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Inspirational homes and stories

by Mandie Hale

Unique, a beautiful book featuring creative owner-built homes of Nimbin and surrounds, is finally out there.

Thank you everyone who came to the book launch and made it a success. 70 books were sold on the night.

I had planned a short talk and had invited Steph Seckold to speak about Sibley Street, but it didn't happen as I was overwhelmed by the unexpected queue of people waiting for books to be signed.

However, Steph can be found at 7 Sibley Street every Monday and Tuesday 10am-2pm, and is in and out on Wednesdays. Her knowledge of the project and vision for its evolution will inspire anyone who is interested.

Check out: sevensibley.com for info about the upcoming workshops on small constructions.

Thanks also to Robyn Frances who made the beautiful venue at Djanbung Gardens available at a reduced rate, and to Melian Fertl for opening the cafe.

I couldn't have finished this book without the technical support of my neighbour and friend Tony Meggs, and Alfredo Bonnano who created the website for online sales.

If anyone needs a website designer, nimbinhomes.com.au is an example of his work.

Although the book includes homes from the surrounding areas, Alfredo advised me that the word Nimbin would generate more traffic to the website, and as the book is a fundraiser, I agreed.

To everyone who generously opened their homes and shared their stories, thank you so much... without you there would be no book.

The current sales have recouped the printing cost of \$5,980 for 150 books.

It would have been cheaper if I'd had them printed overseas, but I wanted to support an Australian small business.

When all copies are sold, I will be able to pay the other costs and donate \$1000 to 7 Sibley Street.

The books will be on sale on the website: nimbinhomes.com.au and at 7 Sibley Street. Locals wanting to avoid the on-line postage cost can email me on the website for bank deposit details and arrange for pick-up in Nimbin.



Nadine's house



Alex's house



Gertrud's house



Saskia's house



Mandie's house

Nimbin community rallies for patients

Nimbin Hospital Auxiliary would like to thank the Nimbin community for their generosity and continued support, which enables the purchase of items for the comfort and care of patients and residents at Nimbin MPS.

Pictured are just a few items the Auxiliary has been able to gift to the hospital: five small fridges (\$1,206) for the acute medical rooms to enable the safe storage of patient's personal food items; the infra-red vein finder (\$7,500) to assist when there is difficulty finding suitable veins for blood tests and other procedures; and the bladder scanner (\$9,250) which is a non-invasive means of assessing urinary system problems, purchased with donations last year.

(You may notice that no hospital grade equipment comes cheap!)

Acting Nurse Manager Peter Doyle praised the auxiliary and local community.

"We're so lucky to have our local



Auxiliary which does so much to support us," Peter said.
 "Being able to purchase the fridges and other bits of expensive equipment

over the years has really helped the comfort and care of patients and residents at Nimbin MPS."
 Thank you Nimbin.

Permaculture Open Day at Djanbung

This year's annual Open Day at Djanbung Gardens is celebrating 25 years from a compacted cow pasture to a paradise of biodiversity and abundance.

The theme is 'restore, regenerate and adapt' as we face our changing climate and seasons.

The program starts with a tour of the property with Robyn Francis, the designer, explaining its evolution and adaption plans for an uncertain future.

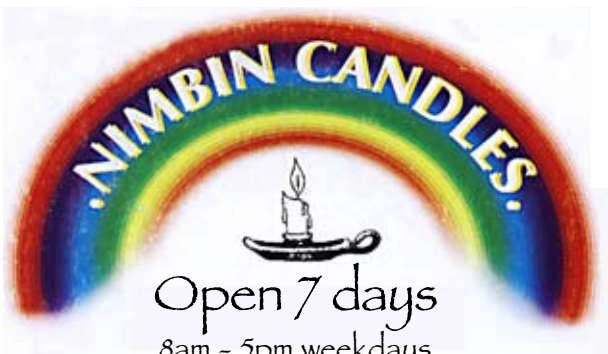
"This past summer was a wake-up call for many in the Northern Rivers regarding water security and sustaining food production through exceptionally hot dry summers," Robyn said.

The day will include workshops on traditional Japanese ferments, making fibres from banana stems, an introduction to permaculture principles, and a food forest talk and tour.

A special session on co-existing with pests and weeds will explore organic solutions and answer your questions regarding local pest and weed issues.

Join us on Saturday 8th June, from 10am to 3.30pm. Entry by donation, to raise funds for permaculture projects. The café will be open serving local refreshments and lunches.

Djanbung Gardens is located at 74 Cecil Street, Nimbin (300m past Nimbin Showground).



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Karate classes – Kiai!

Traditional Okinawan Goju-ryu Karate-do classes for all ages run Monday and Friday at Nimbin, while classes are returning to The Channon on Tuesdays with 18 students already filling the juniors group – there is plenty of room at the moment in the adults and teens classes.

On Wednesdays one-on-one classes are on, and Thursday has become the day for offering girls and women's self-defence courses all over the shire from Kyogle to Ballina. The feedback Sensei Rachel Whiting has received is that it has been very valuable for many, and she is glad that so many people are benefitting.

If you are interested in trying out a class, contact Rachel on 0427-778-837, or email: togka.rw@gmail.com

Nimbin Village Laundry

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nimbinvillagelaundry@yahoo.com 45 Cullen St, Nimbin

Secondary dwellings could solve housing crisis

by Jenny Martin
continued from front page

Adam Bennett-Smith, CEO, KoHo presented on tiny houses, innovative mobile homes built on trailers with caravan status; usual building codes do not apply – they can be parked on pastoral or agricultural land for people working the land. KoHo tiny houses are 4.3m high, 2.5m wide and 7.2m long.

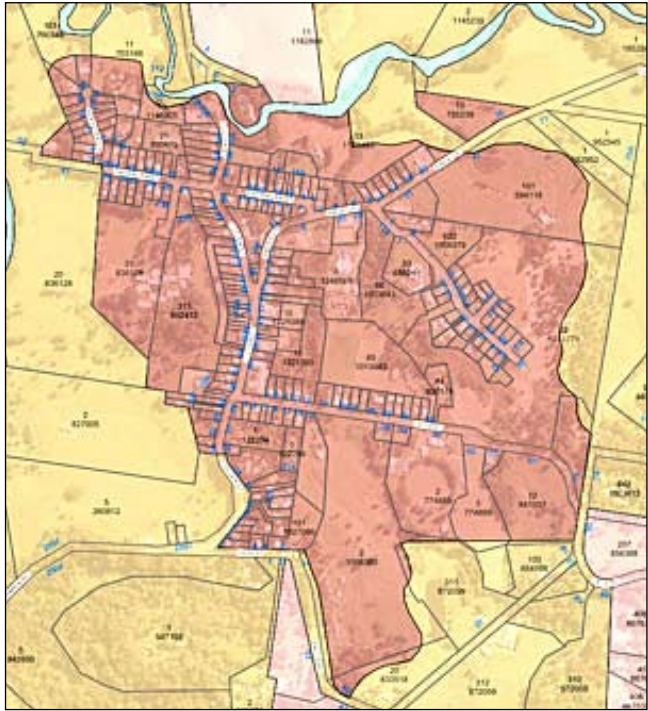
Waste is taken care of by pumped-out holding tank, cassette toilet or a self-contained compost loo. Power can be grid/off-grid/solar.

A finished KoHo tiny house costs \$75,000 ready for plug in power/solar. Caravan financing with \$15,000 deposit provides an affordable pathway to ownership within 7 years, based on payments of \$225/week.

These numbers are indicative only and subject to an individual bank's lending criteria. Koho are creating a data base of potential land-owners interested in parking tiny houses. KoHo Tiny Houses, 0414-865-022. www.littlebyron.com.au

Grant Bedford, designer/builder of granny flats, discussed issues of design brief, including location, solar passive aspects, affordability, floor plan, environmental considerations, etc. Grant's designs include a steel frame/pre-fab construction using recycled materials.

The cost for a 60 sq m frame up, floor down and roof on is \$25,000. Affordable option,



RU5 Village Zone: LCC Local Environmental Plan

using shipping containers, either single or dual with a deck in-between, insulated inside and with a full kitchen, for conversion of each \$6,000 plus container purchase. 0438-147-686, email: grantbedford@y7mail.com

Local resident Diana Roberts and husband Sam have recently built a detached rural dual occupancy dwelling on their property in Nimbin.

Diana outlined their lived experience detailing the range of reports Council required, before building could commence, with fees totalling approximately \$14,000.

The final total cost of the build was \$180,000 (or

\$2,000 per sq m). As Sam is a registered builder, there was a considerable saving on labour – so find a builder friend or hone up your building skills!

Brian Forbes, Manager, Useful Yurts, presented on single 'wedge' yurts or a design of cluster wedges, more suitable to social housing.

Yurt design is flexible, adaptable and can enable more self-contained units out of the one building.

Cost is \$40,000 per slice to lock-up stage for an 8 slice/wedge yurt. Costings for the smallest size yurts through to cluster wedges can be obtained from Brian.

Kyogle Shire Council is welcoming the building of yurts, and the trend has started in Nimbin. Useful Yurts, 0415-638-380, www.usefultyurts.com

Thank you to everyone who attended the workshop – hopefully this information has given you the inspiration to take action on building and renting a secondary dwelling, or provide a site for a tiny home, or encourage friends and family to do so and contribute to solving the housing crisis in our beautiful region.

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Welcome to the Extinction Rebellion

by Aidan Ricketts

Well our trip on the Titanic just got a lot more dire. I'm relieved the election season is over so we can get back to talking and thinking about bigger picture things, but I'm aghast at how our federal and state elections turned out. I feel the kind of out-of-control terror one would feel in a speeding car with a drunk at the wheel recklessly celebrating foolish risk-taking. The horror of seeing the right-wing politicians and much of middle Australia high fiving an election that to them means they have been spared of having to take serious climate action. The words 'pyrrhic victory' have never been more apt. You may win now but only to see it all burn eventually.

The late Anthropocene is certainly a scary time. We have the science, we know the problem, we have the means and technologies to respond, but we don't as a species seem to have the neurological capacity to collectively perceive our predicament and respond in a timely way.

I am not saying all is doomed, it's just increasingly likely to be so on our current trajectory. Fortunately complexity theory has taught me that the closer we get to the edge of chaos the greater the capacity for the life-system to generate innovative outputs, the greater the chance of at least some of those taking root and the greater the chance and/or risk of abrupt shifts in how the system operates. All very reassuring from a system perspective maybe, but not necessarily all that reassuring from the perspective of individual, or social survival.

I am haunted by a musing that cultural and neurological features that assisted human and social evolution are now dangerously past their use-by date, but still dominant in how we perceive the world. When we were just another species struggling to survive on this planet, nature was bigger than us, and the well-being of ourselves and our tribe of fellow humans was the most important thing to think about. Our anthropocentrism (human-centredness) may have helped us to survive then, and our collective habit of social conformity gave structure and cohesion to our emerging societies.

But now we find ourselves in a time of human-induced ecological emergency, still clinging to a human-centred conformism that paradoxically may lead to our own extinction. Historically our cultural identities were built on shared conformities. We tolerated the outliers as long as we perceived them as productive, atypical savants, our scientists, witch doctors, shaman, artists and more recently our eco-centric environmentalists. In that conformity we also oppressed and eradicated otherness where it had no apparent use to us or scared us.

As we approach climate emergency we are seeing a descent into two massively dysfunctional psychological responses to



Extinction Rebellion meeting in Lismore on 29th May. Photo: Omega Breakspear



Singalong to 'Big Yellow Taxi' Photo: Chibo Mertineit

stress: conservatism and its more violent brother, fascism. The fear of change is manifesting as a vain nostalgia for an imagined golden past and a rising desire to ostracise or destroy anyone perceived as standing in the way of that glorious pointless embrace of denial. Denial of science, denial of risk and denial of the need to respond.

What we are conforming to as a society has become toxic, a form of destructive mass psychosis. Corporate capitalism, a form of artificial intelligence, has worked out ways of channeling our human-centred conformism to suit its self-destructive pursuit of ever-growing profit. The algorithm contradicts physics and the climate crisis is just the first canary in the coal mine to show us that. The rapidly accelerating extinction crisis is another.

It is no longer a time to conform, it is a time to rebel for your very survival. I have watched keenly the emergence of Extinction Rebellion in the UK and Europe. I applied a critical mind to the framing, the science, the research and the aims and strategies of the movement and I was surprised to find that someone had done their homework very well. Here was a movement prepared to look the climate crisis in its burning dragon-like eye, feel the necessary grief, step over the luxuries of false hope and commit to determined action, courage in the face of completely uncertain prospects for success. But furthermore, to do so with a deep enduring and fundamental commitment to nonviolent civil disobedience.

In the framing as well is the key to engaging the neuro-typical heart of

humanity, concern for our own species. If we are going to engage the vast bulk of people, it still needs to somehow be about people.

The march to extinction is simply one where we are marching other species in front of us as we stampede the precipice. Every species we lose damages the structures that our own survival depends upon. The loss of bees and its impact upon human agriculture and food security is probably the most obvious example, but there will be many more.

The time to identify that we are in an emergency is upon us, and when governments fail, when electoral systems fail, civil disobedience has been proven many times to be the only safe yet effective path to trigger fundamental change. If we can't do it nonviolently then we will fail anyway, as violence only feeds fascism. So we need to accept that our current social trajectory is terminal, we need to commit ourselves to radical action, but accept as well that we also may not succeed, or at least not succeed as well as we may hope. It is in the humility to take right action, with no guarantee of success that we can endure the frustrations that can turn movements to violence.

We are in a global extinction event, we may or may not transform humanity, but with what we have left we have no rational choice left but to try, peacefully, courageously.

Extinction Rebellion has already launched in your region, please go to <https://ausrebellion.earth/about/> and listen out for the emergence of local groups.

Thank you for caring about our planet.

One football field of forest lost every five minutes

Data obtained under freedom of information laws by the Sydney Morning Herald shows deforestation rates ramped up massively in the two years before land-clearing laws were scrapped, making it easier to bulldoze native bushland and clear-fell native forest.

Based on this data, forest and woodland in NSW was lost at a rate of about one football field every five minutes during the 2016 and 2017

financial years. Key findings:
 • 79% increase in total deforestation (excluding fire) – up from 33,300ha to 59,700ha.
 • 108% increase in deforestation for crops and pasture – up from 9,700 to 20,200ha.
 • 80% increase in canopy loss from forestry and logging – up from 18,600ha to 33,500ha.
 • 66% of deforestation in

NSW occurred in five local government areas:
 • Cobar – 5,279ha
 • Wentworth – 4,722ha
 • Walgett – 3,504ha
 • Bogan – 3,204ha
 NSW Nature Conservation Council CEO Kate Smolski said: "This is more damning evidence that under Premier Berejiklian, deforestation and land clearing are out of control and rapidly rising, with dire consequences for

threatened species like koalas. "The scariest thing about this data is that it only represents the two years prior to new land-clearing laws introduced at the end of 2017. "Deforestation and climate change are driving hundreds of species to the brink of extinction in NSW. It is time for Premier Berejiklian to show some leadership and introduce strong protections for our native forests and animals."



NIMBIN

**ENVIRONMENT
CENTRE**

NEWS

NEC Annual Report

by Scott Sledge, president

Nimbin Environment Centre (NEC) is a grass roots organisation made up of volunteers. Its members are ordinary people in the local community, all with a passion for saving and improving our environment. Together we are strong.

With a proud history dating back 40 years to the protection of the Nightcap Ranges and more recently taking part in the protests at Bentley when the whole community resoundingly said no to CSG, NEC continues to work towards protecting many aspects of the environment in many different ways.

The NEC shop on Nimbin's main street does a steady trade and the volunteers who staff it are very much appreciated. Not only do our volunteers provide a focal point for locals and visitors to connect with environmental issues, but the profit from sales allows us to donate to worthwhile causes. We encourage and support environmental activism such as the Schools Strikes for Climate and the Rallies for Rail at various locations in the Northern Rivers.

- Water mining in Tweed. Community pressure including a blockade of trucks got Tweed Council to crack down on non-compliance with consent conditions. NSW government sent a team from the Office of the Chief Scientist who met with us as part of their north coast community consultation. Their final report is expected soon.

- Logging on private land at Mebbin Springs and at Limpinwood. NEC has supported local landholders who want to preserve habitat connecting wildlife corridors near the Queensland- NSW border. A number of meetings with Tweed Shire Council officers has resulted in action against unapproved land clearing. Charges are pending.

- Film screenings were facilitated with NEC volunteers serving chai and coffee. In May the NEC showed the new documentary film *Burned: Are Trees the New Coal?* five times during the MardiGrass weekend. A large contingent of NEC members joined the MG Parade carrying signs to increase awareness that hemp can replace trees for most uses. Our initiative to reduce waste at Nimbin's MardiGrass festival was



Some of the Waste Wise Nimbin crew at work during MardiGrass.

Photos: Saskia Kouwenberg



largely successful. With Regional Forestry Agreements due for renewal, NEC members joined other environmental groups to re-start the North East Forests Alliance. Veteran campaigner Dailan Pugh was elected President of the re-formed NEFA-NR group. Many NEC members attended NSW government "consultations" and put community concerns about preserving biosphere and endangered species to government officials involved with forestry. Approximately 3000 submissions on the NSW Government's draft Coastal Integrated Forestry Operation Approvals (IFOAs) went in. Annie McGovern prepared a detailed submission on behalf of NEC. We await the outcome later this year. In my opinion Australia needs to stop ALL logging of native forests now. The current tree removal rate is

not sustainable. The revised practices look even worse. Plantations can supply all Australia's timber needs but now loggers are clear-felling areas of plantation forests and chipping whole trees to burn as something they call "bio-fuel." This adds to carbon emissions which cause climate change. In February and March, NEC members joined the NEFA forest blockade near Whiporee near Casino to protect endangered koala habitat from State Forest logging. These efforts are ongoing as the EPA does not seem to be very keen on enforcing what few protections currently exist. MOU with the Githabul people for protecting forests. NEC representatives attended meetings to show support for traditional custodians to manage and maintain healthy forests near Urbenville and Woodenbong.

Challenging use of fossil fuels: NEC supported a range of activities, including #EndCoal in Newcastle in September. Organised by FLAC, Front Line Action against Coal, the event included training in NVDA. We have also supported Stop Adani protests against new coal mines. Bob Brown led a road convoy which travelled to the FLAC camp and to Claremont in Queensland. Good turnout at the convoy stop at Mullumbimby was attended by many NEC members.

- Development considerations: NEC has monitored the proposals for new buildings and more dwellings in and around Nimbin. The 17 dwellings with internal road and associated infrastructure proposed for 39 Crofton Road was refused by Lismore Council on environmental grounds.
- North Lismore Plateau rally to support Bundjalung people and to stop destruction of sacred sites was held on 17th May.

Space rental: NEC is now renting a small office space in the Fig Tree building of the Nimbin Community Centre. This space can be used by people wanting to work on projects and it lets us move some of the paperwork files and banners, posters etc which have been taking up space when stored in the shop.

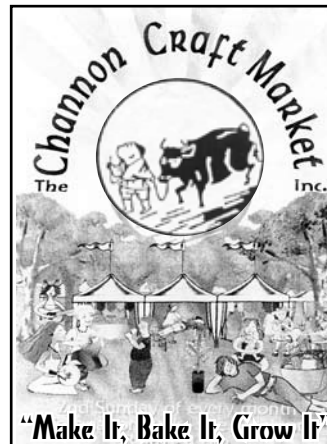
I met with Penny Sharpe, NSW Shadow Minister for the Environment and Heritage, Dailan Pugh of NEFA and the Member for Lismore Janelle Saffin. I met with several other NSW Parliamentarians in Sydney and consulted Nature Conservation Council (NCC) staff, and joined in the 7,000-strong Time to Choose rally and march through the Sydney CBD.

Unfortunately for the environment this year, the voters in both NSW state and Federal elections chose not to change in any significant way. We ran a good guerrilla signage campaign, including some signs reminding people to vote and directing people where to find polling places. We will continue to raise awareness and try to avert the worst effects of the climate emergency.

NEC provides an information centre and rallying point for those who care about our environment. On 29th May many NEC members attended the launch of the Extinction Rebellion (XR), where 330 people declared they would join the world-wide struggle to prevent ecological disaster.



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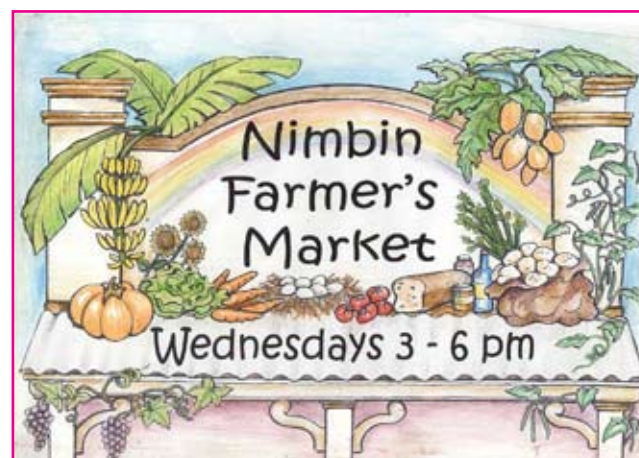
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7 Sibley Street updates

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• **MardiGrass 2019**

The waste from the event was meticulously hand sorted, resulting in a 50% reduction in landfill overall, with all green waste going into Council Green Bins or else the newly-built compost heap at 7 Sibley Street.

A great job by Steph and the ever-dynamic Sue Hird, and the whole Waste Wise Nimbin crew.

• **Electricity**

We have the funds. Yay! Many thanks to all who donated. By the end of June, we will have lights and power on site for the first time since 2012.

• **Gardens**

Work has started on the gardens... the monster plant at the front is being removed to make way for some terraced gardens.

• **Opening hours**

Sibley Street is open on Mondays-Wednesdays. Feel free to drop in and say hello to Steph. Workshops are continuing – see page 33, or check out the website for the latest details.

You can purchase various sustainability products including EM1, and Mandie Hale's wonderful new book *Unique* featuring creative homes in the Nimbin area.

Eric is doing sewing and mending every Wednesday afternoon on the front veranda, using his wonderful mechanical (non-electric equipment). Simply drop your mending in and he will fix it for you.

Welcome to Nimbin kit

We are in process of developing a kit to be given to new residents of Nimbin as they arrive, to assist them to navigate their way around the community, encourage them to get involved and to



Garden planning/design workshop at 7 Sibley Street

“Many of us can feel that our small efforts do not make sense in the face of the tumultuous times in which we live. Just turn on the news on any given day and it's enough to make you want to go back to bed and pull the covers over your head.

But we don't. You can't. Neither can I. We must all keep going.

We must always remember that our efforts ripple out in all directions and that we can never truly know who they will touch, what they will spark, how they will connect with the steps that others are taking.

Do not succumb to whatever despair and disappointment you may feel these days. Rather, step forward, engage, and let your small actions ripple out in all directions.

This is how hope comes about.”

– Rich Harwood, May 2019

pass on the Aquarian legacy in general.

The kit so far consists of 10 pages on the following topics:

- Welcome and a brief history;
- The Bundjalung Story (working title only);
- Living on the land;
- Where to get help;
- Things to do;
- Community owned and operated;
- Volunteering in Nimbin (a list of volunteer orgs, what kind of volunteering opportunities on offer, and how to get in touch);

- Buying local;
- Wildlife part 1; and
- Wildlife part 2.

We have already been in touch with many of the local organisations to check their contact details etc. If we have not been in touch it is possible that we already had the information at NNIC.

To check if you are included or if you have queries about the kit, contact Nat at: admin@nnic.org.au

We aim to have the kit ready for the printers by the end of June.

Goodbye & thanks, Jan

Jan Young is retiring as our soup kitchen cook at the end of June, after quite a few years. The NNIC team wishes Jan all the best.

Nimbin CDAT updates

Thanks to everyone who participated in our Harm Reduction Quiz at MardiGrass, and also to the 99 people who completed our Pill Testing Survey.

New members always welcome, especially potential superheroes. Just come along to our next meeting, usually held on the last Thursday of each month at 1.30pm.

Contact NNIC 6689-1692 for meeting dates or queries.

Got bills or fines?

We may be able to assist with electricity and telephone bills, and you may be eligible for a Work Development Order enabling you to pay off your fines via volunteer work.

Phone us on 6689-1692 or just drop in to make an appointment with our Community Case Co-ordinator.

Rhys' Super Dog Treats

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

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

Nimbin Hospital information

Child immunisation clinic

For 0-5 year olds, held on second Tuesday of the month. Next Clinic: 11th June. Phone 6620-7687 (Lismore Community Health Centre)

Early childhood nurse

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

Women's health nurse services

Third Thursday of the month, next is 20th June. Confidential service, checks, advice, general health information. Phone 6689-1400 for appointment.

Wound clinic

Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8am. For self-referral, phone 6689-1288. Referrals also from Nimbin Hospital and GP clinic.

Drug and alcohol counselling services available

For an appointment, please contact 6620-7600. A trained professional will ask you a few confidential questions and will provide you with an appointment time.

Nurse practitioner clinics

- Diabetes clinics: third Thursday of the month, next is 20th June.
 - Respiratory clinic: second Tuesday of the month, next will be on 11th June.
- Phone 6630-0488 for appointments.

Community Registered Nurses

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

Nimbin NSP

Needle and Syringe program open Monday to Thursday. Arrangements can be made to see a Community Registered Nurse.

Health advice line

Phone 1800-022-222 if you have a health issue. 24-hour, seven days a week free service. A Registered Nurse will assess whether you need to go to an Emergency Department.

Nimbin Hospital Auxiliary

Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at the hospital, at 9.30am. Next meeting: 3rd July. New members are always welcome.



Buy local

This month the Nimbin Chamber of Commerce is launching our Buy Local Nimbin campaign at our General Members meeting, at 6pm on Wednesday 19th June at the Birth and Beyond Meeting Room (54 Cullen Street).

We recognise the importance of community support of local businesses, and how essential this is for the long term viability of these businesses.

We have developed a Buy Local logo (pictured), stickers and signage for local businesses to display in their businesses and on products that are locally produced.

We are compiling a list of local products that will be available to businesses and displayed on our website. We would like all local businesses and manufacturers to send us information about the products and services they offer, so we can feature them on our Buy Local webpage and make them available to the community.

All members will be offered



by Teresa Biscoe,
Vice-president

access to our Buy Local pack. Non-members will be able to purchase Buy Local pack components, but the full benefits of the whole package, including website listings are only on offer to members.

In support of this important issue the Nimbin Flix film group is also working with us by screening *The Economics of Happiness*, a fascinating documentary that explains just how economically and ecologically critical to small communities this concept is.

I urge everyone to see it on 8th June at Birth & Beyond, from 6.30pm.

Also as part of this month's general meeting agenda we will be introducing the Welcome to Nimbin Kit

being developed by Natalie Meyer from NNIC. We will also have a brief discussion of current Chamber initiatives and concerns.

Nimbin Emporium

This month we are featuring the Nimbin Emporium as a local business that supports local community.

The Nimbin Emporium has been providing groceries and fresh produce to the local community since 1973. The Harris Family with friends Deb and Simmo bought the business in 1994, and in 1997 they took sole ownership over the business.

Their mission statement is: Service to our community, by providing goods and services the community wants and needs, in a cheerful and respectful manner.

As an IGA, they have provided for the town's grocery needs, and as a local business they have supported local producers and the village by stocking locally grown and produced products on their shelves.

They are always looking to increase the number of local professional produce suppliers.

They employ local members of the community, often providing the first



Sue Harris with son Will in the newly renovated upstairs section of the Nimbin Emporium

employment opportunity for local kids. They also contribute regularly to local community fundraising efforts by donating goods and services to local not-for-profit community organisations.

They have just completed the total renovation of

the upstairs area of the Emporium into a dedicated organic, vegan, vegetarian and wholefoods section. It was closed for 16 days and re-opened on 29th May.

They employed all local tradespeople for the job, and commented on the standard of skills, hard work and

dedication offered, which allowed them to complete the extensive renovations in such a short period of time.

Even the new energy-efficient refrigeration units were made nearby in Australia. With the new space they are expanding their product range with another 200 new lines.

They plan to complete construction of the new supermarket in Sibley Street by the end of 2021. As part of their plans for the new supermarket development, they plan to create a dedicated local produce section.

This family-run business exemplifies the Buy Local principle and philosophy, with their unflagging support of local producers and the community.

So keep an eye out for our Buy Local logo and support businesses who display the Buy Local logo. You will be supporting your local economy and reducing your carbon footprint.

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

Connecting with friends and community at Nimbin Aged Care & Respite Services



Social groups and activities for all elders in our local communities:

- ♦ **Drop-In** at Bottlebrush Studio, Nimbin Community Centre, Mon-Fri 10am-2pm, for a cuppa, a chat, internet, computer, a quiet sit down.
- ♦ **Device Advice** – do you need help with your phone, tablet or laptop? Every Tues 9.30am-1pm and by appointment
- ♦ **Nimbin Social Groups** every Tues & Weds, 9.30-1pm at Bottlebrush Studio, Nimbin, with morning tea and light lunch, small fee.
- ♦ **Craft Group** Mon 3rd June & 1st July 11am-1pm at Bottlebrush Studio, explore crafts, share your own! Ring to find out more.
- ♦ **Koonorigan**: Mon 24th June, 11.30am-3pm, Bring a Plate

Lunch, Koonorigan Hall, all welcome!

- ♦ **The Channon Social Group**: Thurs 20th June, 11.30am-2pm, The Channon Tavern for lunch, all welcome, phone for more info.
- ♦ **The Outsiders**: Thurs 20th June, Annie's Garden Farm & Nursery, 10.30am-1pm for morning tea and/or lunch
- ♦ **Bus Outing**: Tues 11th June, Daily Bread Café Broadwater RSL, Evans Head / Ballina. \$15, booking essential to reserve seats. Bring or buy your own lunch.
- ♦ **Respite for Carers** – are you a Carer in need of a break, pop in or phone to discuss your needs – we may be able to help.

Nimbin Aged Care & Respite Services, phone 6689-1709, or find us on Facebook.

Lots happening at Community Centre

by Teresa Biscoe, co-ordinator

This month at the Centre, we are back into the new school term, and both the Dance Studio and the Birth and Beyond Meeting Room are busy with some great classes and groups.

In the Dance Studio we have: Shakti Moves (Women's Dance), Tai Chi (Advanced & Beginners), Adult Beginners Ballet, Belly dancing (Beginners and Intermediate), Kids Dance (modern and Jazz), Flamenco, Hoop Classes and Nia Dance.

In the Birth and Beyond Meeting Room there is: The Raise the Roof Choir, Yoga with Maz, Hatha Yoga, Chi Gong, Yoga and Aryveda, Yoga with Cameron, Yoga with Therese, Yoga for PTSD, support groups AA and

NA who meet every weekend, and the monthly Flix film (second Saturday of the month).

We also have meetings booked for Birth and Beyond, including this month, the Nimbin Chamber of Commerce General Meeting with its Buy Local Campaign and introduction to the Welcome to Nimbin Kit.

You can check out any of these bookings and details of the venues, via our website calendar. You can also book these casual hire spaces by checking for a vacancy in the online calendar, contacting the office and speaking to our coordinators.

The Nimbin Community Centre currently has two rental vacancies available to the community. A small room in the main Admin block suitable for an office, massage

space or art studio. The room has great natural light, and a sink. It also has a shared foyer space where clients can wait comfortably for an appointment.

The other vacancy is a large open space, in the building behind the market stage, suitable for a workshop or larger enterprise. The space contains a small kitchenette and has its own toilet attached and has excellent natural light.

Expressions of interest can be directed to the co-ordinators who are happy to supply the details to interested parties.

Last month we submitted an application to the My Community Project NSW. The project is to improve the disabled access to the Nimbin Aged Care and Respite Service (Rainbow Building) when clients are being dropped off for



The NACRS Rainbow Building. On-line voting will determine the success of a funding application for improved disabled access

services.

The application's success is determined by on-line votes from the local community. Voting opens in July so we will be asking the community to get behind this very worthy project and vote in the lead-up. Details on how to vote will be offered at that time.

Unfortunately, we were unsuccessful in our application for funding for the Quad project. We received some feedback from our application that will inform our future applications, and we will continue to seek funds for this and other grounds improvement and capital improvement projects.