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School of Arts annual Spring Arts Exhibition

The Nimbin School of Arts annual Spring Arts Exhibition is now open, in conjunction with the Nimbin Artists Gallery, presenting a display of artworks by more than 100 Nimbin valley artists. The exhibition will be open daily from 10am to 4pm until Sunday 13th October.

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Pre-eminent performance poetry

by Gail M Clarke, organiser

The 21st Nimbin Performance Poetry World Cup was a great success with poets from Tasmania, Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland coming to Nimbin to share their poetry.

Audience numbers were up with good attendance all weekend, with positive feedback about the quality of the event and the friendliness of Nimbin.

Poets came from a multitude of backgrounds and were aged from 19 to 90 years of age. They represented poetry styles from bush, comedy, hip hop and romantic, to traditional and contemporary poetry.

As usual there was a lot of subjects written about, with personal experiences, world events, friendship,



Photos: Gwilym Summers



love, children, social issues, sensuality and the mating ritual of jumbo jets; being some of the things poets orated about.

Presentation ranged from carefully read narratives to high energy performances,

reflecting the different levels and forms of poetic skill that the event caters for.

The eventual winner was Mekhala Maeve Kopsidas (pictured, right) from Murwillumbah, with Nimbin legends Possum

and Tango being presented with the People's Choice Award.

Thank you to Nimbin for supporting the event, and all the people who helped out over the weekend. Looking forward to next year's Cup.

Walking trail progressing

by Nathan Dee

The Nimbin Rainbow Road Walking Track is coming along beautifully, despite recent rain which has caused a slight delay.

The wet weather means we're expecting a setback of about a week to allow the area to dry out before work continues.

On a positive note, the installation of the bridges is well underway, with galvanised steel girders and balustrades already in place.

Over the next two weeks, we anticipate completing the northern bridges, with flooring, timber rails and post in-lays all set to be installed shortly.

We're also excited that the concreting of the path and stairs at the southern entry is nearly complete, with just a small 20-metre section left.

Once this is finished, the contractor will move on to complete the third and fourth bridges.



Bridge under construction

Several key landscaping decisions have been made, including the addition of a charming low rural-style fence for the northern entries; a large recycled timber pergola; and new wayfinding signage to guide visitors along the walk.

In terms of environmental progress, our bush regeneration team has removed most of the weeds in the northern area, clearing the way for upcoming planting.

A dedicated Landcare group has also been established for the site, which held a successful information day in September, with insightful talks from John Blatch, Hannah Rice-Hayes, and Wil Polson, followed by a peaceful and informative walk along the trail.

To find out more, go to their Facebook group: Friends of Aquarius Park or sign up for the mailing list by emailing: landcare@nimbincommunity.org.au

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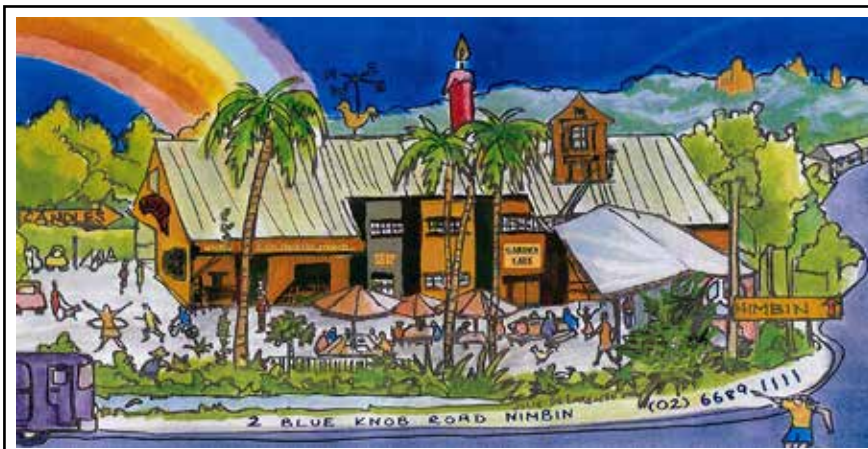
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Show a spectacular success

by Michelle Agioritis,
Secretary, Nimbin A&I
Society

The weather was glorious and the mood upbeat as we celebrated the 104th Nimbin Annual Country Show.

With increased numbers of cattle and poultry exhibitors, the Nimbin Show is moving from strength to strength after three years 'off' due to Covid-19 and severe flood damage in the region.

Highlights this year included the ever-popular dog high jump, the Wildlife Twins with their entertaining and informative live shows and display, classic car display, and of course the Grand Parade.

Not many shows host a Grand Parade these days, especially the smaller shows, but we were very proud and pleased that the cattle exhibitors in particular were willing to participate in this age-old tradition. We take this opportunity to thank them once again.

We were honoured to welcome Lyn Larsen AM to open our show this year. Lyn was very generous with her time, and shared with us some of her own family history, including that the Showgrounds were purchased by the A&I Society from her great grandfather.

A special mention to our supreme champions: Cameron Bennet (cattle), Tim Coates (poultry) and Janice Rose (needlework) whose exhibits were judged outstanding in their respective classes.

Our judges for horses, pavilion, cattle and poultry also deserve a special mention, as their job is not



Lyn Larsen AM opening the Show



Winner of the bare-back rider 12 years and over, Anne Bosgrove (centre).

easy to select champions from such high-quality exhibits.

And of course, what would a show be without an announcer to keep us all on time, and there is none better or more famous in the region than Peter Crawford. A lovely man and a true friend of the Nimbin

Show, we look forward to welcoming him next year.

For the first year we accepted pavilion entries both Thursday afternoon and Friday morning and we are pleased to confirm we will continue that practice in coming years.

The pavilion looked beautiful, with an increase

in preserves and baking exhibits. Did you take a walk through the pavilion and think "Oh, I could have entered my..."? If you did then we hope to see your entries next year.

You may even be successful enough to win a prize like Freya Barber for her collection of cut flowers, or Jenny Maxwell for her champion carrot cake. I spoke with Freya myself and know how happy she was with the "sick prize" she won.

First Lismore Scouts attended for the first time this year, displaying skills including damper making over the two days. Static displays from Brad Soward – stationery engines – and Greg Rose – historic axes, building and farming gear – were very popular, with both Brad and Greg on hand to explain uses and practices and answer questions.

The classic car show we intend will be a regular feature of Sunday's program. This year we had a wide variety of cars attend, including Bentley R-type, Sunbeam Talbot, Triumph Spitfire, Mini Cooper, Morris Minor, Ford GT, Torana, Valiant, Fairlane and E-type Jaguar.

You don't need to be a club member to show-n-shine your car with us, simply arrive on the day. Keep an eye out for next year's program for details.

The Committee especially thanks its members, the regular 'Tuesday' grounds maintenance crew, and all volunteers who contributed their valuable time and expertise both before, during and after the Show that has made the event such a success.

More Show pics – p.20

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Popzone at the North Coast National

This year's Elders North Coast National Lismore Show that will be held on 17th, 18th and 19th October, and returns with all the usual favourites, as well as what are sure to become new favourites, like Pop Zone.

"The Show has been at the heart of our community since 1885 and is where memories are made," said North Coast National A&I Society president John Gibson.

"I invite everyone to come along this year to catch up with old friends and make new ones. Every year, the show evolves and this year I am happy to announce we will be hosting Pop Zone, including cosplay, for the first time. It is where fantasy and imagination rule," he said.

The show will host prestigious National and State Woodchop titles, attracting the best contestants from across the country and state.

As well as the return of regular popular competitions, exhibitions, and attractions including the Ashton Circus and Monster Trucks.

"The very popular FMX bikes will



Left to right: Woodchop chief steward James Livingstone, Lismore Mayor Steve Krieg, Show president John Gibson, Elders' Matt Duley and two cosplay competitors.

return, along with a petting zoo, a Lego competition for schools, reptiles, jet packs, fireworks and a community stage with a range of local acts," John Gibson said.

There will also be a Chill and Charge

zone, a quiet zone for people to relax and recharge themselves and their phones.

For more information about the Lismore Show, go to: <https://northcoastnational.com.au>

Feathergum Creative Exhibition
October 26th & 27th 10am-4pm
30 Thorburn street Nimbin

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Community resilience efforts recognised

Healthy North Coast's Community Wellbeing and Resilience program has been recognised for its efforts in building community health and wellbeing resilience in the face of increasing climate disasters, winning the Resilient Australia Mental Health and Wellbeing Award for NSW.

Healthy North Coast's entry, titled 'Climate Ready North Coast: Elevating the community service sector', showcases the work being done as part of the Community Wellbeing and Resilience program, which resources community-led, place-based initiatives that support better health and wellbeing through disaster recovery, and build community's ability to face future challenges.

Since 2022, Healthy North Coast's Community Wellbeing and Resilience program has supported 23 local community organisations to a total value of \$5.3 million, through funding provided by the NSW and Australian Governments, to support the needs in our communities across the North Coast.

Most recently, the 2024 funding round trialled an innovative 'Participatory Grant Making' approach, which includes communities in the decisions that impact them, and prioritises trust-building over traditional competitive grant-making approaches.

Monika Wheeler, CEO of Healthy North Coast, celebrated the award win and acknowledged the great work being undertaken across the North Coast: "Northern NSW is one of the highest disaster-declared regions in the country



L-R: Kate Van Saane (Healthy North Coast), Jihad Dib (NSW Minister for Emergency Services), Monika Wheeler (CEO Healthy North Coast), Dr Jean Renouf (founder and CEO, Plan C), and Joanna Quilty (NSW Reconstruction Authority).

for frequency and severity across all three measures of fire, flood and storm.

"Together with South-East Queensland, our North Coast region has been labelled a disaster 'hotspot', and for this reason, a connected, engaged and vibrant community who support each other in times of need is so important.

"It's been wonderful to have this important work recognised at a state level. Congratulations to the terrific local community organisations doing great work for their communities on the North Coast through this program.

"Congratulations also to the other North Coast organisations who received an award."

Dr Jean Renouf, founder and CEO of Plan C, also present at the awards ceremony, said: "I am so pleased to know

that Healthy North Coast's work in support of community resilience has been recognised with this significant award.

"Plan C has received funding under the Community Resilience and Wellbeing program in the past, and we have seen first-hand its impact and relevance. It's an intelligent program of high quality, that brings a number of community organisations together to further our collective impact. The award is really well-deserved. Congratulations!"

Healthy North Coast, along with the other NSW award winners, will go on to become finalists in the National Resilient Australia Awards, managed by the Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience (AIDR), which will be announced in November at Old Parliament House in Canberra.

Not-for-profit association seeks new members

Are you looking for an opportunity to use your skills to contribute to your community? Could you spare some time and expertise to help run Nimbin Health and Welfare?

We welcome new members from all walks of life, and encourage both young and old to join us in shaping the future of our community.

Nimbin Health and Welfare is a not-for-profit incorporated association with a long history of developing and facilitating

projects to enhance community and individual well-being.

Examples are: Nimbin Bushwalkers, Nimbin Physical Activities Centre at the Showground, Nepal Earthquake Relief, Nimbin NAIDOC, Nimbin Needs Doctors, Nimbin Interagency Forum, and the 2024 Nimbin Mental Wealth Expo.

Our committee provides guidance and governance for Nimbin Age Care & Respite Services, our local



home and community support service, employing nearly 30 local people and providing routine individual and social support to over 140 local people.

As the governing body for Nimbin Aged Care and Respite Services, we have an increased need for business and financial expertise.

The AGM for Nimbin Health & Welfare Association Inc will be held on 29th October, 3.30pm at Nimbin

Age Care & Respite Services 81 Cullen Street Nimbin, Bottle Brush building (Rainbow Building).

Our small but powerful committee meets once a month in town, usually on the 2nd Tuesday afternoon at 3pm.

If you are interested in joining the Nimbin Health and Welfare Association or have any questions or require further information, please email: nhwa1@outlook.com or call 02 6689-1709 and leave a message for Kirsty.

Arnold Zable's *The Glass Horse of Venice*

by Benny Zable

My brother Arnold Zable is an acclaimed storyteller activist writer.

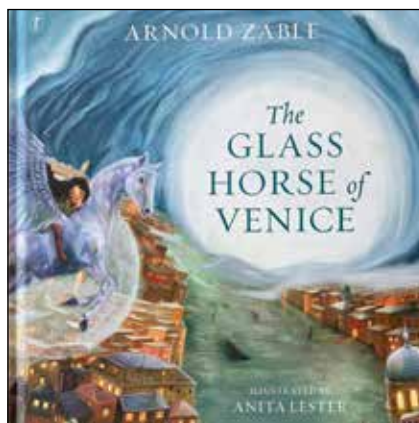
He has visited Venice many times. On one of his visits, he met a woman who held among her possessions a leg of a glass horse.

His latest creation, *The Glass Horse of Venice*, is his first children's book. Inspired by a story from the woman he met in Venice, bringing alive the broken glass horse leg she received from a Venetian glassblower.

It is most beautifully written and is aptly illustrated by Anita Lester. The book is for children to read, and be read to, and brings into play the flying horse constellation of Pegasus.

You can now purchase the book at the Book Warehouse in Lismore, and Perceptio in Nimbin.

The link below is an excellent interview about the story behind the book given by Arnold on ABC radio: www.abc.net.au/listen/programs/the-friday-revue/arnold-zables-childrens-book/104321612



Land Forces Expo

Last month I travelled to Melbourne to support the protests at the Land Forces arms expo at the Melbourne Convention Centre. Many familiar faces from our region, including Graeme Dunstan living in his new Peacebus, who was handing out his latest range of beautiful banners to bring awareness of why we are protesting.

The protest was extensively covered by the media. Lots of young people were leading non-violent actions, designed to disrupt the arms expo so as not to come back to Melbourne in two years' time.

A lot of the protest focused mainly on the rage against the brutal Israeli military operations that are happening in Gaza, now escalating to other parts of the Middle East. With the coming USA and the Australian federal elections looming, people need to be aware their vote is important and counts. It is possible we will end up with Donald Trump in the USA and Peter Dutton if we waste our vote on them.

End of an era

By the time this article in the *Nimbin GoodTimes* is out, the End of an Era exhibition will be over. I would like to thank the Nimbin Showground committee for allowing me to exhibit there. Anyone who would like to check out and relocate any of my stuff, you can always give me a call, email or message me on Facebook.

In November, I will be doing probably my last circle around the IMAGINE mandala in Allsopp Park that follows the 11-11-11 Armistice Day commemorations at the Nimbin war memorial. More than ever in these uncertain times, "May Peace Prevail on Earth".

Nimbin blend scores top coffee gong

Denise and Owen Whitney (pictured), owners of Mountain Top Coffee, travelled to Sydney with manager and roaster Bernard Rooney on Saturday 21st September to receive a champion trophy for the Nimbin Blend line of roasted coffee at the Sydney Royal Fine Foods Festival.

This is the second champion trophy they have received, the earlier being the Microlot in 2021.

"We are especially pleased to see that the Nimbin Blend got up, as it's not only the newest Mountain Top Coffee Estate lot, but also a growing favourite among locals and fans further afield," Denise said.

"It gained 91.3 points in the plunger category. Scores in the 90s are hard to come by. The professional judging of coffee is a rigorous and sometimes unforgiving process. We are happy to say that this result is a validation of the consistently good quality of our product."

Mountain Top Coffee first grabbed world attention back in 2005 when Tim Wendleboe won the World Barista Championship using their sweet and smooth bean in a signature 'Tiramasiu' espresso creation.

World attention was again received when the *Standart* quarterly magazine March 2024 edition featured Mountain Top Coffee Estate in a 31-page article on Australian grown coffee.

Denise explained the reasons for the quality of the product: "Coffee matures slowly at this low latitude and is likened to coffee grown at higher altitudes nearer the equator where harvest is annual. Coffee under these conditions tends to have simpler acids develop,



such as fructose, whilst the more complex 'harder' acids such as caffeine – or those that produce spicy effects – are a bit less present.

"North Queensland coffee growers can get two harvests per year for this reason, whilst we get just one harvest in Spring. In a sense then we get double the flavour owing to this effect. This is aided by the nature of the Kenyan Arabica variety which is grown exclusively at Mountain Top Coffee Estate and which is renowned for its

fruity, chocolate notes."

The farm was first established in 1998 and the Whitney's purchased it in 2020. The land neighbours their own family farm and belonged originally to Owen's great uncle.

Currently, Owen, Aaron Gilmour and farm manager Peter Webb are preparing to plant 2500 trees of new semi dwarf varieties as a trial.

Congratulations to the Mountain Top Coffee team for putting Nimbin on the map yet again.

Headers victory



Headers goalkeeper Jerara Allan receiving the Player of the Match award

continued from p.1

The game got off to a fantastic start with a fast goal by Ruben. The crowd was positive and enthusiastic. Something I have always loved about Nimbin is the way we will cheer and clap even for the other team if they score a goal or make a great save. As the game went on and the crowd on our side continued to grow in numbers, so too did the jubilant energy. And then our crowd swelled with the VERY LOUD arrival of the Goonellabah Hornets! Holy Moly, what an entrance!

As these games often go, the tensions are high on both sides. The heat was intense, the expectations and hopes increasing with each goal save and corner ball, each foul and dubious Ref's call... And then Ruben Mack

scored the second goal from a perfectly planted corner by Cedril Rabiller.

So at half time the Headers were 2-0 up.

And late in the second half Bangalow scored making it a bit scary but the Headers stood firm

Honestly, I was so caught up in the play that it took me extra moments to realise what the final whistle meant... And then there was movement! Family and friends, running and cheering for our team! Oh! The relief! It felt truly deserved to see some players just fall to their knees at the sound of that whistle.

So, 2-1 to the Headers! BRAVO to the Nimbin Headers. Champs. Brilliant effort. Whether it is on to the Prens or not, you lot are an incredible bunch of blokes.



Pecan success

Richmond Hill pecan farmers and industry newcomers, Geoff and Paula Warriner were delighted to win a bronze medal at the recent Sydney Royal Fine Food Show for their certified organic cold pressed pecan oil, made from their very first harvest.

After purchasing the farm just three months before the flood, the journey has been challenging, making the recognition for their hard work all the more rewarding.

Pecan oil, a new product to the Australian market, is not only prized for its exceptional culinary qualities, but also for its outstanding health benefits.

While we believe all our products are exceptional, the oil was the only one we entered in the show. It's such an outstanding product that it truly deserves to be showcased.

See their range of products at: <https://richmondhillpecans.com.au>

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Sustainable Nimbin Community Plan (SNCP)

We launched the new edition of the SNCP at Sustainability Alley at the Nimbin Show and you can view it or download it on-line at: www.nmic.org.au

Some of the actions under the plan are already well underway and some strategies have even been achieved – most notably the goal of getting a Nimbin rep onto Lismore City Council. Well done and congratulations to our very own Virginia Waters!

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? We are looking for people to form a small working group to work on progressing the actions under the Water Focus Area of the SNCP – contact: sibley@nmic.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.

Sustainability Alley

Thanks to everyone who participated this year and contributed to a great family atmosphere all weekend, and congrats to our quiz winners of the composting tumbler and the worm farm. Many thanks to Nimbin A&I Society for including us in the Annual Nimbin Country Show again this year.

2025 will be the 105th Nimbin Show. We will keep you posted about the dates for next year, and encourage folks to set that date aside in our diaries to avoid holding other events on the same weekend, so that more of us can get out and support our local show next year.



Vollies at the NNIC Show stall

Costs of living rising and bills piling up?

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. Phone 6689-1692 or drop in during our opening hours, 10am-4pm weekdays.

Nimbin Neighbourhood Food Pantry

The pantry is open every Wednesday from 1pm. Cheap and free grocery items available to anyone in need. Volunteers welcome! For more info or to ask about joining our wonderful Food Pantry team, contact Nicole on: ccn@nmic.org.au

Struggling with alcohol or other drugs?

AOD support workers are now available at NNIC due to 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 into/call NNIC and speak with Nicole on our front desk for an appointment. Or call/email the following: (02) 6687 1111, intake@buttery.org.au

Let's talk about dying, death and beyond

A series of info sessions is being held at the Church of Aquarius, Nimbin on Saturdays, 10.30am-12.30pm. October topics:
• Saturday 12th: Caring for the dying person at home – how, who, what & where?
• Saturday 19th: Exploring

death and dying through awareness play

• Saturday 26th: Self-care for carers.

For more info see our website (Death and Beyond tab): <https://nmic.org.au/pub/index.php/death-and-beyond>

Need help preparing for bushfire season?

The AIDER (Assist Infirm, Disabled and Elderly Residents) program is a free, one-off service which supports some of our most at-risk community members, by providing services such as clearing gutters, thinning vegetation around the home, removing leaf and tree debris, trimming branches from

close to the home or mowing or slashing long grass.


For more info, call 02 8741-4955 or email: aider@rfs.nsw.gov.au

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

For an easy template for creating an Emergency Plan, see the Red Cross website RediPlan guide: www.redcross.org.au/prepare

Nimbin Community Care Team

Join the Nimbin CCT and get trained up so you are ready to get out and about in your neighbourhood if disaster strikes. For more info contact Anna on: cct@nmic.org.au or fill out the EOI form available on our website: <https://nmic.org.au> – see the 'Disasters' tab.


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Nimbin Aged Care and Respite Services

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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 17th October. 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 17th October.

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.



by Scott Sledge, president

Picnic at the Rocks

NEC has approval from traditional owners for the annual Picnic for Nature to be held again at the Nimbin Rocks on Morton Road on Sunday 20th October. Ngulingah nursery will be open for business from 11am to 2pm.

The community is encouraged to bring their own everything, but chai and lawn games will be provided. We expect musical entertainment, as we have had at Picnics the last two years. Look for signs along Stony Chute Road.

Jiggi School of Arts will also be hosting a Picnic for Nature at Jiggi Hall on Sunday 20th October from 11am to 2pm. Please bring a plate to share. There will be an informal story circle; bring a story to share of your favourite nature place and why it is special to you.

Nature Conservation Council of NSW (NCC) wants to remind us of nature and our sense of who we are within it. In particular this year, we need to assess whether we continue to drive native wildlife to extinction through land clearing and logging.

Jacqui Mumford, president of NCC wrote: "Plantation forests already provide 90% of NSW timber production and logging jobs.

1. In the last two years it cost \$29m more to cut down native forests than was made by selling the wood: Taking timber from native forests is heavily subsidised by taxpayers.
2. Analysis by conservative think-tank, the Blueprint Institute found ending native forest logging in 2023-24 and funding transition packages for workers will deliver taxpayers a net profit of \$45 million.
3. Only 8% of native forests that are logged become sawn timber –

the rest is pulped and turned into cardboard and woodchips.

4. Logging makes bushfires worse, by drying out forests and leaving dead debris on the ground.

The environment movement is entering a critical window of opportunity. We finally have a NSW government who says they recognise the value of our rivers, forests and wildlife, and a crossbench supportive of further action."

Independent Forestry Panel

The NSW government recently set up what it calls the Independent Forestry Panel, a three-person panel directed to examine the future of forestry in NSW. For the first time, the ending of logging in public native forests is on the agenda.

This is an historic opportunity. The panel will review the sustainability of forestry operations and develop a Forestry Industry Action Plan. Public submissions will be open until 13th October.

Jacqui Mumford asks us to go to NCC website to read the submission guide: "We ask you to take one or both of the following actions to make sure your voice is heard: firstly, call on your MP to speak up for our forests and secondly, make a submission."

Information about how to make a written submission, as well as more information about the Panel, can be found here: www.ipcn.nsw.gov.au/cases/2024/08/independent-forestry-panel

It is important to fill in the form on-line, as no other option is offered for submissions. I think the end date of 13th October works against the public, so please get to it, even if you only make a brief statement about saving the environment for future generations or stopping the destruction of native wildlife habitat.

I have heard that the Panel will use AI to sort out subs that are copies, so please avoid duplicate phrasing. If you want to be fully informed, contact NSW Greens MP Sue Higginson who has done an excellent summary of the issues.

North East Forest Alliance president Dailan Pugh said, "The Independent Forestry Panel (IFP) is to make recommendations on the future of forestry by the end of this year. This is the only chance we will have in this term of the Minns Government to get a commitment to end logging of public native forests.

"It is important that we get as many submissions as possible by 13th October to the IFP and to the NSW Government." Email:

- Premier Chris Minns: premier@dpc.nsw.gov.au
 - Environment Minister Penny Sharpe: office@sharpe.minister.nsw.gov.au
 - Forestry Minister Tara Moriarty: office@moriarty.minister.nsw.gov.au
- A sample submission would be:

"Now is the time to stop logging public native forests, it is causing extinctions, is unsustainable, and costing taxpayers a fortune. We need to protect native forests for wildlife, recreation, water yields and to take up our carbon emissions. We can meet our timber needs from existing plantations."

Personalised submissions carry more weight, so put it in your own words and add your own comments. If you want to make a detailed submission addressing the terms of reference, these are some points you may wish to consider:

1. Sustainability of current and future forestry operations in NSW.
2. Environmental and cultural values of forests, including threatened species and Aboriginal cultural heritage values: Forests generate rainfall and cool the land.
3. Demand for timber products, particularly as relates to NSW housing, construction, mining, transport and retail.
4. The future of softwood and



hardwood plantations and the continuation of private native forestry in helping meet timber supply needs. If we want to save NSW's 269 nationally listed threatened forest species, including the endangered koala and greater glider, it is essential that we stop logging their homes. Native hardwoods comprised 2.4 million (9%) of Australia's log production of 25 million cubic metres in 2023, with half this exported as woodchips. Saw and veneer logs comprised just 8% of the 8.5 million cubic metres of logs obtained from hardwood plantations, with 87% exported as woodchips.

There is no longer any need to log public native forests to build houses. With a change in emphasis, we can satisfy our hardwood needs with sawn timber and composite timber products from existing plantations.

5. The role of State Forests in maximising the delivery of a range of environmental, economic and social outcomes and options for diverse management, including Aboriginal forest management models.
6. Opportunities to realise carbon and biodiversity benefits and support carbon and biodiversity markets, and mitigate and adapt to climate change risks, including the greenhouse gas emission impacts of different uses of forests and assessment of climate change risks to forests.

There is a more detailed appraisal on NEFA's website: <https://www.nefa.org.au>

Next NEC meeting

Wednesday 9th October, 5pm at Birth & Beyond, next to NEC shop. We hope to screen a Powerpoint presentation on the best way to make a submission. All welcome.

Waste (not) Nimbin project at Sibley Street

Many of us in the hills are conscious of reducing landfill (we must be, as so many don't have waste collection) by composting organic matter, reducing packaging, buying locally grown produce, and carefully sorting recyclable materials.



But as careful as one can be, many of the things we 'throw away' require transporting elsewhere, even items collected for recycling aren't processed in the region, but in SE Qld and beyond. Sorted and shredded materials are generally re-purposed overseas. What can we do to take some responsibility for what we use?

Precious Plastic is an open-source global network that enables communities to start their own small-scale projects to tackle the waste problem. They share plans for machines, ideas for products and business models. Precious Plastics Northern Rivers has recently donated a shredder, injection moulder

and extruder to Nimbin's Sustainable Living Hub at 7 Sibley Street.

While we can't take responsibility for everyone's waste plastic, we plan on rolling out an initial project to start repurposing some pesky common items that would otherwise go to landfill.

Many plastics can be recycled and re-purposed although aren't, due to the cost and difficulty in sorting and cleaning. Often colours

and chemicals are added and are bonded with other non-recyclable materials (eg. chip packets with foil liners or take-away coffee cups with plastic film lining).

Different plastic types melt at different temperatures, although they are often combined (pop-up lids can be made of more than one type of plastic). If only one type is used, the piece will be marked with a triangular code and number – this is what we look for.

HDPE #2 (high density polypropylene) melts at a relatively low temperature without off-gassing (180°C) This can be found in milk containers and lids as well as most drink lids, shampoo bottles etc.

For our initial project, we will be collecting HDPE lids for shredding and eventual melting and re-making into chopping boards, tiles and pavers (useful stuff!)

Although HDPE lids can be easily recycled, anything "smaller than a credit card" clogs the industrial shredding machines and cannot be put into your recycling yellow bin. In other words, it will go to landfill!

We hope to enlist the enthusiasm of our younger folk by having collection stations at local schools, where students can deposit their milk container lids and

rings and other small HDPE plastic from home.

These will be in place for the last school term from 14th October.

Check out our new shredder and find out more about this exciting project on Saturday 26th October at Sibley Street.

If you'd like to be involved, we'd love to welcome you. Please email: sibley@nnic.org.au

NIMBIN'S SUSTAINABLE LIVING HUB
7 Sibley Street

October What's On!
 \$15 unless otherwise noted
Bookings: text 0475-135-764 or email: sibley@nnic.org.au

Workshops: 10.30am – 1.30pm

- **Sat 12th: Food Forest Design Course, session 4** – Learn how to design, implement and manage your own food forest using principles of permaculture, agroforestry and syntropic farming.
- **Tues 15th: Knitting group** – BYO project, learn and share, by donation.
- **Sat 19th & Sun 20th: Food Forest Design Course, sessions 5&6** – Learn how to design, implement and manage your own food forest.
- **Wed 23rd: Nimbin Water Security Collective** – Meet up with other passionate locals to plan our strategies for future local water security.
- **Sat 26th: Nimbin Chickens** – Learn more about our plastics recycling project.
- **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.

Recycling fees

I've been recycling stuff since cocky was an egg. Cardboard, paper, glass and plastics are all sorted into their right group and deposited in the public recycling stations.

In a confidential session, that is behind closed doors, the Lismore City Council (LCC) decided to charge a fee to recycle cardboard, glass, paper and plastics. They forgot to tell us, the ratepayers, of their secret decision.

It left it up to the manager of the Nimbin Recycling Station to get a payment from those good folk who were recycling cardboard, glass, paper and plastics. What an awful job, he should get double pay. Every day he is subjected to tirades of abuse from irate recyclers ... It's not his fault.

I've been a member of Nimbin Advisory Group (NAG) since its inception 15 years ago. NAG's role was to advise the LCC on matters affecting Nimbin folk. We were never informed of this change.

My rates notice shows I make an annual contribution of \$173.48 to the Nimbin Transfer Station. I decided to withhold any further payment to the LCC when recycling my cardboard, glass, paper and plastics and accordingly wrote to the LCC explaining my decision.

Their response was an automatic acknowledgement and nothing more. Now the manager of the Nimbin tip tells me I've been reported to the police.

I will continue to break the law by recycling my cardboard, glass, paper and plastics for FREE.

Sue Edmonds
Nimbin

Endangered species?

G Cooney (NGT Letters, September 2024) claims Greenies are an endangered species.

Well maybe those who believe in fallacies are, as today most Greenies are scientifically conversant. They understand 5G (G = generation of mobile phone technology) is just data streamed by a microwave

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.

frequency that is even less energetic than visible light. Visible light has a much narrower more energetic electromagnetic radiation frequency than microwaves. (Search: 'Electromagnetic spectrum').

They understand a jet plane's vapour trail is not a chemtrail but a consequence of the combination of thrust, heat and fuel residue produced by the jets hot engines acting on the meteorological forces of atmosphere, moisture and temperature.

Like cloud creation, the colder and moister the upper atmosphere the more visible the human-made cloud trail or contrail is. (Search: 'Contrail').

They know vaccines have a proven efficacy since the first vaccine used in 1796 for smallpox. (Search: 'Vaccine history').

Funny how everything deemed wrong with society is being blamed on the Internet! Yet the Internet is like a mega library where the user gets to choose the genre of media 'they' want to read or watch. And isn't that the freedom we originally wanted the internet to be instead of it being policed by prudes, politics, the church or the State?

If only more chose to read science instead of fiction, philosophy instead of religion perhaps then, we as a species would be able to evolve to the next level and be deemed worthy of the miraculous planet we all inhabit... instead of potentially destroying it and becoming as extinct as our ancient ancestors' flat-Earth beliefs.

Azan Mann
Evans Head



www.hollyenglish.com

Corporate donations

Transparency is missing in political lobbying in the US election.

Corporations donate millions of dollars in funding to senators and presidential candidates' political

campaigns to help them get nominated into their government positions. The candidates need the funding, but it's not for free and the favours must be returned at some point.

Obvious big money

Notices

Annual General Meetings

- Nimbin Independent Media Inc Nim-FM 102.3 will be holding its AGM on Thursday 24th October at 1pm at the radio station. All members as well as interested members of the community are welcome to attend. There will be refreshments afterwards.
- The AGM for Nimbin Health & Welfare Association Inc will be held on Tuesday 29th October, 3.30pm at Nimbin Age Care & Respite Services 81 Cullen Street Nimbin, Bottle Brush building (Rainbow Building). New members welcome.
- Nimbin Community Centre Inc AGM will be held on Thursday 14th November, 6pm at Birth & Beyond. New members can join on-line before 4th November at: nimbincommunity.org.au

political lobbyists are the oil conglomerates but often overlooked are the weapons manufacturers. The US isn't directly engaged in the war in Ukraine, but it is sending billions of dollars in aid, meaning weapons produced by US weapons manufacturers. The scenario is the same in Israel.

Although the US doesn't want to be drawn into a global conflict the political lobbyists and the politicians on their payrolls will continue to support funding wars abroad as it benefits the shareholders of these

manufacturers.

A brief history in war economics shows that the US true global economic advantage was achieved during World War 2, from being the primary supplier of arms watching from afar before being dragged into the conflict after the attack on Pearl Harbour.

The current capitalist model of Western politics is failing the world in achieving peace. Political lobbying should be viewed and prosecuted for what it is, corruption.

John Brown
Murwillumbah

Council election results

At the end of September, the NSW Electoral Commission declared the results of the Local Government elections, held state-wide on 14th September.

Councils in the Rainbow Region will be composed as follows for a four-year term:

Lismore

Steve Krieg elected as mayor, with ten councillors:

- Jerilee Hall
- Harper Dalton-Earls (Labor)
- Big Rob
- Adam Guise (The Greens)
- Andrew Gordon
- Virginia Waters (The Greens)
- Electra Jensen
- Andrew Bing
- Gianpiero Battista
- Jasmine Knight-Smith (Labor)

Byron Shire

Sarah Ndiaye (The Greens) elected as mayor, with eight councillors:

- Asren Pugh (Labor)
- David Warth
- Michael Lyon
- Elia Hauge (The Greens)



- Delta Kay (The Greens)
- Janet Swain (Labor)
- Michelle Lowe (The Greens)
- Jack Dods

Ballina Shire

Sharon Cadwallader elected as mayor, with nine councillors:

- Damian Loone (A Ward)
- Erin Karsten (The Greens, A Ward)
- Phil Meehan (A Ward)
- Kiri Dicker (The Greens, B Ward)
- Michelle Bailey (B Ward)
- Eva Ramsey (B Ward)
- Simon Kinny (C Ward)
- Simon Chate (The Greens, C Ward)
- Therese Crollick (C Ward)

Tweed

Mayor to be elected by seven councillors:

- Chris Cherry
- Reece Byrnes (Labor)
- James Owen (Liberal)

- Rhiannon Brinsmead (Liberal)
- Kimberly Hone
- Meredith Dennis
- Nola Firth (The Greens)

Kyogle

Mayor to be elected by nine councillors (referendum to switch to popular mayoral election failed):

- Kieran Somerville (A Ward)
- Brett McNamara (A Ward)
- Janet Wilson (A Ward)
- Olivia Taylor (B Ward)
- John Burley (B Ward)
- Robert Cullen (B Ward)
- Danielle Mulholland (C Ward)
- Tom Cooper (C Ward)
- Robin Harley (C Ward)

Richmond Valley

Robert Mustow elected as mayor, with six councillors:

- John Walker
- Lyndall Murray
- Stephen Morrissey
- Sandra Duncan-Humphrys
- Samuel Cornish
- Rovert Hayes

The NGT congratulates all successful councillors, and wishes them good judgement in maintaining a functional Council in the interests of their communities.

Nimbin United Hospital Auxiliary update

The Nimbin United Hospital Auxiliary (UHA) held its general meeting on Wednesday, 4th September at Nimbin MPS, with a great turn-out from its dedicated members.

The meeting focused on the upcoming fundraising events, including the Election Day sausage sizzle on 14th

September and the Nimbin Country Show on 21st and 22nd September.

We are pleased to report that both events were a tremendous success! Thanks to the incredible support from the community, our Show stall raised a significant



amount through the sale of homemade baked goods, and the sausage sizzle helped generate more funds to support Nimbin MPS initiatives.

Our on-going raffle efforts also continue with the Spring raffle, which began on 12th September and will be drawn

on 17th October. There are three prizes up for grabs, with an overall prize value of \$500.

We are deeply grateful for the continued support from the community. Your participation in our events helps improve local health services, and we look forward to more successful fundraisers in the future.

For more information or to get involved, please contact President, Marceliena Brumley.

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NEXT DEADLINE:
Friday 25th October

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

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.

Removing the mask of the insecure babyman

Toxic politics, misogyny as ideology, and tough guys that are really just insecure babyman. There is something very badly amiss with popular conceptions of what it means to be strong, especially for men, and it is having real consequences for all of us.

From Andrew Tate to Donald Trump, I am so over having the terminally insecure babyman being repackaged as some kind of tough guy 'alpha'.

I usually prefer the word 'authentic' to the word 'strong', but if we are talking about strength then let me say this: strong men do not need to control and manipulate women, their family or society.

The lie being sold by on-line manfluencers like Andrew Tate is that controlling your female partner is somehow 'alpha'. That being a coercively controlling creep; paranoid of any man your partner ever talks to is somehow tough.

These attitudes are not strong, they are not 'alpha'. All of this controlling behaviour is upside-down thinking that repackages visceral insecurity as though it is strength.

For all of his kick boxing, human trafficking, fast cars and macho crap, Andrew Tate does not look tough to me, he looks like an insecure babyman, influencing an emerging army of similarly insecure babyman. Andrew Tate of course is only one prominent example of a cultural avalanche of inverted thinking appearing in the online manosphere.

Another visceral whinge of the manosphere is that feminism has ruined men's lives.

Personally, I have to say that I feel very grateful for the collective impact of feminism in my lifetime. To have been able to grow up with independent women with the ability to make their own choices in life has been wonderful. To have been able to participate in university, in social movements, in relationships and friendships, in politics and business alongside empowered women and men has been fantastic.

I would not want to return to a world where young men and women were confined to some kind of panicked marriage lottery in their 20s, then locked down into fixed roles for a lifetime. Yet the latter is exactly what much of the desperate incel movement is advocating for.

This disease of inverted insecurity stretches well beyond social media. In national and international politics, we have been subjected to an endless procession of developmentally retarded babyman (Trump, Boris Johnson, Scomo, to name a few) as national leaders, and without exception they are as selfish as they are sexist.

In Trump I do not see any kind of tough guy, I only see a massively privileged yet deeply insecure toddler in an adult's body. The self-obsession, the pathological lying, the extreme narcissism, the inability to ever accept



Self-proclaimed misogynist, Andrew Tate (above) first rose to fame after an appearance on the British version of reality TV show Big Brother in 2016. He was removed from the series over a video that appeared to show him assault a woman. In 2023 he was charged with rape, human trafficking and forming an organised crime group to sexually exploit women. Dubbed the "king of toxic masculinity", the 37-year-old former kickboxer who calls himself a misogynist boasts more than 9.9 million followers on Twitter/X.

losing, and of course the deranged predatory sexuality. That 40-something percent of any nation could possibly consider voting for such a pathology causes me to really worry about the wider culture.

It is no mere coincidence that alongside the narcissism of Trump is a handmaiden's tale agenda to reassert control over women's bodies, choices, fertility and lifestyles. Some kind of paradise for aggrieved incels.

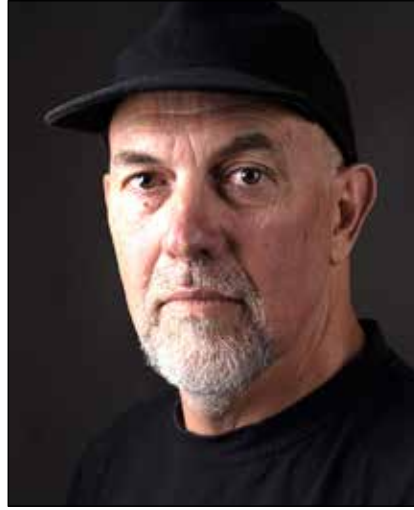
Combine the ideology of manfluencers like Tate, the scourge of domestic violence and coercive control, the appalling phenomenon of Trumpian sexual politics and the result is clearly misogyny as ideology.

When I first read about the idea that gendered violence could be considered a form of terrorism, I was sceptical. I had always thought of misogyny as primarily a personal pathology, and I still think it starts there, in deep insecurity. But we are seeing misogyny as extremist ideology, and the deliberate radicalising of insecure young men.

Tragic events like the Bondi stabbings, and the attacks on the girls' dance class in London, incels doing mass shootings of young women or on-going attacks on sex workers, all combine into a form of ideologically motivated terrorism.

At the heart of the phenomena of the insecure babyman tough guy is a complete inversion of what it means to be strong or secure.

Let's be honest about insecurity first up, everyone has it, it's a normal part of being human. If only we could just accept that incarnating into a physical body, beginning life as a helpless infant relying on the support of others is how



by Aidan Ricketts

we all start, and that it gives us all a good probiotic dose of knowing that we are all interdependent.

Being aware of our innate vulnerability and interdependence breeds compassion for both the self and other, and provides the most authentic basis for our on-going self-development, through childhood, adulthood and into our old age.

The greatest insecurity of all is to hide from our own vulnerability and interdependence.

The insecure baby man, whether he is a national political figure, or the coercive controlling boyfriend of someone you know, a sex trafficking manfluencer, or some angry pale incel being radicalised to hate women is all a manifestation of the same basic problem.

There is nothing strong or alpha about denying our own and everyone's vulnerability and interdependence. Fearing your own vulnerability so deeply that you feel compelled to act out all manner of violent, controlling hateful behaviours to keep it hidden is the epitome of insecurity.

In reality, we are a culture that lives in fear of our shadow. To some extent we all hide our deepest self-doubts behind a carefully curated personality. So, we all share a part of the terror of being revealed. But every step we take to acknowledge and embrace our own inner vulnerability increases our compassion for self and for others simultaneously.

Men especially need to be careful not to drink the poison of invulnerability. In our personal lives it leads to isolation, insecurity and paranoia, but in the collective it produces toxic politics and mass violence.

Misogyny, racism and violence are a collective manifestation of a process inside each and every one of us. No-one has ever been born alone. Most will not die alone. Keeping our mutual interdependence cheerfully in mind throughout our lives breeds collective compassion.

Being an adult is just about knowing that you are in the most able-bodied middle part of your life and that therefore you are able to help others more. That's how it is different to being an angry insecure babyman that thinks he is being tough by being cruel.

2024 AGM for Nimbin Community Centre

Thu 14th Nov - 6pm
at Birth & Beyond Hall

New members can join online before 4th Nov 2024.

nimbincommunity.org.au



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