

ASTRO FORECASTS WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE HEAVENS?

by Tina Mews

Aries

From mid-month you can pick up on projects that you have planned already back in June/July. With Mars going direct again in your Sun sign you might feel a fresh drive to push ahead. However, keep the needs of others in mind and focus on restoring balance in your relationships. It is a good time for settling differences.

Taurus

During this month your focus is on others, especially your partnerships, personal or business. Some re-negotiation of contracts might be needed. The Full Moon on November 1 highlights where you might hold on too tightly and where freeing up space creates the way for new possibilities. This is a good moment in time for getting in touch with your own authentic self and make the changes that you always wanted to do.

Gemini

This is the time of the year where it is important to look after your health and review your life-style choices. Experiment with different approaches to your daily routine and renegotiate duties and obligations. Free up space for fresh developments and get out of the rut. Question views and opinions and mentally prepare yourself for the incoming new energy.

Cancer

This is a great time to nurture yourself with fun and play. Re-connect with your 'inner child' and feel its needs and wants. This is potentially a highly creative time for you, where you like to get things moving. Make a leap towards the future and pick up on projects that you already planned back in June/July.

Leo

Activities around the home have gained new importance. Time spent contemplating on inner realities during the past few weeks bears fruit now and rewards you with a fresh impulse to create the world that you like to live in. Liberate yourself from the expectations of others and get back to being your own authentic self.

Virgo

With Mercury and Mars (from mid-month onwards) in direct motion, you can get back to what you were doing before things were getting difficult. With a clearer mind you can get barriers out of the way while following your mission with more confidence and vigor. Freeing your mind from preconceived ideas how things 'should be' is part of the journey.

November

November promises some important energetic shifts as the two inner planets, Mercury and Mars complete their retrograde cycles. **Mercury has been retrograde since October 14 and turns direct again on November 3, while Mars entered its retrograde cycle in early September and will be in direct motion from November 14 onwards.** On its journey through the underworld Mercury, the cosmic messenger, uncovered many issues that have been left dormant or unresolved over the last few months. Whatever has been hiding in the dark needs attention and brought to the light now. It is perfect timing for processing, evaluating and correcting while Mercury gains in speed and moves forward again. Mars goes direct after a 10-week retrograde period marking a time when the previous months of incubation and possible frustration start bearing fruit. Plans that were seeded then (early September) make much more sense now and can be focused on in a decisive and energetic way.

The good news is that Saturn, the planetary energy associated with limitations and isolation is about to end its three-year journey through earth bound Capricorn and soon will enter the airy realms of freedom loving Aquarius (December 17). **Saturn will conjoin with Jupiter on December 21 marking the beginning of a completely new cultural, political, and economic era!** This means that we can finally concentrate on envisaging (Jupiter) and building (Saturn) something new. Let us keep in mind that the current crisis is nothing more than a departure from the old paradigm. The solutions to the many problems that we are facing are dependent on our willingness and resilience to invent and build new structures that serve the whole of humanity (Aquarius) instead of trying to revive what has passed its use-by-date.

November starts with a Full Moon in Taurus (Nov 1) and ends with a Full Moon Lunar eclipse in Gemini (Nov 30). The Full Moon in Taurus is conjunct Uranus while opposing the Scorpio Sun. Evaluating what is worth holding onto and what to let go of is the message of this Full Moon. Freeing up space – may it be on a mental, emotional or physical level – creates openings for creatively exploring new possibilities. The danger is getting stuck in the past by holding on too long on to outdated concepts especially regarding economic and financial concerns. Taurus is the sign most associated with land

management and farming. We have all the knowledge of how to better protect, guard and interact with our Earth's natural abundance without being destructive. Uranus being in Taurus during 2018 – 2026 is a reminder that our natural environment is traumatised by human intervention. 2021/2 will be the crucial years for changing our values and consequently our approach in this matter.

The New Moon in Scorpio on November 15 takes place two days after the last exact Jupiter/Pluto conjunction and hours after Mars turns direct.

Information might be revealed which has been kept hidden until then. We could become aware of the enormous human and economic costs caused by the pandemic and lockdown measures which can trigger grief and anger in those who are most affected by it. Jupiter and Pluto met already on April 5 and June 30. They form their last exact aspect on November 13, 2020.

Jupiter and Pluto met before in December 2007, just prior to the Global Financial Crisis. On the positive, Jupiter conjoined with Pluto amplifies a feeling of resourcefulness and potentiality. On the negative, Jupiter/Pluto can lead to excessive aspirations and power grabs. Interestingly, Bill Gates who is mentioned frequently during these last months, has Jupiter and Pluto closely conjunct in his natal chart, and so does Rupert Murdoch!

The Full Moon on November 30 is also a Lunar eclipse that takes place on the Gemini/Sagittarius axis. It highlights the importance of perspective. A lunar eclipse stimulates our emotions and increases feelings of uncertainty, as things are in shadow or unclear. In Gemini, it creates uncertainty regarding the information that we are receiving. What is true and what is fake news? It is the task of Gemini to gather information and collect a diversity of data while Sagittarius is concerned with creating meaning and finding the truth. The trap is getting stuck in assumptions and speculations that override the facts. This Full Moon/lunar eclipse sheds light on where we must question views and opinions, do our own research, and dig down to the truth.

Navigation by the Stars: Personal and/or Relationship Astrology; Life Cycles and Your Year Ahead: Plans, Directions, Concerns for 2021 Astro-mornings at the Lillifield Community Centre: Thursday, November 12 & 26, 10.30am - 1pm, at the Lillifield Community Centre. Nov 12: Working with Solar and Lunar Eclipses; Nov 26: The Great Conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn in Aquarius. All welcome. For all bookings and info, contact 0457-903-957 or email: star-loom@hotmail.com

Libra

Financial matters can be reviewed and sorted, and loose ends tightened. This is also a good period for settling any differences about shared values and possessions which might have transpired during the past few weeks. Your patience begins to pay off as others get in tune with your need for mutually resolving any disagreements.

Scorpio

You can get back to what you were doing a while ago before unforeseeable circumstances got in your way. Of course, some major adjustments had to take place and you can reap the benefits now. Scorpio is the sign of regeneration and rebirth. This is perfect timing for shedding the old and making space for new possibilities.

Sagittarius

Creative endeavors that have been frustrated for a while will be seeing a reversal while energies that were previously blocked begin to move forward again. A change in routine might be needed to take advantage of what is possible. This is a time of endings and new beginnings. Go with the flow of positive energy and let go of assumptions of how things should be or develop.

Capricorn

Soon Jupiter and Saturn are going to leave your Sun sign to conjoin in forward thinking Aquarius. Saturn in Capricorn is making the rules which then get tested and possibly broken in Aquarius. Use the next few weeks contemplating the rules that you like to keep versus those that are not needed anymore. Free up space for new information!

Aquarius

Your staying power has been tested during these last few months and now is the time where you can get good outcomes from the projects that you have been developing. The wind of change is blowing in your direction and you have what it takes to fly with it. Communicate your ideas so that others know where you are at and can get inspired.

Pisces

You might feel like moving in a different direction and are working on a new perspective. After a few weeks of uncertainty about the big picture, your outlook on life has undergone some important adjustments. You can draw on your true assets and potential after a time of blockage and frustration. New avenues of communication and valuable contacts are opening.



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Celebrating Life

by Marilyn Devlin

November begins with Beltane – the Great Fertility Festival. A cross-quarter day on the Celtic calendar celebrated by the ancient Earth-based cultures... honouring the cyclical changes of the seasons and Earth's relationship with the Sun.

On the same day the super-charged Full Moon in Taurus/Scorpio... electrified by Uranus... the Great Sky God. Energy of electrifying Change. Uranus the Great Revolutionary, ruler of Aquarius, symbol of humanity.

November continues with significant cosmic events... creating the closing cycle of 2020. I think we understand that great change surrounds us. Astrologer Lorna Bevan posed some questions: "What has been the biggest personal shift for me this year?" "What am I noticing myself doing now that I didn't before?" and "What new direction is summoning me?"

We can't travel through this year without coming out the other end changed. We need to focus in to really see it, to really feel it resonating inside our body. I've felt incredible shifts... especially these last couple of months. It's like I'm standing in a new place... as if years, possibly lifetimes have been washed away. Integrated in a way... where they're no longer an unconscious operating system of mine, a blockage in my pathway forward.

I've kept at it. Seems like my whole life... I was on a mission and I didn't give up. Even when the dark clouds descended, the storms raged. As they do. The Spirit we have inside us is mighty tough. Super resilient, afraid of nothing. Doesn't mean our body/mind and nervous system doesn't get the jitters at times. Mine sure does. But Spirit prevails. And we all have this Great Spirit... this mighty force inside us.

We need to really start looking out for Earth and all her creatures. Yes, there are many who've worked tirelessly for years... and many more have tried to do what they can. But it's not enough. We need to swell the numbers... also refine our focus. Take it away from the destruction, what's wrong... and focus like a super-charged laser beam on the solutions, the answers. We have way more power than we realise.

We look at the governments and what they're not doing... but there are way more of us than them. Yeah they hold some pretty significant social power, but we are not powerless... and there's a lot more of us.

It's said us humans tend to focus on the problems. What's wrong... our primitive brain's alert for survival. We need to notice the threats. We've evolved... and now need to focus more on the solutions. The answers... moving forward what we can do. Tiny steps make big things happen.

Living in a holiday town I get to witness pretty much constantly... the impact us humans have on the Earth. Our fragile ecosystem. The humungous weight of our footprint. Moulded and conditioned by our modern system to place human wants and enjoyment above all else. Yes, at times we do it in ignorance... but it can't continue.

As a 'sensitive', I feel things deeply. I sense and see and hear the life that lies behind. It's a miraculous thing to perceive. Nature truly is Magical... a Wonder Land. It's beyond any imaginary fantasy world. And I reckon we all feel it in some way... that's why we're drawn to it.

But when you see the life behind the life behind the life... the complexity of existence that lives around us. That supports us, that shares Earth with us. So many systems, so many creatures, so much life happening, living, breathing, loving, sharing, having families all around us... it breaks my heart to see it trampled on and destroyed.

Big changes are called for. I believe we have the power and the love to answer the call, to accept the challenge. It's time. There's no more waiting.

Nimbin Trivia Time

by Eclectus

Questions

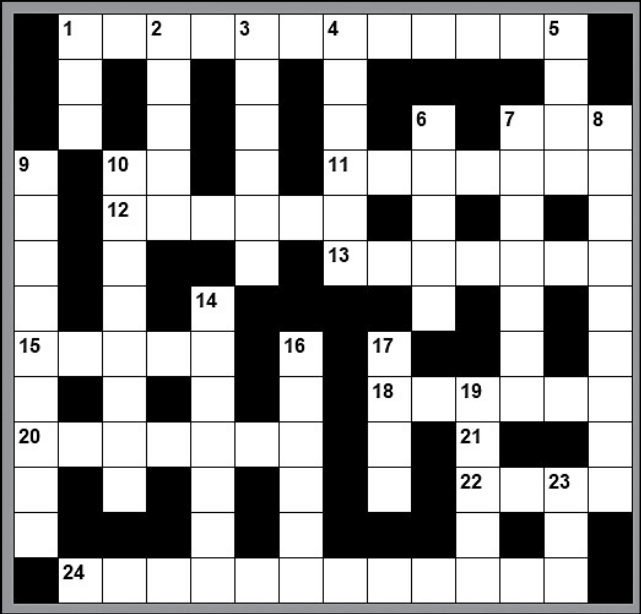
1. Can you name this 20th century artist, film director and producer? For a big bonus point: where was he born and raised? (*Courtesy Mondadori Publishers*)
2. Sir Terence David John Pratchett OBE, now sadly departed, once offered a reflection on alcohol. What did he have to say on the matter?
3. In a recent National Press Club address on curbing the market power of tech giants such as Google (who pay Apple US\$9 billion a year to remain their default search engine), Rod Sims, Chair of Australia's competition watchdog the ACCC, made a spectacular bid for the 2020 Understatement of the Year Award when he said what? (Don't bother searching on Google.)
4. Can you name the Australian political party that celebrated its centenary at the end of October?
5. Where and how old is the oldest free-standing mud brick structure in the world?
6. Each of the two major Australian football codes awards a medal to the best player in the grand final (both played this year in late October). Can you name the 2020 AFL and NRL winners of these medals? A bonus point each if you can name the Medals.
7. The recent New Zealand election returned Jacinda Ardern as Prime Minister, but there were other matters to be decided by two referenda on legalisation of euthanasia and cannabis. How did the NZ Parliamentary Biscuit Tin assist in the decisions on these weighty matters?
8. Vegan menus usually feature pulses (peas, beans, lentils, etc) and grains (rice, wheat, corn, etc), often in the same dish. Is this because they complement each other so well, for convenience, or some other reason?
9. A well known singer/songwriter wrote the AFL team Western Sydney Giants' song 'There's A Big Big Sound'. Who was it?
10. Is a diphthong a bathing costume, an item of footwear, a musical emphasis, a phonetic element, or an annoying sound in the drive train of your car?



- Answers**
1. Andy Warhol, darling of the pop art movement, was born in the Steel City, Pittsburgh.
 2. "There are better things in the world than alcohol, but alcohol sort of compensates for not getting them."
 3. Delivered deadpan: "...I mean, this is serious money for some people, 9 billion..." Give yourself a bonus point for each of those you can name who reckon that \$9 billion is not serious money!
 4. The Communist Party of Australia.
 5. Hierakonpolis, an ancient city on the Nile in Egypt, predates the Pyramids by more than 1,000 years.
 6. Ryan Papehnyzen (Melbourne) won the NRL's Clive Churchill medal and Dustin Martin (Richmond) won the AFL's Norm Smith Medal.
 7. For 30 years the same NZ Parliamentary Biscuit Tin has been ensuring impartiality in deciding which Member's Bills are debated on the floor of the House as there is limited time for such debate. Each Member places a token in the tin and the winners are drawn from it by a Parliamentary Officer. On preliminary results, it looks like euthanasia will become legal in NZ but cannabis has not been so lucky.
 8. Humans require 23 amino acids (the building blocks of protein) for health and wellbeing. Most animal products contain all 23 but vegans can get all 23 with pulses and grains.
 9. Harry Angus of The Cat Empire.
 10. A diphthong is a phonetic element also known as a gliding vowel which refers to the use of two adjacent vowels such as in "coin". Care should be exercised to avoid confusion with the monophthong which is a Kazakhstani bathing costume.

Nimbin Crossword

2020-II
by Synic



Across

1. Not a Sean Connery Bond movie (1967 and 2006) (6,6)
6. Online columns
7. Norse God, names the 2nd day of the week
10. Corporate advertising & publicity (init.)
11. Scots flag
12. Hands on hips
13. Foreign settler
15. Spy recruit? Investment of value
18. Pyrotechnic ammo
20. ADHD meds
22. One truck's worth?
24. Multi-use battery
2. Delivers babies
3. Sporting bye? Lacks flirting skills! (2,4)
4. Pay the kidnappers
5. Ruler of, say, Kuwait
7. Very large? Doomed by ice
8. Wild West theme park (1973 Michael Crichton film)
9. Take the red pill to escape... (3,6)
10. Bong Joon Ho's Best Picture Oscar-winner is a real bloodsucker
14. A la mode
16. Epic (1925, 1959 and 2016) historical drama (3,3)
17. Leading man or lady
18. Unscripted line (2,3)
23. High or low? Asexual person!

Down

1. ____ Freedom – 1987 apartheid epic

Solution: Page 28

THE NIMBIN GOODTIMES

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Nimbin Crossword Solution
From Page 27

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Dharma Kids Collective – a new frontier for children

by Simon Thomas

I mentioned in a previous column that I had been commissioned by a new Buddhist preschool in Singapore to write an album of songs to complement their freshly designed curriculum.

Having secured a grant from the Khyentse Foundation, I sent my demos of 15 songs away to a young musician/producer Max Milner in New York, who is transforming them into a unique and compelling body of work, due for release later this year.

Although the songs were written for a Buddhist preschool, they are not at all religious. Each song accompanies a classroom activity such as packing away, or a theme such as kindness, community or impermanence.

Despite their niche role in the curriculum, I wanted each song to stand on its own, both as an artwork and as an individual story or message.

Embedded within every song is a pearl of Buddha’s wisdom which can help children to understand the world around them and to navigate their lives with dignity and respect for others. You don’t have to be a Buddhist to like that!

Max is a talented singer, who finished runner-up in the first series of The Voice in the UK, so it has been a blessing to have his touching vocals embellishing the songs to which they are most suited.



His mother, Sally Anne Triplett won her way through to the Eurovision finals as UK representative twice, and has since become successful as a stage and screen performer.

She, along with her daughter Grace Milner, bring the standards of the production up to world class with their amazing voices.

We were lucky to receive contributions of several other international guest singers including Hanna Hegan (New Zealand), David Hykes (France), whose song ‘Rainbow Voice’ has featured in several Hollywood blockbusters, and Alicja Zmigrodzka from Poland.

With the Blue Lion album nearing completion, I began to search the internet for a good site on which to base these songs. Of course, I will make the music available through all the usual

outlets such as Spotify, but I wanted to also have a home for them where the messages in the songs can be explained, and the parents have the opportunity to explore the full context of this music.

Initially, I planned to set up a website just for the album, but I could not help thinking that perhaps there were other artists out there, storytellers, musicians and film-makers who are also seeking a better way to interact with their audience. Thus, the Dharma Kids Collective was born.

The concept for this new website is to be a hub for artists who create high quality content for children, based on Buddhist wisdom. Each contributor will have their own page to curate, and can list their products at whatever price they think is fair.

I hope that by banding together, we will have more influence on the internet search functions to make sure that we are easy to find, and also provide families with ample support to provide a healthy mind-space for their kids.

Perhaps you are an artist who might like to consider joining our team, or else you may have children in your life who you think might benefit from this site. Please pay us a visit and sign up to the mailing list so we can keep you in the loop with everything that is going on, including the release of the Blue Lion album.

Check out: www.dharmakidscollective.com

Fresh start for Tennis Club

by Lucy White and Mark Wright

Nestled in the heart of the village, the Nimbin Headers Sports Club has two tennis courts, that are utilised many times a week by both long-term and new tennis players.

For as long as anyone can remember, tennis has been played on the land kindly donated to our community by Norco. Although still playable, the courts are in dire straits. There are large cracks and holes in the surface, slumping at the north end, a dangerously leaning retaining wall, worn-out faulty lights and a club house/toilet that is falling apart and unusable.

The courts and facilities will require a complete revamp. The courts themselves have always been too short and too narrow at 33m x 33m. Standard court size is 36m x 36m. Repairing the courts that are too small and will continue to slump, seems like

putting good money (that we don’t have) after bad.

The club wants to relocate the courts, to the better space at the northern end of the Headers fields. We want a fresh start for tennis at the Headers grounds.

By moving the courts to the Headers fields, we will have all our facilities in one space. The proposed new courts would be an all-weather, synthetic grass surface, will be more visible, and provide an alternative space for our soccer players to train on.

For this to happen, the Club would need to sell the land on Cullen Street to fund the building of the new courts, with any money left over going to other improvements around the sports club. A local real estate agent has kindly offered to sell the approximately 2,500m² block of land without commission.

This is all about improving our club’s facilities, and by doing so we will reduce club running costs.

None of this is set in stone. The committee needs to vote on this as a special agenda item at the next AGM.

Contemplations on rat’s teeth and wombats

by Pobblebonk and Oink

After last month’s musings when Pobblebonk and Oink mentioned the apparently close relationship of Koalas and Wombats and how they belong to the marsupial order *Diprotodontia*, which is Greek for having two front teeth, Pobblebonk and Oink were presented with a wonderful lower jaw from a Common Wombat.

This mandibular gift got Pobblebonk and Oink thinking about wombat teeth.

A wombat’s teeth never stop growing. Wombats (there exist today three species across two genera) all have what is often described as open-rooted teeth that grow continuously throughout their lives.

Such teeth are not found in any other marsupials, not even their close relative the Koala.

They collectively represent the only two living families in the somewhat Germanic-sounding suborder Vombatiformes.

While ‘continuously growing teeth’ is unusual amongst marsupials, it can be found in about 20% of all Australian mammal species. It is also characteristically found in a few of our pets and feral pests. Indeed, you could well have one of these beasts hiding in your kitchen cupboard as we speak.

We are talking about rodents (order



Rodentia), a group which includes those beautiful little Spinifex Hopping-mice and Silky Mice, as well as Black Rats and Guinea Pigs.

Rodents are more abundant, both in species and numbers, than all other orders of mammals put together, and nearly all have continuously growing teeth, albeit, sometimes only the incisors. Similar teeth are also found in the *Lagomorphs* (rabbits and hares).

There are both advantages and disadvantages to having continuously growing teeth. Grasses and some other plants that these animals feed on, have a high silica content which is most commonly found in nature as quartz (sand) and forms the basis of most rocks and soil.

High levels of silica are quite abrasive to teeth so, as their teeth wear away, they simply grow back.

The tooth and jaw anatomy of rodents and rabbits is such that the continuously growing incisors are self-sharpening and just how sharp can be attested to by anyone who has ever been bitten by a rat or mouse.

When an animal, such as a rabbit, has a largely non-abrasive diet it may chew continuously, purposely grinding its molar teeth to wear them down.

This can be a particular problem in domestic situations where furry bunny babies are fed too much soft tucker.

Tooth wear in other animal groups is dealt with in a variety of other ways including continuous tooth replacement, such as in fish and reptiles, though this is rare in mammals, as most mammals replace their teeth only once in their lives.

Sadly, our teeth just keep the dentist wealthy.

“Time for a cuppa,” said Pobblebonk as the kettle whistled in the background and Oink looked for his dentures ...

Hooroo.

If we have raised your hackles, if you have a comment or a question, or even a suggestion, you can contact Pobblebonk and Oink at: pobble.bonk@gmail.com

Being happy at 60



The world according to
Magenta Appel-Pye

Research has shown that the 60's is the decade that most respondents said were their happiest. I recently turned 60 and I'm excited. I feel I have earned a degree of wisdom through mistakes, trauma, illness and simply living. I have pulled myself out of quagmires of broken relationships and opened my heart to new ones. I have developed my skills to a degree of competency that I'm happy with and make sure to learn new things to keep those neural

pathways firing. But the greatest skill I have learnt is to forgive, as quickly and completely as possible, so as not to live the pain of hanging on to a grudge every second of every day. I no longer take things or people for granted. As several friends pass away, I become more lenient, kinder and thankful for the ones left. I am grateful for each and every day, no matter what is going on in the once-beautiful but now treacherous body. Through chronic illness I know the annoying companion of pain and have learnt, mostly, to block it out by concentrating on the joyful, blessed things in my life such as my garden, music and friends and family. If things get too bad, I do a kindness for someone. It always cheers me up. I have graduated from acceptance to resignation. Some things can't be changed or mended and resignation seems to help me let go more deeply than mere acceptance of the fact. Best of all, I've got better control of my mind. I am now running the show. I can stop thoughts in mid-air and have changed my neural pathways to healthier, happier thoughts. There are losses and there are gains but there is nothing like experience, understanding and knowing oneself to make living a happier condition.



Ex-sex worker
My beautiful girlfriend of six months just confessed that she used to be a sex worker. Is this a deal breaker?
– Willie Stroker, Blue Knob

by Auntie Maj and Uncle Norm

She says
No, this is a deal maker. Your girlfriend has shown that she is serious about you and is also honest. I'm sure you have some dark secrets from your past that you were probably never going to 'fess up about to her about. So what if she had a job as a sex worker? At least she had a job and she got paid for a much-needed service. This profession is considered the oldest one for women. It was probably the only work they could get in the old days. It's a weird world that society looks down its nose on these hard-working women. The word 'prostitution' has such a negative connotation that I prefer to use it on people who are screwing us mercilessly. The bad politicians who lie, cheat and back stab to get power and then look after only themselves and their own class. The megalomaniacs who become CEOs and steal people's money and then fly away on their private jets. There are many women out there who use sex in horrid, manipulative ways to trap a man into marrying them and end up taking the poor John to the cleaners. Do you want a repressed, pious virgin who uses her lack of experience to try and trap you into a marriage whether you love her or not, and then promptly falls pregnant? Or someone who is still living at home, unemployed and waiting for a man to come and look after her? You won't get STDs from this lady because she knows how to look after herself properly, nor will she accidentally fall pregnant. And she'll know how to please you just how you like in bed. Consider yourself one lucky schmuck.

HE says
Dear Willie, you're complaining! What kind of idiot are you? Most men would give their left ball to be in your position. It's like whinging that she cooks amazing gourmet food for you, only to tell you that she was once a chef. Of all the things you'd wish your girlfriend to be an expert at, it should be a no-brainer dude, and you got her in the palm of your hand... so to speak. I'll bet she's had some interesting clients in her time. Pollies, coppers, rock stars. Just think of all the celebs that had a go before you. She must have some amazing stories to tell, and no doubt a thing or two she could teach you. What is your friggin' problem Bozo? Are you a stuck-up hypocritical evangelist who had a repressive religious upbringing? Do you not go out to work and take money for doing God knows what for other people? What's the difference? Hell, if some woman offered me \$50 to drop my pants, I'd do it. I'd even do it for free! All paid work is a form of prostitution, and while some jobs and professions are considered to be more honourable than others, none are more so than a sex worker. They provide a much needed and valuable service to society, and have done so for millennia. It's the most honest as well. You get exactly what you pay for, no false advertising or broken promises that a lot of other types of 'prostitutes' are guilty of. Is it a deal breaker? Are you for fuckin' real? Sorry to tell you Willie, but if you have to even ask, I'm afraid all that talent and experience is wasted on you.

"An honourable human relationship – one in which two people have the right to use the word 'love' – is a process delicate, violent, often terrifying to both persons involved, a process of refining the truths they can tell each other."
– Adrienne Rich

Dialogues

by S Sorrensen

Look at you. You're beautiful.
I am what I am.
And what you am is beautiful. I'm so happy you're mine.
Oh?
Yes. This is my garden. I planted you – well, not you, I guess; your ancestors – decades ago. So, you're mine.
I didn't realise I was yours. I was just... me.
I love you.
Oh. Because you own me?
No, of course not. Because you're beautiful. Even the imperfect bits, like the funny little rips in your petals.
That was that big storm last night. You should see what happened to the hibiscus flowers...
Yes. I saw that. Ugly business. It was never happy in that exposed position. Dug it up this morning.
Oh.
I reckon I'll replant with dietes.
What's that?
You. Dietes iridioides. That's who you are, my flower. You name me and own me... I didn't name you...
Would you love me if I was a hibiscus flower?
No. Maybe. I don't know. Love just happens, Di. I didn't decide to love you. Love is not rational. Plato described emotion and reason as two horses pulling in opposite directions. In the modern world, reason usually prevails...
Is that why you killed the hibiscus?
I guess so.



Did you used to love it?
Yes, I suppose so.
And then one day you didn't.
I still loved it, but I really love you. Besides, the hibiscus and I didn't talk much.
I remember.
What?
Would you love me if I was in your neighbour's garden?
Yes...
Really? You would love me if I belonged to someone else?
Well, no.
Oh. So you have to own what you love, right?
I want you for myself. Is that so wrong? That's how love works, doesn't it? I want to dry your tears...
They're not tears. It's the rain clinging to me. I like it.
Do you want me?
Are you a bee?
No.
No.

That makes me sad.
Your love makes you sad now?
Yes. I'm jealous of the rain. And the bee. And my neighbour...
Would you love me if I was not, what you call, pretty?
Yes, of course. Beauty is more than perfect pistils.
Do you love the flower behind me? The one that blossomed before me and is now bruised and dying?
Um, no. You are my love. You are all I have.
That flower is me. And the leaves, the dirt, the chicken wire, the old dunny, the leaking hose, the hibiscus in the compost bin... all me. And the storm over the western range, the sunlight glinting off the neighbour's wet macarangs and the 61 moons of Saturn... all me.
Oh. I have nothing, then.
You have everything.

Revenge of the Loon

by Laurie Axtens

The 'free world' has had some pretty ignorant, corrupt and shameless leaders over the last fifty years, but never has one leader so epitomised all those characteristics as Donald J Trump. By the time you read this, the possibility that he has won a second term may have already been determined. Whatever the outcome, the damage that Trump has done to his country and the world may never be reversed. He has championed and emboldened the Klan,



setting race against race. Despite his depraved nature he has been the darling of the evangelicals, setting religion against religion. He has so entrenched the far right into the nations judiciary that the Handmaid's Tale may end

up being used as a manual rather than celebrated as a profound work of dystopian fiction. His undermining of science has set back addressing climate change a decade and, as we are on the cusp of a tipping point, that could wipe complex life from the planet. It is hard to think of a bigger anti-Christ than Trump. He may well still win; then again their nation may lurch into civil war. Can any old Joe Biden undo the damage? I can think of no more unhappy and more divided time in the West than now. So let's all pray on 3rd November they dump the turd.

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Thursday 3rd December 9:30-11:00

The final date is a Teddy Bears Picnic, bring your teddy for some fun and games.



PH: 6689 1355
Email: nimbin-c.schools@det.nsw.edu.au

Rich curriculum at Rainbow Ridge

by Mark Piper

The teachers of Rainbow Ridge School for Steiner Education have welcomed their students back for term four. The eager children are relishing not only the richness of the curriculum, but also growing and developing through social interactions.

So what is happening this term? Class One and Two are investigating and working with their times tables, Class Three and Four are working on the Norse myths, Class Five the Greek tales, Class Six are investigating Geometry and Measurement, and Class Seven and Eight are looking at History in the times of the Crusades with a focus on Joan of Arc.

Outside of this time, the children are engaged in woodwork, metalwork, art, gardening, Chinese, Music through string ensemble as well as class-based music, Craft and Movement: in the form of instruction in Bothmer gymnastics and Eurythmy.

This term has also seen the children dressed up as their favourite character from their favourite book,



Book Week

in a celebration of National Children's Book Week; they have jumped on the school bus and headed out to a local paddock to collect cow poo to create a compost heap according to Biodynamic principles; and have begun learning their lines for a production of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. With the easing of restrictions, plans are also afoot for excursions and camps.

Rainbow Ridge is registered to teach from Kindergarten up to Class Eight, and as such runs a Middle School program for children in Classes Seven and Eight. These children receive instruction and take

classes from teachers with expertise in specific subject areas, and are held by a Class Guardian. If you would like to know more information about this, or any other aspect of the school, its curriculum or pedagogy, we would very much like to hear from you.

So what is a Main Lesson? It is essentially a three-week block of study into a specific subject, that happens for two hours each morning. The children produce a Main Lesson book during that time, as well as engaging in songs, music, verse craft and stories that connect with the theme of the Main Lesson.

The classes that are outside of this Main Lesson time,

for example Music, contains work that supports the content of the Main Lesson. The themes of these Main Lessons are taken from the indications of Dr Steiner, and are aligned with the growth and development of the children. The stories and activities that happen in the classes bring archetypal images that are age-appropriate to the children.

For example, "What did the Greeks bring us and why is this reflected in the Class Five child?" The Greeks became much more aware of themselves and their Ego, which is reflected in their sculpture and how they really had a deeper understanding of the human form. The other evolution that the Greeks really embraced was how the gods and man became almost indistinguishable: they had human form and had human traits, including fallibility.

If you would like to know more about Rainbow Ridge, Steiner Education or enrolment in Kindy, Middle school or other primary classes in 2021, please feel free to call the school on 02 6689-7033, or email: admin@rainbowridge.nsw.edu.au

New court is just Ace!

by Andrew Dixon



Coffee Camp Public School's new tennis/basketball court has been completed and the students, staff and community absolutely love it. As per usual, Coffee Camp is in vogue!

Finished in competition blue, the kids of Coffee Camp enjoy shooting hoops and playing tennis every single day and we have also been able to resume our weekly tennis lessons with Trent from On Tour Tennis.

Many people have asked, "Why are tennis courts blue?" The Senior Class researched this question and apparently it is because the blue allows players to see the ball easier due to the contrast of colours.

Also, both the Australian and US Open are played on blue courts and are both quite the trend setters in the tennis world.

Coffee Camp PS is also taking enrolments for Kindergarten 2021. If you have any questions you would like to ask or would like further enrolment information, please contact Tania in the office on 6689-9259.

Caring for country at Cawongla

by Leanne Logan

A flush of Spring green has enveloped our community, our preschool.

In strong contrast stands our jacaranda – the most vibrant purple seen in years, and one of the preschool's iconic trees. Nearby, the silky oak's vivid yellow flowers add more colour to an already rich palette.

As we wander around preschool, acknowledging country and the Gullibai people – custodians here long before us – it's possible to feel the children's reverence for place.

"Oh, a spider!" someone exclaims. There's no attempt to hurt it. "We have to look after everything," another child says.

Coming across a family of baby cane toads under an old softfall mat causes a flurry of conversation. "Are they frogs or toads?" "If they're frogs we can keep them, but if they're toads, they're bad." "But what if they're native toads?" "They're still bad." Has the cane toad given all toads a bad rap?

We use the iPad to look for distinguishing features of a cane toad – no webbing between the front fingers,

the distinctive brow above the eyes, the shape and colour of the poison sacks. We note the differences to our native toads.

"If we're the carers of this country now, what do we do with these cane toads?" More conversation. More options. It's suggested we move them somewhere else, let them go on the preschool's periphery. But what about the spiders, snails, small frogs and insects that also call that area home? They could be eaten by the newcomers.

We realise in amongst all this investigation that being a carer of country holds a lot of responsibility. There are lives at stake by our actions and the decisions we must make. And how do we best care for country? The whole process leads naturally to the sharing of stories.

"I live in a place with lots of moths and fireflies," Aryon offered. "One night I found a dead firefly lying on the ground," Sunny told us. "I think it got stung by a bee, or a tiny jumping ant this big bit the firefly."

We wander onto the preschool verandah and Shivali notices the silkmoths. "They're so soft," she said, tenderly picking one up. "They're so soft



they feel like cloud." Tom warns another child not to pick them up by the wings "cause they'll rip."

He then asked: "What are we made of? I know what I'm made of – I'm made of stardust." In a short time, we'd had conversations full of curiosity, knowledge, wonder and reverence, in a place that we know has been cared for by so many for so long. Gosh it felt good.

Cawongla Playhouse is open Tuesday to Thursday from 9am to 3pm, phone 6633-7167.

Sewing a soft toy

by Silvia Bustos De Tribolet

This term at Tuntable Falls preschool, the children are engaged in a soft-toy making project.

The children who are leaving, and transitioning on their journey to primary school, will be working towards creating their own soft-toy from scratch. They will use many of the skills that they have already learnt at their time here at preschool, as well as some new ones, to create something they can take home and be proud of.

The Softie-making process also allows the children to engage in social discussions, creative expression, and decision making. The process begins with a drawing of their own imagined Softie onto paper, it can be whatever they like, then cutting the shape out to create a pattern which they will transfer and sew onto their chosen fabric. These steps require the children to make decisions surrounding scale, creative expression and how much work their Softie will entail.

Creating a 3D object from a 2D drawing can be challenging. The pattern they make with paper is used to create the body of the Softie and sewn around the edges and stuffed. Depending on the complexity of their imagined creatures they can have multiple legs, arms, wings heads! The children choose their fabric, colours and textures.

Hand and machine sewing engages their fine and gross motor skills, as well as needle threading and stuffing of the actual toy. Finally, there comes the wonderful and satisfying finishing touches that really bring the Softie to life, facial features, hair, scales or clothing, whatever the particular creature may require via the child's imagination.

There will be opportunities for problem solving as the children will encounter new challenges. The Softie-making process creates a social environment of creativity, sharing and support. All of the skills the children will build and develop will aid them in their transition to primary school. We hope the children will enjoy their softies as much as we enjoy supporting them through the process.



We are very excited about these projects and some of the children are already working steady and hard on their Softie, spending a big part of the mornings on it.

Daisy: "I'm, making a mermaid. It has a sparkly green tail."

Charlie: "I'm making a unicorn, with a baby unicorn."

Arlo: "I want my dinosaur to be soft, I don't like to sleep with a hard rock softie!"

Tuntable Falls Early Childhood Centre can be contacted on 02 6689-1179.

The heart of our community

by Amanda Spain, Committee President

Big things are happening here at Tuntable Falls Community School. Our new-look website has been launched, showcasing key information around our unique educational programs, our friendly teachers and staff, and best of all our gorgeous children.

In 2021 we are thrilled to announce the addition of another class! The school will offer four classes: kindergarten, 1/2, 3/4 and 5/6.

Adding to our excitement, the school has undergone an extreme transformation with the construction of a most wonderful nature playground, which is close to completion.

It is with much thanks to parents Nicole and Trevor Devery who initially acquired the My Community Project 2019 grant.

This dream-team pair have driven this project and turned their lofty vision and design ideas into an harmonious outdoor learning and play space that will be loved by generations to come.

Coinciding with next year's 40th birthday celebrations, the unveiling of the nature playground will feature terraced slopes incorporating timber tepees, slides, climbing wall, gigantic pendulum swing, sand-play and water-play areas.

Playground equipment was sustainably-



Photo: Nicole Devery

sourced and locally made by so many of our skilled community members. Even the gigantic rope was painstakingly hand-made by our parent Will Nissen, while Narelle Draisma and Blossom Gillard have worked tirelessly to create sensory gardens which tie the nature playground beautifully with our Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden.

It is comforting to observe our children explore new learning opportunities in a natural environment, playing alongside one another across age groups, negotiating the space with one another in the most supportive way: that's community.

Caterpillars and butterflies

by Carina, Annalyce and May, Educators

At the start of October, we noticed a caterpillar building a cocoon on our gate in the playground at Nimbin Early Learning Centre.

We were very curious and enthusiastic about this find.

We extended on this by researching about the cycle of the butterfly which then focused on a craft experience



where the children contributed by assembling their own cycle of a butterfly in order by using paper, scissors, and glue.

Another great activity we have done is investigating what can float in water and

what sinks.

The children chose items from around the room, then placed them in a bucket of water to see what would happen next.

On the program the children explored aspects of their identity through role play by using the dress-up clothing to create imaginative characters to negotiate roles in a social gathering.

Please feel free to call the Centre on 02) 6689-0142. We are open Monday to Friday 8.30am-5pm.

Helping students learn for life

The Nimbin Central School Parents & Citizens Association (P&C) will hold their AGM on Wednesday 18th November. We believe that learning is a lifelong skill that any community must value in order to thrive.

Nimbin Central P&C strives to work alongside the school (Kindergarten through to Year 12) to further support our youth in being their best possible selves.

If you are interested in being more involved with the school community, the Nimbin Central P&C invite you to join.

Please come to the AGM on Wednesday 18th November (location to be confirmed depending on Covid rules). All positions are available if you are keen to join the executive committee.

We are especially eager to fill the role of the treasurer next year. Thank you to Martha Paitson, our previous treasurer, for her diligent bookkeeping work.

If you've got specific skills or if you're just happy to be involved, please email us: tee@radiantbounce.com or check out our Facebook page or call 0466-110-191.



New logo suggestion to be voted on at the AGM

Toys galore

If you want to save money, reduce waste, and foster your child's curiosity and development, the Lismore Toy Library can help.

With over 1000 toys to choose from, your children can access a range of toys and other resources that can be regularly rotated to keep them entertained and interested.

"We have a huge variety of toys and are constantly adding to the collection, for infants through to 8 year olds," said President Emma Newman. "Now we are tending to stay home more often and create more of our own entertainment, it's a great time to join."

Run entirely by volunteers, the service is open on

Saturday and Tuesday mornings, 9.30 – 11.30am, during school terms, on the ground floor of the Lismore Library.

"We rely on volunteers to keep our door open," says Ms Newman. "We are always on the lookout for new volunteers to keep us operating and growing. And volunteers currently get a 50% discount off their membership too!"

There are many advantages to joining a toy library. Members can borrow toys that are matched to their child's needs, developmental stage, and interests.

Borrowing toys can save you a fortune, while reducing plastic waste and clutter in your home, and joining the

toy library is a great way to contribute to the community and meet new people.

The toy library celebrated its 35th anniversary this year, and there has never been a better time to join.

Until 15th December, all new memberships are being offered at 25% off.

With Christmas coming, instead of buying more toys, give someone you love a Lismore Toy Library gift voucher. The library is also offering 25% off gift vouchers. It's the gift that keeps on giving!

See: lismoretoylibrary.com.au or facebook for more info.





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Nimbin Headers



by Nigel Hayes

Part One From humble hippy beginnings

From a bunch of hippies having a social soccer kick-around at the A&I Showgrounds, to buying their own land and building their own fields and amenities, to becoming the largest volunteer-run community organisation in Nimbin, the Headers Sports Club has seen and done a lot in its 36 years.

There have been many memorable moments in that time, the most recent being the 2020 Division 1 and Division 7 men's teams both winning their Grand Finals at home in front of large, passionate and vocal crowds of Club players, parents and supporters.

The Nimbin Headers has a working, living, growing history, and there have been many participants in and contributors to that history and to creating those memorable moments; too many in fact to mention in this too brief and rather potted snapshot. With apologies to those not mentioned, shared here are some of the Header's starting stories and foundational fragments.

The story of the Nimbin Headers starts with some friendly kick-around soccer games at the Channon Markets in late 1984 and early 1985. So much fun was had that a bunch of people finally 'organised' a weekly informal soccer game at the Nimbin Showgrounds, with all comers both male and female welcome.

Of course, in true hippy style we used to bypass the locked A and I Society gate, climb over the fence and play the afternoon away on the nicely

lined and marked soccer field. Unfortunately (or perhaps very fortunately?) after a few weeks the police arrived, put a stop to our game, accused everyone of trespassing and kicked us off the showgrounds with a warning to not come back. A group of men decided that we really wanted to keep on playing and, given the circumstances, perhaps we should try to play 'for real'.

Mark Robinson and Nigel Hayes led the way and made advances to the Nimbin Soccer Club (who used the Showgrounds as their home field) to see what might be possible in terms of our ambitions. They were willing as a Club to sign up new players but would not guarantee that the 'hippies could play together in their 'own' team as was our preference.

The idea of signing up only to then be placed into various Nimbin Soccer Club teams according to 'merit' did not go down so well with the original hippy group so, after much discussion firstly at the Showgrounds and then at the Bowling Club, the decision was made to form our own team and thus, by necessity, our own Club.

A few potential names were thrown around, but for various sound, sensible and appropriate reasons, Nimbin Headers Soccer Club was the name quickly agreed upon.

Nigel Hayes was elected first President, and Mark Robinson elected Secretary, with the pair of them sharing the role of Treasurer. Nigel Hayes undertook the process of approaching FFNC (then known as Soccer Far North Coast) and doing the necessary paperwork to ensure the

Nimbin Headers became an Affiliated Club and thus eligible to nominate a team for participation in the 1985 season.

The initial process of affiliation included constructing a formal Club Constitution (a job again undertaken by Mark and Nigel), nominating a playing strip (club colours of green, white and black -green shirts, white numbers, black shorts, green socks with white bands) and gaining approval from the A and I Society to be able to use the Showgrounds as our home field.

With the formalities finally taken care of, the Headers were formally established and one team was nominated to be included in the 1985 4th Division competition.

The Headers first official game was played against Lennox Heads at the Lennox Heads Sports Fields with 11 players taking the field. A lack of fitness and training was soon evident, and the first game finished as an 8-1 loss. But also evident in this humble, hippy beginning was the wonderful, competitive and collaborative club and team spirit that still burns bright today.

The 1985 Headers 'first game originals' were Kevin Atkinson, Ted and Danny Cox and their father Nobby, Carl Derrin, Nigel Hayes, Alan Lidbury, Gary Moore, Adrian Williamson, George Scott, and Mark Robinson who was selected by his player peers as the Club's first Best and Fairest – and yes... Nigel is the last of the original Headers still playing.

Part Two: The first season to now will be in next month's issue



by Geraldine Kerr

Women's Team Report

Like all things in 2020, Covid knocked our plans for two women's teams on the head. When we were finally able to recommence training and prepare for games, only enough players remained for one team. This team consisted of many players who had not previously played together, a mix of ages and abilities!

by Ruben Mack,
President, Nimbin Headers
Sports Club

What a year it has been!

With such a turbulent start to the year and so much uncertainty regarding so many facets of our daily lives, even the prospect of a football season was unsure.

After months of emails, phone calls and zoom chats, we had some clarity from FFNC on what the season would look like this year, and a start date. As usual, the Headers grabbed it with both hands.

The season varied slightly between different divisions and age groups. Juniors were to have a compacted season with no final series and point-score champions being the winner of the division. Seniors were much the same, but with an instant knockout final series.

There was some confusion, frustration and uncertainty in the beginning and throughout the season, naturally. Though, this was greatly overshadowed by the community spirit, positivity, collective love and enthusiasm for football at the

Headers and throughout the Northern Rivers.

The Headers fielded 11 teams this year, 8 junior teams, G6 - G15, and three senior teams, two mens and one womens.

We had several great successes in the 2020 season with Grade 15's winning their competition as pointscore champions. The 7th div men did the same and also took out the grand final game to top it off. The 1st div men won their grand final in a nail-biting game that went into the final minutes of extra time.

It just so happened that because of Covid-19, grand final games were to be played at a field of the team higher on the table. As it turned out, both mens teams were to have grand finals on home soil, before a very passionate and enthusiastic crowd, spaced neatly 1.5m apart.

There was much growth, learning and enjoyment to be had for all teams this season, and I hope that we can all head into 2021 stronger in ourselves, and our club/ community.

A massive thanks to the coaches Ori, Jake, Gary, Dan, Kat, Mark, Julian, Cooper, Paul, Anton, Benny, Nigel, Liam, Torsten, Jesse and Rye.

Also the numerous assistants and managers, parents and carers, the wonderful committee, Lucy, Vicki, Mark, Uri, Grant, Liam, Torsten, Dan, Stewart and Fabien, and all the others who chip in and support to keep this thing moving. Thanks to our great sponsors, especially the Nimbin Hotel, our major sponsor for many years.

Also a big thanks to the players of course, and all the people who support to help them be able to do so. Of course last, but in Nimbin quite obviously not least, are the supporters on the sideline.

This was the most successful year the Headers have ever had, and I look forward to see what 2021 has in store for our club.

If anyone is interested in playing or would like information, please get in contact with us via our facebook page.

by Benny Rabiller,
Headers 15s coach

The incredible season of the Green Warriors

This year was very special due to Covid; the season started late and was quite short, with only 10 games to play in the championship. But from the beginning, the team was 100% dedicated and decided to set the goal very high: to make it to the grand final.

The first game was looking to be a disaster (not enough players) but miracles happen, grade 13 Nimbin Headers lent three players – Sunny, Charlie and Jarrah – and manage to win 1-0 in a real battle.

The second and third games were wins, and great confidence started to come.

The fourth game was a real eye-opener. Entering the game with over-confidence, not really ready to face a very strong opponent, they lost for the first time.

Instead of crying or feeling sorry, it made them stronger, and they decided to train an extra day. From then on, they started to build discipline, teamwork and the mind-set to



win every game.

They had no choice, as by now their goal to make it to the grand final was abolished by the football federation as every final was cancelled for juniors, only permitted for senior teams.

Against this injustice, they kept very positive, it was only one way out: they had to win the championship. Not even being half of the season, every game until the end had to be a win, even a draw would have been a failure.

The team gave it all, even more, as being very short (not having enough players), but they kept strong, united, and never gave up.

Zak in the goal, nothing will go in. Mundarra, the rock of the defence was to fast

and strong for any striker. Ayden, the revelation of the Green Warriors' year, was so dedicated and didn't let anyone go past.

The side defence was held by the girls Zara and Ayla, they fought so hard, almost to the point of fainting, but never gave up. The multi-talented midfield, Ashja, Cedric, Tyson and Michelle created great combinations and many goals.

The front line, with the speed of Cooper, the striker killer instinct of Isaac and the technique of Hunter was driving opponents crazy. Between the line of defence and midfield, Djamal made it impossible for opponents to build an attack. The team was also fortunate to have had Sunny as an extra player from grade 13 for a few important games.

The Green Warriors finally ended up winning the championship, an amazing performance. Being the underdog in the beginning, not having done well in previous years, they have proven to be a great team, a bright rainbow for the future of the Nimbin Headers.

by Gary Whisker

Men's 7th Division report

2020 was a truly historic year for our double-winning men's league div 7 team. A win on the final day of the regular season clinched the pointscore championship by 1 point from South Lismore, who had held top spot for the entire season. Both teams then faced off at Fortress Nimbin in an exciting Grand Final. Goals from Dan Walsh, Tom Davies



and Ruben King gave the home team a 3-0 lead, before Souths rallied late, with the game finishing in a 3-2 win for the mighty Headers!

by Liam Terry

Men's 1st Division GF win

No history of the Nimbin Headers club would be complete without some mention of THAT first division grand final-winning goal, scored this year by Beau Grabovsky.

With the championship win seemingly heading to the coast, and the Headers 1-0 down at home to Lennox Head for most of the game, the Nimbin faithful had to wait until the 85th minute for the equaliser, which came from the King who lobbed



the ball into the box on the 85th minute for Super Ruben Mack to scramble over the line.

Lennox Head was rocked, and with the score locked at 1-1, extra time became inevitable.

This team has had a genuine ability to grind out results, and this match was no different from the semi-final away at Tumbulgun two weeks prior.

Just as the ref was about to blow full time of extra time and announce penalties, the footballing gods smiled upon Nimbin and up popped Beau Grabosky to smash home a three-yard header after a wonderful run behind the Lennox defence from Super Mack.

That sent the crowd into euphoria, and every one of the players into the history books.

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*John 3 2 2 2



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Ideal for cattle or lifestyle, this 68 hectare private property has stunning views & much more!
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WALLACE ROAD

215 acres, approx 30 acres of creek flat, 2km creek frontage, 2 road access, 200 mango trees
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\$685,000

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CULLEN STREET

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Three small buildings incorporate a carport, secure storage shed, temporary dwelling potential
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TULSI LANE

*Jacqui

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*Grant

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*Jacqui

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*Yvonne

JIGGI ROAD

*Yvonne

KYOGLE ROAD

*John

FALLS ROAD

*Jacqui/John