

Bucolic bliss

by Anne Cook

The Nimbin Artists Gallery artist for May is the renowned impressionist landscape artist, the late Colin Wait.

The Impressionist movement of the 19th century was primarily focused on capturing the momentary effects of light by painting outdoors or en plein air.

The early works of the European Impressionists challenged the rules of academic painting whereby they produced their works using freely brushed areas of colour rather than working within specific lines and contours.

Colin Wait was a highly accomplished painter who began painting at a very early age and won the Newcastle Junior Art Prize at age 10.

Colin has had many solo exhibitions throughout his painting career and has been represented by major New South Wales galleries in addition to having his work highly commended at the prestigious Canberra Art Prize.

His work displays a firm understanding of how to capture the fleeting play of natural light using bold brushwork quickly applied to show the essence of the subject rather than focusing on the details.

If you would like to take in the fresh and simple beauty of these "plein air" landscapes by Colin Wait come and see us at the Nimbin Artists Gallery, we are open 7 days a week from 10am to 4pm.

Phone 02 6689-1444 or visit: www.nimbinartistsgallery.org

Inspiration from nature

by Ruth Tsimbinis

Nature has been transforming for writers and artists in the Kyogle district since 2020.

First there was the idea, then there was drought, then came fire, then came pandemic, then flood, climate change and then another flood.

All the while, writers and artists were pivoting on an opportunity to exhibit their creativity in an exhibition focusing on Nature Transforming.

Throughout the years, the Roxy Gallery has supported collaboration exhibitions between members of the Kyogle and District Arts Group and the Kyogle Writers Group with an interest in connecting the literal with the visual and vice versa.

The elements of interpreting words into visuals, and visuals into words, intrigues and expands how viewers perceive what is created.

'Nature Transforming' will finally be on exhibition at the Roxy Gallery, officially opening on Friday 6th May and running until 5th June.

Coincidentally, the timing was right for this exhibition, as it will run alongside the Kyogle Writers Festival. As



part of this exhibition, and due to the many things that affected the show getting on the road, this idea also transformed into a book.

What started as an idea to hold a collaborative adventure between local writers from the Kyogle Writers Group and local artists interpreting works from literal to visual or visual to literal around the theme of nature transforming has turned into a publication.

Through funding support from Arts Northern Rivers and Create NSW, the Kyogle Writers Group was able to engage professional local photographers, designers and printers to

turn this exhibition into a collection of writings and artworks that touch on the topic of our changing world.

The book *Nature Transforming* will be on sale

'Time Warp' by Pat Oxtoby

at the Roxy Gallery and all proceeds will go towards future creative arts projects in literature and art.

Sacred Landscapes at Blue Knob

The 'Sacred Landscapes' exhibition is finally up and running at Blue Knob Hall Gallery. Due to having to re-schedule dates, this has been long in the waiting.

We have many sacred places: outside, in the landscape, with its flora and fauna; and inside, in our homes, which are full of personal sacred spaces, and the many precious things that inhabit them.

Sacred Landscapes as a theme was initiated by the Blue Knob Writers Group and was enthusiastically welcomed when they approached the Gallery about launching their anthology and exhibiting artworks – some from the anthology and some specially commissioned – in The Solo Space.

The Blue Knob Writers Group formed in early 2020 and has developed into a collection of writers from all walks of life, both aspiring and published.

This collaboration with the members and artists of the Gallery means the whole exhibition has taken on the theme of Sacred Landscapes. It has added a depth and coherency to the works and their mediums, and has resulted in some wide-ranging interpretations of the theme.

There has been a sense of excitement and anticipation, as we are keen to see how connected we are as artists to the minds of the writers; as at this time neither the Blue Knob Writers Group nor the artists of the Gallery have seen or read the other's work.

This exhibition is particularly poignant as so many in our region have lost so much that is sacred to them, their families and friends. The artists exhibiting have been offered the opportunity to donate the proceeds of the sale of artwork to a charity of their choice.

Copies of the anthology are also available for \$10.

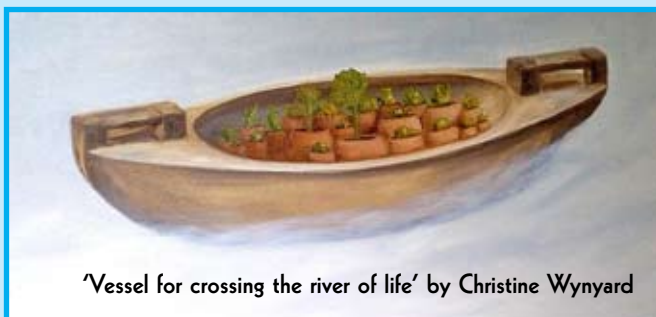
Blue Knob Cafe

Blue Knob Cafe is humming along, with new chefs in the kitchen and a variety of specials to complement the current menu. Paul is still behind the scenes while he recovers from a recent knee injury.

For more information, please contact Blue Knob Cafe at: bkgcafe@gmail.com or: bkhgallery@harbourisp.net.au or phone 02 6689-7449.



'Summer Solstice Aurora' by Lynne Sealotus Edmondson



'Vessel for crossing the river of life' by Christine Wynyard

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A moment 4

by S Sorrensen

There's a kid, a boy of about eight, and, on his T-shirt, not quite covering the Nike swoosh, are war medals. Hell of a young soldier. Probably used to fighting with his thumbs and having three lives.

He has a coloured ribbon with some goldish-looking medals underneath. They look plastic. He's drinking from a can of Coke, just as his dad is, as they walk towards the service.

His dad is wearing the Australian uniform: shorts, T-shirt and thongs. And a baseball cap (skin cancer kills).

I don't feel good about this. I see other kids wearing medals.

While the Great Barrier Reef blanches again towards its final bleach, while refugees are treated like criminals and polluters like heroes, while Indigenous people die in custody, while the country bounces from one environmental crisis to the next, while the poor get shafted and the rich get subsidised – the kids are inculcated with war: the new, updated version of 'The ANZAC Spirit'.

I know Australian men and women have died in the armed services fighting all over the planet. I know the people they fought died too. That's overwhelmingly sad. The saddest part is: why?

My uncle was in a war and he would never talk about it upon his return. Most veterans didn't. And in the aftermath of the world wars, when those veterans were alive, the ANZAC Day marches almost disappeared through non-attendance.

But these days, the parades are used to promote a freshly-minted Aussie patriotism used by the government to excuse Australia's immoral addiction to war and to inculcate allegiance in a population which has only known war as a game.

Coincidentally, there's an election coming up. Apparently there's important decisions the electorate must

make. Yeah, right. It's an illusion.

What I see are two middle-aged white men dressed in identical suits, talking in that same fake sincere way that screams insincerity, desperately trying to highlight a difference between them, when there isn't any really – both men together, facing the same way, with their backs to the elephant in the room.

And that elephant is the environment.

The Australian Government, whichever of the twaddle twins leads it, is spending half a billion dollars expanding the War Memorial in Canberra.

That's a lot of money. That could help rebuild Lismore and other flooded towns. That could house people who have been homeless since the great fires a few years ago. That could subsidise climate-mitigating renewable energy projects rather than planet-destroying fossil fuel energy projects.

The War Memorial is about to renew a sponsorship with Lockheed Martin, an American arms manufacturer (including nuclear weapons) whose share price has surged since the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Who said war is bad?

Oh, the irony: the Australian War Memorial sponsored by the company which makes the weapons which kills the soldiers.

Thousands (who have never known war) turn out to honour those who died in wars in other countries for reasons we're not discussing.

Meanwhile, those fighting in the real war of our times – the war for the environment (and therefore humanity) – are arrested and jailed under NSW's new anti-protest laws. These laws protect society against any threat to 'economic activity'.

Now, when it comes to economic activity, war is the bomb (as they say) and Lockheed Martin are the bomb billionaires, which means that to protest against an American weapons manufacturer sponsoring an Australian war memorial could see you in jail for two years.

Oh, the irony.

Lunacy

Revenge of the Loon

by Laurie Axtens

A good quarter of the shopfronts in Lismore's CBD didn't reopen after the 2017 flood; which was a relatively small major flood.

I walked through the CBD this week, two months after the cataclysm, and four shops were working; every other shop was still layered in the sediment and heavy with the scent of the city killer.

There are platitudes a-plenty; courageous calls to arms; politicians promising to perform the miracle that earned King Canute acclaim; but below all this hype, all I see is a corpse that has barely been cleaned and dressed for burial.

The level of denial is staggering. Go down there – walk through it. It will never be the same again. I have no doubt I'll be pilloried now for not joining the choir and singing the re-build chorus, but it's a mad song full of silent screams and post traumatic explosions of laughter. We will not have rebuilt a fraction of it before the next levee topper.

One of my favourite reads is a very small text called the *Art of War* ... dreadful I know. In it Sun Tzu states:



Photo: Chibo Martineit

"The general who advances without covering fame and retreats without fear of disgrace; whose only thought is to protect his country ... is the jewel of the kingdom."

Retreat is the toughest call, but without retreat you will be lured into fighting on unfavourable terrain and suffer irrecoverable defeat.

The combination of La Niña, the Pacific Highway rebuild at Woodburn which formed a downstream levee, and the new tropical rainfall levels due to climate change created a perfect storm.

La Niña will oscillate back and forth and come again, the highway will remain and climate is only getting worse – more tropical. No dams, no levees,

no diversions will be enough to save central Lismore from increased severe inundation.

Since the 1954 flood, North Lismore has been involved in a slow but necessary retreat from the river. Where once Slater's Creek held a dozen houses, now it is a landcare project. Every time a house is lost on this side of the river Council does not approve it re-building. We're considered deep floodwater.

February's cataclysm has redefined our risks like never before; where flood insurance was unaffordable in the past now it just won't exist at all. We have to be realistic and hard-nosed – we need to retreat slowly and carefully without fear of disgrace.

Why harmonise head with heart?

Shapeshifting

by Anand Gandharva

The Global Village is in the process of uniting. Telephones, trade, travel, internet, books, products, science, intermarriage, and so on, show this. But what has to happen for umpteen different tribes, cultures and religions to come together?

It comes when enough voters align left and right brain, head and heart, left and right, logic and love, male and female, fire and water, force and form, science and art. Not only survival of the fittest realism. Empathy too. It sets tribal allegiance next to species ties, not one step behind. Multicultural tolerance. DNA science.

It is also rejection of one-sided evolution in community. Natural selection is the law of the jungle, but should not be applied inside society. People get cradle-to-grave services. Competition is natural, but the ascent of man was also made possible by co-operation. Like families, enterprises and governments apply both.

Society is now structured by kinds of Social Darwinism: the fittest become the best and brightest, the weakest perish or are exploited: the rules of the jungle guided by laws.

Humanity needs leaders and excellence in specialisations to perform,

like a band has bandleader, composer and players to mould a cacophony of sound into music. All nooks and crannies need leadership.

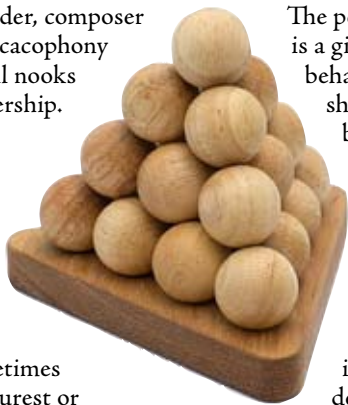
The question is what kind? Sophisticated meritocracy or mafia?

In a meritocracy, experience, health and wisdom are valued. In a predator clan the meanest can be dominant. Yes, sometimes it is the wisest, slyest, purest or oldest.

So, what structures society and economy? Diet: herbivores choose differently from predators. The way forward eventually: dietary laws. To abandon time-tried hunter-gatherer habits, living from an endless environment, and recognise that there are too many people to consume nature, and that human health, unfolding and potential depends on eating right.

It has been in popular language for over a century: you are what you eat. The state of many environments, and scarcities, show it is time for a change in habits.

This is not to say that one's personality may be no good. It was given at birth. But why expose mind to animal instincts afterwards? Just like alcohol is regulated, so the chemicals in mammals, evolutionary cousins, need to be avoided to build sustainable society.



The personality of a being is a gift. At the same time, behaviour and nurture should not be influenced by chemicals to be exploitative, aggressive or polluting. Fake individualism, like allowing drunk driving.

What passes now for tribal civilisations: conflicts, economic inequity, environmental degradation. Direct outcomes of apex predator habits. Cruelty and short-term thinking.

Society today consists of over eight billion people and is running on empty. Individual consumers and governments can turn the ship of state, avoid a crash. The key to a united Global Village, and a sustainable economy, is herbivore self-control in multicultural meritocratic teamwork.

There is little doubt that the economy of elitism in capitalism at the moment beats tribal egalitarianism in communism. Both are good for winners, bad for losers. Predatory.

But the assumptions of the past are assumptions. Habits can be changed for the greater good. The meanest criminal becomes a mafia don, or lands in jail. It is up to us.

Let the left hand know what the right is doing. Society becomes what it consumes.

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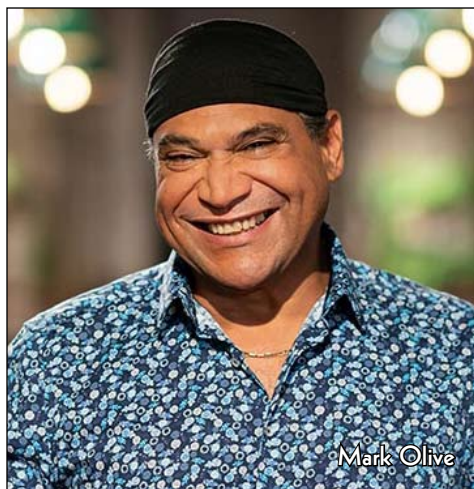
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literary smorgasbord



Julianne Schultz



Mark Olive

More than 60 authors and poets will descend on Kyogle for the weekend of 12-15th May to indulge in all things literary at this year's Kyogle Writers Festival.

The Festival Program has now been released and tickets are available for purchase through the Festival's website: www.kyoglewritersfestival.com

With a mixture of free, community-based and affordable events, the Kyogle Writers Festival aims to include the entire Northern Rivers community in its celebration of the spoken and written word.

Festival Ambassador, Mirandi Riwoe, says it will be a privilege "to share my love of reading and writing in the beautiful setting of Kyogle. Although it might be a small town, Kyogle sure packs a punch with the calibre of writers it attracts."

Leveraging off its theme of Close to Home: the exciting programme includes Mullumbimby-based cooking writer, Belinda Jeffery; acclaimed novelists Delia Falconer, Jessie Cole, Mandy Beaumont and Michael Burge; nature writers Harry Saddler and Ben Walter; and creative non-fiction author Patti Mills.

Poets who will be performing and discussing their poetry include Richard Tipping, Gavin Yuan Gao, Stuart Cook, Ellen van Neerven and Chris Mansell.

Indigenous chef and SBS personality, Bundjalung man, Mark Olive, aka 'The Black Olive' will speak on cooking and culture on the Friday evening before the Festival's official opening under the big marquee in Stratheden Sreet.

Another highlight (among many) will be Melissa Lucashenko in conversation with Foundation Editor of *The Griffith Review*,

Emeritus Professor Julianne Schultz, speaking about her recently published book, *The Idea of Australia*. Julianne explores questions like What is the 'idea of Australia'? What defines the soul of our nation?

Are we an egalitarian, generous, outward-looking country? Or is Australia a place that has retreated into silence and denial about the past and become selfish, greedy and insular?

Given that we face a federal election the following week, this session is sure to provoke deep reflection about where we are as a nation and where we should be heading.

Panels of authors will explore topics such as our relationships with nature, LGBTQI+ identities and notions of home, Indigenous writing, home cooking, and creativity after the fires. If you are keen to hone your writing skills, workshops are being offered on historical fiction and the sensual world as well as podcasting.

Patti Miller, author of eleven books including best-selling writing texts such as *Writing True Stories* will be running a workshop on creative nonfiction/memoir as well as being in conversation about her recently published book, *True Friends*.

A free session aimed at secondary students called The Power of Words, being held on the Friday afternoon, will feature youth climate action leader, Jean Hinchliffe; paramedic, author and film-maker Ben Gilmour; and creative writing teacher, Melaina Faranda.

The Festival has attracted considerable financial support from CreateNSW, Festivals Australia, the Regional Arts Fund, the Foundation for Rural Regional Renewal, Kyogle Council, Southern Cross University, University of Queensland Press, ACON, Raised Ink Press and the Business Hive, Kyogle.

Open Mic returns

For the first time in over a year, Nimbin Bowlo will host an Open Mic night on Wednesday 11th May, from 6pm.

The irrepressible Dave Barbara (pictured), sound mixer extraordinaire, will be on hand, and will hopefully treat us to some of his original compositions.

Anyone with a tune and an instrument is welcome to take the stage for 15 minutes,



which is about three songs, or one very long one.

Drum kit, PA and bass amp

are supplied, to encourage musical groups.

Spoken word performers are also welcome. Just put your name on the whiteboard on arrival.

You don't need to be a member of the Bowling Club, just sign in using photo ID such as a driver's licence.

It is hoped that this will be the start of a regular series of Open Mic nights, once a month on the second Wednesday.

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View sample menu at Facebook: Nimbin Bowlo

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Force of nature - climate consequences

by Donna Connolly

I understand that the phrase “climate change” can create an us and them mentality, as people argue the semantics, the wording. Everything seems to be a dichotomy these days.

Can we at least agree that we are part of the problem?

Dare I say it, a HUGE part! However, we can also be a part of the SOLUTION!

“Climate consequences” seems like an apt description.

We are living in a time of great change, where our old-school paradigms, patriarchal priorities, industrial farming and short sighted solutions are having a huge impact on the very planet we are occupying.

Mother Earth needs us. These weather patterns are a cry for help, they are Gaia's way of trying to create homeostasis.

We are all part of a greater ecosystem. Each individual part plays an important role in the welfare of one another, the plant kingdom, ocean dwellers, and the animal kingdom including ourselves.

We are in a privileged position, where we are making choices and decisions every day. Let's make smarter choices and start thinking

about the potential long term future.

Indigenous peoples from around the world make community decisions based on thinking seven generations ahead. Plus in American Indian culture they have a person speak on behalf of the “wolf” so the animals have a say also.

It seems a lot of our governmental decisions are shortsighted and based on \$\$.

We need to refocus our priorities and give greater value to the environment and what she needs from us.

That's where true riches lie. We are at a huge crossroads.

It sure has been crazy times here in the Northern Rivers, NSW.

If you are living in the hills like me, you'll understand that all of this has come upon us like waves. We were without electricity, water and internet/phone coverage for ten days, including non-passable roads for five days. (Drinking water from our backyard bathtub.)

Although I knew it was going to be bad. Having been a NR resident for 12+ years I've seen some intense weather events, including the 2017 flood.

The only inkling I had that this was going to be very different, was seeing the water rising the day



before, then the next morning; the water had completely gone. Like someone had pulled a plug at the other end.

The animals were mostly silent and the helicopters started circling

every couple of hours for days.

In my deepest soul, I knew something very bad had happened.

However, I had no idea the extent of the utter devastation until I heard the heartbreaking stories that

have come from the initial event. People have lost absolutely everything, houses, businesses and in some cases, family, friends and pets. Total chaos and carnage.

There is no town anymore, no infrastructure, no sanctuary and people are shell shocked, in survival mode.

Then unbelievably, exactly one month later, another flood event. Also five years after the big 2017 flood.

Apparently, once in 100 years and 500 years flood.

Needless to say, we need to make better choices.

What difference can you make today that align with being the best ‘house guests’ that we can be.

It's time for conscious choices, on every level.

Where you put your dollars count. What you put in your mouth counts.

How you move in this world has consequences.

Heart centred choices will help considerably.

Please take some time to think about how you live and how you can do it better. I know I am!

Every action counts.

I hope that you and your beautiful animals are all doing okay.

www.rivergem.com.au

The perfect tonic to relax and recharge

by Peter Moyle

We delayed the coastal walk at Evans Head due to the devastating floods, but when the rains stopped and we needed a break from the clean-up and volunteering, this was the perfect tonic to relax and recharge.

14 members and visitors took on the walk to Chinaman's Beach and Goanna Headland. This the club's only ‘must do’ each year and it never disappoints. An ideal walk in the warmer weather with nice sea breezes and always the chance of a refreshing swim.

A varied landscape from coastal heath with the prolific birdlife to the open grassy headlands, followed by rock-hopping up the beach, makes this special and walking that we never tire of.

A few weeks later, finding an inland walk that was manageable after the recent devastation, saw us head up Mount Chowan from the North. We stayed on the fire trails as the gravelly surface made the walking comfortable.

The power of nature was evident on the whole walk with landslips and downed trees constant obstacles that needed to be overcome. Eventually we made our way to the summit and even though the view is restricted still well worth the effort.

Next time we plan to try from the South, different terrain and landscapes to keep the walk interesting.

Walks program

Sunday 8th May Goonengerry National Park

Leader: Ron Smith 0497 792789

Grade: 4. 10km approximately 4 hours.

There are some off track sections that may be slippery. Good walking shoes/boots needed. We will be walking into an area with some nice waterfalls and lovely views over the escarpment

Meet: 9.15 am at the Goonengerry National Park carpark down Mill Road. As usual ring for more info and to reserve your spot, bring hat, water, and lunch.

Sunday 29th May Brunswick Heads into the Tyagarah Nature Reserve

Leader: Peter Moyle 0412 656 498

Grade: 2. walking on the coastal track south about 12 km, diversions to view of Simpsons Creek, a relaxing walk on a sand track/road some paperbark forest and coastal heath.

This is a lovely bit of coastline which has seen rehabilitation and maintenance. Return on the beach. Flat terrain with sand tracks and possible wet feet if you miss a wave on the beach

Meet: 9.15am Brunswick Surf Club.

Bring: water, lunch, and hat. I am sure a nice spot for a coffee after can be found. Ring Peter for more details.



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Fine-tuning your awareness of biomechanics

by Les Rees

Today I watched a video of a friend in the UK riding a horse along the road. It appeared to be landing heavily on one side, giving the appearance of being lame. When I told her what I thought, the owner assured me that the horse was 100% sound. Unfortunately, this is something I hear all the time because it isn't always obvious to a layperson to read the information before them.

The horse may have seemed OK, but it could well be compensating for an existing injury therefore worth checking before the compensations can no longer take up the extra load requirements. At this point the horse can find itself in a lot of trouble. Unfortunately, horses are fine-tuned to being stoic about pain since the appearance of being weak can make them easy fodder for prey animals.

Just because a horse is happy to do all that is asked of it doesn't mean that it's sound. Compensations are not always noticeable initially because the areas of compensation may be able to deal with the extra stress load for the time being, however all that can change massively if the initial injury



hasn't been addressed as the impacts of continuous work create more complications.

All animals are capable of re-modelling the way their muscles are used in order to correct the impacts of imbalance in movement, and this can affect the bone structures as well. It can be due to a number of issues such as bad conformation, injury, disease, skeletal misalignment, ill-fitting tack, balance of rider, etc.

Problems arise when the vital signs are missed during the early stages of compensation and it isn't until the impacts of extra loads on muscles, tendons and ligaments become too much for the horse to work properly that they may be

noticed. This is when things can get severely out of hand.

If I had a dollar for the number of times owners have told me that their horses are devious and lazy, along with a plethora of other complaints aimed at blaming their horses, I'd be a rich woman. This of course is complete rubbish, and I find myself asking how they would feel if they were forced to carry heavy loads and work without complaint. Is it any wonder that so many horses find themselves being sold on or taken to the kill pens!

Identification of the source of the problem can involve a myriad of things, so if you're unable to pinpoint the problem it's better to get a

professional to check your horse over. This may include veterinary, chiropractic, osteopathy, body work/sports therapy intervention, etc.

All can be used to rehabilitate sites of specific pathology or injury promoting rapid responses and subsequent recovery. This often involves other therapies working together to gain complete balance within the body and promoting a happier, healthier disposition in the horse.

A few years ago, I looked at a young horse in a dressage training stables that had been in and out of work due to on-going problems. One look and it was obvious that the horse was compensating because the muscles were uneven. They were far more developed on one side of the horse.

I remember being surprised that the owner hadn't noticed this, but in hindsight, I now know that huge numbers of horse owners don't spot these things either.

The good news is that due to a plethora of information available on-line, things are beginning to improve for those who are interested in learning more about caring for and keeping their horses healthy.

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Horse-human communication

by Suzy Maloney

That horses and humans can communicate at all is a miracle considering horses are prey animals while we are predators. Yet for thousands of years, we have done just that. In this article I am going to explore how this communication comes about between these two very different species.

Horses' primary form of communication is through body language. The smallest movement of an ear or change in posture can mean a lot to other horses, and to us too if we are aware. Horses are constantly communicating through body language. Being present with your horse, noticing these small communications and responding appropriately is essential for effective communication. They are reading our body language all the time, that is the nature of the horse.

When we listen to their body language and use our own body language to talk back, this is communication. Horses are not capable of making words to communicate with us, but we can learn their body language and communicating with them through that.

Horses are extremely sensitive to touch. Their entire bodies are covered with sensitive receptor cells. These send a constant stream of information to the brain. When we touch a horse, this is a very loud form of communication for them. How we touch is important and says a lot about us as horse people.

If we touch or apply pressure harshly, we overload the horses' receptors. They will either have a huge reaction, more than we want, or will shut down perception to that area and ignore



the touch. Either of these options is undesirable. When touching we need to respect the incredible sensitivity horses have. This applies to all handling, grooming and application of aids.

On an emotional level, horses are like us, but with a greater tendency to respond fearfully to situations due to being a prey animal. Horses feel love, joy, sadness, grief, and all the other emotions. They have an uncanny way of knowing how a human is feeling, many consider them to be empaths. If a person is not being honest with how they are feeling, a horse will know.

Horses require us to be congruent with our emotions when we are with them. Unlike us, horses are not able to 'pretend' to feel one way while feeling another, they are true to how they are feeling in the moment.

We can communicate with horses energetically. Being prey animals, horses are very aware of energy levels, in horses, people, and other animals. If we are highly wired when with horses, they respond with nervousness. The ability to perceive heightened energy states in others is a survival tool for horses. If one horse sees movement in the bushes, everyone gets the message immediately and is ready to run, as energy transmits

instantly.

When a horse's energy is raised, we have two options. We can raise our energy, which confirms to the horse there is a potentially threatening situation, or we can consciously drop our own energy levels, indicating that all is well and there is nothing to fear. We can soothe horses in any situation by doing this. Deep breathing, dropping the shoulders and calming our thinking are all helpful.

Horses are intelligent and can learn a wide variety of skills, as evidenced by the numerous different roles they play within the human world. Human brains have evolved for predation, our prefrontal brain cortex is used for strategy and reasoning. Horses' brains have evolved for environmental perception and survival.

When these two species come together and have brain to brain communication, they both have the potential to experience enhanced perception and understanding of the world.

Communication between humans and horses exists on many planes, and I have not even touched on training or animal communication. This partnership is so effective, not because they are similar, but because they are so different. Not expecting horses to behave as a human would, but opening ourselves to their unique perspective and to this interspecies communication, is one of the most fulfilling experiences we can have, with huge benefits for all.

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