood Centre carpark. Cheap and free grocery items are available to anyone in need. Volunteers welcome! For more info or to ask about joining our wonderful Food Pantry team,

contact Nicole on: ccn@nnic.org.au

Struggling with alcohol or other drugs?

AOD support workers are available at NNIC through a partnership with The Buttery. For people who use alcohol and other drugs in Nimbin and surrounds, and/or their families, friends and carers. No referral needed.

Drop in or phone NNIC and speak with Nicole on our front desk for an appointment. Or phone (02) 6687-1111, email: intake@buttery.org.au

Preparing your Bushfire/Emergency Plan?

Getting ready for a bushfire is easier than you think. By taking 20 minutes with your family to discuss what you'll do during a fire, you could save their lives, as well as your home.

You can find easy How To guides and templates to use to prepare your own plans on NSW Rural Fire Service website: www.myfireplan.com.au

Nimbin Aged Care and Respite Services

We assist frail aged people, NDIS participants and carers to stay living at home and connect socially.



All NACRS support workers are qualified, certified, experienced, police checked, Covid-safe trained, insured and locally based.

SOCIAL CENTRE with veranda – Monday-Friday 10am-2pm. Drop in for a cuppa, support services, info and computers.

DEVICE ADVICE – Wednesdays 9.30am-1pm. Seniors can book for assistance with phone, tablet or laptop issues.

SENIORS SOCIAL GROUPS – booking and fees apply

- Nimbin Tuesday morning tea, 10.30am-1pm. Tea/coffee, conversation, music and snacks, weekly \$5
- The Outsiders Group 1st and 3rd Thursday, 11am-2pm at various rural cafes, self-funded plus donation to NACRS
- Wise Ones at Koonorigan Hall/Dunoon 4th Monday, 11.30am-1.30pm, bring a plate to share
- Bus outings – 2nd and 4th Tuesday. Scenic drives, cafes for morning tea & lunch (you pay), bookings essential, fees apply.

Phone 6689-1709 or visit NACRS at Bottlebrush Studio, the rainbow building at Nimbin Community Centre.

www.nacrs.com.au

Nimbin Hospital information



Child immunisation

By appointment, please phone 6630-0400.

Early childhood nurse

Every Tuesday. Baby checks, weighs, post-natal support. For appointments, phone 6630-0400.

Women's health nurse services

Third Thursday of the month, next is 21st November. Phone 6688-1400 for an appointment.

Wound clinic

Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8am. For self-referral, phone 6688-1433. 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 clinic

Diabetes clinics: Third Thursday of the month, next is 21st November.

Community Registered Nurse

Monday to Friday, 8am-4.30pm. Assessments, wound care, referrals, advocacy, provision of palliative care in the home, medication support. Phone 6688-1433 – leave a 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.

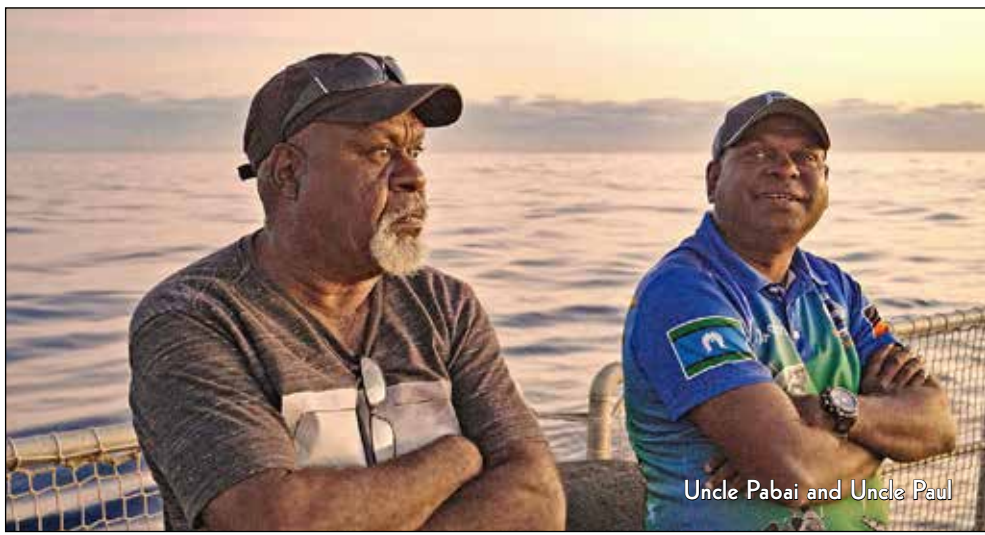
Health advice line

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 the month, 9.30am in the conference room of the Nimbin MPS. New members always welcome.





Uncle Pabai and Uncle Paul

Unnatural disasters tour

Traditional owners from Zenadth Kes (Torres Strait Islands) are bringing their fight against climate change to Bundjalung country, as part of a landmark tour connecting communities on the frontlines of Australia's climate crisis.

Wadhuam (maternal uncles) Pabai Pabai and Paul Kabai, who are leading a groundbreaking legal case against the Australian Government over climate inaction and negligence, will visit the Northern Rivers region from Tuesday 25th to Friday 29th November.

The tour aims to unite communities facing diverse climate impacts – from rising seas to devastating floods, fires, and landslips. The Government has an obligation to protect communities from climate harm caused by pollution or we're all at severe risk of more frequent and extreme unnatural disasters.

"Our islands are our mothers, our identities, who we are," says Pabai Pabai, Traditional Owner from Boigu Island. "There are 65,000 years of wealth and experience here. Losing Boigu will mean losing that. So we are fighting."

The Torres Strait Islands are experiencing sea level rise at twice the global average (Boigu, the lowest island, will be engulfed by the ocean by 2050), with communities already facing regular flooding of homes, gardens, and sacred sites.

Similarly, Northern Rivers communities

have faced unprecedented unnatural disasters intensified by climate change, and the Torres Strait plaintiffs hope to connect stories of disasters, hope and power. They will be visiting various locations across the Northern Rivers region, from Wardell to Lismore to the Tweed.

Local residents are invited to share their own climate impact stories as part of the growing network of Climate Witnesses supporting the Australian Climate Case. Stories can be shared on-line at: <https://takeaction.australianclimatecase.org.au>

The Australian Climate Case builds on international precedent set by the successful Urgenda Foundation case in the Netherlands, which resulted in court-ordered emissions reductions and strengthened climate policies.

If successful, this case has the potential to force the Federal Government to rapidly reduce emissions. This could supercharge the transition to a clean economy and could stop new fossil fuel projects; improving climate outcomes for all Australians.

Community members can also show their support for the Uncles and Torres Strait Islander communities by signing the Mura Kalmel Sipa Pledge: <https://australianclimatecase.org.au/the-unnatural-disasters-tour-nr>

A verdict ruling on the case in the Federal Court is expected in early 2025.

Have you got a face for radio?

by Bob Tissot

Now that the new studio is fully operational, Nim-FM is looking for some fresh voices to add to our already eclectic program to spice it up.

As Nim-FM rockets into the future, we are calling upon aspiring presenters to join us in bringing diverse, dynamic, and engaging content to the universe with programming that reflects the rich tapestry of our unique community.

Nim-FM has been a cornerstone of local culture since its inception, offering a platform for dialogue, music and news that resonates with the heartbeat of Bundjalung country.

As a presenter, you will have the unique opportunity to shape the narratives that you believe matter most to our community.

Whether you're passionate about music, an aficionado of local flora and fauna, an advocate for social change, or a storyteller at heart, there is a place for your voice at Nim-FM. We believe that everyone has a story to tell and insights worth sharing. Your voice on Nim-FM could be the spark that ignites a new conversation or brings joy to someone's day.



No previous radio experience is required – just passion, creativity, and a willingness to learn. Nim-FM will provide training and support for new presenters to hone their skills in broadcasting and content creation.

By becoming a part of the Nim-FM team, you'll not only develop new skills and meet like-minded individuals but also contribute to enriching the cultural fabric of our community.

If you'd like to add to the conversation or simply

provide a soundtrack for it, you can pick up an application form from our office or our website: www.nimfm.org

Wowzers! Cultural fabric of the community! Rich tapestry!

Bloody hell, AI does go on a bit. All I wanted it to say was that we're looking for new presenters and it's probably you.

If you have an idea for your own show, call us on (02) 6689 0279, send an email to: nimbinradiomedia@gmail.com or just drop in. We're in the Community Centre.

Renowned pasture ecologist visits the Northern Rivers

SoilCare, in partnership with Southern Cross University, EAL, SQNNSW Innovation Hub, and Richmond Landcare, is pleased to announce up-coming workshops featuring Dr Judi Earl on 19th November at Southern Cross University in Lismore.

Judi's experience in land planning and holistic management guides attendees toward unleashing the full potential of their land and grazing enterprise, emphasising the importance of nurturing healthy soils for thriving ecosystems and climate resilience.



Dr Judi Earl

Workshop 1

'Grazing for soil health and resilient pastures', 9am to 12.30pm. Topics:

- The importance of plants for soil health
- How defoliation effects plant roots
- Grazing management for optimal pasture growth and production

\$15+GST including delicious morning tea.

Workshop 2

'Creating your best property plan', 1.30pm to 5pm. Topics:

- Key principles for property planning
- Steps for creating your best property plan
- Practical tips for cost effective fencing and water options

\$15+GST including afternoon tea.

To secure a spot at the Lismore workshops, bookings must be made on-line at: www.humanitix.com.au by 15th November.

Visit the SoilCare website at: www.soilcare.org and download the workshop flyer.

Judi will also present workshops for Brunswick Valley Landcare (Mullumbimby) on 18th November, Tweed Shire Council (Uki) on 21st November and Upper Clarence Combined Landcare on 22nd November.

Where Are Our Koalas?

Repentance Creek Hall
 Friday 6th December
 9.30am-3pm

The Channon Hall
 Saturday 7th December
 9.30am - 3pm

Richmond Landcare Inc. Australian Government

Koala monitoring workshops

Richmond Landcare is excited to announce two upcoming koala monitoring workshops.

These free, community-driven events aim to equip local residents with the skills and knowledge to help protect and monitor our precious koala populations.

Participants can choose from two workshops: Friday, 6th December at Repentance Creek Hall; or Saturday, 7th December at The Channon Hall.

Both workshops run from 9.30am to 3pm, with the morning dedicated to learning about koala

conservation from experts Amanda Lane (Biolink) and Maria Matthes (Healing History). Topics include:

- Why koala monitoring is crucial for their survival;
- How to identify koala food trees and key habitat features;
- Techniques for surveying koalas and assessing their health; and
- How to record and report data for koala conservation efforts.

In the afternoon, participants will put their new skills into practice during a hands-on field session, learning how to survey for koalas in the local

environment.

Participants will also receive a comprehensive booklet and resources to support their role as community koala monitors.

Both workshops are free and fully catered, but spaces are limited, so registration is essential to secure your place. For more information and to register, please visit:

Repentance Creek event: <https://events.humanitix.com/where-are-our-koalas-repentance-creek>

The Channon event: <https://events.humanitix.com/where-are-our-koalas-the-channon>

NIMBIN'S SUSTAINABLE LIVING HUB
7 Sibley Street

November What's On!
 For bookings, email: sibley@nnic.org.au
 or text 0475-135-764

Workshops: 10.30am – 1.30pm

- **Sat 9th: Weeds are our helpers!** – Using weeds to improve the health of the land \$15
- **Sat 16th: nimBIN CHICKENS** – Learn more and join our plastic recycling project.
- **Tues 19th: Knitting group** – BYO project, learn and share, by donation.
- **Wed 20th: Nimbin Water Security Collective** – 2-3pm. Meet up with other

passionate locals to plan our strategies for future local water security.

- **Sat 30th Nov - Sun 1st Dec: Weave and Mend Gathering** – Nimbin showgrounds. Camping available, \$25 per night.
- **Community Tools Library:** Every Wed and Sat, 10.30am – 2pm. For home repairs, garden tools, food and craft equipment. Join at NNIC Mon-Fri. Basketballs & pump available, \$5 deposit.
- **Mon-Fri: Recovery Support Services.**

Gaza grief

In response to a letter to the editor from Randy Neilson (NGT Sept 2024), it is correct to say that the 7th October 2023 attack by Hamas into Israel didn't happen in a vacuum.

There is a long and often morbid history in this part of the world that needs to be understood before attacking the side that has fewer casualties. Everyone is a casualty in this war, including the poor Palestinian civilians, the Israelis who sleep under bombs exploding in the sky, and the rest of us, who watch with concern about a third world war.

The local Arabs moved into the area about 600 years ago. The persecuted European and North African Jewish people looked at this land as a sanctuary from the late 1800's, under the logic that it used to be their homeland.

When the British inherited it from the Ottomans after the First World War, they put quotas on immigrants to appease the locals. This didn't work after the Second World War, with the survivors of the Jewish Holocaust urgently seeking somewhere safe.

At first the two parties lived in relative harmony. Then the Islamic fundamentalists took over, and have pushed for all immigrants to leave, and to return to the way things were.

Every time a solution is on the horizon they refuse to compromise, and there have been many great minds looking at this problem. From their perspective, losing their land is the core of their problems. From the Israeli perspective it's safety and peace, so let's come to some agreement.

However, in Gaza, the Hamas party is in control. They won the election on mandates that include the annihilation of Israel, and have violent retribution to any criticism. They are backed by Russia and fundamentalist Shia Islamic states such as Iran and Qatar, and use interpretations of the Koran to justify suicide

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 Nimbin GoodTimes.

attacks on 'non-believers'.

After the October 7 attacks they paraded a dead, gang raped, Israeli hostage girl tied to a car through the streets of Gaza to a cheering crowd. They will often use a hospital or school for military operations, and then publicise the numbers of women and children killed in retaliation.

This is not to say the Israeli army is innocent of misconduct. Both sides are both innocent and guilty.

The sad thing for Australia is the Greens political party reacting to the trend of choosing sides, rather than seeing things for what they are. Like the Chinese treatment of Tibetans and Uyghurs, the Indonesian occupation of West Papua, and the 37 million refugees currently homeless, these inequalities are based on a complicated, and long history of suffering.

For the Greens, this particular conflict has unfortunately diverted them from focussing on the environment, and set them up to protest with an Australian recognised terrorist organisation, for what may well be an impassable solution.

Hopefully there will be compromises on both sides of this dreadful conflict, although that seems unlikely.

For more on the subject, read the excellent book by Stewart Ross, *The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict*, published in 2024.

Michelle Ruby
Barkers Vale

Lismore exodus

I understand Lismore Council has had a hard time



post the 2022 flood, and I also understand businesses in the CBD, especially those reliant on customer numbers, are having a really hard time.

From my observation and experience, few of those with shopfronts in the CBD are there after 3pm. I know the Council is organising and publicising events to draw people to the CBD.

However, Ballina LGA's population now exceeds Lismore's, and businesses are relocating there. Ballina Council wants to become a regional city and its arguments for many years have been for Lismore to abandon its passenger flights (now achieved) and for the rescue helicopter to be relocated there. It worked hard to get Rous Council to relocate there.

From my perspective Lismore Council needs to do more to make our beautiful city attractive to those who don't live here. As one small example, it is sad to see the state of the median strips and road verges along both

highways. They look as those no-one cares about the main roads into our CBD and are not at all welcoming.

On the other hand, when driving into Ballina, excluding the vegetation that has escaped from the MI (which I think is the State Government's responsibility) it's a very different story.

I know Ballina itself didn't receive the same damage that Lismore and Ballina's villages received, but in my opinion Lismore Council can no longer cry poor, particularly given the Council's frequent references to its improved financial position.

The section of Council with responsibility for medians and road verges simply does not receive sufficient funds to carry out what is their prime responsibility.

To me, it reflects the Council's priorities and does nothing to make our city attractive to tourists. You never get a second chance to make a first impression.

Ros Irwin
Caniaba

Notices

Annual General Meetings

- Nimbin Chamber of Commerce AGM on 19th November, 5.30pm. Location to be announced.
- Nimbin Hemp Embassy AGM: Saturday 23rd November, 11am in the backyard garden, Nimbin Hemp Embassy, 51 Cullen Street, Nimbin. Nominations for an elected position on the executive committee must be received by the president at least one week before the meeting.
- MardiGrass Organising Body AGM: Saturday 23rd November, 12pm in the backyard garden, Nimbin Hemp Embassy, 51 Cullen Street, Nimbin. Nominations for an elected position on the executive committee must be received by the president at least one week before the meeting.

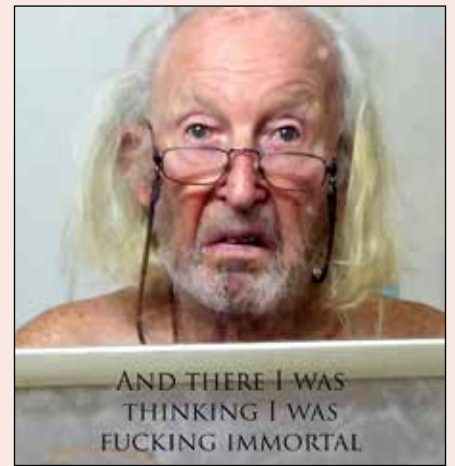
Free notices

Keep it short and of interest to our readers, get it to us by deadline, and we'll run it here for free.

Remembering and celebrating

Len Martin

19/12/1933 – 31/5/2024



Join us on Sunday 24th November at Blue Knob Cafe & Gallery from 2.30pm to 5pm, sharing our memories and love of this remarkable human.

Family and friends are invited to afternoon tea/coffee and nibbles from 2.30pm, followed by a eulogy and sharing memories and stories from 3.30pm.

– Jenny Martin

About us

Managing editor Bob Dooley
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Sub-editor Kitty van Vuuren
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Photographers Sue Stock, Chibo
Proofreaders Lynne, Cath, Sue, Kitty, Karen, Paul, Katarina
Distributors Coralie, Chibo, Sue, Peter, Gordon, Bob, PAC, Rob & Lisa, Linda, Jock, Rosie, Trevor

The Nimbin GoodTimes acknowledges the Bundjalung people, the traditional owners of the land and waters on which we work and live, and pay our respects to the Elders both past and present.

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

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

NEXT DEADLINE:
Friday 22nd November

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

NIMBIN

PSILOCYBIN

SYMPOSIUM

SATURDAY DECEMBER 7TH

10AM – 5PM NIMBIN TOWN HALL

The Queensland elections and the youth crime crisis

by John Jiggins

The results of the 2024 Queensland election left both Labor and the LNP with reasons to feel pleased.

Labor has governed Queensland for 22 of the past 25 years so the "It's Time" factor was operating powerfully in favour of the LNP.

Between 1998 and 2012, Labor won five elections in a row, and then were annihilated in the Campbell Newman landslide of 2012 when they were reduced to seven seats while the LNP won 78 seats.

Labor, who were going for their fourth win in a row in 2024, were fearing a similar devastation, which did not eventuate, with the party holding an unexpected thirty-plus seats.

The minor parties, apart from The Greens, had pleasing results. The Katter Party won three seats and may pick up another. Both One Nation and Legalise Cannabis performed at a level that gives them a chance of contending with the Katter Party for the sixth Senate seat in the 2025 Federal election.

The Greens look likely to lose their two seats, South Brisbane and Maiwar. They had hoped to hold these two, and pick up several more, and they will be disappointed. They won South Brisbane previously because the LNP strategically preferred the Greens to remove the Labor member Jackie Trad, who was Queensland's deputy premier and was a potential future premier.

But in 2024 with Trad gone, the LNP preferred Labor. The Greens hold three seats in the Federal parliament and will struggle to hold all three in 2025.

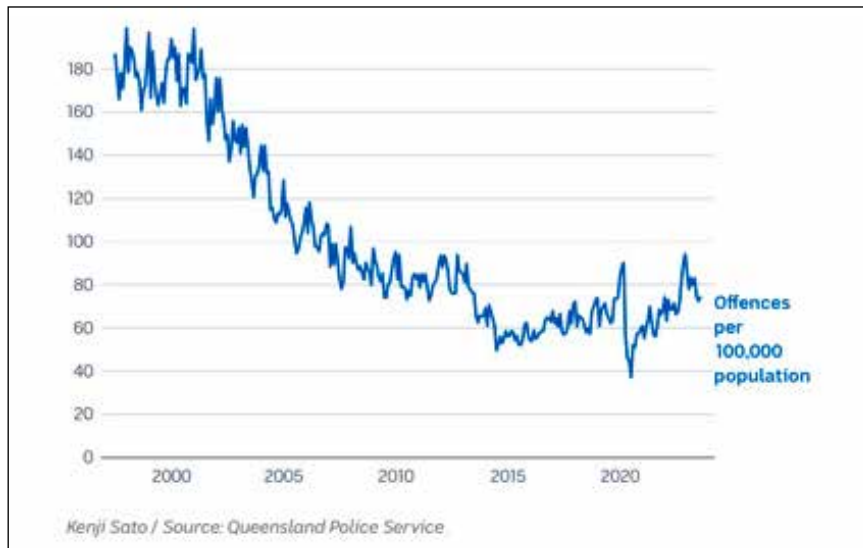
Repeating the successful strategy adopted by the CLP in the recent Northern Territory election, youth crime was the defining issue in the Queensland election with the LNP relentlessly campaigning on the four-word slogan, 'Adult Crime, Adult Time'.

Queenslanders weren't safe in their homes because of the youth crime crisis, the LNP said, though Queensland Police Service statistics contradict this claim.

In the 25-year period between 1998 and 2023 when Labor was in power for all but three years, police figures show offences trended downwards from a range of 160-200 offences per 100,000 population between 1998 and 2002 to a range of 50-90 offences per 100,000 population between 2015 and 2023.

Foundation Professor in Criminology at Griffith University, Ross Homel, says the percentage of crimes in Queensland committed by young people under the age of 18 has declined to 15 per cent in the last 10 years compared with a previous level of 20 per cent.

"The basic facts about youth crime in Australia, including Queensland, is that the number of young people getting into



trouble with police has been going down every year," he said.

But statistics are boring and do not propel media narratives. In the Murdoch tabloids, traumatic tales prevail. Besides David Crisafulli, the face of the LNP campaign was Russell Field, an LNP candidate whose son and pregnant fiancé were run down and killed by a drunken young car hijacker.

He campaigned as a victim of crime for 'Adult Crime, Adult Time' as a legacy for his son, and won the bayside seat of Capalaba for the LNP with a 10% swing.

Another statistic: The 2019 Queensland Productivity Commission report into Imprisonment and Recidivism found that First Nations people made up 4.6% of Queensland's population but they made up 31.3% of Queensland's prison population. They were one third of the prison population and their rate of imprisonment was seven times higher than average.

Shocking as this statistic is, Queensland has only the third highest rate for First Nations imprisonment in Australia. In West Australia, First Nation's people make up 43 per cent of the prison population. In the Northern Territory they make up 84 per cent of prisoners. But will the party that opposed the Voice referendum address this problem?

Professor Homel says that putting youth into detention and keeping them in detention for longer and longer will not reduce their chances of reoffending and won't make the community safer. He calls this a 'Big Lie' popularised by politicians.

In a recent article he co-wrote in the on-line magazine *The Conversation*, called 'We tried a different preschool curriculum to prevent youth crime. Checking in 20 years later, it worked', he details an early community-based crime prevention program he was involved in in a disadvantaged community in Brisbane in the early years of this century.

Working with people in the local



The Katter Party did well at the election, winning three seats and a possible fourth.

community, with elders, academics, teachers in schools and preschools, and with parents, they discussed the needs of children in the area and how to keep them out of trouble off the streets, and away from the youth justice system.

One of the priorities that emerged was the need to boost the children's oral language development, their expressive and receptive language skills.

They introduced an enriched component to the standard preschool curriculum for four-year olds in two of the seven preschools in the area and worked with specialists in this area of children's communication skills and those specialists worked with the classroom teachers and the parents.

Teachers reported a marked improvement in classroom behaviour and an improvement in their language skills. By the end of the first year of primary school, the children had improved academic achievement and improved behaviour that lasted throughout the whole of primary school.

The long-term impacts of this work was a 56% reduction in the number of children going to Youth Justice court for serious offences. If children received both family support and the enriched educational program, then the number getting into serious trouble was absolutely zero.

But early intervention in disadvantaged communities is rarely championed for the "youth crime crisis".

An Award-Winning Documentary

WINNER
Awards
Festival

WINNER
Awards
Awards

"What we would see if we were really serious about understanding consciousness." — Jeffrey J. Kripal, PhD
Scholar of Comparative Religion

"A film beautiful in its simplicity yet brilliantly profound." — Ray Lynch
3 Time All-world award winning musician/producer/producer

CONSCIOUS LIGHT

THE DIVINE LIFE AND REVELATION OF AVATAR ADI DA SAMRAJ

Thursday, 5th December, 7-9pm, Tickets \$10.
Star Court Theatre, 126 Molesworth Street, Lismore
Book on-line via StarCourtTheatre.com.au or at the box office

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