

Counting down to MardiGrass 2019



by Michael Balderstone

This is the last year the centre of Nimbin will have the big empty space from the fire, can you believe nearly five years ago now. Buildings either side of Rainbow Lane are on track to begin well before the 2020 MardiGrass.

We decided to make the most of it and have a Hemp Expo in the centre of town at this year's educational weekend. Hopefully with real live plants; even if they are low THC, it's a sign of the times.

The plan is to show the many uses of Cannabis and how all parts of the plant can be utilised, and in fact for thousands of years, were.

The super nutritious seeds and the unique strong and flexible fibre are finally being appreciated along with the plant's unique medicinal properties.

Then, tired of the endless

ignorance on stoners who some still think are lazy slobs, we've introduced a new event looking for Australia's strongest stoner.

It's called the 'Kombi Lift' and contestants will have to lift the 420 Kombi, front first, then the back, then we add bundles of MardiGrass programs until there's only one contestant left.

Maybe we'll need some rocks but you get the picture. Maybe we'll fill the Kombi with people adding one at a time. We'll play it by ear as usual.

MardiGrass starts on Friday 3rd May with our traditional short walk from the Nimbin Hospital to the Police station to ask them to help this year. We actually need the police of NSW to support us.

Many are embarrassed by not being able to treat pot differently to other drugs, like ice. The politicians need to wake up and the police should be an alarm for them. Cannabis the herb is totally different to other illegal drugs, and the current laws are actually encouraging the use of more dangerous chemicals.

Jenny Dowell is officially opening MardiGrass with our local Aboriginal Elders on Friday around sunset after the first session of Miss Guidance's Hemposium, which is on every day with speakers on all things weedy.

The meticulous David Hallett's Great Green Cabaret is on again Friday night after the Fashion Show and you know it will be a sensational line-up of performers. The \$55 Golden Bud entry into all events is worth it for just Hallett and Sorrensen/Glover's two shows.

MardiGrass is a non-profit event run by volunteers and we need your support on this. We know you can come to much of the MardiGrass weekend for free but we need you EVRASSY

Photo: Brian Alexander

to kick in, please. The Golden Bud pass is \$20 for locals!

The ever popular HEMP Olympix Joint Rolling, Bong Throw and the Growers' Iron Person event already has locals training, and the Correct Weight gold medal, where contestants have to estimate an ounce, is up for grabs since the Laneboys got scattered.

Word is out on a book launch

also, the Official Hemp Olympix History.

Pot Art is taking entries at the Embassy now and Pot Poets are all welcome to strut their stuff on Sunday morning.

The World Stoned Chess Championship is on again of course, as is the Aquarian Legends and the now infamous Suppositorium.

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