

A TASTE OF ART



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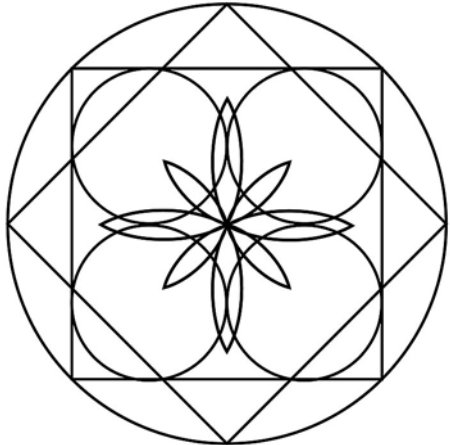
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Exhibitions of new works by local artists



'Poem of Rust & Water IV' by Michelle Walker

Blue Knob Hall Gallery & Blue Knob Café are up and running. The Café/Gallery will have limited seating capacity, but we still have plenty of room for you to enjoy the art, have a coffee or a meal.

The current exhibitions 'Poetica' and 'Earth Matters' by Michelle Walker and Helen Douglass will continue until Sunday 10th October.

Earth Matters is an exhibition of new works by two local artists who share a love of nature and the beauty of her landscapes. Michelle Walker works in acrylics and mixed media, and uses abstract landscapes as both a symbol of the places we inhabit, and the connections and experiences we hold in our hearts to those places.

Michelle draws significant influence from her lifelong love of nature and her previous career in conservation.

The series, 'Poems of Rust and Water', speaks of the widespread drought that preceded the catastrophic bushfires in 2019/20, and 'Poem of Hide and Stringybark' is an acknowledgement of the tree clearing and habitat loss that continues at an unacceptable pace.

Helen Douglass was born in Sydney and grew up admiring her grandfather's accomplished watercolour landscape painting. With her painting, Helen embraces the power of landscapes to evoke memories for the viewer. These



'The Wind of Change' by Peter Aland

current works in acrylics on canvas and board showcase glimpses of the beautiful Tweed region and Tasmania. Her work is inspired by the love of the natural world and reflects the images of places of special significance.

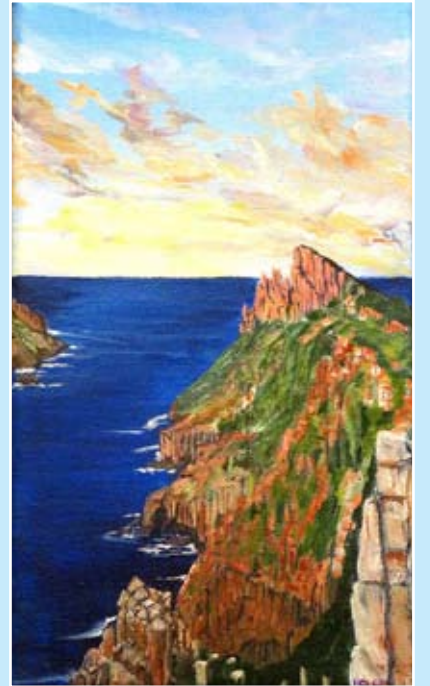
For 'Poetica', artists were asked to take inspiration from a poem, song or text, or their own poetry to create an artwork. With ceramics, paintings and mixed media artwork, the quality of our local artists is once again outstanding and proves how valuable our local artists and galleries are.

Coming up

'Everything Blue' by Lorraine Lintern and Elsbeth Gartly-Strassmann in 'The Solo Space' and 'The Wild Side' in the main gallery, will be on show from Thursday 14th October. Lorraine Lintern is a well known ceramicist from Uki.

With five solid years of traditional training at both East Sydney and Penrith Technical Colleges, and 25 years of potting and experimenting with clays and glazes behind her, she says there are always new and inventive methods with which to experiment.

Elsbeth Gartly-Strassmann, a Steiner school teacher, trained and taught in



'Around Cape Pillar III' by Helen Douglass

New Zealand then later in Bowral and Adelaide, is now one of our local artists and has in her more recent years concentrated primarily on colour using her favoured medium, pastels.

'The Wild Side' is a theme that got resurrected last year in the midst of the unknown quantity of the 2020's Covid situation.

We hoped artists would get in touch with the wild side of life and create artworks for this exhibition. Look out for these new exhibitions mid-October.

Many thanks for the continued support from our greater community; it is always appreciated, and we couldn't do it without you.

For more information, please contact Blue Knob Hall Gallery 02 6689-7449 or email: bkhgallery@harbourisp.net.au and Blue Knob Café Facebook page for their updates.

Artist's & Friends Lunch

The next Artists & Friends Lunch will be on Thurs 28th October at 12.30pm.

'Found objects' art experience

by Anne Cook

Who has ever looked at a lobster and thought that it is really a telephone receiver?

Probably not most of us, but the ability to perceive of objects not as they really are but as something else entirely different is one of the most charming aspects of artists who create 'Found Objects' art, or as the French like to say, Objets Trouvé.

Found Object artworks are created when an artist uses everyday objects that they have come across in day-to-day life to create a three-dimensional work.

Quite often the artist assembles a group of objects that usually would not be related or have any association with one another, resulting quite often in a bizarre and even alarming structure.

This artform can also be two-dimensional, with the artist using photographs, newspaper clippings and torn paper to make a statement.

The Found Objects art movement kicked off during the early 1900's with some of the early artists such as



Marcel Duchamp's work being somewhat familiar to us, even though we do not think of it in this context.

A very good example of this is one of his most famous pieces, the 'Lobster Telephone' in which he has replaced the receiver of an (old school) telephone with a lobster, it is the most perfectly reasonable transformation of an everyday object into an artwork.

Basically by putting together an odd combination of everyday objects, quite often within a political or cultural context, the combination of the individual pieces by the artist transforms these pieces



from just being "stuff" into a work of art.

Following on from the 'Going Green' theme that was recently explored in a series of works created this year, our resident exponent of Found Objects art, Pauline Ahern has created some additional works (pictured) to add to this statement of political and environmental intent.

These works are investigating the impact of global warming and environmental degradation on our society and how we can confront these impending disasters by approaching solutions in a scientific manner and if need be, utilising a "thinking outside of the square" approach.

Pauline has a strategic eye for spotting objects that when



combined, create pieces where the emphasis is on the "idea" behind the work which is displayed in a straightforward but abstract way.

These pieces challenge our perception of what might be considered a "good" piece of art.

These works will be on display at the Nimbin Artists Gallery from the start of October. We have re-opened in a Covid-safe manner and will be open 7 days a week usually from 10am to 3pm so come in and view the art.

Inspired people put your hands up

by Ruth Tsimbinis

This is the last month for people inspired to put forward a proposal to hold an exhibition at the Roxy Gallery in 2022.
Go to: www.kyogle.nsw.gov.au/recreation-community/community-facilities/roxy-gallery and find the online application or you may wish to contact the cultural services officer on 6632-0230 to discuss your proposal.

The Roxy Gallery is keen to hear from you about the contemplated solo exhibition or group show with a collection of other creatives you may want to undertake in this amazing open design gallery space. Artists exhibiting may wish to take the opportunity to undertake a gallery talk, and demonstrate some of their creative techniques throughout the course of the exhibition.
The Roxy Gallery attracts over four hundred visitors a month. People enjoy the opportunity to walk around the space and engage in the arts. While some use the opportunity to support artists and purchase works for their home or as gifts.
The Roxy Gallery encourages new and emerging artists with opportunity to learn about the process of developing and conceiving an exhibition for the public to engage in and appreciate.
As we draw closer to the end of the year and the beginning of a new year the Roxy Gallery has another opportunity on offer for interested people to contribute to a non-thematic group exhibition to be held from 9th December.



This year has seen many people who may not have otherwise thought themselves to be creative get into creating things. Many people have found solace in traversing through this pandemic by applying their minds and thought to making art and in doing this they have been applying FAST CALVES, the words are made up from an acronym that applies to the principles of art and will take the title for the end of year exhibition.
So while people have played with F–orm, (A–rt), S–hape, T–exture, C–olor, (A–rt), L–ine, V–alue, (E–lements), S–pace, they have been practicing FAST CALVES and the Roxy Gallery now has an expression of interest form available for people wishing to include their creative pieces into the end of year, beginning of new year exhibition.
Forms can be obtained from the gallery front desk and entries are limited to four works (dependant on size) with the closing date for expressions of interest being 19th November.
The Roxy Gallery currently has on exhibition a fantastic multi-media exhibition

that explores the biodiversity and fragility of our planet and some of its threatened species.
Paul Daley from A Lush Forest Media has engaged a number of artists in producing 'Life on the Edge'. Along with Paul's breathtaking photography and filming, Izwoz (Katie Evans and Brad Fettke) plus Avena Osborn have created works that explore two endangered species and their edge ecology, the orangutan and the koala.
Species on the edge of potential extinction in our lifetime – plus a whole suite of species and ecological communities living life on the edge.
The Border Ranges Richmond Valley Landcare Network, Arcoora Arts and Ecology Training Ground and A Lush Forest are collaborating to present the 'Boodahbee – Festival of the Koala' during September.
This year the challenge of the pandemic forced the groups to re-think their approach to this festival and use this opportunity at the Roxy Gallery as a seeding event to gain interest and support for the Boodahbee – Festival of the Koala' to go ahead next September.



'Living Presence' by Katie Evans

Boodahbee is the Gulli-bul word for koala, and is a culturally significant animal for this bio-region. For more information on the festival activities go to the events page at: www.brrvln.org.au
'Life of The Edge' will be on show until 30th October, so take the time to come and sit in the gallery and be transported into the wilderness while watching the stunning multi media productions by A Lush Forest Media.

Lismore Art Club – 61 years strong!



'Bouquet of Flowers' by Carole Sheppard



'Magnolias' by Margaret E Brown



'On the Beach 1' by Kay McCheyne

by Corinne Batt-Rawden
Lismore Art Club is currently holding its birthday exhibition, 'Celebrating 61 Years' at Serpentine Community Gallery, 17a Bridge Street, North Lismore.
LAC members certainly have good cause to celebrate, with the September stay at home orders being lifted just in time for the exhibition to go ahead.
Lismore Art Club Inc. was established in 1960 and their annual exhibition is credited with being the longest running annual art exhibition in the region. Despite the limitations of Covid and periodic lockdowns, 2021 continues that remarkable tradition.

The exhibition features the latest visual art from known local artists such as Margaret E Brown, Meg Nielsen, Corole Sheppard, Linnea Hannan and Christine Miller among many others, so if you're looking for something to do over the next two weeks, drop in to Serpentine Community Gallery for a browse at some of our region's best artworks.
Kay McCheyne, from the Lismore Art Club comments, "The Serpentine Gallery is such a friendly place, the two rooms show off the works really well. It's an exciting and lovely space, and so good to partnership with the gallery."
The Lismore Art Club are running a People's Choice

Award and would love you to come in and vote! The exhibition is open to the public until Monday the 18th October. Opening hours are Monday to Friday 10am to 4pm and Saturdays 10am to 2pm. Admission is free.
Also available to view on-line only is 'New Life', the Serpentine Members Spring Exhibition featuring works by Lucy Car, Corinne Batt-Rawden, Beau Ravn, Megan Moore, Kuatarina Mount, Joy Hazle and June King. Find it at: www.serpentine.gallery
Later in October Serpentine presents 'Politika – Reflections on a Global System' the next community group show. This exhibition invites

local artists to explore the political environment that we find ourselves in today.
This exhibition is open to artists living in the

Northern Rivers. All mediums welcome. Please contact the gallery if you would like to participate. All points of view are valid and

contribute to the broader human experience.
'Politika' will open Friday 22nd October and run until 1st November.



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Bush flower essences

Since I wrote my article for the September issue asking if you are okay, I have had a few text messages from readers saying that the words were inspiring, and most of all the reminder to be kind was the most profound.

Right now, most people are feeling tense and on edge, sometimes not knowing from one day to the next what instructions we are being given to live our lives. It's like we are all suffering a mild form of PTSD.

A friend came for a visit last week and I decided to get my Australian Bush Flower kit out and make her a remedy as she was feeling overwhelmed and drained, so I thought if I make her a remedy for those negative types of feelings, it will help her to change the thoughts and feelings to more positive thoughts therefore helping her emotionally and energetically to come back to her usual positive self.

Over the years I have seen profound changes and outcomes in people using these flower essences. One example was my partner who could not settle in Australia when we first emigrated here. He felt isolated and lonely and missed his friends and family. He couldn't find work to begin with, and he went into a depression. I could feel a dark cloud hanging over him.

I made him a remedy, which he took – seven drops under the tongue twice a day – and within two weeks the transformation was remarkable. He actually started to take notice of his surroundings and possibilities, and got himself a life coach to help him start his own business using his skills and talents. As I said, the change in him was remarkable in such a short time.

So what are Australian Bush Flower Essences and how can they help you?

Flower essences have a very long

history spanning many cultures, being used for health and healing. The Australian Aborigines obtained the beneficial effects of a flower essence by eating the whole flower. The essence, in form of dew made potent by the sun, would be thus consumed with the flower.

If a flower was inedible they would sit in a clump of flowers to absorb the healing vibration of the flower. They certainly knew of many flowers that could be used for resolving specific emotional imbalances.

Ian White, from Terrey Hills in Sydney and a fifth generation herbalist, was able to capture the essence of many flowers from all over Australia, and create a product for us all to use in a simple form. The guidance on the bush essences came through to him while he was meditating. More information can be found on the website: www.ausflowers.com.au

The bush essence remedies bring



by Sonia Barton

forth positive qualities that reside deep inside every one of us. The activation allows us to replace fear with courage, hatred with love, insecurity with confidence, etc. The essences are gloriously uplifting which gives us inspiration. They flood our bodies with beautiful vibrations of our higher nature.

Here is an example of a combination of bush flower essences that can help you:

If you are feeling overwhelmed by change, feeling 'out of sorts', overly sensitive to others or to the

negative energies of situations or environments, then I would make a remedy for you that can help to give a positive outcome, so that you feel more resilient, calm and balanced, feeling safe and reassured, coping with change, grounded and courageous.

I can make the right remedy for you without us being face-to-face, as I can dowse the whole set of essences with a pendulum, asking which ones are perfect for you to take right now. They are always accurate.

At this time, I think we could all do with a remedy to cope with situation we are in or feeling. If you would like me to make one for you, please get in touch. We can have a phone consultation and I can deliver the remedy or post it to you. I'd love to help you feel better in yourself.

Together we can do it!

Sonia Barton is a Bowen therapist and Reiki teacher practicing in Nimbin, Byron Bay and Lismore. Contact her on 0431-911-329 or go to: www.bowenenergywork.com.au

Community garden gets a boost

As soon as Byron Bay Shire came out of lockdown, the gardeners at Suffolk Park Community Gardens didn't wait a minute to get back in the garden.

The team of young, old and differently-abled people worked together to install their new compost/worm farm generously donated by Subpod, a local sustainability business, with the worms coming from the innovative local green company, WastePlant.

Gardener Holly English said, "We are a not-for-profit community group who rely on the kind donations of our local businesses and friends, so we are super-stoked and grateful to receive such a wonderful gift from these local trail-blazer companies, who are doing really great things for the planet."

"Gardens bring so much happiness and peace of mind

to people from all walks of life, especially during these times of great uncertainty and social division. This is a place where we come together on equal ground. Our love of nature, gardens, localisation and community.

"We have big visions for our humble gardens. A small but strong, dedicated team have created this little Garden of Eden."

"We would love to see some of our bigger dreams come to realisation, such as wheelchair access throughout the gardens, picnic spaces and a garden shed with a door that locks!"

The Suffolk Park Community Gardens has working bees every Sunday afternoon. Find them on Facebook, or just take a wander down there on the weekends. You'll find someone pulling up radishes or basking in the sun.



Gardeners rejoice: Popular compost back on sale

After a two-year break, the popular BIOCycle Compost is again on sale from the Lismore Recycling & Recovery Centre and Nimbin Transfer Station.

"This is great news for home gardeners and our local agricultural industry," Lismore City Council's manager of commercial services David Hanna said.

"Unfortunately, after the 2019 fire at our waste facility, we had to stop producing compost until we could repair the damaged compost pad area."

"We have now done this work and have made a few other improvements to our processing system to ensure the quality of our certified organic BIOCycle compost is of high standard."

"As the processed materials take time to break down into compost, the quantity available to the public will be limited at first but will increase as more is ready to be bagged up ready for home gardens."

At the Lismore Recycling & Recovery Centre, Council is closing the loop on our organics recycling, turning the region's food and garden scraps into a nutrient-rich BIOcycle compost for local farms and backyard gardens.

Once the contents from kerbside organics bins are brought to the Recycling & Recovery Centre, the

material is stockpiled into rows on the composting pad. Food and garden waste is shredded and then processed on an Aero-sorb system, which pushes air through the material, speeding up the composting process and keeping it in an aerobic state. Heat and micro-organisms assist in the composting and killing off any pathogens and weed seeds.

The composted material is then graded and screened to remove plastics and other inorganic materials, and is tested for quality assurance before being released for sale.

The result is a 10mm BIOcycle compost product which is certified organic (BFA Registered Product 11538AI) and can be purchased via the Lismore & Nimbin Revolve Shops.

The price of a 15kg/20L bag costs is \$14. Limited amounts of bulk compost is also available and delivery can be arranged.

The operating hours of the Revolve Shop are Wednesday and Friday 9am to 2pm on Saturday 9am to 1pm. The operating hours of the Nimbin Transfer Station are 8am to 3pm on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

For more information, visit: www.northernriverswaste.com.au and look under 'Organics & Compost' or phone the contact centre on 6625-0500.

Challenge to home gardeners



Adam Bryant with this year's record-breaking 867kg pumpkin grown by Dale Oliver. Photo courtesy Northern Rivers Review

The coveted title of the best grower in the Kyogle LGA is up for grabs, so it's time to plant.

Grow the heaviest Tomato, Round Watermelon, Butternut Pumpkin or Sweet Potato, or the longest Zucchini or Cucumber, and enter into the On The Vine Competition as part of the Summerland Giant Pumpkin and

Watermelon Festival on Saturday 15th January 2022.

No limit to the number of entries, and remember you have to be in it to win. Check with your local nursery and they will advise on the best variety to grow.

Artists and crafters are reminded that entry forms are available for the Arts and Crafts competition linked to the

Pumpkin Competition. Artists are asked to present a painting, and crafters an item of soft furnishings. Works must reflect the theme 'On the Vine'.

Entry forms are available at Roxy Gallery, Clay Corner, Kyogle Newsagents, Kyogle Country Crafts, The Farmers Market and the Visitors Information Centre.

Putting local stories on the state history map



People across the Lismore electorate are invited to make suggestions for sites linked to notable people and events, to be part of the state's new Blue Plaques program.

The Blue Plaques program is inspired by the famous UK system of plaques and history trails that mark key sites, and help people explore the stories that have shaped those places.

Lismore MP Janelle Saffin said, "There are so many great stories to be told from our region, from the heroic to the hilarious. This is an opportunity to add our significant sites to the state's history trail."

"I'm calling on schools, historical societies, councils and individuals to nominate local sites and

the stories behind them. It could be that a certain person was born or went to school there, or it may be a significant cultural site, or the place of a community event which made a big impact on our history."

Heritage NSW says the Blue Plaque program is about recognising colourful, creative and innovative characters, the events of significance to the region, and the lesser-known stories that we should know about.

Nominations must be lodged with Janelle Saffin's office by 20th October.

Nomination forms can be downloaded from the Heritage NSW website: www.heritage.nsw.gov.au Go to the Blue Plaque page and download the MP



Nomination Form. Send completed forms to Janelle Saffin at: lismore@parliament.nsw.gov.au

or mail to 55 Carrington Street, Lismore.



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Get on top of privet

Weed Words by Triny Roe

Looking fabulous in spring, like a toilet roll dolly bedecked with clusters of tiny white florets, small leaf privet *Ligustrum sinense* catches the eye and the nose. Seen along creek banks, fence lines, roadsides and even popping up in paddocks and happily establishing in shade, it can also invade bushland.

Its cousin, broad leaf privet *Ligustrum lucidum*, is also found round and about in the Northern Rivers. In winter this one displays distinctive clusters of large purple-black berries. Birds love the berries of both and so they spread.

Once a popular choice for hedging, privet today is considered an environmental weed. As with many exotic species imported for their ornamental qualities and celebrated for their hardiness, their propensity to spread has made them a pest. Seeds are distributed further afield by birds, wash downstream or germinate around the mother tree to form a thick grove.

With a reputation for causing allergic reactions from the perfume, privet is also a serious threat to riparian zones and rainforest where it can displace the shrub layers. Privet will out-compete and exclude native species, so early attention will reduce its impact and lessen your workload.

Smaller specimens can be hand-pulled, especially when the soil is moist. Tree poppers are handy helpers. Privet stems and branches will keep growing if left in contact with the ground in moist conditions, so be careful with disposal of the weedings. Piles left on site will need monitoring for re-sprouts. It is



Small leaf privet

never OK to chuck plant debris down the gully. Out of sight, out of mind is a recipe for disaster.

Larger specimens of privet can be ringbarked for a gradual death, by hammering a section of bark off around the trunk. It's labour intensive but achievable if only dealing with a couple, or have plenty of strong arms. Follow-up will be needed to remove shoots and suckers.

This technique also works on camphor laurel *Cinnamomum camphora* and enables a gradual transition back to bush. Native seedlings, sheltered by the woody weed species, have time to adapt to the increasing light levels.

Stem injection of herbicide or cut-and-paint will effect a quick death, and might be considered if faced with a large entrenched infestation. As with all weeding projects, follow-up, follow-up and follow-up will be required. Seed can last several years in the soil and new ones will come.

As Spring draws to an end, keep an eye out for cats claw vine *Dolichandra unguis-cati* aka *Macfadyena unguis-cati*. It's another hardy plant which

can tolerate drought, frost and saline soil. Spot the pretty yellow bell-shaped flowers in November and don't delay. This is a predator plant species which can kill forests and transform ecosystems.

As well as creeping about on the ground forming a thick impenetrable ground cover, cats claw can climb tall trees and smother them, blocking the sunlight from getting through to the leaves. Now would be a good time to cut the stems and prevent the long leathery pods from developing. The winged seeds, 40 to 80 in each pod, released when ripe, will blow on the wind to new locations, or wash downstream with floods.

Due to the presence of root tubers, which are up to a metre deep in mature specimens, herbicide may be required to control this rampant creeper – or regularly harvest the vines, which can grow up to 30 metres long, for basket-weaving before they flower.

Biocontrol has been used in the form of leaf-eating beetles, but while they might reduce its vigour, they're unlikely to eradicate it completely.

Happy weeding.

Artistic Driveways



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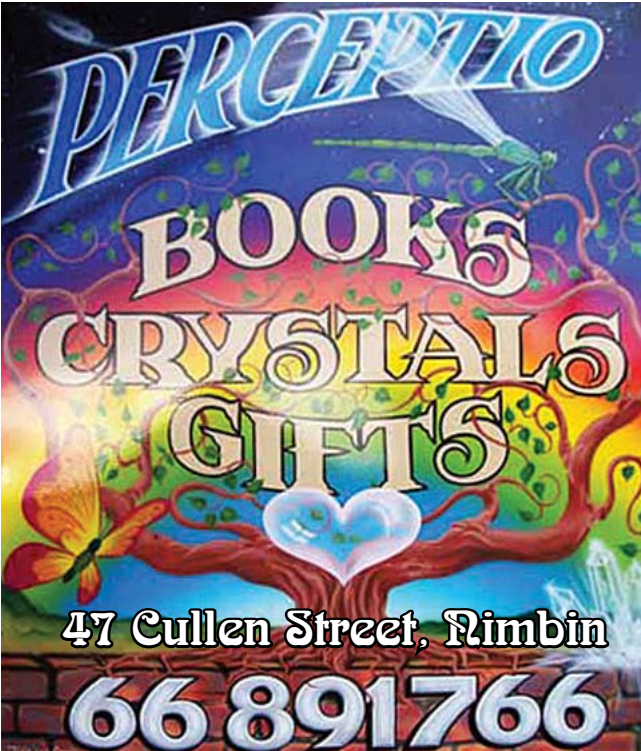
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by Kerry Hagan

It's with crossed fingers and toes that we are announcing October Garden Club meeting. We last met in June, and since then we have had to cancel again and again. However, we are optimistic that we can finally get to see Christine's garden in October: Saturday, 16th October 2-4pm at 104 Gungas Road, Nimbin. Please bring all your enthusiasm as well as a cup, a chair and a plate to share. Hopefully we will see you there. By the way, it's also our AGM, long overdue.



Plant of the month

Cudgerie *Flindersia schottiana*

by Richard Burer

This season looks like one of the best for this local teak tree, Cudgerie, a tree to 45m with a straight and cylindrical trunk. The white perfumed flowers will start to flower this October, and local trees look covered in bud this year, so most trees can be easily identified. A riverine and sub-tropical rainforest tree, this species is very common throughout the valleys of the Nimbin area, despite being extensively logged last century as a valuable cabinet timber species.

I'm keen on this species in my environmental work,

where I find it readily regenerating or I'm adding it in my tree-planting list. Reasonable growth rates make this a good tree to plant in your conservation projects, and I'm also including this species in cabinet timber plantations. Easy to grow your own; keep your eye out in January for the five segmented oblong woody seed capsules covered in blunt spines that contain a few winged seeds in each capsule. One month should see some germination with this tree.

Richard Burer is a local natural area restoration consultant and contractor. richard.burer@gmail.com



by Peter Moyle

Scheduling, rescheduling, postponing, and cancelling, the story and life at the moment of the Nimbin Bushwalking Club. As we all know, life is adjusting on a weekly basis to restrictions and lockdowns with no apparent end imminent. As we have flexibility in scheduling, we have been able to mostly juggle our walks, and last month we did that with the coastal walk from Ballina to Lennox and return. A gorgeous sunny but windy day saw a full complement of members do this lovely walk. The walk can be done mostly on beach or on the coastal trail, and the rehabilitated coastal forest, headlands and coves along the way make for a most enjoyable easy walk.

The companionship of fellow members with an appreciation for our natural environment always adds to a day out, but this walk would be just as enjoyable for anyone of reasonable fitness with a companion in these lockdown times; great exercise, and fresh air. With changing circumstances, we have rescheduled the Goonengerry walk by a week and the camp at Binna Burra is looking most doubtful. With a considerate refund policy, we will wait a little longer in hope, but another weekend away will be set if the border stays closed and we are out of lockdown. Stay safe and let's enjoy our beautiful countryside and remember to book in early for any walks, as they are very popular these days

Walks programme

Goonengerry National Park Sunday 17th October

Leader: Ron Smith 0497-792-789
Grade 3-4: 10km approximately 4 hours. There are some off-track sections that may be slippery. Good walking shoes/boots recommended. We will be walking into an area with some nice waterfalls, hopefully a bit of water.
Meet: 9.15am at the Goonengerry Public School. As usual, ring to reserve your spot and bring a hat, water and lunch.

Binna Burra, Lamington NP, behind the Gold Coast 29th to 31st October

Leader: Peter Spearritt 0421-055-292
Grade 3-4: There are varied walks of different lengths.
Meet: At the Campground, contact Peter to register your interest. We have not been to Binna Burra for a few years, and only parts were in the bushfire. The campground and safari tents were not affected. As usual, ring to reserve your spot and bring hat, water, and lunch.
Walks: There will be a walk on the Saturday



from 9am and the Sunday from 8am. If you decide to overnight there are all types of accommodation available; the campground caters for tent, campervans, and motorhomes as well as Safari tents if you prefer. Bookings are essential and need to be made well in advance, as weekends are always busy. Ring Peter to discuss options.

Re-makins Nimbin IMAGINE...



by Benny Zable

In 1985, New York City dedicated an area of Central Park where John Lennon had frequently walked, directly across from the Dakota, as Strawberry Fields.

In a symbolic show of unity, countries from around the world donated trees, and the city of Naples, Italy, donated the Imagine mosaic centrepiece. (See: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Murder_of_John_Lennon)

I traced a cross section of the IMAGINE mosaic and brought it back to Nimbin to complete the template for the Nimbin Bush Theatre.

This morphed to painting a replica of IMAGINE in front of the shelter on the other side of the Nimbin War Memorial: another idea towards developing Nimbin Aquarius Culture of Peace sites.

Lewis Walker described this meeting site for us during the IMAGINE dedication ceremony, see: www.youtube.com/watch?v=bH4PkVN65gg

It is also on the site of the Nimbin pole created at the festival, see: www.rainbowdreaming.org/contents.html The site continued to be a free-form site to express peace and love.

A couple of 'May Peace Prevail' signs on Earth International peace pole had been installed on the shelter, see: www.worldpeace.org from the World Peace Prayer Society, see: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_World_Peace_Prayer_Society



There is an Australian site now at: <https://peacepolesaustralia.com>

At the moment I am in the process of re-painting the Nimbin IMAGINE, mainly funded by the Nimbin Aquarius Foundation Incorporated and supporters. Because approaches to Yoko Ono both in letters from the Lismore mayor and the Nimbin Chamber of Commerce, and a meeting with a Yoko Ono lawyer by the producer of NYC Ecofest at the

time, Yoko stated that the IMAGINE mosaic is site-specific.

Our luck that the Nimbin IMAGINE mandala has not been removed from this rebellious town of nearly normal Nimbin.

Let's hope it makes it to the Nimbin Aquarius 50th anniversary in May 2023 and beyond.

"May the longtime sun shine upon you all love surround you and the pure light within you guide your way on."



Community helps with disabled access

The Regent, the Murwillumbah community's Art Deco treasure, has not had disability access before, but now a generous bequest is helping to make to make the arts accessible to all.

The late Colin Ronald Perry Thomas was a well-known local, who ran an accounting practice for over 35 years in Murwillumbah. He raised a family here with his first wife; his children all went to local schools and some of his grandchildren are currently living in Murwillumbah.

Colin Thomas sadly passed away in 2019, unaware that his second wife, Rosalind Trathen, would decide to bequeath funds to facilitate disability access into The Regent in his honour.

"Colin loved Murwillumbah," Rosalind said. "It's where he brought up his family, it was home for him, it's the town that he knew and loved."

When asked how Colin would feel about this gift in his name, Rosalind replied, "He would approve... he would be a bit embarrassed, but he would be proud."

"But this is not about accolades. It is about giving back to the community. I just know how much he loved the town and respected the people," Rosalind said.

In order to receive the bequest from the legal team representing Rosalind Trathen, The Regent had to provide proof the funds would indeed be invested in disability access.

With a giant leap of faith, the Regent's team borrowed the necessary



funds to provide proof of purchase to the legal firm, and began the process to make possible the bequeathment of over \$30,000 from the estate of Colin Thomas.

The entire cost of the new platform lift and street egress is over \$100,000.

The new platform lift allows for a person in a wheelchair to travel with dignity and comfort from the street entry up to the foyer, and from the foyer into the auditorium to enjoy the cinema and special live events.

Once the lift is fully installed and street egress is achieved there will be a formal ribbon cutting and opening, with the Thomas and Trathan families honoured, as well as celebrating all other community members who have contributed to the installation of the platform lift, for the benefit of all.

Colin Thomas and Rosalind Gai Trathen, and other supporters, will be memorialised by a bespoke Art Deco

brass plaque in the entry foyer, where the community can remember and honour their generous vision.

Community members and organisations are encouraged to support this initiative. Murwillumbah Central Rotary Club has already come on board with funds.

Potential supporters can choose a sponsorship determining the position of their names on the memorial plaque for the entry foyer, which will further inspire the community to achieve future milestones resulting in a fair go for all.

To arrange formal sponsorships and inclusion on the memorial plaque, please contact Nick Hanlon at: rainbowregiongigs@gmail.com

Support the campaign with any amount (small donations are also greatly appreciated), through the Go-Fund-Me Platform at: www.gofundme.com/f/help-the-regent-get-a-lift-provide-access-to-all

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