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by Sue Edmonds

A huge crowd and competitors gathered for the Nimbin Pool Olympics of 2020 on 26th January.

All events were enthusiastically contested, with several close finishes thrilling the crowd. This year the events were accompanied by Christine, Betty and Sandy on drums, kazoo and tambourine, adding an extra zing to the morning.

It was great to see some families of three generations enjoying their quality time together, with prizes going to Sledge, the grandfather (pictured, above) and Amelie, one of the grand-daughters.

People were very generous with their donations, so the pool fund now has some reserves for incidentals as they pop up.

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped make



the morning so enjoyable and efficient. A big thanks to John, our maintenance worker, who had the pool in sparkling condition again.

The pool opens at 6am and

closes at sunset, so there's plenty of hours in a day to cool off and swim or paddle.

See you at our own Olympics next year.



Gwen and Karl

# Stop 5G Global Protest Day

by Omega Breakspear

People came out in thousands worldwide on 25th January to voice their concerns about the rapid expansion of mobile phone cell towers and 5G.

In Lismore, despite a torrential downpour, around 50 activists showed up to support the Stop 5G Global Protest Day.

The protest was held in front of the Optus shop and mobile phone tower in Molesworth Street. One man had an RF and EMF meter and recorded high levels of radiation there and further down the street near the Telstra tower.

Jason Bradshore from the Stop 5G Tweed Heads group was there. He said the group is trying to create awareness of the potential harm of all wireless technology.

"I've spoken to Katie Milne, mayor of Tweed Shire," Jason said, "and they have the power to stop the big mono poles, but they can't stop small cells being placed on light poles down our streets."

He's concerned that they are putting one in Banora Point right outside a retirement home. He said, "There's plenty of research out there already that 4G small cells do create health impacts."

International radio frequency



(RF) expert Professor Leszczynski from Helsinki agrees with Jason. Leszczynski, who gave a public lecture at Griffith University, said he is concerned about the lack of understanding. He has advised the World Health Organisation about the potential effects on human health.

Electromagnetic pollution from cell towers and phones also has well-documented effects on bees. It has been linked to bee colony collapse disorder and migratory bird navigation problems.


The Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency

(ARPANSA), which regulates the industry, has admitted that 5G penetrates the skin and eyes.

They have said that radiation safety standards need to be reviewed before the 5G roll-out.

As Bianca, a young woman at the protest expressed, "I don't know where I'm going to live. I don't want to be constantly exposed to this radiation that's overwhelmingly dangerous and installed without our permission."

The Lismore event was one of 265 protests held worldwide, co-ordinated by: [stop5ginternational.org](http://stop5ginternational.org)



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# Community support needed for Museum site redevelopment

by Bob Dooley

More than five years have passed since the fire that knocked out Nimbin's two front teeth on 14th August, 2014.

Now, the DA for the re-development of the old Museum site at 60-62 Cullen Street has finally been listed to be presented and debated for approval at the February Lismore Council meeting.

However, the site owners, David Piesse and Dr Simon Rose, say they may defer the application, and are doing a total reassessment of the project.

"Dealing with council has been a totally soul-destroying exercise. We came in with enthusiasm and love of the community, and now we are close to giving up," said Mr Piesse.

The landowners said their vision from the beginning was a laneway with small interesting shops with affordable rents, leading to a lively enclosed garden area with a timber pavilion and various garden levels, that would be open for community use.

A revised DA was presented to Council last year, and was on public exhibition until 22nd January.

The pared-down revised design is for 12 shops, four cafes, a medical centre, toilets, a Nimbin Rocks viewing platform, garden space, a covered laneway and enclosing fences.

In the revised plans, gone are the issues that Council staff expressed a disapproval for: the Asian-inspired pavilion, the wavy garden walls, the Moon Gates, and the Rainbow Serpent-themed cover over the laneway and entry.

Additionally, the locations of the medical centre and toilets have been moved, and the floorspace of three of the shops has been altered.

Since then, council has issued a number of Deferred Commencement Conditions requiring cosmetic changes to the parapet designs along the laneway, various individual shopfront designs, and balustrade



David Piesse and Simon Rose at the museum fire site in 2015

and gate designs, apparently to unify the appearance, in line with a narrow interpretation of the Lismore DCP.

The inspiration for Rainbow Lane was influenced by Asian, Middle Eastern and early European laneways, to create a vibrant feel.

"Dealing with Council staff micro-managing detail to such a degree that it no longer feels like our project, has been disappointing to say the least," said Mr Piesse.

Another requirement that the laneway maintains a minimum width of 2.5 metres through the garden further compromises the garden layout, and would likely rule out the proposed water feature.

"We wanted that the garden would activate Nimbin in a positive way with small events. We felt the community would actively utilise the beautiful pavilion for meetings and events," Mr Piesse said.

"All of these dreams are gone, thanks to the Council. Now they want us to build a garden that may enhance a prison, but certainly not Nimbin.

"Our options are now to go ahead

with the DA and build a project that we will not love, sell the land, or only build shops along Cullen Street without a garden or laneway.

"If we do away with the garden and laneway, Council will have a lot less say in the project, and it is now the most likely outcome."

A handful of Councillors and council staff met at the old Museum site in January to discuss the development plans, including hours of business and locking down the laneway, loading zones and car parking.

People interested in this issue should lobby their Councillors, and attend the upcoming Council meeting on Tuesday 11th February, either to register to speak about the proposal, or just be there to observe.

In the meantime, the DA for the Rainbow Cafe site has been approved, and tenders are now being received for its construction.

But Nimbin's hopes for a rebuilt, revitalised town centre any time soon now rest the the Councillors.

Their contact details are on Council's website.

# Vinnies bushfire response continues

by Robin Osborne

We have distributed \$3.8 million so far from the Vinnies Bushfire Appeal, mostly as direct cash payments for bushfire-impacted households in NSW, Victoria, SA, Queensland and Canberra/Goulburn.

In addition, large volumes of food, water, clothing, toiletries, bedding, and other essentials have been provided by Vinnies

volunteers in their local communities.

Vinnies is also distributing government Emergency Relief Funds to people in affected communities on behalf of the Federal Government.

In the last two weeks of January, we distributed more than \$1.1 million nationally to well over 1,000 households.

Our volunteers continue to provide emotional and psychological support

as well as financial and material support in the communities in which they work and live.

Assessing people and ensuring the right assistance is provided takes time.

Vinnies understands the public sentiment for funds to reach people as quickly as possible, and our volunteers are providing relief to as many communities affected by fires as they can.

We are here for the long term, and will offer our

support to people and communities as they begin to rebuild their lives.

We extend a heartfelt thanks to the many generous individuals, businesses and community groups who have donated to the Vinnies Bushfire Appeal, which has raised \$13.7 million.

For bushfire assistance, please call Vinnies on 13-18-12. Donations to the Vinnies Bushfire Appeal can be made at: [www.bushfireappeal.com.au](http://www.bushfireappeal.com.au)



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# Australia Day / Invasion Day?

by Aniko Papp

With much debate and angst around this day, we seem to be beset by political opinion, but where is the voice of the everyday indigenous men or women?

Working with indigenous families on remote communities in the Northern Territory gave me the opportunity to ask: "What does this day mean to you?"

Millie and I chatted as she deftly wove an earring using pandanus fibre. This proud Rembarnga woman from Central Arnhem, is a healer and an elder with eight languages, of which English is the last.

The problems with the removal of family, the stolen generation, and the impact of colonisation on her people, is, according to Millie, self-evident and ever present. She thinks that Australia Day recognises the success of settlement and the fruitfulness of the land, but it also reflects the bad times for her people.

Millie wants Australia Day to remain, but says that true reconciliation between her people and the colonists (white Australia), hasn't happened yet. In her culture, if someone comes to your land, you ask for permission to enter, you give respect: you don't just take.

One of my Gurindji workmates thinks Australia Day is a good excuse for a holiday. But perhaps there should be another public holiday (May 8: Mate's Day) to recognise the survival of her people, the stolen generation and the taking of their lands. If changing the Australia Day date helps with reconciliation, then she feels that perhaps the day should change.

With his cowboy hat and boots, Kenivan has been a stockman working with cattle most of his life. Talking to me as a Ngarinman elder and traditional owner, he carefully



Min Min Man



Millie and Aniko

pronounces his thoughts.

Kenivan's family has been directly affected either by being stolen, massacred, or removed to missions. He says that Australia Day is for all Australians, including his people, everyone's kids and their families.

Kenivan reckons that it's good for Europeans to celebrate the day, but for his people it's a sad day. Bad things happened throughout the Aboriginal nation and are still happening now. This proud elder wants the PM to say "sorry" each and every Australia Day to help his people heal. Kenivan feels that while we can't change the past, you can be sorry about it.

For a mate of mine who is a Torres Strait Islander woman, her nana was stolen and refused to speak about it and for her; this represents the truth of colonisation. She says that we can't change the past but to lots of black people, it is invasion day.

She wants Australia Day to remain in order to celebrate what this nation is right now. But perhaps there ought to be another, a national public holiday, where what happened to her people is recognised and acknowledged. Australia

has two histories, the British conquest and the black history, and she feels that both sides need to agree on what Australia Day means.

Generations of Deb's Wagaya people from the Barkley region of NT, worked and still work on some of the biggest cattle stations in the world. Deb recalls waiting with buckets outside the butchers to collect their pay, which was in meat and dry rations. Her mob has been grudgingly granted tiny pockets of land out of millions of acres of land.

The pastoral station has become a multi-million dollar business, built on the backs of decades of labour from her mob. Deb wants a day when all Australians can get together to celebrate this nation, but for her, that day isn't Australia Day, which she sees as invasion day. Another day should become Australia Day and 26th January ought to be Sorry Day to reflect on the heartache caused to her people.

Let's not forget that our indigenous people are Australians too. Until all Australians have undergone reconciliation, as Millie says, 26th January will always be a vexed occasion for her and her people.

# Aussie Aussie Aussie!

by Simon Thomas

I recently returned to our smoky shores from across the Ditch to be confronted by the vacuous malaise of rhetoric and ritual which steams out from middle Australia every January 26.

Is "Aussie, Aussie, Aussie, oi, oi, oi" really the best we can offer to honour 100 millennia of human habitation on our harsh and beautiful continent?

While other countries dig deep to uncover the roots of their cultural heritage, we cling desperately to celebrating the one day in the calendar which most alienates those who have occupied the land for 99.8 % of human history.

Although Maori people still suffer from disadvantage, the difference in societal attitudes between Australia and NZ is stark indeed. As a child, I was fascinated by the cartoonish image of the noble savage portrayed in Australian history books and Rolf Harris songs. I even felt a strange pride that our indigenous folk had led the world in stone-grinding technology at some time in the distant past, while I also idealised the deeds of Captain Cook.

However, indigenous culture was something as foreign to me as a lost Amazonian tribe. I was therefore astonished the first time our school was visited by a New Zealand football team and I witnessed a crew of white-skinned boys performing the Haka with wholehearted zeal. The idea of my fellow students putting on a corroboree



or anything remotely similar was unthinkable, even laughable.

It is instructive to note that Kiwis of European descent refer to themselves with the Maori word *Pakeha*. We don't even have a word for European Australians, and we continue to describe our First Nations people as Aborigines, which could refer to indigenous people from any part of the world; or worse still, the grammatically absurd *Aboriginals*.

I happened to be in Lyttelton, the nearest port to Christchurch, for the commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the arrival of HMS *Endeavour* on New Zealand shores.

Rather than highlighting the claim to British sovereignty over the land such as our own planned \$50,000,000 Captain Cook memorial, there was a low-key acknowledgement of the meeting of two cultures.

A flotilla of beautifully carved and painted Maori waka (canoes) took off in such blustery conditions that the visiting tall ship, *Spirit of New Zealand*,

was forced to stay in the dock, and later, a convivial meeting between Maori and Pakeha took place on sacred ancestral land.

Why is it that the Pakeha find it within their hearts to embrace and integrate Maori culture and language while a large swathe of Australians seem so threatened by our own indigenous traditions that they demean and even demonise the culture?

After all, this is the civilisation which successfully maintained a healthy ecological balance on this challenging continent for longer than any other continuous human society anywhere. Is it not possible that we have a great deal to learn?

To me, the obsession of our political elite with the glorification of European culture reeks of insecurity and cultural immaturity. Take for example the staggeringly grandiose war memorial for which the prime minister has recently announced a half billion dollar funding boost.

Incredibly, it does not mention the (frontier) wars. Not even once. Imagine that; the war which established the current system of government in our country is shunned from our national psyche like the Corona virus. It makes Basil Fawley look positively woke.

I dream of the day when every Australian, even those whose heritage goes back thousands of years, can feel proud to be an Aussie, and changing the day we celebrate nationhood would be a damn good start.





# NIMBIN ENVIRONMENT CENTRE NEWS

by Scott Sledge, president

Many people have asked about the trees that have been cut and piled up along Calico Creek near Crofton Road north of Nimbin.

The contractor, Earth Logistics, told us that all were camphor laurel or privet that had infested the stream bank. The landowners want weeds removed (we have been assured no poison has been used) and the riparian zone fenced off from cattle grazing. Housing development is not planned for these paddocks.

Anyone who wants to volunteer to plant native trees can contact Earth Logistics on their web site: [www.earthlogistics.com.au](http://www.earthlogistics.com.au) or phone the director, Peter Sutton on 0428-454-504.

The project will run about 10 years.

## Forest recovery

We have recently seen huge tracts of forest devastated by fire, some still burning. Many people are willing to help with forest regeneration and many more, who can't do actual planting, are donating money. Others are lobbying government at all levels to assist the regen efforts. Anyone wanting to help reforest areas that were damaged in the Mt Nardi fires can donate here: [www.rainforest4.org](http://www.rainforest4.org)

The founding director of Rainforest Rescue, Kelvin Davies, started the Rainforest 4 Foundation and the R4 Emergency Bushfire Recovery Tree Planting Campaign in order to make a quick start on replanting trees lost in the fires near Mt. Nardi.

I've been happy with the public's concern for our wild species and the basic level of understanding that humans do not live – and cannot thrive – in a world without a complete and healthy ecosystem. Even some of the politicians have got the message.

My thanks go to the NSW Environment Minister Matt Kean for calling out the blockheads who refuse to see that the increasing fire threats are due to our climate becoming drier and hotter. (Last year was the hottest on record in Australia, and the second driest.)

The fossil fools say that Australia has always been hot and dry, but most commentators call the recent fire events "unprecedented." The fossil fools say that arsonists are to blame or that "greenies" have stopped burn-offs that reduce fuel accumulation, but expert firefighters say most fires are started by lightning strikes, while recognising that backburns that "get away" and tossers



Sledge on Crofton Road pointing at the machinery taking out weed trees north of Nimbin. Photo: Tyson Sledge

throwing cigarette butts and matches around also start bushfires.

I heard one scientist say on radio that we're creating a "biofeedback loop": the more human-emitted greenhouse gases, the more heat and drought, which lead to catastrophic fires that emit more carbon and cause heat and drought to increase.

We'll find no real solution to this deadly loop until we come to terms with our need to reduce planetary pollution. We can't simply pay for the damage and go back to how it was before.

Of course we can – and should – help the forests recover and assist wildlife to survive, but the bulk of forest biota gets killed by the high-heat fires we've had this summer. We'll need sound planning to rehabilitate damaged areas. Unless we use the brains and technologies available to us then much of Australia will likely become desert... and soon.

Nature Conservation Council of NSW does good work. Donations via: [https://natureorg.nationbuilder.com/donation\\_one\\_off](https://natureorg.nationbuilder.com/donation_one_off)

Like many people, I had a vague notion that we had a decade or more to change our ways, but this summer has proved otherwise. We are well and truly into the disaster predicted by the large majority of the world's climate scientists – except for a few who are paid by fossil fuel companies to throw bulldust in our eyes.

Here's an extract from a truly inspiring collaboration of university researchers:

"The challenge of environmental recovery is substantial and complex, and recovery can be interpreted in many ways. To make the task as tractable and

well directed as possible, considered and explicit target setting, at short-, medium- and long-term intervals, and across varying spatial scales, is desirable, with monitoring reporting regularly on progress towards those targets.

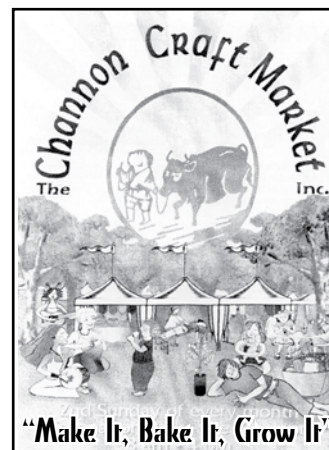
"We characterise this set of wildfires as a catastrophe, but we note also that impacts depend heavily on context. The impacts (and extent of recovery) will be influenced by how long drought persists at any site into the recovery period. The severity and duration of impact and capability to recover depends also on the antecedent history of fire, which varies from place to place. Where the current fires add to a succession of wildfires or controlled fires at the same sites, negative impacts on nature will be greatly amplified.

"Furthermore, impact and response also depends on the characteristic of species themselves (Woinarski and Recher 1997) and the way that individual species interact with others. Many plant species have strong evolutionary traits enabling them to persist through, or even exploit intense summer fires, or else recover rapidly from them (Miller et al. 2019). Others do not. Moreover, big events such as this produce a rush of resources that some species exploit, sometimes to the detriment of others."

Ref: Chris Dickman, Don Driscoll, Stephen Garnett, David Keith, Sarah Legge, David Lindenmayer, Martine Maron, April Reside, Euan Ritchie, James Watson, Brendan Wintle, John Woinarski (2020) 'After the catastrophe: a blueprint for a conservation response to large-scale ecological disaster', *Threatened Species Recovery Hub*, January 2020.



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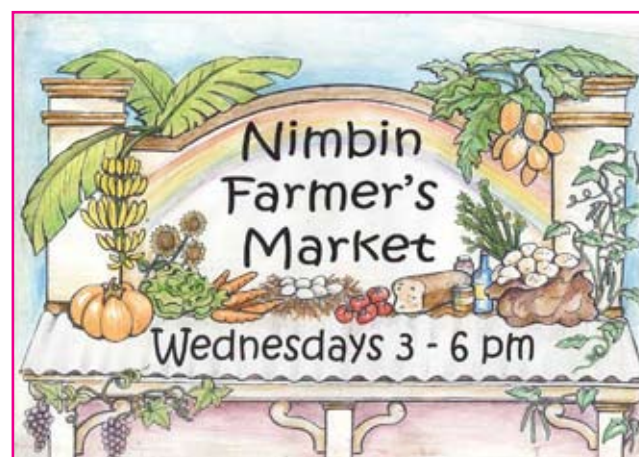
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## Nimbin Open Learning Courses

Term one begins on Tuesday 11th February, running for eight weeks at the Community School classroom in the Community Centre.

Classes include Tai chi, life drawing, creative writing, herbal first aid, introduction to dance, singing for fun, and gut health and fermented foods.

All courses cost \$60.

Enrolments in person were available on 5th and 6th February, however late enrolments may be accepted in some courses during the following week.

Phone Judy at the Nimbin Community School on 6689-1477, or find us on facebook at Nimbin Open Learning.



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#### Women's Dinner and Gala

The 17th Annual Nimbin Women's Dinner and Comedy Gala will be held on Thursday 5th March. See poster in this edition of NGT for the line-up. Tix and table bookings via NNIC, or tix available on the door. Watch our facebook page for updates. Always a great night out – not to be missed.

#### WANTED: Digital mentors

Every week at NNIC we get regular requests for assistance with using smart phones and other fandangled devices, especially from older folks. We are looking to recruit some additional volunteers to be trained up as official digital mentors to help us to address this need.

Are you a bit of a tech head who likes helping people out? Then the Digital Mentor training is for you! The training will be held in mid-March in Nimbin, and places are limited so email us on [admin@nnic.org.au](mailto:admin@nnic.org.au) to register your interest

#### WANTED: Superheroes

Needed to attend events and festivals around the region with the Nimbin Community Drug Action Team (CDAT). Male/s – must be of slim build and 6' or less; females – size 12-14, average height. Acting skills an advantage. We provide training, including acting tips. Superheroes must have a working with children check clearance, or be willing to obtain. Apply to: [admin@nnic.org.au](mailto:admin@nnic.org.au)

#### WANTED: Sibley Street volunteers

We need volunteers for gardening jobs, a few building and handyman jobs, and to help us open up more often. If you have skills to share, you could conduct workshops or activities at the same time as keeping an eye on the shop and the tools and equipment library.

There is also a range of other interesting activities that can be done at 7 Sibley Street, so come on down and get involved. Drop by and chat with



Male Richmond Birdwing Butterfly

Steph on Mondays-Wednesdays, or else email her on: [sibley@nnic.org.au](mailto:sibley@nnic.org.au)

For more info on this project, check out our websites.

#### Welcome to Nimbin Kit

Have you moved into Nimbin in the last six months or so? Or do you know someone who has? Maybe you have a new neighbour? Then the Welcome to Nimbin Kit is for you.

This kit is designed to start conversations between new neighbours and get newcomers started on everything they need to know to become part of the wondrous fabric of Nimbin. The kits are available at NNIC for distribution to new community members, and are also at Nimbin Hills Real Estate agency.

#### Climate change – how to adapt?

Sadly, we must now face the reality of climate change and find ways to adapt in the face of it. Exactly how we will do this will be the subject of discussion during 2020.

We are aiming to add key adaptation issues into the Sustainable Nimbin Community Plan (SNCP), which until now has focused on climate change mitigation in the hope that the catastrophe could be avoided. While there is still hope that humanity will come to its senses, it is clear that in the meantime we will be dealing with increasing heat, decreasing rainfall and increased bushfire and catastrophic weather events.

Now is the time to start planning for

the survival of our community and our local environment and our beloved wildlife into the future. Watch this space and our website and Facebook page for updates. It is anticipated that there will be several community forums held on this topic in 2020.

#### Richmond Birdwing Butterfly

In late November 2019, about three weeks after the start of the Mt Nardi bushfire emergency, we saw a huge number of Richmond Birdwing Butterflies appear all over our catchment area, and it is thought they fled the forest en masse for lack of food and/or to escape the

fires, the heat and smoke. Thanks to everyone who reported sightings.

How many of the vines, upon which their larvae are totally dependent, have survived the bushfires is as yet unknown. The vines must be mature (min 7-10 years old) and have fresh new growth to support the caterpillars when they hatch. Hopefully enough butterflies made it back to the vines in time to lay their eggs.

We are watching out for a possible second hatching around March 2020, so please continue to report any sightings of live RBBs to: [admin@nnic.org.au](mailto:admin@nnic.org.au)

In the meantime if you know of any mature vines, it is worth keeping water up to them and mulching them if you are able, to help prevent a local extinction of this amazing butterfly species.

Contact the Nimbin Environment Centre for info about sourcing the vines to plant at your place.

*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 call 6689-1692 or just drop in between 10am and 4pm weekdays.*

[www.nnic.org.au](http://www.nnic.org.au)

[www.facebook.com/pages/Nimbin-Neighbourhood-and-Information-Centre](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Nimbin-Neighbourhood-and-Information-Centre)

## Nimbin Hospital information

#### Child immunisation clinic

For 0-5 year olds, held on second Tuesday of the month. Next clinic: 11th February. 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 February. 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 February.
- Respiratory clinic: second Tuesday of the month, next will be on 11th February. 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 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 each month at the hospital, at 9.30am. Next meeting: 4th March. New members are always welcome.







## NACRS ‘outsiders’ group: Two years on and going strong

Back in January of 2018, a group of 12 locals attended the inaugural Nimbin Aged Care and Respite Services morning tea group at the Cawongla Store.

This group was set up to encourage older people who live on the western side of Nimbin to get together on a regular basis for social

interaction and networking, such an important feature of strong viable communities.

Each month, the group has doubled in number, creating a vibrant social atmosphere.

We meet at the four local cafes along Kyogle and Blue Knob Roads: Sphinx Rock Cafe, Blue Knob Gallery

Cafe, Annie’s Garden Cafe and Cawongla Store.

Local cuisine is enjoyed, new friendships forged and stories swapped.

If you would like to come along and enjoy these social occasions, please phone NACRS on 6689-1709 and speak with the group facilitator Lois Polglase.

## Kyogle community youth forum proves a winner

by Paul Shields

Last December saw the Kyogle CDAT in conjunction with Kyogle Youth Action host its community forum, the skate-themed *Happy Ollie Days!* which was aimed at young people and their carers with an alcohol and other drugs focus.

The event saw a great turn-out with a mixture of a community forum (which allowed young people to raise questions and concerns) as well as a much-hyped treasure hunt which saw some great interactions between youth workers, young people and other service providers.

The event did encounter a number of issues in the lead-up – the bushfire crisis impacting on the area since September led to the cancellation of a number of bus services that were scheduled to bring young people in from Drake, Bonalbo, Woodenbong and Casino.

Further, much-needed rain on the day led to a last-minute relocation from the skate park to the laneway community space.

Despite these issues, we still had a great turn out on the day from young people and service providers such as NSW Health, the Red Cross, ACON, and others in attendance – with a special shout out to the support crew from the Mid North Richmond Neighbourhood Centre, who



Molly Jane performing

brought a caravan of stuff and a van-load of youth, and ran a number of the skate and art workshops.

The event culminated in a series of live performances from local young people, with an impromptu roller disco breaking out.

Overall, the feedback from young people and service providers has been overwhelmingly positive, and with a little luck on our side we look forward to running a similar event sometime in 2020.

## Bush regeneration grant for the Nimbin Valley



Landholder Andy Kindermann with Leon Kindermann at Whalebone Nursery, Falls Road, Nimbin

Tunttable Creek Landcare has been successful in receiving a grant from the NSW State Department of Planning, Industry and Environment for bush regeneration and restoration.

The Nightcap Connector project will be targeting High Conservation Value properties in the Nimbin valley, predominately along Calico, Websters, Mulgum, Goolmangar and Tunttable creeks.

The project will run for three years and will include rainforest restoration, riparian works, threatened flora and fauna habitat enhancement with an objective of widening local community knowledge on protecting waterways and the environment.

The project will be partnering with the locally-owned Whalebone Nursery, Corymbia Wildlife Refuge and Lismore City Council.

Over the course of the three years, field days and workshops will be run to provide information on bush regeneration techniques, native plant and weed identification.

Keep an eye out for practical days coming up in 2020, starting with a native plant identification workshop in March with local bush regenerators.

Lismore City Council will hold a field walk for locals keen to learn more about riparian and rainforest restoration practices and maintenance later in September.

### the 17th Annual Nimbin Women's Dinner and Comedy Gala

Nimbin Town Hall  
Thursday 5th March 2020

*Featuring...*

**Ting Lim Lisa Sharpe**  
**Odette Nettleton Triny Roe**  
**and Ellen Briggs**  
**with MC Nat**  
**PLUS**

**Special Guest SUPERHERO Appearance**

**Sound and Lights by Disco Sista**  
Gluten free and vegan menu options available  
**Dinner made with LOVE by Chef Betty**

Tix / bookings via NNIC, 6689 1692

**\$30 includes dinner & show (\$25 concession)**

**Doors Open: 6.30pm SHOW Starts: 8pm**

**Brought to you by Nimbin Neighbourhood & Information  
Centre and the letter 'F'**  
**www.nnic.org.au or see our face book page**

 **NIMBIN'S SUSTAINABLE LIVING HUB**  
**7 Sibley Street**

**Mondays** (starts 10.30am)

- **10th February:** WILD WEAVERS – (2nd Mon each month) Basket making techniques with natural fibres.
- **17th February:** LACE MAKING – Introduction to bobbin lace techniques.
- **24th February:** KNITTING MACHINES – Make stretch fabrics and socks

**Tuesdays** (starts 10.30am)

- **11th February:** PROCESSING HOME-GROWN COFFEE
- **18th & 25th February:** MAKE YOUR OWN

**February  
Workshops Program**  
\$10 unless otherwise noted  
**Bookings: text 0475-135-764  
or email: sibley@nnic.org.au**

**SANDALS** – Two days, bookings essential, all materials provided, \$35.

**Wednesdays**

- **Community tools library** 10.30am-2pm.
- **Garment mending** with Atelier Smith 2-4pm.

**Saturdays**

- **Community tools library** 10.30am-2pm.
- **12nd February:** Weed block building. Bookings essential \$25.
- **25th March:** Nimbin seed exchange (1st Sat each month) Swap / share / buy saved seeds and cuttings.