

Wonderful weekend of weaving

by Bob Dooley

Nimbin's 12th annual Weave and Mend Festival, held over the first weekend in October, was the most successful yet, with over 200 people participating over the three days.

Organiser, Granny Breath Weaver said, "It was absolutely awesome."

This was the first Festival to be held at Djanbung Gardens, and many commented that it was the ideal environment, a beautiful location where fibres could be harvested from the site, and children could be watched in the adjoining play area.

The high attendance numbers confirm the resurgence of interest in hand-weaving, with women from the Sunshine Coast, Gold Coast, Byron and Ballina, and further afield, demonstrating many different weaving techniques.

There was lots of sharing – of stories and culture, as well as skills – and much learning throughout the Festival, evident in the production of a diverse range of hand-woven objects made from plant and animal materials (wool, silk, hair), with the incorporation of found objects, such as shells.

There were also workshops in natural dyeing, NZ flax weaving with Kathy and Faith, and two contrasting looms were brought along – Jenny's a Viking age reproduction and Helena's a small high-tech model.

Acoustic music provided a soothing accompaniment throughout the festival,





functional children's teepee was woven around a bamboo frame, which will stay as an extension of Djanbung's play area.

Exit comments were universally positive: "A beautiful weekend, with good energy." – Monique "Very strong connections

"Very strong connection made." – Deb "What a lovely way to

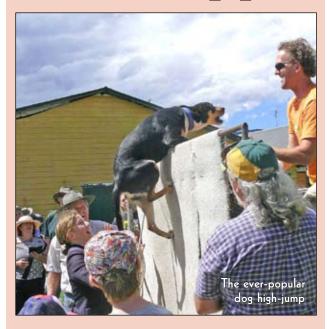
spend a weekend!" – Fibre artist, Lae Oldfield Planning for next year's







Show-stopper



by Teresa Biscoe, President, Nimbin Chamber of Commerce

The annual Nimbin Show was held in September, and once again our local A&I committee have come together to create a fantastic, family-friendly event.

Not only was entry to the event extremely affordable, it offered through the pavilion and the ring and show events an opportunity for the entire community to be involved.

The Show is a wonderful reflection of our diverse community showing the classic farming and industry traditions of the area and the contributions the alternative culture has made with the highly successful Sustainability Alley which included forums, lectures and workshops which were well attended by the local community.

This year was my first year as a contributor to the pavilion display, and I would encourage the whole community to consider contributing to next years show as it is a fantastic chance to see some of the wonderful talents in craft, horticulture, cooking and brewing on display.

There were also some wonderful exhibits on the field and in the animal displays with some very fine beasts on show from their proud owners.

I would like to thank all the show volunteers who worked so hard to make such a great event that reflects some of the colour and diversity of our community.

featuring harp, cello and Shakuhachi flute, while a Festival at Djanbung Gardens is underway.



• See more on the Show, pages 6 and 7.

