Coalition ignores environment

by Meg Nielsen, Bentley farmer

I d like to share a few thoughts about what we need to be demanding of our candidates and elected representatives in the NSW State and Federal parliaments.

Democracy is a wonderful privilege not enjoyed by all nations... but it is also our right.

Our democratic system was intended to work, *and only works*, if there is open dialogue between the people, their elected representatives, government and parliament.

The duty of our elected representatives, is first and foremost to *listen* to the people of their electorate, and to *represent the people*. That is the way democracy is designed to work.

Democracy cannot work if MPs are bound to vote for or against an issue in the House, according to the instructions of their party.

Then it is the party power brokers who rule, according to the demands of their lobbyists and donors.

Under these conditions we are not a democracy but a 'corporatocracy'.

Tragically, this is our current system of government, resulting in the situation we now find ourselves in, where government decisions no longer reflect the wishes of the people.

Hence the refusal of both the Federal LNP Coalition and the NSW State Government to put in place any policies to avert further climate disruption. No plans for a transition from fossil fuels to renewables.

This vital issue is completely ignored despite all the reports from scientists, including the



dire warnings of the UNs IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) and the unmistakable signs of climate chaos we see all around us here in Australia and around the world.

We see both governments continuing to deliberately ignore expert advice that renewable energy generation and storage are now so much cheaper, more efficient and reliable than coal and on-shore gas (AEMO and CSIRO reports).

Renewables are ready to provide Australia with cheaper electricity now, yet we see both governments' refusal to act on this advice, continuing to promote, support and approve new coal mines, coal fired power stations and onshore gas fields, at the behest of their lobbyists and donors.

We see both governments' refusal to accept scientific advice, including the IPCC report, that we need to stop deforestation and embark on massive reforestation projects. We need to stop logging forests and clearing land so that trees can continue with their invaluable service of storing and sequestering carbon. It's estimated that our forests store one third of all the carbon emissions we create by burning fossil fuels, yet our governments continue with policies to increase logging, escalating logging intensity in our public native forests, encouraging logging of private forests, clearing native vegetation and even cutting down the few trees left in urban areas.

And so on and on they go, with all our natural resources being sold off to the highest bidder... with no consideration whatever for protection of our rivers, water resources, endangered flora and fauna, farmland or the health of our people.

It is so important for us all to understand that the parties who claim to represent the bush; the parties we once thought would look after our best interests and those of future generations, are now captured by this destructive system of serving the corporations, their lobbyists and donors.

They certainly don't serve the people or the Earth. And all this to preserve an industry! Let's consider all this and vote

wisely at election time.

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Saving the future

by John Scales Avery

Only immediate climate action can save the future. If we don't take action, the collapse of our civilizations and the extinction of much of the natural world is on the horizon.

Today we are faced with multiple interrelated crises, for example the threat of catastrophic climate change or equally catastrophic thermonuclear war, and the threat of widespread famine. These threats to human existence and to the biosphere demand a prompt and rational response; but because of institutional and cultural inertia, we are failing to take the steps that are necessary to avoid disaster.

Immediate action to halt the extraction of fossil fuels and greatly reduce the emission of CO² and other greenhouse gasses is needed to save the long-term future of human civilization and the biosphere.

At the opening ceremony of United Nations-sponsored climate talks in Katowice, Poland, (COP24), Sir David Attenborough said "Right now, we are facing a man-made disaster of global scale. Our greatest in thousands of years. Climate change. If we don't take action, the collapse of our civilizations and the extinction of much of the natural world is on the horizon. The world's people have spoken. Their message is clear. Time is running out. They want you, the decision-makers, to act now."

Antonio Guterres, UN secretarygeneral, said climate change was already "a matter of life and death" for many countries. He added that the world is "nowhere near where it needs to be" on the transition to a low-carbon economy.

Swedish student Greta Thunberg is a 15-year-old who has launched a climate protest movement in her country. She said, in a short but very clear speech after that of UN leader Antonio Guterres: "Some people say that I should be in school instead. Some people say that I should study to become a climate scientist so that I can 'solve the climate crisis'. But the climate crisis has already been solved. We already have all the facts and solutions." they should have taken long ago." All of the technology needed for the replacement of fossil fuels by renewable energy is already in place. Although renewable sources supplied only 9 % of the world's total energy requirements in 2015, they supplied 23% of electrical generation energy in 2016, and they are growing rapidly. Because of the remarkable properties of exponential growth, this will mean that renewables will soon become a major supplier of the world's energy requirements, despite bitter opposition from the fossil fuel industry.

Both wind and solar energy can now compete economically with fossil fuels, and this situation will become even more pronounced if more countries put a tax on carbon emissions, as Finland, the Netherlands, Norway, Costa Rica, the United Kingdom and Ireland already have done.

Much research and thought have also been devoted to the concept of a steady-state economy. The only thing that is lacking is political will. It is up to the people of the world to make their collective will felt.

History has given to our generation an enormous responsibility towards future generations. We must achieve a new kind of economy, a steady-state economy. We must stabilize global population. We must replace fossil fuels by renewable energy. We must abolish nuclear weapons. We must end the institution of war. We must reclaim democracy in our own countries when it has been lost. We must replace nationalism by a just system of international law. We must prevent degradation of the earth's environment. We must act with dedication and fearlessness to save the future of the earth for human civilization and for the plants and animals with which we share the gift of life.

Hope

Here is what Greta Thunberg says about hope: "And yes, we do need hope. Of course, we do. But the one thing we need more than hope is action. Once we start to act, hope is everywhere. So instead of looking for hope, look for action. Then and only then, hope will come today. I have written a 396-page book about the steps that are urgently needed in order to save the future for our children and grandchildren. The book makes use of articles and book chapters that I have previously written on our current crisis, but much new material has been added. I urge readers to download and circulate the pdf file of the book from the following link: www.fredsakademiet. dk/library/future.pdf

Kyogle Council notebook

ur hearts go out to all those people affected by the Tabulam bushfires. From day one of the disaster, Council was working with other emergency management agencies to help get essential services back up and running and return life to near as normal as possible for the survivors.

The recovery will take time, but the people of Tabulam and district are resilient and I'm confident that with support the community will come through this stronger than ever.

With the upcoming state election, I've been attending quite a few meetings with candidates to highlight our opportunities, challenges and funding requirements over the next four years.

We need a rural voice, particularly at the state level and Council is

- Establish and implement strategic regional priorities;
 Provide regional leadership/
- advocacy; and
- Collaborate across levels of Government and key agencies.
 The NRJO's vision is to support the Northern Rivers to be a unified region of well connected, integrated communities where

residents enjoy a unique balance of place, lifestyle and opportunity.

The NRJO has developed five regional strategic priorities and agreed on a number of priority projects which we will be advocating around in the lead up to the election.

Priority One – Thriving, healthy and bio diverse natural environments.

Projects: Support for the Rous Regional Watershed initiative and advocate for change to Forestry policy and planning regulations to



by Cr Danielle Mulholland

Government's Regional Roads Repair Program over the next four years.

Priority four – Innovative, sustainable energy, water and waste management.

Projects: Develop a Northern Rivers renewable energy investment prospectus and advocate for removal or redistribution of the waste levy

Priority five – A diversified,

lobbying for the establishment of a rural portfolio across all government departments so we can be included and better represented in government decision making.

The Tabulam agribusiness precinct, the Clarence Way from the Bruxner to Bonalbo, removal of the waste levy and our infrastructure backlog are among the issues we are currently lobbying around.

The Joint Organisations, (JOs) have taken off. Thirteen JOs have been established across NSW, including the Northern Rivers Joint Organisation (NRJO). The NRJO will: encourage native forestation. Priority two – Improved community wellbeing now and into the future.

Projects: Increased social housing, including crisis and emergency accommodation, to be on par with the State average of 4% of housing stock, within people's community of interest. Priority three – A physically and digitally connected region. Projects: Accelerated road repair program through doubling the funding of the Commonwealth Government's Roads to Recovery Program and the NSW prosperous and sustainable regional economy. Projects: Removal of benefit cost ratios or BCRs from funding criteria and obtain UN biosphere status.

The Statement of Strategic Priorities and information about the JO can be found at: www. northernriversjo.nsw.gov.au My next mayoral outreach meeting will be held at Cawongla on 14th March. If you have an issue or would just like a chat, please contact council on 6632-0214 to make an appointment so you're not kept waiting. She added: "Why should I be studying for a future that soon may be no more, when no one is doing anything to save that future? And what is the point of learning facts when the most important facts clearly mean nothing to our society?"

Thunberg continued: "Today we use 100 million barrels of oil every single day. There are no politics to change that. There are no rules to keep that oil in the ground. So we can't save the world by playing by the rules. Because the rules have to be changed."

She concluded by saying that "since our leaders are behaving like children, we will have to take the responsibility Other freely-downloadable books and articles on global problems can be found at the following address: http://eacpe.org/ about-john-scales-avery/

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nimbin.goodtimes@gmail.com

Why just the future? What about next Monday?

by Janelle Saffin, Labor candidate for Lismore

am writing to ask you to consider voting for me in the New South Wales State elections on 23rd March.

I am not inviting you to join a movement or to forget your past loyalties but to consider what it might mean to you, your family and community if I am elected as your State MP.

I have the experience, energy, skills and drive to represent you and am known to be a fighter and feisty when needed.

I have a reputation gained from the community. "Janelle Gets Things Done". I will "Get Things Done" for the whole Lismore electorate.

I am a local all can count on, with a record of standing up for our communities, securing services and delivering.

My motivation is simple: to make a difference.

My vision too is simple: maintain our wonderful way of life and to remove inequalities so all can share in this.

Importantly, I have the practical know-how to realise both.

My local Lismore Electorate Renewal and Service Delivery Plan will build on our historical agricultural base, that now includes a service base – health, education, aged and disability care, construction and a lively and growing arts and culture base.

We need to wrap a strong economic plan around this base, to deliver jobs and sustainable jobs.

Our area is diverse and geographically large, but there are some basic needs we all have in common, whether farmers or fishers, small business operators, childcare workers or teachers, nurses, police, home duties and more.

It is to these needs that I will respond with advocacy and delivery.

I have spoken with many of you around the electorate over past months: in Tenterfield, Kyogle, Murwillumbah and Lismore, as well as with people living in the villages and on



Janelle in action in federal parliament as the member for Page from 2007 to 2013

A fair share

The country regions of New South Wales have for years been short-changed by government in Sydney. Over the last number of years, this short-changing has accelerated to ripping off electorates such as ours. I say schools and hospitals

before the \$2.2 billion Sydney stadiums.

We need to have our fair share of infrastructure, having been denied for so long.

Even Restart NSW, the National Party centrepiece supposed to deliver 30% each year for the 30% of New South Wales folk who reside in the regions, has fallen short for five of its six years, rising from 10% to just over 17% in 2017 – 18.

Frontline services

There have been significant cuts to frontline services made by the present National/Liberal government which have impacted upon our towns and our families.

- TAFE decimated and priced out of reach
 Schools not maintained
- No safe patient and nurse ratios
- Hospitals without adequate or no security
- Rivers neglected, extension services gone, and many more

There has been neglect and that has left us with hard issues that we need to find solutions for. And it does not have to be the economy or environment. It is both.

I will move to stop and reverse the cuts to our frontline services.

Our community

(6,200 by 2026 needed) an area vacated by the National/Liberal Coalition Government for 8 years.

• Homelessness: It can be changed. I commit to reduce it.

Our environment

Sustained, funded, planned repair of the Richmond/ Wilson system to restoration and not a start/ stop regime.
Clean water, water security and protection for aquifers. No more water

extraction licenses should be countenanced. Flood protection and flood

mitigation, properly funded. • Transition to 100% renewables, zero net carbon pollution, Climate Change Act.

- Stop the extinction of our koalas.
- GST mining never raises its head again, and that the 'water-trigger' remains.

More Labor commitments

Here are some Labor policy commitments (Parliamentary Budget Office costed) – more to be delivered before the 23rd March:

- Safe patient to nurse ratios to deliver record numbers of nurses and midwives locally. Only ratios can do this.
 Security staff at local
- hospitals.Schools upgraded, maintained, air conditioned
- (solar) and fair funding.
 TAFE rebuilt, 600,000 free TAFE places across a range of skills shortage areas including plumbing,

construction, disabilitycare, aged care, renewables.Re-regulate the electricitynetwork to bring down

- electricity prices. • Regional jobs plan.
- A thriving Live Music Industry.
- Fund the poorest of the poor local roads backlog,
 \$58 million.
 Review the roads
- classification remove some cost-shifting burden off local Councils.
- Renewables Transition

 three million NSW
 homes with secure, clean
 and affordable energy by
 2030 a State-owned
 corporation to deliver
 gigawatt of renewable
 energy generation and
- storage over the next decade
- accredited electricians

to install and maintain new renewable energy infrastructure.

- 25% affordable housing government owned land – 15% private land – attack
- the homelessness crisis. • Continued and strong
- support for our Rural Fire Services and SES, and additional Ambos and Police where needed.
- Dairy and fresh food pricing advocate – fair price for dairy farmers.
- Landcare doubled to \$32 million.
- Solar panels for 500,000 homes
- Electric cars incentives and recharge stations
- A NSW Climate Change Act.

With your support I will deliver for our communities.

Janele Saffin COUNTRY LABOR CANDIDATE FOR THE LISMORE ELECTORATE

Schools and Hospitals before Sydney Stadiums



the farms throughout the electorate.

I shall now outline how I will act as your representative in Parliament and why I am asking you to consider voting for me.

Four pillars

My representation will be built on four pillars:

- education, health and hospitals.
- easing the cost of living.
 sustainable and renewables development, and
- + jobs.

There are many inequalities in the country/city divide. One of the most damaging to our families is access to employment and affordable housing.

- My initial initiatives will be to:
- Work closely with local business to revive and revitalise our CBDs.
- Implement our Regional Jobs Plan.
- Work to address public housing needs with a substantial commitment to build affordable house

Authorised by Carmel Cook, Country Labor, 4 Felicity Dr, East Lismore NSW 2480

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Rail is a vote-winner

by Beth Shelley

The people of the Northern Rivers want trains. We have a state election coming up, so we look to our political candidates to listen to the voice of the people.

Haha, just kidding. It would be great though, hey?

Austin Curtin from the Nationals and Janelle Saffin from Labor, candidates for the Lismore electorate, have the same policy when it comes to the Casino to Murwillumbah railway line.

They support the Rail Trail project which means pulling up the railway tracks and building a bike path.

They say this will protect the rail corridor for the future, but... according to s.99A of the *Transport Administration Act*, if you want to remove railway tracks, it is necessary to pass an act of parliament closing the railway line. This means the land becomes Crown reserve and is no longer protected as a rail corridor.

Changes to Crown Land legislation in 2017 indicate that a government department can easily transfer crown land to another department. This will change its status and allow sale despite any reservation within the legislation. See: www.smh. com.au/nsw/nsw-crown-landvaluation-sparks-fresh-sellofffears-20170905-gybd5g.html Sue Higginson, the Greens candidate for Lismore says, "We deserve a world class public transport system. This region is the jewel in the crown of NSW, and we want to be able to connect with each other and if you don't have a car you can't do that. It's not fair."

She says we would be mad to surrender such an important public asset as our rail corridor. I have to agree. Countries all over the world are building railways for public transport and as a way to cut carbon emissions.

We have been given false information about the condition and affordability of our railway line. What? Our politicians wouldn't lie to us. Really?

The Final Report into the Closure of the Casino to Murwillumbah Rail Service by a Parliamentary Inquiry, set up to investigate the reasons given by the NSW government for stopping services, found the reasons given were invalid and recommended immediate introduction of a regular, commuter rail service.

The Inquiry noted that the 2004-2005 Budget included a net increase to Railcorp of \$352.4 million for passenger rail services in NSW and yet Railcorp claimed they closed our railway line in order to save \$14.2 million a year over the next five years. Hmm. PriceWaterhouseCoopers did a report in September 2004 which assessed the needs in the area, looked closely at the condition of the line and came up with a plan to develop a 16 train a day commuter service with the overall cost for the repairs of \$28.8 million over 7 years.

In 2013 The ARUP report said the cost of repair would be \$953 million for 132 kms which is \$7.2 million per km. In 2017 the Byron Bay Railroad Company repaired 3 kms of track at Byron for \$2 million. We have to question how the ARUP costing could be so high.

The answer lies here in an article by the Financial Review that shows the ARUP group was successfully sued for gross negligence. See: www.afr. com/business/a-stretch-toofar-how-arup-was-broughtto-the-brink-by-airport-link-20171218-h06zry

The report on ARUP's traffic modelling for Brisconnections concluded that the number of "methodological errors and unreasonable assumptions" went "beyond the bounds of human error" and showed a "recklessness or incompetence that is inconsistent with the expected behaviour of a reasonably competent traffic forecaster".



The ARUP report convinced the people of this region that having trains on our railway line was unaffordable but we do deserve better than fake reports and bike paths.

This is the fastest growing region in NSW and the biggest tourist destination outside of Sydney. Byron Bay alone receives over two million tourists per year. From early in the morning cars are banked up on the road to Byron. There are more than 50,000 vehicles into Lismore every day.

There has never been any consultation with local communities on whether they want rail services. Reently Bill Fenelon, the

Greens candidate for Tweed, made a speech about the importance of our railway line, and a week later the LNP government announced a plan to build a light rail from Tweed to Coolangatta. Maybe the Nationals are getting worried they will lose the seat of Tweed. Interesting how they consider what people want when it looks like they might lose... Our railways

have been neglected, and the cost for the people of NSW is more traffic congestion, road accidents, road maintenance costs, air pollution, much higher carbon emissions and

Great Speak

+ Live Music By ...

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a lack of public transport. The Lismore Rally for Rail in 2018 was a great success, and on Sunday 10th March a Return of Rail Rally will be held at Billinudgel Hotel.

Trains On Our Tracks

Rally & BILLINUDGEL PUB

Supporting trains in this region will be a massive vote-winner. People from all walks of life want and need rail as the best form of public transport for our everyday lives, and as a delightful trip through our beautiful countryside.

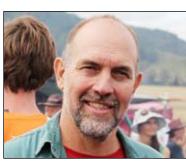
Preferences crucial in state election

he coming state election is a huge opportunity for our region to gain its own voice in what is likely to be a very close and quite possibly a hung parliament.

Recent statewide polling suggests the election will be very close but that Labor is unlikely to be able to gain a parliamentary majority in its own right. To defeat the Libs, they will need the support of the Greens members in parliament.

The Northern Rivers seats are extremely close because the Greens have for over two decades been steadily eroding the traditional support of the National Party. However, the Nats still enjoy the highest number of first preference votes, which means they can only be defeated by the combined force of Green and Labor first and second preference votes.

We need to be informed and



by Aidan Ricketts

Greens vote has steadily risen from 10% in 1999 to over 26% in 2015. Meanwhile the Nats have fallen from an average of around 52.5% down to 42% in 2015.

This tells us several things. Firstly, it destroys the myth that the popularity of the Greens in 2015 was only related to CSG; instead it was the result of a long term rising trend. that were revealed by ICAC around that time.

Sadly, only bribes in brown paper bags are defined as coal industry corruption, whereas the businessas-usual model of corruption where the industry donates millions to the major parties in exchange for unfair policy influence, goes unchallenged. I see the long term trends as being

about people's identity and values. The Nats have long traded on the idea of people voting for them because they are 'country people', and Labor has traded on the idea of 'workers' voting for them, but the influence of corporate donors, among other failings, has bred skepticism toward the old parties.

We are seeing a rising tide of people who are identifying the Greens as the party that best represents the values of the Northern Rivers as the emerging powerhouse of progressive politics, cultural innovation and economic renewal in Australia. People are looking inside of themselves to their values and saying, "I love the Northern Rivers, I want it protected and I want it to have its own unique voice, that's why I'm voting Green." With an excellent candidate in Sue Higginson and a supercharged community-based campaign, the Greens are well on track to take Lismore provided progressive voters use the power of their preferences. Now back to explain why your preferences are so important.

NSW is out of step with the federal voting system and most states and territories in that we have an optional preferential voting (OPV) system for state elections whereas the more usual method in Australia is compulsory preferential voting (CPV).

Whilst having options may sound good, in reality it massively increases the risk of your vote being wasted entirely if you don't preference wisely.

In the last election in Lismore, the Greens would have been elected under a CPV system but narrowly missed out because over 30% of Labor voters simply voted 1 for the Labor candidate and failed to follow through with a number 2 preference to the Greens.

For every one of those Labor voters who failed to preference, their votes were effectively binned in the final count, allowing the Nats to sneak back in. The same applies in reverse, Greens voters should preference Labor number 2 to also maximise the chances of tipping out the Nats. Let me also explain how your vote can get wasted if you don't preference. On the first round of counting the candidates are ranked by first preference votes alone and candidates at the bottom of the list get excluded and their preferences (if any) get distributed up the line to the candidates that are still in the race. This 'exclusion' process continues until we get to the big

three (Nats, Greens and Labor). At this point it is a very close contest between Greens and Labor for the number 2 position, whichever of them achieves number 2, becomes the 'challenger' to the Nats, number 3 gets excluded and the preferences of the excluded party then hopefully flow to the challenger.

As these successive rounds of exclusions take place, in an OPV system, any ballot papers that have no preferences left to be distributed are referred to as 'exhausted' votes, because they have nowhere left to flow.

It is important then, vital actually, for Labor and Greens and all progressive voters to enter preferences for Greens and Labor. If you don't do this, you may be helping the Nats to win.

Last election we rallied behind a call to "number every square and put

disciplined when we vote because the voting system is designed to favour a two-party system and to break that system we need to use the power of our preferences wisely.

Analysis of the voting figures for the last 5 elections in Lismore tells the story of the long term voting trends. The Greens are the only party consistently growing its vote. It is the Greens rather than Labor that are driving the Nats towards defeat. We know this because the Labor vote has not risen above its 1999 level and has in fact receded slightly over successive elections to 26% in 2015. In the same time the Secondly, it shows us that the Greens (not Labor) have been the actual two-party preferred challenger to the Nats in both the 2011 and 2015 elections in Lismore and are likely to maintain that position on current trends. The Greens eclipsed the Labor vote in 2008 and have maintained that position.

Third, it shows the continuing decline in the Nats vote.

The 2011 election results are a little anomalous however because the Labor vote crashed (causing a temporary spike for the Nats) on the basis of the coal corruption scandals

the Nats last". This can still work, but for simplicity the new slogan is "1 and 2 is all you need to do," meaning that as long as you have preferenced the Greens and Labor then your vote will definitely count. If you are voting first for a micro party then you may be safer following the old "put the Nats last" rule if you really want your vote to help tip out the Nats and give the Northern Rivers its unique voice as the clean Green capital of cultural innovation that it can be. Of course, it is your right to number your ballot paper how you choose, but this is my advice.

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nimbin.goodtimes@gmail.com

Losing the home town advantage

by Dionne May

e're playing away from home this year. There are no familiar faces in the crowd, no cheers from the sidelines... and the playing field is new and treacherous. I've packed up and moved on a lot in

my life. Most Australians have. Leaving behind home towns and memories in droves.

Foregoing our hometown advantage, Australians went searching for greener pastures, better jobs, better lives.

Did we even fully understand what that advantage was before we all charged down that consumer highway to a "better" life?

Communities dwindled across Australia as more time went into pursuing individual pursuits and possessions... even in Nimbin.

So we are searching for a new alternative life, a new community, and in doing so the one fact I cannot change is that this will, and does, take time.

What we have lost is our hometown advantage. Walking down town and knowing every face, greeting friends with wide open hugs, the richness of memories and of shared experiences... of growing older together.

Slowly over time, your web of social interactions grows strong and you within that web have a home, have a place.

Character and integrity are carved over time in a multitude of simple ways. Your willingness to lend a hand, your



ability to be fair and reasonable, or have the strength of your own convictions. Do you take the time to greet people, make eye contact, smile as you go about your day, even if you are having a shitty

day? Do you notice the stray dogs, the stray people? Are you humble in your luck and generous of your time?

Of course every person's criteria will differ, but generally over time all things are revealed... the good, the bad and the ugly.

So here we are, both blank canvases. Older, we both realise that the youthful joy of ambiguity has been replaced with the wisdom of knowing what our home town advantage truly was.

We have no town to go to, and no-one knows us here. Our past in Nimbin is effectively reduced to memories as we



strive to create new connections in our new environment.

So far we have found the dugongs, turtles, sharks and sea eagles to be especially friendly!

And by small deeds, by living our amazing creative lives contentedly, perhaps one day we will again be a part of a rich and warm human community like Nimbin once was.

Now king tides ripple and swirl under my houseboat as gusting winds shake and rattle outside.

Like the early years of building alone on my community, the days are quiet... immersed in my daily chores, in the astounding beauty of the environment. The ocean literally surrounds and

cradles me... caressing me to sleep at night with the ancient rhythm of the tides. For now, she is our home.



by Therese Biscoe

The Nimbin Flix movie choice for Saturday 9th March in the Birth and Beyond meeting room is *Tomorrow*.

A phenomenon in Europe and winner of the Best Documentary at the Cesar Awards (the French Oscars), *Tomorrow* is a hugely positive, affirming and inspirational film.

Produced and co-directed by activist and writer Cyril Dion and actress/ filmmaker Melanie Laurent, this documentary explores creative solutions in the fields of food, energy, education, economics and transports.

Cyril and Melanie visit permaculture farms, urban agriculture and community-owned renewable projects and creative schools in different parts of the world to offer concrete solutions, to take action and to make a difference. community-led projects and regularly receives standing ovations, leading to the creation of many new community actions. It is the perfect antidote to the current sense of global despondency. It also has a

great soundtrack! Today, we sometimes feel powerless in

front of the various crises of our times. Today, we know that answers lie in a wide mobilisation of the human race. Over the course of a century, our dream of progress commonly called "the American Dream", fundamentally changed the way we live and continues to inspire many developing countries.

We are now aware of the setbacks and limits of such development policies.

We urgently need to focus our efforts on changing our dreams before something irreversible happens to our planet.

Today, we need a new direction, objective... A new dream! The documentary *Tomorrow* sets out to showcase alternative and creative ways of viewing agriculture, economics, energy and education.

It offers constructive solutions to act on a local level to make a difference on a global level. So far, no other documentary has gone down such an optimistic road...



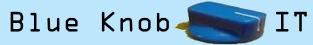
beginning of a movement seeking to encourage local communities around the world to change the way they live for the sake of our planet.

Start small to grow big, and write a new story for the generations to come. *Tomorrow* is also a book, see: www. chelseagreen.com/tomorrow

The trailer can be viewed at: www. tomorrow-documentary.com/#trailersection

Doors open at 7pm for a 7.30 start. \$10 entry, members free.

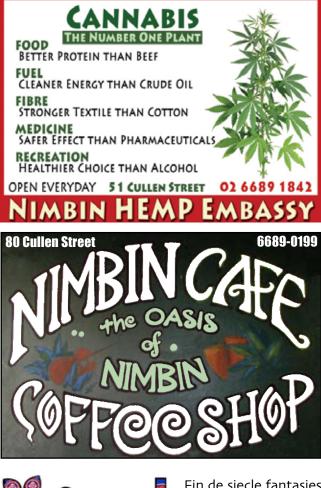
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Fill up your ears as well as your belly at this year's Eat the Street food festival and head to the Southern Cross University music stage to be entertained all day and late into the evening.

The 2019 Eat the Street music line-up includes performances by the Youth Jazz Orchestra, Tom Mwansa, Sara Tindley and Ash Bell, The Romaniacs, Jimmy Willing & The Real Gone Hick-Ups and Timbuktu.

Headlining this year is popular dance group Wild Marmalade, who are known for their high-energy didgeridoo and drum dance music and their ability to get a crowd dancing anywhere, anytime. Lismore will be treated to an extra

special show, as Eat the Street serves up

the Wild Marmalade big band. Featuring the original Wild Marmalade line-up alongside Paul George from Tijuana Cartel and legendary percussionist Ben Walsh, this show promises to take things to the next level.

Eat the Street will come alive on Saturday 9th March from 12 to 9pm in the heart of Lismore. There will be more than 50 stalls offering tasting plates, plus boutique drinks and beverages, homegrown produce and locally made products.

The popular cooking stage will return with celebrity chef Matt Golinski holding two ticketed masterclasses on Saturday as well as a free live demonstration and Q&A.

There are several other ticketed events

happening in the lead-up to the festival.

On Thursday 7th March there will be a Progressive Dinner around Lismore with diners enjoying five courses over five spectacular venues.

On Friday 8th March bushfood expert Peter Hardwick will lead a Food Expedition and teach people how to pickle, preserve and ferment with local native ingredients.

If drinks are more to your taste, join Howard Johnson from The Loft for a Mixology Masterclass, using awardwinning local spirits from Cape Byron Distillery and Husk Distillery.

For more information or bookings for the ticketed events, visit: www. eatthestreetlismore.com.au

Pre-election Green vibes at Italo club

A collection of music creatives, known for articulating the values and aspirations of our community regarding looking after the planet and sustainability, will present a concert of 'Green Vibes' on Saturday 16th March at Italo Club Lismore from 6.30pm.

This gathering has been organised to show support for Sue Higginson's campaign and the NSW Greens, and as a thank you to the hundreds of volunteers who have given time and energy to the local campaign.

Featuring Keith Bale, Wendy Ford Band, Pagan Love Cult, Timbuktu and Monkey & the Fish. Entry \$15/\$10 concession. Meals available 6.30-8pm.



Festival of Love comes to Lismore



I Want To Know What Love Is throws a spotlight on long-buried memories, bedroom fantasies, crushes and conquests.

Acclaimed Queensland performance collective The Good Room asked members of the public to anonymously submit their stories of love – fragments and memories, confessions and admissions – and they've transformed those secret submissions into magnificent declarations centre stage.

The result is joyous, sexy and

heartbreaking: a dizzying ride through love's collision course. NORPA has something very special

NORPA has something very special in store for the performances of *I Want* to Know What Love Is. With the help of local artist Tory Bauer (*Splendour in the Craft, Craft Mafia*) NORPA are creating a Festival of Love around the shows.

Get into bed with NORPA, sip on an aphrodisiac drink at the Love Bar, take in a special pre-show performance or request your favourite love song from the DJ.

Playing Friday 29th and Saturday 30th March, 7.30pm at Lismore City Hall, with the Festival of Love including installations, music, food and drink from 6pm. \$25 - \$54. Book at: www. norpa.org.au

Buy your tickets before 19th March and you will automatically go in the draw to stay overnight in a 'Lovemore' motel room close to the theatre, lovingly decorated by a guest artist just for you.

Jimmy Willing's cool green country gig

On Saturday 16th February, one week after the Greens Party launch, Jimmy Willing about the oncoming school strike Global #Climatestrike for action on climate change from our government. At the end, she invited us adults to join in on Friday 15th March at 10am at the Quadrangle, in between the Regional Art Gallery and the Library. Jimmy Willing and the Real Gone Hick-Ups played an amazing set. Mick Daley and the Re-Mains (pictured), who had just come up from the Tamworth Country Music Festival, finished off a great get-together to raise funds, raise awareness and connect with like-minded people.



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47 Cullen Street, Nimbin

presented his 'Cool Green Country' fundraiser for Sue Higgenson and the Greens at the Lismore Bowling Club. The line-up consisted of eight musical acts with S and Bertie Page as MC's. The three hundred plus crowd enjoyed a great variety of music and food for thought from the MC's. A major highlight was when Sue Higginson called on one of her younger friends and supporters at the end of her

address to the crowd.

Young Elsa Bertram spoke

nimbin.goodtimes@gmail.com

Ballina Players: It could be any one of us

What would you do if you got a phone call out of the blue from a former piano teacher who claims that he is going to leave everything he possessed to you ?

In Ballina Players latest production 'It Could Be Any One Of Us', that's what happened to Wendy Windwood, played by Mechelle Anderson.

In a remote country house live three siblings, all of them artistic failures. The eldest Mortimer Chalke (Carl Moore) is a composer, whose music has never amounted to anything despite winning the Young Composer of the Year in 1966. His sister Jocelyn Polegate (Julieanne Basham), a flighty writer who has never published anything even though she has started 34 books, and their brother Brinton (Peter Harding) an odd, eccentric man who claims he's a painter. Living with them is Jocelyn's daughter Amy Polegate (Hillary Goodsell) and Jocelyn's boyfriend Norris Honeywell (Mick Webb), an insurance investigator who wants to be a detective.

After an argument with Norris and his family, Mortimer who holds the entire family fortune, decides to cut his siblings out of his will, announcing to all, that he is instead leaving it to a former piano student. Wendy, the former piano student is now 20 years older, married, with three boys (Gary, Graham and Gilbert). Wendy and her husband Ollie, own both a pet shop and a newsagency. To further emphasise his threat, Mortimer invites Wendy to the house to survey her inheritance, where she announces the estate would be used to fulfil her dream of breeding King Charles spaniels.

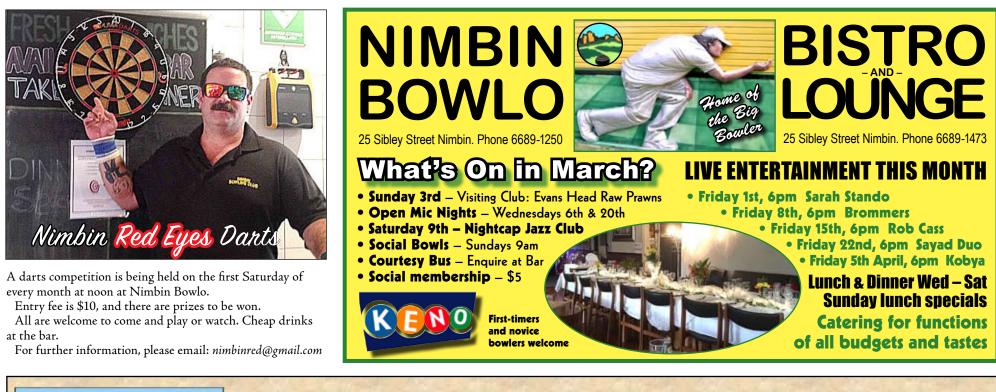
After Wendy arrives, a series of 'accidents' start occurring, all these accidents could be potentially fatal. Is Wendy the target ?

It Could Be Any One Of Us runs from Friday 22nd March through to 31st March. Tickets are available online at: ballinaplayers.com.au/bookings (no booking fee) or at Just Funkin Music in 124 River St, Ballina (\$2 per ticket booking fee) or phone 02 6686 2440. Opening night special will include

canapes and a free drink from 7.15pm.



Wendy Windwood (Mechelle Anderson), Mortimer Chalke (Carl Moore) and Brinton Chalke (Peter Harding).





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