

Repairs and revitalisation

It was great to welcome the State Government's \$500,000 grant to revitalise the Nimbin streetscape last month.

Nimbin attracts tens of thousands of visitors from around the globe every year, and this project will make the village even more attractive and welcoming for locals and tourists.

This investment is about enhancing accessibility for all our community, walkability, and importantly improving the safety of

the pedestrian crossing on Cullen Street.

Works include a new pathway, including stairs and balustrading linking the carpark with Cullen Street, new seating and tables on Cullen Street near the intersection with Sibley Street, re-shaping the existing pedestrian crossing to make it safer for residents, and a new green parklet at the southern end of Sibley Street.

The project is scheduled to be finished by March

next year and will make the unique Nimbin village safer and more pedestrian friendly for locals and tourists.

Road repairs

People have spoken to me about the state of Nimbin Road. It is going to take a little bit of time of repair this road that was significantly damaged in the February natural disaster.

The good news is the designs to repair the two landslips are almost

complete and Council is about to go to market to appoint a contractor to do the work which will cost a total of \$4.1 million.

Council has also secured approval to start repairing the road surface of various sections of Nimbin Road. Contractors are expected to be appointed shortly to carry out this work. This work will cost about \$2.2 million to complete.

I understand the community's frustration about the time this has taken, but we must make sure we get it right, which is why Council has undertaken extensive

geotechnical studies. Unfortunately, the lack of geotechnical specialists has contributed to the delay in repairs.

You can keep up to date with all scheduled roadworks across our Local Government Area via the new dedicated webpage on Council's Your Say Lismore webpage: <https://yoursay.lismore.nsw.gov.au>

The webpage will list all roadwork schedules, weekly pothole repair schedules, and include non-flood affected roads and bridges, as Council will continue pre-flood planned road works as scheduled.



From the mayor's desk
by Steve Krieg
Lismore City Council

steve.krieg@lismore.nsw.gov.au



Timber bridge replacement underway

Lismore Council's specialist Bridge Crew has completed a new single-span concrete bridge at Tucki Tucki.

This is the third of 10 aging bridges slated for replacement in the municipality due to safety issues, using an \$11 million grant from the State Government's Fixing Country Bridges program.

The Tucki Creek project has helped support 20 local jobs over the three months construction was carried out, including five full-time positions.

Mayor Steve Krieg said, "This is great news for our community. Council has 'Built Back Better' by improving the resilience of the bridge to flooding."

Lismore Council matters

Development proposals

The controversial DA for 203 blocks in Invercauld Road was refused by Council because of the serious number of mature koala food trees that were proposed to be removed from the site, 64 out of 85, with 19 of the remaining trees fenced off from the migrating koalas.

A rescission motion to overturn the refusal also failed, to the applause of dozens of our community members who came to observe and speak on the issue.

Also at the July meeting, a motion to lease one of Goonellabah's parks for temporary housing failed.

Councillors received numerous appeals from users of the park who noted that, as the flood affected parks in the city were unusable for many months, Hepburn was the only operating park for many sports.

It was a difficult choice between the needs of many park users and the urgent need for short term emergency accommodation.

Flood response

Councillors have requested to meet with the Northern Rivers Reconstruction Corporation Commissioner David Witherdin as soon as possible, so that a continuing dialogue can be enabled to share information about the reconstruction plans with our community.

The NRRC is still finalising their remit and getting an advisory board assembled, and Mr Witherdin has had Covid as well. But hopefully, we can soon meet and discuss the aspirations of our flood affected communities for the city and region going forward.

Councillors have also called to meet with the CSIRO team who will be conducting the flood modelling and mitigation study, announced by Kevin Hogan many months ago.

To date, no terms of reference have been agreed for the study, so any possible flood mitigation options and



by Cr Darlene Cook
Lismore City Council

project implementation drags out for more years.

Round 1 of the LCC Flood Disaster Appeal grants have closed. Staff are assessing the applications to ensure they are genuine and once this is done, Councillors will meet and issue the grant payments. The \$1M first round will be divided up among the applicants. A second round will occur later this year.

Youth leadership summit

The recently formed North Coast Youth Action group (NCYA), supported by the Office for Regional Youth, have created a framework for the North Coast Youth Leadership Summit, an event that brings together passionate young people aged 12-24 from across the region.

The event will be hosted and facilitated by local young people. Facilitators will support participants in identifying unique challenges, aspirations and opportunities for young people living from Tweed Heads to Coffs Harbour.

The summit will address three key themes identified by young people, including social inclusion, environmental sustainability, and active youth citizenship.

In addition, guest speakers will present case studies and opportunities to inspire local young people to take action in their communities.

The summit will help the North Coast Youth Action and Office for Regional Youth identify recommendations and

potential pathways to improve young people's meaningful engagement in promoting local initiatives.

The event is on Monday 29th August between 9am and 3pm, at the Ballina Lighthouse & Lismore SLSC, Lighthouse Parade. East Ballina. Lunch and morning tea provided. Transport is available on request. To register go to: www.eventbrite.com.au/e/383202528077

Business renewal forums

Lismore City Council invites your contribution as a local business owner, operator or employee, to planning support for Lismore and Nimbin business renewal.

As we move forward through flood recovery, help Council understand your current needs and aspirations, so we can advocate effectively and work collaboratively with government agencies to help you, our business community.

Register here: https://yoursay.lismore.nsw.gov.au/have-your-say-renewing-our-business-community/survey_tools/registration-form to share your input.

You can come to an upcoming Business Renewal Forum in Lismore or Nimbin, an on-line session, or simply answer some quick questions on line.

The Forum sessions are run in collaboration with Lismore Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Nimbin Chamber of Commerce, Business NSW, Department of Regional NSW and Regional Development Australia, Northern Rivers.

Each forum will feature a short presentation, followed by Q&A and opportunities to engage with support agencies.

The Nimbin Business Renewal Forum will be held on Tuesday 2nd August.

I can be contacted by phone on either 6626-0154 or 0427-895-316; or via email at: darlene.cook@lismore.nsw.gov.au



On the same Page

47th Parliament opened

by Kevin Hogan,
Federal Member for Page

I'm humbled to be sworn in as the Member for Page. It is an honour to represent our community in Canberra.

We have a great democracy in Australia. Changes in Government are done peacefully and quickly.

This is something to be

thankful for, as it is not the case for many countries.

I will be working constructively with the new government wherever possible to secure major funding commitments, and holding it to account in areas where needed.

There are many important formalities during the opening of Parliament, including a Welcome to

Country, smoking ceremony, swearing in of all MPs and a speech by the Governor General.

There's lots of work for me to do as our local MP, and I remain positive and optimistic about our region's future.

Kevin Hogan has the new role of Shadow Minister for Trade and Tourism.

Responding to a humanitarian disaster

by Janelle Saffin MP
State Member for Lismore

I recently made a detailed submission to the independent 2022 NSW Flood Inquiry Commissioners Professor Mary O’Kane AC and Mick Fuller APM, copying in the Legislative Council Committee’s inquiry into the flood response as well.

I’ve stated to NSW Premier Dominic Perrottet that he must accept the recommendations the Commissioners’ Independent Inquiry makes sight unseen.

Floods will happen again but preparedness is key. We need to now create a model of adaption to disaster preparedness that addresses risk, structure and cognition that guides preparedness.

This requires skills, knowledge and attitude, and a total reorientation of how business is done. The structure is hierarchical and it needs to be task-oriented. Everyone has a position but it is not clear who has a task, to put it in basic terms.

The framework described in the NSW Government’s own submission to the Legislative Council inquiry says it all. Lots of framework but little else.

The word ‘unprecedented’ has been bandied about a lot and has become code for it was ‘unpredictable’. Therefore, ‘we could not have been prepared’.

This is erroneous at best and an abrogation of responsibility at worst. NSW Government’s public agencies



could have been better prepared, and part of that means working alongside the community so that our preparedness coalesces.

The people did prepare to be inundated according to the flood warnings officially received, but by the time the warning came that the flood was much larger than the 2017 flood, it was too late to do much, let alone evacuate.

People were trapped in their homes, in ceilings, on roofs and in the streets. Businesses that had lifted well above the flood warnings and earlier large flood levels were gutted.

Farmers lost massive amounts of stock, and soil, and suffered landslips as did many landholders and villages,

cutting off access.

Tragically, five people lost their lives.

The NSW Government agencies charged with rescue and recovery – the NSW State Emergency Service (SES), 000, and Resilience NSW – were barely prepared for ‘what was’ let alone ‘what if’.

The latter is a fundamental disaster preparedness principle. The tragedy that unfolded speaks to this.

Locals with boats came out in droves to be told by the SES not to enter the water, but thank God they ignored this exhortation, an edict without authority, that would have potentially led to more deaths. They acted to help save our lives.

Rescue, recover, rebuild, adapt and prepare

If preparing for ‘what if’ had been done, the SES would have been able to utilise community rescue, or our ‘tinnie army’ as they are affectionately known.

There is a complete disconnect between what the NSW Government outlines as its responsibilities, how NSW Government’s public agencies carry out their responsibilities, and what happened here on the ground.

I make many recommendations in my submission, but the NSW SES must have a fundamental re-think about what their role is, what their resources are, and how to effect rescues.

There needs to some over-arching rescue body that focuses purely on that and how to incorporate all resources, including community, and that is the role of the State Rescue Board of New South Wales, but not if Resilience NSW is at the helm.

The rescue was virtually a non-response, despite the wonderful efforts of local SES volunteers.

The catastrophic flood of 28th February 2022 decimated homes, businesses, farms, lands, rivers, and people’s state of being, only to be followed by the major flood on 30th March 2022. The magnitude of the impact is overwhelming, continuous and uncertain.

In the Nimbin area, landslips and severely damaged roads have been extremely challenging, and I

continue to lobby relevant Ministers and government agencies on all issues raised with me. Some work has been undertaken and more is a-foot.

The Northern Rivers requires a comprehensive flood recovery package if there is to be any hope for an estimated 14,500 internally displaced persons living in temporary housing, caravans or tents.

Many of them were denied financial assistance after up to 4000 homes were deemed uninhabitable.

Thousands of inundated businesses are still boarded up across the region with proprietors and landlords pondering their futures.

Thousands of employees are facing uncertainty and insecurity. I am told that an economic assessment has been done but it is yet to see the light of day.

To move from these extreme conditions, we need to start the discussion on how Lismore will be reimagined and transform a city that is sustainable. Murwillumbah and other towns as well where needed.

We can and we must ‘build back better’, as I first stated to the Premier while we trudged around muddy streets in the immediate aftermath of the flood.

I said that is the frame and we start there.

See: www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/committees/listofcommittees/Pages/committee-details.aspx?pk=277

The State of the Environment Report

I waited anxiously in the week leading up to the release of the State of the Environment Report, on 19th July, by the new federal Minister for the Environment, Tanya Plibersek.

I knew it was going to be a disaster of a report, the worst one yet. It confirms what many of us already know, that we are well and truly in an extinction crisis and our environment is in serious trouble.

As a public interest environmental lawyer for the past 16 years and now the Greens environment spokesperson in the NSW Parliament I have been consistently exposed to the worst of, and the scale of environmental harm occurring across NSW.

Almost as bad as the harm itself are the systems that enable it to happen. While those systems can seem complex and too hard to change, it is important to remember that they are, in most part, controlled by people in government.

For the past 12 years, the NSW Liberal-National Coalition Government has been in government and control of our environment.

The report comprehensively describes the shocking



state of our environment. It quotes the World Economic Forum in finding that environmental degradation is now considered a threat to humanity that could “bring about societal collapses with long-lasting and severe consequences.”

In February this year, our beloved koala joined the long and ever growing endangered list. Then in June the greater glider, the spectacular largest gliding forest-dependent mammal, joined that frightful list too. It means these animals, with hundreds of others, are on the brink of extinction. There are many more that will follow.

Some three billion animals were killed or displaced by the devastating climate induced summer fires, the science and the lists are only on catch-up.

The report told us that 19 Australian ecosystems are in

a state of collapse because of climate change, habitat loss, invasive species, pollution and mining. ecosystem collapse, along with tipping points, is another “end of times” phrase.

We now have more foreign plant species than native species, the number of listed threatened species rose 8% since 2016.

Between 2000 and 2017, Australia cleared more than 19 million acres of threatened species habitat across the country, much of it in small increments – death by a thousand cuts.

Marine heat waves caused mass coral bleaching in the World Heritage-listed Great Barrier Reef four times in the past six years, almost half the country is now used for grazing, and the areas committed to forestry and cropping have increased.

The State of the

Environment Report must be a turning point for us all. There are two immediate positive things we must do for our environment, in the lead-up to the NSW State election next March.

We must all campaign together to end the industrial scale logging of our public native forests. Frankly, I can’t actually believe we still do this here in NSW. The case to end logging our public native forests has been well and truly made.

Ending logging in Southern NSW alone is estimated to produce a net economic benefit of \$60 million and reduce net greenhouse gas emissions by almost 1 million tonnes over the next two decades. It is astounding that logging our native forests last year cost NSW taxpayers \$441 per hectare.

Our public native forest

An extinction crisis

estate is only a small part of NSW, yet these forest ecosystems are vital in our fight against the climate crisis, slowing the extinction crisis, protecting communities against bushfire and maintaining healthy soil and water systems.

Our public forest estate is also vital for First Nations heritage and culture.

However, the NSW Coalition Government isn’t buying it. The National Party Minister, Dugald Saunders, actually believes that the industrial scale logging of these sensitive forest environments is good for them and good for climate change.

The NSW Forestry Corporation has a slick public relations team. They would have you think that koalas do better after their habitat has been logged than before!

We have a big job to cut through this National Party and corporate spin. It is going to take all of us. We know, and have done for decades, that the only sustainable timber industry is one that relies wholly on plantations.

The second thing we must do is build our protected area network in NSW to 30% by 2030. At the moment

less than 10% of NSW is protected in National Parks, Nature Reserves and State Conservation Areas. 10% is woeful!

If we add the last of our public native forests to the protected area network, that will get us to around 12% of NSW. Getting to 30% by 2030 is ambitious, but let’s face it, ambition is the least of our worries.

A healthy well-managed protected area network is key to landscape resilience, mitigating the worst impacts of climate change, helping our threatened precious wildlife to survive and creating healthy communities.

I will be doing everything I can to make these two essential positive environmental initiatives happen and to put them on every political agenda.

I know that to improve the state of our environment it is imperative that the NSW Liberal National Coalition is booted out at the next State election in March.

If you want to be part of these positive lifesaving campaigns, please get in touch with me: sue.higginson@parliament.nsw.gov.au or (02) 9230-3030.

MardiGrass Hemposium 2022 program released

by Michael Balderstone

2022 MardiGrass will be an all-Aussie affair showcasing an amazing collection of Cannabis experts across medicine, industry, science, politics, culture and more!

MardiGrass is an extraordinary chance to share and learn about our favourite plant ally and healing herb. A Weed University weekend, you might say.

In 2022, we are thrilled that Michael Pettersson will be speaking at the 2022 Hemposium. He is one of Australia's youngest politicians and is responsible for people in the ACT being able to grow two plants and legally carry fifty grams with them.

Michael was elected to the ACT Parliament in 2016 when he was 25, and he has recently introduced a bill in Canberra that would remove criminal sanctions for the personal possession and use of all illicit substances.

Other leading Cannabis law reform politicians on the agenda who will discuss their efforts in raising Cannabis Bills within their respective states, include Fiona Patten from the Reason Party in Victoria, Cate Faehrmann, NSW Greens, and Sophia Moermond and Brian Walker, Legalise Cannabis WA.

Long-time MardiGrass supporter, David Shoebridge, now a Greens Federal Senator, will share the future of drug law reform efforts in Federal parliament.

The 2022 Hemposium will also host experts in medicinal cannabis to discuss its role in an integrative medicine approach to the treatment of disease, disorders, conditions and promotion of wellbeing, drawing on both scientific research and experiences as practitioners and researchers.

It's wonderful to welcome Professor Kylie O'Brien back to MardiGrass in 2022, and



Photo: Brian Alexander, 2014. More of Brian's pics on page 32.

we're particularly excited that she's now a Rainbow Region local. Kylie has been leading doctor education in medicinal cannabis in Australia, and set up the pathway for doctors to apply to become authorised prescribers of medicinal cannabis under the TGA Scheme.

We're grateful that Prof Nick Lintzeris will visit Nimbin again to share his latest research and survey on Cannabis Use. Welcome also to Dr Carolyn Bosak who will discuss the ways cannabis can potentially benefit the athlete, and anyone else trying to stay active and healthy.

Dr John Teh, from PlantMed Medicinal Cannabis, will host a medical cannabis Q&A session. Leading educator and Medical Director MediHuanna, Dr Teresa Towpick, will launch her new book "Cancer My Greatest Teacher" and explore her healing journey with cannabis.

We're excited to welcome again Dr Jamie

Rickord, Medical Director Ananda Clinics, who will focus on why cannabinoids may be essential for optimal human functioning. And in 2022, we welcome back veteran law reform campaigners and great supporters of MardiGrass, Dr Andrew Katelaris and Dr Deb Waldron.

With on-going changes to cannabis laws, the issue of cannabis-impaired driving has never appeared more salient. Ex magistrate David Heilpern is returning to MardiGrass to chair a Q&A on drug driving and explore how we find our way past this massive roadblock.

He will be joined by Dr. Thomas Arkell who will review the science around cannabis and its effects on driving ability and cognitive function, and highlight the current approaches to managing cannabis and driving here in Australia and around the world.

MardiGrass stalwarts: legendary Tony Bower from Mullaways Medical Cannabis

returns to MardiGrass this year; and so does Steve Bolt who is coming to provide essential Legal Advice.

And on a fungi tangent, T.K. Nixon, founder of Responsible Choice, returns in 2022 with a blockbuster 90-minute session on the 'Four Golden Rules' necessary for ensuring correct identification of our favourite fungi.

Also returning to MardiGrass is journalist and historian, Dr John Jiggins, who will launch his important book, *The Joke: A History of Cannabis Prohibition in Australia*, and reveal the inside joke of Bela Csidei and the Wonder Plant.

This year's Mardigrass Industrial HEMP Expo will promote global and local hemp solutions for medicine, food and industry with the newly formed Northern Rivers Hemp Farmers Co-op in attendance to answer all your questions about hemp farming.

This year we are excited to announce two new all-day workshops: How to Ice-Water Sieve by Quality Treats and a Glass Blowing Demo by Craze Co.

The Hemp Expo also features hemp engineer Martin Ernegg; interactive farmers, Hanna and Leon, Hemp Threads, and learn how to make hemp balm with The Hemp Club!

Hemp farmers, Don Langdon will explain how we can save money and the world with biodynamic hemp CBD farming, while Stuart Browne will show how to make hemp honey.

On Sunday, Kog will share the truth about cultivating Cannabis at his annual Grower's circle, while Malcolm Lee will rove around breeding, gardening and healing.

It's time this magnificent herb was welcomed into mainstream Australian life, and the persecution and prejudice to stop. Medical cannabis has been a growing international phenomenon over the last few decades, and Australia is only now starting to catch on and catch up.

The Hemposium aims to expand the mind as much as that special weed herself, and is a space to inform, learn, agitate, inspire and connect in this massively important green revolution.

Let's not take another 30 years! Help us overgrow the government!

| HEMPOSIUM 2022 | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|--|-------------|---|
| Saturday 17 September | | | | | | |
| Sat 17 Sept | Town Hall | Hall Garden | Indica Arena | Hemp Expo | Sat 17 Sept | Markets |
| 10:00 am | Cannabis Laws and Legislation Steve Bolt, Solicitor & Author | | Meet with Mullaways Tony Bower | | 10:00 am | |
| 11:00 am | David Shoebridge, Greens Senator | Cancer and Cannabis Dr Deb Waldron, Advocate | Mullaways Medical Cannabis | Growing cbd hemp biodynamically Don Langdon, | 11:00 am | |
| 11:30 am | Legislative Efforts towards Medical Cannabis & Driving in NSW Cate Faehrmann, NSW Greens MLC | | WA's Cannabis Legalisation Proposal Sophia Moermond, WA Legalise Cannabis MLC | Southern Cross Hemp Oil Can Hemp Save the World? Dr Andrew Katelaris, Activist | 11:15 am | Agitating & Sieving All Day Workshop @ Quality Treats Stall |
| 12:15 pm | Legalising Cannabis in the ACT Michael Pettersson, ACT Labor MLA | Psilocybin Mushrooms Eliminating the Harms Tim Nixon, Responsible Choice | Plan B for Cannabis in Victoria Fiona Patten, VIC Reason MLC | | 12:00 pm | |
| 1:00 pm | Consumer perspectives on medical cannabis: CAMS20 national survey Prof Nick Lintzeris, University of Sydney | | Move with the Times, Australia David Shoebridge, Greens Senator | Acidic versus Activated Form of Cannabis Oils Malcolm Lee, Hemp Farmer | 12:15 pm | |
| 1:45 pm | Medicinal Cannabis and Integrative Cancer Management: What's the Scientific Evidence? Prof Kylie O'Brien, Releaf Group | Cannabis and Sport Dr Carolyn Bosak, GP | Stripping off for the Cannabis Cause Dr Brian Walker, WA Legalise Cannabis MLC | | 1:00 pm | |
| 2:30 pm | Roadside Drug Testing Panel Facilitator: David Heilpern Speakers: Tom Arkell, Cate Faehrmann, Fiona Patten, Michael Pettersson, David Shoebridge | Legalise Cannabis Party Meeting All Welcome!! Facilitator: Craig Ellis Including: Michael Balderstone, Bernie Bradley, Gail Hester, James Kingsbury, Sophia Moermond, Brian Walker | Book Launch: "Cancer My Greatest Teacher" & many aspects of healing Dr Teresa Towpick, MediHuanna | Interactive Farming Hanna & Leo, Hemp Threads Local Farmers working together Northern Rivers Hemp Growers Co-op | 1:45 pm | |
| | | | | | 2:00 pm | Glass Blowing All Day Demos @ Craze Co Stall |
| | | | | | 2:30 pm | |
| | | | | | 3:00 pm | |
| 4:00 pm | BREAK FOR KOMBI KONVOY | | | | | |
| 6:00 pm | Weed Politics - Who is doing What? Facilitator: Dr Brian Walker Speakers: Cate Faehrmann, Sophia Moermond, Fiona Patten, Michael Pettersson, David Shoebridge | | | | | |

| Sunday 18 September | | | | | | |
|---------------------|---|--|---|---|-------------|---|
| Sun 18 Sept | Town Hall | Hall Garden | Indica Arena | Hemp Expo | Sun 18 Sept | Markets |
| 10:00 am | Legal Advice Steve Bolt, Solicitor & Author | Book Launch: "The Joke" featuring Bela Csidei & the Wonder Plant John Jiggins, Activist & Author | Meet with Mullaways Tony Bower Mullaways Medical Cannabis | Hemp Honey Stuart Browne, Hemp Farmer | 10:00 am | |
| 11:00 am | Cannabis & Driving Dr Tom Arkell, Swinburne University | Endocannabinoid System & Homeostasis Dr Jamie Rickcord, Ananda Clinics | Sharing the Truth about Cultivating Cannabis Kog's Growers Circle | Hemp Balm Workshop The Hemp Club | 11:00 am | Agitating & Sieving All Day Workshop @ Quality Treats Stall |
| 11:45 am | Demonisation of Cannabis Users David Heilpern, Ex-Magistrate | Weed Therapy Bek Houghton, Advocate | Mystery Speaker!!! | Hemp Fibre Fusion Martin Ernegg, Hemp Engineer | 11:15 am | |
| 12:30 pm | Cannabis & Integrative Approaches to Health & Wellbeing Facilitator: Prof Kylie O'Brien Speakers: Dr Carolyn Bosak, Dr Andrew Katelaris, Dr Nick Lintzeris, Dr Jamie Rickcord, Dr Teresa Towpick | Ask the Doctor Q&A Session Dr John Teh, Plantmed | No Extradition! Bring Julian Home! John Shipton, Julian Assange's father | | 12:00 pm | |
| | | | | Industrial Hemp Panel | | Glass Blowing All Day Demos @ Craze Co Stall |
| | | | | | 1:00 pm | |
| 2:00 pm | BREAK FOR RALLY & PARADE | | | | | |



Vale Brian Alexander

It is with sadness that I must let everyone know of the passing of my father Brian Alexander on 21st July. He was a cherished member of the Nimbin community and a much loved father and grandfather.

My brothers and I would like to thank everyone in the Nimbin community who helped make Brian's last couple of years independent and enjoyable, and especially a massive thank you and big hugs to the team at Nimbin Aged Care & Respite Services who worked tirelessly to look after Brian and helped keep him doing his thing.

– Iain Alexander

Half a million votes for Legalise Cannabis Party

by Michael Balderstone

Actually we got 501,421 primary votes to be exact, and that's despite the war on drugs scarcely getting a mention in the May Federal election campaign.

This is compared to 262,426 votes three years ago, which means that we have nearly doubled our vote in only three years! Not being allowed to grow our own medicine and not being allowed to drive has stirred the pot so to speak. And the legal weed is too expensive for most people.

The Queensland Senate vote led by solicitor Bernie Bradley got 161,899 primary votes and because at 5.37% he was well over the 4% barrier we will get electoral funding. Same in the Northern Territory where Lance Lawrence got 6.23% of the vote with 6,455 votes.

And in the only lower house electorate we ran, the hotly contested seat of Longman, just north of Brisbane, our candidate Nigel Quinlan got 6,025 votes (5.6%).

All in all, we expect to get enough electoral funding to give us a serious war chest for the future.

Overall there were about 35 parties that ran and Legalise Cannabis came in 6th. With a national vote of 3.33% we were only a whisker behind Clive

WANTED
FOR HOME GROWN
AND PERSONAL USE

**THE PARTY NEEDS
YOUR SUPPORT
TO REGISTER FOR
STATE & FEDERAL
ELECTIONS**

FREE MEMBERSHIP

JOIN THE PARTY ONLINE
LEGALISECANNABIS.ORG.AU

Primary votes by state

QLD 161,899 / 5.37% (5th)
NSW 125,001 / 2.6% (6th)
VIC 114,805 / 3% (5th)
TAS 10,942 / 3.03% (6th)
SA 26,235 / 2.2% (7th)
WA 51,568 / 3.38% (5th)
ACT 4,516 / 1.58% (7th)
NT 6,455 / 6.23% (5th)

Palmer's United Australia Party which got 3.46%, and we gave Pauline Hanson a run for her money with One Nation getting 4.29%.

The next focus for our Legalising campaign is the Victorian State Election

in November where we are still trying to register LCVic, so if you know anyone living in the Garden State, do ask them to join up asap at: legalisecannabis.org.au.

We are already registered to run in the NSW State election next March and plan on a strong campaign there.

Federally we are registered now in QLD, SA, WA and Lance is keen also to start an NT Legalise Cannabis party.

We've had an influx of new members since the election and with the complex and

ever changing electoral rules we always need more members, so do encourage your toking and voting friends to join wherever they live in Australia.

There is a Legalise Cannabis meeting at MardiGrass on the Saturday at 2.30pm in the Hall Garden tent with everyone welcome. We also plan on a gathering of members camping together in the Nimbin Showground over the MardiGrass weekend along with Sophia Moermond and Dr Brian Walker, our LC Members of Parliament from WA.

Do encourage your friends around Australia to join their State Party as well as the Federal Party. It's simple and free at: legalisecannabis.org.au

And half a million thanks to everyone who gave us their first vote; you helped the issue get quite a bit of attention at last.

Nimbin Chamber of Commerce is a voluntary partnership of business owners and professionals working together and contributing towards a healthy local economy.

Faced with adversity such as bushfires, pandemics and floods, Nimbin's commercial sector has performed extremely well by maintaining goods, services and support to our community.

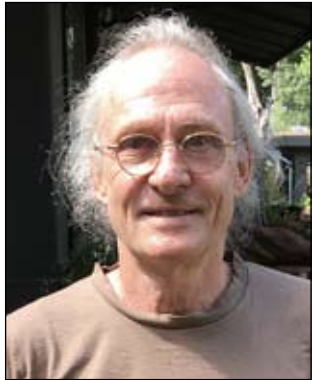
The best news received this month is that Lismore Council's Economic Development Team was successful in securing a \$500,000 grant for Nimbin street and pedestrian upgrades. Transport for NSW will collaborate with Council and the local community throughout the project, assisting with the project design, implementation and evaluation.

The trial project will start from December 2022 and be completed by March 2023.

The Nimbin Wayfinding Project will create a formal pedestrian access from the western carpark via the Apothecary laneway.

It will fund beautification and seating upgrades for the Blister, and address traffic concerns around the pedestrian crossing.

A 'parklet' outside of the Greenbank will encourage foot traffic and provide community seating for the



Chamber Chat

by David Hyett, president

Farmers Market.

Since last Chamber Chat, we've been active on many fronts:

- Meeting with Local and State government regarding the condition of our roads. The Chamber implores all residents to contact both State and Federal politicians as well Lismore City Council in an effort to have our roads repaired as a top priority to help with our economic recovery.
- Tourism is our life blood, the pothole ridden entries and exits to Nimbin village are a nightmare to both



visitors and locals alike. Chamber members had a walk through the village to identify areas that could be improved to enhance local amenity as well as a better visitor experience. It was a rainy day so many drainage issues were evident, other items such as mural updates, improvement of the visibility of Allsopp Park from the footpath, garden beds, and the maintenance of the entry and exits to the village were discussed. A big shout-out to Pixie for the wonderful work he has done over many years on the Northern entry.

- The Visitor signage project is moving along well, featuring beautifully hand-drawn signs. They are currently being created for placement in key locations in the next month or two.
- Aquarius 50th anniversary program and planning

report has been presented to the Chamber by David Hallett for discussion with the Aquarius foundation.

- The website: <https://nimbinaustralia.com.au> is constantly being upgraded to support local businesses with on-line sales and visitor information.
- Nimbin's public toilet block in the Community Centre grounds has been painted, and the sharps disposal containers have been upgraded following requests to Council.
- The Chamber has helped facilitate the removal of a couple of burned-out cars from the entries to town. Future events to diarise are the Nimbin MardiGrass, Nimbin Roots Festival, and the Spring Arts Exhibition. More details will be provided shortly.

Nimbin Chamber of Commerce looks forward to a better, stronger and more vibrant village for our families and the community as a whole.

For details, visit our website: <https://www.nimbinaustralia.com.au>

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NIMBIN BOWLING, SPORT & RECREATION CLUB Pty Ltd

2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Sunday 28th August, 9.30am
in club rooms at 25 Sibley Street, Nimbin

- Nominations for Office and Notices of Motion close at 9.30am on Sunday 14th August.
- Postal votes for members unable to attend the AGM must be received by the Secretary before 9am on the day of the meeting.

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The NSW Government has recently announced that it is planning to invest up to \$500 million in tax cuts and incentives to drive the uptake and reduce barriers for electric vehicle (EV) purchases in NSW over the next four years. With a State election within the next 12 months hopefully this is just the start of the EV transitional support initiatives. As part of the package, \$20 million

has been set aside for local governments to install EV chargers and infrastructure in public parking areas across regional NSW. To ensure that Ballina Shire is involved I've lodged a motion for consideration at the next Council meeting. I've previously pushed for dedicated EV parking spots and charging stations without much success. Hopefully the recent grant initiative will ensure that Ballina Council

The EV revolution is finally here

takes advantage of this opportunity to install EV charging stations at various Council owned public carparks across the Shire.

The motion as submitted is as follows:

1. Ballina Council submit an application to the NSW EV Destination Charging Grant Program to provide for the installation of EV charging stations at eligible Council locations.
2. That Council continues to investigate EV options when purchasing new vehicles as part of Council's ongoing fleet renewal program.

As part of the recent Ballina Gateway Airport upgrade, a charging station was installed in the staff carpark that is capable of charging two cars simultaneously.

With the long term parking area having recently had a 100kW solar system installed there are opportunities to provide additional EV charging stations that can be charged directly from the solar array.



by Cr Jeff Johnson
Ballina Council

Funding of up to \$40,000 per site is available. The EV destination charging grants can be used for the purchase and installation of EV chargers as well as software to tap into the smart capabilities of each charger. The grant will cover up to 75% of the equipment and installation costs.

While the current EV uptake in Australia has been slow compared to many other countries, that situation will soon change with both State and Federal Governments looking to provide extra incentives, particularly for

companies/organisations with fleet vehicles, which account for approximately 50% of all new vehicle sales.

I have long pushed for Ballina Council to consider EV options when opportunities arise. Currently there is only one EV as part of Council's fleet but hopefully this won't be the case for much longer as the economics continue to move in favour of EV's.

The extra incentives for EV fleet purchases should really kick-start the industry.

The 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) endorsed The Glasgow Accord on Zero Emissions Vehicles as one of its key policy initiatives.

It unites governments, auto manufacturers, and fleet vehicle owners to phase out ICE (Internal Combustion Engine) vehicles by 2035

As a result, the EU and the US have already passed laws for a complete ban on all new ICE powered vehicles by 2035. The UK has banned the sale of new petrol and diesel cars and vans from

2030.

I'm proud to say that Ballina Council has committed to being carbon neutral as an organisation by 2030 and as a leading force of change in our community, having EV charging stations in Council-owned parking areas will actively demonstrate that leadership and provide an extra incentive for both locals and visitors to not only purchase electric vehicles, but to shop in Ballina, providing an economic driver for our local businesses.

Furthermore, there is also significant money for regional tourist drives that feature EV charging stations.

Our region needs to ensure that we feature heavily in this initiative and take advantage of the government funded infrastructure opportunities and promotion package.

What better way to 'drive' much needed tourism and economic development for our region, while at the same time, playing our part in the EV revolution that is just about upon us.

I've never forgotten the topic for my first article for NGT and what motivated me to write it. I'd picked up a book on rare earth metals and renewables, thinking it would bring me some hope for the future, but instead I felt I had a responsibility to share what I'd learnt.

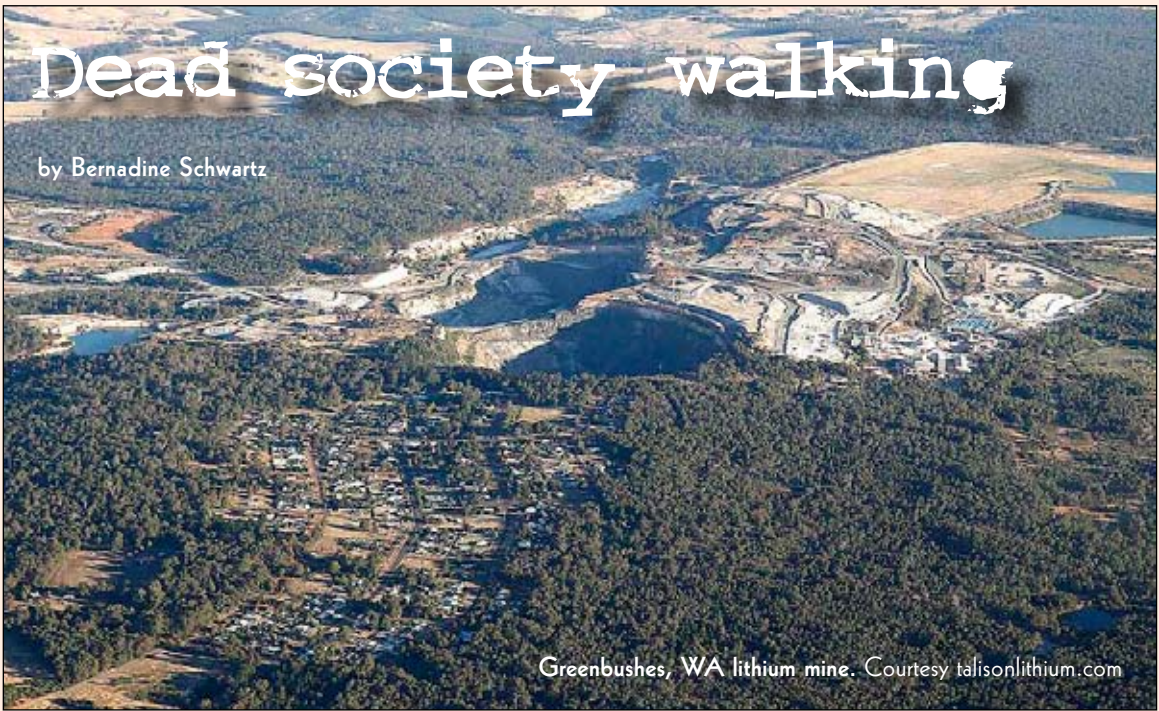
That was years ago, and to be honest I feel like I've gone full circle, because I'm right back where I started. Nowhere really. Still no quantifiable climate action worth writing about, unless you've had it drummed into you that renewables and electric vehicles (EVs) will be our saviour.

Consumer interest has grown rapidly in the last year with EV sales jumping by 102%, almost 20% of all new cars sold worldwide, and it's expected EVs will surpass standard car sales by 2040. But just like an internal combustion engine needs petrol, EVs can't function without cobalt, nickel and the most essential of all, lithium, the lightest metal on Earth.

These metals are also crucial for power grids, solar panels, wind turbines, long performance batteries and other key technologies, but they won't be delivering us from global warming. It's only the world once again marching to the beat of money, money, money.

The world has a mighty appetite for high quality ore deposits with lithium, but reserves are limited to the salt lakes in Bolivia, Chile and Argentina – the Lithium Triangle, where water is at the heart of the process, using evaporation techniques to extract lithium. This contaminates the soil and water and is partly responsible for causing acid rain.

The World Resources Institute is calling the region an environmental and social disaster, blaming mining for speeding up desertification



after severely depleting the water table, yet 40 new lithium mines are planned for Bolivia.

Australia is second after China for the largest reserves of lithium, however we produce 60% of world supplies and Greenbushes in Western Australia is the largest, producing 1.95 million tonnes annually and has been in operation for twenty five years.

In general, the technique used in Australia entails extracting mineral materials from the earth then heating and pulverising it. The crushed mineral powder is combined with chemical reactants like sulphuric acid, then the slurry is heated again, filtered and concentrated through an air evaporation process to finally form saleable lithium carbonate.

The residents of the town of Greenbushes have witnessed the serious impact on not only the environment but their health, and have to contend with one to three blasts per day, six days a week, that create thick pungent blue,

white dust clouds, blanketing the town, contaminating their rain water tanks and filling the air with nitrous gases and carbon monoxide.

The town's water supply shows levels of radionuclides, lithium, manganese and aluminium and according to the Radiological Council, radiation dust levels are on an upward trend. How can this possibly be considered an eco-friendly alternative to fossil fuels?

Now that the price of lithium has risen by 500% in the last year, nations are eyeing off the bottom of the deep blue sea, issuing dozens of exploration licenses in the hope of finding a supply of rare earth metals. And if history's anything to go by, they'll mine the entire ocean floor if that's what it takes to keep this green revolution alive and profitable.

To do this, invasive and destructive machines weighing 300 tons or more will literally vacuum the sea floor, destroying everything in their path, also

disturbing and releasing carbon that's been deposited for millions of years and will eventually make its way to the surface.

Currently our oceans are storing roughly 39,000Gt of CO₂ or 250 years of human-made emissions. However, a recent report from the World Economic Forum has revealed microscopic plants called diatoms floating throughout our oceans are ubiquitous, and sequester roughly a fifth of the world's emissions every year. The loss of these vital plants is now believed to be contributing to rising emissions.

All mining is a dirty industry and there are so many glaringly obvious signs that lithium is no different. But it has another inconvenient problem: what to do when a battery reaches the end of its life?

A study from Global Commodity Insights has estimated there will be a mountain of electronic waste, with more than 12 million tons of lithium ion batteries ready

to expire by 2030. Currently little if any lithium is recycled, and data from Freedom of Establishment, Europe estimated only 5% of lithium ion batteries were recovered in Europe, and in Australia only 2%. As for the rest, they ended up in landfill, including unwanted MP3 players and laptops.

Co-founder of the Critical Minerals Consortium at Monash University, Dr David Whittle says recycling plants are energy intensive and technologically challenging as lithium-based waste is highly volatile, which also makes transportation of waste dangerous.

Another problem: will millions of EVs be charged from renewable energy sources? In America renewable energy sources account for only 17% of the total electricity produced; if all cars on the road were EVs, then they would need 27.6% of the nation's current electricity produced.

What's deeply concerning is many experts with decades of experience in the mining industry seriously doubt the chain of lithium supplies can keep up with the demands of such high levels of production.

You can't call any of this an improvement on fossil fuels, it's more of the same, environmental destruction, the depletion and contamination of water and the soil and now the oceans are next on the list. So when all the rare earth metals are depleted what then? Horse and cart?

The only thing that could ever save us and Mother Earth was ourselves, but we couldn't find the time or the will. So now we're marching to the beat of war drums. Our blind acceptance, a war unto ourselves. But do people understand exactly what it is they're accepting?

Tell them we're a dead society walking!

Resource Recovery partners wanted

by Navanka Fletcher, Lismore City Council

Community members, organisations and businesses are being given the opportunity to be a part of the Lismore Circular Economy, working towards less waste and pollution, keeping products and materials in use and regenerating natural systems.

Lismore City Council is looking for partners who can assist in achieving strategy outcomes from the Resource Recovery and Residual Waste Strategy 2022-32 with a vision of sharing the responsibility towards a circular economy and resourceful community.

A circular economy is about transforming the waste economy through business models and practices that create the sustainable management of materials. A circular economy reduces primary material requirements, optimises processes and products for lower material and waste intensity. This adds value to materials to occur multiple times across

their life cycle.

There are many ways to contribute to a circular economy and many people and organisations may already be contributing without realising.

Organisations that take products and materials that people and organisations no longer want and redistribute it to new users in their original form with little enhancement or change. Examples include: second-hand good stores, foodbanks, educational programs and recycling shops.

Recycling is the process of reducing a product all the way back to its basic material level, thereby allowing those materials to be remade into new products.

People who provide assistance to others on the journey to a circular economy, or organisations that demonstrate best practice at implementing circular economy principles but are not in another category. Examples include: researchers, processors,

manufacturers, service providers, designers, industry groups, consultants and government agencies.

Rebuilding or repairing products. For example, disassembling a product to the component level and rebuilding (replacing components where necessary) to as-new condition with the same warranty as a new product; or repairing a product as much as possible. Some examples include furniture restorations and whitegoods repairs.

Keeping products and materials in use by prolonging their lifespan through designing products that are durable and can undergo maintenance and repair. Examples include: refilling printer ink cartridges, cleaning brushes with replaceable heads, cloth nappies with removable/washable liners.

Examples of partnering and initiatives include:

- Local composting initiatives;
- Businesses seeking assistance to develop a project or acquire funding to use waste materials in manufacturing;
- Charities or businesses wishing to upcycle

materials for sale, value adding;

- Not-for-profits wishing to start a program to provide employment opportunities ;
- Repair café or tool library establishment;
- Work with Council on initiatives and projects outlined in the Resource Recovery and Residual Waste Strategy 2022-2032.

As a partner, you can be from the Lismore Local Government Area, as well as from the Northern Rivers Region: Ballina, Byron, Clarence Valley, Kyogle, Richmond Valley, Tenterfield and Tweed.

An information session about the Circular Economy Partners, registration of interest and a project launch will be held at the Lismore Workers Sports Club, 202 Oliver Ave, Goonellabah on Tuesday 9th August. Tea and coffee will be available from 10am, for the session commencing at 10.30am. To register for the session please phone 6625-0500.

If this initiative sounds like something you or your organisation would like to learn more about, visit: <https://yoursay.lismore.nsw.gov.au/registration-of-interest-circular-economy-partners>

Battery storage, grid-feed and stand-alone solar power systems

by Diana Gosper,
Rainbow Power Co.

In 2022, the word on many a lip is 'batteries'. Whether you are off grid, or you have a grid connect system, one of the main costly investments will be in the battery storage.

The three categories of battery we have are sealed gel, Sealed AGM and lithium-ion. When choosing your batteries make sure they are the best possible quality and sized correctly for your needs.

Batteries for solar, or other home power systems, are now typically lithium chemistry based. Some refer to them as solar batteries. They are more suited to be discharged (cycled) than automotive lead acid batteries, which are made to give out a high current for a short time to be quickly charged again by the vehicle.

Deep cycle batteries are also different from standby or UPS batteries which are often used to power telecom equipment and computers in the event of a power failure.

Battery technology is constantly changing and RPC keep abreast of legislative developments so that when you contact us we make sure you get what is right for your needs.

For off grid systems in 2022 we recommend lithium-ion, the main reasons being;

- Deep discharges of 80-100%;
- Fast Charging to 100% capacity (no absorption phase);
- Low self-discharge rate (shelf life

of 5-10 years);

- High energy density (resulting in smaller batteries);
- No cell conditioning required;
- No liquid in cell (cannot leak);
- High cycle life; and
- Long warranties.

All lithium batteries also incorporate a battery management system (BMS). The internal battery management system (BMS) ensures all cells are uniformly charged and discharged, as well as providing short circuit, over current, and reverse polarity protection. This provides you with a higher degree of protection than a traditional lead acid battery, which is unprotected, and can discharge rapidly under short circuit conditions, causing fire and damage. The internal BMS will also limit discharge and manage cut-off voltage, to further protect the internal cells.

For smaller system off-grid customers, we recommend Powerplus, a compact and lightweight lithium-ion battery which has twice the usable capacity of a similar sized lead acid battery.

Now let's talk grid connect. Many home owners are now investigating on-grid battery storage. Adding a battery to your grid connect or hybrid system allows you to not only store the extra energy you harvest during daylight hours, reducing your dependence on the grid, but you can also sell this excess power back to the energy retailers, reducing the total of your energy bills. Tech of this sort is changing rapidly, but RPC



keeps on top of it all for you. For grid connect systems, lithium batteries currently offer the best value for money and are designed to be retrofitted into existing grid feed solar systems. RPC stocks a wide range of quality lithium ion batteries, suitable for small, medium, and large scale household and commercial applications. For grid connected customers, we recommend Enphase and Tesla.

Suffering through power outages can be a thing of the past with battery backup. A lot of our customers are now safeguarding themselves against grid failure by installing a backup batteries to store their excess energy for use in the event of a blackout. Having a hot shower, flushing the toilet, pumping water to the sink, keeping the lights on at night are all achievable with a simple battery backup system.

The latest tech in battery storage is the Tesla Powerwall, said to have revolutionised solar battery storage. The Powerwall 2 is their most recent offering and RPC have installed one of these on our building. This incredible new generation battery includes a 13.5kWh capacity and an integrated 5kW AC inverter, making it ideal for larger homes, and big commercial applications.

Regulated feed-in tariffs are a thing of the past; most energy retailers only offer 6 to 12 cents per exported kWh (if anything) while charging 35 cents for imports. It is therefore more economical for households to use that home-made power. However, solar production peaks during midday but the demand is in the mornings and evenings. Solar batteries store excess generated solar power, which would otherwise have trickled into the grid at a low pay rate. They are automatically recharged when your solar panels produce more power than is required by the household. At night or during cloudy periods, electricity is drawn from the batteries. Even small batteries can make a big impact. Environmentally they make a lot of sense.

Home batteries must be installed by a licensed electrician, and ideally by someone who understands batteries. If you want to add a home battery to your system, or have yet to get a solar power system, give RPC a call for an obligation-free quote on 02 6689-1430, or email: sales@rpc.com.au



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Step up for the Nimbin Performance Poetry Cup

Nimbin will once again be delighted to showcase this year's annual Nimbin Performance Poetry World Cup, to be held on Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th September.

A wild and wacky yet sensitive weekend of performance poetry.

Organiser Gail M Clarke emphasises that the order of the day is enjoyment, communication and participation.

Heats are held all day Saturday at the Nimbin School of Arts, and this is when the participation part comes into play with the opportunity to vote for your favourite performer at each heat. There is a \$500 award for the winner, so get your vote in.

Semi-finals begin on Sunday at noon going into the afternoon. From the great pool of poets performing over the weekend, we will end up with eight finalists who will perform on the big stage from 7pm.

The veranda cafe will be open all weekend for snacks and light lunch, and dinner on Sunday evening from 6pm.

Information is available on the facebook page, or email: poetryworldcup@gmail.com

iconic cabaret returns



After more than two years in the cabaret wilderness, Nimbin School of Arts' iconic Blue Moon Cabaret will be on again on Saturday 20th August.

As always, the cabaret features a wonderful array of different performance artists including the Tania Balil Quartet, singers Hannah Darling and Andrea Soler, multi-instrumentalist Shenzo Gregorio, trapeze artist Hartje, dancer Serena Joy accompanied by guitarist Mark Bromley and singer Meg Walker, poet Christine Strelan, virtuoso pianist Stephanie Hamlet, stand-up comedians S Sorrensen and Paul McMahon, and poet/host David Hallett.

Bookings are essential for these sell-out shows. Tickets are \$35/ \$30 concession at Perceptio Bookshop (phone 6689-1766). The show is fully catered by Barefoot Affair with a licensed bar.

Doors open 6.30pm for dinner and drinks (no BYO). For more info, phone the School of Arts on 6689-1577.

NORPA's thought-provoking theatre



Bundjalung Nghari – Indigenise

Experience original theatre with *Bundjalung Nghari* (meaning story), a collection of performed stories, poems and essays, penned by First Nation writers.

The stories lift the curtain on how we view homelands and estates, clan and kinship, and the legacy that lives on in the everyday.

Four multi-disciplinary, creative thinkers and writers share thought-provoking stories, reflecting on the collisions and intersections of belonging in two worlds with opposed philosophies and perceptions of what land and ownership truly means.

Experience brave and honest, original theatre from NORPA, made from the ground up.

Bundjalung Nghari is presented by NORPA in association with Byron Writers Festival and features stories by Kylie Caldwell, Steven Oliver, Ella Noah Bancroft and Daniel Browning (pictured). Curated by Rhoda Roberts.

Catch it on Saturday 27th August

(4pm and 7.30pm) and Sunday 28th August (7.30pm) at the Brunswick Picture House.

Love For One Night

Country pubs are gathering places made magic by night, where love begins, blooms and sometimes dies, often all in that night.

One of life's mysteries is where, when, why, or who love will strike, filling hearts with joy and torment in equal measure.

Love for One Night is a circle dance of intersecting love stories told in the playful and theatrical style of NORPA's sell-out shows *Railway Wonderland* and *Dreamland*.

A series of brief encounters are told through dialogue, movement and song, while stunning visual effects add to the electric ambience.

A dexterous cast lead us through love in all its aspects, from deep friendship



to infatuation, romance and heartbreak and of course sexual attraction and unbridled lust.

The Eltham Hotel provides an atmospheric backdrop, a magical place to gather and flirt and fall head over heels in love. For one night.

Performances: Thursday 8th September – Saturday 24th September at the Eltham Hotel.

For both events go to: www.norpa.org.au for tickets and more info.

Classical recital in Nimbin

The Nimbin School of Arts will present a quartet recital by the Nimbin Hills Musicians Club featuring Stephanie Hamlet, Tony Gibson, Gerard Lynam and Pritam.

Works will include the piano duet of Schubert's Fantasia in F minor and Pachelbel's Canon for piano, violin, cello and flute.

This recital of fine music will be held on Sunday 28th August, starting at 2pm, and is not to be missed. Entry: \$10 with afternoon tea following the recital.

Hanging Rock Hall talent show

Whether you are a gum leaf player, a ballet dancer or a rock band, come to the Hanging Rock Hall and demonstrate your talent for a chance to win prizemoney.

Juniors are 8 to 15 year olds and Open is everybody else.

Juniors section first prize \$100, second prize \$50.

Open section first prize \$400, second prize \$100. People's Choice prize \$100.

Registration is compulsory before 25th August.

There are limited performance time slots so book now to avoid disappointment. Email your name, contact details and a short description of what you plan to do to: hangrockhall@gmail.com

Junior contestants kick off the talent show at 1pm and prizewinners will be awarded at 3.30pm. Open section begins at 4pm. Join us and celebrate local talent.

Proudly supported by the Nimbin School Of Arts

Nimbin Fashion Show

Saturday 10th September

Nimbin Town Hall

Doors open-
Matinee 1:30pm
Evening show 6pm

Sponsored by
Nimbin Chamber of Commerce
Nimbin Waterbearers & Tipper Hire
Nimbin HEMP Embassy
Nimbin Hills Real Estate

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\$37

HANGING ROCK'S GOT TALENT 2022

SUNDAY 3 SEPTEMBER AT 1PM

\$400 First prize - \$100 People Choice - \$100 Juniors

Free Entry. Food & Drink Available

register at hangingrockhall.org.au

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Celebrate local Talent
Encourage the beautiful creative souls that live in our hills

Storytelling Workshop

Nimbin, Sat. 15 October, 11am-5pm, \$45

Telling Your Story

Have you ever wanted to learn how to tell your story well?

Join award-winning storyteller, Jenni Cargill-Strong for a fun, participative day, where you will fossick for a personal story, learn how to polish it, and then tell it from the heart.

www.storytree.com.au

Contact: nimbinstorytellers@gmail.com to enrol.



FREE THEATRE TIX for flood affected residents

While so many in our community are doing it tough, Lismore Theatre Company thinks a hilarious double bill of laughter may help lift the spirits. Lismore Theatre Company is pleased to offer 50 free tickets to people who are directly flood affected. Director Greg Crane and his cast of four local experienced actors will bring two short British plays to the Rochdale Theatre stage in Goonellabah from 19th to 28th August. "Offering these tickets to our flood-affected community is a small way in which we can help bring a little joy," Greg said. Greg Crane is no stranger to the Nimbin valley, having lived in the vicinity for 25 years. He stage directed the Nimbin Lifestyle Celebration in 1983, mixed S Sorrensen's band The Papers, and stage

directed the Lismore Conservatorium's production of *Hair*, the musical. Tickets are available for a special preview night on Thursday 18th August. *Lockdown in Little Grimley* by David Tristram is a new play in the popular Little Grimley series. Gordon (played by Carl Moore) persuades his theatre colleagues to present a new play he has written for the Little Grimley Theatre. He is side-swiped by the irresponsible action of Bernard (Stephen Bocking) and tries to cajole his colleagues to embrace his vision. But secretary and treasurer Joyce (Jenny Craig), is in love with Bernard and has difficulty learning lines, and Margaret (Lisa Walmsley) loves being the lead diva. This diverse foursome will have audiences laughing out loud as they explore a potential production in the familiar times of Covid restrictions. *Alan Grimaldi and the 183* is a short play by Bob Hammond and Off the Wall Publishers. After eventually realising exactly where he is, businessman Alan Grimaldi (Carl Moore) has to forget his past encounter with a bus and make a decision about the next phase of his existence. Barry (Stephen Bocking) and Sandra (Jenny Craig) make up the cast in this one act performance. Bookings can be made through: www.lismoretheatrecompany.org.au for the six shows, from 19th to 28th August (\$25/\$20). Group bookings of 10 or more are also available at \$15pp and can be made by contacting Jenny on 0402-651-394. 50 flood affected people are offered free tickets to the special preview night on Thursday 18th August and should also contact Jenny to book.

Literary treats at Byron Writers Festival

Byron Writers Festival returns with the theme of 'Radical Hope'. Byron Writers Festival 2022 (26th to 28th August) has revealed an inspiring program of celebrated authors as well as powerful new voices to mark its welcome return after a two-year hiatus. Themed 'Radical Hope', Byron Writers Festival 2022 will feature more than 140 writers and thinkers gathering together at the Festival's new site at North Byron Parklands adjacent to the up-hill dry carpark. The festival also offers writers' workshops, an engaging program for children and several feature and satellite events in venues across the Northern Rivers region.

This year's highlight guests include Trent Dalton, Hannah Kent, Steve Toltz, Ben Quilty, Indira Naidoo, Sarah Wilson, Bruce Pascoe, Evelyn Araluen, Julia Baird, AC Grayling, Jess Hill, Jennifer Byrne and many more. In curating the program, incoming Artistic Director Zoë Pollock reflected on the theme of 'Radical Hope' in the wake of fires, pandemic and floods. "Radical hope imagines a future goodness that transcends our current reality. It is a provocation



Trent Dalton, Hannah Kent, Ben Quilty, Indira Naidoo, Bruce Pascoe, Masha Gessen, Evelyn Araluen, Steve Toltz, Julia Baird, Aaron Fa'Aoso, Marcia Langton, Costa Georgiadis.

to seek and create a new world in the face of incredibly challenging circumstances. Radical hope is a denial and refusal of cultural destruction and a determination to build a new culture for a changed environment. "At this year's festival you will hear from social and environmental experts on how we can tackle the challenge that is climate change. You will be uplifted by listening to our most

gifted storytellers explaining how they celebrate the human condition and render our experiences so magnificently on the page. "You will meet talented emerging and established writers who are challenging the status quo. In hearing and engaging with these ideas you are playing your part in making the world anew and I am very much looking forward to welcoming you." At Byron Writers Festival

audiences can wander between five different marquees, taking in the conversations as they choose. A single day pass gives you access to more than 30 different panels and conversations and in between you can visit the on-site bookstore, browse through the market stalls selling local wares or fill yourself up at one of the delicious food and coffee stalls. www.byronwritersfestival.com



Pure Breeds Poultry Auction

Saturday 27th August 2022

Quality Purebred Poultry from Lismore Club members
Lismore Showgrounds – Starts 10am – Viewing 8.30am

Info: Greg Clarke 0414-226-768 or email:
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Home of the Big Bowler

ADVICE FOR MEMBERS & GUESTS

Club opening hours:
Wed-Sat 2.30pm to close, Sun 8.30am to close
Sibley's Bistro open Wed-Sat 5 to 8pm, 6689-1473

- Open Mic night, Wednesday 6th August, 5.30pm
- Trivia night, Saturday 20th August, 7.30pm
- Social Bowls, Sundays 10am, all welcome

Take-away alcohol available during opening hours

NORPA IN ASSOCIATION WITH BYRON WRITERS FESTIVAL PRESENTS

Bundjalung Nghari — Indigenise

A NORPA PRODUCTION

Theatrical readings of stories and poems by First Nations writers.

Sat 27 & Sun 28 August Brunswick Picture House

TICKETS
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02 6622 0300



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LOVE FOR ONE NIGHT

A NORPA production at the Eltham Hotel

8—24 Sept Eltham Hotel

Book now
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